

Austin County 4-H News

DECEMBER, 2015



Inside this Issue

New 4-H Agent	Page 1
Important Dates	Page 1
Events	Page 2
Photography Show	Page 2
Train Like a Champion	Page 2
District Food Show	Page 2
San Bernard Youth Tour	Page 3
Consumer Judging	Page 3
Reminders	Page 4
Bank Statements	Page 4
Opportunity Scholarships	Page 4
Council/PLA Meetings	Page 4
Project Visits	Page 4



*Crystal Schibler
Austin County
4-H Agent*

Howdy!

I am so excited to be a part of the Austin County community and have the opportunity to serve as your 4-H Agent. I started in 4-H when I was 9 years old and participated until I graduated high school, I was involved in both livestock projects, family consumer projects, judging contests and leadership activities. I had the privilege to work as a 4-H program assistant for a summer during college and have been so thankful for all I have experienced and learned through 4-H. I went to junior college on a livestock judging scholarship, then transferred to Texas A&M University where I received my degree in Agriculture Leadership Development. For the past 10 years I have been working for a non-profit, developing student leaders and coordinating volunteers. My family is looking forward to getting to know your family as we strive to make the best better in Austin County!

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP!

DECEMBER

24-25th- Office Closed for Christmas
31st- Office Closed for New Years

JANUARY

1st- Office Closed
7th- Council/PLA Meeting
8th- District Food Show Entry Deadline
9th- Train Like a Champ Consumer Decision Making Practice

FEBRUARY

1st- Scholarship Apps Due
6th- District Food Show
15th- Office Closed for Presidents Day
20th- CDM Contest SALE

EVENTS

County Photography Show

The County Photography Show will take place in January. Photos need to be uploaded by Friday, January 29th. The cost is \$10 per person not per photo, you may only enter 1 photo per category. Attached to the newsletter you will find all of the rules and information for both the county, district and state contests. If you have any questions related to descriptions of categories or uploading your photos, please feel free to contact us.

County Food Show/Food Challenge Results

We held the county food show in November and will have 2 Food Challenge teams advancing to District consisting of:
Infernal Marshmallows: Lilly Holt, Briley Helms, Emily Spiess, Hudson Ham
Cooking Thangs: Ryland Brau, Emily Shupak, Andie Eckermann, Kaylin Krebs
Lydia Huebner will be advancing to District in the Food Show. Great job to all of those who competed, we are looking forward to cheering you on at the District Food Show!

District 4-H Food Show/Food Challenge

The District 4-H Food Show/Food Challenge is around the corner. Registration is due on 4-H connect by January 8th. The contest will be on February 6, 2015. It will take place at the Randolph Community Center in La Grange, TX. Please visit the district 11 website for more information or contact the extension office if you have any questions.

Train Like A Champion

The Train Like A Champion event is a Multi-Species Clinic designed for show families who would like to learn more about the exhibition of livestock. Some of the best industry leaders, breeders and specialists will answer questions and help you get your project on the right track. This clinic is completely FREE so whether you are gearing up for majors or thinking about next year's county fair, this clinic is the place to be!

4-H Pledge

I pledge
my HEAD
to clearer thinking,
my HEART
to greater loyalty,
my HANDS
to larger service, and
my HEALTH
to better living,
for my club,
my community,
my country,
and my world

4-H Motto:

To make the best better!

4-H Prayer

Help me, Oh Lord,
to live so that
the world will be
a little better because
Thou didst make me.



Train Like a Champion!



