



Southeast Area 4-H Newsletter

Southeast Area Office

411 North 10th Street
Rocky Ford, CO 81067
719-254-7608
www.extension.colostate.edu/SEA

County Extension Offices

Baca County

722 Colorado Street
Springfield, CO 81073
719-523-6971
baca@ext.colostate.edu

Bent County

1499 Ambassador Thompson
Las Animas, CO 81054
719-456-0764
bent1@ext.colostate.edu
<http://bent.colostate.edu/>

Cheyenne County

Box 395
Cheyenne Wells, CO 81810
719-767-5716
cheyenne@ext.colostate.edu
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Crowley County

603 Main Street
Courthouse Annex
Ordway, CO 81063
719-267-5243
crowley@ext.colostate.edu

Kiowa County

Box 97
Eads, CO 81036
719-438-5321
kiowa@ext.colostate.edu
<http://kiowacounty.colostate.edu/>

Otero County

Box 190
Rocky Ford, CO 81067
719-254-7608
otero@ext.colostate.edu
<http://www.coopext.colostate.edu/SEA/OTERO/index.html>

Prowers County

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Lamar, CO 81052
719-336-7734
prowers@ext.colostate.edu
<http://prowers.colostate.edu/>

February 2009



New Agent in Prowers and Bent Counties

My name is Lacey Mann and I am the new Prowers/Bent 4-H/Youth Development Agent. I was raised in Huerfano County on my family's cow/calf ranch. I was active in 4-H for 10 years with projects in horses, breeding beef, rocketry, range management, leathercraft, shooting sports and junior leadership. It was during this time I discovered my desire to pursue a career in agriculture education. I have a bachelor's degree from Colorado State University in agriculture education with a concentration in extension. I also have a bachelor's degree from Kansas State University in agriculture communications and journalism. These two degrees have helped me to develop my communication skills and work toward educating all ages about the importance of agriculture and youth programs.

I have worked with Texas Farm Bureau's State Legislative Affairs office in Austin for the past four years. I served in many roles ranging from writer, editor, event coordinator and office support staff. I enjoyed working in state politics; however, I knew I could better serve working in a youth program. I am anxious to meet my area 4-H members, leaders, commissioners and fellow staff over the next few months. My door will always be open, so please feel free to come see me. Thank you for this opportunity.

District Retreat

The South Central District Retreat will be held at the Silver Cliff Ranch near Nathrop, March 20th thru 22nd, 2009. The retreat is for senior 4-H members (14 to 18 years old on or before December 31st, 2008). The cost of the retreat is \$115 and registration is due to your County Extension Office on March 2nd. Why should you attend or send your youth to District Retreat? There are many reasons but to list a few: All high school seniors attending will be eligible to win a \$500 scholarship (you must be present to win); meet new friends and meet up with old friends from all over Southeastern and South Central Colorado; educational and life skill workshops (college planning, survival tactics, time management, science activities, and team building); and swimming in an outdoor hot-springs pool. All parents and leaders attending will have the opportunity to attend two workshops geared for leaders. The first one will be a general session, with the second focusing on specific projects (wind power, visual arts, financial champions, and Geospatial) Pick up your registration paperwork today from your County Extension Office.

Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Colorado counties cooperating. Extension programs are available to all without discrimination. The information given herein is supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Colorado State University is implied.





4-H Calendar

February

5 Leader Training – Prowers Co.
 9-13 IFYE Delegate in SE Area
 13-15 Youth Fest – Larkspur
 18 Leader Training – Otero Co.
 20 CWF Applications due
 20-22 Shooting Sports leader training in Pueblo
 25-3/1 Western Regional Leader's Forum – Denver
 27-3/1 Shooting Sports leader training in Akron

March

10 Leader Training – Kiowa Co.
 13-15 Shooting Sports Leader Training – Greeley
 20-22 District Retreat – Silver Cliff Ranch
 20-22 Shooting Sports leader training in Delta
 27 – MQA – Kiowa Co.
 27 – MQA – Cheyenne Co.
 28 – Leader training – Bent Co.
 31 – MQA – Baca Co.

Check out the Colorado website at:
www.colorado4h.org

If you wish to participate in any of these events/activities and need special accommodation, please notify the Extension Office of your need at least 5 business days prior to the event/activity.

