A formal meeting was not held this month. Our group met at Joann Fabrics in Lexington Park, MD, on January 4th so we could pick out fleece fabric kits to make “No Sew” Blankets. There were many different patterns that were chosen.

After everyone purchased their material, we gathered in a small section of the store and held our Election of Officers. The results were as follows:

President – Christy Cusic
Vice President – Haley Patton
Treasurer – Emily Cusic
Secretary – William Kern
Historian – Katelyn Wood
Reporter – Julie Cusic
Sargent of Arms - Will Patton

Once elections were finalized our group walked next door to Asahi Japanese Steak House and had lunch together.

Our February meeting was held on February 8, 2014 at Patuxent River Naval Air Station’s Movie Theater. The meeting was called to order at 12:57 a.m. Will Patton led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Lauren Hewitt led us in the 4-H Pledge. Since our President was absent from this meeting, our Vice President, Haley Patton conducted the meeting. Secretary, William Kern called roll call by asking us to say our favorite movie title. We had no visitors at this meeting. Treasurer, Emily Cusic read the Treasures report and gave our available balance. No demos were given at this meeting.

The following announcements were discussed from our leader, Ms. Sue.

- Ms. Sue discussed the mandatory Quality Assurance training. Anyone who has an animal project must take this training every 2 years or when they change age divisions.

- Ms. Sue announced that she and Christy will be holding Friday evening workshops at their home for those kids wanting to pass the Level 3 Horse Knowledge Test and Riding Test.

- Tyler Cusic is currently working on planning a Poultry Workshop. If there is anything of interest that you would like included in this workshop, you should see Tyler.

Motion to adjourn was made by Julie Cusic and seconded by Katie Wood.

Popcorn and soda was purchased by families and we all sat back and enjoyed the movie, “Monster’s University”. 

Our club meeting was held at our leader, Sue Cusic’s home and started at 6:54 p.m. Tyler Cusic led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Jocelyn Finnecy led the 4-H Pledge. We answered roll by saying our favorite candy. We had 1 visitor, Demetri Zollars. Secretary, William Kern read his secretary minutes from February’s meeting and asked for corrections. Emily Cusic read March’s Treasurer Report and gave what was available in the bank. We had 3 March demonstrations. Lauren Hewitt gave an art demo on how she made her “No Sew” blanket. Julie Hutson, Maria Bartholomew and Jocelyn Finnecy gave horse demos. Julie Hutson demonstrated the different parts to a horse bridle and was assisted by William Kern. Maria demonstrated the different parts of a horse saddle and was assisted in her demo by Emily Cusic. Jocelyn gave a demo on a horse whip and taught the different techniques on how to properly whip a horse and not hurt it. Jocelyn was assisted in her demo by Haley Patton. After demos were completed, President, Christy Cusic asked for demo volunteers for April’s meeting. Laura Barrett will do a horse demo, William Kern will give a dog demo, Katie Wood will give a photography demo, Lindsay Brackett will give a horse demo, Julie Cusic will give a rabbit demo, and Emily Cusic will give a Poultry demo. Motion to adjourn was made by Ashley Brackett and seconded by Katelyn Wood. Once our business meeting was over our craft for the night was making Seedling Greenhouses.
Our club meeting was held at our leader, Sue Cusic’s home and started at 6:55 p.m. Laura Barrett led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Haley Patton led the 4-H Pledge. We answered roll by saying how our greenhouse seedlings were doing. We had 1 visitor, Tori Shellhammer. Secretary, William Kern read his secretary minutes from March’s meeting and asked for additions/corrections. Two committee’s were established tonight. 1. Club Photography Workshop; committee members: William Kern, Katie Wood, Julie Cusic and Emily Cusic. 2. Family Dinner Night/Club Recognition Night; committee members: Laura Barrett, Jocelyn Finnecy, Will Patton, Haley Patton, Katie Wood, Lacey Welch, Addison Welch, Julie Hutson, and Christy Cusic. Emily Cusic read April’s Treasurer Report.

