**Car Wash Fundraiser**

The Salem County 4-H Foundation is the main source of support for many of the county 4-H programs. Each year the 4-H Leaders’ Association does fundraisers to support the 4-H program including Achievement Night awards, trips to state events, and camp scholarships. The last few years, the Leaders Association has avoided asking individual 4-H members to sell products. The fundraising projects have included raffles, selling funnel cakes at the Bluegrass Festival, and baked goods at the fair suppers. Before this 4-H members used to help sell things including cookies and peanuts.

This year we are trying a new fundraiser - car wash coupons. We are asking each 4-H family to sell 6 of the car wash coupons. You should have already received full details about the fundraising effort in a separate mailing.

There a few important things we want you to remember about this fundraising effort.

C Your club has the option of receiving $2.00 for every ticket sold. (Another $4.00 from the ticket will go to the Salem County 4-H Foundation to fund county-wide activities.)

C We MUST return any unsold tickets. Otherwise, we will have to pay for the ticket.

We appreciate your support in this effort. We look forward to a successful fundraising effort!!
Leaders’ Association Meeting

The next meeting of the Salem County 4-H Leaders’ Association will be held:

Wednesday, January 31, 2001
7:30 p.m.
Ware Agricultural Office Complex

Agenda items for evening will include approving the 2001 budget, auditing club treasuries and an update on the car wash fundraiser.

State 4-H Livestock Ad-Hoc Committee

This committee consists of volunteers from around the state who work with any 4-H livestock project from goats to horses. The group has been meeting since May of 1999. The group meets about four times a year and are working toward meeting priorities that were set in July of 1999. As a result of their efforts, there has been the printing and distribution of a livestock and horse volunteer directory. The group also helped in the planning process for the Livestock and Horse Symposium scheduled for February 24, 2001.

Current goals include developing a listing of potential educational field trips to be put on a web-site and a fun livestock trivia bowl type event.

If you would be interested in participating on the committee, the next meeting will be held January 24, 2001 at 7:30 p.m. at the Somerset County 4-H Center. Annette Devitt and Virginia Sisco regularly attend the meetings, so you can ride to the meeting.

Plaques in the Building

Have you seen the new plaques recognizing 4-H members and alumni? The next time you come to the Ware Building be sure to look at the plaques which are on the inside walls on either side of the front entrance. Thanks to Ginny Patten, the plaques were completed in time for the dedication of the building as the Ware Building. There is a plaque recognizing 4-H members who attended National 4-H Congress, members attending National 4-H Conference, Outstanding 4-H’ers, and 4-H Alumni.

We do need some help identifying Outstanding 4-H winners prior to 1979. We are not sure when the award started, but it did not exist prior to the mid-1960's and was presented during the 1970's. We have identified a couple more of the winners from the late 1970's, but need your help in filling in the gaps. If you received the Outstanding 4-H’er award or know someone who did during the 1970's, please let us know so we can add their name to the plaque.

Treasurer’s Book

Included with this newsletter (only sent to key leaders) is a new Treasurer’s Record Book. It includes specific information about 4-H Club Treasuries and 4-H Fundraising. These include policies that are used throughout the state for the 4-H program. The book includes familiar components like a page to record the dues paid by club members (if this applies) and pages for monthly financial reports. There are some additional useful pages. There is a place for the club to do an annual financial plan. There is also a checklist to use when planning a fundraiser. Along with the fundraising, there is also a form to turn into the County 4-H Office to let us know what type of fundraising project you club is doing.

Something that is new to the Treasurer’s Book is the Audit form. Officially, any club with over $100 in an account should have their treasurer’s records audited annually. This does not mean you need to go out and have an accountant look at your records. It does mean someone outside of the club should look over the records, bank statements, and the checkbook for the club. This process will help ensure your records are accurate from year to year.

At the January Leaders’ Association meeting we will be discussing whether there are ways that group could assist clubs doing the annual audits.
Calendar of Events 2001

For leaders who attended the November Leaders’ Association meeting, I would recommend throwing away the calendar of events that was distributed at that meeting. There are a couple of dates that were changed and event dates that were added. You should have already received an updated calender of events with your “Clover Chats” newsletter.

Use of the 4-H Clover

You may have noticed on the ribbons at the fair last year and in many 4-H publications that the 4-H clover now includes a “Protected by 18 USC 107” statement. This means the 4-H clover has stronger protection than having a trademark. It also means we need to be careful how and where the clover is used. So, here are some tidbits about using the 4-H clover that you may not have known. If you have questions, please talk to Annette.

-The official 4-H clover is a green four leaf clover with stem and the letter “H” in white or gold in each leaf. Other colors may be used when it is not possible to use green.

