

# 4-H Handbook



By  
Richard Fechter  
District Extension Agent  
Elk County 4-H & Agriculture  
September 2020

**Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension  
Service**



K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Welcome to Elk County 4-H!

This guide has been prepared to help you answer any questions you may have about our 4-H program. In addition to this guide, you will receive a monthly newsletter. The newsletter will keep you up-to-date on events, trainings, and project information.

If you have any questions, ask your club leaders or feel free to call or stop by the Rolling Prairie Extension District -- Howard Office at:

K-State Research & Extension  
Rolling Prairie Extension District  
Howard Office  
130 South Pennsylvania  
P.O Box 647  
Howard, KS 67349

620-374-2174 Phone

620-374-2889 Fax

<http://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu>

We look forward to working with you this year and in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Richard Fechter  
District Agent -- Elk County 4-H & Agriculture  
[rfechter@ksu.edu](mailto:rfechter@ksu.edu)

Jenny McDaniel  
District Agent -- Chautauqua County 4-H & Agriculture  
[jlm323@ksu.edu](mailto:jlm323@ksu.edu)

This handbook is divided into different sections. They are:

- Section 1 - The 4-H Program
- Section 2 - Who's Who in 4-H
- Section 3 - 4-H Club Meetings
- Section 4 - 4-H Projects
- Section 5 - 4-H Records
- Section 6 - 4-H Activities
- Section 7 - Awards

We are hoping that this resource will answer many of the questions you might have. Save it and use as a reference throughout the year. If you have other questions, please contact your 4-H Club's Community Leaders or the Extension Office. We would like to help you enjoy 4-H and hope that you will contact us.

4-H helps young people to develop life skills. A life skill is an ability that one can use in everyday life. There are five basic skills that 4-H teaches. They are:

1. Building self-confidence
2. Develop an inquiring mind
3. Setting goals and making decisions
4. Relating to other people
5. Develop a concern for the community

## Section 1 -- The 4-H Program

---

### **WHAT IS 4-H?**

4-H is a volunteer led, educational program that supplements the teachings of home, church, and school.

4-H is an informal educational program for all boys and girls 7 to 18 years of age whether they live in town, the country, or on a farm. 4-H is open to all youth regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

4-H is kids having fun and learning with their friends. 4-H is a universal, primary prevention youth development program.

### **WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE 4-H PROGRAM?**

The local 4-H Youth Development program is administered by the extension board in partnership with the K-State Research and Extension area director, within the policies and guidelines set forth by the director of the Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service.

The extension board is the policy making authority for 4-H Youth Development. The extension board is accountable to the director of K-State Research and Extension for all funds collected or received within its jurisdiction under the scope of the 4-H name and/or emblem.

The purpose of the County/District Extension Service is to provide instruction and practical demonstrations in agriculture, marketing, family and consumer sciences, 4-H youth development to all persons in the District. The County/District Councils hire professional agent staff in agriculture, family consumer sciences and 4-H development to plan and conduct the respective programs in the county.

### **WHAT IS THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF 4-H?**

4-H focuses on meeting needs of young people through positive youth development. Positive youth development is a theory and practice based on positive experiences and positive relationships within positive environments. Positive youth development is most likely to occur within positive and sustained relationships between youth and adults, activities that build important life skills, and opportunities for youth to use the life skills both as participants in and as leaders of valued community activities.

### **WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPLES OF 4-H?**

It is not what we know, but what we believe that determines what we do. 4-H leaders and parents can make their best contribution to the development of 4-H boys and girls if they understand 4-H objectives and principles.

- The 4-H club boy and girl are more important than the project.
- Project work is one of the best devices for developing young people. To “learn by doing” is fundamental in any sound educational program and is characteristic of the 4-H program.
- 4-H is not trying to replace the home, church or school – only to supplement them. This does not mean that 4-H should avoid areas touched by school or church. 4-H music, dramatics, etc., may give additional opportunities for participation.
- 4-Her’s should be their own best exhibit. This means in manners, attitudes, and courtesy, as well as appropriate dress and physical appearance.
- Competition is a part of life and should be recognized in 4-H as a human trait, but competition requires careful planning and safeguards when used as an educational service.
- No 4-H award is worth sacrificing the reputation of a 4-H member or leader.
- A blue ribbon 4-H’er with a red ribbon exhibit is more desirable than a red ribbon 4-H’er with a blue ribbon exhibit.