Saturday, January 9, 2016
Blinn College, Brenham
Rankin Ag Complex

9 am - 11 am	Hogs Speaker, Josh Elkins
9 am - 10 am	Poultry Speaker, Dr. Craig Coufal
10 am - 11 am	Rabbits Speaker, Carolyn Wright
11 am - 1 pm	Cattle Speaker, Dr. Jason Cleere, TAMU Extension Beef Cattle Specialist
1 pm - 3 pm	Sheep & Goats Speaker, Dr. Shawn Ramsey, TAMU Extension Sheep and Goat Specialist

Free to any 4-H member
\$10 for non-4-H members

Door Prizes Awarded Throughout the Day

For More Information
Contact your Extension Office:

Austin 979-865-2072 Barleton 979-567-2308
Waxahatchie 979-277-6212 Fayette 979-968-5831



San Bernard Electric Cooperative Youth Tour

San Bernard Electric Cooperative will hold an essay contest for high school students and will award two expense paid trips to Washington, D.C.. The students will only need to bring money for souvenirs, camera film, snacks, etc... Essay contest winners will join other winners from across the state of Texas for an unforgettable and exciting tour of our nation's capitol June 8 through June 17, 2016. For more information please visit: <https://www.sbec.org/content/youth-tour-0>

Consumer Judging Practice and Contest

We are excited to get started with our Consumer Decision Making teams and our first judging opportunity will be at the San Antonio Livestock Show and Exposition on February 20th. If you are interested in being a part of the team or learning more about the Consumer Decision Making, please let us know. We will be setting up some practice dates for January. Just FYL...top senior judge has the chance to win a 10,000 scholarship! Below is a sample of a CDM class, read the scenario and place watches in order that best fits the scenario. Give it a try!

Watches: Karen will be working as a life guard at the local Y.M.C.A. this summer after school is dismissed. As a member of the swim relay team, she trains hard but loves to have fun out with friends. Please help Karen's family choose a watch that is appropriate. (See back for placing and reasons)

#1

Three-handed watch is offset by the feminine style of its stainless steel bracelet



Adjust-O-Matic closure

Suitable for showering or swimming in shallow water

This watch is water-resistant to 50 meters (5 ATM)

11 year limited manufacturer's warranty

#2

A fun watch for on the beach or around the pool

Molded polyurethane strap and case that are lightweight and water-proof

Features Aqua Lock® strap system - a uniquely designed strap with a pinless buckle for comfortable wear.

Water resistant up to 50 meters

Includes a stopwatch, alarm and countdown timer

Sports dual time zones and backlit display

Two Year Warranty



#3

Quartz movement

Stopwatch with Lap Times stores multiple workouts (up to 150 laps)

Alarm function featuring three independent alarms

Aqua-lock uses a uniquely designed strap with a pinless buckle to keep watch securely on wrist

Water-resistant up to 330 feet (100 M)

Speedo 2-year warranty



#4

Long Life Battery

Up to 200 Meter Water Resistant

Quick set calendar

Stainless Steel case

Easy to Read Dials

Blue face

Stainless steel back

Mineral glass crystal

Five year limited warranty

DEL
MAR





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We would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May we use this time to be mindful of others and share in the spirit of giving by seeing to the needs of our families, neighbors and community.

Consumer Judging Continued.....

Placing: 3 - 4 - 2 - 1

#3 is placed over #4 because it meets the water resistant characteristic for swimming. It has the capability of counting laps for training purposes. It also has a stopwatch and can store multiple workouts. Its digital face makes it easier to read. Its sporty look will allow it to be worn with attire other than swimwear. She doesn't need the scuba diver features.

#4 was placed over #2 because it also meets the water resistant characteristic for swimming. Has a five year warranty. Long life battery. Quick set calendar

#2 was placed over #1 because it does have the ability to act as a stopwatch, alarm and countdown timer which would be useful for training purposes. In addition the polyurethane strap and case are light weight and water proof. Unfortunately, it can only be showered in and not used for swimming

#1 was placed last because it was only suitable for showering and swimming in shallow water

REMINDERS

Club Bank Statements

Club Managers, please be sure that all bank statements are addressed to the County Extension Office. A copy of your bank statement will be emailed to you on a monthly basis. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

4-H Opportunity Scholarships

Reminder to any and all 12th grade 4-Hers to apply for the 2016 Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship for your chance to win a \$20,000 scholarship. Details, rules, guidelines, and scholarship criteria can be found by visiting: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/scholarships/>

Make sure to complete your FAFSA as soon as possible to ensure the deadlines are met. The deadline to turn your application into the Austin County Extension Office is Monday, February 1st. We would be happy to help you revise your application given enough lead time. Be on the lookout for 4-H Opportunity Scholarship Trainings.

