



Southeast Area 4-H Newsletter

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Editorial

A Possible Meaning for the “F” in Four-H!

We have all seen the acrostics – a short verse composition, so constructed that the initial letters of the lines, taken consecutively, form words. (You have no idea how big a team I formed in a couple of minutes to find that definition and the scratch marks on our heads to prove it) Anyway, some comments made recently about finding leaders for 4-H projects had me considering words and the idea of an acrostics flew across my thought process (*digressions from thought are common!*).

Comments include the view that we just could not find enough leaders for all of the projects the youth wanted to take. My response was – what is wrong with a parent and a youth learning the project together? Education is not age specific and we can all use some gray matter expansion!

This also made me consider, since we always hear how the modern family structure is falling apart, what better way to spend some quality time with our children! I remember when my own kids decided to take sheep – *now if you want a LEARNING experience, buy some sheep* – that learning curve made Wolf Creek Pass look as flat as a pool table! But you know what – we all learned together and it turned out to be an enjoyable project with many good memories (*time heals all wounds or maybe Alzheimer’s is kicking in!*) The same can be said for Rocketry; a few aeronautical disasters sure give us something to reminisce and laugh about together.

It seems the F in Four-H could have many meanings that all tie together: Fun, Family, Future, Friends, etc. I do not mean to be offensive but I have heard of parents that cannot boil water and make it edible. Why can’t a parent and child learn from some of the cooking projects together? *You will notice no gender specificity – men need to know how to cook, too!* I also know parents who do not know one end of a box-end wrench from the other end; seems like the small engines project would benefit the parent and the child. *Ever hear of a Powder Puff mechanics class? Again, no gender specifics – doesn’t hurt girls to know how to change oil!* Just look at the 4-H project list – the possibilities are almost endless as to what you can learn, even from the dreaded record book (*now there is a family bonding experience*).

Okay, so I have the F and the H (head, heart, health, and hands – remember) pretty well covered. I am starting to experience vapor lock so you will have to wait for a future issue to find out the rest of the - acrostics. Don’t you just love big words?

Bruce Fickenscher

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4-H Calendar

March

27 MQA – Kiowa Co.
28-30 Shooting Sports Leader Training

April

2 MQA – Prowers Co.
5 Home Ec and General Project Judges' Training
6 Dist. VI Spring Senate Meeting
6 Dist. VI Leader Council Meeting
11 MQA – Crowley Co.
12 Bent Co. Prospect Sale
14 MQA – Otero Co.
18 MQA – Bent Co.
19 Swine Workshop – Lamar
27 Dist. Horse Council Fun Day
29 MQA – Cheyenne Co.

May

2-4 YHEC
6 MQA – Baca Co.
10-11 Pig Jackpot, Las Animas

June

8 District Horse Show - Prowers
23-27 State 4-H Conference
28 District Horse Show – Crowley

July

13 District Horse Show - Baca

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.

Southern Region Judges Training

The Southern Region 4-H Agents will be hosting a 4-H Judges Training for Home Economic and General Projects. The training will

be Saturday, April 5th from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., on the campus of CSU-Pueblo. Registration deadline is March 21, 2008, and there will be a \$25.00 registration fee that includes lunch and multiple handouts. The general sessions will cover judging e-records, filling out score sheets, Danish and American ribbon systems, and judging multiple projects. There will be specific break out groups to cover judging: foods/baking, shooting sports/natural resources, heritage arts, fashion revue, cake decorating, and photography. Contact your local extension office for a brochure with a registration form enclosed.

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 – 6:00 to 8:00
- April 2 – Prowers – 6:00 to 8:00
- April 11 – Crowley – 2:00 to 4:00
- April 14 – Otero – 6:00 to 8:00
- April 18 – Bent – 2:00 to 4:00
- April 29 – Cheyenne – 6:00 to 8:00
- May 6 – Baca – 6:00 to 8:00

District VI Spring Senate Meeting & Community Service Project

District VI Officers have selected April 6, 2008, for the Spring Senate Meeting and Community Service project. On the 6th, the District VI Senators, and all other interested 4-H members, will be helping the Town of Holly replant trees in the park. There will be 8 trees to plant on the south end of the park. The group will meet near the picnic awning/playground equipment at 10:00 a.m. to begin planting trees. We should finish around 3:00 p.m. Anyone helping is asked to bring a sack lunch, dress appropriately (jeans, work boots/tennis shoes, gloves, and take weather into consideration), and bring rakes and/or shovels. If possible, wear a 4-H tee or hat to help identify us.

The Senate meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m. at the Holly High School, Vo-Ag Classroom, 3rd & Buffalo Streets. The election of the 2008-2009 Senate Officers will be held. Dates for the 2008 Night Owl will be on the agenda, as well as other important announcements. All Senators and any members running for District office should plan to attend.



District Officer Nominations

See your County Extension Office for an application. Applications must be submitted to your county office by March 24. Officer qualifications and duties were listed in the February newsletter, and are also available on-line at <http://www.coopext.colostate.edu/SEA/> Applicants **must be present at the District VI Spring meeting on April 6, 2008.**

2008 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Training

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Location</u>
3/14-16	3/7	La Plata
3/28-30	3/21	Prowers
3/28-30	3/21	Washington
4/4-6	3/28	Fremont
4/11-13	4/4	Gunnison
5/2-4	4/25	Routt

District VI Leader Council

District VI Leader Council will meet April 6, at noon, in the park in Holly. All leaders are encouraged to attend.



