4-H Federation Offers Many Leadership Opportunities

The youth leadership team in Tazewell county is commonly known as 4-H Federation. The group of teens is comprised of 4-H members from throughout the county.

Federation members meet once a month for their regular business meeting in addition to special events and service projects. The members love the social aspects of Federation. The volunteers and staff recognize the quality leadership development that happens with involvement in Federation.

Common leadership roles Federation members take on include Veterans Memorial Fair Board Youth Member, University of Illinois Extension Council Youth Member, Achievement Night presenters, Master of Ceremony for Awards program at Fair, Food Stand Managers, Fair Activities Leaders, Assistant Judges and Jr. Superintendents during the fair, Instructors and Assistants at Clover Clinic and workshops, to name a few.

Their leadership development continues as they work together to plan special events and conduct business meetings. Time management, decision making, clear communication, confidence, mentoring and servant leadership are some of the skills commonly seen in 4-H Federation members. Extension staff and 4-H club leaders often look to Federation members for their input and recommendations on club and county activities. Younger 4-H members look up to Federation members as role models.

This year Tazewell 4-H Federation plans have included a cookout, Christmas party, officer elections, Cards for Soldiers service project, Speaking for IL 4-H training, assisting with Secretary and Treasurer training and volunteering at Clover Clinic. They also have on their year’s plan first aid kit donations as well as their typical responsibilities at the fair.

Federation is open to any current 4-H member 13 years and older. The group meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Tazewell Extension office in Pekin. For more information about 4-H Federation or other 4-H clubs or programs in Tazewell county, contact Anita Wilkinson, 4-H Program Coordinator at 309-347-6614 or aswilkin@illinois.edu.