

4-H Newsletter

March/April 2009



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Missoula County 4-H website: <http://missoulaeduplace.org/4H.shtml>

While much of the county is still covered in snow, it was almost starting to seem like spring in Missoula. Now, even the Extension Office has snow! It's hard to believe, but the current 4-H year is almost half over - I'm sure we are all excited about all the fun we will have and all the hard work we will do over the next 5 or 6 months.

This is a very important time of year to get in the habit of reading each 4-H Newsletter very carefully. Many of the upcoming activities and events have strict registration deadlines. It is crucial that you pay attention to these deadlines so you don't miss out on anything. Please read each section of the Newsletter, and read through the calendar of events at the end so you can stay on top of everything that's happening. Check with your 4-H Club Leader or call us at the Extension Office if you have questions.

I look forward to seeing you all at many of the upcoming clinics, workshops, shows, contests, camps, and other events in the next several months. Be sure to challenge yourself to work harder than ever on your 4-H Projects, and to step out of your comfort zone by trying something new this year. Our 4-H Clubs and county events are great, but sometimes even more fun can be had at out-of-county and at state 4-H events. Get out and explore what 4-H has for you!



Montana 4-H Legislative Breakfast January 2009

Garett Hueffed, Sam Zeiser,
Representative Tim Furey,
Austin Patterson, Katherine Brooks,
Breanna Arnott, and Melody McDaniel

WHAT DO 4-H CLUBS DO FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE?



New Meadows

Made this gingerbread house for the Ronald McDonald House - entered the gingerbread house in a competition and won first place. In the past when the club was NuHope, they did Relay for Life, Walk and Roll for Meals on Wheels, pillowcases for Watson Children's Home, Backpacks for Kids, visited nursing homes, collected pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, as well as individuals being involved in a myriad of other community service projects.

Rocky Mountain Packers

Food Bank drive & make Christmas stockings for Food Bank; highway clean up in the spring; host pancake breakfast at no charge; help Clinton PTA with Easter egg hunt; shovel snow for elderly community members, paint for Clinton Women's Club; make Valentine Cards and deliver to nursing homes & retirement homes; Christmas Carol, raise money to help out families in the community; adopt-a-family for Christmas; refinish reader board at Clinton School (which was donated by the 4-H club years ago); refinish Cougar mounted in front of Clinton School; paint playground equipment at Bonner School; paint lines for games at Clinton School; raise money for Cougar Kingdom; paint "C" on the mountain for Clinton; paint retainer wall (Missoulia).

Seeley Lake Trailblazers

Highway 83 clean up twice a year; bike trail clean-up on Boy Scout Road; Christmas stockings for needy children in the Seeley Lake community; food drive; assist Chamber of Commerce (dog-sled races, marathon, decorating the town for holidays); Christmas monetary giving (food bank, senior center, Paws Up animal shelter, Giving Tree, help Lions Club provide holiday meals for needy families); Community Appreciation Days at the Rich Ranch (members make cookies for this annual event).

Frenchtown Valley 4-H Club

Senior luncheon (make a meal and serve food at the Senior Center in Frenchtown); make Christmas ornaments for a local nursing home & visit and sign Christmas carols.; pet food collections for the local shelters.

Mullan Trail Mustangs

Collect cell phones for soldiers; donate to Ronald McDonald House; make benches for the fair.

Blue Mountain

Spring clean up of I-90 by Frenchtown Pond, 4-H club pays 4-H fees for any child in need; help one or more families during the Christmas season who are experiencing difficulty with a child or financial struggle involving children; Christmas Carol, visit a nursing home and share 4-H projects, pets, music or books . . . this was the most meaningful project of the year because of the great appreciation and thanks we receive from the older or disabled residents - we have visit twice this year.

Lolo Creek

Volunteers at Humane Society and visits nursing homes. If requested, take lambs to church's Easter service.

Petty Mountain Trackers

Highway clean up; and clean up the town of Alberton after Railroad Days in the summer.