Swine Workshop

All 4-H and FFA members are encouraged to attend a swine workshop on Saturday, April 19, from 9:30 to 2:00, at the Prowers County Fairgrounds in Lamar. The workshop will be presented by Colorado State University Animal

Science Specialist, Brett Kaysen. It is geared for first-time swine showman or for the experienced ten-year showman. Brett will be discussing selection, nutrition, health and showmanship. Pigs will be provided, so please do not bring your own. There will be a concession stand provided by the Prowers County 4-H Council.

Registration is due April 15th, along with a registration fee of \$10.00 per member to the Otero County Extension Office. Registration after the 15th or on the day of the workshop will be \$20.00 per member.

For more information or directions, contact Brooke Matthew at the Otero County Extension Office 719-254-7608, or brooke.matthew@colostate.edu.

Patterns for 95 cents

Two major pattern companies are offering patterns to 4-H seamstresses at a substantial discount. The discount is for selected patterns only. Log on to www.mccallpattern.com, go to the Sew Cool in School program and check out the 83 patterns available. Orders must be placed through your county extension office. Check out this great deal as you start your spring sewing, or your project for '08.

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 all state 4-H scholarships has been changed to April 1, 2008.

Producers Field Days

Three field days have been scheduled for producers of Swine, Sheep, Goats and Beef. Each will be held at the Morgan County Fairgrounds in Brush. Event includes both educational presentations as well as judging contests. Dates for each species are as follows:

March 8 – Swine
March 15 – Sheep & Goats
March 22 – Beef

For more information, contact the Adams County Extension Office at 303-637-8100, or the Morgan County Extension Office at 970-542-3540.

New Rules for State Fair Horse Show

According to the State Fair Horse Show Manager, the following changes have been made to the 2008 State Fair Horse Show:

1. The first change I would like to present to everyone is the **ENTRY RULE CHANGE** we have made. The 4-H Superintendents and I have decided to lift the rule that states you can not enter any additional classes after the entry deadline. The new rule will allow those that have entered by the deadline to add or change classes within their division they have already signed up for. We will allow changes to classes the day of the show as long as the exhibitor makes those changes first thing in the morning. Each exhibitor must get prior approval from one of the Superintendents working the show. Show management CANNOT approve changes. If an exhibitor wishes to make changes prior to the fair but after the deadline, their agent

must approve their changes before they are submitted to the State Fair Horse Show office.

2. The **NEW ENTRY DEADLINE** will be **August 4, 2008**, in order to give exhibitors more time after their County Fairs.
3. **WORKING RANCH HOSE DIVISION** – A new 4-H agent sub-committee is revising the rules and creating score sheets for this entire division. This will help eliminate confusion of the rules on certain classes and give judges better guidelines on how to judge each class. This division will also have its own superintendent. In 2008, that will be LuAnn Goodyear, Larimer County 4-H Agent. We will also be hiring a separate judge for this division that is familiar with the program. For 2008, exhibitors MUST hold a Level 2 Working Ranch Horse Level Card in order to show in this division. **Classes will include:** Ranch Trail, Ranch Horsemanship, Cattle Sorting and an Individual Cow Work class. Rules for these classes will be outlined in the premium book.
4. **PREMISE ID** – The last change I would like to explain is the premise ID decision the Fair Board made. On November 30, 2007 at the fair commissioner board meeting the board decided to go forward with the Premise ID requirements. The board is allowing the horse show staff some time to implement this new rule. The 2008 Fair will not require everyone to put their premise ID number on their entry form, but it is highly suggested that you proceed forward with getting a number. **It will be required**

that you have a Premise ID number in 2009. There will be a place on the 2008 entry form for your premise ID number for those exhibitors who have taken the initiative and gotten their number. This is not an animal identification number. You do not have to identify your animals. This is a Premise ID number that tells us the location of where the exhibited animals are housed if there were to be a disease outbreak.

New Rules for 2008 State Fair

- The Colorado State Fair Board of commissioners voted on Friday November 30, to continue requiring all 4-H and FFA livestock entries (market and breeding and poultry) at the Colorado State Fair to have their valid livestock premises identification number. The Board also voted to establish a timeline to implement premises identification for all animals (including poultry) on the fairgrounds during the event.
- The Colorado State Fair Livestock advisor committee and State Fair management met on November 19 and voted on the following rules to be implemented to the 2008 Colorado State Fair. These changes were approved by the General Manager and Livestock Manager of the Colorado State Fair.
- Market hog maximum weight will be increased from 275 to 280.
- There will be NO clipping allowed on Market Hogs while on the CSF premises.
- The Colorado State Fair will accept Retinal scanning identification for all Market Beef, Lambs and Goats

planning to come to the 2008 CSF market shows. The procedure will be to have the extension agent or FFA advisor send a disc to the livestock office with only those animals scans that the exhibitors think they may be bringing to the Colorado State Fair. A nomination card with all the exhibitor information must be filled out and signed by the exhibitor and sent in at the same time as the disc. Those counties that do not have access to the retinal scanning process will be required to send in a nomination card with the prints on the back side, or the goat picture with exhibitor attached to the nomination card and signed by the exhibitor. All exhibitor information on a nomination card will still need to be completed. The Market Hogs nomination cards will still require complete ear notch information on the backside of the nomination card, and complete exhibitor information with signature.

- A revised “Nomination card procedures and regulations guide” will be sent out via e-mail to all extension agents and FFA advisors in mid December.
- The water container rule will be revised – TBA
- All 4-H and FFA breeding animal exhibitors are required to have their Premise ID number.
- New classes for percentage cattle will be added to all Beef Breed shows. The format of these classes will be determined by the CSF representative of each individual breed. More details will be available after association meetings at NWSS.