

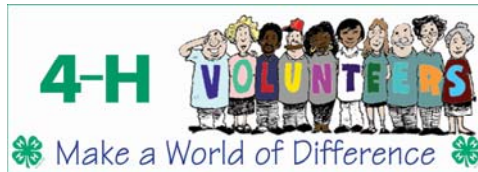


# Clover Times



El Paso County 4-H  
April 2009

A community of young people across America who  
are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.



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### Thank You to our Volunteers!

The theme for this year's National Volunteer Week (April 19-25) is "Celebrating People in Action". Our 4-H volunteers are certainly people in action who generously contribute their time, energy and many talents to the 4-H Program, always endeavoring to "Make the Best Better". Often ordinary people accomplish extraordinary things through service. We appreciate you all!

### Festival of Events News

Festival of Events will be held on April 18 at Skyview Middle School located at 6350 Windom Peak Blvd. Check in is 8-8:30 am. There is a required orientation for participants at 8:30 am. The contests will begin at 9 am. Breakfast items will be available for purchase from County Council. Take Powers Blvd. to Stetson Hills Blvd. and go east. Take the 1<sup>st</sup> left on Tutt, drive north to Snowy River, turn right on Snowy River. You will see the back of the school down several blocks.

*We are looking for parents and leaders to help with registration the morning of the event and assisting judges.* Judge's Assistants are 18 years of age or older and no longer a 4-H member. The Judge's Assistants must be able to stay for the full day or until the judge has completed awarding all ribbons in their assigned contest area and that all score sheets have been completed correctly and taken to the "ribboning room".

*Please consider helping this year* as it is a wonderful learning opportunity for 4-H members and adults. Please e-mail Maureen Bergenfeld at [maureenbergenfeld@elpasoco.com](mailto:maureenbergenfeld@elpasoco.com) if you would like to assist and indicate which role you would like to help out with. Please plan to arrive at 8 a.m. for instructions on April 18th. Thank you for considering volunteering for this event.

### Parliamentary Procedure Contest

The parliamentary procedure contest will start at 12:30 at Festival of Events on April 18<sup>th</sup> at Skyview Middle School. The entry deadline for the Parli Pro Contest has been extended to Monday, April 13. The rules and entry forms are posted at <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu>



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### Member/Leader Training - April 4

We are so fortunate to be able to offer a volunteer development and project member training for the state at the Extension Office from 9 am until 4 pm on April 4. There will be a wide range of workshops with excellent presenters, many from the State. The pre-registration for \$10 is due April 1. Registration at the door will be \$15. For more information visit our website <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu> or contact Jonathan Vrabc at 636-8922 or [jonathanvrabc@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabc@elpasoco.com) Don't miss this fantastic opportunity! *If we have to cancel due to weather that information will be on a recording on our 636-8922 line by 7:30 am.*

## Leader's Lounge

### Club Member/Project List

Club organizational leaders can request a list of their club members and the projects those members are signed up to do for this year by requesting that information from Gay ([gay-leighcamp@elpasoco.com](mailto:gay-leighcamp@elpasoco.com) or 636-8922).

## Small Animal Update

### Rabbit Project

Due to Ellicott's graduation on May 17th, the demonstration and showmanship clinic has been moved to May 24th. Here is an updated schedule: April 26, 2 pm - Book Clinic; May 24, 2 pm - Demonstration and Showmanship Clinic (please bring your rabbit if you plan on practicing showmanship); June 14, see below.

### Rabbit Show

The Falcon Ranchers 4-H Club will be hosting a 4-H rabbit show (not an ARBA show) on June 14th in the Whittemore Building at the El Paso County fairgrounds. All 4-H rabbits will be welcome to show, whether mixed breed or purebred. Included in our fun will be drawings for door prizes and a breed ID contest. We will have a concession stand for lunch and snacks. Watch for more details in the next newsletter. This show will be a great place to ask those last minute questions. For more information contact Kelly by email at [mystic\\_t@falconbroadband.net](mailto:mystic_t@falconbroadband.net) or by phone at 719-332-9267.

### Rabbit Judging Contest

Elbert County will be hosting a rabbit judging contest on Saturday, April 18 at the Elbert County Fairgrounds in Kiowa. Individuals or teams may enter. Registration deadline is Monday, April 13. Call Elbert County Extension for more information 303-621-3162.

### MQA

Rabbit and Poultry project members need to attend an MQA. See article in Livestock section of this newsletter for more information.

### St. Patty's Parade! K9 Drill Team Update

The Parade was a bunch of crazy Irish fun! The dogs had a great time as did the kids and the adults in wild green wigs! After the parade we went for pizza and then to the dog park so the kids and dogs could run off some steam. If you are interested in joining the K9 drill team, please email [falconranchers4h@aol.com](mailto:falconranchers4h@aol.com)



### DOG KIDS!

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Falcon Ranchers Dog show May 17th at the El Paso County Fairgrounds from 9-5. This year the show will offer Rally, Agility, Obedience, and Showmanship! Hope you are practicing! Please email [falconranchers4h@aol.com](mailto:falconranchers4h@aol.com) for all the info!

### First Class of Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Dogs Graduated!

On Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup> our first class of CGC dogs took their test and graduated! The dog/handler teams are: Cheyenne Bilodeau with Folsom; Tom Rooney with Chloe; Bethany George with Toby; Hannah Lawrence with Odie; Samantha Evenson with Cheyenne; Mr. Rooney with Titan; Vlad Lundquist with Cossete; and Brianna Borst with Holly. We are going to start nursing home visits in April. If your dog has a CGC certification and you would like to join us please call. If you are interested in getting your dog CGC certified please contact Mary Killen at [Falconranchers4h@aol.com](mailto:Falconranchers4h@aol.com) or call her at (719)351-7451.

