Happy New Year to All of Our Tuolumne County 4-H Family!!!
Please read through this whole newsletter as there are a lot of activities happening around the county. We want all of our members and supporters to be aware of these activities and be able to participate wherever possible!

Attendance Requirements for Fair:
As a reminder, if you want to participate in the County Fair, you must have 80% attendance in both club and project meetings. You may make up club meetings by attending another club’s meeting and reporting about it at your own club meeting. If you think your attendance is low and you may need to take advantage of this opportunity, please contact your club leader. For more information about the attendance policy in Tuolumne County please see our Regulations to the Steps to Success at: http://cecentralsierra.ucanr.org/files/115394.pdf Also, keep an eye on the weekly updates and be in contact with your club and project leaders so you know of important dates leading up to fair!

Committee Opportunities in County Wide 4-H Implementation:
4-H can be implemented in our communities in many ways. In addition to the club program, Tuolumne County offers afterschool opportunities with our partnership with PM Clubs through the Senior Youth Partnership (SYP) as well as Summer Camp. Both of these methods of 4-H Outreach are implemented through committees made up of staff, volunteers, parents and members. If you are interested in serving on one of these committees and helping to organize and plan 4-H activities within these groups please contact Kelsey at the 4-H Office at kmmarkus@ucanr.edu or 209-533-6990.

4-H in Senior Youth Partnership PM Clubs:
Tuolumne County 4-H and the SYP Pm Clubs have had an ongoing partnership which began in 1985. Over the past 30 years, 4-H projects and curriculum have been a central theme in PM Clubs. We are looking for a brand new committee to come together to work with SYP Staff to make this partnership the best that it can be.

2016 4-H Summer Camp:
Summer Camp is returning to Tuolumne County and will be better than ever! We have a small group of volunteers who have come together to get this started but we need more help from other adults and input from members. The next Camp Committee meeting will be held on January 7th at 6:30 at the UCCE/4-H Office.

Recruitment and Advertising:
The best way to get more 4-H members in our program is to offer a greater variety of projects. In order to offer more projects, we need more leaders. If you are interested in joining the team helping to organize an advertising campaign to recruit new leaders and members please contact us!

Kelsey Out of Office:
Kelsey is planning to be out of the Office on Vacation from January 23-31st. If there is anything you need from her during that time, please contact her as soon as possible so she can get it done early.

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning citizenship, leadership and life skills.
Leader's Council Meetings: Occur the 1st Wednesday of each month from 7:00pm-9:00pm in the UCCE/4-H Office. These meetings are to help plan events and make decisions for the whole county. All leaders and members are welcome to attend.

Monthly Leader Training: All leaders are encouraged to attend the Monthly Leader Trainings. Each training will take place twice a month in order to help accommodate your schedules. They will be on the first Monday and Wednesday from 6:00-6:45. January Training will be on “How to Implement the 4-H Learn by Doing Model”. For more information or to suggest ideas on topics you would like to have covered contact Kelsey at kmmarkus@ucanr.edu or 209-533-6990.

January 16—Community Dinner: Keep selling those tickets and work on your posters. You should have received a copy of the Special Edition Tooter with all of the aspects of the Dinner. To reread that newsletter visit: [http://ucanr.edu/sites/Tuolumne_4-H/4H_Tooter_Newsletter/?newsitem=60518](http://ucanr.edu/sites/Tuolumne_4-H/4H_Tooter_Newsletter/?newsitem=60518)

February 7th—SubRegional Presentation Day: 4-H SubRegional Presentation Day will be held this year on February 7th at Calaveras River Academy in San Andreas. 4-H members from Calaveras, Amador, Mariposa, El Dorado and Tuolumne Counties are invited. Entries are due by January 20th. Full details are at [http://ucanr.edu/.../Cala.../newsletters/4-H_Newsletter60565.pdf](http://ucanr.edu/.../Cala.../newsletters/4-H_Newsletter60565.pdf)

February 20th—EBAD: Everything But Animals Field Day is a day for all of the non-animal projects to come together and show off their hard work. This is also a day where the community can come and learn about 4-H and the variety of projects that it has to offer. We will need judges, committee members, and more! If you would like to help with this event please contact Kelsey at kmmarkus@ucanr.edu or 209-533-6990

February 25th—County Record Book Clinic: Are you new to 4-H or just haven’t been able to figure out all of the pieces to the 4-H Record Book? Come to this informational and hands on Clinic from 6:00-8:00pm in order to learn how it all gets put together and have the best record book in the County! You can also check out the Record Book Manual from the 4-H Office or find it online at: [http://4h.ucanr.edu/Resources/Members/RecordBook/](http://4h.ucanr.edu/Resources/Members/RecordBook/)

March 12—County Presentation Day: County Presentation Day is a day for public speaking. You can have a prepared speech, demonstration, impromptu speaking, and more! Members who win a gold medal can move up to the Regional and possibly State Presentation Day. See the new State Presentation Manual for more information: [http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/2193.pdf](http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/2193.pdf). We will also need community members and leaders to be judges for this event as well as 4-H members to be room monitors.

