

2015– 2016

4-H Family Handbook



**DEVELOPING LEADERS FOR TOMORROW
THROUGH PROJECTS AND FAMILY
INVOLVEMENT**

**TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION**

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Dear Families,

Welcome to the Walker County 4-H Program. 4-H is the youth development program of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. Our purpose is to provide boys and girls the opportunity to learn, develop life skills and form attitudes enabling them to become self-directing, productive and contributing members of society.

The 4-H Program has opportunities for both rural and urban youth. 4-H Educational methods include: recreation, recognition, tour trips, club and community activities. Our program provides opportunities and personal development of all the young people involved. Additional project education is available from 4-H Leaders and Extension Agents.

4-H IS A FAMILY AFFAIR. A boy or girl selects various 4-H projects with the help of their parents. Parents then advise, counsel and assist their child in taking care of, constructing, or being involved in the project.

We look forward to your participation in the Walker County 4-H Program.

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SPECIAL NOTE: Provisions from the American Disability Act will be considered when planning educational programs and activities. Please notify the Walker County Extension Office if you plan on attending an Extension Education Program and need specialized services. Notification of at least two weeks in advance is needed, so that we may have ample time to acquire resources needed to meet your needs.

Texas 4-H Commitment to Excellence

I will exhibit traits of a person with character including trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

It is my attitude at the beginning of any project that will affect its successful outcome.

It is impossible to succeed without others, and it is my attitude toward other individuals that will determine their specific attitudes toward me.

Nothing can be gained by thinking negatively; therefore, I will think positively. We become what we think. I will not talk about negative ideas or gossip.

I must develop personal pride in what I am, what I do, what I say, how I act; and I must remember the destructive function of false pride.

Nothing of consequence was ever accomplished without cooperation, optimism, perseverance and enthusiasm. It is contagious when it is real, urgent, honest, human, and my own!





4-H Motto and Pledge



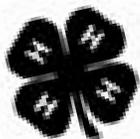
In support of the 4-H Club Motto,
To Make the Best Better,



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 MEMBERSHIP

1. Youth may participate in the 4-H year from September 1st of grade three through August 31st following completion of grade twelve with these age restrictions:
Minimum age - 8 (in addition to being in the 3rd grade)
Maximum age - 18 (as of August 31, 2015)
2. Youth may enroll in one or more 4-H projects or any curriculum enrichment.
3. 4-H members participate in planned 4-H project learning experiences under the guidance of a 4-H certified project leader or trained teacher.
4. **A project is considered complete when a member has participated in three 4-H learning experiences and turned in a completed 4-H project record form to the County Agents Office (or an awards record book to the County Agents Office) by the date determined by the County Agents Office.**
5. The 4-H year shall start September 1. Enrollment will remain open throughout the year.
6. Participation fees will be \$30.00 for those enrolling between September 1, 2015 and October 31, 2015. This fee includes a \$10.00 per member charge to cover newsletter expenses at county level and a \$20.00 per year state fee. Beginning November 1, 2015, and for the continuation of the 4-H year, the participation fee will be \$35.00.

4-H CLOVER KIDS MEMBERSHIP

1. The 4-H Clover Kids Program is a non-formal, educational program for youth ages 5 to 8 years of age in kindergarten, first and second grades. The program is designed as an introductory 4-H program for both boys and girls in this age group.
2. Clover Kids groups are not considered 4-H Club members. The primary goal of the group is to build self-esteem, confidence, social and decision making skills through participation in hands-on, non-competitive activities and as a recruitment tool for future 4-H members.

AWARDS, CONTEST AND COMPETITIVE EVENTS

1. Individual contest rules and guidelines are provided for each contest in compliance with District and State guidelines.
2. **NO PASS-NO PLAY.** 4-H is recognized by the Texas Education Agency and each local school district as an extracurricular activity. All 4-H members participating in any 4-H competitive event must be passing all classes in order to compete, whether or not the competitive event is during school time. Prior to each competitive event, each school will be notified and asked to identify 4-H members who are not academically eligible as of the most recent grade reporting period. If 4-H members are not passing, they will be notified by the Extension Agent.
3. **EXCUSED ABSENCES.** 4-H members participating in an activity which is approved by the local school board, under the direction of the Extension Agent(s) will be considered in attendance and will be reported present. Students are responsible for and **MUST** stay within the allotted number of days allowed by their school. Schools will be notified (by letter) from the Extension Office as to what members will be participating, as well as dates and times that they are to miss classes.
4. Guidelines for specific awards, scholarships and other opportunities should be available through your local club manager and adult leader(s).

