



HOT OFF THE PRESS

Charlotte County Extension Services - 25550 Harbor View Road, Suite 3 - Port Charlotte, Florida 33980-2503 - 941.764.4345

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December 2015



*Charlotte County 4-H
Newsletter*



Volunteer to GIVE this holiday season!

The 4-H Teen Leadership is challenging all clubs to join their **FOOD DRIVE** during December. For every non-perishable food item donated, the member will receive one ticket. The tickets will be put into a pot and there will be drawings for prizes – so, the more they donate, the better the chance of a winning ticket. The food drive runs through the end of December, so all clubs can participate. Bring your donations to the 4-H office or to your December club meeting.



JOIN THE CLUB

Monthly Clubs:

Cloverbud Club

Ages 5-7, as of September 1, 2015

This club meets the 1st Monday of each month, 6pm at the Extension Office in Port Charlotte.

Call (941) 764-4340 for more information.

Cows 'n Plows Swine 4-H Club

Ages 8-18, as of September 1, 2015

This club is for those showing a hog as their project. The club meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6:30pm, at the Extension Office in Port Charlotte. For more information, call Nancy Lee at 941-637-0821 or Jackie Andrews at 941-628-6815.

Cows 'n Plows Beef 4-H Club

Ages 8-18, as of September 1, 2015

This club is for those showing a steer or heifer as their project. The club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, 6:30pm, at the Extension Office in Port Charlotte. For more information, call Nancy Lee at 941-637-0821 or Jackie Andrews at 941-628-6815.

Four Paws & a Tail 4-H Dog Club

Ages 5-18, as of September 1, 2015 Project area includes dogs of all ages. For more information, contact Lucia Pink at (863)-660-5969 or Mala Sawhney at 518-527-3316.

Fur 'n Feathers 4-H Club

Ages 5-18, as of September 1, 2015

This club meets the 1st Thursday of each month, 6:30pm, at the Extension Office in Port Charlotte. They raise small animals - rabbits, chickens, ducks, and covies. For more information call Jackie Andrews at 941-628-6815.

Just Kidding 4-H Goat and Lamb Club

Ages 8-18, as of September 1, 2015

This club meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 6:30 pm, at the Extension Office. For information contact Shelly Jordan at

shel.jordan67@gmail.com

Manes 'n Reins 4-H Horse Club

Ages 8-18, as of September 1, 2015

This club meets the 3rd Sunday of each month at 3:00pm. You will learn about horses, meet new friends, and have fun! Must have access to a horse to join. For more information, email Allyn Shelatz at

shelatz@comcast.net

Marine Ecology 4-H Club

Ages 8-18, as of September 1, 2015 Interested in learning about marine life and ecology? Then this club is for you! The club meets the 2nd Monday of each month, with field trips and competitions throughout the year. For more information, please email Buddy Harrison at cdrbee@gmail.com.

Teen Leadership 4-H Club

Ages 12-18, as of September 1, 2015

This club is for teens looking to be in a leadership position.

Please contact Pam Phillippe at 941-764-4345

Special Interest Clubs

These meet intermittently throughout the year in the form of day camps, workshops, or clinics.

Contact Pamela Phillippe at (941) 764-4345.

Environmental Explorers

Ages 5-18, as of September 1, 2015

Sewing and Consumerism

Ages 11-18, as of September 1, 2015

Fun with Foods

Ages 5-18, as of September 1, 2015

Outdoor Adventure 4-H Club

Ages 12-18, as of September 1, 2015

Veterinarian Science

Ages 11-18, as of September 1, 2015

Charlotte Shutterbugs Photography Club

Ages 8-18, as of September 1, 2015

Rockin' Paper and Scissors Scrapbooking Club

Ages 5-18, as of September 1, 2015



4-H News:

Club Leadership - Looking for Leaders!

