



Vermilion 4-H Leader Update

Cooperative Extension Service
Vermilion Parish
1105 W. Port Street
Abbeville, LA. 70510-5831
Phone: 337-898-4335
Fax: 337-893-7165
www.lsuagcenter.com

Extension Programs
Agriculture and Forestry
Community Leadership
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Environmental Sciences
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Natural Resources

Dates to Remember:

September

- 7 Labor Day - 4-H Office Is closed!!!
 - 10 Jr. Leader Mtg., 6:30p.m. 4-H Office
 - 23 Rice Posters due at 4-H Office, by 4:30 p.m.
 - 23 Parish Leader Training, 12:00 noon, 4-H Office, Abbeville
 - 25-26 Sugarcane Festival Livestock Show, SugArena, New Iberia
- SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL RICE MONTH!**

October

- 4-10 National 4-H Week
- 8 Jr. Leader Mtg., 6:30p.m. 4-H Office
- 9 Alice Lancon Memorial Cooking Contest, 4-H Office (**See handout for contest rules**)
- 9-10 Cattle Festival Sheep & Beef Show, Cecil McCrory Exhibit Building, Abbeville
- 16 Rice Festival Cookery Contest, Crowley
- 20 Strawberry Clinic, 6:00 p.m., 4-H Office
- 22 Officer Training Mtg., 4:30 p.m., Rene Rost Middle School, Kaplan
- 24 Pumpkin Workshop, 9:00 a.m., Cecil McCrory Exhibit Bldg. Abbeville
- 21-Nov. 9 State Fair of La., Shreveport

Issue 1

September 2009

What Is the Leader Update?

The Leader Update will keep you posted on all upcoming events, recognize 4-H leaders making an extra effort, will inform you of the monthly meeting topic, and will include old and new business cut-outs to use at club meetings. We would also like to use this update as a forum to exchange ideas. You or your club reporter can send us articles describing your club's activities and ideas and we will publish them so that other club leaders can benefit.

We hope this newsletter will be of benefit to you. Any suggestions on what to include or how we can improve it are welcomed. We send the Leader Update newsletter, club meeting calendar and Old and New Business cut-outs via email. Please make sure we have your correct email address by emailing Shannan at swaits@agcenter.lsu.edu or Tweety at strahan@agcenter.lsu.edu

Meeting Program

This year's club meeting focus will be on Science, Engineering, and Technology. A summary of all lessons will be delivered to you at your first club meeting. The program for this month will include an introduction of 4-H and enrollment. Old and New Business is included with this newsletter if your club is prepared to conduct a business meeting. Club meetings will be judged beginning in November.

4-H Dues Increase Explanation

Membership dues for Vermilion parish 4-H'ers this year will be \$7.00. We realize that this is a tremendous increase and wanted to explain the rational and break-down of the money.

Last year, our state dues (the amount we submit to the state 4-H office for each member) were \$1.00 per child. We received the following note from our state 4-H program leader last week:

"In order to continue to provide the quality programming for 4-H youth in our state the assessment fees for 2009-2010 will be \$3.00 per 4-H member."

In addition to this state change, we now have to pay for project books, which we have never had to do before.

The average cost for each project book is \$3.00. We feel that project books are an important component of our program and want to continue to place emphasis on that area. For this reason, we are building in the cost of one book per child to the membership dues. Additional books will be sold to members at their request for \$3.00 per book.

The \$7.00 dues break-down as such:

- \$3.00 – state assessment
- \$3.00 – project book
- \$1.00 – parish assessment

We realize and support the fact that clubs may also add to this amount for their local club treasury. Please contact us if you have questions about this issue. We will plan to discuss this at Leader Training.



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Club Meeting Schedule

Please check the calendar closely for your club meeting date and time each month. Contact us immediately if you need to make any changes.

National Rice Month

September has been selected by the USA Rice Council as National Rice Month. We encourage all 4-H'ers to get involved in promotion activities. Your contribution is important, appreciated, and necessary. This year a Rice Poster Contest will be held during the month of September. Rules for the contest are listed in the September *Cracklins*.



