

# Wood County 4-H Highlights



**1919** – The Jersey Calf Club was organized. The club became the Duke's Mixture 4-H Club and still operates as the oldest 4-H club in Wood County.

**1923** – 4-H enrollment reached 1,048 members in 76 clubs.

**1924** – Wood County's first 4-H camp was held near the Damascus Bridge along the Maumee River in Henry County. The cost for this first camp was \$2.00 or \$1.00 if the member provided a chicken for food.



**1936** – Lake Farm Club was founded, now known as the Lake Harvesters 4-H Club.

**1947** – With no official Wood County Fair held from 1928-1950, 4-H joined with other civic groups around the county to hold "Harvest Festival" days, a precursor to the current Wood County Fair.

**1950s** – Wood County 4-H clubs raised money to construct a 4-H building on the fairgrounds, now known as the Annex Building.

**1967** – The annual 4-H Club Style Revue was held at the Bowling Green State University Student Union's ballroom. Over 900 clothing, nutrition and other home economics projects were judged and 200 4-H members participated in this event.

**1969** – The ninth annual Wood County 4-H Achievement program was held in Bowling Green at the Junior High School Auditorium.



**1972** – 4-H Advisor Bob Bradley hosted the fourth annual 4-H church ride-camp out at his farm in Rudolph. Members from the Cactus Kids, Buckeye Buckaroos, Ridge Riders, Rudolph Ranglers and the Tally-Ho- Hunt and Saddle 4-H Clubs participated.

**1973** – 4-H Clubs and Volunteers raised funds to build the current Junior Fair Building on the fairgrounds.

**1974** – Wood County 4-H celebrated the 75th anniversary of the national 4-H program at the annual 4-H Ice Cream Social. Over 700 in attendance enjoyed sandwiches, ice cream and pie donated by 4-H clubs.

**1976** – Wood County 4-H sent 203 4-H members for the first time to 4-H Camp Palmer in Fayette, Ohio. Prior to moving to Camp Palmer, 4-H'ers camped at Kelly's Island in Ottawa County.

**1981** – The Wood County 4-H Committee paid off the \$15,000 membership debt to 4-H Camp Palmer. Founded in 1947, Camp Palmer was owned by 10 county 4-H committees at the time Wood County joined.

**1987** – The 4-H Clover Bud Program for members 5-8 years of age was introduced in Ohio. Wood County embraced this program and has over 200 Clover Buds annually.

**1986** – 4-H was celebrated with a festival at the Woodville Mall in the northern part of the county. 4-H members presented demonstrations and displayed project work.



In State Fair style revue  
Wood County participants in the Ohio State Fair 4-H Club style revue in August will be, from left: Kevin Kerr, Cypriot, He & She (Piquette); Ann Balesen, Rudolph, Rudolph Riders and Sir; Terri Marr, Pemberville, New Rochester, Thankyou! Rhonda Shanno, Pemberville, Modern Priscilla, Kitty Converse, Bowling Green, BG Spoon & Sew; Linda Knox, Fostoria, Perry Co. Sisters, and Heidi Hiras, Northwood, Cheerful Stitches. (Sentinel-Tribune staff photo)

**1986** – 4-H members participate in the "Hands Across America." This benefit, staged on Sunday, May 25, 1986, included approximately 6.5 million people holding hands in a human chain along a path across the continental U.S. The Wood County 4-H mile was on State Route 25, just south of Bowling Green.

**1992** – A grant from the National 4-H Council was awarded to Wood County 4-H for the 4-H Clover Buddies program. Laura Jones-Rohlf, former 4-H Program Assistant, initiated a program that enabled several youth with special needs to participate in the traditional 4-H program.

**1993** – Dan Smeltzer, of the BG Clover Connection 4-H Club, received the award of Grand Champion Steer at the Ohio State Fair.

**1994** – 4-H member Ann Masters, of the Lead, Feed & Speed 4-H Club, was the winner of the Ohio State Fair Horse Skillathon.



**2000** – Long-time 4-H advisor Carroll Frank passed away. He served 70 years as a 4-H advisor...undoubtedly one of the longest tenured volunteer leaders in the U.S.

**2002** – The new 4-H Milkshake Barn was born. Fairgoers to this day continue to enjoy the "upgrade" to Old Fashioned Hand Dipped Milkshakes that are made by 4-H Members and volunteers.

**2005** – Thirty 4-H Youth and Mentors learned the art of quilting while stitching lap quilts later donated to the Northwest Ohio Hospice Center.

**2008** – 4-H Honor Court program was started by the Wood County 4-H Committee. 4-H members are recognized with scholarships for their career achievement and dedication to the program.

**2010** – Wood County became part of the 4-H CARTEENS program. This program is a traffic safety course for first-time juvenile traffic offenders, facilitated by older 4-H youth, and is offered in partnership with the Wood County Juvenile Court, the Sheriff's Department, State Farm Insurance and the Wood County 4-H Committee.



**2012** – Bob Blair, of the North Baltimore Alive and Kickin' 4-H Club, is recognized for 55 years of service as a 4-H Volunteer.

**2013** – The official ribbon cutting ceremonies took place for the Wood County 4-H Quilt Square Trail.