### Grand County 4-H & Open Dog Fun Match

**Date change!** The match will be held Saturday, June 13, 2009 with an 8 am registration, show starting at 9 am. It will be held at Kremmling Town square, Grand County, rain or shine. For More information call Grand County Extension 970-724-3436. Join them for a fun day of 4-H classes, rally, fun match classes for parents, dog costume contest, prizes and much more!

### Revised Dog Project Rules

The revised El Paso County 4-H Dog Show Rules for Obedience and Showmanship are posted on our website <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu> They are also available at the Extension Office for \$1.50.

## Camper's Cabin

### Summer Camps

The Rocky Mountain Math, Science, and Engineering Partnership has scheduled summer camps for middle school and high school students this summer. Goals are to implement hands on activities in math and science, to expose young students to engineering concepts and to provide team work and leadership opportunities. Students will also get the whole college experience, spending a week (or more) living in the CSU residence halls with college student mentors. The camp scheduled for June 14-19 is for students scheduled for grades 6-8 in Fall 2009 with a topic of Climate Change. The camp scheduled for June 21-26 is for students scheduled for grades 9-12 in Fall 2009 with a topic of Renewable Energy. The camps for July 12-17 and July 19-24 are for students scheduled for grades 9-12 in Fall 2009 with a topic of Artificial Intelligence: Computing, Designing and Robotics. The cost is \$350 per week. Scholarships available up to \$300 for limited income families. For more information contact Aaron Benally at [aaron.benally@colostate.edu](mailto:aaron.benally@colostate.edu)

### State 4-H Conference

The State 4-H Conference will be held in Fort Collins June 23-26. The theme is "Go Green 2009". Any 4-H member, age 14-18, may apply to attend the State Conference as a delegate. Registration forms will be posted on our county website <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu> by mid April. Completed forms will be due at the Extension Office by May 21. More information is available on the state website <http://colorado4h.org>

## Fast Tracks

### 4-H Office Coverage

The 4-H Office will not have administrative coverage from June 15 until July 6 (Gay will be off). We will do our best to get information out to you indicating where you can get answers to your questions yourself before that time. But, please do plan ahead. If you need to purchase books or need assistance with anything else relating to fair, now is the time to ask! The following people will be available to answer questions: Livestock and Horse projects - Jonathan Vrabec ([jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com)), Guinea Pig project - Pat Kuhlmann ([wekuhl4h@citystar.com](mailto:wekuhl4h@citystar.com)), Poultry projects - Dawn Wheeler ([wheelersmadhouse@hotmail.com](mailto:wheelersmadhouse@hotmail.com)), Dog Obedience/Showmanship - Linda Maple ([linda14850@cs.com](mailto:linda14850@cs.com)), Dog Agility, Rally, etc., Mary Killen ([falconranchers4h@aol.com](mailto:falconranchers4h@aol.com)), Rabbit projects - Samantha Taylor ([rabit\\_luver\\_5@hotmail.com](mailto:rabit_luver_5@hotmail.com)), Laura Mayo ([mayo4h@aol.com](mailto:mayo4h@aol.com)) and Tabletop projects - Maureen Bergenfeld ([maureenbergenfeld@elpasoco.com](mailto:maureenbergenfeld@elpasoco.com)).

### Project/Club Add/Drop Deadline

The *deadline to change, drop, add projects or change clubs has been changed to May 4* because the Extension Office is closed on Friday. In order to make these changes, either a club leader or parent must complete a "change form" and submit it to the Extension Office by the deadline. There is not limit to the number of projects a member can take. However, realistic goals for success should be set. 100% completion is desirable for both the individual and the club, so don't "bite off more than you can chew"! As you begin to make plans for adding or dropping projects, sit down and think about what you signed up for. Ask yourself the following questions: Will I enjoy the projects in which I am enrolled? Will I complete all my projects? Did I sign up for too many projects? Were the projects I signed up for my choice? Can I afford all these projects? Whatever you decide, proceed with enthusiasm with the desire to learn as much as you can. Have a good time and complete what you start! The change form is posted on our website <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu> as an "add drop form".



### Ribboning Policy for Tabletop Events and State Projects

The following is the El Paso County Ribboning Policy for Tabletop events and State Projects qualifying at County Fair. If you have questions regarding this policy, contact Jonathan Vrabec at [jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com)

Festival of Events, Model Rocketry Fly Day, Fashion Revue: Judges will be asked to pick the top three blue placings. Per state rules, those placing first (whether awarded champion or not) in instrumental, vocal, dance, theatrical, master of ceremonies, creative cooks, cake decorating contest and Model Rocketry Fly Day will have the opportunity to compete at State Fair. Those placing 1<sup>st</sup> thru 3<sup>rd</sup> in demonstrations and seniors placing 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Fashion Revue may also compete at State Fair. Those placing first in senior speech (impromptu and original) will have the opportunity to compete at State Conference. **If no blue ribbons are awarded for that particular event or unit/age group, no contestant will move forward to the State Fair or Conference.**

State Projects: When there are three or more exhibitors in an event or unit/age group, judges will be asked to pick the top three from the blue placings in each of those events or units/age groups. If there are less than three exhibitors in an event or unit/age group where blue ribbons are awarded, the judge has the option of not placing any blue ribbons in a first or second position and thus there will be no state fair qualifiers in that group. Per state rules, those placing first in a unit/age group (whether awarded champion or not) will have the opportunity to compete at State Fair. **If no blue ribbons are awarded for that particular event or unit/age group, no contestant will move forward to the State Fair or Conference.**

NOTE: Everyone should be aware that judges are not required to give a Champion or Reserve Champion ribbon.

