

Oconto Clover Connect

I pledge my **head** to clearer thinking, my **heart** to greater loyalty, my **hands** to larger service, and my **health** to better living, for my club, my community, my country, and my world.



November 2018

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What is the Oconto Clover Connect?

The Oconto Clover Connect is your shiny, new, monthly newsletter! This is going to replace the weekly editions of the Friday Notes. We'll still get the information out to you, but it will come every month instead of every week. Soon, we are going to begin the process of revamping our website along with increasing our presence on social media, beginning with Facebook. The same content will eventually be available in print, newsletter, our website, and on social media. You can digest the information however you prefer!

But why change? If you recall from the last edition of Friday notes, Arvilla Rusnak has taken a new opportunity that was presented to her. This seemed as good of a time as any to be able to adapt the newsletter to a new format. In the future, I'd love to have submissions from anyone that has a 4-H experience or event to share. More information for submitting stories can be found on page 7.

I understand that change can be uncomfortable, and I don't plan on making changes just for the sake of change. In coming months, I hope to inject some new ideas into our 4-H programs. Hopefully these changes can bring more faces and new experiences to make 4-H an even more enjoyable experience. As always, if you have feedback, thoughts, or ideas, please do not hesitate to share them with me!


Finally, next time you see her, be sure to thank Arvilla for all of her hard work and contributions to Oconto County 4-H.

All the best,

Ben Hoppe

4-H Program Coordinator - Oconto & Marinette Counties

Contact Us

UW-Extension Oconto County
Email: 4h@co.oconto.wi.us
Phone: 920-834-6845
Website: <http://oconto.uwex.edu>
 Oconto County 4-H

Oconto County Courthouse
301 Washington St.
Oconto, WI 54153

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

2-4	Fall Forum	Green Lake Conference Center Green Lake, WI
10	VIP Training 3pm-5pm	St. Anne's Parish Lena, WI
	Fall Kickoff 3pm-5pm	St. Anne's Parish Lena, WI
	Achievement Banquet Registration 3pm-5pm Dinner 5:30pm Awards 6:00pm	St. Anne's Parish Lena, WI
18	4-H Leader's Association Board of Directors Open to all 4-H families 3pm	St. Clare Hospital Oconto Falls, WI
20	4-H 2019 Summer International Exchange Applications Due	State 4-H Office
22-23	UW-Extension Offices Closed	
30	New Family Handbook Committee Open to all 4-H families 1pm	Lena Public Library

 **Volunteers Needed** 

December

13	4-H Leader's Association Meeting Open to all 4-H families 6:30pm	Gillet Library Community Building Gillett, WI
24-25	UW-Extension Offices Closed	
31- 1/1	UW-Extension Offices Closed	

Other Dates to Remember

1/7	Annual Leader Training 6pm-7:30pm	Oconto County Courthouse Oconto, WI LEC Room 1389
1/19	January Thaw	Washington Middle School Oconto Falls, WI
1/28	Annual Leader Training 6pm-7:30pm	Crivitz Village Hall Crivitz, WI
4/6	Spring Fling	Washington Middle School Oconto Falls, WI

 **Volunteers Needed** 

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Annual 4-H Achievement Banquet, November 10th

Come and help us celebrate another great year of 4-H! The annual Achievement Banquet will be held on November 10th at St. Anne's Parish building (221 E. Main St., Lena, WI). Registration is from 3-5pm, the meal is at 5:30pm, and the awards begin at 6:00pm. Everyone will be receiving some kind of award. Great door prizes and special prize to be given away, but you must be present to win!

Everyone attending is asked to bring a dish to pass for 15-20 people. Awards will be handed out. Adults will be recognized. Everyone will be acknowledged for all their accomplishments this past year. Hope to see you there!

The Leader's Association Board of Directors would like to invite each club to create a basket to be given away as a door prize. They encourage clubs to create baskets that represent the club or area where the club is located. If your club looking for a way to use some money, this is a great opportunity. Make a really special basket, or maybe even two or three! If you plan on bringing a basket, let the UW-Extension office know!



4-H Fall Kick-Off, November 10th



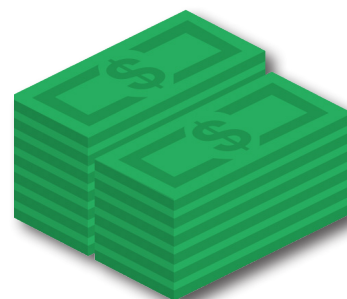
The Project Development Committee is proud to announce the first in the three project events they organize each year, 4-H Fall Kick-Off, will be held again right before the Achievement Banquet on November 10 from 3-5pm at St Anne's Parish.

