

Serving Claiborne Parish Through Education

Program Highlights Fall Semester 2003

507 West Main Street

P.O. Box 299

Homer, LA 71040

Office: (318) 927-3110

Fax: (318) 927-3190

E-mail: Claiborne@agcenter.lsu.edu



NORTH CENTRAL REGION

Dr. Allen Nipper, Regional Director

Dr. Jan McDade, FCS Field Program Leader
(North Louisiana)

Mrs. Karen Martin, Regional 4-H Coordinator

Extension Agents for Claiborne Parish

Joan P. Almond – Parish Chair/Agent (Nutrition & Health)

Dora Ann Hatch - Extension Agent
(Community Economic Development Specialist)

Karen M. Martin – Agent (4-H)

Teresa Price – Assistant Agent (4-H)

Cory Talley - Assistant Agent (4-H)

Rafash E. Brew - Area Agent (Horticulture)

John R. Pyzner – Associate Professor
(Commercial Fruits, Nuts & Vegetables)

Ricky L. Kilpatrick - Area Agent (Forestry & Wildlife)

Matthew F. Stephens - Area Agent (Nutrient Management)

NOTE:

Membership and participation in activities and events are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, veteran status, or disability. If you have a disability that requires special accommodation for your participation in the meeting, please contact Dora Ann Hatch at (318) 927-3110

"It is the policy of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability."

Visit our website: www.lsuagcenter.com or
<http://www.agctr.lsu.edu/inst/regions/northcentral.asp>

Louisiana State University Agricultural Center

William B. Richardson, Chancellor

Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station

William H. Brown, Vice Chancellor and Director

Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service

Paul D. Coreil, Vice Chancellor and Director

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture. The Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

Classified Staff

Angela Hood, Secretary

Ag & Natural Resources

4-H and Other Youth Development

- 25 Claiborne Parish 4-H'ers participated in the livestock show at the Claiborne Parish Fair under the following species; swine, beef, dairy, goats, chickens and rabbits. Over 10 adult leaders volunteered their time and service. 20 4-H'ers were able to sell their market animals at the Fair Sale and Auction.
- 3 Claiborne 4-H'ers participated in the 2004 Agricultural Expo in Monroe. Youth worked in the poultry section of Ag Alley, explaining to over 900 4th and 8th graders the lifecycle of a chickens and the purpose of the different types (layer, broilers, exhibition).
- Claiborne Parish Junior Leaders participated in several community service projects throughout the year. Decorating fall place mats for the Council on Aging, Caroling and delivering poinsettias to nursing homes, Valentine's for Vets, Annual Lion's Club Food Drive, baking and delivering cookies to nursing homes.

Community Economic Development

- The Northwest Louisiana Scenic Byway Committee approved a kiosk designed by Louisiana Tech's Dr. Bill Willoughby's architecture students. The kiosk will be placed on highway 2 at the Lisbon Landing.
- 25 Claiborne residents have been involved in resource mapping tourists sites within the parish.
- Working with the Claiborne Parish Police Jury, the LSU AgCenter is assisting with the contour and residential design of a proposed lake between Claiborne and Webster Parishes.
- 18 business owners attended a "Renewal Community" meeting to discuss revitalization application; three filed; one received \$121,000 in tax credits.
- PaPa Simpson's Farm, a new agri-tourism attraction, held its ribbon cutting ceremony on October 1, 2003; over 3000 school aged children visited the farm in October and November.
- 7 entrepreneurs received information on business start-ups; four businesses have opened.