- Many things are caught rather than taught.
- Every 4-H member needs to be noticed, to feel important, to achieve some degree of success, and to be praised.
- Our job is to teach 4-H members how to think, not what to think.

### **WHAT IS A 4-H CLUB?**

A community club is an organized group of at least five youth from at least three families, led by two or more volunteer screened adults, with a planned program that is carried on throughout all or most of the year. Membership in a community club cannot be a requirement for membership in any other organized 4-H club or vice versa. There are four community clubs in Elk County.

### **4-H CLUBS IN ELK COUNTY**

- ✿ **Flint Hill Boosters - Howard**
- ✿ **Grenola Jayhawkers - Grenola**
- ✿ **Longton Boosters - Longton**
- ✿ **Moline Shining Star - Moline**

### **WHAT DOES IT COST?**

Beginning October 2017, Kansas 4-H implemented an annual \$15 Kansas 4-H program fee. There may be some costs for project materials.

Local clubs may develop their own methods of raising money for worthwhile activities.

### **MOTTO**

“To Make the Best Better”

### **EMBLEM**

The 4-H emblem is the four-leaf clover with the letter “H” of each leaf, standing for head, heart, hands and health.

## **COLORS**

The 4-H colors are green and white. Green symbolizes nature's most common color and represents life, spring-time and youth. White symbolizes purity.

## **PLEDGE**

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.

## **4-H YEAR**

A 4-H year starts October 1 each year and ends September 30 of the following year.

## **AGE OF MEMBERSHIP**

4-H Youth Development programs are open to all youth who are residents of Kansas and between the ages of 7 and 18. Youth who turn 7 before January 1 of the current 4-H year may enroll. Youth who turn 19 before January 1 of the current 4-H year are ineligible to enroll.

## **SCOPE**

4-H is in all the states and in many foreign countries. Over 80 foreign countries have 4-H or 4-H type youth programs.

## **PROJECTS**

Other than age, the only requirement for 4-H membership is that the 4-H'ers enroll in at least one project (learning opportunity). There are more than thirty projects to choose from.

## **LEADERS**

Adults serve as two types of 4-H leaders: project (subject matter teachers) and community (organization leaders). Helping boys and girls grow through their 4-H opportunities can be a very rewarding experience for adult volunteers.

## **4-H FAMILY NEWSLETTER**

The monthly newsletter is sent to each 4-H family from the Rolling Prairie Extension District -- Howard Office. This letter is to keep families posted on upcoming events. It includes dates and activities in which 4-H'ers and their families may want to participate.

The newsletter is also available on the web site at: [www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu](http://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu).

## SECTION 2 -- WHO'S WHO IN 4-H

---

**4-H Member** - Any child 7-18 years of age, who completes 4HOnline enrollment, a Kansas Participation Form and meets the club requirements.

**Community Club Leader** - A volunteer who is responsible for the organizational part of the club.

**Project Leader** - A volunteer who helps to teach kids the projects. This person is often a 4-H parent who agrees to help with a project. It may also be a Teen Leader or a person from the community who has knowledge in a particular subject matter area.

**Project** - A learning experience for the 4-H member in a subject the child is interested in. Each member must take at least one project.

**Teen Leader** - A 4-H member who is 13 years of age and is enrolled in the leadership project. They take an active part in helping the younger members in the club. By doing this, they grow, mature, and learn leadership skills.

**Parents Committee** - This committee is made up of 3 - 5 adults. They can be parents of club members and/or community members with an interest in the 4-H club. Duties will vary from club to club, but their basic responsibilities are: to give parental input into the 4-H club program in the planning stages, recruit project leaders and/or community club leaders, and assist the club leader at his/her request.

**Parents** - They are very important to the success a child will have in the 4-H program. Parents are encouraged to attend monthly meetings and project meetings with their child. All county-wide events are open and parents are encouraged to attend.

Parents may help boys and girls get more from their 4-H experience in several ways:

1. Counsel your 4-H'er in the selection of a suitable project. Show interest. Learn what's required. Help guide, don't do it for him. When something is started, see that it is completed.
2. Encourage your child to attend meetings regularly and attend with him/her so you'll be able to help the child know about and remember upcoming events.
3. Volunteer to furnish transportation.
4. Offer your home occasionally for a club or project meeting.
5. Share your knowledge, special skills and hobbies with club members as a club leader or project leader.

