



# Clover Times



El Paso County 4-H  
January/February 2009

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



## 4-H/IRS Filing Requirements

*The State has notified us that our 4-H clubs that have been operating for at least one year MUST file a 990-N (e-Postcard) with IRS by February 15, 2009.* Groups that must file are 4-H entities that are duly authorized 4-H clubs and affiliated 4-H organizations that are under the control of Extension and that earn income or accept donations (the latter - for which donors want charitable-giving deductions), excluding Army and Air Force clubs (because they do not handle money nor have bank accounts), and may include those entities not earning income but for which the group has an EIN and is included under GEN 2704. The hotlink to submit an e-Postcard is <http://epostcard.form990.org> There is a "Quick Menu" on the lower right side of the page which will answer any questions you might have about the process. If you need help contact [jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com) If you need your EIN number contact Gay at [gay-leighcamp@elpasoco.com](mailto:gay-leighcamp@elpasoco.com)

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## Background Checks

The procedure for doing background checks on new leaders has changed this year. New volunteers will receive an email from a secure server [CustomerSupport@HireRight.com](mailto:CustomerSupport@HireRight.com) which will supply log-in information. The volunteer will click on the link, be asked to supply pertinent information (including their social security number), disclose any convictions and consent to the background check. Volunteers should respond to this request for information as soon as possible because we are not able to proceed with processing a volunteer application until we receive a background check clearance. **Refusal to consent to the background check will disqualify a person from becoming a volunteer.** The background check should be completed within a few days. The Extension Office will be notified when the check is completed. If any relevant discrepancies are found, the Extension Agent will be notified. The volunteer applicant will be notified if there is a concern regarding his/her volunteer application.

## Festival of Events

The annual Festival of Events competition (photography, poster, dance, instrumental, speech, demonstration, Baker's Day, Cake Decorating Contest and Creative Cooks Contest) will be held on April 18 at Skyview Middle School which is located at 6350 Windom Peak Blvd. on the east side of Colorado Springs. The Parli Pro, Horse Speech and Demonstration Contest and Livestock Quiz Bowl (new) will be held that afternoon. More information and registration forms will be available at the Extension Office and emailed to you *shortly - they are not yet available*. As always, read the information that comes out carefully because there are often changes from year to year. Entries will be due at the Extension Office by March 19th If you have suggestions for judges please contact Maureen at 575-8568 or [maureenbergenfeld@elpasoco.com](mailto:maureenbergenfeld@elpasoco.com) or have any questions, please contact Gay at 636-8922 or [gay-leighcamp@elpasoco.com](mailto:gay-leighcamp@elpasoco.com)

## Officer Training Reminder

Officer Training will be held at the Extension Office on Saturday, February 7 from 9:30 am until 11:30 am. This is a training for current or aspiring club presidents, vice presidents, secretaries, treasurers and historians. The training will focus on the knowledge required for the various positions.

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*Officer  
Training  
February 7  
9:30-11:30*

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## Leader's Lounge

### Leaders Council

There will not be a Leaders Council meeting in February. In lieu of it we will be attending Western Regional Leaders Forum in Denver. For more information visit <http://colorado4h.org/wrlf09/index.shtml>

## Small Animal Update

### Poultry Clinic

A poultry care and grooming clinic will be hosted by Fountain Feed, 408 Fountain Mesa Road, Fountain. The date is February 15, 2009 beginning at 1 pm. Instructional materials will include segments from the DVD "Beginner's Guide to Raising and Showing Chickens" copy written by Allison MacLeod 2006. Experts will be available to answer questions. The Pikes Peak Poultry Association will also be hosting a bird swap. For additional information contact Fountain Feed at 382-7691 or Roy Crouse at 683-8443. Additional information concerning statewide poultry events is available at [www.Coloradopoultryclinic.com](http://www.Coloradopoultryclinic.com).

### MQA

If you are a first year senior or new to 4-H and you are doing the **rabbit or poultry project you must attend a meat quality assurance workshop**. More details are included in the livestock section of this newsletter.

### Elbert County Events

The following are events that will be hosted by Elbert County. More information will be available shortly from Sheila Kelly, 719-541-2361. The Eastern Slope Rabbit Judging will be March 21, Dog Educational Seminar will be April 18 and the Dog Fun Match will be June 6.