Potomac Valley

Organize Drama Festival & provide concessions; host Biker Breakfast on a Saturday morning and provide snacks on Sunday afternoon; Potomac Community Center clean up once or twice a year; highway cleanup twice a year; provide concessions at Double J horse arena events, make Christmas ornaments for the elderly; select names from the Gift Giving Tree and purchase presents for children at Christmas.

Bear Creek Buckaroos

Easter food drive for Food Bank, work at Poverello Center, paint 4-H Exhibit Building, and for eight years collected food at Christmas for social services and held a raffle to help needy families at Christmas.

Clinton Kodiaks

Highway clean up of old highway in Clinton, general clean up such as raking at the Women's Club.



4 - H T E E N C O U N C I L

The newly formed Missoula **4-H Teen Council** is working to plan a 4-H Carnival that will involve all the clubs and promote 4-H to the community. The 4-H Teen Council is a club just for teens. Any 4-H member who is currently 13 or older can attend. The next meeting is **Sunday, March 15th, 2 pm**, at the Extension Office. Contact Isaac Hunter or Hailey Hagan with questions.

ihunter_4h@hotmail.com or pineconeit@yahoo.com



4 - H E X T R A V A G A N Z A

May 7th, 5:30 pm, Ag Education Center

Come enjoy a great meal sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce Agri-Business Committee, and learn from lots of workshops. Last year, more than 200 people attended the Extravaganza! Topics will include Showmanship, Fair interview skills, Help with Project Records, animal nutrition, How to promote the livestock sale and market your animal, how to prepare for the Fair, and more. *Call us with your ideas for workshops.* The 4-H Club with the highest percentage of members in attendance will win a \$100 cash prize!



P H O N A T H O N

Need money to go to 4-H Camp or 4-H Congress? Half of the money you bring in by making phone calls at the Phonathon goes toward payment of your 4-H events. Bring names and phone numbers of people you wish to call . . . **April 29 starting at 6:00 pm, County Extension Office.**



STATE 4-H CONGRESS

July 7-10, MSU Bozeman Campus

Did you know that anyone can attend 4-H Congress? You don't have to win a contest; you just have to be 14 by October 1st, 2008. While many Missoula 4-Hers earn a paid trip to 4-H Congress through competitions (Demonstration, Illustrated Talk, Public Speaking, Quilt Review, Horse Judging, Livestock Judging, Gavel Games, etc.), **you don't have to win a contest or compete at Congress in order to attend Congress.** The Registration Fee is \$195.00, which is a bargain for 4 full days of 4-H activities on a college campus! If clubs would like for someone to speak at your meeting to promote this event, please call the Extension Office. *If you want to attend 4-H Congress but don't have \$195, come to the Phon-a-Thon, make calls and get \$390 in pledges, and your trip to Congress is paid for!*



SCHOLARSHIPS

Seniors in high school will receive Missoula County 4-H scholarship applications in the mail by March 13th. If you are a senior and don't receive the information, call me. **The deadline to apply is April 24.**



LOOKING FOR NEW AMBASSADORS

We are looking for **Missoula County 4-H Ambassadors!** You will find the application and guidelines on the website on the Ambassador page, or you can call Campbell and he will mail them to you. Deadline to apply is **Friday, April 3rd**. To apply, you must be in grades 9-12, and be at least 14 years of age as of October 1, 2009. Your term in this position is from 4-H Congress 2009 to 4-H Congress 2010. Mark your calendar for July 5-7 (Pre-Congress Weekend), and July 7-10 (Congress).



LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Livestock Judging Practice, Tuesday, March 17, 6:00 pm, Extension Conference Room
Everyone is welcome. **"Learn how to judge livestock and give reasons, in preparation for the Livestock Judging Contest on April 25th.**

4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest - Saturday, April 25, 8:30am

The contest will be held at the Ag Education Center. This is a great way to practice your livestock selection and evaluation skills without traveling across Montana to another county's contest. The top Junior and top Senior judges will receive a Montana Silversmiths belt buckle. Senior 4-Hers can earn a paid trip to 4-H Congress! Registration forms will be on the website soon, or call the office for a copy.