6. Offer to help your club leader with various club activities.
7. Keep informed of 4-H information that comes to members of your family.

## COUNTY LEVEL

**4-H Council** - Each 4-H Club sends four representatives to this group plus their community club leaders. 4-H Council meets every other month throughout the year. 4-H Council plans and organizes 4-H activities and events that take place on a county wide basis.

**4-H Program Development Committee (PDC)** - This group is a body of 12 people from the Rolling Prairie Extension District. They are responsible for the program direction on a District-wide basis. They implement and help to carry our new programs and suggest improvements.

**Extension Agents** - The KSU Extension Faculty who are based in a county/district and administer 4-H programs.

## STATE LEVEL

**State Specialists** - These people have responsibility for the 4-H program on a state-wide basis. There are state and area specialists to support specific parts of the total 4-H program. They are based out of Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas.

**Kansas State University** - As a land grant university, K-State has the responsibility for taking education to the people of the state. The 4-H program is part of that directive.

**Rock Springs 4-H Conference Center** - A state-wide 4-H camp located near Junction City, Kansas.

**Kansas 4-H Foundation** - This non-profit organization works to provide additional resources for the 4-H program. They sponsor scholarships, funding for programs and assist where needed.

# SECTION 3 -- 4-H CLUB MEETINGS

---

## WHAT ARE THE PURPOSES OF 4-H CLUB MEETINGS?

The purposes of the 4-H meetings are to help boys and girls:

1. Acquire new information
2. Learn to use leisure time creatively
3. Develop social skills



#### 4. Acquire leadership and citizenship traits

4-H members are given the opportunity to learn and practice decision making in group situations by using the knowledge and skills acquired at these meetings. 4-H members are expected to attend the monthly meetings.

PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND MEETINGS WITH THEIR 4-H'ERS. 4-H is a family affair!

### **HOW OFTEN DOES THE CLUB MEET?**

Most 4-H clubs hold monthly meetings, normally the same night each month.

### **WHAT IS A CLUB MEETING LIKE?**

The 4-H meetings include business, educational program, and recreation. 4-H meetings normally last 1-1 ½ hours.

**Business Portion** - The business portion of the meeting should be short and snappy. It is a small democracy in action. It presents the opportunity for group consensus and parliamentary procedures to be learned and practiced.

**Educational Portion** - This part of the meeting is designed to help members learn more about subjects of general interest in the entire 4-H program. Generally, the educational program will include talks and demonstrations by the members. Outside speakers may also present programs for 4-H meetings.

### **A 4-H MEETING MAY HAVE:**

**Demonstrations** - Demonstrations are “show and tell” type presentations where the 4-H'ers share some of the things they've learned in their projects. Actual articles are used to show the steps necessary for a finished product.

**Illustrated Talks** - Illustrated talks differ from demonstrations in that they tell how rather than show how. Charts, models and other visuals are important for illustrated talks.

**Project Talks** - Project talks are given about the member's projects. The project talk can relate to things experienced in the project, or give information relating to the project.

**Recreation Portion** - The recreation portion of the meeting distinguishes the 4-H meeting from other educational activities. Recreation may include challenges, dodge ball, relays, guessing games, singing games, active games, and quiet games.

**Refreshments** - Clubs serve refreshments at meetings. This is the social aspect of the meeting. Most often different families are hosts each month. The learning experience for the members who select, prepare, and serve the refreshments is the prime concern. Club members should

learn how to select simple, nutritious, inexpensive refreshments and how to serve them. Parents can and should help by giving suggestions and guidance.

Good planning is the key to a successful meeting. It takes considerable thought, initiative, creativeness, and the making of plans well ahead of time. Most clubs outline their programs for each month early in the 4-H year.

Generally, program planning is done by the club officers and teen leaders with guidance from the community leaders and club parents committee. The exact program planning committee varies from club to club.

### **WHO CONDUCTS THE CLUB MEETINGS?**

The officers of the club and the 4-H members are the ones responsible for conducting the club meeting. Adult leaders of the club serve as advisors when needed by the 4-H'ers.

### **WHO PROVIDES LEADERSHIP?**

Parents are usually the best source of adult leaders--but not the only source. Other friends of 4-H such as parents of former 4-H'ers, retired persons and young adults are often willing to help the 4-H'ers. Leadership for monthly club meetings is provided by the community leaders.

