



DELTA COUNTY 4-H

TRA Newsletter Supplement - January 2009



Our greatest natural resource is the minds of our children.

Walt Disney

2009 Beef Roast Ticket Sales Contest!



You could win up to \$100.00!



This year, in conjunction with our regular MEMBER ticket sales contest, we are sponsoring an additional prize for the overall member ticket sales winners!

1st prize - \$50.00

2nd prize - \$25.00

3rd prize - \$15.00

This means if you win first place in your age division and first place overall you will receive a total of \$100.00!

There is also a club contest! The clubs who sell the most tickets will win \$50.00, \$30.00, \$20.00 respectively.

Join in the fun, sell tickets like crazy, and let us show YOU the money!!!

THE DELTA COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL HAS APPROVED NEW PRIZE AMOUNTS FOR THE REGULAR CONTEST! NEW PRIZES FOR THE REGULAR CONTEST ARE:

Junior Division (ages 8-13) 1st place \$50.00, 2nd place \$35.00, and 3rd place \$20.00.
Senior Division (ages 14 and up) 1st place \$50.00, 2nd place \$35.00, and 3rd place \$20.00.

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F. Isaac Muñoz
Area Extension Agent
(4-H/Youth)

Colorado State University, U.S.
Department of Agriculture and
Delta, Mesa, Montrose and Ouray
counties cooperating. Extension
programs are available to all without
discrimination.

NEW RULES FOR COUNTY FAIR!

- Market animals to be exhibited in the Delta County Fair must be identified by an ear tag. Members of a sub-committee of the Delta County Fairboard will tag all animals.
- To be eligible for competition animals must have been the property of the exhibitor prior to showing them at the Fair: Beef - 180 days; Swine - 90 days, Goats/Sheep – 60 days.
- Market Beef are required to be weighed and tagged at the initial weigh-in.
- Market swine, sheep and goats will be tagged at the initial weigh-in; however members may choose not to weigh these animals at that time.
- Rate of Gain on market animals will be calculated to the hundredth for Rate of Gain awards.
- If a member chooses not to weigh their swine, sheep or goat at the initial weigh-in they are not eligible for the rate of gain award and will receive a zero for the Premier Exhibitor rate of gain category.

BEEF ROAST TICKETS

2009 Beef Roast tickets are available for pick up by club *Organizational Leaders* at the Delta Extension Office. Proceeds from the sale of tickets support local 4-H activities. Leaders - *please* be sure to stop by and get your tickets! Prices for tickets will be \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 12 years old. Prices will be the same at the door.

Don't forget! There are two ticket sales contests. One for clubs, and another for Junior/Senior 4-H members. Prizes for these contests will be announced in future newsletters so please keep an eye out for that information.

ENROLLMENT REMINDER

ALL 4-H leaders, whether they are returning or new, Organizational Leaders or Project Leaders, need to be sure to enroll in 4-H for the current year! You must enroll to receive manuals, newsletters, and other information.

ATTENTION: Delta County 4-H members **MUST** officially drop livestock, dog, and horse projects on or before May 1, 2009. Members who do not submit an enrollment form to the *Delta County Extension Office* showing that they have dropped one or more of these projects, and who do not turn in a completed record book, will not be allowed to enroll in that project area the following year.

BEEF WEIGH-IN DATE

The Delta County Beef-Weigh-in will be held Saturday, February 7, 2009 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, at the Delta County Fairgrounds in Hotchkiss. 4-H members who want to enroll in the market beef project must have their enrollment for this project in to the Extension Office by 4:30 PM, on Monday, February 2, 2009.

LIVESTOCK WEIGH-IN DATES

Beef Weigh-in

February 7, 2009
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Swine Weigh-in/Tag-in

April 11, 2009
7:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Sheep/Goat Weigh-in/Tag-in

May 5, 2009
5:00 PM – 7:30 PM



LIVESTOCK RECORD BOOK EVALUATIONS

In 2009, Delta County 4-H will be implementing a new procedure to evaluate 4-H livestock record books. The criteria will be the same, but the way we actually review the record books will be different. Up to now, we have requested the cooperation of area judges to help us evaluate these record books to make sure they all comply with the 70% completion requirement. These judges take these record books home and return them to the extension office within a two to three week period. Judges receive a \$2.00 compensation for every record book they evaluate.

The new method, which in fact is common to many other counties, is to ask for the cooperation of a group of local livestock leaders, superintendents, and other adult volunteers with expertise in 4-H livestock projects, arrange for them to meet for an evening, go over an orientation of how to conduct the evaluation, and get all the record books evaluated at one time. In addition to finishing this task on a timely manner, we expect to also have more consistency in the way the record books would be evaluated.