We are looking for leadership assistance in several of our clubs. We need to find other parents, grandparents, community leaders that will assist in leading the clubs. The following clubs are in need of additional leadership help: Cloverbud, Fur & Feathers, and Manes & Reins. Please contact the Extension Office if you, or someone you know is willing to help!

Christmas Parade

December 5th at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center 75 Taylor Street Punta Gorda, FL 33950. The starting time is 12:00pm.

Outdoor Adventure Club Volunteer Day

December 18th from 8-2pm

Ponce De'Leon Park, 3400 Ponce de Leon Pkwy, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Club members will help clean up the Peace River Wildlife Center in the morning and then move to different parts of the park.

RSVP by December 16th

Four Paws and a Tail Club

Dog Agility Party at Mala Sawhney's

residence on December 6, 2015

please contact Ms. Mala for the time.

The Charlotte County Fair will be here soon!

January 29 - February 7, 2015

All members can enter up to six still exhibit items. "Still exhibits" refers to any non-animal project-related entry. The list will be emailed to the 4-H family address, and hard copies will be available at the 4-H office. **Leaders, if you haven't sent me your list, please do so very soon.**

Outdoor Adventure Club's First Outdoor Adventure

By: Alex Gregory



The Outdoor Adventure club had a thrilling day at the Charlotte County fairgrounds. They started their day with Jenna (the club president) going over some of the parts of the bow and important safety tips when shooting the bow and arrow. Then they split the morning into two activities. The first one was practicing archery and the other was learning forestry and wildlife. The instructors went over how to properly set up and fire the bow and arrow. It took a bit of time for the beginners to hit the target, but the advanced bowmen were hitting the bullseye like there was no tomorrow. The group did this for about an hour then it was time to switch to forestry and wildlife. The activity began with forestry. The Outdoor Adventure club learned how to identify a tree using only simple questions. Then it was time to try the wildlife part. They learned about the many native species here in Florida. They also learned how to spot a prime animal habitat only using what the animal liked and a map. At noon they stopped for a quick lunch and hopped right back to it. The afternoon started off with learning how to tell what your pace is. Then the leaders set up a scavenger hunt, but the only things you were allowed to use was your pace, a compass and your head.

After that exciting game, we went back to the archery range, but this time instead of hitting a target, you hit a balloon. Everyone had hit a least one balloon at the end. Finally the time was unfortunately up and everyone had to go home.



CHARLOTTE COUNTY EXTENSION / 4H MARINE ECOLOGY CLUB

FIELD TRIP TO LEMON BAY PRESERVE

21 NOVEMBER 2015



Introduction

The Charlotte County 4H Marine Ecology Club met at Lemon Bay Preserve on November 21, 2015, for an exploratory hike on the boardwalk through the black mangrove forest and to collect aquatic specimens in the shallow waters along the shoreline. Six club members and ten adults participated in both activities. Eileen Gerle and Buddy Harrison, both Florida Master Naturalists, served as guides and talked with participants about plants and aquatic life of the estuary.



Summary

Following an exercise to hone their senses by focusing on the sounds and smells they experienced and what they could feel with their eyes closed, Eileen guided participants on a *sensing nature* hike along the path by the bay. The club members used their new skill to heighten their experience while meandering in and out of the mangroves. They saw fish jumping and a young little blue heron, smelled the salt air and the aromatic leaves of wax-myrtle and felt the breeze and knicker nuts - with their spiky pods and smooth seeds. Eileen talked about which plants are edible, such as the fruits of prickly pear cactus and sea grapes. A surprise find of a horseshoe crab shell initiated a discussion on these fascinating "living fossils". The hour-long hike was filled with exciting new discoveries and a quest for even more information about life in the estuary.



Buddy guided participants in the use of seine nets and dip nets to perform aquatic species collection for the purpose of identification, discussion and return to the waters of Lemon Bay Preserve. Teams of two were instructed in the use of the seine net while the remaining participants used dip nets along the mangrove prop roots. An hour of netting provided the following: pipefish, pink shrimp, mojarras, bay anchovies, silversides, juvenile mullet, juvenile spotted seatrout, blue crab, scaled sardine, clown goby, comb jellyfish and hogchoker. Everyone was surprised to see so many species in the shallow waters of the estuary collected in only an hour. On this overcast Saturday morning, collecting and identifying aquatic species was just another wet and wild step forward for our club members in their ongoing science-based studies of marine ecology.