PARENTS: PARTNERS ON THE 4-H TEAM

Good youth development programs do not just happen. It takes the combined effort of parents and volunteers along with the guidance of Extension youth development professionals to establish a good 4-H program.

In 4-H we have a team.. a 4-H team which contributes to the ultimate development of boys and girls. On this team are the parents who become partners of the team. If this team is to be successful, then the parents must become “regular players” not “bench riders.”

Why parent participation?

Through research and experience, a number of positive efforts on 4-H, 4-H clubs and 4-H members can be attributed to active parent participation.

1. Active parent participation can strengthen and broaden the 4-H program in local unit or in any county.
2. 4-H work would be totally impossible without the active support of interested parents.
3. It has been found that boys and girls do better club work when parents show interest, not only by work but also by deeds.
4. Extending a helping or encouraging hand to a boy or girl is one of the finest ways you can express affection to your children and other youth.
5. 4-H is a family affair offering parents many opportunities to participate in a program with their child and build family unity.
6. When parental support is positive, the chances are good for the club to become stronger, larger and more active.
7. In clubs where parental support is good, individual club members receive more personal attention and guidance from leaders and parents.
8. Club activities and events will develop and expand with the added support of parents.
9. 4-H has a positive influence on the lives of thousands of boys and girls. This happens only when parents care enough to share their time, efforts and talents.

4-H brings the Family Together

Family unity increases from planning, sharing and working together. When a family works as a team the strengths, talents, skills, and worth of each family member can be developed and appreciated. With love and understanding, patience and counsel a parent can offer their child a solid start in a pleasant and beneficial experience. The family then becomes a team.

What can parents do to support and/or help in the 4-H program?

1. Learn what 4-H is all about (purposes, objective, etc.)
2. Exhibit a genuine interest and enthusiasm in 4-H and in your child.
3. Encourage participation in 4-H activities. Participation stimulates interest and enthusiasm.
4. Assist your child in selecting a project they will enjoy, a project they have the ability to accomplish, and one for which you can help furnish facilities, financing, needed materials and guidance.
5. Provide encouragement. Help in project work with recordkeeping, demonstrations, judging, and completion of attempted work and leadership responsibilities.
6. Provide transportation for members to local club meetings, county events and various activities.
7. Attend at least half of the club meetings each year with your child.
8. Get informed about “what’s going on” and continue to keep informed.
9. Provide a meeting place for the project group. When possible, assist leaders and club by providing refreshments or other help.
10. Volunteer to be a project leader. All adults have abilities that would greatly assist the 4-H program.

THE 4-H PROJECT

WHAT IS A PROJECT?

The project is the heart of the 4-H program. A wide variety of projects are available for members. Project opportunities vary depending upon the county and club. A member or group can also select an area of interest that is not officially listed as a 4-H project and plan and conduct a self directed project in that area of interest.

Through carefully selected projects, members learn to manage their resources, assume responsibility and acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for everyday living.

A project may extend over a short period of time or for several years. “Learning-by-doing” is the most important aspect of a project, not time. Making, growing, caring for, observing and participating—are all active learning processes involved in 4-H projects.

From a member’s viewpoint, projects may be fun, help develop skills, offer an opportunity to assume responsibility, to make a profit, save money or explore interests and careers. Projects also offer a chance to do things with friends.

Leaders and parents may see the project as a means to create more interest in daily tasks, strengthen family and community ties, develop knowledge and skills of members, explore possible career opportunities, enhance positive self-concept, develop the ability to organize, plan and make decisions.

THE PROJECT GROUP

Members have the opportunity to participate in group learning and peer teaching since sharing skills and experiences often provides them with greater learning opportunities. Group participation can also motivate members to follow through with commitments. Members are usually involved in group learning through their participation in a project group.

Project group meetings (4-H classroom setting) are designed so members acquire subject-matter, knowledge and skills, and general life skills.

HOW ARE PROJECTS CONDUCTED?

Projects are conducted through various activities and events such as:

1. Project and community club group meetings (4-Hers should have 5 learning experiences, demonstrations, etc.)
*Learning experience should be a minimum of 30 minutes in length.
2. Field trips to tour local businesses, various agencies, as well as other members projects
3. Family activity at home
4. Exhibiting project work at home
5. Individual work toward project goals
6. Recordkeeping of project activities

WALKER COUNTY 4-H PROJECT AREAS

- ◆ BEEF
- ◆ CITIZENSHIP
- ◆ CLOTHING AND TEXTILES
- ◆ CLOVER KIDS
- ◆ CONSUMER DECISION MAKING
- ◆ FOOD AND NUTRITION
- ◆ GOAT
- ◆ HORSE
- ◆ HORTICULTURE
- ◆ LEADERSHIP
- ◆ WILDLIFE & FISHERIES
- ◆ LIVESTOCK JUDGING
- ◆ PHOTOGRAPHY
- ◆ POULTRY
- ◆ RABBIT
- ◆ SHEEP
- ◆ SHOOTING SPORTS
- ◆ SWINE
- ◆ OUTDOOR EDUCATION
- ◆ PUBLIC SPEAKING
- ◆ RECREATION
- ◆ SAFETY
- ◆ DOG

HOW IS A 4-H PROJECT SELECTED?