At this time, we're inviting 4-H leaders with expertise in the various livestock projects, to please call Isaac at 874-2198 so we can add you to the list of judges who will be assisting us in this task. The expected date to evaluate these books is mid September.

CLUB COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE UPDATE

Club leaders are ***required*** to update their club council representative list for 2009. Clubs are allowed one council representative for every five members in the club. Council meetings are held every other month, with the meetings rotating from Delta, Hotchkiss, and Surface Creek area. This is an excellent way to stay informed about 4-H events and activities throughout the county, region, and state. In addition, it's fun to meet other 4-H'ers from outside your club.

The Fairboard would like to encourage Senior 4-H and/or FFA members to become Jr. Superintendents at the fair. It will include livestock and Heritage Hall projects. These Jr. Superintendents will be asked to help the adult superintendents with weigh-in, fair set-up, stalling animals, placement of projects, clean-up, etc. Your services will be needed before, during, and after fair. We will make sure you have time to take care of your own projects and enjoy fair, however. Please contact Dorothy Jean Mergelman at 856-6676 for more information.

CLUB OFFICER TRAINING

The Delta County 4-H Council will be conducting a Club Officer Training on Monday, January 12, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the Hotchkiss Memorial Hall. The training will be gin immediately following a brief Delta County 4-H Council meeting. The program will include brief presentations about club officer duties, parliamentary procedure, essentials of leadership, and ways to conduct effective club meetings. Everyone is welcome to attend.

CLUB LEADER TRAINING

2009 will be a year full of changes. We have brand new clubs and clubs under the guidance of new leaders. On January 21st we will have a Club Organizational Leader meeting in Room 234 at the Delta County Courthouse at 6:30 PM. This event will provide you with valuable resources to help you and your club enjoy a successful year.

This training will cover: enrollment procedures; club, members & leader insurance coverage; project record books; Beef Roast club schedule; County Council goals for 2009; TRA/Delta County 4-H Calendar of events; member & leader training support. Please call 874-2195 by noon on January 20th to let us know if you will be attending.

4-H SHOOTING SPORTS OPEN HOUSE



The Delta County 4-H Shooting Sports Leaders have scheduled a 4-H Shooting Sports Open House on Saturday, January 24, 2009, 2 to 5 PM, at Heritage Hall on the Delta County Fairgrounds in Hotchkiss. The purpose of the event is to provide interested youth and their parents basic information about the 4-H Shooting Sports Program. In addition to an orientation on the safety principles and practices taught by 4-H, there will be equipment and supply displays on all shooting sports disciplines offered by 4-H, including: .22 rifle, air rifle, air pistol, shotgun, muzzleloading, and archery. 4-H Shooting Sports Leaders and Junior Leaders will be available to answer questions regarding safety, equipment needed to start the project, practice schedule, shooting sports competition events, 4-H enrollment procedure, and other 4-H shooting sports related questions.



This event is free of charge and open to the public, however, for planning purposes, please call 874-2195 to make a reservation. For more information, please contact Isaac at 874-2198.

A NEW CLUB WITH A HISTORICAL NAME!

When Heidi Simpson gathered her members together to name their 4-H Club they did not realize their new name had a historical 4-H tie. They originally settled on the name Bell Creek 4-H Club but after finding an old sign with the name Bell Creek Buckaroos 4-H Club they decided to amend their new name to match. After further investigation they found out the following: The original Bell Creek Buckaroos 4-H Club was established in 1957 or 1958 by Fredrick Venard of Paonia. At one time it was the largest livestock club in Delta County.

Fred and his wife Joy still live on Crawford Road in Paonia and are still supporters of the Delta County Swine Bred and Fed program. Heidi also believes he also helped establish the Swine Bred and Fed program.

We thought you might enjoy this little piece of fun 4-H history. If you have any fun historical facts regarding the Delta County 4-H Program, please let us know. We love to hear them and to share them!

BEEF BRAND INSPECTIONS

Beef members! Please be sure to have your brand papers done before the initial weigh-in in

February. Contact your brand inspector and he will be happy to help you. Randy Shetley at 874-5558 or Art Flynn at 240-9595.

A MESSAGE FROM HEIDI

Hello Delta County 4-H'ers! It's a New Year, and 4-H is bursting with great opportunities for the 2009 4-H year. Participating in 4-H is like laying the foundation for your future self. As a senior in 4-H and a junior in high school, I now realize the importance of all the 4-H sponsored events that have helped shape me into a better person, someone who has better character, greater responsibility and more friendships. 4-H activities build a foundation that's more than showing an animal or exhibit at the Fair. It's about getting out of one's comfort zone to learn about new and exciting experiences.