#### Criteria for A Blue Ribbon

A Blue Ribbon is awarded to exhibits that rank **\*\*"Excellent"** on the project or contest score sheet, meet the standards and fit well within the ability of most of the exhibitors. An exhibit that has at least 80% of the "Excellent" category marked on the score sheet (with No "Fair or "Needs Improvement" categories marked) should receive a Blue Ribbon Award. Some "Good" categories may be marked on the judge's score sheet.

\*\*Excellent does not indicate perfection, but indicates a high degree of achievement toward the elements in the standards for the exhibits. So remember that the exhibit does not have to be perfect to receive a blue ribbon.

### Fundraising Opportunity

Are you a nonprofit club or organization looking to raise money? The Resource Development Association is looking for a nonprofit group to hire to do trash cleanup after the Auto Races at the El Paso County Fairgrounds in Calhan. They will pay \$200 per race for 11 races. The first race is April 18<sup>th</sup>. Call Suzan at 520-7882 if your group is interested. Proof of nonprofit status will be requested. The races are twice a month on Saturdays, pickup must be done that night or Sunday morning.

### El Paso County Overall Extension Advisory Committee

The El Paso County Advisory Committee is in need of new members. Interested people should be supporters of Extension as a whole, not just one program area. The committee meets once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 5:30 for about an hour or hour and a half. If you are interested in being considered contact Jonathan Vrabec at [jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com) or 636-8922.

### St. Patrick's Day Parade a Success

The St. Patrick's Day Parade was the best every. The weather was perfect and all who participated had a great time. 4-Bits 4-H Club decorated the float and it looked terrific in its simplicity. John Hiller and mom, Carol, made a huge centerpiece which really enhanced the float. Hannah Wysocki made poster sized clovers for the truck panel. A huge thank you goes out to Action Towing for the use of the truck and flatbed. Those clubs that participated along with 4-Bits were the Pals of the Pines and Falcon Ranchers and the K-9 Drill Team. They were all awesome.

There was also a jacket left in the truck. It is a front zipped, brownish striped hoodie, large in size and Top Heavy brand. Email Pat at [wekuhl4h@citystar.com](mailto:wekuhl4h@citystar.com) to let me know what to do with it.

### Shooting Sports Council

The Shooting Sports Council has set some very important dates. There is a new deadline for the Hunter Education Card; we must have your card number on or before June 20<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't attended the class and have not received a Hunter Education Card, you will not be able to compete in the competition per the County Standing Rules, and the State 4-H Shooting Sports Rules and Regulations. We have set June 20<sup>th</sup>, as our County competition this year. Of course if there is a rain out, snow storm, or some other inclement weather, we will move the competition to June 27<sup>th</sup>, our "backup date". Information for the locations and start times will be posted in the next newsletter. County Practice Schedule is now available to all. If you have not received one yet, let me know and I will e-mail you one, or make sure you receive it. Contact me at [jbirsik@netzero.net](mailto:jbirsik@netzero.net). Remember, you only need to do one e-record and tabletop in any discipline of your choice to complete the project. The competition is optional and we will allow you to compete in all of the disciplines as long as you have completed two practices in each of the shooting events you want to participate in. If you missed our mandatory meetings, contact any of the Shooting Sports Council members or myself as soon as possible. Our next Council meeting will be April 18, 2009 in Calhan at the Balsick residence.

### June 3<sup>rd</sup> Summer Fest 2009 Day Camp

Senior 4-H'ers who would be interested in presenting a workshop at this event for junior and intermediate 4-H'ers please go to our website <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu> and fill out a request to present form and mail it in. Topics can be on anything but a suggestion would be to do something on an aspect of a 4-H project or 4-H which you feel comfortable with and think you can help everyone in attendance improve at. Workshop proposals are due by April 4<sup>th</sup>. You will be notified by April 30<sup>th</sup> if you are selected to present. If you have questions please contact Mandy Cramer ([mcramer@pcisys.net](mailto:mcramer@pcisys.net) or 265-6185). Junior and Intermediate 4-H'ers mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend as the senior 4-H'ers will be passing on what they have learned. It promises to be fun and exciting.

### Lightning Photos Wanted

The State 4-H Office is looking for lightning photos taken by intermediate or senior 4-H members to assemble for a photography exhibit that will appear in the Denver Museum of Nature and Science from October 1 through December 31, 2009. The exhibit will be showcased as a traveling gallery over the next two years. Twenty lightning photography images will be selected at the 2009 Colorado State Fair photography exhibit to be included in this gallery. The State 4-H office will also offer a \$100 premium to 4-H members whose lightning photography images are selected to be in the gallery. More information is available at <http://colorado4h.org>

### Wind Power Exhibits Wanted

The State 4-H Office wants to showcase the new pilot Wind Power pilot project by inviting 4-H'ers to participate in a public exhibition of wind powered machines, vehicles, or sculptures that they have created. The public exhibit will be held at the 2009 State Fair. These items will not be judged. Five of the wind powered devices will be selected for display at the 2009 Colorado 4-H Gala on October 9 at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Refer to the article in the March newsletter or go to [http://www.colorado4h.org/project\\_resources/erecords/activities/powerofwind.shtml](http://www.colorado4h.org/project_resources/erecords/activities/powerofwind.shtml)



### Colorado 4-H Jazz Band

Attention 4-H musicians...a Colorado 4-H Jazz Band is being put together for the upcoming Colorado 4-H Gala in October. Hopefully this group will become a permanent fixture for the Colorado State 4-H Program. To audition, submit a completed audition form (available at the Extension Office or from Jeramy) and a 2 minute audition tape (music CD, cassette tape, VHS or DVD format) to Jeramy by May 1. For more information, contact Jeramy at 719-767-5716 or [jeramy.mcneely@colostate.edu](mailto:jeramy.mcneely@colostate.edu)