For information about 4H Marine Ecology and other Club activities, please contact:
Pam Phillippe or Lana Cardwell at Charlotte County Extension - Tel 941.764.4345



Cows N' Plows 4-H Beef Club



At the November 24th Cows N' Plows 4-H Beef Club meeting, we went over who showed at the at fest show in Arcadia and at the steirwalt clinic. We also went over who was in the top 20 for JFCA . We agreed to get clippers and a set of blades for the club. We played Charades with Bovine diseases. We discussed the symptoms of each disease. Everyone that had a disease and presented their names were put in a bucket for a new rope halter prize. The winner was Callie Ray. Kelly Baker discussed common medicines used for sick or lame calves. The next meeting will be on showmanship. All members make sure you have showmanship questions and t-shirt design that we will be voting on. Kelly Baker is having a show clinic practice on 12/19. ~ Callie Ray

Four Paws and a Tail 4-H Dog Club



The 4-H Four Paws and a Tail Dog Club hosted a fundraiser for the Animal Welfare League at the Punta Gorda Winn Dixie location. The club raised \$345.90 along with a cart full of food for the shelter animals! Great job!





What makes a good leader?

Officer Training
November 12, 2015



- Able to learn from mistakes
- Active 4-H member
- Always on time
- Always willing to help
- Are themselves
- Be at every meeting
- Caring
- Communicator
- Compassionate
- Cooperative
- Creative
- Dedicated
- Discernment
- Dresses appropriately
- Proper dress code
- Follows club rules
- Fun



Generous Honest Humble



Integrity Kind Knowledgeable



Positive Participation

- Good communication skills
- Good language
- Good leadership skills
- Good listener
- Good manners
- Good personality
- Good public
- Good speaker
- Happy
- Hardworking
- Has Humility
- Healthy
- Helpful
- Loyal
- Modest
- Motivator



December 2015

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

1 2 3 4 5

Fur N'
Feathers
6:30pm CES

6 7 8 9 10 11 12
Dog Agility Party Cloverbud 6:00pm CES Swine 6:30pm CES

13 14 15 16 17 18 19
Marine Ecology 6:30pm CES Teen Leadership 6:30pm CES Outdoor Adventure Day 8-2pm Beef Show Clinic

20 21 22 23 24 25 26
Beef 6:30pm BB

27 28 29 30 31



CES = County Extension Service
MPB= McGuire Park Building
SCP= South County Park
BB= Baker's Barn





4-H Youth Development

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NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

If you have anything you'd like to include in future issues of Hot Off The Press (geared toward 4-H youth), please mail to the address listed above. You may also email us at ana.cardwell@charlottecountyfl.gov If your articles contain photos, please attach as a separate "jpeg" file in the email.

This is our main source of communication between the 4-H office, 4-H members, and 4-H leaders. Everyone is encouraged to utilize it to their advantage.



The Mission of UF/IFAS is to develop knowledge in agricultural, human and natural resources, and to make that knowledge accessible to sustain and enhance the quality of human life.

The enclosed material is provided as one of the many services relating to the educational programs offered by this agency. Our statewide network of faculty is prepared to provide current information on food, agriculture, marine and natural resource science, energy, nutrition, family and 4-H youth, and related fields. We will be happy to help you with additional information upon request.

All programs and related activities sponsored for, or assisted by, Charlotte County Extension Service are open to all persons regardless of race, color, age, sex, disability or national origin. Information from this publication is available in alternate formats. If you are a person with a disability and require auxiliary aids, services, or other accommodations for extension program offerings, please contact our office to discuss what accommodations are necessary.

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