



4-H Clover Connection

Kiowa County OSU Cooperative Extension

June/July 2010

Birding is part of the wildlife project area

Bird watching is one of the largest and fastest growing leisure activities in the world. In fact, it is the second largest leisure sport with an estimated 80 million people of all ages and physical abilities being involved.

Not only is birding fun and educational, but it also can be a lifelong activity, said Kevin Allen, state 4-H shooting sports coordinator.

“Bird watching is rated as the number one spectator sport in North America and we have incorporated birding into the 4-H wildlife project area,” Allen said. “The great thing about birding is that it can start out as a 4-H project and continue throughout a person’s lifetime.”

And not only can birding be fun, it also helps develop youth to life skills and decision making skills.

Some skills that can be developed as part of the bird watching project include critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, responsible citizenship, communication, concern for others, planning/organizing and keeping records. It also gets youth outside in the fresh air.

You do not have to invest a lot of money to get started in birding. You can begin with a simple bird-feeder in the backyard. You also will need a good pair of binoculars.

Depending upon your interest and involvement, you can go to the other end of the spectrum and plan extensive trips to increase the number of birds that have been seen and identified.

Binoculars magnify anything you view, which in turn helps a bird watcher see the field marks on birds so they can identify what species of bird it is.

“By starting in your own backyard or at a local to learn more about bird habitats,” he said. “Some birds live near the top of tree, high up in the branches. Others may nest in bushes closer to the ground.”

Bird identification is an important aspect of bird watching. Once you have the basics down the process becomes easier, but first you must know the part of a bird. Shape, size, color, habitat, voice, behavior and field marks all are clues that can be used to help identify each species.

Birds also have different migration patterns so you can see them only during certain times of the year. Learning all the various aspects of birds is part of the educational benefit of bird watching.

Allen said many people who are birding enthusiasts did not necessarily start out with the idea of becoming a bird watcher.

“Those individuals may have seen some interesting birds in their own backyard or at a local park. They may have simply wanted to be able to identify what kind of bird it was,” he said. “Another person may have the opportunity to see a bird up close through binoculars and from that point on they’re hooked and want to learn more.”

Although birding is still fairly new to the 4-H program, there are several clubs that have been started around the state.

Some clubs are partnering with their local Audubon society in an effort to foster youth/adult partnerships.

“Birding is a very enjoyable activity that the whole family can do together,” he said. “It’s a great way to spend quality time together, be outside in the fresh air and learn more about the birds in your area.”



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This 4-H newsletter is published by the Kiowa County OSU Extension Service at 302 North Lincoln, Hobart, OK 73651. This in one way of communicating educational information and events to the 4-H members, leaders and parents of Kiowa County.

Sincerely,

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Kiowa County

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Kiowa County



Get Healthy and Fit with 4-H Day Camp

The Kiowa County 4-H would like to invite you Kiowa County 4-Hers to "Get Healthy and Fit Day Camp". July 13– July 16, 9am-12pm at the Kiowa County Exhibit Building in Hobart. We will have nutrition workshops, healthy snacks, physical fitness activities, cooking, and games. We also will have lots of contests and prizes. For more information or to enroll call the office at 726-5643 . This program is limited to the first 40 and is open to all youth ages 9-17. You don't have to be in 4-H to come!

Oklahoma 4-H Generations of Clover History Book Available

Oklahoma 4-H originated in 1909 as a youth organization to promote and enhance agricultural and home economic members in Tishomingo, OK., today more than 162,000 Oklahomans are involved in 4-H and continue the tradition of making the best better. Oklahoma 4-H is successful because of the dedication and service-oriented attitude of its members, volunteers, parents, donors and staff. *Oklahoma 4-H: Generations of Clover* is a stunning 8.5" x 11" hardcover volume celebrating the people and history from the past 100 years. Relive those precious memories throughout 176 pages of text, complemented with many historical and modern photographs. *Oklahoma 4-H: Generations of Clover* is available for \$39.99. If we have a order for 5 the cost is \$32.99 and 10 or more is \$29.99. For more information contact the Kiowa County OSU Extension office or the State 4-H office.





