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.



January 2019

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Contact Us

UW-Extension Oconto County Email: 4h@co.oconto.wi.us Phone: 920-834-6845

Website: http://oconto.uwex.edu

Goonto County 4-H

Oconto County Courthouse 301 Washington St. Oconto, WI 54153

New Year's Resolutions - set your goals!

Do you make New Year's Resolutions? Statistics show that nearly half of all Americans make a resolution. According to the University of Scranton, only about 8% of those people succeed with their resolution. How successful have you been, and is there a reason that you've failed? Often times, it has to do with a lack of goal setting.

Since I graduated college, I tried many times to get myself to run regularly. I found that I didn't have the patience for it and didn't want to take the time out of my day to go running regularly. I'd maybe get myself out on a run a few times every week for 2-3 weeks before falling off. Two years ago, I decided to start up running again and after encouragement from my friends, I signed up for a 5K. After completing that 5K, I decided that I wanted to run a 5K every month. Having this goal kept me focused and motivated me to get out and run 4-6 times every week.

In the 2 years since I made that goal, I have run eleven 5Ks, two 8Ks, two 10Ks, one 15K, two half marathons, and two full marathons. Between races and training, I've run nearly 2000 miles in the last 2 years. My running journey started with setting a goal that was **S.M.A.R.T.** It was **S**pecific. I could **M**easure my results. It was **A**chievable. Running was **R**elevant and something I came to enjoy, and the goal was also **T**ime-specific.

Creating Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-specific goals is a great way for you to consider not just what you want to accomplish, but why and when you what to accomplish it. Now take a moment to think about yourself and your 4-H club. Do you have some goals that you want to accomplish in 2019? Maybe you want to get involved in a project you've never tried before. Perhaps you wanted to get some of your friends to join you in your 4-H club. Set some goals for the new year, and see what you can accomplish!

See you in 2019!

Ben Hoppe

4-H Program Coordinator - Oconto & Marinette Counties

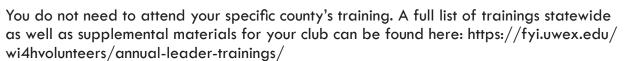
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

1	UW-Extension Offices Closed	
4	January Thaw Registration Opens	4HOnline/UW-Extension Office
7	Annual Leader Training 6pm-7:30pm	Oconto County Courthouse Oconto, WI LEC Room 1389
12	VEX Robotics Competition Team Green Hosts	Oconto Falls High School Oconto Falls, WI
13	Leaders' Association Board of Directors Open to all 4-H Families 3pm	St. Clare Hospital Oconto Falls, WI
16	January Thaw Registration Deadline	4HOnline/UW-Extension Office
19	January Thaw 9am-3:30pm	Washington Falls Middle School Oconto Falls, WI
28	Annual Leader Training 6pm-7:30pm	Crivitz Village Hall Crivitz, WI
31	Art Beat Registration Deadline	State 4-H Office

Annual Leader Training

All 4-H clubs are required an adult volunteer attend an Annual Leader Training to represent their club. This is a mandated portion of the charter process. All 4-H members and parents are invited to attend. Ideally, 2-4 youth and adults will attend from each club.



February

1	Youth Pig Project Scholarship Deadline Wisconsin Pork Association	
7	4HOnline Club Manager Training (Optional) Online	
10	4-H Leaders' Association Meeting Open to all 4-H families 3pm	St Clare Hospital Oconto Falls, WI
15	Oconto County Microsoft Digital Ambassador Deadline UW-Extension Office	
TBD	Volunteer in Preparation Training Required for all new 4-H Volunteers	Date, Time, Location TBD More info in next newsletter

Other Dates to Remember

4/6	Spring Fling	Volunteers Needed	Washington Middle School Oconto Falls, WI
4/30	4HOnline Enrollment Deadline to Participate in Oconto County Fair		Oconto Extension Office

Brief Updates!

Most clubs have some sort of group or page on Facebook. Make sure you like the **Oconto County 4-H** Facebook page to get additional updates!

Enroll in 4Honline! If you're not enrolled in 4HOnline by January 25th, you won't receive any newsletters or important mailings for the rest of the year! 4HOnline is our way to stay in touch, and it also helps club leaders track who is enrolled in their club.