### Adams County Event

Adams County will be hosting a 4-H Rabbit Judging Extravaganza April 4<sup>th</sup>. More information will be available [www.adamscountyextension.org](http://www.adamscountyextension.org) closer to the event.

## Camper's Cabin

### Leadership Development Conference (LDC)

Thank you to the Plainsmen, Edison Drylanders, Purple Circle and the 4-H Wildcats for helping to provide school supplies for the community service project at LDC. Everyone who went to LDC reported back that it was a fun and informative weekend.

### South Central District Retreat

South Central District Retreat will be held at the Silver Cliff Ranch near Nathrop March 20-22. Any 4-H member age 14-18 may attend. The cost is \$115. This is a youth leadership retreat for the election of sub-district and district officers. Workshops include college planning, science activities, survival tactics, team building and time management. There is a gym, pool and game area to enjoy free time. Registration forms are available at the Extension Office. Registrations are due back at the Extension Office by February 25.

### Citizenship-Washington Focus

Citizenship-Washington Focus will be held in Washington, D.C. the week of June 13-20. Participants must be 15 or older and demonstrated an interest in citizenship and leadership. Participants will learn about our nation's heritage, culture, and government through field trips, and various activities. More information is available online at <http://colorado4h.org> Anyone interested should contact Jonathan at [jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com) by February 23.

### Shooting Sports Family Campout

The Shooting Sports Family Campout will be held from June 19-21 at Grainger Ranch in Victor. This is a great opportunity for families to meet each other and have a good time. Shooting events will be educational but FUN-oriented. Visit [http://www.co4hshooting.org/family\\_campout.html](http://www.co4hshooting.org/family_campout.html) for more information.

### Wild Bug Fish Camp

Attention Sport Fishing, Wildlife and Entomology members, parents and leaders! This fun camp will be held June 15-18 near Victor, Colorado. More information is available at <http://www.4hfishing.org/>

### Camp Rocky

Camp Rocky is a week long, residential camp for 14-19 year olds who enjoy the outdoors and are interested in natural resources. This year's camp will be held from July 5-11 near Divide. More information is available at [www.camprocky.colostate.edu](http://www.camprocky.colostate.edu)

## Fast Tracks

### New Policy Adopted

It is important for clubs to have representation at the El Paso County Youth Council Meetings as they will be consulted and asked for input on countywide policies. This is a great way for clubs to have to get involved. The County Youth Council recently passed unanimously a new policy for those interested in pursuing district and or state offices in youth leadership. This policy will take effect for all of those interested in pursuing a position this year.

The new policy reads:

In order to run for a district or state office you must be an active participant in the El Paso County Youth Council for a minimum of the immediate year prior to running as well as during your term of either a district or state office. Failure to do so will result in the following consequences which may include removal, at the individual's expense and without refund from participation in events or contests, sanctions on participating in future 4-H activities, forfeiture of financial support, removal from offices held, loss of privilege to apply for scholarships, etc.

Rational:

The reason for this is so that the kids are involved in their county first and during their representation. It will also improve communications and participation within the county on district and state activities and programs. It is also a logical progression of leadership.

### State Fair Qualifying for Festival of Events and Tabletop Projects Under Review

Other policy issues which are being discussed by the county Youth Council include our current ribboning policy for Tabletop and Festival of Events as it relates to qualifying for State Fair/Contests. Please forward feedback on the options below to Jonathan ([jonathanvrabec@elpasococ.com](mailto:jonathanvrabec@elpasococ.com)).

1. Judges are told to award blue ribbons to all projects combined with record books that exceed standards. Judges are then told to give champion and reserve champion only to those members who they feel could represent us well at State.

PRO: More members would receive blue ribbons

CON: We may not send anyone forward in that project unit, even if blue ribbons have been given. The choice is the judges.

2. Judges are told that projects receiving the top two blue ribbons (three in the case of demonstrations) will automatically go on to state.

PRO: We may have more representation at state

CON: Judges may decide to give more red ribbons, especially in project units where there are very few youth and the project is borderline.

### **Congratulations Western Roundup Participants**

Congratulations to our teams that represented El Paso County 4-H so well at National Western Roundup in Denver. Our Parli Pro Team which included Haley Wilkison, Vince Abushaban, Mandy Cramer, Rebecca Wilkison, Erin Gauck and Shelby Robertson finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place as Reserve National Champion. The Horse Speech and Demo Team comprised of Rebecca and Haley Wilkison finished 2<sup>nd</sup> place Reserve National Champion. The Consumer Decision Making Team of Shelby Gillis, Emily Prather, Garrett Prather and Amanda Watson placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in placements, 1<sup>st</sup> in reasons, and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Amanda Watson placed 1<sup>st</sup> in reasons. The team placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the group question. Way to go!

