

# Surry County 4-H Newsletter

December 2023



## Quote of the Month

“Maybe Christmas,” he thought, “*doesn’t* come from a store. Maybe Christmas ... perhaps ... means a little bit more!”

—*Dr. Seuss*



## Holiday Food Show

Our 4-H Holiday Food Show was held on Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. We had 7 youth participants. They each decorated their table with a holiday theme of their choice. They brought a prepared dish to share with the judge that went along with their holiday theme. The youth were scored on their creativity and attractiveness of their table, the appearance of their dish, the taste of their dish, and their presentation to the judge. Our Cloverbud participants were Caroline George with her chocolate chip cookies, and Damon Glidewell with his cupcakes which looked like turkeys. In the Junior division, we had a three-way tie in points earned. Sharing first place were Elijah George with his carrot cake, Lillian Garcia with her sweet potato casserole, and Alyna Rutt with her Christmas ham & cheese roll-ups. In the Senior division, Lizzie Gann was awarded first place for her chocolate peanut butter fudge, and Christy Shelton was awarded second place for her Scandinavian cookies. Our Judges Choice winner was Damon Glidewell, who received a basket of cooking of items to continue his baking. We were so thankful to have our Foods & Consumer Science Agent, Camen Long, judge this event. We are so proud of all the participants, and we encourage you to continue your cooking and baking!

## 4-H Club News



**Beulah Club-** The Beulah 4-H Club held a Parent/Grandparent dinner on November 28<sup>th</sup> at the Beulah Community Building. Five members prepared baked spaghetti, garlic bread, and tossed salad. Each member or family also brought or made a dessert. Leaders helped members decorate and clean up. Each 4-H'er had a part in the program. Four parents and four grandparents attended. We are planning Christmas caroling, snacks, a bonfire, and a gift exchange for our December 9th meeting.

**Pilot Club-** In November, we had Carmen Long out to teach our group a beginner lesson in sewing. The kids cut and sewed Christmas ornaments. December is a busy month. We are doing our Santa picture fundraiser at the Mistletoe Market on Saturday, the 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 10 to 2. That evening we will be riding in the Pilot Mountain Christmas Parade. Our meeting in December will be our annual Christmas cards for the elderly, cookies & hot cocoa plus caroling on Main Street in Pilot.

**4-Hooves Club-** In November, Sandy Siegrist came and taught the anatomy of a horse to our 4-H kids, and she even brought a real horse skeleton. Our 4-H family collected 57 cans of food for our November service project for our local food bank. In December, Josh Anderson, our farrier, will be coming out to demonstrate hot shoeing on a horse and will be teaching the kids about overall hoof care for horses. We are also collecting unwrapped toys to donate to Surry County's Give a Kid a Christmas program.

**County Council-** We had several of our members who were involved in other activities on the evening of our November meeting. We discussed the success of our fall fundraisers and upcoming opportunities that the youth can get involved in. Our next meeting will be on Monday, December 18th from 5:30-7:00 pm at the Extension office. We will be having our Christmas party and setting some goals for the 4-H program in 2024. Any interested youth ages 13-18 are welcome to join us!

**Dog Club-** Our November Dog Club meeting faced a lot of challenges, including pouring rain and a power outage at the original meeting location. Instead of our planned activity, the kids who braved the weather were able to interact with rescue dogs from Mayberry4Paws, who benefited tremendously from meeting new people. The children loved the hands-on opportunities and feeding them. Hopefully, our December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting will be less challenging! We'll get started on learning about dog breed basics and having a discussion of what the children already know and hope to learn. Some hands-on activities with a well-behaved rescue dog will be included.

