President’s Corner

Hello Idaho Volunteers, 4-H Youth, and Extension,

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and is looking forward to the 2014 4-H year.

I am honored to be the 2014 Idaho State Leaders Association president. I am a volunteer from North Central Idaho in Clearwater County. I am an active club leader, county, district, and state volunteer as well as pursuing a degree in higher education. I look forward to a busy year in representing you and working with my fellow state officers.

The new 4-H year has already started and is moving forward quickly. Some of our state conferences are in the preparatory stage and will be here before we know it. In February, over President’s Day weekend, Know Your Government will host youth from across the state. Then there will be all the district, county, and club activities which round out the success of the Idaho 4-H program.

I wish each and every one much success in the year to come.

Respectfully,

Bobbi Flowers

UPCOMING DEADLINES

Friends of 4-H Scholarship Applications
Due February 1, 2014

TALK registration
Closes March 7, 2014
The clock is ticking on the Idaho Friends of 4-H Specialty License Plate. As 4-H volunteers, you may choose to connect with your local legislator regarding the license plate. How can your 4-H club engage and learn from this process? 4-H members can contact their respective legislators to learn the legislator’s view of the Idaho 4-H Specialty license plate effort.

Following are some talking points that may assist your 4-H Ambassadors or 4-H Volunteers when contacting their legislators.

1. The Idaho Friends of 4-H Board has undertaken an effort to establish an Idaho 4-H Specialty license plate, in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth by the Idaho Department of Transportation. Our goal is to provide increased visibility for 4-H statewide while generating additional funding to support/ enhance Idaho 4-H Youth Development programs (i.e. improved educational resources, scholarships, youth and adult volunteer leadership trainings, etc.).

2. The application process required that a minimum of 250 signatures be gathered from individuals who currently have vehicles registered in Idaho, indicating they would intend to purchase an Idaho 4-H Specialty license plate if it were made available. During this past summer, nearly 600 signatures were gathered in support of this effort.

3. Based on the clear support for this effort, the Idaho Friends of 4-H submitted an application to the Idaho Department of Transportation by their September 1st deadline. Since that time, Friends of 4-H board member Tom Trail (former State Representative) has worked with State Representative Agidius to serve as the bill’s sponsor.

4. Idaho residents can voluntarily opt to participate in the specialty license plate program. If they choose to participate, they pay an initial fee of $35 above their normal vehicle registration fee (of which $22 would be returned to Idaho Friends of 4-H); annual renewals are $25 above normal registration fees (with $12 returned to Idaho Friends of 4-H). Preliminary projections indicate that this program could generate $5,000 to $7,000 annually; this amount could substantially increase over time.

5. Proceeds from the special license plates sales will support and enhance 4-H Youth Development programs throughout Idaho by funding 4-H events, educational resources, scholarships, youth leadership training and volunteer training. Additionally funds may support program areas such as 4-H Afterschool, 4-H Know Your Government Conference, or 4-H Teen Conference.

6. 4-H is a youth development organization that is administered in Idaho through the University of Idaho Extension. Currently there are approximately 70,000 youth participants in the UI 4-H Youth Development program.

7. The proceeds will be logged through the UI Foundation and will be targeted for the 4-H Youth Development program, much like the UI license plates target UI student scholarships.

Please don’t hesitate to contact Jim Lindstrom at jlindstrom@uidaho.edu or Jim Wilson at jwilson@uidaho.edu if you have questions.
Bannock County Says Goodbye to Educator Missy Cummins

On November 29, Bannock County said goodbye to their extension educator Missy Cummins. Missy had been the educator in Bannock County since May 2008. She implemented numerous programs in her county to benefit youth through 4-H.

Missy is a true Idaho 4-Her as she grew up involved in 4-H in Bannock County as a 4-H youth. Missy spent ten years in the program participating in home economic projects such as cooking and sewing. She also completed projects in rockets, leadership, and self-determined. When asked what her favorite project was as a participating 4-H member Missy replied, “My favorite was probably leadership.”

