



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

# MONROE COUNTY 4-H CLOVERLINK

THE NEWSLETTER FOR 4-H FAMILIES & FRIENDS

Monroe County Extension Office, 206 South K St, Sparta, WI 54656  
Phone: (608) 269-8722  
Website: <https://monroe.extension.wisc.edu>

## FEBRUARY 2024

### PLANNING AHEAD

#### Happy New Year, Monroe County 4-H Families,

Don't worry, we didn't forget to send you the January 4-H Cloverlink, but we did forget to add December AND January in the header of our last newsletter. Due to the holidays, we always combine the two months. Therefore, this is the first Cloverlink of 2024, and I hope you are all having a wonderful start to the new year!

If you are getting cabin fever like me, and the cold temperatures have you daydreaming about the warmer days to come, it's great time to get out the calendar and start planning ahead!

I would like to spotlight a 4-H summer event for your children, and possibly you to consider attending!

#### 4-H Summer Camp at Upham Woods, Wisconsin Dells, Wednesday, July 31st- Friday, August 2nd.

Youth and adults are invited to Summer Camp as camp participants (grades 3-8), youth counselors (9th grade to age 20), and adult chaperones (ages 21+). There will also be campers from La Crosse, Vernon, Richland, and Crawford Counties in addition to Monroe.

If you enjoy nature, hiking, crafts, archery, water recreation, making new friends, and of course campfire activities, please consider joining us for Upham Woods Summer Camp in 2024!

We especially need adult chaperones, and the cost will be covered! Parent chaperone support is key in helping us create quality programming and provide campers with a better overall camp experience.

Youth counselors are also key and free to join! They get to decide the camp theme, design daily activities, and help create meaningful memories for the campers. This is a great

resume and reference builder for future jobs, and could potentially lead to a full-time camp counselor position at Upham Woods!

If you are at all interested in becoming an adult chaperone or a youth counselor, please fill in the online interest form: <https://forms.gle/jsuM9WJVqR9Y7UsJ9>

The estimated cost for camp participants (grades 3-8) is estimated to be around \$200/youth with transportation, or less if families provide transportation. I am also hoping to organize fundraising to try to help reduce this cost. Sign-up will be available this spring.

Summer Camp is only one of many 4-H experiences. It is one of my goals to offer every member of 4-H the opportunity to fully experience all the benefits of our program. This includes the possibility of participating in state and national 4-H events, which are listed on page 5 along with a link to statewide scholarship opportunities.

These events have proven to be transformative in positive youth development. Unfortunately, attending these outstanding opportunities comes with a cost that can be a barrier for many families in our county.

It is another goal of mine to create a committee to raise funds for county scholarships to help reduce these financial barriers. If you happen to be interested in supporting this cause through committee involvement, please reach out to the Extension Office.

Keep 4-H Growing Strong,

*Jason Hornickel*  
4-H Program Educator



#### CONTENTS

- Pg 1 Planning Ahead
- Pg 2 Calendar of Events / District Responsibilities / Scholarships
- Pg 3 Photography Project / Shooting Sports / Spring Project Day / Fur, Fin & Feather
- Pg 4 Jr. Leader's Overnight / Clover College / Upham Woods Summer Camp / 2024 Fair Dates / Summer Intern
- Pg 5 4-H Opportunities
- Pg 6 Cloverbud Corner
- Pg 7-10 Festival of Arts

#### FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- Monthly 4-H Newsletter information is due on the **20<sup>th</sup>**.
- Please keep your mailing and email addresses current in 4-H Online.
- If you plan to un-enroll from 4-H, please contact the office so we can remove you from the system.



If your club or group has events you would like on this calendar, please email information to [Jason.hornickel@wisc.edu](mailto:Jason.hornickel@wisc.edu)

# Calendar of Events

## FEBRUARY

Wed., Feb. 14, 2024  
**Valentine's Day**



Fri., Feb. 23, 2024  
**Jr. Leaders Overnight, 5 p.m.**  
**WHERE:** Sparrow's Nest at the Abbey

Sat., Feb. 24, 2024  
**Beef Weigh-In, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.**  
**WHERE:** Sparta Equity

Sat., Feb. 24, 2024  
**Clover College, 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**  
**WHERE:** Sparrow's Nest at the Abbey