Emily & Julie Cusic have begun researching ideas for our Community Service Project. A few of our higher voted on ideas were:
1. No-Sew Lap Blankets for Nursing Home or Hospital Patients, 2. Putting together “I-Care” Kits (sample/travel size combs, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, deodorant, etc) 3. Donations to the Ferral Cat Rescue Center 4. Donating our time for “Christmas in April”

William Kern made an announcement that he had AKC German Shepherd puppies for sale. We had 4 demos tonight; William Kern – Dog Demo, Emily Cusic - Poultry demo, Lindsay Brackett – Horse demo, and Laura Barrett - Horse demo. President, Christy Cusic asked for demo volunteers for May’s meeting.
Katelyn Wood – Photography Demo, Will Patton – Peacock Demo
Laura Barrett - Culinary demo

Once our business meeting was over our craft for the night was making a Decoupage Easter Basket.
Our May meeting was held on May 2, 2014 at the home of our leader, Sue Cusic. The meeting was called to order at 6:55 p.m. Lindsay Brackett led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Ashley Brackett led us in the 4-H Pledge. Secretary, William Kern called roll call by asking us to say “here”. The following members were absent: Westin Blake. We had no visitors at this meeting. Last month’s meeting minutes were read, no corrections or additions were needed. Treasurer, Emily Cusic read the Treasures report and gave our available balance.

We finalized our Family Dinner/Club Recognition Night Plans. The date of our dinner will be June 21, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at the home of our leader, Sue Cusic. On the committee is: Laura Barrett, Jocelyn Finnecy, Will Patton, Haley Patton, Katie Wood, Emily Cusic, Julie Cusic, Lacey Welch, Addison Welch, Julie Hutson and Christy Cusic.

We also finalized our selections for our Community Service Project for 2014. We have voted and are going to participate with the following:

- **No-Sew Blankets for Nursing Home or Hospital Patients**
  Organizer: Christy Cusic and Haley Patton

- **Collection for Homeless Shelters**
  Organizer: Lauren Hewitt/Tori Shellhammer/Addison Welch

- **Making of “I-Care” Kits**
  Organizer: Jocelyn Finnecy

- **Ferrell Cat Rescue**
  Organizer: Lindsay Barrett

May demos were: Maria Bartholomew – Dog, Jocelyn Finnecy – Photography, Laura Barrett – Cooking, Katelyn Wood – Horse and Ashley Brackett – Horse.

Ms. Sue reminded all members that if you have not completed you Quality Assurance Training that you have until the 30th of July to do so.

Our craft for tonight was making Fresh Flower Arrangements. We all had a great time doing this and we really came up with a lot of different ideas.
Our June meeting was held on June 6, 2014 at the home of our leader, Sue Cusic. The meeting was called to order at 6:47 p.m. Will Patton led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Laura Barrett led us in the 4-H Pledge. Secretary, William Kern called roll call by asking us to say “here”. We had no visitors at this meeting. Last month’s meeting minutes were read, no corrections or additions were needed. Treasurer, Emily Cusic read the Treasures report and gave our balance.

We finalized the plans for our Photography Workshop. On the committee for this workshop is: William Kern, Emily Cusic, Julie Cusic, and Katie Wood. The workshop will be held at the home of Lindsay and Ashley Brackett on July 11, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Brackett will be giving a PowerPoint demonstration and teaching us the various parts of a camera. We will also be learning the different types of digital cameras.

June demos were: Julie Hutson – Horse, Julie Cusic – Rabbit, Emily Cusic – Poultry, Haley Patton – Horse.

Our craft tonight was Sewing a Pillow. We used stick pins, fabric scissors, fabric, fiber fluff and a sewing machine to complete this project.
Meeting was held on August 23rd at the home of Amy and Justin Brackett.

Members absent were: Haley and Will Patton, William Kern, Julie Hutson, Brianna Riddle.

This meeting was held to begin working on entries for the St. Mary’s County Fair Booth, Banner and Float.

**Booth**
The caption that we decided on will be: “MOOOO YOUR WAY INTO 4-H WITH THE CRAZY CRITTERS 4-H CLUB”

We are going to paint the sides blue with white clouds. The bottom will be green with sawdust. Background is going to be a barn with open doors. Cows will be in stalls at the bottom. Stalls will have name plates labeling the projects and/or animals. Booth will also have trees, bales of hay and a windmill.

**Banner**
Our banner will be decorated with cows to represent each member's names. Cartoon cows were printed and labeled with member's names.