Also be on the lookout for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Exhibitor Scholarship. Also check with your school counselor to learn more about the county level scholarships offered.

County Council & Parent Leader Association Meeting

You won't want to miss the County Council and Parent Leader Association Meeting January 7th! We will meet at the Fire Station in Bellville at 7PM. Our new 4-H Agent will be on hand to meet you and answer any questions you may have.

Project/Club Visits

If you would like for me or Travis to come and look at your animal, for any reason, please do not hesitate to ask!!! Project visits are a vital part of ensuring 4-H members have all their questions answered and get the support they need to have a successful project! Also, I would love to visit your club meeting, contact me to schedule a visit.

Follow Us:



Austin County 4-H



AUSTINCO4H



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

2015- 2016 AUSTIN COUNTY 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT INFORMATION

Entry Deadline: Friday, January 29, 2016

Awards Program: Location: Bellville Volunteer
Fire Department

Date: Thursday, March 3, 2016

Time: 7:00 p.m.



Note: Austin County 4-H Photography Contest will follow the Texas 4-H Photography Contest (state contest) guidelines. All photos will be submitted and judged electronically. Please do NOT print and mount your photos for the county competition. Photos submitted for county competition will be on display with a slide show on Thursday, March 3, 2016 at the Awards Ceremony in conjunction with the Austin County 4-H Council Meeting.

4-H members advancing to district and state will be responsible for registering via 4-H Connect by the posted deadline. Rules for District and State competition will be distributed at Awards Ceremony.

For 2016 –

**It is the participants' responsibility
to contact the Austin County Agrilife
Extension Service at 979-865-2072
to confirm that the pictures are received.**

2015-2016 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST RULES

PURPOSE

The Texas 4-H Photography Contest encourages self-expression and allows youth to demonstrate skills learned in the area of photography, including the use of photographic equipment and process of photographs.

OBJECTIVES

- To develop life skills in composition, light, story line, posing, and awareness.
- To encourage 4-H members to use photography as a meaningful communication in their lives.
- To provide photography project showcase opportunity for senior 4-H members
- To continue to share the message of 4-H.
- To utilize photographs which can promote and strengthen the 4-H program.

ENTRY FEE

There is no entry fee for county. District competition will be \$10 per participant. Fees will be paid by the member via 4-H connect for district competition. Information regarding district will be distributed at the Awards Ceremony.

SCORE SHEET

The score sheet can be obtained from the Texas 4-H Website (http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/files/2013/12/13-14_Photo_Rules.pdf).

PARTICIPATION:

County participation is open to all Austin County 4-H members, including Clover Kids. District participation is open to all Jr and Intermediate District 11 4-H members. State is open to all senior age 4-H members that have passed their 14th but not their 19th birthday before August 31, 2016.

AWARDS:

All pictures are judged on an individual basis of quality. The Danish system of ribbon awards is a quality award and not a placing award. Blue, Red, and White quality awards will be given to entries based on the score card criteria.

FORMAT AND SUBMISSION OF PHOTOS:

All photos will be submitted electronically. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO PRINT YOUR PHOTO.** Photographs should be taken at the highest resolution possible. Photographs must be in a .jpeg, .jpg, or .gif format. Files submitted may not be larger than 2,048k (2MB). There is no minimum size requirement, however, your photograph must be large enough that it can be clearly evaluated for the Contest (i.e. if it is too small, it can be disqualified).

1. Set up a Shutterfly account if you don't already have one. It's simple & FREE!
 - a. Go to www.shutterfly.com.
 - b. Click on 'sign up' & follow the steps.
2. Once your account is set up, select file(s) to upload. **Rename each file accordingly (Example: senior_people_austin_Doe_John).** Choose where to upload files (new album). Name your album (John's 2012 Photos). Click start and all files will be uploaded to album.