## MARCH

Fri., March 1, 2024  
**Beef ID Deadline, by 4:30 p.m.**  
**WHERE:** Online at <https://forms.gle/itStrMZiznEpoXwr7>

Sat., March 2, 2024  
**Festival of Arts, 9 a.m - Noon**  
**WHERE:** Meadowview Middle School, Sparta



## 2023 - 2024 District Responsibilities

**Northwest:** Denim N' Dust; Dragonflies, Way Finders  
**Clean Food Stand Before Tractor Pull**

**Southwest:** Jolly Joiners; Leon Livewires, Sparta Sprockets  
**Clean Food Stand After Tractor Pull**

**Northeast:** Clovers & Cranberries; La Grange Tunnel-Lites; Valle Ville  
**Clean Exhibit Hall Before County Fair**

**Southeast:** Hill-N-Valley; Norwalk Clovers; Stepping Stones  
**Family Celebration**  
**Clean Food Stand After County Fair**

# Scholarship Opportunities



### > **Western Wisconsin Beef Producers Scholarship -**

Applications are due April 1, 2024. The \$300 scholarship is available to any graduating high school senior attending or planning to attend a College, Vocational School, Technical School, Agriculture Short Course, or any other institution of higher learning. For an application, go to: [https://monroe.extension.wisc.edu/files/2023/02/WWBP-Scholarship-Form\\_2023.pdf](https://monroe.extension.wisc.edu/files/2023/02/WWBP-Scholarship-Form_2023.pdf)

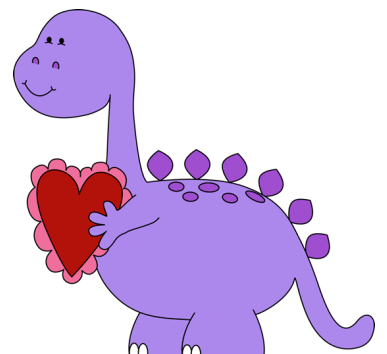
### > **Monroe County Farm Progress Days -**

Applications are due April 1, 2024. The \$250 scholarship is available to a high school senior living in Monroe County or have lived in Monroe County at the time of graduation from high school. Must be enrolled in a post high school agricultural short course or vocational-technical college program that will not result in a baccalaureate degree. Must be under 23 years of age as of January 1st of the application year. For an application, go to: <https://monroe.extension.wisc.edu/files/2022/02/2022-monroe-county-farm-progress-days-scholarship-application.pdf>

> **WI Towns Association -** Applications are due May 24, 2024. The \$1,000 scholarship is available to students who are graduating from a Wisconsin public or private high school and will be attending a Wisconsin public or private college or university in the fall of that year. Proof of enrollment in college is required. Details and application are found at: <https://www.wisctowns.com/resources/scholarship/>

> **Monroe County Agricultural Society -** Applications are due on or before March 15, 2024. To be eligible, applicants must have participated in 4-H, FFA or any approved youth group. Details and application can be found at: <https://www.monroecountyfairwi.com/information/scholarships/>

Happy Valentine's Day!



## Project News & Information



### Photography Project

The photography sessions at the Project Days have been so well attended that Elizabeth Carpenter wants to officially start a photography project group! The tentative plan is to meet once a month at the Norwalk Library and practice photography. Each month will have a different topic, for instance, flat lay, documentary photos, flowers, pets, Couples, patterns, shapes, textures, etc.

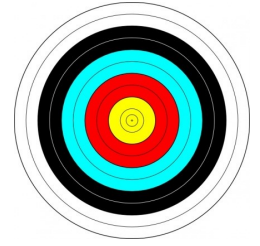
If you are interested, send an email to [elizabethcarpenterphotography@outlook.com](mailto:elizabethcarpenterphotography@outlook.com) and watch for an email from Elizabeth with the details.



### Spring Project Day

Mark your calendar for our next project day on Thursday, March 28th. Times and locations are still being determined. If you have an idea for a project and want to lead it, please call the office at 269-8722. We KNOW we have a lot of talented people in our community. Come share it with us!

### Shooting Sports—Archery & Air Rifle



An archery and air rifle program is scheduled for sessions to begin at the end of February. It will kick-off with a safety meeting that all participants must attend on Monday, Feb. 12th, 6 p.m. at the Monroe County Fairgrounds Gold Building.

