Coordinators Conference – Another Great Conference
Thanks to the 36 attendees from 30 states who were able to join us for another great conference of state 4-H shooting sports coordinators held Oct. 2-5 at Honey Brake Lodge in Jonesville, Louisiana. Watch for information soon as we attempt to gather presentation material and post on the website.

Future National Instructor Workshops
Hosting a National workshop relies on high functioning state programs to provide the equipment and host the workshops with reduced oversight and management from the national committee. The biggest challenge to this approach will be to maintain consistency and continuity of future national workshops. Please note that our National Committee has revised documents relative to hosting a national workshop and those new documents are available on the national website in the State Coordinator Section. The National Committee is currently reviewing a proposal for a workshop in early May 2018 in Iowa. Watch for details soon.

Workshop Application Deadlines:
Fall Workshop - April 1st - May 1st - target for committee response
Spring Workshop - October 1st - November 1st target for committee response

S.T.E.M. Lessons Now Available Online
As you are likely aware, in the last few years, the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee has been working to incorporate more intentional incorporation of S.T.E.M. Activities into the 4-H Shooting Sports Curriculum. The first was the introduction of Colorado Shooting Sports STEM Connections at National instructor training workshops with the intent being that S.T.E.M would be included at State Instructor training workshops and then at the local level with youth participants. Additionally, a sub-committee has worked on a number of S.T.E.M. Activity Sheets for use by 4-H shooting sports instructors. Colorado S.T.E.M Connections and all 12 S.T.E.M. Activity Sheets can now be downloaded from the National 4-H Shooting Sports website on the Instructor Resources Section. http://w3.4-hshootingsports.org/instructor_resources.php
State Demographics Reports
On behalf of the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee, we are requesting 2017 demographic information about your state's 4-H shooting sports program to assist in our fund raising efforts and accountability challenges. It is our goal to provide support for National & State 4-H Shooting Sports Volunteer training, the National 4-H Shooting Sports Championships, Teen Ambassador Leadership Training, our network for State Shooting Sports Coordinators and other 4-H shooting sports program goals.

Any information you provide to us is invaluable!! We are requesting this information by December 15th!! We need the best information you can provide about your 2017 state 4-H shooting sports program. It is important to provide your information in all categories, not just as one lump number of youth participants.

Please submit 2017 data prior to December 15 by either mail or email. Please review the instructions as these may help clarify some of your questions.
1) State Demographics Report Form
2) Instructions for completing Form

Demographics Report for 2016 is available on the national website in Coordinator section:
http://w3.4-hshootingsports.org/coordinator.cfm

4-H Shooting Sports National Championships
Words can't express our appreciation and gratitude to all of our 150 volunteers for all of their hard work and efforts making the 2017 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships a BIG SUCCESS! Also a special thanks to Steve Pritchard. Another New Record Attendance with 706 participating youth representing 36 states at this year's event. University of Nebraska Lincoln Extension 4-H, Fonner Park, Heartland Events Center, the Heartland Public Shooting Park, the Grand Island Visitors Bureau and the City of Grand Island have all come together as local partners to host this national event. Participants compete in one of nine discipline areas including small bore rifle, small bore pistol, muzzleloading, shotgun, air pistol, air rifle, hunting skills, recurve archery and compound archery. Dates for 2018 are June 24 to 29 and again will be held in Grand Island, Nebraska.

Pritchard Receives the Federal Premium Bill Stevens 4-H Leadership Award
ANOKA, Minnesota – July 12, 2017 – Federal Premium Ammunition recently announced the recipient of 2017 Bill Stevens 4-H Leadership Award.

Mr. Steve Pritchard from Nebraska was recently honored with the award.

In 2011, Federal Premium Ammunition created an award to honor those volunteers and professionals involved in the 4-H Shooting Sports Project who have gone the extra mile to achieve the mission of 4-H Shooting Sports.

The award is named after the late Bill Stevens, Federal’s former Conservation Programs Manager who retired in 2007 after 42 years. Stevens played a major role in making the shooting sports a part of 4-H across the nation. He also increased Federal’s support of the 4-H program.

Photo: Steve Pritchard (L) receiving the Award from Conrad Arnold on behalf of Federal Premium.

