Dear 4-H Families,

In Oregon, volunteer time is valued at $18.37 per hour. (This number is derived from an average, production wage, plus benefits.) The national average for placing an economic value on volunteer time is $20.85 WOW!!!! That makes our 4-H volunteers really expensive. You give so many precious hours towards the 4-H Program.

We thank you so much for donating all your long hours and especially for your energy to keep things running. Polk County has some of the best leaders in the state, but we always need more. We encourage you to ask your friends and family if they would like to become a leader. Resource leaders are very important also. It is easy and painless to become a leader. Encourage someone to take the leader training today.

Polk County Leaders Association Meeting – February 3rd @ 7:00pm - PCFG

Remember – This 4-H year is a great time to try 4-H and join a club. New 4-H members may join for free this year. Share 4-H with your friends. Invite them to the next 4-H meeting or activity.

I hope many of you will have the opportunity to meet and get to know Susan Busler in the coming year. She is a great addition to our Polk County Extension Program.

May your family have a special Christmas, and a blessed New Year!

Sincerely,
Susan Busler and Judi Peters
Polk County 4-H/OSU Extension Service
P.O. Box 640, Dallas, OR 97338
(503) 623-8395

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. – Noon
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

susan.busler@oregonstate.edu
judi.peters@oregonstate.edu
Please Enroll in 4-H – NOW!!!

Enroll or Re-enroll as soon as you can get your paperwork in. We need your email and mailing addresses to keep you current with what is happening in Polk County 4-H. Target: December 31st

++++++ 4-H Re-Enrollment +++++++  

It’s that time of year again – time to re-enroll in 4-H! This year, we mailed enrollment forms directly to families. Families are responsible for getting their forms filled out and turned in along with the fees to the Extension Office by the enrollment deadline, April 1, 2011. We are hoping to get most leaders and members registered by December 31, 2010 as this aids us in registering for the state fees.

New 4-H Members may join for ** FREE**

4-H Members - Invite your friends to join with you!

A generous donor has made it possible for all new members to 4-H this year to join for free. We hope that many youth will want to join in on the excitement of 4-H. Remember, scholarships/partial scholarships for fees are also available for those in need. Contact the Extension Office for more information. Club leaders should encourage their members to invite their friends to join 4-H. Let’s continue to spread 4-H all over the County.

Polk County 4-H Website: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/polk/
Polk County FaceBook Page: Polk County 4-H Oregon. http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/Polk-County-4-H-Oregon/106600282713919 Join us, post a comment!

Be a 4-H Leader!
A leadership role can be for a short term, project related, resource person, or any way to fit your busy lifestyle. 4-H is so important in developing youth today. We need you as a LEADER!!! You can start this process now by calling the Polk County Extension Office at 503-623-8395. If you know someone who would be a good leader, assistant leader, please take the time to tell him/her about 4-H. We are always happy to talk to potential new leaders. The process for becoming a leader is simple and must be completed before a leader may enroll in the 4-H program. New leaders must complete an application, reference, criminal background check. New leaders must attend new leader training, complete the new leader home study program, or the on-line volunteer e-learning course at: http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/elearning-course

Volunteer Recognition
**Deadline extended!!!!  If you have anyone you would like to nominate, we have the forms at the office or you can get them online. Call!!!!**

State Leader of the Year. The selection of a State Leader of the Year is one of the special tasks/honors of the Oregon Leaders’ Association Executive Council. Nomination deadline is January 6, 2011 @ the Polk County Office for the selection of Oregon 4-H Leader of the Year.
The form for nomination of State Leader of the Year is on the State 4-H website at: http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/sites/default/files/LeaderOfTheYear_NominationForm.pdf
Western Regional Leaders Forum
This is a great price for a great opportunity!!!!  Sign up NOW!
Susan Busler from Polk 4-H will be teaching a workshop.