Each member chooses a project that fulfills his or her interest, home situation and ability. Projects vary in difficulty. Younger members should choose those with less difficult requirements. All projects provide useful experiences.

If members talk with their parents about projects, their choices will have meaning and importance to the entire family. Factors to consider when selecting a project include:

The Member

What are the members interests? Many times a member doesn't know if he or she would like a particular project without first researching and inquiring about a project from other members.

Is the member exploring projects that will offer new areas of interest?

What are the members' ages and abilities (physical and mental)?

What new abilities can the member develop by choosing a specific project?

How much time does the member have? How much time does the project require? What season of the year does most of the activity occur?

If the member chooses an animal project, is the space required and equipment needed adequately available?

Approximately how much will the project cost?

The Family

Does the project fit into the home situation?

Does the family have an interest in the project selected?

The Club or Group

How many members of the group wish to try similar projects?

Is Leadership available for each member to have a successful experience?

The Neighborhood or Community

Does the project fulfill a community interest or need?

Can the neighborhood, community or county provide additional support or resources on this project?

Members are more likely to have success with a project(s) suited to their needs, abilities, interest, and family situations. A positive experience can help members develop their sense of self-worth, a willingness to share their experiences with others, and their willingness to try more things. **Success builds success.**

METHOD DEMONSTRATIONS AND ILLUSTRATED TALKS

Method demonstrations and illustrated talks are planned presentations by one or more 4-H members to help teach information related to a project or activity. Put simply, demonstrations are ways of showing and telling others how to make or do something, as well as ways of sharing useful information.

Major differences between method demonstration and illustration talks include:

METHOD DEMONSTRATIONS

1. A demonstration is doing.
2. A demonstration is showing how to do something. As you show how, you tell how.
3. In a demonstration you make something or do something. There is a finished product.
4. The key to a good demonstration is “go and do likewise.”

ILLUSTRATED TALKS

1. An illustrated talk describes.
2. An illustrated talk is telling how, with the use of visual aids.
3. An illustrated talk, uses charts, slides, pictures, models, cutouts, etc.
4. The key to an illustrated talk is information.

Every 4-H member profits in some way from planning and presenting a method demonstration or illustrated talk. Poise, confidence and self-assurance grow each time a person makes a presentation. Through demonstrations and talks 4-H members have the opportunity to:

- ◆ Work on something they enjoy and have an interest in.
- ◆ Gain new knowledge and learn about a specific project.
- ◆ Learn to plan and organize their thoughts so they can express themselves more clearly.
- ◆ Emphasize major points of a presentation incorporating the use of visual aids or examples.
- ◆ Develop better public speaking techniques and habits.
- ◆ Incorporate the ideas and opinions of others.
- ◆ Listen to the opinions of others.
- ◆ Teach and show others improved methods and practices learned through 4-H, thus performing a service to the community.
- ◆ Take part in interesting events and activities.

4-H PROJECT RECORDS

Each 4-H member must keep a record of his or her 4-H work. Records are not an extra task, but are a part of 4-H work. Few people (adults are no exception) enjoy recordkeeping. However, it is an important life skill.

Why encourage 4-Hers to keep good records?

1. A 4-H record teaches a desirable habit. Modern day society demands that each and everyone, no matter what vocation, keep track of financial and business matters. Developing this habit early in life will be a valuable asset.
2. A 4-H record is a measuring stick. Members and leaders are kept informed on the member's progress and will usually stimulate self-improvement by the member.
3. A 4-H record is a mirror. It will reflect accomplishments and therefore serve as the basis for awards, trips and other recognition.
4. A 4-H record provides youth with a time for reflection about who they are, what their goals are, what they have accomplished in the past year, etc.
5. A 4-H record can be achieved only when there is the proper attitude and cooperation between member, parents and leaders.
6. 4-Hers learn:
 - * to communicate in writing.
 - * to organize thoughts.
 - * to set goals and work toward these goals.
 - * to make short- and long-term plans.
 - * to evaluate a record of growth from year to year.
 - * to recognize skills learned, goals accomplished and successes they've had.