We will also need at least four parent supervisors per session, or the sessions may be canceled. You will not be training the youth, just helping to oversee participants so instructors can be focused on the shooting lines. If you are an adult and plan to be at the sessions with your child, please sign up to supervise: <https://forms.gle/g98TvpYvRrZKMf7o7>

Letters and emails have been sent to youth who signed up for Archery, Air Rifle and/or Shooting Sports. To register for the air rifle or archery program, please complete one form per participant: <https://forms.gle/u9NsyJKMewmq2DCH7>



This small animal show will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at the Sparta Barney Community Center and is open to all youth in grades 3-13. There are some classes available for K-2nd. The show gives our youth the opportunity to show their rabbits, poultry, cats and small pets with face-to-face judging. They receive pointers and learn hands-on about their animal and how to improve when showing at the fair. In addition to the animals, there will also be a poster and an animal photography show. Join us for educational sessions, a poster exhibition, and raffle. Lunch will be available for purchase.



Entry forms for the show and show bill can be found at: <https://monroe.extension.wisc.edu/files/2024/01/2024-Fur-Fin-Feather-Show-Bill.pdf>

Deadline to register for the show is Wednesday, April 24th, 2024.

## Project News & Information

### Clover College

Clover College will be on Saturday, February 24th, 2024 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at The Sparrow's Nest. Youth in Grades 1-3 are invited to come join in the fun! There will be crafts, science lessons and a snack provided.

You can register by going to:

<https://forms.gle/erHQVnwY7VJEXfB2A>

Fee is only \$15 per child, maximum of \$30 per family. Make check payable to: Monroe Co. 4-H Jr. Leaders and mail to the Extension office.

Deadline to register is February 16th.



### Jr. Leaders Overnight

The Jr. Leaders (grades 6th-12th) overnight will be Friday, February 23, 2024 at The Sparrow's Nest at the Abbey, 17304 Havenwood Rd, Sparta, starting at 5 p.m., or whenever you get there! We'll have some fun and be finalizing plans for the youth who attend Clover College the next day. Please RSVP to the office at 785-9593.

### Summer Intern Position



The Extension Office is looking for an Assistant for Summer 2024. This position works with the 4-H Educator and will help create, lead and evaluate programs for 4-H youth. Scheduling is flexible and would be for up to 10, 40-hour weeks through the summer. Please contact the office at 608-269-8722 if interested.

### Summer Camp at Upham Woods



Summer camp at Upham Woods in Wisconsin Dells is scheduled for July 31 - August 2. Watch the upcoming newsletters for registration information.

### Beef Weigh-In

The beef weigh-in date will be on Saturday, February 24th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Equity Livestock, 6089 WI-16, Sparta. This counts as your Pre-ID and you do not need to submit an online form if you attend the weigh in with your animal. ID forms are submitted for you if you participate in the weigh-in. Beef not identified at the weigh-in will need to be identified by using the online form <https://forms.gle/itStrMZznEpoxwr7> by March 1, 2024, by 4:30 p.m.



### 2024 Fair Dates

Wednesday, July 24 – Sunday, July 28



# State and National 4-H Program News & Information

## Statewide Scholarship Opportunities

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/statewide-scholarships/>

Scholarship funds are available to any youth who is attending one of our Statewide Educational Experiences. Examples of these experiences are:

- American Spirit- Apply by March 1st, 2024
- Animal Science Programming (AASD, Quiz Bowl, Skillathon, Judging Contests)
- Arts Camp or ArtBEAT! – Apply by March 1st, 2024
- Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF)- Apply by February 16th, 2024
- Fall Forum
- National 4-H Congress
- National 4-H Conference- Apply by February 9th, 2024
- Space Camp- Apply by February 23rd, 2024
- State Arts Team (Drama Company or Arts)
- Summer Academy
- Other Programs



## Statewide and National 4-H Program Calendar of Events at a Glance:

Events without updated 2024 dates are not listed, please visit website for further information and details.

