



On Target



January 2008

New York State 4-H Shooting Sports Newsletter

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Coordinators Comments

Welcome to 2008! Enclosed are many great opportunities for youth and volunteers and we are looking forward to 2008. I am surprised at the number of educators and executive directors who comment on the shooting sports program as I travel across the state. This is a tribute to the 391 certified volunteer instructors who are working to make a difference. Shooting Sports is just another of the many excellent programs that are found under the 4-H/CCE umbrella. It is all about youth development!

The Program enjoyed many successes in the past year and it continues to grow. The calendar is filling quickly, from instructor workshops to shooting opportunities; from reserving equipment for fairs and expos to requesting program support now is the time to plan your year.

Enjoy this newsletter and visit the website at www.nys4hshootingsports.org to see both the year in our annual photo reports or the full length report that was submitted to the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee and the National Wild Turkey Federation, Inc.

Winter Regional Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop February 22, 23 & 24

* Special points of interest:

- * New York State 4-H Shooting Sports Recognition Banquet & Auction
- * National 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop

This annual event continues to grow and despite the chance for lots of snow or below zero weather. Instructors and participants are warmed by the friendliness and good – hot food! A program flier is enclosed. The cost of the workshop is supported by the New York Chapter of the NWTF, Inc. and Federal Cartridge Corporation.

The Annual Regional Winter Workshop will be

held on February 22, 23 & 24 at the 4-H Training Center and hosted by New York, New Jersey, Vermont and New Hampshire. This is truly a regional program with the opportunity to learn from other counties and other states. Six disciplines will be taught: Air Pistol, Archery, Coordinator, Living History, Shotgun and Rifle. At least five participants are needed for a discipline to be offered.

Meals and rustic accommodations are available on site or at your own cost take comfort in one of the many motels in the area. Those coming from surrounding areas can commute.

**9th Annual NYS 4-H Shooting Sports
Recognition Banquet & Auction
April 19 at the Roaring Brook Resort and Conference Facilities
In Lake George, NY**

The banquet has grown each year as more instructors and families learn about the fun, camaraderie and supper opportunities. Mark your calendars, begin to save your pennies and to tell your friends. A special overnight package has been made possible by the good people at Roaring Brook. The event flier and registration form contain all the information.

Date: April 19, 2008

Location: Roaring Brook Resort & Conference Facilities, Lake George, NY

Cost: Dinner Tickets are \$32.00 a person

3-B Special: Single Room—\$125.00 includes 1 banquet ticket and 1 breakfast

Double Room—\$165.00 includes 2 banquet tickets and 2 breakfasts

Drop Ticket Special: \$100.00

Reservations Due: Dinner and 3-B Special (overnight packages) - April 4th
Drop Ticket Special - April 11th

Nominations Needed

The 9th Annual NYS 4-H Shooting Sports Banquet & Auction will be held on **April 19th**. It is important in that volunteers and staff are recognized for their contributions to the program. The categories are divided into three areas based on the length of service; three years or less, around ten years and lifetime achievement. There is also a special achievement category for those who may not fit a specific area.

Please send your nominations to Bill Schwerd at wms4@cornell.edu or snail mail to CCE/Saratoga, 50 West High Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020. The nominations need to be postmarked no later than April 1, 2008.

2008 Specials:

Chain saw carvings from Brian Ruth of Masters of the Chainsaw. Brian is found outside of the Youth Building at the NYS Fair. He is a supporter of our program and provides at least one carving for our auction.

The Canoe Outdoor Package will feature a specially made 16 foot canoe from Bear Creek Canoes. Along with equipment and much more, the winner of this package will be ready for a memorable canoe trip. Jim Vianna of James Vianna, P.L.S. sponsors this package annually.

All donations to the program are tax deductible under current IRS guidelines. Request a receipt at the time of your donation.

Your Help is Needed with the NYS 4-H Shooting Sports Auction

Just a Reminder...items needed for the Auction

The success of the Shooting Sports auction is due to donations and the sponsorships that we receive. The auction committee does a great job of building packages to enhance their value. The key is that we need items—new and used—as soon as possible. (No exercise equipment.) If you have a question as to whether or not your donation can be used, please call.

Your Help is Needed with the NYS 4-H Shooting Sports Auction

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Help is needed from across the state to make the auction a success. We need help soliciting donations including gift certificates, collectibles, antiques, and items that can be "packaged" together.