4-H Fall Kick-Off is open to the public and a great way to explore what 4-H in Oconto County has to offer. Come and meet project leaders from many different project areas, ask questions, and meet others share your interests. Participants can even pick up a challenge in a particular project and bring it to the next project event, January Thaw. Get some feedback on how you did and find out how you could exhibit the project in the Oconto County Fair. 4-H Fall Kick-Off is a free event and everyone is welcome!



Fundraising Opportunity for Clubs

The Project Development Committee is looking for a club or clubs to host the lunches for the January Thaw (Jan. 19) and Spring Fling (April 6). Your club would provide a healthy, nutritious lunch and snacks (if desired) and your club gets to keep all the profits. Previous lunch hosts have made from \$100-\$300 in profits. If you club is interested, contact the UW-Extension office at 4h@co.oconto.wi.us or (920) 834-6846.



4Honline Re-enrollment

'Tis the season to re-enroll in the 4-H program. Each year at this time 4-H parents and adult members need to log in to <http://wi.4honline.com> and submit their enrollments for all the 4-H members in their family. It's important and it's easy!

4-H families that re-enroll each year receive the benefits of being in their community clubs, exhibiting at the fair, participating in 4-H county-wide events and are eligible for scholarships and funding for projects, clinics, attendance at summer camp at 50% discount as well as many travel and education experiences. If you have any questions or issues with the re-enrolling process, contact the UW-Extension office at (920) 834-6846 or 4h@co.oconto.wi.us.

Team Green 4-H Club Has Openings for New Members

It doesn't happen often, but Team Green 4-H club has openings for new members. Team Green is a project focused club, which means its meetings and activities are all centered around a certain project area. Team Green's focus is Robotics and VEX Robotic competitions.

Members of the Team Green club explore everything about robotics. They research, build, program, drive and compete with their robots. They learn cooperation, sportsmanship, team work and responsibility while they explore engineering, electronics and programming of their robots. ***Because of the intensity of focus, this club will only accept up to 12 members.***

4-H members can participate in more than one club, so even if you are a member of another 4-H club, you can be involved in Team Green too. If you are interested in the Team Green robotics-based 4-H club, contact: Kent Lyng | (920) 846-2097 | klyng@centurytel.net

Annual Leader Training Meeting

Local Annual 4-H Volunteer Leader Training sessions have been set for Oconto and Marinette Counties! This training has been called the Annual Mandatory Leader meeting in Oconto County. The theme of this year's training is All Together, Not the Same. Together, we'll explore how our clubs can welcome community members of all backgrounds.

As part of the charter and club renewal process, all clubs must have at least one representative attend a training session. There is no minimum number of representatives from each club. Ideally, at least 2-4 adult and youth members will attend from each club.

You do not need to attend your specific county's training. A full list of trainings statewide as well as supplemental materials for your club can be found here: <https://fyi.uwex.edu/wi4hvolunteers/annual-leader-trainings/>



Travel Abroad with 4-H! Applications Due November 20th

Each year 4-H youth can apply for the amazing opportunity to experience life in another country by living abroad with a host family for one month. All programs are chaperoned by a trained 4-H adult volunteer, who remains in-country with the delegation for support and assistance. The countries offered this year are Costa Rica, South Korea, Japan and Finland.

Benefits of the exchange include:

- Experience a new culture and way of living by experiencing daily life as a member of a family in a different country
- Better understand yourself and your own culture
- Become more informed on global issues
- Increase self-esteem and confidence by learning to adapt to new situations and ways of communication
- Foster positive cross-cultural attitudes that enhance mutual understanding and acceptance of all people
- Develop long-lasting friendships and memories that will last a lifetime!

If you are interested in traveling and experiencing a whole different lifestyle, follow the link below for more information! <https://wi4hinternational.org/homestay/>

Volunteer Opportunities



November 10 - Achievement Banquet

Volunteers are still needed, especially for set up and take down. Huge thanks to those who have already stepped up to volunteer, but more are needed! To help out at the event and to keep this event going, contact Cheryl Meyer at gmeyer@outlook.com or send a message to 4h@co.oconto.wi.us.

November 23-December 2 - Help Promote Dairy in Oconto County



Oconto County Dairy Promotions is looking for help promoting the dairy industry at the Whispering Pines Tree Farm (3694 Airport Rd, Oconto, WI). Volunteers are needed to staff a dairy education station at the tree farm. Volunteers are asked to cover either 2- or 4-hour shifts (10am-12pm, 12pm-2pm OR 10am-2pm). This service opportunity is dairy-oriented and educationally-based for consumers. If your group is interested in participating in this dairy promotion activity, contact Sarah Mills-Lloyd (920.834.6845 or sarah.mills@uwex.edu).

Ongoing – 4-H Ambassador Program & Belonging Committee

Help bring 4-H to the schools of Oconto County. The Oconto County Leaders Association Board of Directors would like to announce the reformation of the Ambassadors Program. They are looking for adults and older youth, grades 9 and up, to come together to develop this program for Oconto County. The focus would be representing 4-H to the schools in our county. Kids respond better to other kids than adults, and we want the youth in Oconto County to know about 4-H!

