Check Out Buncombe County’s New Homepage Blog—Clover Connection!!!

Buncombe County 4-H has a new homepage blog. Clover Connection can be accessed through our NCCES Buncombe County Center’s Youth and 4-H page (http://buncombe.ces.ncsu.edu/index.php?page=youth4h) or directly at http://4hcloverconnection.blogspot.com/

In addition to being a more “kid friendly” way of introducing non-4-H’ers and their families to our program, the blog also provides easy access to information about county and district upcoming events and entry forms (such as West District Teen Retreat, the 4-H Dog Obedience Training Workshop Series and Fashion Revue/Craft Fair and Talent Showcase). This allows us to put information on the website as soon as we get it so that you don’t have to wait until a new newsletter to come out to know what’s going on. We hope it will serve as a valuable communication tool for our program and make it easier for all our 4-H families to participate in our programs.

Check it out and let us know what you think! Enjoy!

West District 4-H Teen Retreat Scheduled for April 5 & 6

The West District Teen Retreat will be held at Camp Bob at Kanuga Conference Center in Henderson County Saturday and Sunday, April 5-6. This retreat is open to all West District 4-H’ers who are at least 12 years old as of January 1, 2008, and promises to be one of the highlights of our 4-H year. Cost information, a tentative schedule and registration forms are available through the 4-H office or at West District Teen Retreat Registration Packet. Registrations are due in the 4-H office no later than Friday, March 14. Give Mary a call at 255-5522 if you have any questions.
Getting Ready for 4-H Fashion Revue & Craft Fair

The sewing machines have been humming in the Buncombe County Extension Conference Room for several weeks as both beginners and experienced 4-H’ers honed their sewing skills in preparation for this year’s Buncombe County 4-H Fashion Revue and Craft Fair. They’re scheduled for Saturday, April 12 at Eliada Home. For details and to enter, go to 2008 Buncombe County 4-H Fashion Revue and 2008 Buncombe County Craft Fair Entry Form or see the inserts of the hard-copy newsletter. All entry forms are due in the 4-H Office no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, March 31. All completed garments are due in the 4-H Office no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, April 7. Garment fit judging will begin at the Extension Conference Room at 3:00 pm on Tuesday, April 8. You can make your fitting appointment when you bring your garment in on Monday.

Craft Fair entry items should be brought to the gymnasium at Eliada Home between 9:00 and 11:00 am on Saturday, April 12. Judging results will be announced following the Talent Showcase and Fashion Revue which begin at 2:00 pm that day in the Eliada Home Chapel.

IMPORTANT: As you complete the Fashion Revue Entry Form, don’t forget to complete and submit the sections that include garment description and 4-H member bio. We need that information to write the script for the Fashion Revue. Thanks!

Remember County Council 6:00 pm, March 20th!

This will be a very important meeting because we’ll be finalizing plans for our details for Teen Retreat, Fashion Revue/Craft Fair & Talent Showcase, our Leader Training, and other upcoming activities. It is also the deadline for turning in our Spring 4-H Bulb/Plant Sale Orders so that we can get the plants back after Spring Break. We’ll also have a brief presentation about the Blue Ribbon Campaign to highlight April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The Sandy Mush 4-H Club has volunteered to prepare our meal for the March meeting, and they are planning to serve chili (YUM!). Since we need to give them an accurate count of the number of folks who plan to eat, we need for all leaders to let Mary (255-5522) know how many plan to come eat from their clubs by 5:00 pm on Monday, March 17th. Dinner is $3.00 per person with a $12.00 family maximum and begins at 6:00 pm. The business meeting begins at 6:30 pm. We’d love to have at least one representative from each club—it’s a great way to find out what’s going on, get involved in county, district and state 4-H events, and get to know more folks from across the county.

See you there!
**Newfound 4-H Club**

The Newfound 4-H club has been busy over the past month. The Erwin FFA Parliamentary Procedure Team joined us for our meeting on Feb. 19. They demonstrated how parliamentary procedure works and our 4-H members were able to participate with them as well. It was a great learning experience for our club and we thank them for coming.