In implementing numerous programs in Bannock County, the leadership she enjoyed as a member is now put to use as an extension educator. Specific programs Missy implemented include day camps, early out Monday 4-H, School’s Out 4-H Days, a home economics class for home school teens, and juvenile offenders program. In the juvenile offenders program, Missy was sometimes the first person to ever show youth within the program how to be self-sustaining.

Missy has accepted a position with the Washington State 4-H program as a Regional 4-H Specialist in Clark/Skamania counties. Although she will be missed in Idaho, we wish her and her family all the best. We do expect to see Missy from time to time at some regional events such as the Western Regional Leaders Forum. Good luck Missy!

Idaho 4-H Hall of Fame Seeking Nominations

Submitted by: Nancy Melville, Idaho 4-H Volunteer Development Specialist

Idaho 4-H will be once again inducting individuals and organizations who have made a significant impact upon the 4-H program and/or its members and leaders. One hundred people were inducted in 2002, 15 were inducted in 2005, 14 in 2008, and 10 individuals were inducted 2011.

Anyone who has made a significant contribution to the development of 4-H or 4-Hers in Idaho are eligible to be nominated. It is expected that the nominees have been excellent role models in the areas of citizenship, leadership, career accomplishments, and character. Current 4-H faculty and staff are not eligible. Retired faculty and staff are eligible if they have been retired for at least 3 years at the time of induction. Nominees may be living or deceased.

Individuals or 4-H related organizations will be invited to submit nominations. Be watching for the announcement after the first of the year that nominations are being accepted. You may contact Nancy Melville, Idaho 4-H Volunteer Development at nmelville@uidaho.edu for more information.
Idaho’s Wool Contest Results
Submitted by: Sharlene Woffinden, Bear Lake County Extension Educator & Wool Contest chair

The results of the 25th Idaho’s 4-H Wool Contest were announced during the 2013 State Leaders’ Forum lunch on November 9, 2013 at the Fort Hall Chief’s Event Center. Sharlene Woffinden, the Eastern District 4-H Wool Contest contact and chair of this year state contest, was thrilled that all five of the Eastern District’s contestants were able to attend the forum’s lunch where the results were announced. The Wool Contest contestants are not required to be present for the announcements of the results, but it is great when some of them can attend. Even though the wool contest entries were on display earlier in the day, it was exciting to see these wool creations being modeled by the 4-H member during lunch.

Before announcing the results, the five contestants from Bonneville County, Angel Neil, Alyssa King, Desiree Billman, Marlee Doman, and Cody Chamberlain modeled their wool garments walking in and out around the tables while Bonnie Caywood, a Bear Lake County volunteer, read a short narrative about each entry. The wool garments of Ruth Farnham, (Elmore County); Katy Haight, (Lewis County); Davi Murphy, (Idaho County) and Holli Ulhorn, (Idaho County) were “modeled” on their hangers by three Bear Lake County 4-H members Trevor Keetch, Kirsten Stevens, and Makenzie Stevens who volunteered to help. Once everyone had a chance for a close up look at the garment the results were read.

The top State and District award recipients are:

**Basic Level (Age 8 to 16 and/or construct a garment with 3 or less advanced sewing skills.)**
- Davi Murphy, Idaho County, won 1st Place Northern District and Top State Basic awards.
- Ruth Farnham, Elmore County, won 1st Place Basic Southern District II award.
- Angel Neil, Bonneville County, won 1st Place Basic Eastern District award.

**Advanced Level (Age 8 to 18 and/or construct a garment with 4 or more advanced sewing skills.)**
- Marlee Doman, Bonneville County, won 1st Place Eastern District and 1st Place State Advanced awards.
- Katy Haight, Lewis County, won the 1st Place Northern District and 2nd Place State Advanced awards.
- Alyssa King, Bonneville County, won the 3rd Place State Advanced award.