Cruise from Seattle, WA to Alaska and back for the 2011 Western Regional 4-H Leaders Forum, May 7-14, 2011. This year’s forum will take place on a Holland America Line cruise ship. Enjoy exciting presentations, 4-H leader workshops, groups events, a Murder Mystery activity & awards ceremony. The cruise will focus on the natural and cultural beauty of Alaska and the Northwest. You will enjoy Alaskan seafood and produce. A park ranger will provide commentary and native interpretation while cruising at Hubbard Glacier. An Alaska Travel Guide will share insight on Alaskan culture, geology, wildlife and history. Check the website for registration and cruise prices. Multiple cabin styles are available to choose from. To receive special 4-H fares, the cruise must be booked through the 2011 WRLF website: http://4h.wsu.edu/conferences/2011wrlf/ . Final payment is due February 21, 2011. Check out the FAQ document link as well as the Cancellation Policy and Insurance Information links prior to registering. Partial scholarships for current 4-H leaders may be available from the Polk County 4-H Leaders’ Association.

2011 Oregon 4-H Leader Forum
“Clover Fun for EVERYONE”
April 8-9, 2011 – Oregon 4-H Center
Do you have some great things to share that would help other leaders. Do you have a favorite craft or art project? Would you like to share some great ways to teach your project? Do you have some new, fun icebreakers or games to share? Any Leader, club, or 4-H member may teach a workshop. Proposals to teach a workshop or share a display are being accepted now through January 6th to the Polk County Office. Just call us if you have an idea or know someone that would be a great teacher and we can help you with the proposal form. 503-623-8395

***Save the Forum date: This is open to all 4-H Leaders across the state and it is nearby. News and registration will come in following newsletters.

Join the Revolution of Responsibility
We are very excited to announce the launch of a new image campaign for 4-H. It’s called “Join the Revolution of Responsibility.” What’s it all about? This campaign will tell the 4-H story in far more compelling terms than ever before. It showcases the stories of real 4-H'ers making a real impact in their communities, and gives a voice to the uncommon dedication and barrier-breaking commitment of the young people who are 4-H. That’s the kind of revolution the world needs now. These firsthand accounts not only illustrate the real legacy of the 4-H movement, but leave the viewer wanting to be a part of the 4-H experience. That’s why we’re making sure we ask our audience to “Join”—especially the elected officials, corporate partners, and other community leaders who are our primary targets. Future training and support efforts will be focused on this audience of “influentials” and how best to reach them.

How can you Join the Revolution of Responsibility? First go to the campaign site: www.4-h.org/about/revolution to learn more and see the video and print ads.

- Download the video at www.4-H.org/brandtoolkit to share with others—especially influencers in your community like elected officials, alumni and potential donors.
- Share a local story at www.4-H.org/share about 4-Hers making an impact in their community to help grow the number of stories we publish on the site.
- Visit the 4-H Facebook page at www.facebook.com/4h this week to become a fan and engage in that 4-H community. You can also join on Twitter at www.twitter.com/4h.
- Sign up here www.4-H.org/signup to be part of the Revolution—we’ll send you updates as we build out the site and develop the campaign further.
Spring Horse Classic
Spring Horse Classic will be held in Douglas County on April 29-May 1, 2011. Please make sure your participants are aware of the change in the schedule of events for this year. A tentative schedule is posted on the SHC website http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/spring-horse-classic-0. Counties that wish to participate in either Horse Bowl or Hippology at the 2011 Spring Horse Classic must submit questions to the State Office by January 15.

For Horse Bowl: each county needs to submit 10 regular questions and 2 bonus questions from any of the approved sources. Submissions need to include the question, the answer, and the source (including page number).

For Hippology: each county needs to submit 10 questions from any of the Horse Bowl sources. Five should be written, multiple-choice questions for the Examination phase. Five should be visual questions for the Station phase. (You do not need to include the actual visuals.) Each county should also submit one idea for the Team Problem.

State Horse Advisory
Applications for the State Horse Advisory will be accepted until December 1. New members will begin their assignment in January. The Horse Advisory meets twice a year, but also conducts business via email between meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2011. The application is at http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/sites/default/files/statecommitteeform10-10.pdf

Exciting Opportunities in 2011—Outbound 4-H Exchange Programs
Do you want to travel overseas? Act Fast!!!
Call the 4-H office as soon as you can to get the paperwork started.
The Oregon 4-H program is offering opportunities for teens to travel to:
Australia, Finland, Cost Rica, and Japan next summer.
Application deadline is January 6, 2011 (Polk County) for all programs. Complete details are also available on the Oregon 4-H web site: http://Oregon.4H.oregonstate.edu. Click on the 4-H World Citizenship icon located toward the bottom of the page.