There will be several activities throughout the year, the first being the Leadership Development Conference on Jan. 23-25, 2009. Applications are available at the Delta County Extension office. The trip is for senior 4-H members only, and it includes workshops, competitions and dances. I encourage all go on a 4-H trip this year to help build the person you want to be in the future.

I am looking forward to serving the 4-H community. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me. I hope we all have an exciting New Year.

Heidi Gruber, 2009 Delta County 4-H Council President

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NEW PROGRAMS FOR SHEEP AND GOATS

New and exciting things are in the works for the sheep and goat projects. For both projects, the Delta County 4-H Council is researching Bred and Fed programs. The Bred and Fed programs could allow local breeders to be recognized for their excellent breeding throughout Delta County, and it could also recognize the local feed suppliers as well.

In addition, the Council is looking into a Goat Premier Exhibitor program. However, getting any program together is a huge task. It is often said that many hands make light work. So, the Executive Council is encouraging any person in the goat or sheep project to come to the regular council meeting on Jan. 12, 2009. During this meeting we will discuss options for the possible programs. There will be an opportunity to express opinions regarding both programs. These programs would then be presented to the Delta County Fairboard for consideration.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact the Delta County Extension office at 874-2195 or Heidi Gruber at 872-3874.



COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The Delta County 4-H Council will hold a regular meeting on Monday, January 12, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the Hotchkiss Memorial Hall. Several important items are on the agenda for this meeting including the upcoming 4-H Beef Roast.

There will be a Club Officer training that will begin immediately following the meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend.

HORSE LEADERS COUNCIL MEETING



The Delta County 4-H Horse Leaders Council will meet on January 14th at 7:00 PM at the Hotchkiss High School Ag Trailer. Topics to be covered include a review of County Fair Show and Rules.

RETINAL IMAGING OF STATE FAIR LIVESTOCK PROJECTS

In 2009, Delta County will join a number of counties in Colorado in the use of retinal imaging to identify all beef, goat, and sheep state fair market projects. Similar to previous years, members planning to nominate any of these projects for state fair will need to fill out a nomination card at the initial weigh-in/tag-in. At a later date to be announced, these animals will need to be taken to a location to be identified with the actual retinal scanning probe.

A retinal scan is a biometric technique that uses the unique patterns of an animal's retina to identify them. Because of the complex structure of the capillaries that supply the retina with blood, each animal's retina is unique. Research has proven that this technology is a superior method for positively identifying these animals. The retinal scanning system to be used will allow us to document time, date, and location of animals enrolled. A record of the animal's retina scan will be kept on file. When the animal arrives at state fair, officials will be able to scan the animal again to verify that it is the same animal that was originally enrolled.

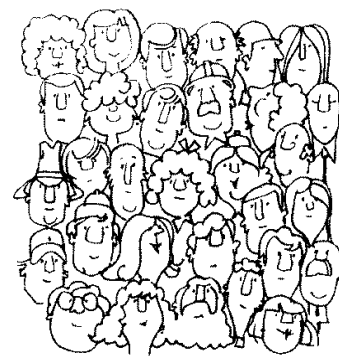
More details about this program will be provided to members planning to nominate animals for State Fair.

DELTA COUNTY 4-H BEEF ROAST CHALLENGE

We **challenge each** of our **Delta County 4-H members** and/or leaders **to sell at least 20 adult tickets** and **10 child tickets** for the upcoming 4-H Beef Roast. The Beef Roast will be held March 8, 2009 from 12:00-3:00 PM at Delta Middle School and Hotchkiss High School. We are sure that each of you knows at least 20 adults. Teachers, relatives, community leaders, day care providers, fast-food workers, neighbors, friends - the possibilities are endless.

It's really not so hard just take some tickets with you everywhere you go and the next thing you know you've sold ten, twenty or even a hundred tickets. Don't forget - **you could win one of our contests!** **Cash prizes** are always good - right?! AND your club can win a total sales contest. This will benefit your club directly which could lead to your club doing some kind of fun activity. How cool would that be? In addition, **every member who meets this challenge** will receive a **special prize**. Nope, we're not telling what it is - you will have to meet the challenge to find out!

In short club leaders have lots of tickets for you to sell. If you don't have tickets, get them from your leader today! Let's make this a record-breaking year for sales. It will truly benefit each and every one of you!



People will be
hungry on March 8th!
Help them out - sell
them some Beef Roast
tickets!