Also at our meeting we took donations of canned food items for Hearts With Hands to help the tornado victims in Tennessee and Kentucky. We were also able to donate a value of $475.00 of clothing and toys to the Boys and Girls home of NC. Great job members!

Plans were discussed for our club to help with a Livestock School that will be held in April in conjunction with Madison County. We are looking forward to this event to help us all brush up on our showmanship skills before the spring livestock shows begin. We will have more details later on this, all are welcome to attend.

Submitted by Ty Worley, Newfound 4-H Club Reporter

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**Horse Spirits 4-H Club**

Our club took a field trip to Hope for Horses on February 16th. We had a tour of the facility led by Ms. Lisa Boatwright. We volunteered our time by grooming horses and mucking out the run in the sheds on the property. Our club voted unanimously to donate $75.00 of the club’s money to the facility for their wonderful efforts in rescuing and rehabilitating abused horses.

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**Sandy Mush 4-H Club**

Our 4-H’ers recently celebrated the club’s 30th birthday! We learned some history on the club from former club leader Sandra Reeves and participated in a T-shirt design contest to design our club’s new T-shirts.

Also, we are taking orders for a 4-H Roast Beef Sale. We will be cooking the roast in our secret spices. This event is a club fundraiser. The cost of the roast will be $6.00 per pound. To order, see any Sandy Mush 4-H member.

We are excited about 4-H. Let’s all Make the Best Better together!

Submitted by Jenna Cagle, Sandy Mush 4-H Club Reporter

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**Spring Fundraiser Orders**

**Due March 20th!**

Don’t forget that your orders for Dutch Mill Bulbs need to be turned in to the 4-H Office no later than the 4-H County Council Meeting on Thursday, March 20th. If no one from your club will be attending the County Council Meeting that night, your orders need to be into our office by 5:00 pm that day. Our office will be closed on Friday, March 21st for Good Friday Holiday, so the orders need to be in by Thursday so that we can process them Monday morning in order to get the plants back soon after Spring Break. We appreciate your cooperation with this deadline.

All clubs should have received enough order forms for all their members. If you need more, give Mary a call at 255-5522. Checks should be made payable to Buncombe County 4-H County Council.

This is the primary fundraiser for our Clover Cash incentive certificates and other county 4-H activities for the year, so please encourage all of your club members to participate. It’s also a great way to help your clubs raise funds for community service projects, as well.

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**Leader Trainings April 1**

Leaders, remember that Mary is offering a 4-H Volunteer Leader Training twice on Tuesday, April 1. The training will be on the 4-H Awards and Incentives Program with special focus on Project Record Books and 4-H Presentations.

The morning session will be offered from 9 am-noon and the evening session from 6:30-9:00 pm.

This is a great opportunity to get your questions answered about project records and presentations to help your club members get more involved.

Let Mary know which of the sessions you plan to attend by Friday, March 28.

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**Clover Gazette** is a newsletter produced to inform and educate Buncombe County 4-H’ers, their parents and leaders of 4-H activities and opportunities in our area.

**Mary**

Mary S. Clayton-McGlauflin

Extension Agent

4-H Youth Development

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**Buncombe County 4-H Dog Obedience Training Workshop Series**

5:00-6:00 pm, 7 Consecutive Tuesdays
April 1-May 13, 2008
Companion Dog Training School
191 Lyman Street, Asheville, NC 28801

**Instructor:** Dolores Brigham

Open to all Buncombe County Youth
Ages 10-18 (as of January 1, 2008)

Dogs must be 4 months old as of April 1, 2008

Cost for the Series: $7.00
(includes 4-H Dog Helper’s Guide and accident insurance)

To pre-register, call the Buncombe County
4-H Office
255-5522 by March 24

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Class is limited to 12 participants so register early.
Registration is confirmed when payment is received.
Make checks payable to Buncombe County

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Individuals with disabilities who would like to participate in any program mentioned in this newsletter but who need special assistance to do so should call the Extension Center at (828)255-5522 at least five days prior to the event.