**Mongolia** – Yes, there is a summer team traveling to Mongolia for 4 weeks. Call for information, it is not on the website. Most of the transportation cost is covered. Certain ages only (15-17). Adult chaperones may apply also. This is a great opportunity. Call right away to find out more information. 503-931-2578

4-H has 3-4 week periods in the summer to host a foreign student. Japan, Norway, Costa Rica and possibly Germany.

4-H W.O.R.L.D. (Western Oregon Retreat for Leadership Development)
January 14-16 at 4-H Center (5390 4-H Rd, NW, Salem, OR 97304)
Super Heroes vs. Villains is the 2011 4-H W.O.R.L.D theme. We welcome you to come and soar with us at this fun and engaging leadership development retreat. 7th-12th graders!

Costs and Logistics:
Registration is from 5:00-6:00 pm on Friday. Retreat ends at 11:30 am on Sunday.
Youth will stay in beautiful cottages, 16 per cottage, decorated with different heroes and villains.
Cost: $75.00 per participant if paid by January, 5th. A late fee of $10.00 is added after Jan. 5th.
Costs cover: 4 meals, 2 snacks and two nights lodging, t-shirt, insurance and class supplies.
Polk County does have partial scholarships available for 4-H members, contact Polk County.
Questions call 541-967-3871 email: melanie.mccabe@oregonstate.edu
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/marion/4h Information and Registration forms
Hey!!! Youth and parents/volunteer retreat – share a ride together

The High Desert Volunteer Retreat: “Leading the Way to Learning” (Jan 14-17, 2011) in Redmond at Eagle Crest Resort. A fantastic opportunity for 4-H volunteers to attend. The retreat offers multiple methods of participation (all inclusive registration, registration only, etc) for a very reasonable rate (take advantage of the early bird registration which ends December 17th). This retreat offers some fantastic workshops designed to meet your volunteers’ professional and club development needs. In addition to being held at a premier resort location (when else can you stay at Eagle Crest for 3 nights including all meals for $150?)

2011 High Desert Leadership Retreat at Eagle Crest Youth in grades 7-12
Friday, January 14 through Monday, January 17, 2011. Partial scholarships available to Polk 4-H members. Cost: $150 if registered by Dec. 17th, $200 thru Jan. 7th
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/wheeler/ Phone: 541-763-4115 Email: amy.derby@oregonstate.edu

State Fair 4-H Building Clean-up/Paint
Tuesday, December 28th HELP!!!!
We will meet at the building at 9:00 on December 28 and go until we don't have any more help or we give out completely whichever comes first. I'm in for the long haul so let's see who can keep up! :) We need all the volunteer help we can get. Dress warm. We will be washing, painting, sprucing up the 4-H Building at the St. Fair. It is in great need of help. Email judi.peters@oregonstate.edu for more detailed directions. Call for information: Kirsten Vollan - 503-268-2226

Polk County Fair Work Session
February 12th Anyone may attend! Please contact Linda at 503-623-3048.

Tax Deductable Giving
Did you know that over 125,000 youth participate in 4-H programs in every county in Oregon? 4-H youth development programs help young people get involved in and give back to their communities to build confidence and character. Youth development programs, such as 4-H, work best when they provide opportunities for young people to experience belonging and independence. It’s because of the private support we receive from individuals like you that the 4-H program can continue to help shape healthy lives for Oregon youth. It is great to hear so many of our supporters talk about their positive experiences with the 4-H program and to get involved with a gift! You can give any amount of cash/property and receive a receipt. If you are interested in making a matching donation, your company does a matching donation program or you would like to make an endowment, contact the Extension Office for further information. Your tax deductable gift will help make tomorrow's leaders today. Thank you for your support.

