

Leaders Council Minutes 10/8/2008

Call to Order: President Jill Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Was led by Sarah Elder

4-H Pledge: Was led by Brooke Hespeler

Additions to agenda: Added Sarah Elder to give the Sectional Leaders report

Reports:

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes by Brady Baldwin, seconded by Sarah Elder.

Communications and Secretary's Report: no correspondence, Valerie put some new items in the club boxes.

Treasurer: Sheila Bakke distributed copies of approved budget. Treasurer's Report: For September 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008. Checking account opening balance as of 9/30/08 of \$329.08 + income \$504.60 – expenses \$339.11 = ending balance of \$494.57 as of 9/30/08. Savings account opening balance as of 9/01/08 of \$15,390.27 + income \$11.58 – expenses \$0.00 = ending balance of \$15,401.85 as of 9/30/08. Report was accepted as submitted 1st Sharon Payne and 2nd by Brady Baldwin.

Vice President: Sue Bohannon thanked Vaca Valley and Maine Prairie for the refreshments at tonight's meeting. Next meeting is January 14th 2009 and Sherwood Forest and Suisun Valley will bring refreshments.

Area Reports:

Dixon: Laura Peron/Will Simmons

Dixon Ridge: This month our club was busy with enrollment and Achievement Night. We had several members participate in Achievement night. Our members worked the sign-in table, took the food donations and batteries for recycling, handed out awards and announced the winners. This month our club will be collecting canned food and non-perishable food items for Dixon Family Services and getting ready for our Harvest Fair booth. We have many new members and it is our goal to have a fun activity at each meeting for the members to do. This month we will be holding a carved pumpkin contest.

Maine Prairie: This month our club, Maine Prairie, held its first regular meeting on Tuesday September 16th. Our club lost members to FFA this year, but we had 15 new Members join and only 4 of those were siblings to current members. Project leaders in attendance introduced themselves and gave a short description of their projects. We also added automotive and baking projects. To date we have 4 new project leaders. We unveiled the club's theme for 2008-09 – "Random Acts of Kindness" and the new service learning project. As part of this new project, members got together on Sunday afternoon, September 21st and helped the Save the Dixon School Libraries organization pass out flyers for their "\$100,000 in 100 days" fundraiser. We had over a dozen members and their families fan out in the neighborhood in hopes to raise funds to open their own school libraries.

On September 25th many members got together and completed the National 4-H week display. The display focus is "Keeping it Easy, Keeping it Green" with simple tips on how to "go green". It is on display at Dixon Florist & Gift.

Several members attended Achievement Night in Dixon. Members and parents helped to set up, decorate and clean up. We are very proud of our outstanding members and Leaders.

Roving Clovers: This month our club inducted new officers at the September

meeting. The members who went to the Solano Fair and the State Fair gave a recap of their participation. We gained several new members as well as several new leaders this year. Our Arts and Crafts project group entered the scarecrow contest at the Cool Patch Pumpkins and won second place.

Our community service at the September meeting was to collect baby food for the Solano Food Bank. In October we will be collecting material for our new sewing group who will be making pillow cases for cancer kids. New this year – each project group will be responsible for organizing a community service activity each month. We are hoping that more members will become more actively involved in the process.

Tremont: Some of our new project leaders have been eager to get started with meetings. Since they have not completed the orientation training yet and finger Printing, a previously trained leader has been in attendance at each meeting. They are an enthusiastic group.

So we had a Tremont leader's training meeting on September 18th to help our leaders get started and to get acquainted with each other. It was so successful that the group decided to continue with monthly meetings.

We participated in 4-H week by making a poster using the "Keeping Green" theme. It is at Sweet Stuff, ice cream and deli shop on First Street in Dixon. The poster brought out the creative side of our members.

We were on the planning committee for Achievement Night, and we helped with the set-up and clean-up. This made for a very busy evening as it was our regular meeting night. So we set up, rushed over to our meeting place by 6 pm, had a one hour meeting, and then rushed back to the school for Achievement Night. We were very pleased to have such a great turn-out of club members and parents. We even won a trophy for the highest attendance that night! Community pride for this month included bringing foods to this event.

Our Leadership Project has met twice already and are working together to help make our club strong and to learn to be leaders. They are planning a trip to the State Capitol in Sacramento.

Our newsletter committee is now e-mailing the newsletter to most of our members. This will save money for stamps and time to address and mail the newsletters. Enrollment has continued and we are looking forward to a successful year.