### Farm Day

The El Paso County Farm Bureau will be hosting Farm Day at the Union Printers' Home on May 1 from 8:30 am until about 2 pm. This year 4-H clubs can compete for prizes - \$200 for 1<sup>st</sup> place; \$100 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and \$50 for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. This is a great way for clubs to present projects in a professional way and also to provide a community service. RSVP to Amy Sears 719-541-5217 no later than April 13. Judging criteria and more information is available on our website <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu>

### Model Rocket Contest

The COSROCS (Colorado Springs Rocket Society) is holding "May-Mania," a fun model rocket contest on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:00 a.m. at their Peyton launch site. Prizes will be awarded in each age group and event category. Ages are broken down according to 4-H years and adults are encouraged to participate as well. Go to [www.cosrocs.org](http://www.cosrocs.org) for location directions and specific event rules and information. Youth 18 and under are free, adults will pay \$1 per event or \$3 for all four events. The contest events are parachute spot landing, "A" motor parachute duration, "B" motor streamer duration, and mini-madness: mosquito, swift or quark "1/2A" 13mm motor, a timed event.

### Douglas County Spring Dance

Everyone (4-H'ers and friends) is invited to the Spring Dance at the Douglas County Fairgrounds on Friday, April 10 from 8 pm - 10:30 pm. The evening is open to all ages - dancing, crafts and 4-H fun. The cost is \$3/person, \$5/couple and \$7/family. Call the Douglas County 4-H Office 720-733-6940 if you have questions.

### Youth Service Day

Next month millions of young people will feed the homeless, clean up neighborhoods, tutor sick children, film public service announcements, save endangered animals and engage in a host of other activities as part of the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Global Youth Service Day, <http://www.globalyouthserviceday.org/> The event runs from April 24-26. Get involved!

### 4-H Million Trees

This is a large scale service learning project with the goal to plant 1,000,000 trees across the US by 2011 to beautify America, absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide and combat global climate change. More information is available on <http://www.4hmilliontrees.org/>

### National Soil Project

4-H families and members can help contribute to a project to do soil analyses of agricultural topsoils from different parts of the U.S. 4-H'ers can help to collect samples that can be analyzed to give a much clearer assessment of the health of the nation's soils. For more information go to <http://www.colorado4h.org/Blog/?p=225>

## Fair Time

### Fair Entry Deadline for 4-H

Fair entry forms for 4-H are due at the Extension Office by 5 pm on Thursday, June 11 (not a postmark date). Entry forms and fees are due for dogs (attach a vaccination record to entry form), guinea pigs, llamas, poultry, rabbits, tabletop projects, contests, livestock (attach a W-9 for market animals), and fashion revue. Entry forms and officer books are due for club secretary, treasurer and historian. The shooting sports competition entry forms are due to James Irsik by June 6. All entry forms will be posted on our website shortly - <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu>

### Treasurer's Book

The Treasurer's book which is due at the Extension Office by June 11. Treasurers should not complete the section titled "Completing the Annual Summary Financial Report". This information will be completed by the Organizational Leaders in the fall when they complete the annual report for their club.

### Exhibit Requirements

Exhibit Requirements for Tabletop, Small Animal and Livestock will be posted on the county website <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu> shortly. The Exhibit Requirements for State Tabletop projects are posted on the state website <http://colorado4h.org> These documents will give you critical information about exhibits and county fair schedules - be sure to read them!

### Fairground Improvement and Clean-up Days

The following dates have been set aside for clubs and or individuals to come out to our fairgrounds to help make improvements. There will be a lead volunteer to help supervise and lead the projects. The dates are April 19th and May 2<sup>nd</sup> in addition to our normal fair clean-up/set-up day of July 11th. The Parks Department staff plan to meet with leaders/parents before the workday begins to cover basic safety practices, get to know everyone who has come, coordinate the work effort and address any specific needs. Work times will be from 9:00-3:30 each day. Parents of children younger than 12 should plan to stay and participate. Please bring a sack lunch and something to drink. Please call the fairground ahead of time if you plan to work on one of these days so they can have a project lined up for you. Contact Tim Stickel at 520-7880. Everyone is encouraged to participate regardless of project areas. Although these dates are set aside for this activity, clubs that have work/improvement projects that they are interested in spear heading or working on are still welcome to contact the fairgrounds and set-up additional dates and times as needed.

### Volunteer Opportunities at the Fairgrounds

Shawn Carpenter from the Parks Department reminds us that there are many opportunities that the kids have available for them to get in some of their community service time at the Fairgrounds even prior to clean up day. They rely heavily on our volunteers to help us provide the best possible facilities and environment we can for the kids. So in turn, any help that the 4-Hers and their families are willing to give, will ultimately be benefiting themselves. We would like to thank the 4-H members and their families for all their assistance through the years, and we hope to continue working together for many years to come to ensure that our kids can have an enjoyable learning experience. Project ideas are listed in the March newsletter. If any of these projects are of interest to you or your club or if superintendents or leaders have additional improvement ideas, contact Shawn at [shawncarpenter@elpasoco.com](mailto:shawncarpenter@elpasoco.com)

## Club Reports

### Falcon Ranchers 4-H

*By: Bethany George*

Falcon Ranchers are busy with project meetings. Scrapbooking, rabbits, dogs, shooting sports, horses, and sheep are off to a good start. Plus, those members doing tabletop projects are busy planning and getting started. For those in the dog project, Cindy Still is offering extra curriculum dog classes such as agility, basic obedience, and canine good citizen. These classes are charged a small fee, but are not required in order to complete the 4-H dog project. The Falcon Ranchers 4-H Club will be hosting their annual dog show on Sunday, May 17, 2009, at the fairgrounds. Committees for the dog show will begin meeting very soon. In addition, the Falcon Ranchers will be hosting a rabbit show on June 14, 2009 at the fairgrounds. These will be our major fundraisers for the year. The El Paso County 4-H Canine Drill Team will participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Colorado Springs on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. We are busy and having fun with all of our 4-H projects!