"Packages" can be varied and unique. If you live in the Finger Lake Region, a Bed and Breakfast stay for two along the Wine Trail would be a good "package" item. The Niagara Frontier might include a ride on THE MAID of the MIST, as

well as lodging. Wines and cheese, jams and jellies, honey, maple syrup breakfast specials, go very well for the auction.

When you turn in donated items, there are procedures that need to be followed. Items need to be in the Saratoga County 4-H Office by **April 1st**. A Donation Record Sheet is enclosed. When you get a donation, this form needs to be **completely filled out** and mailed, emailed or faxed as soon as possible, to the Saratoga county 4-H Office, 50 West

High Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020. This record is very important so that generous donors can be thanked. Additional forms are available from the office by calling (518) 885-8995 or email wms4@cornell.edu.

The banquet/auction is time consuming. Getting materials in early and filling out the forms makes a difference.

2008 New York State 4-H Shooting Sports (Air Rifle) State Championship March 1, 2008

Location: Binghamton Rifle Club. The clubhouse is located at 579 Conklin Road (Route 7), just outside of the Binghamton City Limits 1/4 mile West of Eureka Camping Center.

Directions can be found at BinghamtonRifleClub.org.

Participants: All participants must be 9-19 years old as of October 1, 2007 and registered members of New York's 4H Program to receive ribbons or other awards. Include membership identification numbers on entry forms. If the county program does not use "numbers" to identify its members, the county extension agent must sign/verify membership for each of the entrants from his/her county. (Shooters who have not supplied this information will not be allowed to participate.)

4-H Events: Shooting activities include sporter air rifles only. More specific information regarding this event can be found on the NYS 4-H Shooting Sports website.

4-H Individual Awards: Awards will be given to the top shooter, as well as to the top three shooters in each event by the age group entered. Age groups for airgun are: 9-10 yrs, 11-12 yrs, 13-14 yrs, & 15+ yrs old.

FEE: Ten dollars per event.

For more information contact Rob Jensen in Broome County directly at **607-849-6191** (bc4hss@dishmail.net).

To learn more about New York State 4-H Shooting Sports
Visit our website at
www.nys4hshootingssports.org

Arrows for Sale

The New York State 4-H Shooting Sports Program purchased a quantity of arrows through the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee, we are able to make them available to 4-H programs and instructors.

These Easton aluminum arrows are nocked and fletched. We will sell them in dozen lots for \$18.00 per dozen (\$1.50 per arrow). There will be an additional \$4.00 per dozen for shipping and handling. You can pick arrows up at the Winter Workshop or at the NYS 4-H Shooting Sports Banquet.

Below is a listing of the arrows:

XX75 CAMO HNTR	2213	4" Vane	XX75 CAMO HNTR	2213	4" Feather
XX75 CAMO HNTR	2117	5" Vane	XX75 CAMO HNTR	2013	5" Vane

These new arrows are good for many of our programs, check to make sure that they match the equipment that you will be using. Please put your request in writing using either snail mail or email to wms4@cornell.edu.

New York State 4-H Shooting Sports Camp Participation 2007 PROGRAMS OFFERED

COUNTY	CAMP	SHOOTING SPORTS	BASIC ARCHERY	ADVANCED ARCHERY	AIRGUN/ RIFLE	UNSPECIFIED
Schuyler	Hidden Valley	255				255
Wyoming	Wyomoco	330	330			
Long Island	DP Flint	366				366
Cortland	Owahta	322				322
Ontario	Bristol Hills	371	189	119		
Delaware	Shankitunk	165	165			
Franklin	Overlook	544	265	42	237	494
Jefferson	Wabasso	0	0	0	0	
Long Island	Peconic Dune	494				
	Totals	2847	949	161	237	1437

Annual Reports

Don't forget to complete your county Shooting Sports reports.

We add pictures and other programming information as it is received. The state report is available on the web. If you want a "hard" copy, please print one off the website.

County reports are combined with state activities and provide information to donors and other supporters. The goal for 2008 is to have every county with a program share their highlights with the rest of the state. There is a

Postal Matches in New York State 4-H

The 2008 Washington County 4-H Invitational Postal Match

PURPOSE: To offer all New York State 4-H members an opportunity to participate in a statewide small-bore rifle competition.

TIME: The match will be conducted during the months of January, February, March, April, May and June.

ELIGIBILITY: The match is open to 4-H members of New York State. Each participant must be a New York State 4-H member in good standing and if not a member of a 4-H Shooting Sports club must have passed the required 4-H Shooting Sports course prior to competing in the Postal Match.