Fairfield/Suisun: Brady Baldwin

Suisun Valley: In September, the Suisun Valley 4-H club held its first meeting of the year. As we had several new members, officers teamed up to greet families before the meeting. They also gave the new members goodie bags filled with candy, a bookmark with the 4-H pledge, a button and pencils. For recreation, members played an ice-breaker bingo game. Members were given a "bingo" card and each square had a different description. Members had to speak with other members and have them sign the square if they met the description in the square. Members were encouraged to socialize because they could not use the same person's name in any two squares. The first three members to complete a row won a Jamba Juice card. Members seemed to enjoy playing this game.

Later in the month, the club had an ice cream social. Members enjoyed topping their Ice cream with crushed Oreo cookies, brownies, M&Ms, whipped cream, hot fudge, chocolate and caramel syrup and many other toppings. Many of the new families attended and the event was a good way for all members and their families to get acquainted.

In October, at Achievement Night, many members of the club attended and received awards. Two of our club's members are All-Stars this year and served as emcees for the event. In addition, our club's All-Stars teamed up with their fellow All-Star, Will Simmons, to give a presentation to the Board of Supervisors on October 7th. The presentations were inspiring and well received by the board. Anyone who is interested can view the presentations at the Solano County website. The club officers also met and planned the October meeting at which we will have a Halloween costume contest. The club's refreshment officer is serving up trick-or-treat bags, latex gloves filled with popcorn and some spooky punch. The community service will be donating pajamas to the homeless and eyeglasses for the Lion's Club.

Westwind: All Westwind members signed up for their projects at our September club meeting. Members are excited about some of the new projects offered and about returning to some of their old favorites. A few of our Westwind families attended Achievement Night last week. Westwind's Leadership project created our club's National 4-H Week display at Westfield mall near the theaters and Applebees Restaurant. Our theme this year is "What's Your Dream?". Our display features distinguished alumni from the 4-H Program who exemplify leadership, citizenship, education, communication and S.E.T. In the center of our display we feature pictures of a few of our Westwind members, with the question "Where Will these Leaders Be?". The project members enjoyed creating and putting the display together! Westwind officers established our club planning goals for the 2008-09 year. Members are looking forward to another busy, fun-filled year in 4-H.

Rio Vista: Sharlyn Fields/Brooke Hespeler

Rio Vista: Many of our members attended Achievement Night this year and there were several who received awards. Last weekend Rio Vista participated in Airport Day, a local fair promoting the Rio Vista airport, where we set up a booth providing information on joining 4-H and giving away small toy airplanes. It was a success, and we recruited a few new members as well. We had a decorating party last week where we decorated a local store front with different items from our various projects for National 4-H week. This weekend, several of our members will get to be on our 4-H float for the Rio Vista Bass Derby Parade. They have been very excited and enthusiastic while building the float. We have also started planning for our team for Relay for Life, which will be held in May of next year. At our last meeting, we voted on where the donations from our canned food drive should go, and we decided on the local food ministry.

Vacaville: Tricia Kash/Kristin Clark-Webb

Elmira: no report

Golden Hills: no report

Vaca Valley: Since Vaca Valley's last leaders council report we have had our first Community meeting. At that meeting we had an ice cream social, welcome ceremony for new members, installation of officers, introduction of families, and all the participants that went to Solano County Fair and share how they did. Our community service for the month was Suisun Valley Fun Farm Day. We had our members who wanted to help out go to either the Willota Ranch or the Vegetable Patch. At the Willota Ranch they had face painting, a bird show and they made bird feeders with pine cones and peanut butter. At the Vegetable Patch they had karaoke, musical chairs, lemon toss, watermelon seed spitting contest, open market and a police dog show. Other committees we have going on is rebuilding the wonder. Our committee is on task and our club will be going this Saturday and Sunday to help rebuild the

playground at Andrews Park in Vacaville. We also have a committee going for our potluck and pumpkin carving contest during our October community meeting. This year our National 4-H Week display is once again at Ray's Cycle, which is very nice because it is in downtown Vacaville and he leaves the light on during the night. Next month's community pride will be trick or treating for canned goods. One more thing, we can Allysya Thomas for bringing snacks and napkins for this October's Leaders Council meeting.

Vallejo: Ilene Cleveland/Hope Rodriguez

Sherwood Forest: Sherwood Forest had their first club meeting on September 20th. We are also still working on enrollment of new and returning members. For our Community pride this month we did coastal cleanup. Our club reporter did an interview with a local news station called "What's Up Vallejo". We are also still working on our plans for the Harvest Party and where to put our 4-H display for National 4-H week. We are also planning an Ice Cream Social. For the month of October we are going to be doing our community pride to work at the farm as well as putting on a puppet show there.