The Idaho Wool Growers Association has supported and donated the awards for the 4-H Wool Contest since 1988. The Wool Contest’s guidelines have changed over these 25 years, but not the contest’s objectives. Ernestine Porter, former UI Extension textiles and clothing specialist stated in the Lewiston Morning Tribune, July 9, 1990, the third year the contest was held that “the objectives of the contest include helping a new generation of consumers become familiar with wool clothing construction and encouraging them to go on and further their education.” This year the Idaho Wool Growers will be donating a total $1,425.00 as awards to the wool contest winners. If you know someone who is a member of this group, please tell them thank you for all the past and future years of supporting the Idaho 4-H program.
Idaho Volunteer Earns National Archery Certification

Submitted by: Roxanne Berheim, Twin Falls County Volunteer

This past September, I was able to participate in the 4-H Shooting Sports Program on a national level. Redmond, Oregon played host to the 4-H National Shooting Sports Training. I was among 80 4-H leaders and staff who received national training in one of the nine disciplines offered through the 4-H Shooting Sports Program.

My story begins in 2010 when I decided to go to a state training and be certified in archery. Our 4-H Club was interested in adding this project to our club program. The first year we had 22 kids enrolled in the archery program. I then hosted a District Archery Contest and had 40 kids participate. The next year the 4-H club numbers doubled. There was a split off from the club. We still enrolled 25 kids into the program. I remember thinking, WOW!! This program is really taking off. The next District Archery Contest was just a little bigger.

This brings me to the present day. Over the last few years in my travels through the 4-H program I have visited with several other 4-H leaders around the state. I always ask how their 4-H Shooting Sports Program is doing. It seems to me I always hear the same thing, “Not enough trained 4-H leaders in the program.” This is what led me to Redmond, Oregon.

In Redmond, I participated in the National Archery Program. It was a four day program to certify us to become trainers on the state level. This meant that when I passed my test I would be able to certify others to begin an Archery Program in their clubs, counties, and districts.

The days ran from 8am to 8:30pm. The instruction was awesome. I was lucky because we only had 7 that were in our discipline. Ken Loucks, our instructor was able to give us a lot of one on one instruction plus lots of ideas to bring back to our 4-H programs. Sadly, the last day arrived. I was having so much fun learning and getting to know so many great people from around the nation. I am excited to say I now have 4-H friends from Alaska to Georgia and California to New York.

I am proud to say that my next 4-H adventure has begun. I look forward to working with 4-H leaders and staff around the State of Idaho. I want to share my desire to be a part of the great 4-H program. I can’t

Do You know the 4-H Creed?

I believe in 4-H Club work for the opportunity it will give me to become a useful citizen.
I believe in the training of my HEAD for the power it will give me to think, plan and to reason.
I believe in the training of my HEART for the nobleness it will give me to be kind, sympathetic and true.
I believe in the training of my HANDS for the ability it will give me to be helpful, skillful, and useful.
I believe in the training of my HEALTH for the strength it will give me to enjoy life, to resist disease, and to work efficiently.
I believe in my country, my state, and my community and in my responsibility for their development. In all these things
I believe, and am willing to dedicate my efforts to their fulfillment.
35th Annual Festival of Trees
Submitted by: Kortini Wells, Cassia County Senior Ambassador

Christmas time: a time for sharing, caring, happiness, family and friends...just a few of my favorite things. This year kicked off the 35th annual Festival of Trees held December 4-7. It truly displayed the magic of Christmas. The theme chosen for this year's festivities "These are a Few of my Favorite Things" was sponsored and put together by an amazing team of Cassia Healthcare Foundation volunteers as well as Cassia Regional Medical Center volunteers. The entrance fee paid to get into the festival goes towards health scholarships for high school seniors wishing to further their education in the medical and health fields. Other money earned through goodies' sales and such goes toward new equipment and anything Cassia Regional Medical Center may need to further improve their growing facilities.

Fifty-five trees, as well as other festive items, were auctioned off and bought by generous community members. There was also an opening gala to accompany the auction with plenty of good food and entertainment. The whole weekend was full of talented young singers, dancers, and even show choirs from the area who did a wonderful job.

A local Cassia 4-H club, the Whatchamacallits and leader Dena Jarolimek each decorated and donated a tree. They were purchased by local Cassia County Representatives Scott Bedke and Fred Wood, who are very supportive of Cassia County 4-H and the Know Your Government Conference each year.

