



4-H Newsletter

Volume X Issue 6

June 2005

4-H Rockin' Turtle Beach Bash



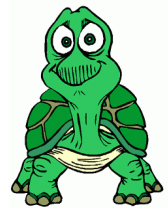
Litter Clean Up



Smiling Turtle Instructors



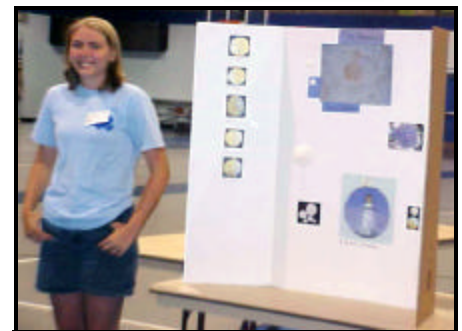
Shannon Gilmore & Melissa Kovacs



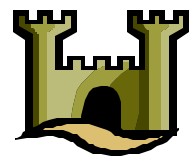
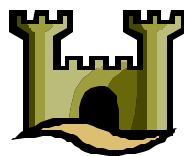
Sand Castle Contest with Alanna McLaughlin and Melissa Kovacs



Esther McGuire Instructs



Alanna McLaughlin Presenting





Florida Scrub Gang

On December 13 we took a ride on Captain Tom's Jug Creek Cruise Boat and enjoyed the later part of the day watching dolphins up close as they surfed upon the pontoon's wave. It was breathtaking and awesome! Afterwards we beached the boat on a quaint sandy beach and explored the hurricane-toiled island. It was too cold to swim, but a few of us got wet anyway (then froze on the way home). We got some great pictures and collected even greater memories.

By the skin of our teeth the Florida Scrub Gang chose probably the last cold night of the season to go camping. It was so much fun, though! We pitched tents around our campground at the Methodist Camp of Fort Myers. That place is wonderful! By day we kayaked and played, by night we sang (or tried to) around the campfire. I feel sorry for all the other campers...I think we may have kept them up all night with our howling. The marshmallows were toasty, the stars were bright and the moon was full. It was definitely the perfect night for fellowship. Of course, the joy may have faded some by the next day when we were cold, cranky and sore... but it was a lot of fun anyway.

Fair time came and went. Our gang was busy working on our Tiki Hut display. We listened to bagpipe CDs as we clipped palmetto branches, hammered, cut, painted, and prepped for the big display. It turned out wonderful in the end, and we were all very proud of our

work, winning second place on our booth. It was great to boast about it, and, as always, we took lots of pictures. When all the judging was over and we celebrated our ribbons and awards, it was time to ride the rides at the Fair - which we gladly did for over an hour. 4H can be pretty tough sometimes, but all the stress seems to disappear on the night of the Fair.

The Rockin' Turtle Beach Bash on Fort Myers Beach was great fun. Though our entire group was unable to be present, the McLaughlin and McGuire families got to participate, and it was a cool experience. We had a sand castle contest on the beautiful sandy beach, community service (picking up after the litterbugs), lunch at the park, and workshops with crafts and educational presentations. Esther hosted a workshop and taught about shells (bivalves and univalves), and afterwards we made necklaces out of beads and predrilled shells. Melody taught a very interesting class on sand dollars, then passed them out as souvenirs. I did a presentation on Manatees, then did a quick magnet craft with each group of children. Other seniors did sand art and a turtle constructing craft. Of course, everything the kids made was cute and original. Hopefully, next year more 4-H'ers will be able to come. The more the merrier!

We look forward to more meetings, field trips and adventures. Until another great and exciting event befalls us, have a great day, and God bless you.

*Sincerely,
Alanna McLaughlin, Reporter*

Paw Power

Correction to Paw Power's Club Report from April Newsletter:

Mikaila Shults and Russell won 3rd Place in Basic Junior Agility and 5th Place in Basic Junior Obedience at the Hillsborough County 4-H Dog Show in Tampa on April 16.

District Events Participants Advancing to State Competition at Congress

Demonstration/Illustrated Talk

Amanda Harrison: Animal Sciences/Horse - "What's In Your Paddock? Plants Poisonous to Horses"

Photography

1. Matthew Cooner
2. Amanda Harrison
3. Courtney Linton

Dairy Poster

1. Matthew Cooner
2. Amanda Harrison



4-H Congress Participants University of Florida, Gainesville July 25-29

Allison Campbell
Jessica Campbell
Shannon Gilmore
Melissa Kovacs

4-H Congress is an annual state event designed to supplement county programs in leadership, citizenship and communication activities. It allows 4H members to learn and share with other 4-H'ers from all over Florida.



