

## **FROM MRS. CASH'S DESK . . . AN UPDATE, 2/5/10**

For adults interested in becoming certified in Shooting Sports Rifle Training, there will be a class Feb. 19-20 at the Levy County Extension Office, located in Bronson. Friday's session is from 6-10 p.m. and Saturday's session is from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The cost is \$40 per person. Call 352-486-5131 and speak with Albert or Brenda.

\*The small bore practice that is scheduled for Feb. 14 has been canceled. Saturday's shotgun practice on Feb. 13, and archery and air rifle on Feb. 14 will still be held. See the flyers on the website for locations and information.

The state Air Rifle, Small Bore and Muzzle-loading contest is March 6 at the Levy County Extension Office - transportation in the van is not provided because I must be at the Central Florida Fair that day. The club leaders and other families may be able to carpool - ask at the trainings. The cost per youth is \$20. I need to know who is interested and receive payment by Feb. 16 (checks made payable to Volusia County 4-H) in order to get it to the state before the due date. More info is available at [http://florida4h.org/events/shooting\\_sports.shtml](http://florida4h.org/events/shooting_sports.shtml). The Archery contest will be at Camp Ocala on March 13 - registration is due to the 4-H Office by Feb. 22, \$20. I will be attending so transportation can be provided. The Shotgun contest will be in Polk County on March 20 - I will be in Madison at 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive, but families may carpool together. Registration is due to the 4-H Office by March 1, \$20. For all events - youth can compete on a team or as individuals - all youth can participate!

**4-H Day at the Florida State Fair is this Saturday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Good luck to all those entering various contests - our animal exhibitors and judging teams!**

Those CFF dates are coming up fast (or have already passed). I need Game Boards (must be to me by Feb. 19 or to the CFF by 7 p.m. on Feb. 22), Fashion Revue entries (entry forms are due by Feb. 8 and garments by Feb. 19 to our office) and hope to have Consumer Choices teams and Resume/Interview entries (due Feb. 8 to Seminole County - yes, the resume date was extended). How about the Archery Contest (Feb. 12 - reg. due - contact [rlharris@ufl.edu](mailto:rlharris@ufl.edu))? Power Point entries are due to Seminole County by Feb. 8. Think about the Scarecrow (due to the CFF by Feb. 23) and Banner Contests (due to the Orange County Office by Feb. 15)! Demonstrations - You can do your Ill. Talk/Demo. at the CFF at any time and earn \$10 while getting practice! Register at the 4-H table when you get there.

Florida Agriculture Literacy Day 2010 is Tuesday, March 23. If you'd like to participate, you can go to [www.agtag.org](http://www.agtag.org) and download the form. Requests are due by March 12. You can order ONE *Green Florida Farms* book. You must contact a school and get permission to read (grades Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup>). This is a great community service activity. I have forms in the office as well.

**Birds and Bicycles** – Saturday, Feb. 13, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Emeraldal Marsh in Lake County. Go to [www.troutlakenature.org](http://www.troutlakenature.org) for more information. By the way, the Trout Lake Nature Center is a great place for a field trip.

Two Livestock Judging Contests (we'll post registration info):

1. Alachua County Youth Fair Livestock Judging Contest – Saturday, March 27 at the fairgrounds in Gainesville.
2. Bradford County Fairgrounds – Friday, March 26 (Register by March 19 – the 26<sup>th</sup> is a Teacher Duty Day) Contest starts at 8:30 a.m. Trophies and cash prizes
3. Plus - - The state contest will be March 20 in Gainesville!

WOW! Tractor Supply is partnering with National 4-H! From March 26 – April 18, customers can purchase a Paper Clover for \$1 (like March of Dimes has the hot air balloon ones). Sixty percent of the proceeds go to local county programs, thirty percent to National 4-H and ten percent to state offices. We have a store in Volusia County – on Hwy. 17 in DeLand. So . . . encourage your friends and neighbors to buy a clover to support our program!

**The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Four Townes Rotary Riverfest will be held March 6<sup>th</sup> at Gemini Springs Park in DeBary. Contact Pat Northey if you'd like to set up a Volusia County 4-H or club booth (386-717-0505 or [pnorthey@cfl.rr.com](mailto:pnorthey@cfl.rr.com)). Think about community service, Clover Awards . . .**

*“As coordinator of the Like New Used Toy Drive, my club, REACH, and I would like to thank everyone who contributed. A special thanks goes to Tia Hernlen and Brooke Miller from the Jr. Barn Brats who were extremely generous. The Toy Box Ministries had a huge gymnasium full of toys that surely made Christmas more special for a lot of needy kids. Your contribution made it even better. This was a perfect example of 4-H ‘Making the Best Better.’*