As part of the county-wide charter goal for our 4-H clubs, the Oconto County Leader's Association is also forming a group of adults and youth to look at expanding access to and promoting belonging within our 4-H clubs. What does this mean? It can mean a lot of things:

- Finding ways to promote 4-H in our county, communities and schools
- Investigating ways to reach out to other populations and invite them into our 4-H clubs
- Sponsoring events that allow 4-H families to experience different cultures, life challenges and points of view
- Seeking out dynamic speakers regarding these topics
- Creating games and activities that speak to these topics and could be used to open discussion in our clubs.

Oconto County doesn't not have a lot of cultural diversity to draw on but that doesn't mean we can't give our 4-H families opportunities to experience it. We would like to encourage each club to have one adult and/or youth member in this group. The group itself would decide on where, when and how many times they would meet.

The future of the 4-H Ambassadors and the Belonging Committee are still being discussed, including which ages will be included. Join us at the next Leader's Association meetings in November and December to present your thoughts and ideas. If you're interested in either group (or both!), contact Cheryl Meyer at gmeyer@outlook.com or 4h@co.oconto.wi.us.

2018-2019 - Oconto County 4-H Leader's Association Seeking Youth and Adult Directors

The Board of Directors for the Oconto County 4-H Leader's Association is looking for dynamic individuals with a passion for 4-H to serve on the Board of Directors. This position would require a one-year commitment for youth (preferably ages 8th grade and above) and three years for adults. This group meets monthly (about 8 times) a year. They provide the governance and make decisions regarding Oconto County's 4-H program, it's spending and activities. Members do not need any special skills or experience-just passion and enthusiasm for 4-H!

The Board will provide the rest. Our program relies on our volunteers. Without the Board of Directors there will be no funding for our program. Please consider being on this team. They are a GREAT group to work with! If you are interested or just want more information, contact Cheryl Meyer at gmeyer002@outlook.com.



Submissions Wanted!

Did you want to share about a successful 4-H event that you just hosted? Do you have an upcoming 4-H event that you want to promote? Do you have a fun experience or 4-H story to share? Send your news, notes, reports, and articles to us along with a photo, and we'll include in the next issue. See below for our email and mailing addresses.

Deadline: All contributions are due by the 10th of the month to make it into the next publication.

Feedback

Please do not hesitate to provide feedback, both positive and negative to us. Sharing your thoughts, ideas, and observations helps your Extension Office do the best we can to serve you. Please use the attached Care to Share form sent with the newsletter or send us an email so that we can follow up with you!

Oconto Clover Connect

How to Contact Us

Telephone: 920-834-6845 **Email:** 4h@co.oconto.wi.us

Website: <http://oconto.uwex.edu>  Oconto County 4-H



Staff

Ben Hoppe: 4-H Program Coordinator; benjamin.hoppe@ces.uwex.edu

Jenny Tyczkowski: UW-Extension Program Assistant; jenny.tyczkowski@co.oconto.wi.us



Oconto County 4-H Leader's Association Board of Directors

Cheryl Meyer, President (Brazeau Eagles)

Isabella Rennie, Vice President (Pasture Pirates)

Kolin Farrar, Secretary (Southernline)

Arvilla Rusnak, Treasurer (County-wide)

McKenzie Meyer, Director (County-wide)

Sierra Seizy, Director (Team Green)

Ann Sievert, Director (Pasture Pirates)

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OCONTO COUNTY 4-H

“Care to Share Form”

This form has been designed to provide valuable input to the Oconto County 4-H program in two ways.

The first is to share ideas and suggestions for all area leaders and youth. We are always looking for new ways to educate our youth. All ideas, no matter if you think we may already be familiar with them, are welcome!

The second purpose is to allow members to express any concerns or problems they may be experiencing. We want to be able to address and correct any problems, but cannot do so if we are unaware of any issues.

Please take a few moments and complete all three sections of this form and sign it. ***Forms without all three sections completed and a signature will be disregarded.***

Care to Share Ideas/Suggestions Section

Section 1: Idea or suggestion: _____

Section 2: Directions: _____

Section 3: If possible, please send an example or a photo of the project. Please let us know who is submitting the idea!

Section 1: Describe current concerns or issues: _____

Section 2: Describe the specifics of the problem: _____

Section 3: Give your suggestion(s) for a possible solution: _____

If the concern or issue is one that needs immediate attention, please make sure you fill out all of the following information. We cannot proceed without verifying the information with you.

Please print:

Name of person completing this form: _____

Address of person completing form: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address _____

Signature _____

Date _____

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Please return completed forms to:

Oconto County 4-H

301 Washington Street

Oconto, WI 54153

or E-mail: benjamin.hoppe@ces.uwex.edu