### **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE 4-H AGENT?**

The 4-H youth development agent provides leadership for the 4-H youth activities on a county-wide basis – conducting leader training, planning activities and just keeping everything organized. In addition, the 4-H agent provides leadership and support for special interest youth programs throughout the county. The 4-H agent is available to answer any questions you might have concerning the 4-H youth program.

## **SECTION 4 -- 4-H PROJECTS**

---

The 4-H project is the “gateway” to the rest of the 4-H program. Projects provide the basics of the 4-H program by offering various educational experiences. Carrying out a project will help the member “learn by doing” as well as “why” things happen the way they do. Projects are real life experiences that help 4-H'ers learn to make sound decisions. Projects put the hands and mind to work.

The selection of 4-H projects has expanded greatly over the years. There are now more than 30 different projects with different levels or degrees of advancement. Most of the projects have been planned with several levels so that a member may advance to more difficult and challenging activities.

4-H projects take on a wide variety of interests and activities and are designed to attract members regardless of their place of residence, economic status, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or disability.

### **WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF 4-H PROJECTS?**

1. Create a sense of ownership
2. Give a feeling of achievement
3. Strengthen family and communities
4. Provide members the opportunity to:
  - a. Learn project skills
  - b. Develop and understand project knowledge
  - c. Develop good attitudes
  - d. Assume responsibility
  - e. Provide healthful competition
  - f. Make meaningful decisions
5. Provide leisure time activities
6. Explore career opportunities and thus the need for continued education

### **HOW DO YOU SELECT PROJECTS?**

Parents and members should know and fully understand what is expected of the 4-H'ers before enrolling in the project.

Projects are selected early in the 4-H year when enrollment is completed. Members may drop or add projects prior to May 1. Usually, younger members should limit their projects to one or two. Older, experienced members are able to complete several different ones, including those that are more difficult.

1. Does it meet the needs and interests of the member?
2. Is the project in keeping with age and ability (physical and mental) of the member? Will it challenge him educationally?
3. How much time does the member have and how much time does the project require? What season of the year has most of the activity of the project?
4. Is the project acceptable to you as parents and does it fit into the family needs and situation?
5. How much will the project cost?
6. Is adequate space and equipment available?
7. Is there an opportunity for ownership and management responsibilities?
8. Are there leaders to help with the project, or are you willing to help the member with the project?

### **HOW ARE PROJECTS CONDUCTED?**

Project work is conducted through various activities and events such as:

1. Project meetings in the local club
2. Demonstrations and talks at regular club meetings

3. Tours
4. Family activities or work at home
5. Exhibiting at shows and fairs
6. Record keeping

### **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE PROJECT LEADER?**

4-H project leaders are people who have an interest in a particular area. They are willing to share their time, talents, and efforts with a group of young people.

You could be a project leader! It doesn't take an expert to be a project leader. The most important ingredient for project leader is that they be interested in working with the youth. If you would consider being a project leader, visit with your club's community leaders or parent committee members.

Training meetings for project leaders are conducted on the county level. Also, many projects have leader's guides to assist leaders.

### **HOW DO I BECOME A VOLUNTEER?**

The Volunteer Screening Process is the 4-H program's tool to match the volunteer and their skills to volunteer opportunities in the club or county program. All parents and other adults working with 4-H are required to fill out the form and complete the process.

The process for becoming a 4-H volunteer is to complete the application and list three references. Once that is done and returned to the Extension Office, a background check is done and approval is made by the extension board.

### **LIVESTOCK EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENT**

Members enrolled in the market livestock projects must complete the Youth for Quality Care of Animals (YQCA). They must complete this in order to sell at the livestock premium sale at the county fair. Requirements must be met by July 1 of the current 4-H year.

### **SPRING WEIGH-IN AND TAG DAY**

Market animals must be weighed and tagged on this day, before the fair, in order to show and sell at the fair.

## **SECTION 5 -- 4-H Records**

---

Each 4-H'er should keep a record of their 4-H work. Records are not an extra task, but are a part of 4-H work. Few young people enjoy record keeping. However, the record habit is quite valuable.

## **WHY ENCOURAGE 4-H'ERS TO KEEP GOOD RECORDS?**

A good 4-H record is a measuring stick. Members and leaders are kept informed of the member's progress and this helps stimulate self improvement.