Citizenship Washington Focus

The 2009 Citizenship Washington Focus trip to Washington, D.C. will be June 13-20, 2009. CWF is a 4-H leadership program for high school youth, and is held at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center. The program is aimed at enriching young people's lives by

broadening their appreciation and respect for themselves and others in the world. Participants attend workshops, committees, field trips and social events, giving them hands-on opportunities to learn and grow. Participants learn and practice skills that will make them better citizens and more successful individuals.

To be eligible, the 4-H'er must be 15 years of age by December 31, 2008. At least one year prior leadership responsibility is required. Selection is based on the application and a 1-3 page resume outlining your 4-H career, including leadership projects, school achievements, etc.

The Colorado 4-H Youth Fund pays one-third of the cost, and the remaining expense is the responsibility of the delegate and/or county. Check with your local County Extension Office for information on funding opportunities in your county and to pick up an application. Applications are due in your county Extension Office by February 20, 2009.

Southeast Area 4-H Fun Festival

On May 8th, 2009, talented 4-H'ers will come together and compete at the annual 4-H Fun Festival. This year we are going to combine efforts and have one 4-H Fun Festival for everyone in the entire Southeast Area. This year's festival will be in Eads in the Kiowa County Community Building at the fairgrounds beginning at 6:00 p.m. We will be sending out entry forms towards the end of February, so you will be able to pick them at your local extension office beginning in March. This will give you time to pick the events in which you wish to compete. It also gives you time to begin preparing your music,

speech, or other materials you may need to compete at your highest level. You need to turn your entries into your local extension office by April 23rd so that the forms can be mailed to the Kiowa County Extension Office by April 29th. This is a great opportunity to show off your talents and compete for a chance to perform at the Colorado State Fair! For additional information or questions, contact your extension office or Jeramy McNeely at 719-767-5716.

Southeast Area Leader Training

ALL LEADERS MUST ATTEND SO PLAN ACCORDINGLY!

Time goes by quickly, when we are having fun! Two years ago the Southeast Area incorporated mandatory leader trainings for all 4-H leaders. The training is held in person every other year and the time has come as 2009 is the year for the training. The trainings are held in each of the seven counties and leaders may attend in their own county or any other Southeast Area County (Baca, Bent, Cheyenne, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, or Prowers). Each county program will be very similar. The program will last approximately 2 hours. Please mark your calendars and plan accordingly. Remaining opportunities are:

- Wednesday, February 18, 2009 – Otero County, Extension Office, Rocky Ford, 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 10, 2009 – Kiowa County, Courthouse, Eads, 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 28, 2009 – Bent County, Extension Office, Las Animas, 10:00 a.m.

Background Checks on all New 4-H Volunteers

CSU mandated procedure for new 4-H leaders: New 4-H leaders, or those with a break in service greater than six months, will be required to fill out a 4-H volunteer application. County offices will follow up with references listed, then send the leaders legal name and email address to Colorado State University Human Resources Office for them to conduct the background check. This is just a FYI for anyone from now on that signs up as a new leader.

2009 Western Regional 4-H Leader's Forum (WRLF)

February 25 - March 1, 2009

Roundup your leaders and head to Denver for the Western Regional 4-H Leaders' Forum. Discover the trail which leads to fun and learning to take back to the herd at home.

Get a rope around personal skills you can use with 4-H'ers and gather up stray enthusiasm while having fun sharing ideas and developing skills. Clean the stable of old ideas and corral lots of new ones!

Join 400 volunteers from the 13 western states, Canada and the U.S. territories in the South Pacific at this great event. Don't miss the most energizing and educational forum for 4-H volunteers this side of the Rockies! Don't get left out of this roundup of hands-on experiences, sharing ideas, developing friendships, motivational speakers, and workshops to address your interests and challenges.

Grab your ropes, the ROUNDUP IS ON!

For more information contact your local Extension Office or go to <http://www.colorado4h.org>.