Project Record Form

Records provide space for keeping expenses, receipts, skills learned, and other information about the project. New forms are issued, or can be picked up at the Extension office, each year for the project in which the member enrolls. Some members find it easy to take forms with them to each program and fill them in throughout the 4-H year. This guarantees forms will be complete and accurate at the end of the 4-H year. Others prefer to complete them at the end of the year. This makes it more difficult, because members have to rely on their memory to recall all past meetings and programs. **If a 4-Her is involved in a project for the fair, it is mandatory these forms or an awards record book be completed so the member may show at the upcoming fair. Deadline to submit these forms will be determined on a yearly basis by the County Extension Office. This date will be announced at the beginning of each year.**

Record Books

Record books (for competition) are written evidence of 4-Hers project growth and accomplishments; they are also the primary way that overall awards are earned. They are judged at county, district and state levels. Only seniors can advance to state. Forms are normally picked up at the end of the 4-H year (April-May). Deadline dates are published in the 4-H Newsletter.

Walker County 4-H Attendance Record
2015-2016

Name of 4-Her _____

2015-2016 4-H Projects _____

1. Meeting Date _____

Subject Matter Covered at Meeting _____

Leader Signature _____

2. Meeting Date _____

Subject Matter Covered at Meeting _____

Leader Signature _____

3. Meeting Date _____

Subject Matter Covered at Meeting _____

Leader Signature _____

4. Meeting Date _____

Subject Matter Covered at Meeting _____

Leader Signature _____

5. Meeting Date _____

Subject Matter Covered at Meeting _____

Leader Signature _____

Walker County Policy on 4-H Member Attendance and Project Record Form

- 1) To be a 4-H member in good standing you must participate in a minimum of three (3) educational activities within the project term. Your attendance record form is due in the County Extension Office by **March 18, 2016.**
- 2) To be a member in good standing you must complete a project record form. Your project record form is due in the County Extension Office by **March 18, 2016.**

Learning Experiences: (Demonstrations, talks, judging activities, exhibits, clinics, workshops, tours, shows, etc. participated in and related to your project.) *You MUST list at least 5 learning experiences that you completed. Credit is not given to those with fewer than 5 learning experiences listed. (Additional pages can be added for those with more than 5 experiences. Please list **all** experiences.)*

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

Leadership: (List whether it was Promotional, Volunteer, Elected or Appointed Leadership and how you helped.) *To complete a 4-H project, you MUST have some sort of leadership activity to add here for credit. Please see back of this form for definitions of the types of leadership. Prioritize leadership by using leadership activities related to THIS particular project first.)*

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Community Service & Citizenship: (List awards & recognition from school, church and other organizations here too. Mark each activity as Y for something you did by yourself, P for something that you were the Primary leader of, and M for something that you were a member of a group doing.) *Please see back for types of community service. Prioritize service by using service activities related to THIS particular project first)*

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

How did your project change or grow? (Did anything change throughout your project? Did you learn something that taught you changes were needed or did your project grow in size?)

Types of Leadership:

Promotion Leadership should explain, "How have you told someone about 4-H?" This includes such activities as wearing a 4-H T-shirt to school, getting a picture related to 4-H in the paper, speaking on the radio about 4-H, or riding on a 4-H float during a parade.

Volunteer leadership should explain, "How and what did I do to lead or teach others in 4-H?" Examples of volunteer leadership include: led the Pledge of Allegiance at the 4-H meeting, demonstrated how to measure a tablespoon at a 4-H club meeting, or organized a 4-H workshop.

Elected/appointed leadership explains, "What did you do to help?" This includes your leadership in volunteering to serve on a committee like the telephone, recreation, and/or refreshment committee, and in serving in any elected office such as president or reporter of your local club, county 4-H council and or district/state council.

Types of Community Service:

"Y" Yourself – this was a community service project that you did all by yourself with no help from other 4-H members or club.

"P" Provided Primary Leadership – you were the organizer, you made all the arrangements, and recruited other 4-H members to help you.

"M" Member of a Group – when another 4-H member called asking for help, you were there as a worker and helper.

WALKER COUNTY 4-H & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

4-H and Youth Development Committees

The primary responsibility of this Committee is to provide overall program direction for the 4-H program and its interaction with school systems and other organizations which serve young people. This Committee is distinct from the 4-H Council, the Adult Leaders Association and any special task forces. The Committee can meet its responsibility by serving as an advisory board which assists the County Extension staff in identifying, prioritizing and coordinating educational programming which can address contemporary issues and development opportunities. In particular, this committee should:

- * insure a coordinated youth development effort among 4-H and other organizations which serve young people;
- * serve as the 4-H Expansion and Review Committee;
- * appoint special task force(s) as needed to insure program implementation;
- * review, interpret and enforce 4-H policy as outlined by county, district and state guidelines;
- * interpret the 4-H and Youth Development Program to appropriate audience(s).