A good 4-H record is a mirror. It will reflect accomplishments, growth and development.

A good 4-H record teaches a desirable habit. Developing this habit early in life is a valuable asset.

A good 4-H record can be achieved only when there is cooperation between members, parents, and leaders.

## **WHAT TYPES OF RECORDS ARE THERE?**

**Personal Page** – Contains space for a picture of the member, listing of projects carried, and the 4-H Story. A new personal page is used each year.

**Permanent Record Sheet** – The summary of all projects, exhibits made, offices held, events attended and other participation for the entire year is made on the permanent record. This record sheet is used year after year.

**Project Records** – A separate specific record sheet is used for each project in which a 4-H'er is enrolled. The record should be used in planning, recording the activity, and evaluating the project at the end of the year. New record sheets are used each year for the projects in which the member enrolls.

4-H'ers are encouraged to work on records throughout the year as they do their project work. Many project leaders have 4-H'ers work on their records at the project meetings.

The 4-H year runs from October 1 to September 30 of each year. Records should include all activities regarding the 4-H'er and his projects during the 4-H year.

Younger members can complete their records in pencil. Older 4-H'ers records should be written in ink or typed by the member. Parents may assist with completing records, but should not fill them out for the member.

Completed record books are turned in to the community leaders in September.

## **HOW ARE RECORD BOOKS ASSEMBLED?**

A 4-H record book cover is purchased for a 4-H member their first year. From that time on, all 4-H records should be kept in their book. Parents will need to help younger members with the assembly of his/her record book. For more information, refer to the Elk County 4-H Records Guide on the Rolling Prairie website.

Order of assembly:

- Achievement Pin Application
- Excellence in Project Achievement Award Application(s)
- Current Year's Personal Page
- 4-H Story
- Permanent 4-H Record
- Photographs
- Current Year's Project Records

### **4-H ACHIEVEMENT PINS**

Membership, Bronze, Clover, Emerald, Silver, Silver Guard, Leadership, Gold and Gold Guard. 4-H'ers are encouraged to work toward these achievement pins. The pins are based upon the County Achievement Plan and meeting different criteria for each pin.

### **EXCELLENCE IN PROJECT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

Project awards are given to members who complete an application and meet certain requirements, based on their age, for each project they want to be awarded in. From these award winners, county champions MAY be chosen.

## **SECTION 6 - - 4-H ACTIVITIES**

---

### **Local Club and County Activities**

**Officer Training (Fall)** - Each fall a training program is conducted for newly elected club officers. This may be done within the club or on a county/district-wide basis. Training includes responsibilities of the office, leadership techniques, and "how to" for individual officers.

**Club Projects** - Clubs may select a project that the members work on as a group. Examples of the projects might include conservation, safety, leadership or citizenship. The purpose of the club project is to perform a service to the community and to encourage unity and fellowship between club members.

**Additional Club Activities** - These are planned by the individual 4-H clubs. Visit with your club's community leaders about the particular activities of your local club.

**4-H Days Club Days** - 4-H'ers make public presentations to share things they've learned in 4-H. Presentations include:

1. Project Talks – A short talk about the member's project. This area is limited to younger members; age 13 and younger.
2. Demonstrations – A show and tell type presentation where the 4-H'ers share something they've learned in 4-H.

3. Illustrated Talks - These talks differ from demonstrations in that they tell how rather than show how. Charts and models are important to this type of talk.
4. Musical Numbers – Vocal and instrumental solo or group numbers.
5. Talent - Includes dance routines, skits, readings, and novelty.

4-H'ers are divided into junior and senior age divisions for competition. The events are usually held late February or early March. Top entries in each division are eligible to compete at Regional Club Days in March.

**Judging Schools and Contests** - Judging schools and quiz bowls provide a fun way for 4-H'ers to learn more about their projects and how to make decisions. Judging schools are available for 4-H'ers to attend in life skills (foods, clothing and home environment), livestock (beef, sheep and swine), horse, meats utilization, dairy, poultry, photography, and horticulture. Dates and details of judging and quiz bowl events are announced in the 4-H Newsletter.