### **Gift from Town of Calhan**

The Town of Calhan sent a donation to the 4-H program in the memory of Dan Vetrano, who passed away in a car accident in December. Dan was an avid supporter of the 4-H program.

### **Office Hours**

Just a reminder that the 4-H Office is open Monday through Thursday from 8 am until noon and 1 until 5 pm.

### **Birds in Art/Art in Birds Challenge**

This is a contest sponsored by the Celebrate Urban Birds project. To enter you can take photos, do some painting, write a story, create a sculpture showing what you see in a bird that is beautiful, stirring, or inspirational. It could be a broken-down nest in winter, a song recording, video of a bird perching on your window, etc. Entries are due by February 28, 2009. More information is available at [urbanbirds@cornell.edu](mailto:urbanbirds@cornell.edu)

### **4-H Hall of Fame**

The 4-H Hall of Fame honors volunteers, supporters, staff, pioneers who have made major contributions to 4-H at the local, state and national levels. The selection criteria includes citizenship, leadership, career accomplishments, character as well as other pertinent information. For more information go to <http://www.nae4ha.org/hof/>

### **Shooting Sports**

*By: James Irsik*

It's time to kick off the New Year. We will have our first meeting on Jan 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am at Mountain View Baptist Church in Calhan. The February meeting will be on Feb 21<sup>st</sup>. All are welcome to come. Requirements this year for a 4H shooting sports member are as follows; a) Complete and publicly exhibit a shooting sports tabletop display and record book in accordance with county fair guidelines. b) Participate in two county-sanctioned practices. c) Attend an annual mandatory meeting (to be determined) during which county policies and procedures will be reviewed. d) Pay additional program fees to offset costs for targets, equipment/range maintenance, etc. \$30.00 for shot gun, \$20.00 for all other shooting sports projects. These fees will be collected during the mandatory meeting. e) The County Fair 4-H Shooting Competition is optional and not required to complete the project. To compete at the competition, you must have a hunter education card given by the Colorado Division of Wildlife, or other state. A 4-H member that doesn't have a hunter education card can get one free of charge. Contact me at [jbirsik@netzero.net](mailto:jbirsik@netzero.net) and I can give you the information to take the class. Contact me with any questions. Parents and leaders, if you are interested in becoming a certified instructor in shooting sports, the state is giving classes now. Go to <http://www.co4hshooting.org/article12212005.html> for dates, time, and locations. This includes older seniors who are interested in being junior leaders.

### **Youth Council**

*By: Shelby Gillis*

The El Paso County 4-H Youth Council would like to thank all the 4-H'ers that attended the Mr. Biggs party and made it a BIG success. We had over 155 people attend the party on Dec. 30 2008. The Youth Council officers took turns greeting 4-H'ers, making sure they got checked in and helping them find the cool attractions of Mr. Biggs (including the pizza bar). Everyone we asked had a great time and would like to do that again. With more turn outs like this we can do more fun things for the county. So please make sure your club's rep attends County Council meetings to get your club's input on all County events.

## Club Reports

### Angel Fire 4-H

*By: Andreanna Hudson*

Angel Fire 4-H had their general meeting January 20, 2009. New officers for the 2008\2009 year were introduced. They are: President-Chris Gillis, Vice President-Taylor Rogers, Secretary-Kimmy Coonrod, and Treasurer-James Wheeler. Angel Fire 4-H has upcoming fund raisers such as a Box Social scheduled for April 24th; 4 to 8 p.m. at the Ellicott Community Center. Public Welcome! Farm day is May 1st from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. and will be held at Union Printers Home in Colorado Springs. The Scare Crow Farm will be October 3rd in Colorado Springs at Palmer Park and October 4th in Falcon, near Big R. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. and members exchanged gag gifts under festive Christmas lights.

### 4-Bits

*By: Crystal Benson*

Our new club officers are: President Jenna Oxenhandler; Vice President Andrea Arterbury; Secretary Melissa Oxenhandler; Treasurer Hannah Wysocki; Historians Antoinette and Farren McIntosh; Reporter Crystal Benson. On Dec 8th we had our holiday party at Louie's Pizza. We had a gift exchange and a lot of fun. We have two new members in our club: John and Kira.