Meat Quality Assurance Requirements

All Southeast Area 4-H programs where youth have enrolled in Livestock/Horse projects will annually provide a Meat Quality Assurance program. Members will be required to attend MQA training the first two years they show livestock and then must recertify at the beginning of their Intermediate (age 11) and Senior (age 14) years. This is assuming that you start 4-H when you are eight years old. If a member does not start taking livestock/horse projects until later they must still take the initial first two years and then whenever the next age break fits in. This includes all breeding and market: beef, sheep, swine, goats, poultry, and rabbits, all dairy animals and horses.

All MQA Trainings are open to any youth in the area. Please make sure you sign in at the trainings. The hands-on learning stations will be used again with changes in the stations. This is a come and learn-by-doing training that will take approximately an hour to complete. Parents and leaders are strongly encouraged to attend. The following dates have been set and the county in which they will be held. The specific location will be determined as the date gets closer.

- March 27 – Kiowa – 2:00 – 4:00
- March 27 – Cheyenne - 6:00 - 8:00
- March 31 – Baca – 6:00 – 8:00
- April 3 – Bent – 2:00 – 4:00
- April 8 – Otero – 6:00 – 8:00
- May 1 - Crowley – 2:00 to 4:00
- TBA – Prowers

COOL

Country of Origin Labeling or COOL as it has come to be known is a law that was passed with the 2002 farm bill and signed into law by Pres. Bush in May 2002. COOL requires that all suppliers of the covered commodities supply consumers with information regarding what country that particular commodity originated from. The commodities covered include beef, pork, lamb, farm-raised and wild fish and shellfish, fruits, vegetables, and peanuts. The implementation of this law had been delayed until September 30, 2008 except for fish and shellfish which went into effect on April 4, 2005. (USDA) website; http://www.usda.gov/documents/COUNTRY_OF_ORIGIN_LABELING.pdf

While some polls say over 90% of consumers want to know where their food comes from, agriculture is divided when it comes to supporting this mandatory legislation. The opposition arises from a perception of increased governmental control of the livestock industry as well as increased paperwork for producers. Those in favor of the program feel that this is a way to increase sales of United States produced agricultural products, due largely to the fact that consumers prefer homegrown products. No matter which side of the fence you fall on, COOL is here and we have to comply with it.

So what does this mean for 4-H and FFA members that may only be raising a few animals? The number of animals produced for slaughter by an individual has no bearing on the law. Everyone must comply. All animals sold through the junior livestock sales at our area fairs must have documentation showing where they came from. If you purchase

your animal for your project, you must obtain a **signed** affidavit or bill of sale from the **seller**, stating the origin of the animal. For those of you who raise your own animals, you must complete an affidavit along with supporting documentation such as birth records, tag numbers, ear notches, and a detailed description of the animal. It may not hurt to have some pictures of the animal from different stages of the project to keep with your records. These records should be copied and turned in to your County Extension office. The **Extension office** and **you** should keep these records for at least two years. This will help provide the USDA with a paper trail should any questions ever arise. Please check with your Extension office as to when you must turn in your affidavits, or if you have any questions regarding this new rule.

2009 4-H Shooting Sports Workshops

Several leader certification workshops have been scheduled around the state in the next few months. If you are interested in becoming certified in one of the SS disciplines, contact your local Extension Office for information and registration forms. Information and forms are also available on the SS web-site: www.co4hshooting.org

- **Pueblo County** - Pueblo - February 20-22, 2009.
- **Washington County** - Akron – Feb. 27 - March 1, 2009. (Shotgun Games Training Concurrent)
- **Weld County** - Greeley - March 13-15, 2009.
- **Delta County** - Delta - March 20-22, 2009. (Shotgun Games Training Concurrent)
- **Kit Carson County** - Burlington - April 17-19, 2009.

- **Gunnison County** - Gunnison - May 1-3, 2009.
- **Eagle County** - Eagle - May 29-31, 2009.
- **Park County** - Fairplay - October 2-4, 2009.

Community Service Opportunities

Each 4-H Club is to complete a minimum of one community service activity a year. Many clubs have adopted stretches of highways that they clean, some volunteer monthly at senior centers or nursing homes, other help set up for community dinners or events. Whatever community service project your club does is important. Many times it may be difficult to tackle or find community service projects as they are often behind the scenes. Below are a couple of opportunities for clubs to participate in.