**4-H Sunday** - The local club may choose one Sunday a year to call attention to and emphasize the spiritual H (heart) of 4-H. The local club decides the way they want to observe 4-H Sunday. Some clubs attend church together; have a part in the church service, a 4-H family picnic or other activity. 4-H Sunday is recommended to be the first Sunday in October (start of National 4-H Week), but local clubs can set the date for their group.

**4-H County Camp** - Elk County 4-H'ers join kids from Allen, Bourbon, Chase, Chautauqua, Cherokee, Cowley, Crawford, Greenwood, Harper, Harvey, Labette, Lyon, Montgomery, Morris, Neosho, Reno, Sumner, Wilson and Woodson counties for camp. County camp lasts 4 days (3 nights), and is held at the Rock Springs 4-H Center near Junction City, Kansas. Camp is held in June for kids 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to 7<sup>th</sup> grade complete. Teens that are sophomore complete or older may apply to be counselors.

**County Fair** - Elk County has a rotating fair system. In the odd numbered years the Elk County 4-H Fair will be held at Howard. The even numbered years it will be held in Longton. The county fair gives 4-H'ers a chance to "show off" their project work and to be rewarded with ribbons for the quality of the exhibit. Members must be enrolled by December 1 to be eligible to exhibit at the county fair.

**Consultation Judging** - In this type of judging, the judge and 4-H member visit about the exhibit being evaluated. Knowing "why" they receive the ribbon they do greatly increase the learning experience. Consultation judging is used in several departments at the county fair. Parents may hear the conference with the judge, but may not enter into the discussion.

**Achievement Banquet (Fall)** - The 4-H Achievement Banquet is held each year to recognize 4-H'ers and leaders for their accomplishments during the year. Many awards including County Champions, Key Award, etc., are presented. Club awards are also presented. Leaders are recognized for their years of service.

## STATE AND NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

**Citizenship in Action (February)** - Would you like to have more influence in laws and rules that affect your life? Then you'll want to go to Kansas 4-H Citizenship in Action! This two day event is sponsored by the State 4-H Youth Leadership Council. The purpose of the event is for Kansas youth to learn how the state legislative process works and how their voice and participation in decision-making can make a difference in their local communities. The legislative visit will not only familiarize youth with the capitol building in Topeka, but will also show them how they can affect the legislative process. For members 13 and older.

**National 4-H Conference (late March, early April)** - The National 4-H Conference is a working conference in which youth and adults, at the invitation of the Secretary of Agriculture, assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development programs nationally and in their communities. This event brings together youth, volunteer leaders, and state and county Extension Staff members from across the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the Canadian Provinces. Up to six Kansas youth may be selected to attend the conference. Applications and letters of reference are due in the State 4-H Office no later than October 1.

**National 4-H Congress (late November to early December)** - This annual trip for state project winners is a recognition, educational, cultural, and community service experience held in late November each year in Atlanta, GA.

**4-H Discovery Days (early June)** - Discovery Days is a project enrichment and career exploration conference on the campus of Kansas State University. Discovery Days is for 4-H members 13 and older.

**Horse Panorama (January)** - For 4-H members ages 7-18 and adult volunteers. Horse Panorama is a compilation of various contests related to the Horse Project. Contests include: quiz bowl, hippology, public speaking presentations, photography and educational posters. There will also be educational activities for 4-Hers of all ages.

**District Horse Show (late June/early July)** - District shows are a preliminary for the State Horse Show. 4-H'ers 9 years and older compete in halter and performance classes to qualify for the State Fair Horse Show. The show is held in Parsons each year.

**Kansas State Fair (September)** - 4-H'ers who receive top blue or purple ribbons at the county fair may exhibit in the 4-H division at the State Fair in Hutchinson. The minimum age for exhibitors is 9 (by January 1) of the current 4-H year. In addition, 4-H'ers can represent our county in style revue, quiz bowls, demonstrations, informal presentations, and other contests.

**Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLFF)** - This is a 3 day, state wide conference of workshops and activities for teens (age 14 – 18). Participants learn how to be a better leader and develop networks and share ideas.



**Kansas Junior Livestock Show (late September or early October)** - 4-H'ers can enter beef, meat goat, sheep and swine in this show and is held at the state fairgrounds in Hutchinson.

**National 4-H Week (first full week in October)** - A week is set aside each year to recognize and promote 4-H across the country. Each year a theme highlights the week and we use it through the year. Many of our clubs will have window displays of booths or some special promotion of 4-H in their community.