**Homeschool Club-** Our homeschool clubs met twice during the month of November. Our focus skill was cooking. At our first meeting we learned about proper handwashing, tying back hair when cooking, cooking tools and their uses, and learned to measure solids and liquids properly. They put these skills to use at our second meeting, where they baked cookies and made cards for the Sheriff's Department. The employees at the Sheriff's Department were excited about their token of appreciation! We will be meeting next on December 7th, and we will focus on hand sewing skills. We will be sewing Christmas ornaments. Participants will get to cut out a pattern, hand stitch the sides, stuff it with fiberfill, and decorate it with embellishments. For our December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting, we will be doing a service project. If you have questions or are interested in your child participating in this club, please contact Amanda Gann at (336)401-8025 or [agann@ncsu.edu](mailto:agann@ncsu.edu).

**Dobson & Elkin Clubs-** We would love to see our 4-H clubs expand to all parts of our county! We are currently looking for meeting locations in the Dobson area and the Elkin area. If you have a facility that you would be willing for our 4-H'ers to use for their monthly meeting location, please reach out to us. We also need at least 2 adult volunteers to serve as the leaders for these clubs. If you enjoy working with youth, have a couple of hours per month to volunteer, and have a passion for educating and sharing your talents, we would love to hear from you! Please contact Amanda Gann at (336)401-8025 or [agann@ncsu.edu](mailto:agann@ncsu.edu) for more information.

### **Enroll in 4-H Online 2.0 for 2022**

Please enroll your child in our program by creating a 4-H Online account for them. Access 4-H Online through this link: <https://v2.4honline.com/>. Everyone should enroll in 4-H before attending a 4-H program or club meeting. If you have problems enrolling or re-enrolling your child, please contact Amanda at (336)401-8025 or [agann@ncsu.edu](mailto:agann@ncsu.edu).



### **Christmas Creativity**

It is the perfect time of year to involve your children and teens in holiday preparations! Decorating a gingerbread house helps children practice their fine motor skills while



expressing their creativity. Invite your kids into the kitchen as you prepare the holiday meals, and let them practice reading a recipe, measuring, following directions, cutting and peeling, and learning about kitchen safety. Allow children to help with wrapping gifts for others. While it may not look the best on the first try, they are practicing their fine motor skills and enjoy bringing joy to others! It's also

a great time to involve them in a community service project. They can donate food items to a food pantry or blessing box, ring the bell for the kettle campaign, help

prepare a meal for the homeless, shop for a senior who is in a nursing facility, or give out hot cocoa and cookies to those who work outdoors in the cold. This is a great time of year to help kids look for the needs of others and how they can meet them, rather than just thinking about the gifts they wish for!

## Upcoming Events

December 4th	Wreath & Garland Pickups 1:00-5:00 pm
December 7th	Homeschool Club Meeting 2:00-4:00 pm
December 12th	Beulah, Pilot & Horse Clubs meeting 6:00-7:30 pm
December 18th	County Council meeting 5:30-7:00 pm
December 19th	Dog Club Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm
December 21st	Homeschool Club Service Project 2:00-4:00 pm
December 25 <sup>th</sup> -27	Surry County Extension Office Holidays



For more information about Surry County 4-H or to sign up for programs, please contact Amanda Gann, our 4-H Agent at [agann@ncsu.edu](mailto:agann@ncsu.edu) for the quickest response. Our office can also be reached by phone at (336)401-8025 and Amanda will get back to you as soon as possible. Our office hours are 8:15 AM-5:00 PM Monday through Friday, and our address is 915 E. Atkins Street, Suite 300, Dobson, NC 27017

.NC State University and N.C. A&T State University commit themselves to positive action to secure equal opportunity regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, political beliefs, family and marital status, sex, age, veteran status, sexual identity, genetic information or disability. NC State, N.C. A&T, U.S. The Department of Agriculture, and local governments are cooperating.

Special accommodations will be made for the physically disabled, vision, or hearing impaired person upon request. If special accommodations are required, please call Amanda Gann at (336) 401-8025, 3 weeks prior to the event or activity. This event or activity is operating under the 4-H Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedure. You can obtain a copy from your 4-H Agent. This 4-H Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedure is a condition of participation in any North Carolina 4-H activities or programs.