Local Burley High School Bel-Cantos also decorated and donated a tree for our dear friend, 16 year old, Ryan Willes, who passed away in a tragic accident about a month ago. The tree was given to the Willes family in memory of him.

Along with the festival of trees in the Mini-Cassia area, the Minidoka area also had their own festival celebrating their 15th year of the Rupert Caring and Sharing Festival sponsored by the Rupert Rotary Club and the Kiwanis club of Rupert, to support health related causes. Their theme of “100 years of Christmas Cheer” helped close the centennial celebration of Minidoka County. Held November 29-December 2, the committee members hoped to earn $500,000 to split equally between future use and putting it back into the community.

The Minidoka County teens have a huge involvement in the Rupert festivities by participating in community service, a huge part of 4-H. Jeni Bywater, Minidoka 4-H Coordinator, shares, “Our teen group does several fundraisers throughout the year to raise money for state exchanges, college scholarships, and several other leadership opportunities. It is only appropriate to give back to a community that supports us year round. The teens have learned better leadership skills and team work through this seasonal project.” The teens’ hard work paid off. Their Duck Dynasty themed tree this year was the big talk of the festival and was even made family by KMTV in their Facebook page and on the news.
Two Idaho 4-H Members to complete in National Make It With Wool Contest

Submitted by: Sharlene Woffinden, Bear Lake County Extension Educator & Wool Contest chair

Cindy Teuscher, Idaho Wool Growers Association member, has been the contact person between this organization and the Idaho 4-H Wool Contest Committee for 21 years. Last February, Cindy contacted the National Make It With Wool contest director and this year the Idaho Wool Contest became an official qualifying event for the National Make It With Wool (MIWW) contest. 4-H members who entered the 4-H Wool Contest had the option to also enter the MIWW contest by submitting an official entry form and paying the entry fee when they sent their garment/outfit and portfolio in for judging on Oct 10, 2013.

4-H members, Marlee Doman and Cody Chamberlain from Bonneville County acted on the option and will be attending the MIWW contest in January 2014. They will be the first to represent Idaho at this national contest in over 25 years. Marlee will be competing in the MIWW Senior Level (age 17 – 24) and Cody, will be competing in the MIWW Junior Level (age 13 – 16) with youth from the other states that have MIWW contest.

Sharlene Woffinden and Cindy Teuscher are the co-directors of Idaho’s MIWW and have been involved in combining the MIWW contest with Idaho 4-H Wool Contest. For this first year, 2013; we decided to offer two levels of the national contest, Junior and Senior. These two levels will be offered again next year, so it’s not too early for 4-H members to start thinking about entering both contests in 2014. The 2014 Idaho 4-H Wool & MIWW Contest brochure and guidelines will be available by the end of February 2014.

Sharlene Woffinden, Bear Lake County Extension Educator, will be attending the national contest to learn more about the contest plus gain a better understanding of the different divisions of the MIWW contest. There is an adult MIWW division that she could see offering in the future. The adult level contest could become a great way to recruit new 4-H clothing leaders and also be fun to let current leaders show off their sewing skills. If you know any adult who might be interested in participating or if you are interested, contact Sharlene at sharlene@uidaho.edu.

Idaho Volunteers are Cordially Invited to attend the State Leaders Association Meeting

Idaho state volunteers are invited to attend the State Leaders Association meeting to be held in February. This meeting is an open meeting for Idaho volunteers to come and share concerns, suggest ideas to better our program, and have interaction with other volunteers from across the state.

Although the State Leaders Association does have District Representatives elected from each of the 4-H districts to represent the interests of Idaho volunteers, we encourage all volunteers to join us and share views and ideas.

Watch for the announcement of location and time in January as it will be sent out on the Idaho volunteer list serve.
It is time to start gearing ourselves up to prepare for the New Year and what it will bring. We must look forward to the possibilities that can come to us this New Year, be open to those possibilities, and accept those possibilities no matter what they bring. I look forward to starting this New Year with a positive attitude. My New Year’s resolutions included my 4-H club. I want to work on communication skills, tolerance of others, and the realization that nothing is perfect. Mistakes will be made, things will happen that are out of our control, people may do things that we do not understand or like, but we will deal with these with respect, understanding, tolerance, and patience. I hope you will join me in this to help make our club an extended family and a fun, warm environment filled with creativity, knowledge, and exciting times.