Thunder

Thunder is the kind of horse that everyone should have at least once in their lifetime. He is a gentle teacher, impressive show horse, and a safe horse for even a beginner to take on a trail ride. His story, however, proves that some of the worst sufferers of neglect can be some of the nicest horses.

When I received Thunder, five years ago, he was nearly dead from starvation and had a serious injury to one of his legs. Through four times a day treatment his leg healed quickly. His overall condition, however, took much longer to improve. For six months all that he could do was walk. Imagine our delight when he cantered for the first time after eight months. By the time that we had him for a year I finally rode him.

After two years I took him to a jumping clinic just for fun, and someone told me, "That horse knows how to jump." Being a barrel racer, I did not know anything about jumping but figured that I would give it a shot. We got some lessons and went to a show. I told myself that no matter how he did in the ring it was an accomplishment that he was alive. Not only did he make it around the ring fine, but he started winning. To this day his accomplishments include LCHA Year-End Circuit Champion Saddle Winner, 10th at the 4-H State Horse Show two years in a row and numerous Grand Champion awards.

His greatest accomplishment, however, is surviving years of neglect. Many people have looked at Thunder and said there is no way that horse can jump - his legs are destroyed, his feet are bad, he is too skinny, and most horses are retired by the time that they are his age.

Thunder has proved time and again that sometimes all you need is heart.

Some people say that horses aren't capable of feeling grateful...I know differently. Every time I ask something of Thunder he gives his all, he jumps his heart out for me. I will keep Thunder until the day that he dies. He has taught me things that no other horse could. He has taught me to become an efficient jumper rider. He has also taught me to trust your horse. Countless times he has saved me from crashing or bringing jumps down. He has taught me how cruel people can be, people who would starve a horse that somebody sometime in his life spent thousands of dollars to have trained so well. He taught me to not judge on appearance. You never know what might be under that plain brown wrapper. He has taught me compassion and how to not give up even when it seems hopeless. He has taught me that age is not always a factor. Just because he is in his late twenties doesn't mean he wants to act like it. He has taught me the true meaning of being a Champion. It's not when I look at all of our ribbons and trophies but when I see him cantering across the pasture, doing something so simple but something that he could not do at one time. That is when I see him as the Champion. And lastly, he will teach me to let go. For when he no longer wants to jump I will retire him, and he will live out the rest of his life in my pasture getting fat and grumpy. After all, he's earned it.

*Casey Barley
Goats R Us and Paw Power 4-H Clubs*

4-H Legislature

Participants

**The Capitol, Tallahassee
June 27 - July 1**

Allison Campbell
Jessica Campbell
Shannon Gilmore
Melissa Kovacs

4-H Legislature is a "mock" legislative session. Participants from all over Florida learn, practice and defend the theory and process of representing citizens and making public policy.

4-H

State Horse Show

Qualifiers

**State Fairgrounds, Tampa
July 7-10**

Shelby Cody
Shalan Corlieto
Jessica Cutler
Katie Ferguson
Marla Gulsby
Courtney Linton
Kelsey Marzella
Christine Voll

Next Leader Meeting

**Lee County Extension Office
7:00 p.m.**

Thursday, July 21, Front Porch

1. Please be there to discuss Awards Ceremony.
2. Please be there to receive new Enrollment paperwork.

New Leader Training

**Lee County Extension Office
7:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, July 19, Conference Room
Tuesday, August 9, Back Porch**

** Please enter the Front and Back Porch meeting rooms from the back side of the building.*



REMINDER



Project Book Deadline: Monday, August 1, 2005

- ⇒ You must turn in a Project Book to be a member in good standing.
- ⇒ You must turn in a Project Book in order to show at Fair in 2006.
- ⇒ If you had a project animal that died or did not make weight, and you did not show at Fair in 2005, you **MUST** turn in your Project Book if you plan to show at Fair in 2006.



4-H Awards Ceremony and BBQ

Saturday, August 27, is our year-end Awards Ceremony and BBQ.

Our thanks go out to the Awards Ceremony Committee who is working hard to provide a fun and memorable event! The Committee members are:

- Roberta Byrd, Lucky Horseshoe Co-Leader
- Lori Goodwien, Kountry Kritters Co-Leader
- Bobbi Harrison, Lucky Horseshoe Leader & Committee Chair
- Jimmy Roberts, Kountry Kritters Leader
- Beth Shults, Paw Power Leader

- Awards
- BBQ & Potluck
- Games & Activities

Each club should choose an area of the event to sponsor, and help find sponsors for the BBQ and prizes for games.