-Unless the clover is smaller than ¾”, the “Protected by 18 USC 107” or “18 USC 107” needs to be included with the clover on the lower right hand side of the clover. An asterisk may be used and the statement may be at the bottom of the page.

-The emblem should be given a position of prominence. Nothing can be superimposed over the official 4-H clover. For example the clover to the right can not be used.

Leaders’ Association Survey

Enclosed with this newsletter is brief survey. The executive group of the Leaders’ Association would like to find out why people attend Leaders’ Association meetings or why they do not attend.

One concern is that there are major decisions which affect the whole county 4-H program that are being made at these meetings. It would be great to have the input of a majority of the leaders when making these decisions.

We are grateful for the volunteers who take the time to attend the meetings. But we would like the see more leaders attend. Please complete the survey so we can determine ways to make the meeting more useful to you as a leader and have meetings that you would look forward to attending. Please return the survey by Wednesday, January 31.

New Fair Dates

Mark your calendars now, the Salem County Fair in 2001 will start on Tuesday, August 7 and end at 10:00 p.m. on Friday, August 10. Since this is a change in the days of the fair, it does mean we will need to reschedule some of the events to adjust to the change. At the livestock committee meeting at the March Leaders’ Association, changes to the schedule will be discussed and finalized. Please plan to attend the March Leaders’ Association meeting if you have concerns about the new schedule.

Included with this newsletter is a very, very, very tentative schedule. We really need your help in making this new schedule work for everyone.

2000 Fair Show Judge Reimbursement

Last spring, the Salem County Fair Association designated $1000 to help defer the cost of judges for 4-H shows at the fair. Most 4-H clubs are able to cover the cost of judges, but if you are interested in having your club be reimbursed for all or a portion of the cost of your 2000 fair judge, please contact Lisa Perry at the 4-H Office (769-0090). We have a form that needs to be completed for reimbursement. The form is included with appropriate leaders newsletters or can also be downloaded from the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Salem County web-site - http://salem.rutgers.edu. Forms are due to the 4-H Office by Monday, January 29.
Has your club done a really neat community service project this year? Is there a 4-H member that has really contributed to your club and community over the past year? Is there a businesses that has supported your club in a special way during 2000? If so, you may want to take time to nominate the group, individual, or business to receive the Salem County Community Spirit Award.

This will be the sixth year for the awards which recognize volunteers that exemplify community spirit by their contributions to the community. The program honors a variety of categories of people including:
- Individual adults or youth
- Groups of adults or youth
- Small or large businesses
- Environmental
- Emergency Services

Nomination forms have been printed in the newspaper or call the 4-H Office for a copy. The nomination forms are due by January 30, 2001. Nomination application requirements and where to send the application is included on the application form.

All nominees will be recognized at a celebration on February 22, 2001 at the Washington Club in Penns Grove. One individual will be selected to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award.

For more information, please call the Community Spirit Awards at 935-3727 or e-mail csasalem2000@yahoo.com.

Grants

If you club has a special project they would like to do and need some funds to do it, there are several possibilities for funding. Annette would be happy to assist clubs interested in pursuing any of these grant options. Here are some options:

Salem County 4-H Foundation Mini-Grants - Each year the Salem County 4-H Leaders Association budgets approximately $200 for mini-grants. Last year, the Puppy Patrol received funding to buy more fencing for their area at the fairgrounds. Other items funded have included a sewing machine, a camera, project and reference books, and a sheep fitting stand. The application is in enclosed with this newsletter. To receive funding for this 4-H year, please return the completed application to the 4-H Office by March 1, 2001.

New Jersey 4-H Development Fund - Some of the money raised from the annual golf tournament is used to support creative 4-H programs. The grants have ranged from a 4-H gardening project to a rock wall climbing project.

New Jersey Agricultural Society Educational Grants - While this grant was designed primarily for teachers, it has been awarded to the 4-H program in the past. An example of how the grant could be part of 4-H and meet the goals of the grant program is a school enrichment program that deals with agriculture. The Dairy Dandies did a program for second graders last year that probably could have been submitted for funding. Grant applications are due January 15, 2001 for spring projects and July 1, 2001 for fall projects. The grants range from $100-$500. Information about the grant is available at the 4-H Office.

Smoke-free Grants - Judy Cirelly made us aware of this grant money. The money is awarded for projects that give youth a positive alternative to smoking and educate youth about the dangers of smoking. Information is available at the 4-H Office.

National 4-H Council Grants - There several grants available each year for various types of projects. The deadline dates vary depending on the program. To learn more about these grants check out the National 4-H Council web-site - http://www.fourhcouncil.edu/ycc/grantinfo.htm