Citizenship Washington Focus
Oregon 4-H youth are invited to attend Citizenship Washington Focus, a week in Washington, DC at the National 4-H Center. The experience includes tours of our nation’s Capitol and the DC area. Oregon has reserved space during the week of July 3-9, 2011. The Oregon 4-H program will make arrangements for this week only, although Oregon 4-H members are welcome to make arrangements directly for one of the other weeks. Registration is due January 15, 2011. Cost for the trip is only $747, not including airfare. To learn about this great opportunity, go to: http://www.citizenshipwashington focus.org. Contact Marilyn Lesmeister (Marilyn.Lesmeister@oregonstate.edu) for more information.
The Newest Member of Our 4-H family - Flat Lucky

Please encourage your members and their families to take Flat Lucky with them on all their exciting adventures and document them with a digital camera. Pictures can be uploaded directly to facebook http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Flat-Lucky-Oregon-4-H/293550755041
More information and Flat Lucky downloads can be found at http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/flat-lucky

Shooting Sports Volunteer Training

Four regional trainings are being offered in winter and early spring 2011. Regions 1, 3, and 4 are hosting training in January, February, and April.
Josephine and Douglas counties will offer the first opportunity for volunteers. The training in Josephine County (January 21 and 22) will focus on muzzleloading, pistol, rifle, and shotgun. The training in Douglas County (January 28 and 29) will be specific to the Archery discipline.
On February 11 and 12, Columbia County will host a training that will cover all disciplines. Grant County will host a comprehensive training April 15 and 16.

Regardless of training location, registration is open to all volunteers across the state. Two options are available. Option 1 is for new volunteers in the shooting sports program. Option 1 requires 12 hours of training. Participants attend a Friday evening session and Saturday session.
Option 2 is for returning volunteers. Volunteers must have attended a training in 2009 or 2010 to qualify for this option. Participants must attend the 8 hour Saturday session.
Registration materials can be found by visiting http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/shooting-sports-projects.

New Form of Recognition for Mail-in Archery Tournament Participants

Youth that participate in the Oregon 4-H Mail-in Archery Tournament are awarded ribbons provided by the Oregon Bow Hunters. Archers from across the state placing in the top half of each class can receive a ribbon representing a 1st through 10th finish. The results of top scores and ribbons are sent to participating clubs each month.
While the scoring method and ribbon distribution will remain the same for this year, I am adding an additional form of recognition. All youth participating in the Oregon 4-H Mail-in Archery Tournament will start receiving blue, red, or white stickers that can be placed on a Record of Achievement.
The distribution of blue, red, and white awards will be based on a calculation that uses the high score from each class in each contest as the standard. This modified Danish Merit System will allow all participants to: 1) record levels of achievement, and 2) recognize the archery skills that need improvement to move to the next level of achievement.
The package sent to clubs containing the first set of scores and ribbons will also include a Record of Achievement for each participant and achievement stickers. By the end of the tournament, each participant should have a Record of Achievement that recognizes his or her participation in some or all of the contests. This new system of recognition will be the one used when the other discipline mail-in tournaments come on line. I hope this system of recognition will encourage more youth to participate in the mail-in tournaments.

Oregon ATV Safety Seeks Volunteer Evaluators

***This is your opportunity – Adults!!!!!
Riding an ATV is a way for many youth and adults to connect with each other and the great outdoors. The Off Highway Vehicle system in Oregon provides miles of well established and maintained trails for young and old alike. As an Oregon ATV Safety™ team member, you can share your enthusiasm for ATVing by giving back to the ATV community. Every year brings more riders of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities to the sport. The future of the sport and the health and well-being of young riders depend on people like you. You have the talent to make a difference in the safety and well-being of these new riders TODAY!
Oregon ATV Safety™ Volunteer Evaluator training gives you the skills necessary to appraise the ability of young riders to demonstrate their ability to safely operate the ATVs they normally ride. It’s important to the
safety of these young riders and the future of the sport that these young people understand how to ride safe, smart, and ethically.