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/>

### February

- **Meat Judging Contest:** Grades 3-13. This contest tests the knowledge of youth in the placement of carcass and retail cut classes, carcass grading, and retail cut identification. February 3rd. UW-Madison. Cost \$14

### March

- **Dairy Quiz Bowl:** Grades 3-13. The Dairy Bowl is a "quiz bowl" competition where all questions deal with dairy topics. March 2nd. Green Bay. No Cost.
- **Art Beat:** Grades 3-5. Introduction to Communication Arts including music, drama, visual arts and more. March 15th-17th. Wisconsin Dells. Cost \$110

### April

- **Space Camp:** Grades 6-8. Space Camp is just what you think it is – it's a camp experience where you learn and experience a ton of different aspects about life as an astronaut, working at NASA, and exploring places beyond Earth! April 18th-22nd. Huntsville, AL. Cost \$900
- **National 4-H Conference:** Grades 10-12. Premier youth development opportunity to engage youth in developing recommendations for the 4-H Youth Development Program. April 19th-24th. Washington D.C. Cost \$2,000

### June

- **American Spirit:** Grades 8-10. Experience history & heritage by immersing in a 10-day bus journey to the East Coast and Canada. June & July Dates. Cost \$1,900
- **Citizen Washington Focus:** Grades 10-12. Premier week long 4-H citizenship and leadership experience. June 15th-22nd. Washington D.C. Cost \$2,500
- **Summer Academy:** Grades 8-11. This new Positive Youth Development program will help you discover pathways to your future career. June 24th-27th. UW-Madison. Cost \$450 includes statewide transportation.

### November

- **Art Camp:** Grades 6-8. Explore all types of art including theater, music, dance, and photography. November 16th-17th. Wisconsin Dells. Cost \$110
- **Fall Forum:** Grades 7th-13th. 4-H youth and adult leaders come together to connect, collaborate, celebrate, and continue building excitement and energy for a new year of 4-H learning. November 2nd-3rd. Green Lake. Cost \$85 plus lodging.

### January-2025

- **Advanced Space Camp:** Grades 10-12. Start your engine and begin the countdown! We are preparing for an incredible journey into the world of Space, STEM, and Robotics. End of January Dates TBD. Huntsville, AL. Cost \$2,000

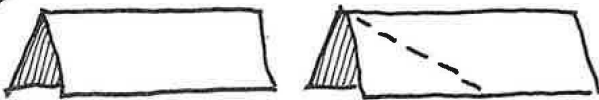
# Paper Power!

## You need:

sturdy or stiff paper - 8 1/2" x 11"  
crayons or markers  
tape

## You do:

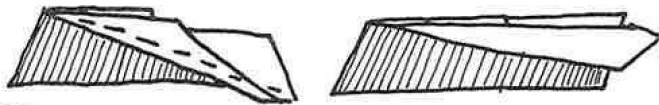
1. Fold the paper lengthwise.



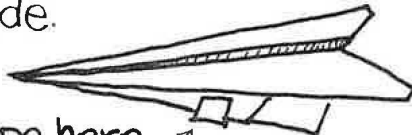
2. Fold corner up along dotted line then fold up again along second dotted line.



3. One more fold up and this side is finished!



4. Turn the paper over and repeat folds on opposite side.



5. Tape here and decorate with markers or crayons.

## Flight Time

Measure off a landing strip, marking distances with masking tape. Each pilot makes five flights, recording the distance of each flight.

## Flight Record

1.	_____
2.	_____
3.	_____
4.	_____
5.	_____

Which was the longest flight? \_\_\_\_\_

The shortest? \_\_\_\_\_

What made the difference? \_\_\_\_\_

Who's the long-distance pilot in your group?  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Monroe County 4-H Festival of Arts

March 2, 2024

Meadowview Middle School

PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US TO SHOWCASE YOUR TALENTS AND SKILLS

PURPOSE of the 4-H Festival of Arts is to provide the opportunity:

- For 4-H members and Cloverbuds to share their skills and talents with others.
- For 4-H members and Cloverbuds to further develop their skills in communicating through the arts with constructive feedback on their efforts.
- To share with the public the Arts and Communication Projects of the Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development program.
- To discover additional arts ideas from others in the area.
- To observe and support others as they perform or display their talents.