April 2nd—Livestock Field Day: This is a day for all of the members who have animals to come and show their knowledge as well as participate in judging classes. We are looking for leaders and members from each animal species to help bring a display. Please contact Lori Mills, the event Chairperson, at 499-4304 or design18@sbcglobal.net for more information or if you would like you help.

April 13-24—Tractor Supply Paper Clover Sales: During the fall Paper Clover Sales, Sonora Tractor Supply was 7th in the Nation for selling the most clovers. Please be sure to thank Tractor Supply and their customers for their support. Also, mark your calendars for the Spring Sales and lets see if we can top our sales!

April 30th—County Fashion Revue: All members interested in Fashion, mark this date. It is a day to show off you ability to make your own clothes, or put something together from what you have purchased. More information will be coming soon. If you have questions now, please contact Sue Moore, event Chairperson, at : 2moores@mlode.com or 209-743-2020.
State Ambassador Applications Due February 16th: 4-H State Ambassadors are youth who have excelled in the areas of leadership and community service. They are selected to serve the 4-H Youth Development Program in roles that promote leadership through education and service. State Ambassadors must have completed at least one year as a California 4-H Youth Development Program (YDP) member, and must be at least 16 years old on June 1, 2016 and no older than 18 years old as of December 31, 2016. For more information visit: [http://4h.ucanr.edu/Projects/Leadership/SA/Apply_to_Become_a_State_Ambassador/](http://4h.ucanr.edu/Projects/Leadership/SA/Apply_to_Become_a_State_Ambassador/)

State 4-H Equine Field Day, February 20th: The Equine Field Day is an educational event, that offers three concurrent presentations for each of the five 45 minute sessions. Past presentation topics have included saddle fitting, equine nutrition, equine chiropractic treatment, equine acupuncture treatment and 4-H equine educational contests. For more information visit: [http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/4H_Equine_Field_Day/](http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/4H_Equine_Field_Day/)

Small Animal Field Day, March 19th: This is a day for all things Small Animals. Mark your calendars now and check back to the website for more information on specific classes that will be offered: [http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/Small_Animal_Field_Day/](http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/Small_Animal_Field_Day/)

State 4-H Field Day, May 28th: California State 4-H Field Day, initiated in 2002, is California 4-H’s largest and most comprehensive educational event for 4-H youth members (age 9-19) and 4-H volunteer educators, with more than 1,500 participants annually. Each contest and activity is coordinated by a group of 4-H volunteers and youth, with coordination and facility support provided by the State 4-H Office. For more information about all of the different events visit: [http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/SFD/](http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/SFD/)

California Focus, June 17-21: Witness California’s government in action by participating in the legislative, political, and judicial processes. Located at the Holiday Inn Capital Plaza, California Focus is a unique citizenship educational experience that combines hands-on participation in workshops, debates, and simulations with speakers, tours, fun activities, and new friends from across California. Youth must be at least 14 years old by the time of California Focus. Conference fees are **estimated $665- $699** per person. For more information visit: [http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/CF/](http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/CF/)

**TAX TIPS FOR 4-H VOLUNTEERS** 4-H volunteers (leaders, parents, teens) who incur out-of-pocket expenses or make a direct contribution to 4-H may be able to claim income tax deductions for: The fair market value of property and materials donated to 4-H; Cash contributions to 4-H; Cost of raising a guide dog puppy; Cost of travel while serving as a volunteer (consult a tax manual for actual allowances); Un-reimbursed out-of-pocket expenses for stationary, postage, telephone calls, refreshments, photocopying, etc. incurred in rendering volunteer service. You CANNOT claim the value of your volunteer services, time, or costs of transporting or paying expenses for your own child. Consult with your tax advisor if you have any questions. Be sure to keep complete records and receipts in case your contributions are ever questioned.
SONORA CLOVERLEAFS
The Sonora Cloverleafs will meet on Tuesday, January 12, at 7:00pm. Before the potluck at 6:30, we will be having a no fund potluck(Doors open at 6:15). Please bring a dish and non-disposable plates and silverware for your family. The club leader, Deniel Sheffield, can be reached at sheffy@msn.com or 536-9791 or 761-2384. The officers for the Cloverleafs will meet the Friday before the club meeting, January 8, at 4:00 and is open to members of the club if they are interested. All members remember to keep selling tickets for the Community Dinner. Contact Maren Paris at gigibird@sbcglobalnet to get more tickets.

