A BRIEF HISTORY…

MONROE COUNTY FFA CHAPTERS

MADISON FFA

The Madison FFA Chapter was founded in 2002. In 15 years, the chapter holds a membership of just over 50 members, accounting for a good majority of the secondary school population. During the 2016-17 school year, FFA members have participated in a wide variety of activities and events that help promote student, chapter, and community development including monthly chapter meetings, chapter barnwarming, FFA Week Activities and many others, Adopt-A-Highway, various BBQ’s, various levels of leadership activities, including both State and National FFA Convention. Students enrolled in FFA have numerous supervised Agricultural Experiences including beef production, agriculture services, horse production, and many other placement and entrepreneurship SAE’s. The Madison FFA Chapter prides itself in providing students with opportunities for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.

MONROE CITY FFA

The Monroe City FFA Chapter is comprised of 104 members. Members have a variety of SAE projects ranging from row-cropping, diversified livestock, bee-keeping, vegetable production, veterinary science, tractor repair, outdoor recreation, and much more. The chapter has taken 30 members on an Agribusiness Tour to Memphis, TN in May. The chapter is involved in an array of community service projects including Adopt-A-Highway, canned food drives, hosting an Ag Festival, and helping at various community events and banquets. This past year, the FFA Chapter earned a Gold Emblem rating as a chapter, had 2 students earn their State FFA Degree. The chapter has two advisors, Keriann Brandt and Sean Frankenbach.

PARIS FFA

This year the Paris FFA has been busy; they have participated in many events and activities, but one of the main activities was National Convention, in Louisville, Kentucky. The chapter took numerous students as well as Ag Issues team competing at Nationals and earning 4th place. The kids enjoyed going to many different sessions, the career show, as well as touring Louisville. Also, the students worked hard to fill out proficiency awards and state degree applications. The chapter had 11 students move on to state for proficiency awards. The FFA also has had many other meetings including, a thanksgiving feast, Christmas party, and a healthy lifestyle fitness meeting. Paris FFA members cured hams in December and will be exhibiting hams at the fair as well livestock. The Chapter advisors are Teresa Briscoe and Josh Bondy.
MONROE COUNTY 4-H CLUBS

CANNON KIDS 4-H CLUB

Cannon Kids 4-H Club meets in Monroe City, Missouri. The members’ projects are as varied as their ages and prove that you don’t have to be a farmer to excel as a 4-H’er. The monthly meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month. Each meeting focuses on upcoming 4-H events, community service projects and, of course, the games and snacks. Throughout the year, all club members help in community service, fundraisers, give health talks, and present demonstrations. Club members take pride in their accomplishments at achievement day and county and state fairs. Showing others what they have learned is a rewarding part of 4-H and Cannon Kids members have a history of competing and excelling at state and national 4-H competitions. The club officers for this year are President: Alicia Heineke; Vice President: Lane Mudd & Spencer Fuller; Secretary: Rose Quinn; and Treasurer: Anne Marie Quinn.

EAGER BEAVERS 4-H CLUB

The Eager Beaver 4-H Club of Monroe County was established in the 1950s and is one of the oldest clubs in the county. Eager Beavers was closed for several years, between approximately 1990 and 2011. However, the club was re-established in September 2011, with 43 members answering roll call. The club slogan is “Eager to Learn Together.” The club slogan strongly describes the desires of its members and the adult volunteers associated with the club. Members are dedicated to giving of themselves to make a difference in their lives and in the lives of others. Members work hard on their projects and enjoy learning and succeeding. Group project work is encouraged. The club actively encourages participation in county achievement day, club Christmas float workshop, county 4-H camp, club swim party and individual project exhibits at the local, state and national level. Each year, the Eager Beavers 4-H Club completes a community service project designed to make a difference in the lives of its neighbors. Last year the group received a FCS Grant and a Missouri 4-H Grant and worked with the Paris FFA to upgrade the landscaping at the historic Paris Public School. The Eager Beaver 4-H Club welcomes new or prospective members to attend their regularly scheduled meetings at 7:00 p.m., the 4th Tuesday of the month, in the Paris Library Basement.