Family and Consumer Sciences

- Portions Classes were held at the Homer Hospital for 10 employees over a seven week time period. Classes were open to anyone interested and were held during lunch time for the employees. All participants received information on general nutrition, exercise, behavior modification and participated in group learning sessions during the classes.
- All reported an increased awareness of healthy weight management as a result of participating in the class.
- Three "Children in the Middle" classes were held for parents going through divorces. The classes are taught to assist parents in coping with the problems caused by divorce and to address the problems of putting their children in the middle of ongoing conflicts. Forty nine people attended the classes from Claiborne and Webster parishes.
- In January, 2004, parenting classes were taught in Haynesville and Homer to aid parents of preschoolers with recommended discipline procedures. The classes were held at the local Head Start centers and were taught in the evening for greater participation from working parents.
- The Office of Family Services asked for a budgeting class to be taught to their clientele. The LSU Ag Center provided leadership in this request and held the class at the Extension meeting room in the Police Jury Complex. The class was taught by the Family and Consumer Science agent. Approximately 12 people participated.
- The newsletter "Serving Louisiana Families" was made available to Claiborne residents who have requested that they receive this valuable information. It is mailed to them on a quarterly basis.
- The Claiborne Parish Fair was held in Haynesville and entries were submitted by parish clientele. The AgCenter agents played a vital role in having the items judged and displayed for the duration of the fair. Parish residents received recognition for their efforts in the parish fair.

- Conducted monthly 4-H club meetings in 21 locations throughout parish. Topics included food safety, Louisiana agriculture, Character Education, community service, and Organ Wise Guys youth health programs. Jr Leader programs coordinated by youth included guest speakers from various occupations including law enforcement, military, Park and Recreation, District Attorney, etc. to fulfill partial requirement for Workforce Prep initiative.
- 12 parish volunteer leaders attended trainings that included parish, regional, and state level trainings such as Project Learning Tree, Regional Leader Training seminar, and State Volunteer Leader training.
- Winning summer camp slogan submitted by Claiborne Parish 4-H'er Lauren Lee.
- 100 elementary students, 15 Jr. Leaders, and 10 volunteer leaders were involved with the annual Project Day that serve to motivate youth to join and participate in 4-H. Educational sessions included Record Keeping, Child Development, Rabbits, Livestock, Fire Safety, Community Service Ideas and Forestry.
- 1000 elementary students, 25 Jr Leaders, 13 volunteer leaders participated in Claiborne Parish Fair School Day. Jr Leaders served as instructors, guides, and coordinators for parish elementary teachers and students. Local public officials served as volunteer instructors during short educational sessions on Stranger Danger, Character Education, etc.
- 20 youth participated by providing 33 entries in the Egg and Poultry Cookery contest. 8 adult volunteers served as judges and coordinator.
- 110 area youth and 18 adult leaders attended and participated in the annual Character Education seminar. State level educators provided the local training.
- 3 teams of youth (total of 12) participated in the 4-H Quiz Bowls during the Louisiana State Fair, placing 1st in the Nutrition Quiz Bowl and 2nd in the Livestock Quiz Bowl.
- 10 4-H'ers attended Short Course, 4 won Blue Ribbons, 2 State Alternates in areas of Horticulture Demo, Child Development, Electric Energy Demo, Personal Development, Dog Care, Home Economics Demo, and Public Speaking.
- 97 youth attended Summer Camp along with 6 Jr Leaders.
- 1 Jr Leader attended Citizenship Louisiana Focus, 1 Jr Leader attended Citizenship Washington Focus.
- 18 Jr Leaders coordinated annual Food Drive to collect approximately 4000 pounds of nonperishable food for parish families during December collaboration with Homer Lion's Club and Brookshires. 20 school clubs participated in parish drive.
- Four 4-H'ers attend Marsh Maneuvers at Grand Terre Island. Youth gained knowledge on costal land erosion and the effects it has on water, land, aquatic life and the economy. One of the four 4-H'ers was invited to attend the Advanced Marsh Maneuvers Camp in Cocodrie.
- 10 4-H'ers attended Short Course. Youth in attendance were able to develop and/or enhance leadership and communication skills through various activities. 40% of Claiborne Parish 4-H youth blue ribboned at the annual event.
- 12 Claiborne Parish Junior Leaders participated in the annual Energy Trip. Youth gained knowledge about the Tennessee Valley Authority and its Electric Coop.