

Leader Banquet / Awards Survey Results

Total Responses: 39

1.) Have you attended the St. Croix County 4-H Leaders Banquet in the last 3 years?

YES 59%
NO 41%

2.) Please Rate the following for the St. Croix County 4-H Leaders Banquet. (1 = low to 5 = high). *The results of this question were from those who answered YES to question #1.*

Welcoming	3.18
Location & Date	3.41
Food	3.41
Entertainment	2.53
Awards Program	2.94

3.) Clubs have the opportunity to apply for end of year awards. What types of awards does your club prefer to receive? (you may choose more than one) *The results of this question were from those who answered YES to question #1.*

Certificates	46%
Plaques	54%
Medals	23%
4-H Gear	46%
Food	31%
Financial	23%
Other	23%

****Our club works hard to earn the plaque, not sure about other clubs. Most of my kids do not order from the 4-H catalog when given a gift certificate, not sure if that would be a good incentive for us. Money is always good, but we do fundraisers too. They have no place to put a medal unless it is for their county plaques???

****We only applied for awards one year because of the work involved AND the plaque was pointless. Recognition needs to be something that can be shared with members not a silly plaque that a leader gets to store and dust! What would members want?? Even cash/certificate to buy club members a freeze pop at the next club meeting makes more sense.

****I think they should be displayed at the fairgrounds or in the Ag center hallway by the 4-H office.

4.) Below are the categories for the annual club awards. Which areas does your club participate in? (you may choose more than one) *The results of this question were from those who answered YES to question #1.*

Health, Safety, & Environmental Ed.	92%
Recreation	85%
Community Service	100%

5.) Are there any other award categories that you feel should be added. *The results of this question were from those who answered YES to question #1.*

****National mandates

****Membership / Recruitment

****Fieldtrip (did they go somewhere). What about a year in review from each club.

****No, I don't think the categories are the problem. The concern is the high paperwork (for leaders) and low payoff (for members)

****Participation

****Is Health considered STEM? I would be consistent with the 4-H national mandates.

6.) How could we get more people to attend the annual banquet? *The results of this question were from those who answered YES to question #1.*

****Change date and location, make it more inclusive.

****Make sure a mailer goes out to leaders and those youth being awarded.

****Make it more kid friendly

****Don't forget to invite them. Promote it better. Let everyone know that they're welcome.

****Paper invites

****Invitations, invite scholarship winners and trip winners.

****Need to make 4-H families welcomed and provide some value if they're not receiving an award themselves.

****Mmm...this is a tricky question. It is difficult to find the time to go to an event that last so long on a weeknight and is filled with so many old people. Seriously, I am now one of those old people, but it just feels like a bow to all the traditional happenings. The banquet is the same every year and doesn't have a WOW factor or energy of the youth and the now happenings. A complete remodel would be useful and I'm sad that I am at the end of my 4-H career and now people are starting to ask these great questions. I am hopeful that those with more energy can be heard as change needs to happen if 4-H is going to stay real and relevant for years to come. Shake it up! Liven it up! PAY for the darn banquet out of Leaders Council Funds. Seriously, you don't honor people by charging them. Too expensive? Skip the meal and make it a desert only event. Have a barn dance. Game night (Ambassadors/club s each take a booth). Open it up to general public to see how amazing 4-H is. Take a change and try something new.

****If we have a lot of money in our treasury, pay for the meal. We use to but started charging leaders / youth when our funds were low.

****Don't make leaders pay for it. We give all year long so why can't we be pampered just once? Also, it's just plain boring.

****Include club awards at the banquet and make it about the kids instead of just about the leaders.

****Make it a family event; keep it less than 90 min (especially if it's during the week); not sure if you will get more people if you make it a weekend just due to family commitments.

****Make it more fun.

****Talk it up more at club meetings and leaders council.

****Use it as a recruitment tool

7.) What improvements / enhancements could be made to the annual banquet? *The results of this question were from those who answered YES to question #1.*

****More inclusive

****True entertainment – The Attendants from Hudson is a great option

****Maybe have a pizza party or themed banquet, that way you could try a different variety of entertainment.

****Some of the presentations seem a bit too long. We've also run into they take away the cups and water after the meal is over. The presentations can get a big long, and with no beverage options, we've resorted to bringing out own cooler of water/pop the last few years (we don't do coffee).