Kiowa County Free Fair
September 8-11
Kiowa County Fairgrounds

It's time to get those 4-H projects ready for the Kiowa County Fair. If you need more information on 4-H projects you will need to look at the Oklahoma State Fair website http://www.oklahomastatefair.com/livestockpb_000.html and scroll down to the bottom of the page for the 4-H exhibit information or come in our office for a copy. We also need volunteers to help with entries on Wednesday September 8th and the Kid Activities on Friday September 11th. For more information please call 726-5643.



Kiowa County Awards Reception
August 11th
6:00 pm
Kiowa County Exhibit Bldg

Each club volunteer leader will be asked to nominate one 4-H member from their club to receive the Outstanding club member award. Project medals, Hall of Fame, Teen Leader and Volunteer Leaders will also be honored during this event. Everyone is invited to attend.

UPCOMING 4-H EVENTS

July 7,8 &14– Livestock Judging Workshops

July 17– State 4-H Parent Volunteer Conference

July 13-16– Hobart Day Camp

July 15– Livestock Field Day– Grady County

July 20-22– OSU Animal Science Field Days

July 28-30– State 4-H Roundup

August 5-7– Mt. View Fair

August 11– Awards Reception

Sept. 8-11– Kiowa County Fair



4-H Teen Leader Meeting

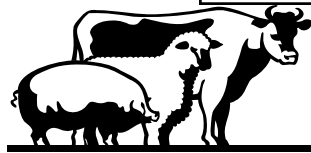
Attention all Teen Leaders!!! We will be having a very important meeting on **July 14th 6:00pm** **Kiowa County OSU Extension Conference Room** to make plans for 4-H enrollment and have a required Roundup orientation. If you are in the seventh grade or above and would like to volunteer during the Healthy and Fit day camp July 13-16 please call the extension office. I am looking for ideas and workshops relating to your project area and relating to the Healthy and Fit theme for the day camp. Please help me promote this opportunity to other 4-Hers. If supplies are needed for your workshop just let us know and we can get it for you. Please call if you have any questions or concerns. Hope to you see there.

OSU Animal Science Field Days

July 20-22, 2010

OSU Animal Science Arena

The most time-honored summer field day in the country covering beef, sheep, goats and swine.



Grady-Canadian Livestock Judging Contest

July 15, 2010

Grady County Fairgrounds
Chickasha, Oklahoma

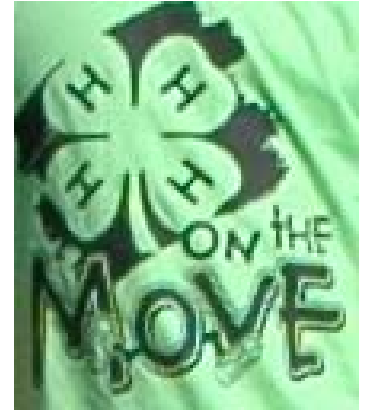
Register by calling Kent at the Kiowa County OSU Extension Office.

4-H Livestock Judging Workshops

July 7,8 and 14 from 9-11am at the Kiowa County OSU Extension Office. Workshops must be attended before attending contests. Call with questions or to enroll.

Kiowa County at 4-County 4-H Camp June 14-16, 2010

4 County 4-H Camp at Quartz Mt. State Park was held June 14-16. Forty campers from Kiowa County attended the camp with other 4-ers from Roger Mills, Beckham and Greer County. This year's camp theme was "4-H on the Move" the 4-Hers learned about different ways to be physically active and healthy. Pictured are front row left to right: Krystal Haumpy, Deaton Smith, Brittney Burton, Nathan Davis, Mariah Hollister, Stormy Hooper, Ronnie Keesee, Korinne Medlock, Vivian Freeman, Kallie Coakley, Audrey Henson, Karley Henson, Josh Wald, Dillan Duff. Second row: Shelby Cook, Hannah McCollom, Ashley Bredy, Micah Olson, Summer Wald, John Wald, Dreyton Callahan, Ben Smith, Adam McKay, Ryan Rudkins and JJ Wald. Third row: Mason Tepe, Madison Rudkins, Kenlee Smith, Joe Bob Wald, Blake Bullock, Colvin Null, Chandler Smith, Shianna Keesee, Jerra Tepe, Kamryn Shelby. Fourth row: Cort Morris, Kellan Smith, Kade Blevins, Tyler Leiphardt, and Hanna Haumpy.



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