August 2022



# THE VOLUNTEER VOICE

Vol 2 Issue 1

Charlotte & Glades County 4-H Volunteer Newsletter





# **HEAD HEART HANDS HEALTH**



Inside the Issue

### WHAT IS A SPARK?

SPARK is an acronym for competencies we seek to build in young people. They are what help youth see potential in themselves.

### **NEW YEAR NEW ICEBREAKER**

Icebreakers are a great way to start a 4-H meeting, get to know one another, have some fun, and create a sense of belonging.

### PLANNING YOUR **CLUB CALENDAR**

A club calendar will help you meet the needs of all members, avoid calendar conflicts and provide better communication to members and families.

# 4-H ONLINE ENROLLMENT & RE-ENROLLMENT

It is that time of year again to enroll for the 22-23 4-H year. This year enrollment opened up on August 1st. Each year volunteers and members must re-enroll. It is extremely important to make sure all information entered in 4-H online is up to date. Please remind club member to make sure they have updated their family's email address, mailing address, and phone numbers. 4-H online is the data base that will be used for contact information throughout the year.

Don't forget to take your OYCS training. This training must be done each year before you can be approved as a 4-H leader.



v2.4honline.com

# WHAT ARE SPARKS?

When you are passionate about something, you care more about it and it helps you to thrive in everyday life. SPARKS are things in life that young people are passionate about and will help them to see potential in themselves. Their SPARK may be a skill or talent, a special interest, or an ability that comes from within and gives them joy. SPARKS do just that, they spark inner passions, interests, and talents of youth that inspire them on a path of thriving. This path of thriving can give them a sense of purpose and can encourage them to set and achieve their goals.

Volunteers like you are able to partner with youth in the spark process by encouraging them find and ignite their spark. You can do this by encouraging them and providing them with opportunities to express themselves and their spark. You can help them in a variety of ways:

-teach them skills

-mentoring -supporting their passion (attend their events)

Not only can you support them in what they do, but you can provide constructive feedback and push them to step outside of their comfort zone by going beyond their 4-H project and allow them to explore their interests with an emphasis on "learning by doing."

Sparks are at the center of the 4-H Thriving model. As a team, we are working to take youth one step further and helping students find a passion rather than just a pastime.





Scan to see how 4-H grew a spark for this youth member!

# YOUTH LED 4-H CLUB MEETINGS

4-H Club meetings play a very important part of the 4-H experience. As a 4-H member, this is where youth gain knowledge, learn new skills, share ideas, make friends, and build a network of support for now and in the future. Club meetings provide an opportunity for the group as a whole to make plans, learn, and have fun together.

Having a successful 4-H club starts with you EMPOWERING your officer team to take the lead. By allowing youth to lead club meetings, you are growing true leaders starting at the club level. Club officers are elected by the club's members to plan and run club meetings. Once club officers understand their duties, a club leader should meet with the officers to plan the agenda for the club meeting.

Work with the youth to create an agenda that allows enough time for each item on the agenda. Help them determine who is responsible for each item on the agenda including who will lead the pledges.

Once youth have created the agenda, they will work together as an officer team to conduct a club meeting with members. They should utilize parliamentary procedure and hold a meeting where all members have an equal voice to make a difference in their club, community, country and world.

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# **CLUB BYLAWS**

Adopting club bylaws is a great way to keep your club on track. Bylaws are not required, but they will provide your club and its members with both direction and structure to be successful. 4-H Club Bylaws function in the same way that the United States Constitution does, by providing fair and written rules so that the members are protected.

Bylaws should outline the major functions of the group and should be comprised of all the rules by which the club is governed. Bylaws do not need to be changed often, but do need to be reviewed by the membership annually.

Bylaws should include the following:

Article 1: Name/ Identity

This section should include the name of your club, motto, emblem and the 4-H pledge.

Article 2: Mission of 4-H & Club Purpose

Article 3: Nonprofit status

Article 4: Membership (Eligibility & Responsibility)
Your club may not be open to Cloverbud youth etc., this is the place to make that known. You will also place your meeting attendance policies here.

Article 5: Meetings

This section should include dates and times of the meeting, what constitutes a quorum, and the order in which the business meeting will take place.

**Article 6**: Committees

Include a list of standing or special committees the group would like to create.

Article 7: Officers

Include a list of officers you will elect and their duties.