Oregon ATV Safety™ team members are volunteers with the passion, enthusiasm, and drive to engage young people in a rider evaluation process. The evaluation assists young riders with their understanding and management of risks associated with ATVing. With your help, our community’s youngest citizens will participate in a recreational activity that can provide a lifetime of safe, fun, exciting ATV adventures. Visit http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/atv for an application. The first OAS Volunteer Evaluator training will take place in Redmond, Oregon, March 5 and 6, 2011.

Outdoor Skills Rendezvous (New Summer Camp)
You may know several 9th through 12th grade youth interested in more advanced understanding of safe and responsible use of firearms. Or, you may know of other youth interested in sportfishing, and challenge and adventure. If this is the case, suggest they register for the 2011 Outdoor Skills Rendezvous at the 4-H Center in Salem, Oregon, August 10-13, 2001.
This residential camp experience is designed for the outdoor enthusiast wanting a little more in depth exploration of shooting sports, angling and aquatic ecology, and leadership development through challenge and adventure.
Registration materials can be found on-line in January by visiting http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/outdoor-skills-rendezvous. The estimated cost is $175.

4-H Trail Blazers Night
Friday, March 25th @7:00 pm
Portland Trail Blazers vs. San Antonio Spurs Cost is $32 a ticket with a $5.00 processing fee.
Order deadline: March 4th http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/portland-trailblazers-4h-night
For more information contact: Joe Isse 503-963-3974 joe.isse@trailblazers.com Mention 4-H!

Records
4-H members can find their 4-H Record forms online at: http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/projects
4-H Support Materials: http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu
This is the 4-H state website. From the home page click on “Projects”. Materials are organized by project area. Check here for project scorecards and records.
4-H Curriculum/Project Materials: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/4h/
This is the 4-H catalog on the OSU Extension Communications website. Materials are organized by project area. This includes project curricula.

CPR + First Aid Training
A new class will be held at the PCFG on January 22nd approx. 8:30am-3:00pm
Any adult or student may attend. 4-H clubs or members, leaders or parents. You do not need to be a 4-H member to attend. Ask your neighbors, friends and family. You will know what to do in an emergency situation. You may save a life!!!!
American Heart Association Courses
Contact: New Life @ 503-510-5794

Polk County Leaders Association Meeting will be held at the Polk County Fairgrounds in the 4-H Building, Thursday, February 3 @ 7:00pm
Remember: All leaders are encouraged to attend. Older 4-H youth may attend also. All enrolled leaders may vote.
State committees are recruiting youth and adults. Committee descriptions and applications are online at: http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/staff-advisory-councils-and-committees. Depending on your committee interest, applications need to be submitted by February 1. Committees currently recruiting members include: Horse; OR 4-H Foundation; OR 4-H Leaders’ Association Council; Summer Conference; Expressive Arts; Home Economics; Natural Sciences & State Fair Board of Trustees. Applications are due Aug. 1 for the dog, livestock & small animal projects. Due to limited space on committees, filling out the interest form does not guarantee placement. Because some committees meet infrequently, there may be considerable time between when the form is submitted and when the volunteer is contacted.

January 22, Saturday     Critter Campus
Marion County 4-H presents Critter Campus workshop to give youth information and show practice with rabbits and cavies. Youth will have the chance learn more about care, management and showing of their rabbits and guinea pigs (cavies) at an upcoming workshop scheduled for Saturday, January 22, 2011 at the Polk County Fairgrounds, 520 S. Pacific Hwy. West, Rickreall. The event is open to everyone in Oregon. Participants will have the chance to take six different classes during the day. There is no need for pre-registration unless taking the cage-building class. Admission to Critter Campus is free and there is a small fee for the cage building class materials. The event starts with registration at 8:30 a.m and the program begins at 10:00 a.m. Lunch is on your own. The event will conclude at 2:05 p.m. For more information, contact Critter Campus co-chair Eryn Thommen 503 779-7561, eryn_chyenne@hotmail.com

February 12th, 2011    Rickreall Roundup
4-H Youth Show for cat, rabbit, cavy and poultry. Hosted by The 4-H Achievers Club. Polk County Fairgrounds Cost: $5.00 for first 3 animals - $3.00 per animal over 3, $5.00 for Adventures – Showmanship only. Costume contest. For Information and/or registration forms, contact Nora Solvedt @ 503-623-7707 or jnsd04@peoplepc.com

2010-2011 REMINDERS TO POLK COUNTY 4-H LEADERS
Health Forms Health forms for 4-H Members are required for any 4-H field trips or overnight activities. Forms are available at the Extension Office. All 4-H Leaders should have completed Health Forms on hand, and should check with their 4-H’ers regularly to make sure the info is current.