R A B B I T & P O U L T R Y

Rabbit Clinics: March 18, April 15, and May 13, 6:00 pm

Extension Office conference room, 2825 Santa Fe Court

Get help completing rabbit workbooks and record keeping journals. At 7:00 pm there will be a special rabbit activity; finishing up by 8:00 pm. The hope is to culminate the monthly activities in June with a showmanship contest, a quiz bowl, and a breed ID contest. If you have questions, please call Cindy at 544-5915.

Poultry Workshop, Thursday, March 26, 6:30 pm

Missoula County Extension Office, 2825 Santa Fe Court

Bring your poultry workbooks as the plan is to work on one or two projects in the workbook as a group plus some other exciting about raising poultry. Do not bring your birds.

Call Laura DeNitto at 273-4645 for further information.

The day of the workshop you may reach Laura on her cell phone: 544-7401.



D O G

Dog Project . . . Sue Neff's Dog Obedience Fun Matches

May 17 - June 7 - July 12 (all Sundays)

Obedience judging begins at noon, and there will be a class for Family Living

Please note - last year there was not a lot of support for these events. Sue began the obedience fun matches specifically for the 4H dog project, over 20 years ago, so that the kids could get some real experience in the ring. She donates time on her ONE day off, and it takes a lot of work to set up for these fun matches. What she needs is for dogs and handlers to come to the matches, and also help setting up and tearing down. Sue has said that if she has another bad year, she will be discontinuing them.



H O R S E

Mandatory Horse Clinic

The annual May 4-H Horse Clinic, **Saturday, May 2nd**, registration begins at 8:30 pm at the **Equestrian Park** in Missoula. The following 4-H Horse Project Members are required to attend this clinic: *Per Horse Committee vote May 14, 2008*

- a) All Horsemanship Level 1, Colt to Maturity Level 1 and Green Horse Level 1 Project Members
- b) Any 4-H Horse Project Member who is new to Missoula County 4-H
- c) Any 4-H Horse Project Member interested in skipping a level (i.e. moving from Horsemanship Level 2 to Level 4).

Contact Missy Miller or Denielle Richardson with questions or for further information.

Missy: millerm@bresnan.net or 240-3450, Denielle: Dlwrichrn@aol.com or 626-4042.

RE M I N D E R: Your "Horse Release" form is due in the Extension Office before you begin 4-H horse practices, and "Me & My Horse" form is due in the Extension Office no later than **May 1st**.

Bear Creek Buckaroos Horse Show, Saturday June 13, Missoula Equestrian Park

Old Horse News

The winners of **Missoula's Fall 4-H Horse Judging Contest** were never officially announced in the Newsletter. The event was held October 19th, at Flying H Stables in Missoula. Novice judges were **Morgan Tucker**, 1st Place, and **Adeline Richardson**, 2nd Place. Junior judges were **Colter Miller**, 1st Place, and **Austin Patterson**, 2nd Place. The top Senior judge was **Secora Richardson**. Congratulations to all of the contestants. Plan to come out this coming October and give these great judges some tough competition!

Free Horse Show, Rosewood Farms in St Ignatius on Saturday, April 25

Show will be double judged with double placings and ribbons. High point awards and door prizes. Entry fee is a donation to our nonprofit riding program or just show for free if you choose. Full day of halter, showmanship, Western classes, and English classes. Open to all age riders and horses of any ability. Show clothes available for use if you need them! We will hold a day of jumping on Sunday, if there is enough interest. We have a jump arena and a cross country course. There will be a bake sale; concession stand and tack swap during the show. If you have items to donate or sell, let me know - call 745-3143 or email sti3143@blackfoot.net

