During the recent meeting of the National 4-H Shooting Sports Foundation it was announced that a donor had stepped forward to start an endowment with the foundation. In 1997 the Foundation was founded to fund and manage the money of the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee. It was decided at that time to try to put aside $10,000.00 of our funds to get an endowment started and to add the same amount each year out of the funds which were donated. That was a dream until January when Ron and Barbara Coburn announced that they wanted to get the endowment started with a $500,000.00 to get the endowment established.

Ron is the CEO of the Savage Arms Company.

Since becoming the President of the National 4-H Shooting Sports Foundation, Ron has been a driving force in working to get funds for the Foundation. He challenged the National Committee to hire a Program Coordinator and after Ken Sabo retired he moved quickly to fill the position of Executive Director for the Foundation.

April 15 is the last day to register for the May national workshop in Washington

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SCI—American Wilderness Leadership School

During the past year the Safari Club International has become a supporter of the National 4-H Shooting Sports program. They have been so gracious as to provide eight scholarships to their American Wilderness Leadership School in Wyoming. The school will be held June 24—July 1. Applications are available through your state 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator. In addition to the scholarships the National 4-H Shooting Sports Foundation is providing $150.00 in travel funds to each 4-H member that has their application selected. There are also four scholarships to the AWLS adult training sessions. Interested 4-H volunteers should apply to the Co-Chair for the National 4-H Shooting sports Committee.

Endowment for Foundation

April 15 is the last day to register for the May national workshop in Washington
In the February of 2004, the National 4-H Shooting Sports Foundation hired John Kvasnicka (Johnny K) to take over the reins of the Foundation after Ken Sabo retired. Johnny K. is a former Extension employee from Minnesota. John was involved in writing some of the curriculum for the Shooting Sports program. The Foundation Board of Directors challenged John with many tasks.

John has been working on several things that will benefit the state program with equipment and fund raising. John has secured a donor to sponsor a training for state 4-H Shooting Sports coordinators. He secured a donation of arrows from the archery manufacturers. These arrows will be made available to all states with 4-H Shooting Sports programs. Arrows will be distributed to state representatives at the workshop and the Invitational. More information on arrows will follow in the near future.

State 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator Training

A special training is in the planning stages for State 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinators this fall. The event will be held in Edgefield South Carolina at the headquarters for the National Wild Turkey Federation. We have ask state coordinators to hold the dates of September 27–29 for this event. During this event, representatives of the National 4-H Shooting Spots Committee and the National 4-H Shooting Sports Foundation will be working together to provide a quality training. The training from the Foundation will give the participants new insight into special offerings from companies on equipment and fund raising packages that will be available to states. They will be sharing how the state and the Foundation can work together for more effective use of Shooting Sports dollars in the future.

The National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee will be sharing about the Strategic Long Range plan they are working to develop. They will additionally share about future program expansion and ways for the states to take advantage of assistance from the National Committee.

Registration will be accepted until April 15 or until the facility is full, which ever comes first. Application are available through state 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinators.

4-H Teen Ambassador Training

4-H Teen Ambassador training will be conducted in conjunction with the National Invitational in Columbia, Missouri. Applications were due on April 1 and that was no joke. All applicants selected will be paying their own way to the training. From the selected applicants, the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee will select the new Teen Ambassador. These youth will represent 4-H Shooting Sports at different venues during the coming year to promote 4-H and the Shooting Sports Program.

National Invitational

The National Invitational will be held in Columbia, Missouri, June 27–July 1. The information for the event and specific rules for each individual event can be accessed through the National 4-H Shooting Sports website.

National Workshop

This year the annual training workshop will be held near Spokane, Washington. The dates for the event are May 15—19.
Meet Carter Schuster—4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador

Carter is a Senior at La Pryor High School in La Pryor, Texas. Carter was selected as an Ambassador during the training at the National 4-H Shooting Sports Invitational. Carter says that 4-H Shooting Sports has taught him leadership and responsibility. He says that it has made him a stronger person in regards to competing against other people. It has taught me gun safety and the results of poor gun safety. It has enabled me to meet other people and also given me confidence to be able to teach gun safety. I have respect for any kind of firearm. Shooting has also taught me to be conservative with my money. I am glad that I have learned this much from shooting and hope to keep on learning throughout the years. Carter has represented the 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador program at the Pheasants Forever Pheasant Fest in Omaha, NB in January and the National Wild Turkey Federation Convention in Nashville, Tennessee in February. Carter hopes to represent his state in the shotgun competition at National 4-H Shooting Sports Invitational. He met the Tennessee 4-H shotgun team while at the NWTF convention. Word has it that they were all females. Carter and his family live out side of La Pryor Texas where his father does guided hunts for deer, hogs and turkeys.

Cameron Schuster — 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador

Cameron Schuster is from La Pryor, Texas where he and his brother live on a ranch that host guided hunts. Cameron enjoys shooting the shotgun. He has participated in USA Shooting events, JOSC summer shooting camps state 4-H shoots held in San Antonio and American Cancer shoots. Cameron says “Shooting Sports has helped me to understand how important firearm safety is as it has taught me how to set goals and that if you are diligent in your work, you can reach your goals. For my family, shooting sports has helped us become very close and has helped us communicate better. “ Cameron represented the Ambassador program at the Pheasants Forever Pheasant Fest in Omaha, NB in January and then went to the National Wild Turkey Federation Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. He hopes to represent his state at the National 4-H Shooting Sports Invitational in June.

NMLRA Offers

During the Shot Show, I had the opportunity to Sit Down with John Miller and Jim Fulmer of the NMLRA (National Muzzleloading Riffle Association). They presented an opportunity for states to raise money. They are offering one family membership to NMLRA as an item for a live auctions, silent auction or raffle. You can go to their website and get in touch with John Miller for information on the offer (nmlra.org). Another opportunity they presented was for local 4-H Shooting Clubs to get in touch with the NMLRA state representative for a list of Charter Clubs in their state. Jim and John indicated that the Charter Clubs would welcome the 4-H clubs and 4-H clubs have use of their ranges if they affiliate.
SHOOTING OPPORTUNITIES

Many of our cooperating associations sponsor postal matches or events for the 4-H members in your club or state to get involved with each year. Go to the websites for National Wild Turkey Federation, Civilian Marksmanship Program, USA Shooting, National Rifle Association, and National Muzzleloading Rifle Association for more information on postal matches, camps and events they sponsor.

National 4-H Shooting Sports

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The National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee is an Affirmative Action organization cooperating with the U S Dept. of Agriculture

We are on the Web  4-H ShootingSports.org

The National 4-H Shooting Sports Foundation is a strong supporter of the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee and Foundation. They support us through financial donations, technical support and personnel. Jim Cassell is the new representative to the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee. Jim recently replaced Jim Smith, a long time representative and strong supporter of the 4-H Shooting Sports Program. Through NSSF you have the opportunity to get your 4-H members involved in the Scholastic Shotgun and the Scholastic Rifle program. NSSF will be sponsoring a fun match at the National Invitational where Invitational participants, family members and coaches can be participants in their spare time. This is an introduction to the Scholastic Rifle Program.

National Shooting Sports Foundation

Safari Club International

The Safari Club International has come on board to sponsor the 4-H Teen Ambassador Program. They have provided eight Scholarship to the SCI American Wilderness Leadership School that is held near Jackson Hole Wyoming. Applications for this event were sent to state 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinators and were due back by April 1. There will be a travel scholarship provided to the selected participants. The travel Scholarship will be provided by the National 4-H Shooting Sports Foundation. Winners of the American Wilderness Leadership Schools scholarships will be announced after May 15.

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