



**Concordia Parish 4-H Advisory Leadership Council  
Meeting Minutes  
August 30, 2007  
Concordia Bank Meeting Room- Vidalia**

The Concordia Parish 4-H Advisory Council held its fall meeting on Thursday, August 30 at the Concordia Bank Meeting Room in Vidalia. Seventeen members were in attendance, along with three LSU AgCenter extension staff.

Volunteer leader Vickie Jowers, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Chelsea Crum, 4-Her, led the American Pledge and Kaleigh Jowers, 4-Her, led the 4-H Pledge. Following the pledges, members were asked to introduce themselves and tell their association with the parish 4-H program.

Due to several prior engagements of members, the agenda was changed so more members would be present for the small group discussion activity. The small group activity was conducted by Extension Agent, Joe P. Bairnsfather. The group was divided into three smaller groups including a combination of adults and youth. Each group was given the following four questions to discuss and report their responses back to the overall group. Combined responses from each group follow individual questions.

1. Several parishes in our area of the state have initiated project clubs in their parish. What are some project areas that you feel would be popular for us to pilot in Concordia? (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) Examples- Photography, Food and Nutrition, Livestock, Pet, etc.

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|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| -Gun Safety                   | -Animals/Pet      |
| -Shooting Skills- Skeet Shoot | -Environment      |
| -Bow Hunting Class            | -Photography Club |
| -Food and Fitness Club        | -Outdoors Group   |
| -Computer Training            |                   |

2. Service Learning continues to be a high priority for parish 4-H programs. What service learning project do you feel we could build on to get community involvement with our parish. Community needs? Meaningful? Examples- Environment, Animals, Elderly

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|------------------------------|--|
| -Animals                     | -Health Awareness  |
| -Beautification and clean up | -Work/Adopt and elderly person<br>(share seasonal gifts-plants, door wreaths<br>visit/send card, nurture an elderly adopte |

3. Parish 4-H programs throughout the state are focusing on the 4-H Essential Elements. The two we will be focusing on this 4-H year are **Belonging** and **Independence**. What are some opportunities you feel youth could be involved?

-4-H Fun Day  
-School Cookery Contest  
-Parish Contest

-4-H Membership Drive  
-Advertising Programs more

3. What are some new programs/contest/workshops that you feel would help increase participation from junior high/high school youth?

-Shooting Sports  
-Computer Contest (ability)  
-Fashion Show  
-ATV Class  
-Punt, Pass, Kick  
-Pottery, baskets, candles

-Consumer Decision Making Contest  
-Petting Zoo  
-Bow Hunting Class  
-Basketball Shootout  
-Technology (hands-on)

Next, Delynn Vines, volunteer leader, discussed the two parish events - the 4-H Citrus Sale Fundraiser and the 4-H Strawberry Fundraiser. The two fundraisers were successful but the Parish 4-H Foundation account is at an all time low due to less money raised and higher expenses for awards and transportation. In addition, the parish had to pick up a \$600 charge for camp beds not filled. Extension agent, Joe P. Bairnsfather is looking into ways that can be helpful in managing the account to provide the most benefit to the youth.

Ms. Vines also told the group about the 4-H Foundation Credit Card and handed out brochures for adult members to view.

Extension agent, Joe P. Bairnsfather provided a handout that gave an overview of the Concordia Parish 4-H and discussed highlights of the program. Mr. Joe also talked about the new Master Volunteer Program, Overnight Chaperone Training and the 4-H Camp Counselor Training. Mr. Bairnsfather stated that during National 4-H Week (October 7-13) 4-H youth would be recognized at the parish school board meeting and a proclamation is being requested for National 4-H Week to be celebrated in all parish schools.

Gayla Crum, Organizational Leader and Shooting Sports Instructor, gave an update of the upcoming 4-H Shooting Sports Program. A form is being given to 4-Hers at club meetings to determine the amount of interest in the program. Also, supplies are being ordered to get ready for the initial meeting.

The final agenda item was discussed by Debbie Bairnsfather, Regional 4-H Coordinator, who provided the group with information about the Louisiana 4-H Centennial Celebration, 4-H Camp Grant Walker "Birthday Bash" and the State 4-H Museum.

Ms. Vickie Jowers volunteered to serve as the Chairman of the next meeting and Ms. Karen Nelson, Vidalia Upper Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> grade leader, volunteered to serve as secretary of the parish council.

The group voted to have the next meeting in December to discuss plans for the Louisiana 4-H Centennial Celebration. There being no further discussion, Chair Vickie Jowers adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.