****Different food once in a while. Its always the same.

****Not sure, I am open to ideas, because attendance is definitely down.

****I liked the year we had a demonstration.

****Change it altogether

****Location could move. You could get a club to host. Most awards are made to kids who aren't there – this is a problem. Make it a fundraiser? Make it a community service environment

****Never was clear to me what the clear purpose/mission of the banquet was; clearly defined time/agenda

****Entertainment should be better prepared. Last year was trip talks and kids were leaving early and not staying to finish the talk

****Registration needs to be more welcoming and informative to newcomers.

8.) How could we get more clubs to submit for annual club awards? *The results of this question were from those who answered YES to question #1.*

****Simplify the forms

****Do we know why they are not? I think leaders are overwhelmed. A mentor program might be part of the answer.

****Make the forms more computer friendly.

****Maybe put it in the communicator. Letting everyone know that they're welcome. Not just leaders.

****Let the KIDS know they're available. I'm not sure most kids/clubs even know about them. We didn't know about them in our previous club at all, and that was a very large club.

****Change the application process to recognizing one significant event /rather than recounting the entire year.

****Teach them, show them, how to complete, maybe make it simpler

****This is tough because it falls on the club leader. Sometimes by this time, you are recovering from record books and are exhausted. Holding it in October is better than late September.

****Make the awards challenge ahead of time. I didn't even know there was an award available to clubs until I started my own club. Next, have the submission be done BY MEMBERS and FUN. How about a video submission? Challenge clubs to have a 3 minute video of why their club should get the award. Show the videos at the banquet. Club does a skit to sell their reason for getting the award. Write a song! What you have now is paperwork created by leaders.

****Maybe talk to general leaders. My club use to submit every year, but I don't know if they still do. Some new leaders/clubs may not know about them???

****Make sure they all know what they are. But the people who select the winners seem to be somewhat biased.

****Make it more important to receive an award. None of the kids really understand the plaque thing or even know what the leader usually writes. It's not important for the kids.

****Make it easier to apply for awards; prizes for winning worth winning.

****Make it less intense. I think essay format scares people.

****Make the application well known to all. Have a workshop in fall / winter for adults to help plan, then how to write the application.

9.) What improvements / enhancements could be made to the annual club awards? *The results of this question were from those who answered YES to question #1.*

****Something the whole club could enjoy not just a plaque.

****Maybe we start presentations while everyone is eating to keep it shorter.

****Let outside judges select the winners for impartial treatment to all clubs.

****Let the clubs know if they are winners prior to the banquet so that the leader can give a push for kids to be there.

****Again – submission should be fun. A contest. Gee, these kids love to compete that is what they do in 4-H. Give them something worth striving for. Make the submission process fun for the clubs. Help them to create more community and sense of who they are as a club as a result of the award process. Show off the products they created (because the submission process should be a growth experience for the clubs). Use technology as a means of submission – videos, Prezis, music, etc. Show off ALL the submissions and make sure that winners get something that can be shared with their club members – pizza party, free bowling night, etc. Something that the club can really say YES! And then get excited to do it again.

****Maybe give each club a sort of plaque like the kids get for their discs, and then give the top clubs a disk. But also...maybe there shouldn't be a "top" club. Maybe clubs should be awarded based on their program and participation. So if three clubs all did equally well, and went through the trouble of submitting a form, just recognize them for what they did. I'm not saying everyone should get first place, but instead of first and second place, just have recognition.

****Selection committee should NOT be members of the leader's council. The form is subjective and there is no objective system to select a club. Maybe club youth officers should have to come and present (like a competition) to win the award...Involve the kids more?

10.) In what other ways could we recognize leaders, clubs, and youth? *The results of this question were from those who answered YES to question #1.*

****We should be recognizing those that earned trips.

****Opportunities at the fair – maybe read those leaders or more years at the same time as the Living Memorial Award.

****Have a leader or club of the month in the newsletter, so other clubs can see what these clubs are doing and so can the members.

****I'm not crazy about rewarding the club with things such as ice cream...then the kids that don't participate in anything are also rewarded. With a plaque the club is all recognized, but the kids that helped earn it, know they helped. Not everything has to be for the whole club, maybe we have outstanding leaders? Leader perfect attendance at Leaders Association meetings. Maybe putting pictures and articles in the paper about 4-Her of the month (or leader) it gets the person recognition and also advertises 4-H and gets us out there in the community. (Rewards don't always have to be something they can touch. Or a 4-H Hall of Fame at the fair with pictures of people that do great things in the county).

****Maybe each club could bring or nominate an outstanding family or youth.

****What about adding a leader award, committee awards?? We need to do a better job at recognizing the great leaders we have.