### Barbwire N' Boots 4-H

*By: Rebecca Jones*

Hi to all from Barbwire N' Boots 4-H club! This meeting started at 7:10 on February 21<sup>st</sup>. We also have decided to build a Parliamentary Procedure Team, (ParliPro Team). We will do our best! A little about ParliPro; Parliamentary Procedure is a quick, professional, and efficient way to run a meeting. In the competition we build a team with a minimum of six players, a president, secretary, and four teammates. We are given a card with motions which we are to use as many as we can in ten minutes. ParliPro is a very fun and exciting competition. We are still offering The World's Finest Chocolate Candy Bars, they are \$1 ea. and come in Milk Chocolate, W.F. Crisp, Almond, and Carmel.

### Kolbe Kids

*By: Sean Bateman*

Kolbe Kids launched into County Fair projects. After our general meeting there were three project demonstrations. Albert Brouillette did a great job explaining the parts of a bullet. Amy Brouillette brought a beautiful cake and designs for more. Nancy Brouillette talked about different Guinea pig breeds. I never realized there are so many varieties.

### **Hitch-N-Post**

*By: Nicole Westfall*

This month we have had a leader meeting. And we will be having a 2nd annual hog show! Will have the date on the next letter. Some time in June! We also had to save one of our leaders for last... The best for last, Bailey Jago is our secretary! There is not a lot to cover this month, but we are selling pajama pants with Goin Showin on the side of them! Different colors, sizes, and we will personalize for your club! Please get with one of the Hitch n post members for price etc.

### **Country Style 4-H**

*By: Dillon Martin*

In February Country Style 4-H Club has hit the ground running with Horse Clinics and Activities. On February 28 we had a showmanship clinic for our members - giving all who attended the basics of showmanship or advancing to the next level. We started off March with a FUN Reining Clinic with Guy Vernon who worked with our upper level riders on perfecting their reining skills! We were honored to have Nationally ranked NRHA Reiner come teach us! Heidi Enoch worked with our Beg/Nov/Level 1 Riders on Riding a Horsemanship Patterns. In March, our Tally Ho english riders have an Unmounted video clinic scheduled as well as a mounted clinic later in the month. we will have be having a speed clinic with Annie Eitel. We are proud to announce that 2 of our members took level tests in February and passed - congratulations to Emily Auer to level testing from novice to level 2 and to Dillon Martin for passing his Level 1. Our March meeting the following members gave outstanding demos: Heather Howell, Nicholas Boland, and Cassie Cooper. Heather Howell's demo was on dressage and developing the horse's natural ability. Nicholas Boland presented the western bridle. Cassie Cooper's presentation was on grooming and how it can help your horse's health. With County Fair coming up the club voted on a community service project to go out and work on the cleaning up the fairgrounds. Beth Auer will be heading up our newest Sub Club on Competitive trail and mentioned that some clinics are coming up, so check out the website for more info - We are looking forward to our March clinics, please RSVP slots are filling fast.

### **Kit Carson 4-H**

*By: Kayla Summers*

The Kit Carson 4-H Club is off to a wonderful start. We started off the month with some great fundraising turn outs, some fantastic ideas for community service projects, and some amazing fun days. We had a great turn out for our bowling day. The club members had a lot of fun, ate some delicious food, and talked and cheered for the whole entire time. At our meeting we planned out some of the dates for next month including a maintenance day, an open ride, and a first aid with a local vet. At the end of our meeting, all of the officers presented their demos.

### **Pals of the Pines 4-H**

*By: Monica West*

Since our last report a couple of things have happened in our club. First, we have decided what our main fundraiser for the year will be. Also, we have been getting more and more presentations done. Candle Making and Quilting were presented in our March meeting. Lastly, we have been trying to provide many chances for our club members to be a part of community service, like the parade for St. Patrick's Day and many others. HAPPY EASTER AND SPRING!!!!

### **Purple Circle**

*By: Emily Gallegos*

This month Purple Circle had their meeting on March 4. Mr. and Mrs. Christensen have volunteered to be our new club leaders. Unfortunately, this year we only have six members in our club. Also this year there are six members doing sheep, three are doing beef, two are doing swine, and two are doing livestock judging. The members that are doing beef have already purchased their animals while others are still waiting. The Purple Circle members have agreed to bring at least five cans of soup or other canned goods for Care and Share.

### Angel Fire

*By: Adreanna Hudson*

Angel Fire 4-H held it's officers meeting March 7, 2009 at the community center. Final plans were made. For the first fundraisers to be a success, we are inviting the people of Ellicott to join us for the Box social April 24, 2009, From 6-8 p.m. at the Ellicott Community center. Anyone from 5-17 years old, is invited to bring a box dinner decorated, to be bid on. The theme is All American Western Spring. Please join us.

### Mt. Herman General 4-H

*By: Alison Walker*

Mt. Herman General had their last meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup> and had great fun with game night! We are blessed with many new members this year. The club collected over 400 gently used children's books for our local charity, Tri-Lakes Cares. We'll continue to work on demos, fund raising ideas, and getting ready for the county fair.

### High Country Kids

*By: Noah Jensen*

The March 11 meeting of the High Country Kids 4-H Club was called to order at 6:58 P.M. We discussed the requirements for the club also the requirements for county and state fair. Vice President Justin Frank brought up the topic of a bake sale. He had spoken to the Colorado "Got Goats" Club who were having a goat sale at Big R on the 21. It was decided that we would have the bake sale there. The details of the bake sale like pricing, etc. Were discussed and decided on. We had a cheese making demo by Mrs. Anderson. The meeting was then adjourned at 8:09 P.M.