The 4-H and Youth Development Committee should be representative of the county demographic population. Committee members shall be comprised of one third youth, one third adult representatives currently involved with 4-H program activities and one third adult representatives who are not directly involved with 4-H. This group will meet at least twice per year to carry out business of this committee.

WALKER COUNTY 4-H AWARDS CRITERIA

CLUB LEVEL AWARDS

COMPLETION CERTIFICATE:

On the Club level, certificates are presented to 4-Hers who have completed a project record form and returned it to a project leader.

ROOKIE AWARD:

This award is based on 4-H involvement, evidence of personal growth and community service. This award can be received only once. 4-Her must be in their first year of the 4-H program. This member is selected by the 4-H Adult Leader(s). Recipients can be from the junior, intermediate, or senior age categories.

OUTSTANDING JUNIOR:

This award is based on 4-H involvement, evidence of personal growth, leadership characteristics and abilities, and community service. This award may be received only once. 4-Her must have two or more years in the 4-H program. This member is selected by the 4-H Adult Leader(s). **Juniors are 4-Hers in the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade .**

OUTSTANDING INTERMEDIATE

This award is based on 4-H involvement, evidence of personal growth, leadership characteristics and abilities, and community service. This award may be received only once. 4-Her must have two or more years in the 4-H program. **Intermediates are 4-Hers in 6th, 7th and 8th grade.**

OUTSTANDING SENIOR:

This award is based on 4-H involvement, evidence of personal growth, leadership characteristics and abilities, and community service. This award may be received only once. 4-Her must have two or more years in the 4-H program. **Seniors are 4-Hers in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade.**

COUNTY AWARDS

RECORDBOOK:

Awarded to all who submit a completed 4-H Awards Record Book for competition. Awards will be presented in three age categories. Junior —3rd, 4th and 5th graders; Intermediate — 6th, 7th and 8th graders; Senior —9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders.

Record Books for competition must be submitted to the Extension Office by a given date for review.

BRONZE STAR AWARD:

Awarded to Junior age 4-H members that complete an application and meet the project work, leadership, citizenship, community service and over all growth and development guidelines. Selection involves an interview and recordbook.

Bronze Star Winners receive:

1 each - \$25.00

Bronze Star Certificate

SILVER STAR AWARD:

Awarded to Intermediate age 4-H members that complete an application and meet the project work, leadership, citizenship, community service and overall growth and development guidelines. Selection involves an interview and recordbook.

Silver Star Winners receive:

1 each - \$50

Silver Star Certificate

SENIOR AWARDS PROGRAM

GOLD STAR:

The Gold Star Award is the highest County Achievement Award made available through Texas 4-H. It will be awarded only once in a member's 4-H career. Counties have award quotas based on the number of senior 4-H members. The award is presented to the most deserving young people without regard to gender.

Requirements to be met:

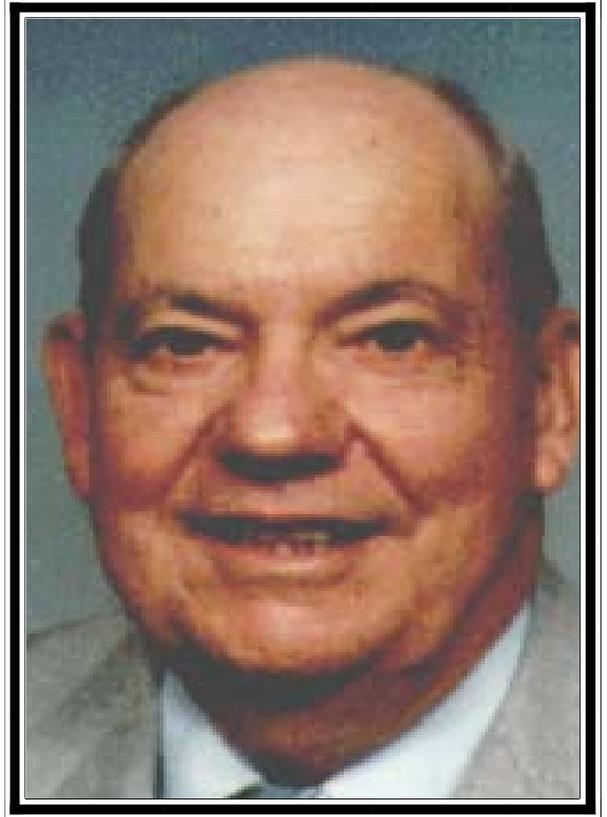
1. The 4-H member must be at least 15 years of age as of August 31 of the current year and must have completed at least 3 years in 4-H, including the current year.
2. The 4-H member must submit a record book for competition in the year he or she is to be considered for the award.
3. The 4-H member must have completed projects in three different project areas, having submitted appropriate records on the project and have participated in one or more activities in at least three of the following areas:
 - Method Demonstration/4-H Presentation
 - Projects (Livestock, Horse, Food & Nutrition, Clothing, etc.)
 - Project Exhibits
 - Leadership Labs
 - Citizenship Activities
 - Public Relations (demonstrations, speeches, poster displays, radio, TV, newspapers, etc.)
 - Other (includes exchange programs, fundraising, State & Congress)