Another **VIP Training session** will be held in February. The details are still being worked out. An official announcement will come in next month's newsletter and will also be shared on Facebook as well as the UW-Extension website. All new volunteers must attend a VIP training session.

Club Leaders will be able to take part in an optional **4Honline training** that will walk you through helpful tips and tricks such as getting contact information for a club member and creating reports for your club.

4-H License Plates are now available! If it's about time to re-register your vehicle with the DMV, now is the perfect time to rock the clover on your automobile and support 4-H at the state and county levels! More information can be found on the Wisconsin DMV website or your local DMV office.

Pasture Pirates 4-H Club will be hosting a countywide **4-H open skate** in Marinette in March. Stay tuned for more details!

January Thaw

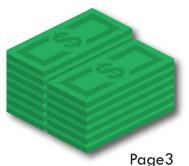
Registration for this year's January Thaw Project Day will go live on Friday, January 4. January Thaw will be held on Saturday, January 19 at Washington Middle School in Oconto Falls. Check-in will begin at 9am, with five 55-minute project sessions through the morning and afternoon. There will be a break for lunch from 11:30am - 12:25pm.

4-H members can attend sessions about a variety of topics, including beekeeping, archery, cake decorating, and more! There are also Cloverbud sessions being offered! Changing this year will be the lack of challenge cards. At the end of each session, attendees will be asked to answer 5 questions which will reflect on the material covered.

Registration in 4HOnline closes at 11:59pm on Wednesday, January 16. If you have any questions, please contact Ben via email at benjamin.hoppe@ces.uwex.edu or call the UW-Extension office.

Fundraising Opportunity for Clubs

The Project Development Committee is looking for a club or clubs to host the lunch for 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 your club is interested, contact the UW-Extension office at 4h@co.oconto.wi.us or (920) 834-6845.



Microsoft Partners with Oconto County 4-H

Oconto County 4-H is looking for 4 youth (grades 7-11) and 2 adult volunteers to create learning opportunities for Oconto County community members. Microsoft has partnered with the National 4-H Council to help teach communities about broadband internet and increase digital literacy in areas with limited internet access.

This program will last approximately 18 months from February 2019 until July 2020. Participants will lead learning sessions using nationally developed curriculum to help increase adult understanding with computers and the internet. 2 youth and 2 adults from Oconto County will travel to Chicago March 15-16 to participate in training. The State 4-H office will reimburse for travel costs and is currently looking to secure bussing to and from the event.

2 youth have already expressed interest in participating. Please email or call Ben if you are interested or would like more information. Ben will be out of the office for national Digital Ambassador Training from January 14-16.

Morgan Badgers Monthly Report By Tristen Bierhals, Club Reporter

On November 11, 2018, Morgan Badgers 4-H club held their monthly meeting at Lannoye Elementary School. We painted snowmen on canvas and elected new officers.



Northern Riders Monthly Report By Harlee Wolf, Club Reporter

Northern Riders had a great turn out at this years Achievement Banquet! Congratulations to all members for a successful year and looking forward to next year!





The Northern Riders 4-H elected new officers at the November meeting. New officers are: Left to Right: Claire Anderson, Treasurer.

Trent Thomson, Secretary. Ryann Wagner, Reporter. Harlee Wolf, Vice President. Macie Reed, President

Apply for a Scholarship!

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation is awarding scholarships to Wisconsin students pursuing higher education in 2019. To be considered for financial support, applications must be received by the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation via email by Friday, March 15 at 5pm. More information on qualifications and how to apply on their website: http://wis4hfoundation.org/scholarships/

Additional questions about the scholarships by contacting the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation office at 608.262.1597 or info@ Wis4HFoundation.org



The Wisconsin Pork Association is offering Youth Pig Project scholarhips again in 2019. 4-H and FFA youth are eligible for a \$50.00 scholarship to help offset the costs of their 2019 pig project. Scholarships will be awarded in 3 age divisions (9-12, 13-15, 16-19). Interested youth may download the scholarship application form from the WPA website at http://

www.wppa.org/youth-pig-project or call the WPA office at 800-822-7675 to have a copy mailed. Completed application forms must be emailed or postmarked no later than February 1, 2019.