### Barbwire N' Boots 4-H

*By: Rebecca Jones*

This meeting we talked about club dues and projects, as well as accepted our by-laws and constitution. We will be continuing our World's Finest Candy Bar fundraiser, we have: Milk Chocolate, Carmel, W. F. Crisp, and Almond candy bars, they are \$1.00 ea. Our next meeting will be Feb 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m. at: VFW Hall 568 Colorado St., Calhan Co, 80808. New members welcome. For any questions please call Cherith Schmidt (719)641-4859. Or E-mail: [www.cschmidt@prairienetworks.com](mailto:www.cschmidt@prairienetworks.com)

### Woodlake Hills 4-H Club

*By: Emily Davis*

On January 9, 2009, Woodlake Hills 4-H held it's first business meeting with our newly elected officers. Our new officers are: Callista Prill, President; Fiona Murray-Cameron, Vice President; Alice Davis, Secretary; Emily Davis, Reporter; Wyatt Wear, Historian. Our leader, Tina Davis announced our calendar of events for this year. We're looking forward to lots of fun and service for 2009. We also discussed opportunities for Festival of Events in May. Our club is very excited that we had one of our junior members, Wyatt Wear participate in the poultry show at the National Western Stock Show this year. Congratulations to Wyatt for winning First Place with his Bantam Buff Brahma Cockerel and also for winning First Place in Junior Showmanship! This was a national show with participants from as far away as Missouri. We are all looking forward to an exciting year this year in 4-H. We are very appreciative to our County Commissioners and our County Extension Office for working out the budget so we can continue to make the best better!

### Pals of the Pines

*By: Kyle West*

It's been an exciting first few months of the 4-H year for Pals of the Pines. In November, we honored members who completed their projects and/or achieved distinction with an awards potluck, and each received project pins and some very nice fleece jackets sporting the 4-H logo. We also collected over 100 items to donate to the local Black Forest Cares food pantry. This month, we elected several new officers, and are excited as to the fresh direction and energy they will bring to the club. We also continued a holiday tradition with a white elephant gift exchange. We will be visiting Parkmoor Village Nursing Home and playing Christmas carols for the residents, a very popular community service opportunity. Behind the scenes of all these complex and exciting new developments has been the new leadership of Mrs. Tia Andersen, who has done an excellent job of making the club fun and productive, and whom we are glad to have at the helm. Thanks Mrs. Andersen! Happy New Year from Pals of the Pines!

### Winner's Edge

*By: Wade Tope*

I guess I should start by saying Hi! We are a small, new club. We are excited to get the year going. Two of our members will be participating at the NWSS, which would be Cassidy Woodard and Kristie Frates. Cassidy is going to DU and is a member of the Limo Ass., she'll be showing her limousine cattle. Kristie is a senior at Peyton High School and will be showing in the prospect shows. We wish them lots of luck and hope they have a great time. As for the rest of us, we are waiting for the Blow-N-Go Show due to sports tying us up. Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year but gotta say it, "IT'S SHOW TIME FOLKS!!" YEEHAA!!!

### 4-H Wildcats

*By: Thomas Price*

November and December were two full months for the Wildcats! A pie social in November was judged by Mr. Prather and Mr. Watson, and all members received winning certificates. An amazing demo was given by Colton Deck on the history of the United States Calvary complete with uniform replicas. The Thanksgiving weekend found us decorating the Ronald McDonald House for the holidays. Our annual December holiday feast was enjoyed by members and families, and another great community service project organized by Mattie and Karlin Rufenacht provided gingerbread houses not just for table displays but Silver Key Senior Services. President Garrett Prather led a group in a holiday spoof entitled "The Night Before County Fair", several of our members provided musical entertainment for the group, and two Cloverbuds, Allison and Caitlyn Wilson recited the "Night Before Christmas." Canned goods were also brought by members for Care and Share, and "Secret Santa" gifts were exchanged. The week before Christmas all members worked like busy elves gift wrapping at Sportsman's Warehouse to earn money for camps. Then everyone went home to enjoy the holidays.