*** Fundraising (Not all clubs are informed; members, please remind your leaders) Please contact the 4-H staff at the OSU Extension Service office if your group is considering a fundraiser. You must inform the 4-H Office either by phone or e-mail prior to having a fundraiser. We have a fundraiser form for your club or leader to fill out which will remain on file at the Extension Office. You must again inform the 4-H Office after your fundraiser to let them know how much profit you made on your fundraiser. It is important to not continually ask the same people for donations and to avoid duplicate fundraising activities by different clubs. Polk County 4-H clubs participate in a variety of fundraisers for various projects each year. Just a reminder that 4-H leaders are not covered by the state’s tort liability policy when conducting or participating in 4-H club fundraising events. When fundraising, the purpose should be clear and communicated as part of the fundraising process. Money collected in the name of 4-H belongs to 4-H, not to individuals. When clubs disband, any property or money that belongs to the club needs to be given to the Polk County 4-H Leaders’ Association or to another 4-H club. It cannot be divided among the remaining members at the time of disbanding. If you plan to conduct a food fundraiser, check with the Polk County Community Development Department for current requirements. It is advised that at least one individual present at the fundraiser have a current food handler’s card.
New Members  
Prospective 4-H members call our office throughout the year and ask about joining a club. If you indicated on your Leader re-enrollment form that you are accepting new members, we may call or e-mail you regarding these new members. Remember, it is important to call them promptly! Even if your club has not had a meeting yet, prospective members deserve to hear from you. When you don’t call them, they get discouraged and often decide that they don’t want to join after all. If your club is full, please call our office and let us know.

Club NEWS
If you have pictures or club news, please send it to: Judi.peters@oregonstate.edu

Your Club can share its activities with other clubs by submitting a brief write-up and photos via email to: judi.peters@oregonstate.edu

Camp Counseling Club  
Marion, Polk and Yamhill Counties combined
Open to 8th-12th grade students interested in learning counseling skills to serve at any camp.
December 20th @ PCFG – 4-H Building, 1:00-400pm. Gift exchange and community service project.
Contact Judi Peters for more info. 503-931-2578

Polk County Ambassadors
Any youth in grades 8-12 may be a part of our Polk County Ambassador program. You will be sharing your story about 4-H, helping at different workshops, involved with different Community Service events and learning leadership skills to use with your clubs and throughout life. We are asking that any teens sign up for Ambassadors even if you cannot make the meetings. You will be on the email list. Contact the Extension Office if you are interested.
Monday, December 20th @ PCFG – 4-H Building, 10:00am-12:00noon
Candy bar gift exchange and community service project. Fun, food, games also.
Contact for more info: Judi Peters 503-931-2578

4-H Archery Club
The Toxophilite Archery club would like to invite anyone interested in 4-H Archery to consider joining now. The club is off and shooting already, but it is not too late join. Their upcoming shooting nights at the Fairgrounds are scheduled for 7:00 pm:
Monday, January 10th, Wednesday January 26th, February 7th, December 23rd

Rifle Club
January 12th, 24th, February 9th, 21st
Contact the Extension Office for more info, (503) 623-8395

Winterfest 2010
4-H hosted a booth for Dallas Winterfest on December 4-5 @ Polk County Courthouse Lawn. The Ambassador and Willamette Country Clubs were on the job and shared about 4-H.

State Fair Champion Ribbon Winners – http://extension.oregonstate.edu/polk/formspublications

OSU Extension programs will provide reasonable accommodation to persons with physical or mental disabilities. Contact the Polk County Extension Office at (503-623-8395) to request reasonable accommodation, judi.peters@oregonstate.edu.

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