**Float**
Members will be dressed in custom made “cow” shirts along with our “Crazy Critters” costumes. Members will be holding flags with project names on them. So far costume sign up is: Julie – Cow, Tyler – Pig, Addison – Little Pig, Westin – Chicken, Will – Little Pig, Harlan – Bull, Jocelyn – Duck

**Booth Committee**
Maria Barthlomew, Katelyn Wood, Tyler Cusic, Lauren Hewitt, Tori Shellhammer, Christy Cusic, Ashley Brackett

**Banner Committee**
Lindsey Brackett, Julie Cusic, Emily Cusic, Katie Wood, Jocelyn Finnecy, Christy Cusic

**Float Committee**
Harlan Blake, Marina Blake, Lacey Welch, Addison Welch, Laura Barrett, Christy Cusic, Emily Cusic, Julie Cusic, Katie Wood
Meeting was held on September 6th at the home of our leader, Sue Cusic. Meeting was called to order at 3:50 p.m. Jocelyn Finney led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Maria Bartholomew led us in the 4-H Pledge. Roll was called by saying your “favorite craft”. The following members were absent: Addison Welch, Lacee Welch and Harlan Blake. We had one visitor at this meeting. We welcomed, Abbi. Minutes from August’s meeting were read and accepted. Upcoming events were read. The Treasurer, Emily Cusic read the Treasurer’s report and gave the balance in our account to date.

New Business that was discussed: Two volunteers are needed to bake a cake for the Cake Auction on Friday night before the Horse Pull. Julie Cusic and Christy volunteered to make these cakes. We also discussed the schedule for watching the 4-H Building during the fair. We talked about pony rides at the Blessing of the Fleet and we voted to participate in the Veterans Day Parade in November. Raffle tickets for the Cedar Chest and Homemade Quilt are currently being made to be passed out at our October meeting. We had no demos during this meeting. Demos were scheduled for our October meeting. Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Julie Cusic and seconded by Laura Barrett.

After the business meeting, we finalized the booth and banner. We gathered materials for the float. Craft Project for this month was making Stepping Stones and painting Wild Bird Houses.

Our October meeting was held on October 4th and 5th, 2014 at the Blessing of the Fleet. Each member was asked what day they preferred to work and the club was divided into 2 to cover both days of working at the Blessing of the Fleet. Brea Riddle led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Katie Wood led us in the 4-H Pledge. Secretary, William Kern called roll call by saying “here”. We had no visitors at this meeting. Last month’s meeting minutes were read, no corrections or additions were needed. Treasurer, Emily Cusic read the Treasures report and reported our available balance.

Anyone who brought a demo with them was encouraged to do their demo to the public.

We learned how to set up the walking ring for the pony rides, we set up an information booth with all the information about 4-H and how to join. We displayed our club booth from the fair as well as our banner. We received a lot of questions on how to join 4-H. We also received questions from the public asking if they could join 4-H if they didn’t have any animals. The questions that we received helped us with our public speaking skills.

No craft was done at this meeting.
Our November meeting was held on November 7, 2014 at the home of our leader, Sue Cusic. The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. Lacie Welch led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Tyler Cusic led us in the 4-H Pledge. Secretary, William Kern called roll call by asking us if we wanted it to snow or not? The following members were absent: Maria Bartholomew, Marina Blake, Westin Blake, Harlan Blake, Julie Hutson and Brea Riddle. We had 1 visitor (Jordan La- Bille) at this meeting. Last month’s meeting minutes were read, no corrections or additions were needed. Treasurer, Emily Cusic read the Treasures report and gave our available balance.

The group selected and voted on our “Friend of 4-H for 2014”. Billy Bowles, my Pop Pop was selected. He has donated a cedar chest to our club for the past four years to raffle as a fundraiser.

We held elections for 2015. This year we tried something different, we voted on paper ballots like in the real elections. After election speeches were read by all that were interested in running for a position, we voted. Ballots were collected and tallied by a parent and final results were announced by our President, Christy Cusic. The winners are: President – Laura Barrett, Vice President – Haley Patton, Secretary – William Kern, Treasurer – Emily Cusic, Reporter – Julie Cusic, Historian – Jocelyn Finnecy, Sergeant of Arms – Will Patton. Congratulations to all winners.

We also finalized our Holiday Party Plans. The date of our Holiday Party will be December 6, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the home of our leader, Sue Cusic. We voted to have a pot luck, gift exchange and keep the price of the gift under $20.00, and have an ugly sweater contest. Three committees were established to help with the planning of the party. Food Committee – Lindsay Brackett (Chairman), Emily Cusic, Julie Cusic, Katie Wood and Christy Cusic. Decorating Committee – Haley Patton (Chairman), Will Patton, Ashley Brackett, Jocelyn Finnecy, Laura Barrett, Lacie Welch, Addison Welch, and William Kern. Activity Committee - Katelyn Wood (Chairman), Lauren Hewitt, and Tori Shellhammer.

November demos were: Laura Barrett – Photography Demo, Jocelyn Finnecy – Photography Demo, Addison Welch – Craft Demo, Katelyn Wood – Craft Demo, Lindsay Barrett – Photography Demo and Ashley Barrett – Photography Demo.