- a. Once your pictures are in one album select view pictures.
 - b. Click on your first picture; on the toolbar above the picture click 'Edit', then 'Edit picture caption'.
 - c. In the description box of each photo please label each photo with age division, category, county, last name, and first name
Example: senior_people_austin_Doe_John.jpg
3. Now you are ready to 'share' your photos.
- a. Be sure all photos in the album are selected (click 'select all' on right of screen).
 - b. Click 'share' at the top, right of your screen.
 - c. Select 'email selected pictures', and then click 'next'.
 - d. In the 'To' box, enter austin-tx@tamu.edu and click send.

FILE LABEL INFORMATION:

Please use the following labels for the categories:

CATEGORY	FILE LABEL NAME
ANIMALS - DOMESTIC	Domestic
ANIMALS - WILDLIFE	Wildlife
CATCH ALL	All
DETAILS & MACROS	Details
DIGITAL DARKROOM	Darkroom
DOMINANT COLOR	Dominant
ELEMENTS OF DESIGN	Elements
FOOD	Food
MARINE/AQUATICS	Marine
NATURE/LANDSCAPE	Nature
NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY	Night
PEOPLE	People
PLANT/FLORA	Plant
STORY BOARD	Story
THEME	Theme

2015-2016 DESCRIPTIONS OF CATEGORIES

ANIMALS - DOMESTIC

Photos focusing on the various animals that have been tamed and made fit for a human environment. To be considered domesticated, the animal must have their behavior, life cycle, or physiology systemically altered as a result of being under human control for many generations.

Examples include: Dog, Sheep, Pig, Goat, Cow, Cat, Chicken, Horse, Camel, Goose, Ducks (domestic use), Hamsters

ANIMALS - WILDLIFE

Category focuses on animals not tamed or domesticated and commonly found in the wild throughout the country and world. Photos can be of wildlife in nature, zoos, and/ or petting zoos.

Examples include: Deer, snakes, insects, rodents, elephants, etc.

CATCH ALL

Category for photos that do not fit into one of the other categories. This includes such photos as still-life, motion-blur, Polaroid transfers, SX-70 images, hand colored photos.

What is NOT Allowed: Do not submit a photo in this category which can clearly be submitted in another photography category. Catch-all is not intended for counties to use to eliminate duplicate photos from multiple 4-H members.

Examples include: Polaroid image & emulsion transfers, still-life, long exposure zoomed images, and painting with light.

DETAILS AND MACRO

Getting in close is the name of the game for this category. We welcome pictures of small details that suggest a larger story. This is also the place for macro photographs (although a macro image of a flower might equally go into the Flowers category).

Examples include: detail of a knot, a lock, or an abstract close-up - anything as long as it is a tight composition of a detail. Macro examples include parts of a flower bloom, insects, stamps, ice crystals, etc

DIGITAL DARKROOM

Images created or drastically altered in software like Adobe Photoshop®. For this category, a 4-H member will submit a minimum of at least two photos that demonstrate the before photo(s) and the altered, or final, digital piece. The multiple photos will illustrate the alterations made to the original photos. All photos should be incorporated into one file for submission.

Examples include: Photoshop® composites and creations, images greatly manipulated with a variety of filters, photos with artistic borders, photos stitched into a panoramic.

DOMINANT COLOR

Photos with a dominant color. The dominant element in the image must be a specific color, such as red, yellow, blue, white, black, white, green, etc. Black & White photos, duotones, are excluded from this category.

Examples include: bowl of lemons, in a yellow bowl, on top of a yellow table covering, with a bright yellow tone sun lighting on it.

ELEMENTS OF DESIGN

Images use of graphic elements of design. Photos that showcase line, shape, pattern, form, texture, perspective, etc. Photo can consist of any subject matter. Category is not for graphic illustrations made in commercial programs (i.e. Adobe Illustrator®) nor for extreme digital creations.

Examples include: Perspective, line, pattern.

FOOD

Category is a still life specialization of photography, aimed at producing attractive photographs of food for use in such items of advertisements, packaging, menus and/or cookbooks.