- Replanting Tree's in and round the town of Ordway. On April 15th, 2008 a devastating wild fire blew through the town of Ordway destroying everything in its path. On March 21st and April 18th the Colorado Forest Service is looking for volunteers to help replant the trees in the community. Volunteers are needed for any length of time (day, ½ day, few hours). Community members have applied for trees and will be receiving a variety of wind break and ornamental trees. For more information or to sign up as a volunteer please call the Crowley County Extension Office at 719-267-5243.
- Rebuilding History – The Arkansas Valley Fairboard, the City of Rocky Ford, Colorado Preservation, Inc., and the Otero County Historic Preservation Board are teaming up to rebuild the adobe horse stalls on the Arkansas Valley Fairgrounds in Rocky Ford. Holes in the walls need to be patched, doors

repaired and exterior walls plastered. Work dates are May 9, 10, 16 & 17, 2009. For more information or to sign up as a volunteer please contact Rebecca Goodwin at 719-468-6812 or rebecca@goodwin.net.

CSU Collegiate 4-H Scholarships

There are a number of scholarships available to 4-H'ers that are based on academics, community involvement, service and leadership in the 4-H program. A list of scholarships and applications are available on the CSU website at http://www.colorado4h.org/events_opportunities/scholarships/index.shtml. Please note that the deadline for many of the scholarships is April 1, 2009.

Horse Judging Short Course

CSU Equine Sciences will be hosting a 4-H Horse Show Judges Seminar and a 4-H Horse Show Judges Testing Session at the CSU Equine Center on February 21st, 2009. This is the ONLY opportunity in 2009 to have your name added to the Colorado Approved 4-H Horse Show Judges list. For more information, please contact your county Extension Office. Registration deadline is February 9, 2009.

Rabbit Breeders offer Rabbits to 4-H'ers

Two rabbit breeders have offered to give breeding rabbits to 4-H'ers enrolled in or interested in the rabbit project. If interested, please contact either of these generous individuals:

Ted Risberg – 254-3266

Teresa Archuleta – 383-4661 (Palomino rabbits, and she would maybe give cages also)

District VI Spring Senate Meeting & Community Service Project

District VI Officers have selected April 4, 2009, for the Spring Senate Meeting. In conjunction with the meeting they will also be doing a community service project. The meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m. at the Crowley County Extension Office in Ordway. Following the meeting those in attendance will be either planting, preparing, or mulching trees. All area 4-H members are encouraged to attend the District meetings and participate in the community service project.

District Officer Nominations

See your County Extension Office for an application. Applications must be submitted to your county office by March 23rd. **Applicants must be present at the District VI Spring meeting on April 4, 2009.**

District VI 4-H Senate Officer Qualifications and Duties as listed in District Constitution

All officers must be at least 14 years old as of January 1 in the year they are elected, but not more than 18 years old. All officers must have completed at least one previous year of 4-H work. Each county is limited to no more than two district officers. In the event of not enough officially nominated candidates, a third officer from a county may be elected after all eligible nominees are elected to an office.

President

- must have served on District Senate for at least one year prior to the year of election and attended two Senate meetings, one of which must be a District Senate meeting prior to the election meeting. May not be a senior in high school at time of election.
- will preside over all meetings of the District VI Senate
- assists Extension staff in coordinating district activities
 - Night Owl November
 - Officer Training Jan/Feb
 - Spring Meeting March/April
- serves on the state officer team and represents District VI at regional or state meetings
 - June Conference 5 days (Beginning of term: June 23-26, 2009)
 - State Fair meeting 1-2 days August
 - CO Leadership Camp 3 days October
 - Winter officer meeting
 - Leadership Dev Conf 3 days Jan/Feb
 - Youth Fest 3 days Feb
 - Spring officer meeting
 - June Conference 5 days June (End of term)

Vice President

- presides in the absence of President
- helps plan and conduct district activities

Secretary

- will record the minutes of all regular and special meetings
- will send within five (5) days a copy of the minutes of any meeting to the Extension Agent Advisor
- helps plan and conduct district activities

Reporter

- will issue a news release within five (5) days of all district meetings, activities, and events
- helps plan and conduct district activities

Treasurer

- will keep accurate records of all district monies
- signs all checks paid by district monies
- helps plan and conduct district activities

Two Executive Officers

- serve on the executive committee and in other appropriate capacities as needed
- help plan and conduct district activities