Pritchard was selected for the award partly because of his service as state coordinator for the 4-H Shooting Sports program for more than 15 years, as well as many other positive contributions to the organization throughout 2017 and prior. Under his guidance and dedication, the shooting sports program in Nebraska has an all-time high enrollment of almost 5,000 youth. Plus, he has also trained nearly 1,000

National 4-H Shooting Sports Teen Leadership Institute On July 25-29, 2017 a select group of thirty teens from 17 states gathered in Gainesville, Florida on the campus of the University of Florida for the National 4-H Shooting Sports Youth Leadership Institute (sometimes referred to as the Ambassador Program). This program is designed to promote 4-H and 4-H Shooting Sports. Youth selected to serve as Ambassadors will receive training that will allow them to return to their homes and advocate for the program at the county, regional, and state level. Some Ambassadors may be asked to support national events as well. Ambassadors provide public relations support at special events such as donor/sponsor functions and also serve as spokespersons for the 4-H Shooting Sports Program, helping to make 4-H and the 4-H Shooting Sports Programs more visible. The Ambassador’s further develop their skills in leadership, public presentation, citizenship, community service, public relations and team building.

Teens were exposed to a panel of industry & association representatives speaking to the youth about the shooting sports industry and how to build relationships and partnerships. The panel included Al Hammond NRA and William (Bill) Cline Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Teens also experienced an etiquette class during the workshop, including an etiquette dinner. The group also enjoyed a visit to St. Augustine. Each 4-H state shooting sports coordinator is encouraged to send candidates to this once in a lifetime experience. States represented in 2017 – AL, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MN, MO, NE, NJ, OK, TN & WI. The next Ambassador Training will be held in Bozeman, Montana during July 2018.

National 4-H Shooting Sports Federal & Champion Tom Knapp Memorial Scholarship
The shooting sports industry lost a tremendous ambassador, teacher and friend in 2013 with the passing of exhibition shooter Tom Knapp. His combination of shooting skills and stage presence inspired an entire generation of new shooters. To honor his memory and continue his legacy of stewardship, Champion® Traps and Targets and Federal Premium® Ammunition teamed with the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee to create the Tom Knapp Memorial
Scholarship. For more than a decade, Knapp represented Champion and Federal around the world at live exhibitions, on television and at countless consumer and trade shows. With the support of his wife, Colleen, Champion extended Knapp’s licensed products program to fund an endowed scholarship that will award $2,500 each to two National 4-H Ambassadors per year.

The 2017 Tom Knapp Memorial Scholarships were presented to Grace Larson (WI) and Sandra Gaylord (CA), during the 2017 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships.

Grace Larson – Spring Valley Wisconsin – 13 years in 4-H plans to attend the University of Wisconsin – Madison to Study – Food Science
Sandra Gaylord – Ivanhoe, California - 10 years in 4-H plans to attend Fresno State University – Study – Plant Sciences

Photo: Grace Larson receiving Tom Knapp Scholarship from Lisa Muzzey, National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee. (not present for photo, Sandra Gaylord)

2017 Daisy / 4-H Scholarships – Congratulations to Kristen B. Weimar from LA & Joseph P. Koffel from WA

4-H Shooting Sports National Committee Members Needed from the Northeast & Southern Regions

- Applications are being sought for National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee members to represent the Northeast & Southern Regions. The application and position description can be found on the National 4-H Shooting Sports website. Application deadline is November 10, 2017. According to the operating guidelines for the national committee, regional representatives to the national committee must be Extension professionals. (Application and additional information included with News Blast as Attachments)

4-H Shooting Sports National Steering Committee (complete contact information is on the website)
Our National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee meets on a monthly basis to provide leadership to this program.

National Committee:

Co-Chairs: Todd Kesner, MT, Kevin Allen, OK, Mark Tassin, LA
Northeast Region: John Bowe, NY, Lisa Muzzey, VT (Opening 2018)
Southern Region: John Long, MS, Tycee Prevatt, FL (Opening 2018)
North Central Region: Nicole Pokorney, MN, Scott Stuhr, NE
Western Region: Jim Wilson, ID, David White, OR
4-H National HQ: Amy McCune

Odds and Ends

- Visit our web-site: www.4-hshootingsports.org
- Be a Fan of National 4-H Shooting Sports on FaceBook!
- Check us out at the 4-H Mall for 4-H shooting sports gear:
  - http://www.4-hmall.org/Catalog/SearchResults.aspx?page=1&SearchQuery=shooting
- Please collect your state 4-H shooting sports DEMOGRAPHICS DATA and submit to National.