HOLLIDAY HORIZONS 4-H CLUB

Holliday Horizons 4-H club was chartered in 1947. Originally the members belonged to a Sheep Club. They showed livestock, cooked, grew crops, did woodworking and sewed. Members still enjoy those projects and some new ones in robotics, photography, shooting sports, cured hams, and cake decorating. Former members serve as leaders and we have second and third generation members enrolled. Nina Kay Donovan, former member, was the Missouri State Fair Queen in 1990. Holliday 4-H joined the Adopt-A-Highway program in 1989 and pick up trash and collect aluminum cans along Rt. A in April and October. Members clean up at Bethel Cemetery in Holliday, participate in Achievement Day, 4-H camp, the Monroe County Fair, and the Fall-into-Paris and Paris Christmas parades. Members volunteer at lots of county events. Fun things we do are a Weiner Roast and Hayride in the fall and swim, bowl, roller skate and Laser Lanes. FCS grants allowed us to purchase a donor plaque and counter top and sink, in partnership with Mark Twain 4-H, for the 4-H building. We went caroling at Christmas. Members keep up with current 4-H events, practice parliamentary skill, give mock demonstrations, get health and safety tips, play games and have refreshments at our regular meetings. Holliday Horizons 4-H Club meets the 1st Sunday of each month at 3:00 p.m. at Holliday C-2 School in Holliday, MO.
MADISON 4-H CLUB

Madison 4-H club was established in 1961 in the small rural town located to the west of Paris on Highway 24. The club has a rich history of members being involved in agricultural, livestock, and shooting sports projects. These projects are still enjoyed by members today; however, member participation expands into projects such as cake decorating, welding, woodworking, arts & crafts, foods, and country cured hams. The club pledges many hours of service to their home town by picking up trash for Adopt-A-Highway; placing flags on the graves of veterans in the Sunset cemetery; and giving gifts, singing, and doing crafts with the residents of Jones Care Center. Members also enjoy participating in Achievement Day, the Monroe County Fair, the Missouri State Fair, and various other local, state and national events throughout the year. The Madison 4-H Club meets on the second Sunday of each month at 4:00 pm at the Madison Lion’s Den.

MARK TWAIN 4-H CLUB

The Mark Twain 4-H Club has been in existence since the early 1950’s, always meeting in Historic Florida, Missouri. The club has had as many as 50 members and as few as 13. Mrs. Grace Hilbert was instrumental in forming the club and was a valued leader for over 30 years. Grace was the cooking leader and also a pro at helping fill out the yearly report form. The Mark Twain Club now gives a food trophy at Recognition Night each year to honor her memory. Our club is very instrumental in giving back to our community which consists of giving to Kids Helping Kids, making decorations and cards then delivering them to residents at Monroe Manor and Miller Retirement during Thanksgiving and Christmas, donating to the food pantry, collecting items for Christmas is Caring, applied for an FCS Financial Grant to purchase and install the new counter top and sink in the 4-H Building, etc. This year our community service project was doing a fundraiser to make Chemotherapy Bags. We sold the bags and with our commission we purchased items (fleece blankets, word search books, chap stick, lotion, etc.) to go into the bags. We then donated the bags to the Monroe County Cancer Supporters to give to cancer patients. Our former club leader and past YPA Jacquie Stuart taught us to always give back to our community. Our club serves several different school districts including Ralls County, Paris and Monroe City. Our meetings are held the first Sunday of the month at 4:00 pm during the school year and 6:00 pm June, July and August at the Presbyterian Church in Florida, Missouri.

PARIS PATRIOTS 4-H CLUB

In 1981, Marcie Buckman and Diana Johannaber began the Paris Patriots 4-H Club with their respective family members. They met at the Production Credit Association building, now Claim Care. 35 years later, the Patriots are still going strong with 19 families and 34 members enrolled working on 100+ projects. They embody the 4-H motto "To make the best better" and complete hundreds of hours of community service yearly, achieving the “Community Service" Award multiple times over the years. They pledge hours to the Paris United Methodist Church, The Paris Senior Center, and the Monroe County Cancer Supporters. The Patriot members also "Learn by Doing," competing in several State and National events, along with having a club member on State 4-H Council. They currently meet the 2nd Sunday of each month at the Paris United Methodist Church with their current club leaders Kim Mitchell and Rebecca Batsell.