### Woodmen Valley 4-H Club Meeting

*By: Katie Ross*

On December 7, 2008, Woodmen Valley 4-H met and filled out new membership registration for the new year. seven new members joined the club. The meeting started at 1:47 p.m. and ended at 2:10 p.m. During the meeting a 4-H ceremony was held for the new officers. Everyone planned Laser Quest for the February meeting. There was a cookie and present exchange after the meeting. There are four demonstrations planned for the January meeting.

### Kolbe Kids

*By: Sean Bateman*

Kolbe Kids had a great Christmas talent show in December! The entertainment included instruments from flutes to violins. We had interpretive speeches, orations, skits and a vocal duet for the grand finale. We are looking forward to the New Year and starting on our Projects and Community Service work.

### Country Style

*By: Dillon Martin*

Everyone is excited to start the new year. At our first meeting we elected the following officers: President - Haley Wilkison; Vice President - Emily Davis; Treasurer - Emily Auer; Secretary - Shelby Robertson; Historian - Caitlyn Skinner; Reporter - Dillon Martin; Sargent at Arms - Tara Reilly. We have clinics lined up in trail this month with clinician Kenny Scott.

### Mt. Herman General

*By: Raymond Puckett*

For our Christmas party the Mount Herman 4-H club brought in food to donate to tri-lake cares. We raised 108 pounds of food to put in their pantry. We also have a book drive scheduled for the February meeting and birdhouse cleaning on Mount. Herman will be in either March or April depending on the weather. We have tons of new members, 14 to be exact. One of our most popular projects shooting sports has a total of 18 members this year, a new record! Demos are also underway: which are scheduled to take place from February thru May. The club is doing well and it is looking like it is going to be a good year in the Mount Herman club.

### Purple Circle

*By: Christe Christensen*

The meeting was called to order at 7:22 p.m. Pledges were led by Christe Christensen and Stacey Tope. We had our minutes and treasury reports followed by the discussion of Amendment 1a. Although the Amendment was defeated, Extension will continue with both County and Private funding. We planned to have our project sign up and 4-H enrollment at the December meeting. With the Tope and Cannella families leaving, we now have 13 members in our club. This left room to vote in more for the next year. Mikey Mikita requested to join our club. He is 8 years old and plans on showing dairy cattle. Because we did not have a quorum, we could not vote him in. Also, this kept us from voting in officers. Both Mikey's request and officer elections were postponed until the December meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

### Falcon Ranchers

*By: Bethany George*

On Friday, November 14, 2008, Falcon Ranchers 4-H Club had their first 4-H meeting of the year: WAHOOO!!! We were all thrilled to be able to have 4-H continuing for at least another year!!! Our meeting was held at the Falcon Fire Station, and was called to order by our president CJ at 7:40 p.m. We recognized birthdays for August-November. Officers will be elected at the December meeting. El Paso County K-9 Drill Team practice will be on Sunday, November 16, 2008, at the Safeway Parking lot at 2:00. The K-9 Drill Team is practicing for the Parade of Lights!!! Good Luck K-9 Drill Team, and keep the practice up!!!! We also decided that at our next meeting, which is in December, will be a Christmas Party/ pot luck/ white elephant trade!!!! On Friday December 12, 2008, Falcon Ranchers 4-H club had their monthly meeting at the Falcon Fire Station!!! We discussed plans for the year. We went over new and old business. After going over all of the business, we elected new officers!!!! Drum Roll Please!!!!!! President- Tom Rooney; Vice President- Tyler Rooney; Secretary- Hannah Lawrence; Treasurer- Logan Rottenberry; Reporter- Bethany George; Historian- Bethany George; County Council Representative- CJ Bilodeau; Alternate County Council- Caeden Meade. Good Job Everybody!!!! And Good Luck to all of our wonderful officers for this next year!!! We also had a white elephant gift exchange!!! We all had a wonderful time, and all had a lot of fun!!!! Good job to everybody, and we hope to see you all, and some new people at the next Meeting!!! Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year!!!

### Plainsmen

*By: Brittany Carson*

The meeting was started at 7:09, we took attendance, handed out certificates and awards. Sammy Wester announced our new website for Plainsmen. The website name is <http://plainsmen4h.webs.com>. Our club voted to have a prospect show on June 6, 2009.

## Horse Program News

### Horse Bowl and Hippology

The primary objectives of Horse Bowl and Hippology is to provide, in a friendly and competitive setting, an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H to demonstrate the breadth of their knowledge equine science and management, and in particular, the practical application of this knowledge and skill.

