Winter, 1999

*** New Name ***

4-H Shooting Sports is now 4-H SAFE
The name of the shooting sports program has been changed to reflect our mission for this program. The program will now be called 4-H SAFE: Sporting Arms Family Education.

Question: Why the new name for shooting sports?

Answer: The 4-H SAFE program has an Advisory Committee with representatives from across Indiana and composed of state instructors, Extension Educators, and members of other shooting-related organizations. Almost a year ago some of these members began discussing the name “shooting sports” and how it might be viewed by citizens unfamiliar with the program, particularly by those who do not see "teaching guns" as worthwhile. After informal discussion outside our meetings a name change agenda item was added for our meeting in August. It was decided then to change the name of the program to reflect two major objectives of the program: safety and family involvement. The new name, 4-H SAFE: Sporting Arms Family Education, was adopted at the meeting in August, 1998. People that are familiar with the program realize that there is great value in this program. We hope to make the educational benefits more obvious to the casual observer.

1998 4-H SAFE Postal League

Ninety-eight (98) youth from eight counties (Bartholomew, Boone, Clinton, Dearborn, Fulton, Lawrence, and Shelby) competed in the 1998 Postal League. Matches for air rifle, air pistol, and .22 rifle were offered, with .22 rifle being the most popular match. Congratulations to all who competed!

.22 Rifle
- Senior High Score: Ryan Mitchell, Boone County, 214
- Intermediate High Score: Isaac Hapanowicz, Dearborn County, 175
- Junior High Score: Andy Clark, Boone County, 158

Air Rifle
- Senior High Score: Matt Bahnsen, Bartholomew County, 260
- Intermediate High Score: J.W. Fansler, Lawrence County, 267
- Junior High Score: Jordan Watson, Clinton County, 148

Air Pistol
- Senior High Score: Matt Bahnsen, Bartholomew County, 77
- Intermediate High Score: J.W. Fansler, Lawrence County, 106
- Junior High Score: Shane Trenary, Clinton County, 41

Coordinators

Copy this newsletter and share with all county instructors.
**Question:** What is the “Guidelines” booklet that new instructors receive at the 4-H SAFE Workshop?

**Answer:** The “4-H SAFE Guidelines” booklet was first introduced in the Spring of 1998 and is intended as a reference book only. It is not intended to replace the specific discipline manuals that instructors get in their discipline sessions. The following list gives the major sections from “Guidelines” and the reason for inclusion:

- **Policy Statement** – Purdue’s certification requirements for this program
- **Objectives** – what the 4-H Youth Department hopes youth will get from this program
- **Disciplines** – Archery, Hunting & Wildlife, Muzzleloading, Pistol, Rifle, and Shotgun. Different counties may choose to support any, or all. There are counties that can offer their youth only one choice, due to instructor and financial constraints, and counties that offer all six disciplines. Subcategories are given for each discipline to give an idea of what instructors might cover in class. Instructors are not obligated to cover these topics and we encourage each county team to determine the most appropriate content for their classes. The maturity and interests of the youth involved should be considered when making these decisions. For example, some counties cover hunting issues and some do not (unless a 4-Her has a specific question).
- **Staff** – paid and volunteer staff overview
- **Resources** – articles written to explain the program and give some guidance for working with youth
- **Volunteer Job Descriptions** – a general overview of what may be involved for leaders. The descriptions are very general and should be adapted to fit county needs.
- **The Indiana 4-H Program** – lists the numerous opportunities for Indiana 4-H youth.
- **Extension Educator Responsibilities** – the county Extension Educator is responsible for most of the support of the 4-H SAFE program.
- **Final Notes to Leaders** – general Risk Management considerations
- **Glossary** – a compilation of shooting terms

Educators or instructors can request a copy from the State 4-H Office. The cost is $ 5.00 per “Guidelines.” Please refer to “Indiana 4-H Shooting Sports Guidelines,” publication # 4-H 854.

**Workshop News**

1999 4-H SAFE Instructor Certification Workshop dates:

- **March 19 - 21, 1999** (due March 5)
- **September 17 - 19, 1999** (due Sept. 3)

Contact your County Cooperative Extension Service Youth Educator for a registration form. The cost is $110 for first time participants. Returning participant cost is $100.
Safety Officer Course

(Note: Information about this course is being given as a service to instructors. Anyone may take the course that is interested (need not be a 4-H instructor). This course is neither required, nor sanctioned, by the 4-H Youth Department. The training that certified leaders receive at the 4-H SAFE Workshops includes safe range set-up and management. This course would be for those who are interested in more time being allotted to the subject and are interested in the NRA RSO certification.)

The new NRA Range Safety Officer course is being offered to interested participants by Mike Maddox. Attendees will receive training in safe range set-up and operation. The class will be held from 9:00 am until 5:30 p.m. on Friday, March 19 at Ross Camp, West Lafayette, Indiana. The cost for the course is undetermined but will be less than $30.00, including materials, lunch and dinner. Participants who successfully complete this course will be eligible for NRA RSO certification. Class size is limited to 20 people. Please contact Mike Maddox (765-583-4670 or mmaddox@aclass.com) for registration information.

The graph below shows how the 4-H SAFE program has grown since it began in Indiana in 1984. 1998 was the 15th year. Many thanks to all the wonderful volunteer leaders that have worked on this program over the years!!!