****How about a functional website? Clubs could be offered the opportunity to submit video of their events, projects or community service. Could provide Twitter or Instagram or whatever so kids are connected with phones and pictures. This would up the sense of community and posting/commenting by youth. Shout outs of WOW would build community. Don't know how to do this? Ask a kid. Get these teens in the world they live in. Do not expect them to conform to traditional 4-H rather be innovative and open to change. Let their voices be heard and they will have ownership. Because 4-H is about building leaders. Do not tell young voices that "it can't be done" or "we don't do it that way" because they will just walk away. Not all new ideas will work. However, if the county is never willing to take risk then they will never be creative. Take a chance. Try something new. PLEASE listen to the voices. They have been there in the past, but these voices asking for change get tired. The county needs to listen. Please!

****Maybe recognize some at the fair – wither during one of the programs under Croix tent or posters??

****It would be fun to have leader awards – kids could vote on this. I think more youth could be recognized. Choose one outstanding 4-Her from each club.

****The best opportunity is at the auction Saturday night to have a short ceremony to recognize youth and clubs. Maybe a 10 minute program (at the most). There's nothing like public recognition to elevate someone's self-esteem. It could be fun to also have a large banner printed with winning clubs that are in the buildings or posted in public places at the fair.

****Communicator (which I think is done already) – really liked that trip winners and graduation seniors were recognized this month.

****By displaying the awards at the fair for all to see, not just the clubs.

****The idea of club banners at the fair is great. That's open recognition of the clubs.

11.) Why have you not attended the annual Leader Banquet? (you may pick more than one option)

The results of this question were from those who answered NO to question #1.

Date / Time / Location	33%
Didn't know about it	19%
Didn't think it applied to you	19%
We're not receiving an award	19%
Other	29%

****I went last year because of my daughter being an ambassador. But otherwise I probably wouldn't have known anything about it or that I was event invited to go.

****I attend, but people are busy and have other priorities.

****BORING! Long. Pointless. Always the same.

****Conflicting activity

****Just so busy with my job that it didn't work out.

- 12.) What would make you attend the Leaders Banquet in the future? (you may pick more than one option) *The results of this question were from those who answered NO to question #1.*
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|--|-----|
| Information about the event | 39% |
| A personal invitation | 30% |
| If you were receiving an award | 26% |
| If a group of people from your club planned on attending | 39% |
| New location | 13% |
| Other | 22% |

****Not on a Wednesday

****I attend

****If it was tied to community service

****Changing it up might help. Also – an email to all would be more personal than in the Communicator. Keep the awards shorter – it gets waaaaay to long = boring. Keep the entertainment good.

- 13.) Would you be more apt to attend the Leaders Banquet if: (you may choose more than one). *The results of this question were from those who answered NO to question #1.*
- | | |
|--|-----|
| It was in a different location | 19% |
| It was a party / picnic not a banquet | 48% |
| If you, your child, or your club were receiving an award | 57% |
| Other | 10% |

****Make it fun! Barn dance...carnival

****We attend when we can. Good time to connect with others and socialize.

- 14.) Does your club participate in the Year End Club Awards? *The results of this question were from those who answered NO to question #1.*
- | | |
|-----|-----|
| YES | 82% |
| NO | 18% |

- 15.) Who do you feel should receive awards at the Leaders Banquet? (you may choose more than one option) *The results of this question were from those who answered NO to question #1.*
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 4-H Leaders | 52% |
| 4-H Club Leaders | 48% |
| 4-H Committee Leaders | 37% |
| 4-H Scholarship Winners | 44% |
| 4-H Key Award Winners | 41% |
| 4-H Trip Recipients | 37% |
| Local Businesses that Support 4-H | 48% |
| 4-H Clubs | 52% |
| All of the Above | 67% |

Other

22%

****First of all we need to know that there are awards to be given out and in what categories.

****It depends on our focus, it used to be meant for the leaders, I believe. We do not have as many active leaders so let's make some changes.

****It isn't who is getting the awards it is just that the award ceremony is too long. Some of the awards could be posted around the room or in a flyer or something with just a few actually coming up to get the award.

****I think this banquet is about the adults and has become a livestock award ceremony. This is not about the members.

****Recognizing 4-H Committee Leaders and / or local businesses could possibly be done during the fair as well.

****If it's the Leaders Banquet, it should be about the leaders. The kids can receive their awards at fair, and/or at least be in the program at the leader's banquet. Having a running video about the seniors was very nice; include the other awardees in that.

16.) What types of club awards would you like to receive? (you may choose more than one option)

The results of this question were from those who answered NO to question #1.

Certificates	57%
Plaques	43%
Medals	29%
4-H Gear	52%
Food	33%
Financial	43%
Other	14%

****I think photos in the local newspapers is a great way to congratulate, recognize, and promote all at the same time!

****Members should get the award not a silly plaque.

****Medals for individuals, but not necessary for Clubs – more to keep track of and store. Maybe there could be a plaque at the County that the winners could be engraved on a plate for that plaque each year.