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. Both junior and senior teams will have the opportunity to compete at the county level. Dedicated seniors may also earn the privilege of competing at the state and national levels.

Upcoming Practices will be at the 4-H Office (305 S. Union) from 5:30-6:30 pm on Wednesdays on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. For questions contact Jackie Mead 494-1764.

### 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 Vrabec at [jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com). The upcoming February practices are as follows: Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> (northern location please contact me for directions) Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at the Extension Office. All practices are from 6:30-8:30 p.m. It is not too late to get started but the sooner the better as we are currently learning how to judge a different class each week to prepare for our contests starting in April.

### 4-H Competitive Trail Riding Action Clinic

This riding clinic will be held from 9 - 4 pm on February 7 at The Urban Farm in Denver. 4-H members and parent are welcome to participate. Topics include the magic of GPS, map reading, ride strategies, horse handling during a vet check and what to pack. All must wear a helmet. Bring your horse if you want to ride out on the trail session. Registration is \$25. Call Amy Star at 303-637-8116 to reserve a space. Mail fee to CSU Extension in Adams County, Attn: Amy Star, 9755 Henderson Rd, Brighton, CO 80601.

### Horse Scholarship Deadline

Horse Scholarship forms are available online at <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu> Completed applications must be received at the Extension Office by March 12th.

### Adams County Events

Adams County will be hosting Adco Summer Series Horse Shows April 19, May 30, June 28, and July 18, a 4-H Working Ranch horse Competition June 20 and a 4-H Competitive Trail Ride in Denver April 5<sup>th</sup>. More information is available at [www.adamscountyextension.org](http://www.adamscountyextension.org)

### 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 spend 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: Feb 13 & 27, March 13 & 27, April 3 & 24, May 8 & 22.

## Living with Livestock

### State Fair Nomination Cards

There will be changes on the 2009 State Fair nomination cards. All 4-H and FFA exhibitors must have their premise ID# on their nomination cards to be accepted. This information should be completed on ALL cards at the time of weigh-in.

### El Paso County Livestock Scholarships

The El Paso County 4-H Livestock Scholarship application forms will be posted online at <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu> and are available in the 4-H office. The application and all related materials are due at the Extension Office by March 12. Applicants will be contacted regarding interviews. Please note that applicants must have a minimum of three years of successful completions of market livestock projects to be eligible. In other words, students applying for the current year must be enrolled in a livestock project, but they do not have to be enrolled in a market project if they have completed 3 market projects in the past.

## Weigh-in/Tag-in

Weigh/tag-in for market sheep, goats and swine will be on May 2<sup>nd</sup> so mark your calendars now!

## Meat Quality Assurance

If you are a first year senior or new to 4-H and you are taking **cattle, dairy, hogs, goats, sheep, rabbits, or poultry** you must attend a **meat quality assurance workshop**. Regardless of whether it is a market project or a breeding project you must attend a Meat Quality Assurance workshop. The first MQA Workshop will be held Wednesday, February 11th and will run from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the CSU Extension Office. *4-H'ers who are 13 and under must have a parent stay at the MQA with them. The second MQA workshop will be held April 19<sup>th</sup> in Calhan following the select sale.* There will be one other MQA Workshops held in El Paso County. The date will be announced in future newsletters. Remember that if you are not able to attend a MQA Workshop in El Paso County you are welcome to attend MQA Workshops in other counties. Those counties will mail your certification to our office to show that you attended. However, Meat Quality Assurance certification must be completed 45 days prior to our County Fair. It is best to get this requirement accomplished early to avoid any unforeseen conflicts.

## Pork Quality Assurance Recertifying Procedures (required for swine project members)

In order to renew your PQA certification the youth will need to come to the Extension Office and take a written test. They must pass the test with a 70%. If they do not pass with a 70% they may attempt to test out once more. If the two tests yield unsuccessful results, then the youth must attend an MQA class prior to being recertified. Tests will be graded once a week and you will be notified of the results. Again this is only for those renewing their PQA certification. All initial PQA certifications are accomplished by attending an MQA Workshop.