Note: The requirements for projects and activities do not all have to be completed in the current year. They may have been accomplished over the entire period of time the person has been in 4-H.

4. During his or her (last 3 years) in 4-H, the member must have exhibited leadership skills by serving as a 4-H officer or committee chairman (club, county, district or state), and/or as a junior or teen leader in an activity or project with or under the supervision of an adult volunteer leader.
5. The 4-H member must have participated in one or more community service activities. Examples are working with or counseling junior 4-H members; participating in community service projects (individual, group or club); and motivating other 4-H members through participation in demonstrations, projects and/or exhibits.

Gold Star Winners receive: 1 each - \$75
Gold Star Certificate

WESLEY & WILMA SHERRILL 4-H MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Wesley Sherrill was County Extension Agent in Walker County from 1950 until his retirement in 1980. During these thirty years he made many dreams come true for Walker County. He initiated and contributed to the Southwestern Bell Telephone Service coming to the

western part of Walker County in 1950; he conducted educational programs on Sire Selection for the purpose of improving beef cattle herds in Walker County, as a result of his efforts the beef cattle herds were dramatically improved; he started the Co-Ral program to control grubs in cattle; brought the screw worm eradication program to Walker County; and started the Fire Ant program here in the early 70's. Wesley was instrumental in starting the Kiwanis Jr. Livestock Show in Walker County which eventually became the Walker County Fair in the late 1970's. Wesley was extremely fond of the 4-H program. He especially loved working with the youth of Walker County. During his years of service he took 4-Hers to many leadership labs and camps; district, state, and national competitions, local and state fairs.

This fund has been established to provide an annual \$1000 scholarship to a Walker County 4-Her. As the fund grows more scholarships will be available. Anyone wishing to contribute to this fund in memory of a loved one, may do so through the Walker County Extension Office.

4-H Glossary

ACHIEVEMENT EVENT- annual event to recognize outstanding 4-Hers and volunteer leaders for their accomplishments and hard work.

BROWNWOOD- Home of the Texas 4-H Center.

BRONZE STAR AWARD- Junior 4-H members apply by completing an application as well as an interview. Award is based on project work, leadership, community service, and overall growth and development of the 4Her.

CLUB DEMONSTRATION- a brief presentation on a 4-Hers project. Demonstration must be presented to the 4-H club. One of the requirements needed for completion of 4-H year. (see 4-H year pin.)

CLUB MANAGER- gives leadership to the overall organization and management of the 4-H club and serves as coordinator for all Project and Activity leaders within the particular club. Provides guidance to the 4-H club unit; serves as contact person between club and County Extension Office. Clubs should have an assistant manager to help share responsibilities and at the same time to train to become Club Manager.

CLUB OFFICERS- 4-Hers elected by the club each year. Officers have the responsibility of planning, implementing and evaluating all club meetings and activities, as well as work with the club managers.

COMMUNITY SERVICE- an activity conducted by 4-H members to make the community a better place in which to live.

COUNTY 4-H YOUTH COUNCIL- composed of representatives from each organized 4-H club; teaches organizational and committee skills.

COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT- responsible for managing overall 4-H program in their respective counties. Employee of the Texas AgriLife Extension.

COUNTYWIDE PROJECT CLUBS- projects offered on a countywide basis for members of all clubs. (i.e. shooting sports, photography, wildlife, etc.) Announced through the monthly 4-H newsletter.

DISTRICT- encompasses 18 southeast counties. **We are District 9**, with headquarters in Bryan.

DISTRICT ADULT LEADERS & COUNCIL- composed of representatives from each county. Meet in a central location twice a year to plan District events and activities.