**Call Bobbi Harrison, Committee Chair, at 543-4897
to see how you can help.**

FAHCE Scholarship Grant

Several \$500.00 scholarships are available from the Florida Association for Home & Community Education (FAHCE). The grant must be used at one of the Florida State Universities, Junior Colleges, Vo-Tech Schools, Adult Education, or National Regional FCL. This is a grant and need not be repaid. The Scholarship Committee will give preference to FAHCE members and 4-H members. Selection will be made by the FAHCE Foundation Advisory Board, the State President and the State Treasurer. The Board awarded six scholarships in 2004.

Applicants should submit the following information:

- a. Application Form and letter stating reason and need.
- b. Letters of reference regarding character.
- c. A written report of FAHCE work which includes a statement of current educational needs and future plans.
- d. A letter of recommendation from the County Agent/Advisor, County Council President or FAHCE Club President.

Applications Available at the 4-H Office

Applications Must be Postmarked by August 15, 2005

4-H Exchange Club

We are a 4-H exchange group in Lancaster Pennsylvania, which would be interested in doing an exchange in 2006-2007 with a club in your state. We have much to offer with many different cultures, and we are rich in history. We are close to Hershey Park, Philadelphia, Gettysburg battlefields, Washington DC, New York City, the Amish culture, and much, much more. In the past, we did a

day trip to the shore and boardwalk, have gone to the theater, spent the day visiting Amish areas and Hershey Park/Chocolate World, and have had picnics and pool parties, and went to visit different types of large farms. We tend to plan around the interest of the visiting group. We are a small group and had a wonderful exchange with Kentucky in 2004-05 and would like to do it again. If you

are interested in hearing more about what our group has to offer when we host please contact me.

Sharon Sherick
Audubon Pennsylvania
100 Wildwood Way
Harrisburg, PA 17110
717-213-6880 ext. 13
Fax: 717-213-6883
ssherick@audubon.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 State 4-H Scholarships Due at UF	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 4-H Rabbit Show & Workshop Registration Deadline	11
12	13 Cool Careers Camp AFCAAM 681 Michigan Ave, Fort Myers	14	15	16	17 4-H Rabbit Show & Workshop, 8am-6pm Ocala	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Hog Wild - N-Steer Crazy Fishing Rodeo 8 am, Lee Civic Center Pond
26	27 4-H Legislature The Capitol Tallahassee	28	29	30	→ July 1	

July 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 FL State 4-H Volunteer Forum Reg. Deadline	2
3	4	5	6	7 4-H State Horse Show, Tampa Fairgrounds	8	9
10	11 Cool Careers Camp AFCAAM	12	13	14	15 Florida State 4-H Volunteer Forum	16
17	18	19 New Leader Training, 7pm Conf. Rm.	20	21 Leader Mtg. 7pm, Front Porch	22	23
24	25 4-H Congress UF, Gainesville	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 4-H Project Books Due to 4-H Office no later than 4 pm	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 New Leader Training, 7pm Back Porch	10	11	12	13
14	15 FAHCE Scholarship Deadline (Postmarked)	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 4-H Year-End Awards Ceremony & BBQ
28	29	30	31			

Head, Heart, Hands, Health

4-H Program
Lee County Extension Office
3406 Palm Beach Boulevard
Fort Myers, FL 33916

Phone: 239-461-7517
Fax: 239-461-7501
Email: Mmarkward@leegov.com
Ticerl@leegov.com

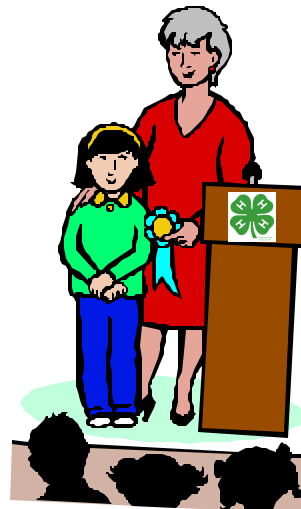
We're on the web!
[Http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu](http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu)



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Lee County Extension
3406 Palm Beach Boulevard
Fort Myers, FL 33916

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Success consists of a series of little daily victories."
Laddie F. Hutar



Mel Markward, Extension Agent - 4-H

For more information about the 4-H Program, please contact the Lee County Extension Service at (239) 461-7517 or (V/TDD) 1-800-955-8771. For persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations for any scheduled 4-H program or event, please contact the 4-H Office at the above number within three days of the program so that proper consideration may be given to the request.

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