*“Around Thanksgiving and Christmas it's not hard to find an organization collecting food for folks that are less fortunate, to have a nice meal. But now that the holidays are over, people still need to eat. I would like to suggest that we each bring in one item (one can of beans, one jar of peanut butter, etc.) each month to the County Council meetings. I will collect them and bring them to a local food pantry where they will benefit our community and be greatly appreciated. If you have club members that don't come to County Council meetings, maybe you can ask them to participate and you can bring the items to our meetings. On behalf of myself and my club, REACH, thank you!” - - Miss Katie Lamar*

Dear 4-H Families - - The online Flickr account is up and running. Some families have said that they have not received the "invitation" to join. Our site is private and open only to those we invite. You can download the photos, print them, etc., at no cost to you. Clubs can send me pictures, videos and their reports to post as well. Let us know if you are not able to access the account and we'll fix it! This is a great way to share with each other.

**Project Rudolph is a service project designed to show our support for our men and women in uniform. The Lake County 4-H Teen Leadership Club has partnered with Ramstein Keystone Club in Germany. They hope to gather 1,000 letters for the Project Rudolph bags (contain miscellaneous items - -nearly 12,000 bags were given out last year) between March and November. Encourage your club members and friends to write letters. Community service! Bring your letters to the Volusia County 4-H Office!**

**Letters CANNOT: 1. Be dated; 2. Ask any questions about war, injuries, etc.; 3. Be politically motivated; 4. Be type-written or photo-copied; 5. Be in a sealed envelope; 6. Be unsigned.**

**Letters CAN: 1. Express support and appreciation; 2. Include a drawing; 3. Tell about the writer; 4. Share personal experiences; 5. Include a return address; 6. Be signed by the writer.**

Equifest 2010 will be held in Lake Helen on March 13<sup>th</sup>. The organizers would like 4-H'ers to help with the planning and by volunteering. It is a six hour event with many horse breeds to view, horse riding events, and non-profits, such as animal rescues. Contact Heather Fitzpatrick at 386-310-5670. I know I say it over and over again, but it bears repeating . . . Community Service!

Florida 4-H Camp Counselor Certification - - \$55 per person (You must register one week prior to the training and transportation is not provided.) This is a state level training and qualifies you to be a camp counselor at any 4-H camp. However, to be a counselor for our Summer Camp you must attend our trainings. Go to: <http://florida4h.org/camps> for more details. \*\*Counselors and CITs from last year's Summer Camp - - there will be a planning meeting in Seminole County on March 16, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Please plan to attend!\*\*

February 26-27 - - Camp Cherry Lake in Madison, FL

April 23-24 - - Camp Cloverleaf near Sebring, FL

4-H Day at the Capitol will be on April 22. The cost is \$15 (lunch, t-shirt, activities). You can ride the bus from Camp Ocala for an additional \$25 (and not worry about the long drive). You can also stay overnight at Camp Ocala for a minimal charge. Tours and activities are planned and you can meet with your legislators. The goal this year is 1,000 4-H'ers! Registration will be online – you register yourself by March 9. More info to come!

**Don't forget that our next Consumer Choices classes will be Feb. 8 and 22, from 6-7 p.m.**

**Horticulture Club meets Feb. 10 and 24, from 4:30-6 p.m. See the flyer!**

**Livestock Judging teams will meet on Feb. 25!**

**County Council will meet on Feb. 16 at 6:00 p.m. - any club able to cook dinner?**

**There is an Area D meeting on March 11 at 7:00 p.m. in Seminole County.**

3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board, open to all Senior 4-H'ers, will be held March 19-21 at Camp Cherry Lake. Registration materials are not available yet – but be thinking about attending. The cost is \$90 and transportation is provided.

Citrus Tree pick-up will be March 20 at 10 a.m. at the Apopka Research Center – please send payment to Volusia County 4-H by March 13th. The tangerine trees are \$10 this year (each youth can get two trees): W. Murcott (Mr. Ryan's favorite) on Swingle Citrumelo rootstock. New project books will be used. Go to [http://cfextension.ifas.ufl.edu/4h/4h\\_tree.shtml](http://cfextension.ifas.ufl.edu/4h/4h_tree.shtml) for everything. We'll have copies printed in the office. There will be a tour at Heller Bros. packinghouse in Winter Garden on Sept. 4 from 10-11 a.m. (<http://www.hellerbros.com>) and Dec. 4 will be the Mid-Florida Citrus Foundation tour and study session.

**DURING SPRING BREAK WE WILL OFFER SOME WORKSHOPS - - A COUNTY EVENTS WORKSHOP, A MOCK LEGISLATURE AND A DAY OF MISCELLANEOUS & COOL STUFF (INCLUDING A SKILL-A-THON TRAINING FOR FASHION REVUE). MORE INFO TO COME! I THINK THAT'S ALL . . . HAVE A GREAT DAY!**