**Citizenship Washington Focus (June)** - Road trip across the USA stopping to see Philadelphia, Gettysburg, the Liberty Bell and more! Meet, learn, share and tour with youth from other states and respected resource people. Walk among places that have made history and places that are making news today. Visit Capitol Hill, government departments, historic sites, and memorials. Meet with the Kansas Congressional and Senate delegations to discuss legislative issues. Participate in workshops and assembly groups to learn life skills and discuss possible solutions to domestic and international problems. Interact with 4-H members from other states, learning and sharing about 4-H and other interests and issues. Delegates must be 15 years of age or older.

## SECTION 7 -- AWARDS

---

**4-H Achievement Pins** - Membership, Bronze, Clover, Emerald, Silver, Silver Guard, Leadership, Gold, and Gold Guard – All 4-H'ers are encouraged to work toward receiving the achievement pins.

- ✿ **Membership Pin** – First in a series of 4-H Achievement Pins. Awarded at the conclusion of 4-H year in which a member joins. Must attend over ½ of club meetings.
- ✿ **Bronze Pin** – Second in series of pins. Must exhibit at the Fair, complete 4-H record book, attend over ½ of club meetings, attend one county or club event.
- ✿ **Clover Pin** – Must have received the previous pin, exhibit at the Fair, attend over ½ of clubs meetings, complete record book and complete three of the optional guidelines.
- ✿ **Emerald Pin** – Must have received the previous pin, exhibit at the Fair, attend over ½ of club meetings, complete 4-H record book and complete 5 of the optional guidelines.
- ✿ **Silver Pin** – Must have received the previous pin, exhibit at the Fair, attend over ½ of club meetings, complete 4-H record book and complete 6 of the optional guidelines.
- ✿ **Silver Guard Pin** – Must have received the previous pin, exhibit at the Fair, attend over ½ of club meetings, complete 4-H record book, and complete 8 of the optional guidelines.
- ✿ **Leadership Pin** - Must have received the previous pin, exhibit at the Fair, attend over ½ of club meetings, complete 4-H record book, enroll in leadership project for the current year and complete 11 of the optional guidelines.

- ❁ **Gold Pin** - Must have received the previous pin, exhibit at the Fair, attend over ½ of club meetings, complete 4-H record book, enroll in leadership project for the current year and complete 15 of the optional guidelines.
- ❁ **Gold Guard Pin** - Must have received the previous pin, exhibit at the Fair, attend over ½ of club meetings, complete 4-H record book, enroll in leadership project for the current year and complete 16 of the optional guidelines.

**Key Award** - Key Awards are presented by the state to one percent of the 4-H'ers in Kansas. Selection is based upon all-around 4-H leadership and participation in local, county and state 4-H activities. Minimum age to receive a Key Award is 16. Applications for this award should be obtained early in the year and are due the same time as the record books.

**Junior Achievement Award** - This is awarded to one boy and one girl under the age of 14 who are chosen as outstanding junior 4-H members.

**Senior Achievement Award** - Any 4-H'er, age 14 or older, who has set high goals and accomplished them. One who has had many interests and achieved high honors in their 4-H career. Emphasis is placed on involvement and participation. The awards are named the John B. Hanna and the Margaret Schul awards in honor of the first Extension Agents in Elk County. These awards were established in 1985, Elk County Extension's 50<sup>th</sup> year.

**Outstanding First Year Boy and Girl** - Records of all first year 4-H members are screened by a judging panel and an outstanding boy and girl may be chosen. These selections are based on accomplishments and involvement of the 4-H member.

**Elk County 4-H Scholarship** - \$750 is available to be given each year to a graduating Senior 4-H'er who has enrolled in college or plans to. The award is based on all around leadership and participation in 4-H activities.

**Fair Participation Award** - This award is awarded to the club with the most county 4-H Fair participation. The award is based on percentage of members in each club exhibiting.

**Showmanship Trophy** - This award is based on the club that collects the most points in the showmanship classes at the fair.

**Herdsmen Trophy** - Given to the club with the cleanest and neatest livestock barns during the fair.

**Beef Participation Trophy** - Given to the club having the most beef entries per member at the fair.

**Officer Awards** - A special award given to the individuals who have the top notebooks for Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter and Historian.

**Club Seals** - Each club strives to meet certain requirements to gain purple, blue, or green club seals.