### 4-Bits

*By: Crystal Benson*

At our 4-H meeting we had demonstrations by Crystal Benson, Andrea Arterbury, and at the february meeting Jenna and Melissa Oxenhandler. Jenna and Melissa did their demonstration on Poultry. Andrea did her demonstration on quilting. Lastly Crystal did a demonstration on developing film. We have a new member in our club. Her name is Caitlyn Lear. Our club is looking forward to Farm Day and Festival of Events. We made a wonderful float for the Saint Patricks Day Parade. We are grateful for John Hiller for making a cardboard display to go on the float. Jenna brought her chickens. The people part of the dog project brought their dogs. It was a lot of fun.

## Horse Program News



### Open Ride Dates at Latigo

The Horse Advisory Committee will once again host open riding at Latigo Equestrian Center in the indoor arena from 6-9. This year they are working on having someone to instruct on a different topic at each of the open rides. Riders may choose to participate in the organized instruction or ride and work on their own thing either sharing or splitting the arena we had a great amount of positive feedback on this when we tried it last year prior to state fair. Also the last half hour (8:30-9:00) each night will be spent providing educational activities for

the members to prepare for the written tests given at shows and or when passing levels. Open riding is on Friday nights, dates are as follows: April 10 & 24, May 8 & 22.

### Advancement Levels Rater Training/Certification

A 4-H Advancement Levels Rater Training and Certification for Western and Working Ranch Horse will be held at the Colorado State Fairgrounds in Pueblo on April 18 and 19. Registration is \$30 for one day or \$50 for both days and must be received by April 10<sup>th</sup>. For more information contact Amy Star at 303-637-8100.

### Horse Show Buckle Series

Douglas County is hosting a Horse Show Buckle Series which began March 15. It is a four show high point series. More information is available at <http://dchorseseries.web.officelive.com/default.aspx>

## Horse ID Certificates

*Horse ID Certificates are due at the Extension Office by Monday, June 1.* An ID Certificate on a second horse is suggested in case something unforeseen happens. Please use only the horse ID form you get from the Extension Office. That form is also posted on our website <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu> DO NOT use the ID form that comes in your e-record. Those forms will NOT be accepted because they do not have sufficient information on them.

## Horse Bowl and Hippology

The *Hippology and Horse Bowl activities are open to any 4-H member* eight years or older who is interested in learning about horses. You do not need to be enrolled in the horse project to participate. Horse Bowl and Hippology are a great way for members enrolled in the horse project to study for level tests and improve their test scores at horse shows. Upcoming Practices will be at the 4-H Office (305 S. Union) from 5:30-6:30 pm on Wednesdays on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. For questions contact Jackie Mead 494-1764.

## Country Style Announces Mock/Schooling Show!

Country Style will again be hosting the popular Mock/Schooling Horse Show on May 30 at the Latigo Trails Indoor Arena in Black Forest. This show is used like a clinic - a dry run for the real show season - and we encourage you to bring your horse and come on out for the day! We will offer classes in showmanship, horsemanship and trail in beginner, novice and age group division. We will have 2 judges who will give placings after and explain their placings to the contestants so they can understand their placings and have something to go home and work on! Show Buddies will be available for you at the gate and help explain patterns and what to do. Not just for beginners - this show is for anyone wanting to come out and give their horse some practice! We will end the day with some fun classes like carrot trail and an egg and spoon race!! The showbill and more information can be found on the Country Style 4h Club website - [countrystyle4h.com](http://countrystyle4h.com) or you can email Lynn Wilkison at [lynn@countrystyle4h.com](mailto:lynn@countrystyle4h.com). Hope to see you there!

## Levels Testing

All horse project participants who need to complete a written or riding level test need to make arrangements to get those tests done as soon as possible. Participants who are required to test up this year according to the El Paso County Horse Rule Book are:

- a. members who earned High-Point -Overall honors in a level/age group at a club show
- b. members who earned High-Point Overall, Reserve Overall, High Point Western, English or Ranch Horse in a level/age group at the County Fair or State Fair Shows

These riders must attempt to be rated at the next level in the appropriate division(s) prior to the upcoming 4-H show season. Exhibitors who are required to test up but fail to pass the written test will not be eligible for 4-H Club or County Fair awards and will not receive Achievement Awards points. Failure to pass the required riding test after a second attempt will result in the same penalties.

Beginners who earned high point or reserve high point honors at any 4-H club show last year are required to move up to Novice or the appropriate age group. Novice riders who have competed as a novice for 1 year must also move up into an age/levels grouping.

It is particularly important that those of you who need or want to complete a Level III or IV riding test or a Ranch Horse riding test do so as soon as possible as these tests take some time to arrange. Please watch for dates of written test opportunities, and contact your horse project leader, Jonathan Vrabec, or any member of the Horse Advisory Committee to arrange for a riding test.

## Horse Advisory Committee

There will April 5 level training. There will be an All Breed Clinic for amateurs and youth in Boulder County April 10 and 12 with a show on April 11. There will be a Mini Horse Workshop on March 28 and a clinic in April on driving. Spring Show date is July 12 at KCRC. Open rides are going well and Ginger Fager will be doing showmanship and Dave Christensen will be doing trail. Jonathan will be starting a series of learning lead changes at the next open ride. Bruce from Rock N B will be there to talk about nutrition. Open ride dates are March 27, April 10 and 24, May 8 and 22. Mt. Herman show confirmed date is June 6 at Black Forest Saddle Club. There is one open leader position on the committee which they will fill at the next meeting. Anyone interested in filling this position should attend the next meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm at KCRC. Being on the committee is a great way to get more involved in the horse project and to help your club stay informed.