MMC Schooling Shows

April 25 9:00 am - Hobby Horse Arena, 1336 Baypoint Rd, Polson

May 30, 9:00 am - Willowbend Farm Arena, 13400 Turah Rd

Judge: Laura Bakker, Missoula, has been a horse trainer and equestrian instructor 35+ year, specializing in youth and amateur western and English horsemanship, hunter/jumper, team penning. Classes for all levels of experience for both the horse and rider. Walk/trot -jog classes, halter, and showmanship, walk/jog reining, pleasure and equitation for western and English riders. This is a change to get some experience in a friendly atmosphere or to sharpen skills, meet other horse folks and make new friends. Contact Show Secretary, Cheryl Bryant, 458-6165 or govcup@cooper.net visit www.mtmountaincircuit.com for premium, schedule, entry form, and info.

Treasure State Open Horse Show

July 4 & 5 @ Missoula Equestrian Park

Judge: Jacqui Dodd-Duran from Athol, Idaho

English pleasure & equitation, Western pleasure & equitation, Driving, Trail, 10 & under classes, halter, showmanship. Ten high point champion awards

Visit www.treasurestatehorseshow.com for complete info, premium, entry form, and schedule

Other contacts: Barb Rolf, 251-3836 or email krolf@onewest.net Cheryl Bryant, 458-6165 or email govcup@copper.net

MISCELLANEOUS ANIMAL NEWS

Ewe Grant Application

The Montana Suffolk Sheep Breeders Association is awarding **one \$200 grant** to be used for the purchase of a Suffolk ewe lamb or yearling ewe. The grant is for youth between the ages of 9 and 16. For a copy of the application and the grant requirements, contact Campbell at the Extension Office. Applications are **due June 30th**

Hog & Lamb Weigh In @ Ag Education Center

Hog: Thursday, April 16, 4-8 pm

Lamb: Thursday, May 21, 4-8 pm

Make sure you are current on Quality Assurance requirements. You must provide the birth date of your animal, breeder name and address at weigh in.

Market Lambs For Sale

Suffolk Hampshire Cross, born February 1st - February 27th

All lambs are out of the 2008 Grand Champion Open Class and 4-H Ram.

Call Kim Marr, Marr Suffolks, 273-7043, to reserve a lamb for the 2009 fair.

Lambs For Sale: Hampshire/Suffolk cross and some pure Suffolk. Call Brandi at 523-1931.

JACKPOT (tentative)

Bear Creek Buckaroos 4-H Club is hoping to host a J A C K P O T on Saturday, July 11.

Novice Showmen at Fair



- ▶ Top Novice in all categories (horse, swine, sheep, rabbit & poultry) will receive an award.
- ▶ Novice is **not** eligible to move up to compete in junior or senior level showmanship classes.

CAMPS

Youth History Camp at Virginia City, Montana August 2-8, 2009

The Montana Heritage Commission is inviting young people ages 11 to 15 to experience Alder Gulch at their hands-on History Camp scheduled for August 2-8, 2009. Workshops will include outdoor cooking on an open fire, basket weaving, campfire stories, blacksmithing skills, gold prospecting, life on the frontier, daily living skills, tours of historic Virginia City and Nevada City and much, much more! For more detailed information call (406) 843-5247 or visit www.virginiacitymt.com.

2009 Multi-County 4-H Camp Staff has until **March 17** to apply for counselor and counselor in training positions. 4-H Camp will be June 22-27 for Counselors and Counselors in Training (CITs). CITs must be 13 by October 1st, 2008, and Counselors must be 14 by October 1st, 2008. Counselors attend for free; CITs pay the regular camper fee of \$95.00. Applications available on website: <http://missoulawduplace.org/4H.shtml>

Regarding Multi-County Campers . . . registration forms available soon. Campers attend camp Tuesday, June 23 through 11:00 am on Friday, June 26. The fee this year is \$95.00. If you have a child wishing to attend camp but the funds are not available for this type of expense, please contact Campbell to find out about a scholarship.