## Beef Weigh-in & Blow and Go Show

Will be held February 28th from 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at the El Paso County Fairgrounds.  
(Emergency date to be used only if you are notified of a cancellation is March 8<sup>th</sup>)

**Things you need to know before coming to weigh-in:**

- You must bring your animal with a halter already on before they will be unloaded or we will not weigh it! This is for your safety and for everyone else's. **Any uncontrollable animals will NOT be weighed!!!!!! The idea is to work with them ahead of time!!!**
- Please have your calves brand inspected prior to coming to weigh-in. Do not forget to bring your brand inspection papers.
- There will be \$3 charge per head for state fair nominations (this will also be assessed to sheep, swine and goats that are being nominated later this spring). **At the weigh-in is the only time nose printing will be done and nominations taken!**
- Bring your premise ID with you to weigh-in if you wish to nominate for State Fair.
- If more than 6 animals of a species are weighed-in/tagged-in by a member there will be a \$1 fee per animal over 6. This also will be assessed to sheep, swine and goats at the May weigh-in.

**REMEMBER ALL ANIMALS MUST BE CASTRATED PRIOR TO BEING WEIGHED-IN & TAGGED AS A 4-H MARKET PROJECT. CASTRATION MUST BE DONE PRIOR TO ARRIVING AT THE FAIRGROUND (NOT THE DAY OF WEIGH-IN) AND HEALED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE! This goes for all species of market livestock! IN ADDITION TO THIS ALL CATTLE AND MARKET GOATS MUST BE DEHORNED.**

## Blow and Go Show Rules

Once again the El Paso County 4-H Livestock Advisory Committee will be holding a Blow & Go Prospect Market Show following the weigh-in on February 28th. Out of county calves that come in just for the show and are not part of the El Paso County 4-H Program will be weighed from 11:00-11:30. The show will begin at 12:30. Exhibitors may use oil or other hair compounds on the claws. **Adhesives will not be allowed.** ANY calf with adhesive will be dismissed from the show without refund. **This year we will once again offer classes for both heifers and steers**, so here is another chance to get your breeding heifers out. Entry fee will be \$10 per head and a minimum of 85% paid back. A showmanship class will be held. Exhibitors may use stalls but they must be cleaned before they leave. Electricity will not be guaranteed. Wash racks will be closed so get your steers cleaned and clipped before coming to the show.

### **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.

### **Livestock Clinic**

Calhan Veterinary Clinic is sponsoring a Livestock clinic on February 15 at Swink Hall in Calhan from 6 - 8 pm. For more information contact Rhonda at [angelfirekids@aol.com](mailto:angelfirekids@aol.com) or 683-4348.

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

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). We will hold a contest for clubs to enter teams at Festival of Events. 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 Festival of Events entry form. 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!!! Participation will satisfy your clinic requirements!!!

### **Adams and Weld County Events**

Adams County will be hosting a 4-H Sheep, Wool and Goat Field Day on March 21. More information will be available at [www.adamscountyextension.org](http://www.adamscountyextension.org) closer to the event. Weld County will be hosting the Weld County Goat Extravaganza April 24-26 and the Colorado Dairy Youth Extravaganza May 31-June 2. The Weld County Extension Office (970-304-6535) will have more information shortly.

## **Horse and Livestock**

### **Livestock & Horse Activities/Teams**

It's time to start thinking about the various projects and activities you plan to get involved with this upcoming year. Several fun, rewarding and educational activities are available to kids interested in horses, livestock, wild life and natural resources (you do not have to be enrolled in these projects in order to participate in these activities). Below is a list of the various activities and their coach's or contact person's phone number and as always you can contact Jonathan via email at [jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com) if you need more information or have questions about any of these.

**Livestock Judging** - Coach Aaron Volosin, 720-272-8650, and Quentin Miller, 303-648-9203

**Hippology** - Coach Jackie Mead, 719-494-1764

**Horse Bowl** - Coach Jackie Mead, 719-494-1764



## Dates to Remember

CSU Extension  
El Paso County 4-H  
305 S. Union Blvd.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80910

Gay-Leigh Camp, Administrative Assistant  
E-mail: [gay-leighcamp@elpasoco.com](mailto:gay-leighcamp@elpasoco.com)

Phone: 719-636-8922  
Fax: 719-575-8692

<http://elpasoco.colostate.edu>  
<http://colorado4h.org>

Jonathan R. Vrabec  
Extension Agent  
4-H/Ag

[jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com](mailto:jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com)

### February

7 Officer Training  
13-15 Youth Fest in Monument  
16 Holiday  
24 County Council

### March

20-22 District Retreat  
31 County Council

### April

18 Festival of Events  
24 County Council

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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