### Revised Horse Rulebook

The revised Horse Rulebook is available for purchase. Clubs can order their own from the state. The Extension Office will have some available by mid April.

### Fun Horse Show

A fun horse show to benefit the Iron Horse Christian Youth Ranch will be held Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Prairie Springs Farm in Colorado Springs. Proceeds from this horse show will assist the non-profit Youth Ranch in providing food and care for the horse rescue program and help to sponsor riding lessons for children, and those with special needs, who need scholarship assistance. We will offer a full day of english, western and fun classes for riders of all ages and abilities with ribbons and prizes awarded. Judges will be provided by the 4-H Horse Judging Team. Formal show attire is optional and all donated suggested show fees are tax-deductible! Contact Laurie at 360-9883 with any questions.

### Horse Judging Team

The Horse Judging program is open to all youth enrolled in 4-H in El Paso County. Youth do not have to own a horse to participate. For more information contact Jonathan Vrabc at [jonathanvrabc@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabc@elpasoco.com). The upcoming April practices are as follows: Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Northern location (email me for directions) and Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at the Extension Office. All practices are from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The team will compete in their first contest at the end of the month at the Sterling Invitational Judging Contest in Sterling, CO.

### Important Levels Testing Information!

- **Levels 3 & 4 Written Tests Taking Opportunity**  
Jonathan will offer those interested in taking Levels 3 & 4 Written tests an opportunity on April 4<sup>th</sup> right before the start of the Member Training/Workshops event at the Extension office and again on April 28<sup>th</sup> right before the County Council meeting which is held at KCRC. Please email Jonathan at [jonathanvrabc@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabc@elpasoco.com) at least 24 hours in advance to let him know if you plan to take the written test that. Further test taking opportunities will be announced in future newsletters for the spring.
- **Level 2,3 & 4 Riding Test Taking Opportunity**  
There will be a levels riding test taking opportunity on May 8th at Latigo Arena during the open ride. You must contact Jonathan at [jonathanvrabc@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabc@elpasoco.com) to register and schedule your ride time. Space is VERY limited so register ASAP. This will be the last county organized levels testing. If you are still in need of levels testing you can coordinate a levels testing through your club or on your own. There is a \$20 fee for each test.

## Living with Livestock

### Attention Livestock Project Members

There have been some changes to the show schedule most notably is that the Beef Show will be held in the evening on Thursday night. Please review the Livestock Exhibit Requirements which should be posted to the website in a few weeks. Other changes will be highlighted in the next newsletter.

### Stall Cleaning at the 2009 County Fair

We will once again use the bid process that we used last year. The bid should be made in the form of per exhibitor per barn. Groups or clubs interested in cleaning stalls following county fair as a fundraiser for their club or organization must submit bid to the Extension Office by April 8<sup>th</sup>. After that date the offer will be advertised to outside organizations/groups. If you have questions please contact Jonathan at [jonathanvrabc@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabc@elpasoco.com). The bid should be made in the form of per exhibitor per barn.

### Goat Sale and Health Clinic

This open event is sponsored by DC Cabritos 4-H Club and the Colorado Pygmy Goat Club and will be held Saturday, April 4 from 9 am - 3 pm at the Lowell Ranch 4-H Livestock Barn in Castle Rock. Contact Jane at 303-660-5084 or [sunflower@boand.us](mailto:sunflower@boand.us) for more information.

### El Paso County Select Sale and Prospect Selection Clinic

The El Paso County 4-H Livestock Advisory Committee will be holding its 8th annual club lamb, show pig and goat sale on April 19<sup>th</sup> at the El Paso County Fairgrounds. If there is severe inclement weather and it must be rescheduled there will be an announcement on Jonathan's phone 636-8936 the day of the sale and the back up date will be arranged. Preceding the sale will be a prospect selection, feeding and care clinic for lambs, goats and hogs. This will help you learn what you are looking for in a show prospect for each of these species prior to the sale. The clinics will start at 10:00 am. The sale will start at 1:00. Several County Fair Champions and Reserve Champions have been purchased at this sale each of the last several years. Don't miss this opportunity to take care of your clinic requirement and get your project for the upcoming year all in one day! This is the only sale that benefits your El Paso County 4-H Livestock Program. Once again animals from this sale will be eligible to compete in a jackpot class for prize money prior to the market classes at the county fair. If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan at the El Paso County Extension office 719-636-8922.

### Swine, Sheep and Goat Producer Classes

What is a producer class? It's a market class for those of you who raise and show your own animals. Individuals who breed and raise their own show animals will show against one another. This class is in addition to the regular market class but does not increase the number of animals you can bring as you will still be limited to the species limit as published. In order to participate in the producer classes you must be signed up for the corresponding breeding project. The rules and nomination procedure are the same as for the other species. You will be limited to nominating 10 animals. You must be enrolled in the breeding project, the animals must still be nursing, and the animals must be tagged, notched or tattooed. Producer class animals will be shown in a Market Producer class at the county fair and must be tagged in at the weigh-in for that species under the name of the producer. They must also make weight as well as abide by all other regulations in regards to showing of 4-H market animals. Again this year main club leaders may verify nominations to assure the animal was born at your place of residence this must be done while the animal is still nursing. To nominate an animal the club leader should take a picture (preferably a digital one) of the animal with its Dam so that any distinguishing marks are visible. Please record a written description of the animal as well as sex, animal ID or tag number (some form of identification on the animal such as ear notches on swine, tattoos for goats, etc. must be used) and submit them to Jonathan at the Extension Office by April 23<sup>rd</sup> in the 4-H member's name. The Champion Producer for each species will be awarded at the Large Animal Awards Night. Remember nomination verification must be completed prior to weaning. Please review a complete description of the class on the 4-H web site.



