The 4-H Family Newsletter

Ian’s trip to Japan

Water Fun Community

NO Community Club

Recordbook Workshop

4-H Birthdays

4-H Recognition Night

Graham County Fair

Are YOU ready for the fair?

NO Community Club

Recordbook Workshop

4-H Birthdays

4-H Recognition Night

Graham County Fair 4-H Exhibits

7:00 a.m.

Community Service BLM - "Public Lands Day"

9-11 a.m.

"Get It All Together Recordbook Workshop"

5:00 p.m.

4-H Recordbooks Due

5:30 p.m.

Recognition Night Committee meeting

14 - Nov. 6

ARIZONA State Fair

The Japanese Exchange Program includes hosting Japanese students here in Arizona as well as traveling to Japan as an exchange student. Until this summer, Graham County 4-H had not sent a student to Japan. I hosted two summers in a row ('03 and '04) and enjoyed it enough that I wanted to visit Japan. I got my chance last July/August.

For the flight over, I met with 104 other students participating in the program in Seattle. When I got there, we had an orientation that gave us an overall schedule and guidelines for conduct. We were there for one night and left the next morning. It was a straight 10-hour flight to Tokyo. After going through customs, the three exchange programs that were traveling together split up and our group stayed at the Olympic Center overnight before meeting up with our host families.

It is a four-week program that centers on staying with a host family, learning first hand about their culture. The program tries to put you with a family that you have hosted previously. I ended up staying with two families. You may remember Yuto from the 4-H Cultural Camp last year. I stayed with his family for two weeks; Yuto’s family wasn’t able to take me for the whole four weeks because of prior commitments.

Yuto, his 14-year-old sister, and mom and dad live in a third-story (top floor) three-bedroom apartment. The toilet room is separate from the bathroom and there was also a living room/dining room combination and a kitchen. It is about 1,400 sq. ft. which is fairly large for an apartment there. I slept on a futon in the tea ceremony room. Yuto’s mom cared for the house and did laundry every day but usually hung the clothes out to dry rather than using the dryer because it is so expensive. His father was at work (Nissan) every weekday and some weekends. Yuto was on summer break, so we played tennis, hung out with friends, went to see a fireworks show that was really awesome, and also went to Tokyo Disneyland with some of his friends. Most of the rides were the same as those in California.

Between leaving Yuto’s family and going to Ryo’s family, I attended the Utrek Camp for exchange students and their host siblings that lasted four days and three nights. It was high in the mountains at a ski resort, though there was no snow at that time of year. There was a lake there that had the bluest water I’ve ever seen. I saw it on a hike that everyone went on. The food there was very high-class and fancy. Most of the time we didn’t know what it was, but it tasted great. We played games and made crafts; mine was a reed hat. We had a beef curry and rice cooking competition. We had to make it outside and everyone had to help with it in some way. Almost all of the American guys, including me, took over the fire building. During the closing ceremony we had a dance and did games. The next day we went to our second families. I went to stay with Ryo and his family.

Ryo has two sisters (18 and 12) and a grandmother who live with his mom and dad. Both of his parents work (his mom at a home for the elderly and his dad was a handyman). They have a two-level, four-bedroom apartment that was really tight, making it hard to move around. Ryo and I went to street markets, bowling, and an old district that had buildings that were several hundred years old. We also went to the Sony Building that had many really cool things that I will never be able to afford! But it was cool seeing them. We hung out with his friends, eating, playing video games and talking.

At the end of that two weeks, Ryo and I went to the program closing ceremony, meeting up with Yuto again and Kaoru (who I hosted the first summer) and the rest of the exchange students and host families. Then we all went to dinner at an Americanized pizza parlor, named Sharky's and walked around the stores in the area. The families went home and the students went to the Olympic Center in Tokyo. The next day, I flew home with Andrew and William (two brothers from Tucson that I had met before when we all hosted students), stopping San Francisco, then Phoenix. It was a long trip of 13 hours. I had actually been up for 50 hours by the time I got home in Safford.

I had the time of my life, can’t wait to go back, and would recommend it to everyone. If you want to see photos or hear more about the trip, just ask.
September's Community Club was a blast of Water FUN for everyone that attended this event! The water games played were: sponge dodge, human bubble, water slide, and bucket relay. Everyone was soak’n wet by the end of the water fun time and full of delicious watermelon!
ARE YOU READY for the GRAHAM COUNTY FAIR ???
October 6-7-8-9

LOOK for the Graham County Fair Books
NOW available at the Graham County
4-H Office ( 428-2611) and throughout
the valley AT LOCAL BUSINESSES!

FAIR entries are DUE September 30 !!!!

2005 Graham County Fair THEME is
“WHERE FARM AND FAMILY MEET FUN!”

Don’t forget to VISIT the
Greenlee County Fair, Duncan, AZ
at the Fairgrounds
September 22-25 !!
September 24, Open Horse Show
Need more information—call
928-359-2032
GRAHAM COUNTY FAIR!

WHERE FARM & FAMILY MEETS FUN!

527 E. ARMORY RD
SAFFORD, AZ 85546

OCT. 6-7-8-9, 2005
There will be “NO” OCTOBER and NOVEMBER Community Club The 4-H New Year will begin

4-H RECORDBOOKS ARE DUE!!
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2005 TO THE 4-H OFFICE BY 5:30 P.M.

2004 - 2005
4-H RECOGNITION NIGHT

WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17
Club displays are needed for this event!
5:30 p.m. Club set up
6:00—6:30 p.m. mingle, snack and see the club displays
6:30—7:30 p.m. RECOGNITION
Hope to see everyone at this 4-H YEAR-END EVENT!!
1. Attend 75% Project Club Meetings.

2. Attend 75% Community Club Meetings (9 are held 7 = 75%). Or 6 community club meetings with 2 hours of documented community service pre approved and signed, by your leader. Or 5 community club meetings with 4 hours of documented community service pre approved and signed, by your leader. (Must attend entire event to receive credit. One community club credit can be from another county’s community club, if documented correctly.)

3. Demonstration/Informative Speech - County level (in your project area). Must attended entire event to receive credit. Demonstration/Informative speech must be given at one of the scheduled demonstration/informative speech days. DEMONSTRATIONS A demonstration puts words into action. An effective demonstration teaches others how to do something by showing while telling -- and showing really is worth a thousand words. At the end of a demonstration, you should have a finished product to show to your audience. INFORMATIVE SPEECH An informative speech tells about something. Topic must be 4-H project related. It also uses visual aids and should include a minimum of three posters, slides, or other visuals

4. TWO other County 4-H Events:

   A. Fundraiser                      D. County 4-H Camp                      G. 4-H Promotion
   B. Spring/Summer Fair            E. Judging Day                           H. Demo Day Attendance
   C. Parades                        F. County Community Service           I. Awards Night Attendance

5. Recordbook (must score at least a white ribbon)

6. Enter and participate at the county fair in your 4-H project area.

12/13/04

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4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.