

ST. LANDRY 4-H JR. LEADER CHATTER

November 2008

WELCOME

Welcome to the St. Landry 4-H Junior Leader Club. The main goal of this amazing club is to help the members further develop their leadership skills through service-learning projects and other 4-H activities throughout St. Landry Parish. As a Junior Leader member you will have the opportunity to meet new people; travel to various local, parish and state activities; and hopefully make many enjoyable and unforgettable memories.

The Junior Leader Clubs service-earning project, selected for this year, is "4-H'ers Are Wild Over Wetlands" focusing on wetlands education and conservation.

Junior Leader Club meetings are usually held on the last Wednesday of the month from 4:30 p.m.— 6:00 p.m. at the Extension Office located in Opelousas.

NOVEMBER CLUB MEETING

The November Junior Leader Club Meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 19th**. Ms. Lindsay Bordelon with the American Wetlands Conservation Corps. Will be in attendance with ideas for our service-learning project: "4-H'ers Are Wild Over Wetlands". Fundraising packets for candle and pet treat sales can also be turned in at this meeting.



Inside this issue:

November Club Meeting	1
Acorns of Hope	2
Fundraisers	2
T-shirt Orders	2
Wetlands: Did You Know	3
Elementary Workshop Day	3
Christmas Activity	3

Dates to Remember:

November 14—Turn in collected acorns

November 19—Junior Leader Club Meeting

November 25—Elementary Workshop Day

December 1—Fundraiser Orders Due

December 6—Christmas Activity

ACORNS OF HOPE PROJECT

Acorns of Hope is a coastal reforestation project to plant 10,000 specimen Live Oak trees over the next four years. Many trees have been lost over the past four years do to the devastation of hurricanes.

The Junior Leader Club is participating in this project by collecting acorns from Live Oak trees and then donating them to Bob's Tree Preservation.

When collecting acorns, select acorns from quality trees. The acorns must be fully ripe, showing no green. Collect the acorns from the ground, avoiding those with tiny weevil holes or that feel hollow. Each acorn can produce a tree.



Junior Leader Club members can begin collecting acorns now. **The deadline to submit the collected acorns to the Extension Office is Friday, November 14th.**

The collection of acorns will be donated to Bob's Tree Preservation on Tuesday, November 18th. This will be done at the kickoff event, in Opelousas, of the 2008 Acorns Of Hope Ride and Planting.

FUNDRAISERS: CANDLE SALES & PET TREATS

The club has kicked off its fundraising for the year with two fundraisers: **Candle and Pet Treat Sales.** Order forms for each have been given out at the October meeting or through the mail (along with this newsletter). Money must be collected along with the orders. **Checks can be made payable to St. Landry 4-H.**

Each Junior Leader member is encouraged to go out and collect a lot of orders for each. A goal would be for each member to sell four candles and 10-20 pet treats. **A prize will be given to the Junior Leader that sells the most candles and the most pet treats.**

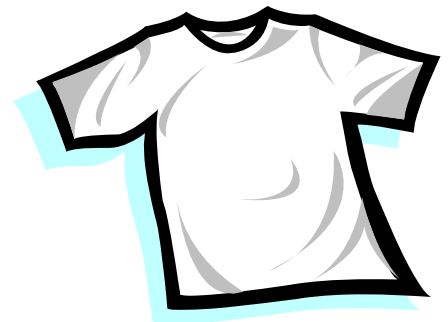
Order forms can be turned in at the November club meeting or no later than Monday, December 1st.



T-SHIRT ORDERS

Orders are being placed now for the club t-shirts and hopefully they will be ready for the November club meeting. **The cost of the shirts are \$8.00.** You will not be able to receive your t-shirt until you have paid for it.

These t-shirts are to be worn all activities we do as a club and at parish 4-H activities you may be assisting at as a Junior Leader.



WETLANDS: DID YOU KNOW

Wetland Functions and Values:

- Wildlife Habitat
- Recreation (hunting, fishing, bird-watching)
- Commercial (food, fiber, lumber, energy resources)
- Maintain Water Quality
- Control Erosion and Flooding
- Act as Storm Buffers

During Colonial times the United States contained an estimated 221 million acres of wetlands. Today wetlands cover approximately 103 million acres, a loss of more than 50%.



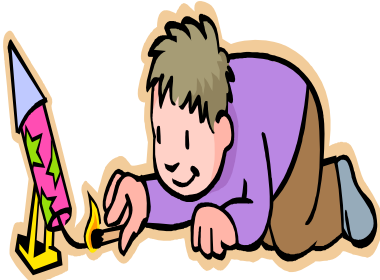
Causes of Wetland Loss:

- Natural—subsidence, wave erosion, saltwater intrusion, sea level rise, and tropical storms and hurricanes
- Human—drained or altered to create more land for agricultural use or urban development and construction of canals, levees and dams

Most detrimental has been human activity.

www.lacoast.gov

ELEMENTARY WORKSHOP DAY



4-H Elementary Workshop Day is put on by the Junior Leader Club for 4th-6th grade 4-H'ers. It will be held during the Thanksgiving Holiday break on **Tuesday, November 25th from 9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. at the Extension Office.**

All available Junior Leaders are asked to assist with one of the workshops given.

Workshops Offered:

- Agriculture
- Food and Nutrition
- Rocket
- Wetlands

If you have not signed up please sign up with either Ms. Alison or Ms. Lisa

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY

A Junior Leader Christmas Party/Activity is currently being discussed. The tentative date for this activity is **Saturday, December 6th.** More information concerning this

activity will be presented at the November 19th club meeting.



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Leadership, Citizenship and Life Skills*

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MEET A JUNIOR LEADER OFFICER

My name is Gabe Stelly, and I am your 2008-2009 Junior Leader Club Reporter. I am 15 years old and live in Grand Prairie, Louisiana. I attend school at Opelousas Catholic, where I am a member of the 4-H Club, and Cross Country and Track Teams. My interests include: hunting, fishing, riding four wheelers, and participating in anything 4-H related. On the state 4-H level, I am a member of the SET (Science, Engineering



and Technology) Board and also a member of this year's State Livestock Judging Team.

