

Bayfield County 4-H Leader's Association
Monthly Meeting
Monday, March 19, 2007 Ashland Research Station

President Kim Pearce called the meeting to order and led pledges to the American and 4-H flag.

Roll Call: Ashwabay: Eileen Devine, Friendly Valley: Pat Shields, Hillcrest Mountain Valley: Zach Beeksm, Ino Valley: Glory Bizub, Justin Reto, Val Reto, Pine Creek: Julie Lupa, Pioneers: Sandy Rau, Woodland Workers: Verne Gilles, Kim Pearce, Jeran Rekemeyer, Tsavo Rekemeyer, Frances Seefeldt, Julie Stipetich, and 4-H Youth Assistants: Donna Ganson and Ian Meeker.

Zach Beksm presented information about the CANSKI program. CANSKI, Chequamegon Area Nordic Ski, was formed three years ago. The group operates like a focused project meeting rather than a traditional 4-H club, with NCAA coaches and community involvement. A youth board is elected to facilitate the program and Zach is currently the president. The program includes participants from Ashland and Bayfield counties. It provides skills in cross country skiing for youth to adults, and recreational skiers to cross country racers. The mission of the Canski organization is to develop skills in cross country skiing for individuals and families, to provide life-long skills for physical fitness, provide an opportunity to use area ski resorts, and to provide leadership opportunities for older youth to help younger participants. 75+ pairs of skis have been purchased through grants, donations, and special relationships with ski shops. A \$20.00 deposit allows members to use skis for one season. Although the focus of the program is cross country skiing, 40% of CANSKI members belong to another traditional 4-H club.

The secretary's report from the February meeting was included in the recent newsletter. Verne Gilles made a motion to approve the minutes as printed, Eileen Devine seconded, motion carried. Treasurer's report was presented by Verne Gilles. Sandy Rau made motion to approve, Julie Lupa seconded, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

State Arts Camp participants, Frances Seefeldt and Tsavo Rekemeyer presented information about the camp held at Upham Woods. The theme for this year's camp was "Blast from the Past", and campers participated in six rotations including activities in photography, drama, communication, juggling, music, and arts and crafts. Frances and Tsavo described some of the many activities from painting rock pets, to making juggling balls, to a kuzoo rendition of "Yellow Submarine". They thanked the Leader's Association for the opportunity to participate and announced that they plan to apply as counselors for next year's camp.

Verne Gilles reported that the **Topside** committee met earlier this evening. Saturday, May 12, 10:00 a.m. is designated as tree planting day. 1000 white pine will be planted.

Hot dogs and hobo potatoes will be provided, participants are asked to bring a dish to pass. Any one attending who wears their Topside t-shirt from last year's tree planting will be allowed to submit their name for a special drawing. Anyone wanting a t-shirt will be able to order one. Be sure to bring a camera along for the day!

A liability insurance provider has been contacted regarding insurance for Topside. Discussion included the question about how vulnerable is the 4-H program if a non 4-H member is injured on the Topside property? Insurance purchase was tabled to allow time for more quotes to be available and questions to be answered. Other discussion included the idea of placing a calendar for Topside use on the county 4-H website. Suggestion was made to not include the calendar on the website for the safety of campers or groups using the property. Members agreed not to include a calendar on the website and that anyone interested in using the Topside property for camping or other purposes should contact Ian Meeker at the 4-H office.

Verne Gilles reported that Wayne Brabender conducted the first Photography workshop and that two more workshops are being planned for the **Focus Project-Photography**. Dale Thomas will present information on lighting on April 14, and a hand tinting workshop for black and white photos will be held April 28. Ian addressed a question about whether there would be separate categories for digital and automatic photos at the county fair this year. Due to the difficulty in determining photos from automatic cameras vs. digital cameras, there will not be separate categories for these photos since there is no distinction between the two. There will be a special category however, for computer manipulated photos.

Justin Reto appealed to the Leader's Association for monies to help fund training and participation on the **Wisconsin 4-H Drama/Tech team**. Justin has been selected to participate on the state technology team and will participate in training at Upham Woods in April, and then participate in Youth Conference in Madison in June, and the State Fair in August. Justin requested funds to help with travel and accommodation expenses. Sandy Rau made a motion to grant Justin \$100, motion amended by Verne Gilles to \$150, and after discussion a final amendment by Glory Bizub to \$200 was seconded by Sandy Rau and motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Kim Pearce opened the floor for nominations for **vice president** of the Leader's Association. Election held and Julie Lupa will serve as the new vice president.

Justin Reto, Tsavo Rekemeyer, and Francis Seefeldt reported on the **Junior Leader's** meeting held Sunday, March 18. Members discussed a booth for the Dairy Breakfast. The Junior Leader booth will include animals, record books on display, and an opportunity for youth to make pins, bookmarks and juggling balls. They also discussed Middle School Fun Night.

There are eight new leaders certified in **Archery**. The next task is to inventory equipment and identify needs, and get county wide shoots going. Watch for more information in the future.

Verne Gilles reminded leaders of the **Dairy Breakfast** on Saturday, March 31. Clubs are encouraged to have 4-H members help work in the dining room or with clean-up. Ashland county 4-H youth will be helping also.

Verne reported that the next **horticulture** meeting will take place on Saturday, August 18. Flower and vegetable fair exhibitors will be invited to Verne's garden to learn how to properly prepare flowers and vegetables for exhibiting.

Justin Reto participated as a youth delegate in **Superior Days**. He reported that youth delegates attended four training meetings prior to the delegation meeting with legislators in Madison on March 1-2. Justin had the opportunity to talk with state representatives and shadow a mail person for the governor's office. The informative and interesting Madison trip included a mock trial and dinner with three Supreme Court justices.

NEW BUSINESS

The **Cultural Arts Festival** will be held Saturday, May 5, 2007. Ino Valley will host the event and serve lunch for participants. A suggestion was made to provide two photography judges for the festival since there are such large numbers of exhibitors in photography.

A **Tri-County Camp** planning meeting will take place April 13. Counselor applications for camp will be available after the planning meeting.

Middle School Fun Night is planned for April 28 at Northland College. Junior Leaders will provide leadership of activities for the evening, and youth in grades 5-7 are invited to participate.

Leaders were reminded to register for **pumpkin plants and sunflower seeds** for the contest in September. Plant and seed pick-up will be May 19, from 9 – 11 a.m. at the Ashland Research Station.

CLUB UPDATES

Woodland Workers reported they had to cancel a hike to the Ice Caves due to poor ice conditions. Members of the club are required to give a demonstration or a talk to exhibit at the fair and recent meetings have included a number of presentations.

Julie Lupa reported that **Pine Creek** members will resume their meetings later this month with several demonstrations and plans to schedule road-side clean up and painting.

Eileen Devine reported that the **Ashwabay** club recently sewed pillows and will be making yo-yos.

According to Pat Shields, **Friendly Valley** recently had a quilt making project meeting and Casey Riley has gotten many members interested in rocketry.

Ino Valley 4-H club recently held a craft day and continue their candy bar sale. They will have a make and take table at the Dairy Breakfast. According to Glory Bizub, the club has experienced some tragic losses recently and continues to support families that have been affected.


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donna Ganson reported that the Demonstration and Foods Fair will be held Saturday, June 23, 2007 at the Ashland Research Station.

Other announcements: Last day to add or drop projects: April 30
 State Youth Conference Registration: April 12
 Senior Scholarship Deadline: April 15
 Next meeting: April 16 7:00 Ashland Research Station

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Julie Lupa and seconded by Eileen Devine, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie Stipetich
Secretary