To New Leaders

Any parent, 4-H alumni member, or other adults interested in volunteering to help with local or parish wide 4-H projects or activities are

asked to contact the organizational 4-H leader at their school or the 4-H agents. No special talents, skills, or education are required — just an

interest in working with children. Volunteers can serve as project or activity leaders.



Parish Leader Training Meeting

The training is scheduled for September 23, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. in the 4-H Office Meeting Room. For teachers, letters requesting you be allowed to attend will be sent to your principal. Please try to attend and lunch will be provided.

We will discuss upcoming plans for the year and need your input and suggestions.

No April Club Meetings - LEAP Testing

Due to the LEAP testing schedule and Easter holidays, we will not conduct club meetings in April. We will hold club meetings in December, so we will still meet with clubs eight times.

This change seemed to work well for everyone last year and the 4-H Advisory Leadership Council voted to continue this policy change.



4-H Leaders -
Guiding 4-H members to improve their club, their community, their country and their world.

National 4-H Week

National 4-H Week has been designated as October 4-10, 2009. This would be a good time to publicize the parish theme, "4-H Has Heart".

Through "learning by doing" educational projects and activities, 4-H prepares young people to use experiences from the past

and present to build on the future. Get your club involved by publicizing National 4-H Week in your school and community. Call our office if you have any questions on possible activities or visit

the national 4-H website www.4hmediaresource.org/ for more information on media resources available for 4-H Week and throughout the year.



4-H Day at the LSU Game

November 14th is 4-H Day at the LSU Tiger Football Game. 4-H will be recognized during half-time activities and a tailgate party is planned at John M. Parker Coliseum with lots of fun activities for everyone.

Even if you don't have tickets to the game, you are invited to participate in all pre-game tailgating activities. Food and many door prizes will be provided and all activities will be at Parker Coliseum. The LSU cheerleaders, Tiger Girls, LSU Golden Girls and *Mike the Tiger* are scheduled to make a special appearance. If 4-H'ers and their families are unable to get tickets, they can watch the game telecast live on a large screen in the mini farm free of charge.

If you want to purchase tickets to the game, contact the 4-H Office at 898-4335 for instructions on when and how to purchase tickets.

A total of 3,000 tickets will be available for purchase this year, most of which will be in the East Upper Deck, while 500 or less will be in the south end zone. **All requests for tickets to the November 14th game will be handled through the LSU Ticket Web site.** Last year 41 parishes ordered and received 3,469.

We hope to see you there. Geaux Tigers!

The Upcoming Year

As always, we have a full schedule of events planned for the upcoming year. Our goal is to get as many of our young people involved in our program as possible. Club requirements can help to motivate young people to be actively involved, or can turn people off. Consider positive incentives for participation.

ATTENTION:

It is the policy of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability.

Check Us Out On the Web

at:

<http://la4h.org/vermilion>

Character Counts!

The purpose of the CHARACTER COUNTS! program is to fortify the lives of America's young people with ethical values called the "Six Pillars of Character". These values are:

- ☞ Trustworthiness
- ☞ Respect
- ☞ Responsibility
- ☞ Fairness
- ☞ Caring
- ☞ Citizenship



Leader Newsletter

In an effort to keep our mailing costs down, the "Leader Update", calendar, and old and new business cutouts are emailed to leaders and volunteers.

If you have a volunteer who does not have email access, please call the office at 898-4335 to give us their contact information and that person will receive the information by mail.

In your club folders this month are volunteer enrollment cards. **PLEASE FILL ONE OUT** and return it to the 4-H Office by Oct. 23rd. Also, please give one to any person who assists 4-H on a local or parish level. These numbers support our funding and are vital to continue our efforts in programming excellence.

Sincerely,

Shannan Z. Waits
 Extension Agent
 4-H Youth Development
 Vermilion Parish

Hilton Waits
 County Agent
 4-H Youth Development
 Vermilion Parish

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