### Leased Livestock Procedures

4-H'ers may only lease two animals for project areas which they do not already own. For example if you already own dairy goats you may not lease a dairy goat but if you own dairy goats and would also like to try fiber goats you are allowed to lease a fiber goat. Also the developed a standardized universal lease form that will require the animal's tattoo or ear tag number listed on it. This lease form is universal and so anyone leasing an animal will need to use this form and have it on file at the extension office by May 4<sup>th</sup>. If you have additional requirements specified by the person who is leasing out their animal, you should add that info as a separate sheet, but this "universal" form must be filled out if they are leasing an animal for 4-H. These projects ideally should begin in October and go through September since only breeding animals can be leased.

### Livestock Judging Team Practice

The livestock judging team has been practicing and attending state wide clinics preparing for their first contests which will begin in April. Livestock Judging practices are being held at 6:30 p.m. at Peyton Middle School on Monday nights. If you have questions or can not attend but would like to know more information please contact Aaron Volosin at 720-272-8650.

### Weld County Goat Extravaganza

The Weld County Goat Extravaganza will be April 24-26 at Island Grove Park in Greeley. You can access the registration brochure and all entry forms by going to [www.weld4h.org](http://www.weld4h.org) and then clicking on the "2009 Weld County Goat Extravaganza" link. This is available to 4-H members with goat projects (Market, Dairy, Pygmy, and Fiber) or any adult who might be interested in the event.

### **New Activity for Livestock Project Members**

Due to scheduling conflicts with those who have expressed interest in participating in this activity during Festival of Events we have chosen to hold the contest on a different date in April (yet to be determined). If your club would like to enter a team but were not because you also had a conflict, please let us know of your interest by April 13 as well as some possible dates and times that might work for your team. This will satisfy your clinic requirement!!!! At the 2008 State 4-H Conference they held the first state contest for **Livestock Quiz Bowl**. This year it would be great to have a team from El Paso County represent us and compete in the contest. The contest is simply a knowledge quiz type of contests with teams made up of 4 or 5 individuals (4 compete at any one time, one person serves as a sub). The top 5 eligible individuals from the contest will go on to represent El Paso County at the state contest in Fort Collins in June. This is a great opportunity for some competitive fun between clubs and a great way for livestock project members to test their knowledge about a wide variety of topics relating to the Livestock/Animal Science Industry. Clubs can enter their teams on the appropriate form under the Festival of Events heading on our website <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu> . Teams can be of mixed ages; however, only 14 year olds or older are eligible to compete at the state contest. Each team will be requested to submit 40 questions to be used in the contest. Once the rules are distributed we will also provide a list of references to be used as the official resource for answers and to study from. Please start getting your teams together and let's have some fun and see what you know!!!

### **Meat Quality Assurance (MQA)/Pork Quality Assurance (PQA)**

1) **Who has to take MQA?** All meat animal project members (including rabbits, poultry and all goats) must participate in a Meat Quality Assurance Program (MQA) once as a Junior Member (ages 8 - 13 years old) and once as a Senior Member (14 - 18 years old).

- a. All new 4-H livestock members
- b. Those who turned 14 during the 2008 calendar

2) **Why MQA?** It is a Colorado 4-H Requirement and the El Paso County Fair and Jr. Livestock Sale Committee also require livestock members to complete this program 45 days prior to fair before they can participate in the 2009 Fair and Jr. Livestock Sale.

3) **What is considered a meat animal project?** Meat animal projects include all breeding and market livestock in the following species: Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Goats (Fiber, Pygmy, Dairy Goat, Breeding Goat, Market Goat), Poultry (Geese, Duck, Chicken, Turkey, Pigeon), Rabbit, Sheep and Swine.

4) **What if I am taking the Swine project?** To meet Pork Quality Assurance (PQA) requirements, you must do the following based on your age group:

- a. Youth 8-10 years of age (Junior): Attend MQA/PQA training annually
- b. Youth 11-13 years of age (Intermediate) OR 14-18 years of age (Senior): Certify/re-certify for one year by attending MQA/PQA training OR can certify for the entire age group by completing and passing an examination at the appropriate age level. To certify by examination, a minimum of 70 percent of questions must be correctly answered. Therefore, we will test and score all Swine youth on site following the MQA/PQA trainings. This will allow them to be certified until they reach the next age group.

5) **Why PQA?** The El Paso County Fair and the Colorado State Fair require swine exhibitors to be PQA certified.

6) **When is MQA/PQA training offered for 2009?** Sunday, April 19th at the El Paso County Fairgrounds following the Select Sale in the Exhibit Hall (approx 3:00 p.m.). This is the only training scheduled at this time. There will tentatively be one more held in El Paso County; however, it has yet to be scheduled. If you are unable to attend you are welcome to attend an MQA/PQA training in another county but remember these must be completed 45 day prior to the start of County Fair. **DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!!**

### **Attention Swine Project Members**

This year it appears that there will be ample space in the swine barn at fair. Therefore, you will be allowed to enter up to 3 head of market hogs; however, because the pens are only big enough for two hogs per pen if you choose to bring a third you will need an additional pen and you would need to pay an additional \$5 stall fee.



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### *Dates to Remember*

April  
4 Officer/Member Training  
18 Festival of Events  
28 County Council

May  
25 Holiday - Office Closed  
26 County Council

June  
3 SummerFest  
30 County Council

*Office Hours: Monday - Thurs 8am - noon and 1 - 5pm*

Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and El Paso County cooperating.  
Extension Programs are available to all without discrimination.

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