Area of entry include:

## • COMMUNICATION ARTS

- Memorized Selection
- Story Telling
- Play Reading
- Original Speech
- Prose Reading
- Poetry Reading

## • ARTS AND CRAFTS, PHOTOGRAPHY, MARKETING

- Registrations should be sent directly to Club Leader

## • DEMONSTRATION, ILLUSTRATED TALK, ACTION CENTER

- Individual
- Team

## • MUSIC

- Solo
- Duet
- Group

## • DRAMA

- Group Drama
- Group Play Reading
- Mini-Drama

Register for the Festival of Arts, using this link:

<https://forms.gle/J94cUpHo9og8BuGf8>



## GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL AREAS

1. Participants will introduce themselves to the judges before performing. Include your name, age or grade, name of 4-H club, title of performance. You may include an interesting fact, or something unique about your performance.
2. Throughout the program, participants and others will not leave or enter the auditorium while a group or individual is performing.
3. Please respect the time guidelines in each category.
4. Please respect the scheduled performance times. Groups are expected to perform at scheduled times.
5. All festival participants must be enrolled 4-H members.
6. All participants will be awarded a ribbon.
7. Merit winners will receive a merit ribbon. Merit awards will be based on quality of the performance/exhibit and age of participant. Only those who follow the guidelines will be eligible for merit awards.
8. When selecting material for presentations, please keep in mind that 4-H is a family organization. Presentations should be appropriate for audiences of all ages.
9. Performances will take place on the stage. Performers will use a microphone. The following will be available for use: piano, music stand, chair(s), sound system, demonstration table with mirror.

## COMMUNICATION ARTS



Description - The following categories must have 1 or 2 readers.

**Memorized Selection:** Prose, poetry or any other piece; must be memorized. No notes allowed.

**Prose-reading:** include stories, narratives, anything not written as a poem; should be presented as a reading. No props.

**Poetry-reading:** may be original poem or a selection written by someone else, either in verse form or open-ended; should be presented as a reading. No props.

**Original Speeches:** A speech written by the speaker on any subject, preferably one pertaining to his/her 4-H project work. Notes permitted.

**Storytelling:** Original or from a book, told as if to younger children. No poetry allowed. Presented without using a book or notes; costumes or props are encouraged, and facial expression and gestures are allowed.

**Play Reading:** 1 or 2 readers are to make their selection "come alive" without the use of costumes and props. Hand movements and facial expressions acceptable; movement around stage unacceptable. A play reading should be presented as a reading.

Time Guidelines - Maximum time for above categories: 5 minutes.

## DEMONSTRATIONS, ILLUSTRATED TALKS



Description - May be individual or in teams.

**Demonstrations and Illustrated Talks:** either teach someone how or show and tell how to do something.

- Consists of 4 parts - a) introduction, b) body, c) conclusion, and d) questions from audience.

- Visuals such as maps, charts, posters, graphs, pictures, slides or models can be used to explain what you're saying.

**Action Center (informal):** a show and tell with an emphasis on showing.

- Presenter(s) carry on conversation with passersby (no seated audience)
- People watching take part by - a) watching and listening, b) talking with demonstrator, c) trying things with senses, d) judging things, e) asking questions
- Handouts may be used (instructions, directions, recipes)
- Posters or pictures can be used to show key steps or to show a close-up view.

Time Guidelines: 15 minute maximum for demonstrations; b) 15-30 minutes for action center.

## MUSIC: SOLO, DUET and GROUP

Description

- Define Group - 3 or more members.
- Categories include instrumental, vocal, dance or novelty (e.g. variety, lip sync).
- Lip sync will be judged separately from dance, vocal, etc.
- If media accompaniments are used, only instrumental accompaniment media are permitted. Vocal media will be allowed for lip sync or dance numbers only.
- No open flames, hay, straw, cornstalks, shavings or sawdust may be used.
- No directing is permitted from the audience or in front of the stage.

Time Guidelines - The maximum performance time limit is 12 minutes. Clock starts at beginning of performance. No minimum time limit.



## GROUP DRAMA

Description - Groups must consist of three or more members.

- One Act Play, commercial or original drama.
- No open flames, hay, straw, cornstalks, shavings or sawdust may be used.
- No directing is permitted from the audience or in front of the stage.



Time Guidelines - The maximum performance time limit is 30 minutes: opening curtain to final curtain. No minimum time limits.

## GROUP MINI-DRAMA

Description - Groups must consist of three or more members.

- Produced with minimal props (no special lighting, hay, straw, candles or open flames) and costumes, they may be performed in a classroom. Examples include skits, puppetry, or creative dramatics.