I have been thinking about the 4-H Pledge that we recite at the beginning of every meeting. Is it just words or does it have a purpose to help guide us along our 4-H journey? I would like to share my feelings and enlightenments that I received.

Let’s look at the first line that reads, “My Head to clearer thinking.” What does this mean? I feel there are two areas that this can cover. First, I want to be able to give my families the knowledge that they need so that they can do their very best. The other half of that is that you must be willing to allow yourself to be taught. This is so important. We should be in a constant state of learning, bettering ourselves, growing, and developing. Secondly, I would like to think that it means that we will forgive those that may say or have said something that offended us. We all can say things that are taken the wrong way. We say things in the heat of the moment (because we are human), and sometimes we just don’t think before we speak. My challenge to you this year is to really pledge yourself to clearer thinking.

Next it reads, “My Heart to greater loyalty.” Could it be as simple as the golden rule - Treat others the way you would like to be treated - I think that it could. You may not like everyone that you come in contact with in your 4-H career, but because we have this commonality of 4-H we should at least try to be nice to one another, treat each other with the basic respect deserved by everyone, try to find the good in all situations, and if we cannot bring ourselves to do this then we should remove ourselves from those opportunities that challenge us to behave accordingly.

“My Hands to larger service,” seems easy to me. One should always feel better when helping to bring out the best no matter what it is. Is that not our Motto, “To Make the Best Better?” All that is asked is that we give of ourselves. It is the easiest way to make ourselves feel validated. To be in the service of others, no matter the act or deed, is such a simple thing that can bring about so much change. Not just physical change, but if done with the right attitude, an emotional and mental change for all those that are involved.

I had to think about the part, “My Health for better living,” but then it hit me. When I feel better (healthier physically and mentally), I am more willing to do more. I face a task with more energy and a brighter spirit, that in turn makes my task easier to accomplish and accomplished with greater productivity. When we feel great, others want to feel that way also and they gravitate towards those that make them feel better.

Now comes the hard part, “For my club, my community, my country, and my world.” We are asked not to accomplish this just for certain people at certain times. We are asked to share these attributes with those in your 4-H family, with those people that you come in contact with throughout your dealings in your community, with your country to make it a stronger nation of morally and ethically strong caring people, and with those that we have a chance to share a worldwide connection with through physical, verbal, social means. Be the pebble that is cast into the pond of smooth glass like water. Cause the ripple of great things to be, because there is never just one ripple. There are always several ripples that continue across the whole pond, even into the deepest, darkest corners.

My challenge this year to you all and to myself is to not just recite those words of our 4-H Pledge that have been around since 1927, but live those words. By living those words you will be honoring those that pondered over the 4-H Pledge and accomplished making a living testament to the 4-H way of life.
Now seeking host families for teens from Japan, Finland and Costa Rica

Experience another country without leaving home!
Open your home to an exchange delegate and open your lives to the world! Families have an opportunity to experience another country and culture by hosting exchange delegates, ages 12-19, for four weeks next summer.

These teens will be visiting the United States as part of a 4-H exchange program. You don’t need to be involved with 4-H to host; you just need a willingness to share your lives and your friendship with a young person from another country. Most Japanese students are ages 12-14. Students from other countries are 15-19.

The program is open to families who have a child close in age to the exchange student. Students will be matched to a family based on the host sibling’s gender, age, and interests. The homestays are only for a month during the summer, but the experience will last a lifetime!

There are also opportunities to host adult chaperones for 2-4 weeks. Families who host chaperones are not required to have children in the home.

For more information contact Claudine Zender, Idaho 4-H International Programs Coordinator, by email at 4hinternational@uidaho.edu.