Examples include: Thanksgiving dinner, cakes/pies, fruits and place settings, Easter eggs, sandwiches, ingredients, etc.

MARINE/AQUATIC

Photos of any LIVING ORGANISM in bodies of either fresh or ocean (salt) water.

Examples include: Fish, stingrays, whales, starfish, divers under water, etc

NATURE & LANDSCAPE

The focus of this category includes landscapes, outdoor scenics, nature images, sunsets, urban landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, and farms. Images focus on the beauty of the outdoors.

Examples include: Landscape, scenic, outdoors.

NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

Photos taken outdoors after-dusk and before dawn. Generally these photos are achieved by using artificial light or using a long exposure. This category can include any subject as long as the focus is on the skill and technique used to acquire the photograph.

Examples include: fireworks, lighting on buildings/structures, animals, plant/flora, people, etc

PEOPLE

Photos focus from all walks of life, parenting and family, children, babies, models/fashion, sports, and couples. Model and Property Releases: Any 4-H member submitting a photograph acknowledges that they have sufficient permission of any recognizable locations or people appearing in their photograph(s). This permission is hereby granted to both the photographer and the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program to publish and use as needed.

Documentation should be retained by the 4-H member and will be requested by the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program if needed.

Examples include: Kids & Family, Models/Fashion, Sports.

PLANT/FLORA

Photos of interesting, unique, and beautiful flowers and flora. Photography can occur outdoors or indoors. Photo subject should be that of a single flower, plant, bush, tree, etc. Large collections of plant/flora should be considered for entry into the Nature & Landscape category.

Examples include: A rose, an upward shot of a tree, a flower bouquet, etc

STORYBOARD

A storyboard is one digital entry (one photo) that contains three smaller images and minimal text that tells a story. The story should be easily understood by the viewer. This entry is one single file.

Examples include: Three images depicting the blooming of a rose bud at different stages, with the title of "Beginning of Beauty"

THEME

Theme photo focuses on a subject announced and outlined in the contest rules and guidelines. For 2015-2016 the theme is "4-H, Ribbons, Awards and Recognition". This year the theme will focus still life arrangements of 4-H awards, ribbons, recognition. The arrangement and positioning of items will be strongly evaluated as well as the quality of the photo. Photo should create emotion and have impact! What is NOT Allowed Livestock show auction, winning photos. School, sports, church, or any outside of 4-H awards. The theme is to highlight 4-H awards.

Examples Include: A senior 4-H members awards, ribbons, belt buckles, and/or plaques arranged so it creates a strong story of success or the impact of 4-H.

Judging Criteria (chart can be obtained from Texas 4-H site)

Each photograph will be judged against the following set of judging criteria, and not against photographs of your peers. Based on total points awarded for each photograph, the participant will be awarded either a blue, red, white, or a participation ribbon. The elements for judging the photographs will be:

IMPACT (Max Points: 15) Impact is the sense one gets upon viewing an image for the first time. Compelling images evoke laughter, sadness, anger, pride, wonder or another intense emotion. There can be impact in any of these twelve elements.

CREATIVITY (Max Points: 15) Creativity is the original, fresh, and external expression of the imagination of the maker by using the medium to convey an idea, message or thought.

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE (Max Points: 25) Technical excellence is the print quality of the image itself as it is presented for viewing. Retouching, manipulation, sharpness, exposure, printing, mounting, and correct color are some items that speak to the qualities of the physical print.

COMPOSITION (Max Points: 20) Composition is important to the design of an image, bringing all of the visual elements together in concert to express the purpose of the image. Proper composition holds the viewer in the image and prompts the viewer to look where the creator intends. Effective composition can be pleasing or disturbing, depending on the intent of the image maker.

SUBJECT MATTER (Max Points: 15) Subject Matter should always be appropriate to the story being told in an image.

STORY TELLING (Max Points: 10) Story Telling refers to the image's ability to evoke imagination. One beautiful thing about art is that each viewer might collect his own message or read her own story in an image.

(Score card can be obtained from Texas 4-H site)