

eClover: Darke County 4-H News**January 6, 2023**

I hope that each of you had time to visit with family and friends during the recent holiday season. It's hard to believe that 2023 is here and well underway.

January brings with it many deadlines. Don't forget to turn in your club's officer books, Honor Club Form, County Medal Forms, etc. by January 20. Your club's Annual Financial Summary is due January 31. Links to all of these documents can be found later in this eClover.

News You Can Use – 4-H:

1. ***The Plowboy Prom*** will be held Saturday, March 11, 6pm-8pm, Ohio 4-H Center, Columbus. Join them in celebrating 100 years of Collegiate 4-H at Ohio State. Open to all 4-H members; \$5.00 admission fee.
2. ***Darke County 4-H General Livestock Judging Team***: The newly formed General Livestock Judging Team will hold their first meeting on Sunday, Feb 12, 7-9 pm, in the Community Room at Arcanum High School. At this practice they will be going over an introduction to livestock judging and will be reviewing the practice schedule. Please contact Mike Fearon (937-545-9735 – mike@fearoninsurance.com) if you have any questions or need additional information.
3. ***The Ohio 4-H Forestry and Wildlife Conservation Camp*** will be held April 28-30, 2023 at Canter's Cave 4-H Camp near Jackson, OH. Camp is for youth in grades 7-11. The registration fee is \$110.00. Deadline to register is April 1. This camp typically fills quickly, so don't procrastinate! To register please visit <https://ohio4h.org/camp/forestry-and-wildlife-conservation-camp> For more information visit <https://ohio4h.org/camp/forestry-and-wildlife-conservation-camp>
4. ***State-wide Virtual 4-H Officer Training*** will be held February 27 from 7:00pm – 8:30pm. Details will be available in January.
5. The ***Darke County Cattlemen's Association has several opportunities*** for 4-H members with beef projects: Cattlemen's Princess, Cattlemen's Queen, Herdsman Award, and Cattlemen's Scholarship. Contact our office for a copy of the guidelines or applications. All applications are due by February 1, 2023.
6. ***The Ohio 4-H Conference*** is the largest gathering of 4-H volunteers and teens in the country. It will be held Saturday, March 11 in Columbus at the Convention Center. All 4-H volunteers and teens age 14 and over are invited to participate. The Darke County 4-H Committee will pay the registration fee for current Darke County 4-H volunteers who would like to attend. Visit the website for the registration booklet and registration



forms. Registration forms should be submitted to our office by February 10 so we can register you for the conference. <https://ohio4h.org/events/ohio-4-h-conference>

7. **2023 Activity Fee:** The Darke County 4-H Committee has voted to waive the county activity fee for the fourth year in a row. You may still charge an activity fee for your club, but you will not be paying a county fee this year.
8. **The Darke County 4-H Committee** has openings for both youth and adults. Slots are open for four adult 4-H volunteers, three 4-H youth (age 14 and over), and 3 business or community representatives (do not need to be currently involved in 4-H. Contact Rhonda if you are interested or would like further information.
9. **2023 Enrollment: 4-H Online** is now open and accepting enrollments for 2023. Volunteers and members can login and reenroll at any time. Volunteers who have to complete a background check should enroll as soon as possible. That way when background check results are received by OSU-HR, they can connect the results of your background check to your 4-H Online profile. You should login using your family email and password. If you have forgotten your password, use the Forgot Password link. If you are unsure of your family email, or it needs changed, contact our office. DO NOT CREATE A NEW PROFILE if you were enrolled in 4-H in 2022. Help is available online: <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/4-h-online>
10. **New Volunteer Applications** are available on the website. Completed applications must be submitted by February 1, 2023. <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/4-h-volunteers>
11. **Volunteer Background Checks:** letters went out in November to over 70 Darke County 4-H volunteers who are required to complete their background check for 2023. Background checks for returning volunteers must be completed by February 15, 2023. If you wish to be reimbursed, please bring the form included in your letter, along with your receipt, to our office.
12. **Applications for the Sharon Fourman 4-H Volunteer of the Year Award, Cheryl Leugers Memorial Community Service Award, and Darke County Outstanding 4-H Alumni Award** are available on the website: : <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/forms-and-resources> All applications are due by 4:30pm on Friday, January 20, 2023.
13. **2022 officer books** will be due to the Extension Office by 4:30pm on Friday, January 20, 2023. Secretary and treasurer books are mandatory; reporter is required if applying for Honor Club; and historian is optional. Sample scoresheets can be found online: <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/forms-and-resources>



14. **Also due on January 20, 2023**, will be Honor Club scoresheets, Premier 4-H Member applications, County Medal Applications, Leadership and Achievement Award nominations, Honor Club, and Ohio 4-H Achievement Records. These forms are found online: <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/forms-and-resources>
15. **Project Book Price Increase:** Effective October 1, the cost of 4-H books that are currently \$6.00 will be increased to \$8.00. This is a result of increased printing costs associated the current economic environment. It's been several years since the price of books has been increased.
16. **Darke County United Way:** Did you know that you can designate your United Way pledge to be given to the Darke County 4-H program? Simply write "Darke County 4-H" on the designation line. Thank you to everyone who designates their pledges to us. It means a lot to our program!

News You Can Use – Junior Fair:

1. **The Darke County Junior Fairboard has several open slots** for 2023: Cats (2), Family and Consumer Sciences (3), Youth Building 4-H (2), Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts (1), and FCCLA (1). JFB members must be age 14 as of 1/1/23. Please share this with youth who may be interested. They should contact Rhonda at williams.418@osu.edu or by phone, 937.569.5003 (voice only, no texts) for further information or to express an interest.
2. **Darke County Junior Fair** has a new Facebook page. Search for Darke County Junior Fair and follow us for up-to-date information.
<https://www.facebook.com/darkecountyjuniorfair/>

Upcoming Committee Meetings: (all meetings at the Extension Office unless otherwise noted)

January 9	Beef Committee – 7:00pm
January 10	Horse Committee – 7:30pm
January 16	Sale Committee – 7:00pm, Secretary's Office, Fairgrounds
January 17	Dairy Committee – 7:00pm
January 25	Dog Committee – 7:00pm

Reminder: The best way to reach me is by using the phone number or email below. Do not utilize Facebook Messenger as I have removed the App from my phone due to spam/scam messages. I do not spend a lot of time on Facebook so I often miss messages until days after they have been sent. Contact Rhonda at 937-569-5003 or williams.418@osu.edu