~~ Remember to Look for Us on Facebook ~~

Idaho State 4-H Leaders Association:

Know Your Government:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/96971868445/
Teen Ambassador Leadership Kit (TALK)

Submitted by Donna Gillespie, Minidoka County Extension Educator

Teens are invaluable to the 4-H program and community partners love to hear from the kids they support. Polish your public speaking skills and learn promotion and marketing techniques at this annual retreat, taking these skills back to your community. Work with 4-H staff members throughout the year to promote and market 4-H in your county.

The Teen Ambassador Leadership Kit (TALK) is an annual weekend retreat held each March at the historic Campus Grove in Albion, Idaho. It is designed for teens interested in promoting and marketing 4-H in their communities.

TALK organizers feel teens benefit directly from an intensive weekend retreat with communication as a focus. TALK produces a network of educated and excited 4-H teens who are available to help with 4-H promotion and marketing.

TALK participants arrive on Friday evening for registration and team building activities. Saturday’s activities include workshops and projects, and on Sunday morning each workshop group shares their completed projects and what they learned.

Teens are designated "County 4-H Ambassadors" and certificates of completion, professional business cards, and polo shirts are presented on Sunday. TALK teen participants return home to share what they learned with their local county 4-H staff and help promote and market 4-H in their communities.

For more information go to http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/4h/events/events/stateevents/talk.

FROM THE EDITOR

I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all of those who have sent in articles or have shared the “scoop” on a potential article with me so that I could find an author for the story. THANK YOU! It is because of you that we were able to create informative issues with wonderful ideas, opportunities, and great successes!

This is my last issue as editor of the Leaders Corner. 2014 brings in a new group of volunteers who will continue with building the Leaders Corner to serve our great volunteers, youth, parents, extension, and anyone who is fortunate enough to find the link to this publication. At the helm of the Leaders Corner will be Canyon County volunteer Tass Heim. She and a volunteer from each of the remaining three 4-H districts will work collectively in producing an even greater Leaders Corner with wonderful new ideas and emphasis.

It has been a wonderful learning experience and opportunity for me to serve you as the editor. Thank you for making this experience so great! As I pursue new opportunities both in 4-H and my personal life, I will always look forward to seeing those of you who I have had the great fortune to meet and to those whom I have yet to meet.

May 2014 be a great year with much success for each one of us!

Respectfully yours,
Bobbi Flowers
PNW 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Trainings
Submitted by: Jim Wilson, Northern District Area 4-H Youth Extension Educator

Plans have finally come together for a couple of 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Trainings to be held in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho this spring. I would like to extend this invitation to our past 4-H Shooting Sports leader training participants, along with any new leaders throughout Idaho, Oregon and Washington to participate in either of these two events.

The first training will be held the weekend of April 26-27, and is designed for leaders to gain their initial 4-H shooting sports leader certification in archery, hunting, pistol, rifle and/or shotgun. Participants can potentially secure certification in two of these disciplines by completing both days. To best accommodate training requests, there is a space provided on the second page to rank which discipline(s) volunteers seek certification in – if they are interested in more than two disciplines, they need to rank all applicable disciplines. Complete details are contained within the registration flyer. The half-page registration flyer, waiver form and payment must be received no later than Friday, April 18th.

The second training is an Advanced Archery session the weekend of May 10-11. This training is for 4-H archery shooting sports leaders who have at least one year of actual archery leader experience (those certifying in archery at the April 26-27, 2014 event are not eligible). Our featured instructor is Ken Loucks, who serves as an instructor at national level trainings, is a lead coach trainer for USA Archery and has worked with US Olympic Archery Team coaches. Participants will gain extensive knowledge and skills which will enable them to pass the USA Archery Level 2 certification. Because of the in-depth nature of this training and to insure sufficient individual attention, this training is limited to the first 20 fully-paid registrants. Registrations must be received by April 25th. (Note: due to instructor availability, this training falls on Mother’s Day weekend. We encourage participants to bring their spouse and enjoy a mini-vacation in beautiful Coeur d’Alene).

Registration packets for both trainings can be found under the Shooting Sports heading at http://extension.uidaho.edu/kootenai/category/4-h/4-h-workshops-and-training/.