MATCH DESCRIPTION: The match consists of the aggregate score from the best three out of four scores from four separate matches completed over the 6-month term of the match. All matches must be completed and submitted prior to the end of June. The matches may be conducted and completed at any time during the 6 month term of the match. More than one match may be completed in any month. Although all matches may be submitted at one time, it is suggested that each club submit their match scores as they are completed.

REGISTRATION & FEES: A \$20.00 registration fee must be submitted for each club. The one fee covers all participants of the competing club regardless of the number of participants from the club. All registrations are due by January 31, 2008. Participants may be added to the clubs roster of competitors at any time during the 6 month course of the match.

Send your registration to: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Washington County
Atten: Chrys Nestle
415 Lower Main St.
Hudson Falls, NY 12839

National 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop

NYS Fun Shoot Dates to be

Announced

Stay tuned for dates and
more information on the
NYS Fun Shoot.

Instructor workshops are the backbone of the 4-H Shooting Sports Program. This year the national workshop will be held in Texas. The application for the national workshop can be found on their website. The requirements are that candidates currently be involved in the 4-H Shooting Sports Program and be certified instructors at the state level. The NYS 4-H Shooting Sports Program will pay \$150 of the \$375 registration fee. This is a great learning experience with 4-H volunteers and staff from across the country.

Completed applications must be in the Saratoga County 4-H Office by January 28. Transportation will not be provided. For more information contact Kenyon Simpson at krs36@cornell.edu or call his home office at (518) 644-2050. Certified national instructors will select candidates if too many applications are received.

NYS 4-H Shooting Sports Equipment

Counties with shooting sports programs and their certified instructors can request equipment for county programs and special events. The most requested items are the two laser shot simulators to promote the program using hands on, realistic experiences. The self-contained airgun trailer is a hit and includes paper and mechanical targets.

Teaching Kits: Thanks to the support of the National Wild Turkey Federation, Inc. and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Inc. we have expanded the number of archery, airgun, muzzleloading and shotgun teaching kits for use in county programs. This is an easy way for new programs to get started.

- All equipment is tested annually; firearms go through a rigorous cleaning and inspection by a gunsmith.
- Archery equipment receives complete review annually and after each time the equipment is used by county and/or state programs.

To Reserve Equipment:

What equipment is available for loan:

- | | | |
|---|-------------|----------------------|
| A. Laser Shot Simulators—2 | | |
| B. Shooting Sports trailer—Airgun Range on wheels | | |
| C. Teaching Kits—Programs in a box | | |
| Archery - 2 | Air Rifle—2 | Table Top Displays—2 |
| Air Pistol—1 | Shotgun—1 | Muzzle Loading—1 |

- A. First come...first served.
- B. **ONLY written** (including email) requests will be accepted through the Saratoga County 4-H Office with the following information:
 1. What equipment you want
 2. The dates you want it including pick up and return
 3. The contact person with telephone number and email address
 An online request form is being developed.
- C. You must receive written confirmation to be on the “official” calendar.

Sportsman Education Workshop

The 21st Annual Sportsman Education Workshop (SEW) will be held on January 19 at the Saratoga Cooperative Extension Offices in Ballston Spa. This event attracts 300 DEC Hunter, Bowhunter and Trapper Training instructors from almost every county in the state. The NYS 4-H Shooting Sports Program hosts this annual event, providing a forum for volunteers and the staff of DEC to discuss issues and to share successes. 4-H Shooting Sports instructors are invited to attend at the discounted rate of \$15.00. Register today and be one of the first 300 to receive a special gift.

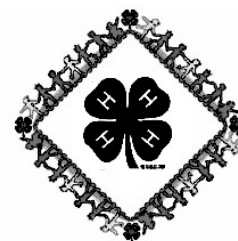
State Fair

It isn't too early to start thinking about the 2008 NYS Fair. Shooting Sports has been asked to return and we will be offering more opportunities for fair-goers to learn about the 4-H Natural Resources Programs. The dates this year are August 20th to September 1st. Opportunities for teen leaders will be found in the state fair teen leader packet that is sent to each county. Shooting Sports Clubs and Special Interest Groups can participate by doing club action booths or assisting in the display area. We are now part of the statewide process.

We will be looking for adult volunteers and 4-H Youth Development staff with an interest in this area to assist during State Fair. Contact wms4@cornell.edu for more information.

