



# Tassajara 4H Tattler



**February 2020 edition of Tassajara 4H Club's Newsletter.**

## **Being on Staff at the Bay/Coast Youth Summit**

By: Nikhita Dhamrait

The Bay/Coast Youth Summit was held at Walker Creek Ranch in Petaluma from January 10-12. Attendees at this overnight conference learned and practiced leadership skills through various sessions, activities, and a leadership lab. This year, the theme of the conference was “Ripples of today, waves of tomorrow”, and it was focused on advocacy and learning to speak your opinion on issues that affect your life.

This year, as part of the planning team, I helped plan and organize the summit. After the 2019 conference, I decided I wanted to do more for this event, so I applied and was accepted to the planning team in February 2019. Since then, I have attended monthly video meetings and a two day retreat to work on everything that needs to be done for our summit to function successfully. Though it was a lot more work than attending the summit as a facilitator, I can absolutely say it was worth it.

The monthly planning meetings were very low stress and I never worried about voicing my opinion or suggestions. We divided up all the work and it was not too much pressure or time. Attending the planning team retreat was so much fun; it was held in Yosemite during spring break, and there were kids attending from all over California. I really enjoyed meeting all these kids and learning how their 4-H experience differed from my own. I learned a lot from this whole experience that I now use in my daily life and in leadership roles within my community.

At the actual summit this year, my experience was so much better on staff than previously as a delegate. Not only was it a lot of fun to use the radios and have the whole staff lodge to ourselves, but actually leading sessions and organizing people caused me to practice way more leadership skills than I would have as an attendee. Strangely enough, the most significant thing I learned was actually something very simple. The very first night, I was leading both the facilitator meeting and the welcome assembly, at both sessions I was having a lot of trouble getting everyone to be quiet, even with a microphone. Then, I realized whenever I am at another conference or camp where there are a lot of kids, the staff always uses attention getters! It was so simple but I hadn't even thought about it, a quick google search and some remembering resulted in a nice list of simple attention getters I could use. I ended up pausing the welcome ceremony for a bit to teach them all, and the rest of the weekend went so much smoother because of that. It was very surprising how quickly they worked, but I will definitely be remembering to use them in future situations.

Being on the planning team and attending as staff made my experience at the BCYS exponentially better. If you are interested in joining the planning team for the 2021 summit, the application will be posted here: <https://ucanr.edu/sites/4-HYouthSummits/>. Even if you have never attended the summit but are wanting to gain more leadership experience, I recommend you apply! This past year, three out of eight of the planning team members had never attended the summit before. If you have any questions, feel free to send me an email at [nikhitadhamrait@yahoo.com](mailto:nikhitadhamrait@yahoo.com)

## Poems by Ava Cooyar

### A February Poem

Love is in the Air  
There is lots of Cheer  
Soon it will be Valentine's day!  
February is here.

### Snow Fall

Snow has fallen  
Snow has melted  
Sledding and skiing galore  
But when it melts,  
Spring has come!  
Time for more fun!

### Petals Poem by Mallory Rieth

Slowly  
Time flows slowly  
lazily  
Like petals floating across the wind  
Settling in the river Styx  
Two petals in the clear air  
Dancing along  
through all the blues and oranges in the sky  
And in all the colours of life  
Together circling and swaying  
No other petals in sight  
Just the two speckles of pink  
In the vast clear sky  
Carefully yet casually place by the flick of a brush  
Way above petals grow on branches  
Climbing higher and higher to have more  
Time  
More time to float  
More time to dance with someone else  
But leisurely and in a waltz the clouds will pass  
The mountains will embrace  
And the petals will place their roots in the earth  
Together they will become a new  
But time floats slowly  
So let's enjoy this moment

## Go to 4-H Events!

Every year that I've been in 4-H, our club, Tassajara 4-H, has been notorious for having very few participants at 4-H events- whether they're county-wide or area-wide. As we approach a new decade, I'm hoping that I will see more Tassajara 4-H faces at events like County Presentation Day, where members can practice their public speaking skills, and the Bay Coast Youth Summit, where members can learn about various leadership skills related to advocacy this year. What exactly is so great about going to 4-H events? Well, first of all, they're a great way to start getting more involved in 4-H. Through 4-H events, you are able to meet fellow 4-Hers outside of your club who might do things you might be interested in. Second of all, you can put every 4-H event you go to in your record book, which is always a good thing. And, of course, 4-H events are really fun, and you get to learn so much at events like Showmanship Clinic, when you are able to learn how to properly show a variety of animals. So, Tassajara, go out there, and participate in some 4-H events!

By Kaylee Chan

### Upcoming 4H Events

Register by Feb 24 for County Presentation Day to be held on Feb 29:

<http://4hcontracosta.ucanr.edu/events/presentationday/>

Register by March 23 for the Stills Event being held at the 4H Office in Concord on April 4:

[http://4hcontracosta.ucanr.edu/events/Stills\\_Event/](http://4hcontracosta.ucanr.edu/events/Stills_Event/)

National 4H Beekeeping Essay Competition

<https://ucanr.edu/sites/UC4-H/files/319316.pdf>

California 4H Camping Conference

Sly Park, Pollock Pines, CA

April 3-5

JOANN Clovers for Kids March and April

<https://www.joann.com/4-h/>

Tractor Supply Co. Spring Paper Clover

April 29 - May 10

Fair Registration is open!

<https://contracostafair.com/become-an-exhibitor/>

**Please email any articles, poems, pictures, recipes, or crafts for the March Tattler to [paulseyamelia@gmail.com](mailto:paulseyamelia@gmail.com) by March 15th.**