4-H & YOUTH COMMITTEE- committee of adults & youth. Plans leader training.

4-H NEWSLETTER- monthly publication; highlights 4-H events, activities and opportunities. One copy mailed to each 4-H family. Deadline to submit written information (to be included in the newsletter) is one week prior to the end of each month.

4-H YEAR- current 4-H year begins September 1 and ends August 31 of the following year.

FASHION SHOW- clothing project related contest. 4-Hers compete on County, District and State (4-H roundup event) levels. Includes construction and consumer buying divisions, divided by garment and age categories. Winners advance to District and Seniors can advance to State. Participants must be enrolled in a clothing project.

FOOD SHOW-food project related contest; 4-Hers compete on County, District and State levels.

FRIENDS OF 4-H- awards presented to a business and individuals, selected from club and individual nominations. Award based on club and community support with donations, personal service and encouragement. Presented at Achievement Night.

GOLD STAR- highest honor awarded on county level to a Senior 4-H member (minimum 3 year membership). Must be 15 years of age. Criteria involves project work, leadership, citizenship, community service, overall growth and development. Selection involves interview and record book. Can be received only once.

ILLUSTRATED TALK- to show and tell how to do something using visual aids, charts, slides, pictures, models, cutouts, etc. Contest entry may be for county, district and state competition.

INTERMEDIATE 4-H MEMBER- 4-Hers between the ages of 11-13 as of September 1st of the current 4-H year.

JUDGING CONTESTS- includes Consumer, Livestock, Horse, Grass, Range, Dairy, Forestry, Wildlife Habitat and Meats. These are Roundup related contests. Specific guidelines and rules are available in the 4-H Roundup Guide (for the current year).

JUNIOR 4-H MEMBER- 4-Hers between the ages of 9-11 or 8 and in the 3rd grade as of August 1st of the current 4-H year.

METHOD DEMONSTRATION- selecting a topic that can be done best by making or doing something and results in a finished project. Contest entry may be prepared for county, district or state competition. Detailed rules and guidelines are available through the County Agent.

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK- celebrated the first full week in October at which time 4-H members review their accomplishments and future goals. 4-Hers tell other young people and adults about the 4-H program and invite them to participate.

PARENTS- indispensable in 4-H. They share in both the work and success of a club. Because much of the 4-H work centers around home and family, much of what youth gain from 4-H depends upon the attitudes of their parents. Parents provide help, inspiration support and help their sons and daughters become active.

PROJECT- in-depth learning experiences in a particular area of a 4-H member's choice. A project includes setting goals, completing six learning experiences and completion of a project record form (to be completed at the end of the 4-H year).

PROJECT LEADER (VOLUNTEER)- provides structured learning experiences, personal guidance and counseling for members enrolled in their projects. This person is responsible for a 4-H club. Must become a certified project leader before beginning project group.

PROJECT RECORD FORM- available for animal and non-animal projects designed for basic record keeping. Required for completion of project; should be turned into Project Leader or CEA office. These forms must be completed and turned in if 4-Hers plan on participating at the Walker County Fair.

RECORD BOOKS- written evidence of 4-Hers project growth and accomplishments; primary way that overall awards are earned. Judged at county, district and state. Only seniors can advance to state.

ROUNDUP CONTEST- state-wide contest for Senior 4-Hers held at TAMU in June. Contests are printed annually in the 4-H Roundup Guide. Events include Share the Fun, Method Demonstrations, Illustrated Talks and Public Speaking.

SCHOLARSHIPS- There are a wide variety of scholarships available through 4-H. Guidelines and deadlines are listed in the 4-H Newsletter as available. Additional information is available in the Opportunities Handbook (for the current year). Handbooks are limited and can be reviewed at CEA Office.

SHARE-THE-FUN- A 4-H Roundup contest; 6-minute presentation of either a skit, musical, dance, etc. in groups of 2-9 members, divided into Sub-Juniors, Juniors and Seniors. Winners advance to District. Seniors can then advance to State Roundup Competition.

SENIOR 4-H MEMBER- 4-Hers age 14-19 as of September 1st of the current 4-H year.

STATE 4-H CONGRESS- bi-annual event held in Austin. Members must be at least 16 years of age; county quota set by state; participation by application. Details are available through the Extension Agent.

TEEN LEADER- a 4-H member age 15-19 that has participated in that project for at least 3 years, has an adult advisor in a supportive role and takes total responsibility for the project, activity or event.

TAMU (TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY)- land grant university that serves as headquarters for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

TEXAS AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE- parent organization of the 4-H program.