Shooting Sports Display Opportunities

Each year there are many opportunities for Shooting Sports to be on display: at county fairs, the NYS Fair, local activities with rod & gun clubs or national brand stores. These are great opportunities to promote county 4-H programs as well as shooting sports. It is a time to work with other groups that may be able to provide space and financial support to continue or expand your program.



4-H Shooting Sports Scholarship

The New York State 4-H Shooting Sports Program sponsors an annual \$1,000 scholarship through the NYS 4-H Foundation's scholarship program. This year one of the requirements of the scholarship is that the recipient has participated in a 4-H Shooting Sports Program during their involvement in 4-H. Applications are available at <http://www.nys4hfoundation.org/scholarships/> This is an excellent chance for 4-H'ers looking for help with their college fees.

Scholarship Contest

Article taken from National 4-H Shooting Sports Newsletter Vol. VII-2

For those of you who are not aware, the National Wild Turkey Federation has a college scholarship program for high school seniors. There are scholarships available at the local chapter level and these winners become the applicants for the state level scholarship. The state winners are then competing for the national scholarship which is worth \$10,000. Two of the last three years, the scholarship has been won by 4-H Shooting Sports youth from South Carolina and Colorado. The application can be downloaded by going to: www.nwtf.org/jakes.

NMLRA Spring & Fall National Shoots

One of the reasons that I enjoy teaching with muzzle loading firearms is that participants can make so much of the equipment that they need. Muzzle loaders learn early on to recycle all sorts of neat stuff.

Often I refer to the spring and fall shoots, sponsored by National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association, as THE IDEA FACTORY. The shoots are held in June and September in Friendship, Indiana.

This is an educational trip. Expenses and equipment needs are reasonable. If you are interested, call Kenyon at, 518-644-2050 for more Information.

Fair Displays

The New York State 4-H Shooting Sports is continuing to experience marked growth in counties that have either never had a program or are bringing the program back after a period of inactivity. Existing programs continue to draw participants.

To maintain this momentum, the 4-H Shooting Sports program needs to be mainstreamed with other 4-H programs. There are two options that will bring more attention to the program and involve 4-H Shooting Sports participants in other traditional activities. These options are:

Fair Displays: The displays can be individual projects, club displays, or both. Some examples of individual projects may include hand-crafted arrows, bows, powder horns, sewn or leatherwork clothing, quivers, or shooting bags.

If a youth or parent inquires about displaying a renovated or kit-built firearm, think carefully about the security of such a display. A locking display cabinet would be recommended. Of course, the fair board, if they are separate from Cornell Cooperative Extension in your county, should be approached as early as possible to gain their permission and to assure such a display is not against fair rules.

Club displays can be illustrated presentations about firearms safety, a special event, etc. Different shooting positions and equipment used to create a sound shooting position can be easily displayed using photos and even “dummy” firearms.

Public Presentations:

Again, here is an opportunity to bring many non-traditional 4-Hers into a traditional 4-H activity. Former 4-H members will tell you that the activity that provided them with the greatest and most commonly used life skill is public presentation site.

Can 4-H Shooting Sports be incorporated into public presentations? Of course they can. Like the fair display, a presentation can cover everything from how to shoot a bow to how to sew a shooting sand bag.

If a youth or leader inquires about having a firearms or archery based demonstration, consider safety and location. All firearms safety rules should be followed if a demonstration is to be allowed. Live ammunition **is not** be allowed at the demonstration.

Location should be considered because many 4-H programs use local schools to host their public presentations. The law may prohibit the possession of a firearm on school grounds. It is recommended that you avoid having that demonstration on school property. If there is an issue, see if you can have the youth present his/her program at a local sportsman’s club. He or she will garner more useful information, gain the respect of his elders, and foster a relationship with a potential program partner.

Let’s bring 4-H Shooting Sports into the forefront of the 4-H programs. Get the word out by encouraging or requiring youth to do fair displays and public presentations. These youth work just as hard and should be proud and encouraged to show off what they have learned!

Upcoming Workshops

New Jersey will offer an April SPRING workshop on the 25th-26th- and 27th. It will be held at Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp near Branchville, New Jersey. Fees will be, \$50.00.

Vermont will be holding their Becoming an Outdoor Family in June. WOW!!! What a nifty program! There will surely be a few Vermonters at the February workshop. Ask them all about it.

There have been requests for additional workshops. If you need a discipline specific workshop, find an appropriate site and at least ten participants. We’ll do our best to meet needs across the state. However, we encourage you to attend regularly scheduled workshops.