Mutual of Wausau is offering grants to 4-H clubs in each county where it has an office. Oconto County 4-H clubs are eligible for these grants in the amount of \$400 per club! If your club has a project you're working on, the club should fill out the attached application at your next meeting. Applications are due by April 1st.

Cloverbud Activites Available Online!

Are you looking to create some fun opportunities for Cloverbuds? The Wisconsin 4-H office has created 2 years worth of activity plans for Cloverbud members! The activities venture through a variety of activities like learning about spider webs, creating a mini-greenhouse, and learning how to create your own snack mix.

Check out the Cloverbudy Activity page on the Wisconsin 4-H website for more information:

https://fyi.uwex.edu/wi4hcloverbuds/activity-plans/



Art Beat Registration is open!

Registration for Art Beat is now open! This weekend camp begins on Friday, March 15 at 6:30pm and ends at 11am on Sunday, March 17. 4-H Art Beat is the introductory program for Wisconsin 4-H Communication Arts and was created for 4-H members in grades 3-5, their parents and leaders. Art Beat provides an opportunity for youth and their parents to experience five different art forms in a camping environment at Camp Upham Woods in Wisconsin Dells. Art Beat! track leaders are older 4-H Youth, 4-H Leaders and staff. Registration closes on January 31!

For more information, check out https://fyi.uwex.edu/wi4harts/artbeat-more-info/

Volunteer Opportunities



February 2019 - July 2020 — 4-H Digital Ambassadors

Oconto County 4-H has been approached to bring a Digital Ambassador program to Oconto County, partnering with Microsoft. The program needs 2 adult volunteers and 4-6 youth volunteers (teens between grades 7-11). The youth will serve as Digital Ambassadors who will teach adults in Oconto County communities about the benefits of technology and increase their comfort with digital tools (such as computers and the internet). 2 adults and 2 youth volunteers would travel to Chicago, IL on March 15-16 for additional training, and the Digital Ambassadors would be required to lead approximately 10 learning sessions for local community members. Approved travel expenses would be reimbursed as part of the grant.

Contact benjamin.hoppe@ces.uwex.edu for more information!

Ongoing — Oconto County 4-H Ambassador Program

Has 4-H made a difference in your life? Do you want to make a difference in the 4-H program in Oconto County? The Oconto County 4-H Leaders' Association would like to announce the reformation of the county 4-H Ambassadors Program. The Leaders' Association is looking for any youth interested, especially older youth, to help drive the future of the 4-H program by getting involved in a countywide ambassador program. 2 adults are also needed to help provide guidance.



Oconto County 4-H Ambassadors will be responsible for promoting 4-H throughout the county and assisting at county 4-H events. 4-H is a program for youth, so it depends on the input and development from youth! The first year of the program will also help to determine the shape of the ambassador program for future years.

Youth and adults should plan on about 1-2 hours per month going toward the Ambassador program. Some months might not have any responsibilities, but other months may have a little more when there are larger events (such as the county fair). Meetings may be done in person, but telephone conference calls and video conferences are also likely as well to accommodate with busy schedules.

If you're interested in either helping or being a part of the Oconto County 4-H Ambassador program, please email benjamin.hoppe@ces.uwex.edu.

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



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
<u>Signature</u> <u>Date</u>



Developed by John de Montmollin

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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

MUTUAL OF WAUSAU INSURANCE CORPORATION APPLICATION FOR 4-H CLUB GRANT PROGRAM Deadline – April 1st

The purpose of the Mutual of Wausau Insurance Corporation 4-H Club Grant Program is to support 4-H Clubs in youth development and to promote civic and leadership responsibilities. Grants will be awarded in the amount of \$400 per club. In order to be considered for a grant, your application must be received at the Mutual of Wausau home office by April 1st.

Name of Club:
Name, address & phone number of leader:
County where Club is located:
Number of members in Club:
List Club activities for the last two years (use separate sheet if needed):
Purpose for which you are requesting a grant:
List fund raising activities for the project for which the grant is requested:
Number of members involved in project for which you are requesting grant:
Other fund raising activities that the Club is involved in:
Insurance Agency, Location, and Agent's Name that referred this grant program to you: Carriveau Insurance agency Cavitz Suzanne Deschance

Application Deadline – April 1st
Please complete and return to:
Mutual of Wausau Insurance
Attn: Grant Committee
PO Box 269
Wausau, WI 54402-0269