TEXAS 4-H CENTER- located in Brownwood where many state 4-H camps, training, contests and workshops are held.

TRAINING AND/OR CLINIC- educational opportunities available on a county, district, state level for 4-Hers and leaders. Announcements can be found in the 4-H Newsletter and Roundup as they become available.

WALKER COUNTY FAIR- annual Walker County event held during March/April to demonstrate to the public different 4-H projects and activities.

4-H CLUB MEETINGS

WHAT DOES A 4-H CLUB DO?

4-H members join together in an organization called a 4-H club. It elects its own officers and conducts its own business. The club group usually has a president, vice-president(s), secretary, treasurer, reporter and may have a historian or parliamentarian.

Clubs have a monthly business meeting, with an annual plan for their programs. During their meeting, the group discusses business and plans for activities. Each meeting usually includes an educational program. This special educational program should be a topic which interests the entire group.

4-H Club Characteristics

1. Club Managers
2. Project leaders
3. Teen and Junior leaders
4. Officers
5. Club meetings each month
6. Project meetings-at least five meetings per project
7. Community service project(s)
8. Involves all parents

Club Meeting Agenda

Call to Order

Inspiration 5-10 minutes

Business 15-20 minutes

Roll Call

Recognize New Members and Guest

Reading of Minutes

Reports

Officer

Committee

Activity

Leader

Unfinished Business

New Business

Announcements

Program 15-20 minutes

Introduction of Program

Program

Recreation 30-40 minutes

Recreation

Refreshments

Adjourn

CLUB LEADERSHIP TEAM

CLUB MANAGER

- * Manages executive committee meeting, monthly club meetings and club organization.
- * Promotes cooperation, coordination and communication.
- * Trains and supervises officers and committees.
- * Informs parents and involves them in 4-H.
- * Plans and publishes yearly club program.
- * Helps recruit leaders and members.
- * Provides recognition for members and leaders.
- * Publicizes 4-H in community.
- * Keeps records and supplies.

ACTIVITY LEADERS

Organizes and teaches in areas that are not considered projects.

- * Livestock judging or other Judging Activities/ Contests
- * Share-The-Fun
- * Method demonstrations
(Learning experience of any Project)
- * Record books
- * Helps 4-H members organize and conduct special activities.
- * Special community service project
- * Club food show (Part of Foods & Nutrition Project)
- * National 4-H Week activities
- * Field trip

SENIOR 4-H MEMBERS

- * Serves as a resource to a club
- * Teaches a project to younger member(s)
- * Conducts community service projects
- * Conducts 4-H promotion activities
- * Role model for other youth

PROJECT LEADER

- Organizes and conducts project group meetings and activities.
- * Helps members select and manage project.
 - * Assists members with recordkeeping.
 - * Conducts home visits and individual conferences.
 - * Provides opportunities for other 4-H participation.
 - * Involves older members as junior and teen leaders.
 - * Recognizes members.
 - * Encourages parental interest and support.
 - * Coordinates with other leaders.
 - * Responsible for notifying project members of meetings, either by phone, monthly newsletter or Roundup news article.

JUNIOR AND TEEN LEADERS

- * Help plan 4-H activities.
- * Teach younger or newer members.
- * Recruit members and leaders.
- * Call members and encourage participation.
- * Lead by example.

PARENTS

- * Help secure finances and facilities for projects.
- * Help member select and conduct project.
- * Help with daily care and management of project.
- * Responsible for members arriving to and attending meetings and activities.
- * Help member keep records of projects.
- * Help with some aspect of 4-H program.
- * Maintain good communication skills with club manager, stay involved and well informed with what the club is doing at all times.

CURRENT 4-H CLUBS IN WALKER COUNTY

BEEF CLUB
CLOTHING CLUB
COMMERCIAL HEIFER CLUB
HUNTSVILLE FOOD AND NUTRITION CLUB
HORSE CLUB
LAMB/GOAT CLUB
NEW WAVERLY COMMUNITY CLUB
POULTRY CLUB
RABBIT CLUB
SHOTGUN CLUB
RIFLE CLUB
SWINE CLUB
NEW WAVERLY FOOD CLUB
SCRAMBLE HEIFER CLUB
CLOVER KIDS CLUB
DOG CLUB
COUNTY COUNCIL

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Livestock Judging
Horse Judging
Consumer Decision Making
Wildlife Team
Public Speaking
Photography
Clothing/Fashion
Beef Quiz Bowl
Nutrition Quiz Bowl
Fashion Storyboard
Food Challenge
Ag Product ID
Healthy Lifestyles
Educational Presentations
Duds to Dazzle
Share the Fun