Staff Report:

Valerie Williams: Email Valerie if you want Halloween bags, Maine Prairie, Rio Vista, Sherwood Forest and Westwind have indicated they wanted them. Enrollments are due October 16th, Vaca Valley's already turned in. Call to make an appointment, date extended to allow all leaders to get their items turned in. Turn Community Outreach in with the enrollment. Clubs that are changing their bylaws have to have the Office review them before they go to the club. There is a template on the website. New affirmative action statement. Primary members must be 5 by 12/31 and regular member can not be over 19 by 12/31. Valerie will forward info on Nut Tree pumpkin cooking contest to Community Leaders.

Sheila Bakke: Report completed for group enrollment. Fifteen projects over the summer session for military program. Trying to get a new session started and a rocketry project.

Carole Paterson: National 4-H Week- All Stars presentation to the Board of Supervisors. All Stars – Brady Baldwin, Will Simmons and Jessica. Next month will submit a start up grant proposal to begin 4-H SET. When 4-H started there was an agriculture concentration. Now 4-H has a new chapter with SET program to assist in education in SET and training of young people.

Committee Reports:

Harvest Fair: Ilene Cleveland/Hope Rodriguez Reminder in club mailboxes. Each club must bring in 1 cake and plate of cookies; each family must bring in ½ dozen cookies and jar of peanut butter. Club booths need to be set-up at 5:00 pm. Westwind will be doing a food booth.

Project Skills Day: Tricia Kash/Kristin Clark-Webb Will be held January 10th at Orchard Baptist Church. Judges are needed, at least 3 per club. Sign-ups are due by November 19th. Working on setting up a silent auction.

Achievement Night: Will Simmons Was held on October 1st and was a successful event. Attended by 109 youth and 73 adults, almost the same attendance as last year. Donated 253 pounds of food to the food bank. Tremont won the highest attendance award with 68% attending.

Incentives & Recognition Committee: Sue Bohannon Emerald Star applications due December 1st. Valerie is updating the application and they will be available on-line. Thank you to record book judges. There were many issues with judging, where

members were placing and project reports. The committee needs to re-visit record books and clarify the requirements. Create an on-line list of events and where they can be counted in the record book. Also need to increase the number of judges required from clubs.

Old Business:

Sectional Leaders Council Youth & Leaders Report: Kathy Brown/Sarah Elder Meeting held September 20th in Pollock Pines, elected new officers. High school lock-in in February possibly in Yolo County. Treasurer's report was corrected to reflect the correct number of counties included. Sectional Presentation Day to be held 3/28/09 at UC Davis, applications due by 3/9/09. Sectional Citizenship conference planned for the weekend of 3/13/09. Cal Conference planned for January 23 – 25 at Walker Creek Ranch. Family and consumer Science field day planned to be held in October 2009. Next meeting 11/15 in Woodland.

New Business:

National 4-H week Displays Contest: Jill Simmons Jill thanked all the clubs who participated. Participants were Suisun Valley, Rio Vista, Maine Prairie, Sherwood Forest, Vaca Valley, Westwind and Tremont. Awards were given for first place to Vaca Valley, second place to Westwind, third place to Tremont. Pictures will be posted to the website.

Community Outreach Reports: Valerie Williams Asked if clubs needed help. Need one email address per club for a community leader to set-up new enrollment system.

CAL Conference: Sarah Elder No information yet

Leadership Retreat: Sue Bohannon Retreat will be on Nov 15th from 9:30 am to 8:00 pm. Theme is What's In Your Toolbox. Retreat is for 6th to 9th grades; for conference rookies to build your own toolbox for leadership skills. Community Service for Sweet Dreams to collect pajamas for kids and stuffed animals. Youth will decorate pillowcases at the conference. Sign ups due by October 24th.

National Science Week Activity: Sheila Bakke Today is National Science Day. Kit given to each group of 4 people includes a cup and hydro gel for activity. Added water to powder in a cup and a gel was created. Really cool experiment!

Announcements: Sue Bohannon

Council Refreshments:

October 8: Vaca Valley (snacks & napkins)

Maine Prairie (drinks & cups)

January 14: Sherwood Forest (snacks & napkins)

Suisun Valley (drinks & cups)

Emerald Star Applications due by December 1, 2008

Next Leaders Council Meeting: January 14, 2009.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 8:23: by Terri Wignall, seconded by Sarah Elder