SHOOTING SPORTS

4-H Shooting Sports Leader Training, April 25-26, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Since we use the National Training Curriculum in Montana, the 4-H shooting sports training workshop in Idaho will qualify for instructor certification for Montana 4-H Shooting Sports leaders. Make sure you let Campbell know if you plan to attend. Fee is \$75. You will the schedule and additional information on our website: <http://missoulaeduplace.org/4H.shtml>

4-H Shooting Sports Leader Training, May 1-2, Laurel, MT

All 4-H Shooting Sports disciplines, including Cowboy Action, will be offered. Cost is \$50.00 per person. For first-timers, the Friday session will last from 6 pm to 9 pm. Returning participants will attend the Saturday session from 8 am to 5 pm. Contact the Extension Office, or visit our website for registration forms, which are due **April 20th**.

FAIR AWARD UPDATE...



Fair Award Sponsors (what I know so far): Mark & Joey Hennes, Iverson Ranch (Charlotte & Denny Iverson), Charlie & Missy Miller, Seeley Lake Auto Parts

Award Changes and/or Additions:

Missoula Veterinary Clinic added an additional Vet Science award

New Meadows 4-H Club is sponsoring additional awards for Self-Determined, Robotics or Web Design

Boyce Lumber changed woodworking gift certificate to \$100 rather than two \$50 gift certificates

The Treasure Chest will award two cake decorating gift certificates and one aerospace gift certificate

Quilters Quarry is now owned by Debbie Snow and she will continue the \$50 gift certificate for Best Overall Quilt



4 - H CALENDAR

March 11	4-H Horse Committee, 7 pm
March 12	Livestock Committee, 7 pm
March 14	4-H Tour of <i>Big Sky Beetle Works</i> in Florence, 10:30 am
March 15	4-H Teen Council, Extension Office, 2:00 pm
March 17	Livestock Judging Practice, Extension Office, 6:00 pm
March 17	4-H Café meeting with all clubs, Extension Office, 6:30 pm
March 17	Multi-County 4-H Camp Staff applications due
March 18	Rabbit Project workshop, Extension Office, 6:00 pm
March 24	Country Fair Committee mtg, Extension Office, 6:30 pm
March 26	Poultry Project workshop, Extension Office, 6:30 pm
March 28	Bitterroot Buckle Horse Show
April 1	4-H Council meeting, Extension Office, 7:00 pm
April 3	4-H Ambassador Applications due
April 8	4-H Horse Committee mtg, Extension Office, 7:00 pm
April 9	4-H Livestock Committee mtg, Extension Office, 7:00 pm
April 11	Bitterroot Buckle Horse Show
April 15	Rabbit Project workshop, Extension Office, 6:00 pm
April 16	Hog Weigh In, Ag Education Center, 4:00 - 8:00 pm,
April 18	4-H Multi County Camp Staff Training, Ronan, TBA
April 20	Registration due for May 1-2 Shooting Sports Leader Training, Laurel
April 24	Senior 4-H Scholarship Applications due
April 25	4-H/FFA Livestock Judging, Ag Education Center, 8:30 am
April 29	4-H Phon-a-Thon, Extension Office, 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm
May 1	4-H Project Add-Drop Deadline
May 1	4-H <i>Horse Release</i> forms and <i>Me & My Horse</i> forms due
May 2	Shooting Sports Leader Training in Coeur d'Alene
May 2	May Clinic for 4-H Horse Project Members, Equestrian Park, 8:30 am
May 7	4-H Extravaganza, Ag Education Center, 5:30 pm
May 21	Lamb Weigh In, Ag Education Center, 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
June 7-14	Citizenship Washington Focus
June 13	Bear Creek Buckaroos 4-H Club Horse Show
June 26	4-H Fair Entry Deadline
July 7, 14, 21	Station Judging for 4-H Horse Project Members
July 11	Tentative date for Bear Creek Buckaroos Jackpot
August 1	Fair interviews
August 8	Fair interviews
August 11-16	Western Montana Fair