FOOTHILL
Next meeting will be held on January 13th at 7:00pm at the Possee Grounds

GROVELAND HIGHLANDERS
Next meeting will be held on January 12th at 6:30pm at Tenaya Elementary School

HI 4-H
Next meeting will be held on January 20th at 7:00pm at the Sonora Youth Center

MOUNTAIN RANGERS
Next meeting will be held on January 13th at 6:00pm at the Soulsbyville Elementary School

TUOLUMNE PIONEERS
Hello Pioneers

Great job on the food drive for the Tuolumne Food Shelter. You made a difference in the lives of many people. At the last meeting we made Community Dinner Posters, if you have not hung them up do it now to promote our dinner.

The next club meeting is January 11, 2016 at the Summerville Elementary School at 7:00. The Swine Meeting is January 4, 2016 at 6:00 at the Gold Rush High School on Village drive. This meeting is for first and second year members only.

LION'S PRIDE
Our next meeting will take place on January 7th. If you are interested in selling tickets to the 4H Community Dinner, please let me know and we can arrange a time to pick up the tickets. Students that are interested in helping at the community dinner can contact Kelsey Marcus at kmmarkus@ucanr.edu.

Over Christmas break, please be on the look out for the following items...
If you have already committed to bringing these items, please let me know! (hinges; Styrofoam glue (waterproof); fan(2); small garbage bags; batteries (Mrs. D); tools (Mrs. D); boxcutter (Mrs. D); motors (Mrs. Applegate)
CLOVERBUDS
We had a great turn out at our last meeting with many new faces!!! Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14th at 5:30pm

SIGN LANGUAGE
The Sign Language meeting is January 5, 2016 at the Gold Rush High School at 6:00.

FOOTHILL SWINE
Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at the Sonora Library at 7:15pm. Contact Sharon if you have any questions.

RIFLE SHOOTING SPORTS
IMPORTANT DEADLINES!
Signups will be ONLINE on Tuesday, January 5th. The sign-up form will be on the Mother Lode Gun Club website http://www.motherlodegunclub.com/Juniorrifle.php. Juniors need to be signed up by a parent or guardian. (There is limited space, so first come, first served till the class is filled.) The first class night will begin on Tuesday, January 12th at 6:00 p.m. featuring a mandatory interactive lecture for all those juniors who are new and have not participated in at least two previous lectures. Payment of $25.00 for the class will be expected the first night of the class. The cost covers all the supplies and equipment required for the program. Firearms, ammunition and targets are provided. The program will be held on the 50 foot indoor range, and will run consecutive Tuesdays. The final meeting will be a special Awards for all participants and their family members at the MLGC clubhouse on Tuesday, March 1st. Any questions regarding 4-H shooting sports "Rifle" program call or text Rodger Tidball at 209-768-0261.

RABBITS
Our January meeting will be held on Tuesday the 26th at 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H office. This will be the last opportunity to join the project for the current 4-H year. We will be presenting member research projects and starting on showmanship practice for the Mother Lode fair. For further information please contact project leader Gail Aruta at 532-5257 or e-mail gailaru@yahoo.com.

SHEEP
The first sheep meeting will be on Monday, January 4th at 5:00 in my Sonora Elementary classroom, A-5. All are welcome that are interested in showing sheep. Please contact me if you have any questions OR if you cannot make it to the meeting, 770-2108.
See you there, Leslie Bloom

Don't see your project news here?
If you are a Project Leader and would like a news article published in the monthly Tooter please email or call the 4-H Office by the 25th (the 19th of November for December news due to holidays) of each month with your submission. This is a great way to keep your members and parents up-to-date on project meeting dates and activities!
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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<td>20 May News due</td>
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<td>30 Fashion Revue (tentative)</td>
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State 4-H http://www.ca4h.org
National 4-H http://www.4husa.org

TOOTER NEWS
Articles about 4-H or on topics of general interest to families are welcome.

News for the February Tooter is due by January 20th.

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