Article 8: Election of Officers

Determine when and how2 you will elect officers. Also, will you limit who can be President, for example, must the President be someone who has been in 4-H for at least 3 years?

**Article 9**: Amendments **Article 10**: Dissolution

For sample club Bylaws, scan the code or use the link below:



https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/4H338

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## Icebreaker: You-Me-Left-Right

Icebreakers are a great way to start a 4-H Club meeting and to create a sense of belonging. Here is a fun icebreaker that kids can use at the beginning of the 4-H year to learn everyone's name.

- 1. Have the group form a circle, with the facilitator in the middle serving as the first "caller."
- 2. Ask the participants to introduce themselves to the people directly on their left and right sides.
- 3. Explain to the group that the person in the middle will point to someone in the circle and say either "You" "Me" "Left" or "Right" and count to five at a reasonable pace. "You" is the person being pointed at. "Me" is the caller. "Left" is the person to the left of the one being pointed at. "Right" is the person to the right of the one being pointed at.
- 4. The person being pointed at must correctly name that person before the caller counts to five. If they succeed, the caller moves on to a different person of their choice. If they do not succeed, they become the new caller.



# PLANNING YOUR CLUB CALENDAR

As we look forward to the official start of the new 4-H year on September 1st, it is important to plan ahead for your 4-H club. Creating a year plan will allow you to meet the needs of the members, create a plan to share responsibilities between youth, parents, and volunteers, and avoid calendar conflicts throughout the year. Here are some things that you should include in your 4-H club plan:

-Business to be covered
-Upcoming club, county, district & state activities
-Community Service & Fundraising Activities
-Educational topics
-Recreation
-Guest Speakers



#### 2022 -2023 4-H Club Planning Sheet

	Club:						
Club Leaders:							-
	Meeting Date & Time	Meeting Location	Topic to Be Covered & Description	Materials / Resources	Ice Breaker or Recreation	Guest Speaker	Community Service
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							



# **UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES**

State 4-H Events

4-H Day at the Swamp - September 17th(Tentative)

State Leader's Forum -September 9th - 11th

Southern Region Teen Leadership Conference -September 22nd - 25th

> National 4-H Week -October 2nd - 8th

# Forum-ing Connections for 4-H Volunteers

When: September 17, 2022 - 9am-noon Where: DeSoto County Extension Office Scan the code below to sign up:





If you know of upcoming opportunities please email them to kpopa@ufl.edu or tyceerprevatt@ufl.edu.

### STATE LEADERS FORUM

This year the State 4-H Office is offing a Volunteer Leader Forum. If you are interested in attending, please contact your 4-H Agent to register, and for scholarship information.



Submit a workshop proposal:





### September 22-25, 2022 Crossville, TN

The Southern Region Teen Leadership Conference or SRTLC is open to youth 14 years or older as of September 1, 2022. This conference was created to unite 4-H teens and adults to empower and inspire them to make a positive change across the southern region through youthadult partnerships. Youth will travel by bus to Crossville, TN, where they will spend three days learning from their peers. This trip also allows youth to experience career exploration and to visit Tennessee Tech University. As well as a chance to give back, youth will shop and provide needed items for a local charity.



# **New 4-H Year - New Beginnings**

September 1, 2022, is the official start of the new 4-H year. Like the start of a new year, is there something you want to do differently this year? Do you have a plan for how to do that? Do you have a 4-H routine?

Now is a great time to think not only about your club goals and club calendar but your 4-H routine. Here are some tips for developing routines:

**Set Goals:** What are your 4-H goals for the year?

Layout a Plan: How will you accomplish your goal or goals?

**Be Consistent:** To establish a routine, you must be consistent throughout the year. **Be Prepared:** To be prepared, think about what is needed to meet your goals and

establish your routine.

**Make it Fun:** Think about how you can have fun while reaching your goals and establishing your 4-H routine.

What does your 2022-2023 4-H routine look like? How will it help you? What do you need for your 4-H year routine to be successful? Let us know at:







#### **AUGUST VOLUNTEER CHALLENGE**

THIS MONTHS CHALLENGE IS A SCAVNGER HUNT ABOUT 4-H OFFICER DUTIES. COMPLETE THIS SCAVENGER HUNT TO REFRESH YOUR MEMORY ABOUT WHAT EACH OFFICER SHOULD BE DOING BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER A CLUB MEETING.



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