Time Guidelines - A maximum time limit of 15 minutes, including set-up and take down.

## GROUP PLAY READING

Description - Groups must consist of three or more members.

- Readers are to make their selection “come alive” without the use of costumes and props.
- Hand movements and facial expressions are acceptable. Movement around the performance area is not acceptable.
- Presented without a microphone or artificial devices.
- Scripts are to be used.

Time Guidelines - Maximum time limit of 12 minutes.

## ARTS & CRAFTS



Description - Youth may bring a maximum of 4 items to display and discuss.

- Entry Labeling - All Art & Craft items must have a 3” x 5” index card listing: name, club, grade, date completed, and title. Attach cards securely on the front of the exhibit in such a way that it is easily read and minimizes distracting from or covering the appearance of the article.
- Please call Club Leader to reserve space for exhibits. Club Leaders are responsible to reserve space for the entire club.
- Any article that has been made after April 1 of the previous year will be accepted.
- All articles will be judged by face-to-face judging. Items will be released after the awards program. Exhibitors are responsible for the removal of their exhibits.
- Evaluation - Articles will be evaluated on quality of exhibit, age of participant and answers to interview questions. Evaluation criteria include: 1) originality / creativity, 2) neatness, 3) artistic merit, and 4) appropriate finishing.

If a youth is unable to make it to the Festival of Arts they will be required to write a statement answering the 5 or 6 questions listed in the Face to Face Judging Guidelines and attach it to the exhibit.

## MARKETING



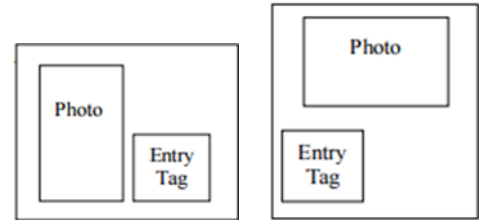
- **Entry Labeling** - All Marketing items must have a 3" x 5" index card listing: name, club, grade, date completed, and title. Also, describe how the marketing item is used. Writing must be legible or deduction to placing may occur. Attach cards securely on the front of the exhibit in such a way that it is easily read and minimizes distracting from or covering the appearance of the article.
- **Description** - All items submitted will be displayed together. Any item is acceptable that can be used for promotion of 4-H. All entries must have at least one green clover with the four H's. Examples would include posters, placemats, tabletop design, sweatshirts, etc. that promote 4-H visually.

If a youth is unable to make it to the Festival of Arts they will be required to write a statement answering the 5 or 6 questions listed in the Face to Face Judging Guidelines and attach it to the exhibit.

## PHOTOGRAPHY



- **Entry Labeling** - All photographs must have a 3" x 5" index card listing: name, club, grade, category, and title of photo. Writing must be legible or deduction to placing may occur. Attach cards securely on the front of the exhibit in such a way that it is easily read and minimizes distracting from or covering the photo.
- **Description** - All photos must be 4 x 6 or 5 x 7 only.
- All photos must be mounted on an 8 x 9 or a 9 x 8 tag board ONLY. Vertical photos will be mounted on the left side, leaving room for the entry tag, and horizontal photos will be mounted on the top. See diagram.
- Photos may be color or black & white, standard or digital, and any appropriate subject.
- Categories include: Animals, People, Still Life, Scenes, Flowers & Plants
- Quotas / Entry Requirements - Limit of two (2) photos per category per exhibitor, with a limit of eight (8) total entries.
- All photos will be judged face-to-face. Items will be released after the awards program. Exhibitors are responsible for the removal of their exhibits.



## CLUB DISPLAY

Description - Each club display table will be judged as a unit by the judges. 1st through 3rd place will be awarded. Leaders should contact the office to give the number of tables needed.

- **Appearance:** pleasing to the eye; neat; well-placed items; items are seen easily and with the name cards uniform and with the proper information. A properly fitting table cloth that adds to the appearance. An easel or peg board is very useful to display drawings and other crafts that need to be hung up for viewing. Distracting packaging or items should be out of sight.
- **Arrangements:** a good variety of art and craft items. Originality or other characteristics that make the items worthy of recognition. It is not always the number of items but how they are arranged for the people viewing to give a nice appearance.
- **Theme:** 4-H colors and the club's name is evident.

