

**Columbia County  
4-H Horse Leaders Meeting  
January 9, 2010**

Chairwoman Janice Gonzales called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.; flag salutes followed. There was no treasurer's report. Minutes of the 10/20/09 meeting were approved as read.

**Committee Reports:**

**Fair Superintendent:** Laura Kalhar will finalize and send out the schedule for fair.

**Judges:** Woody confirmed Cassie Soule' and Vixen Barney for fair and Nancy Collins for Youth Fair. Judge for Horse Classic not yet secured.

**Performance, Trail, Gaming, Presentations:** No reports.

**Jumping:** Rhonda McDaniel described Cowlitz County's requirement that any horse a 4-H member might use for jumping pass a minimum skills assessment before fair. Discussion followed about having such an assessment at Youth Fair or some other time before fair. Leaders noted that any assessment should be done by an experienced, impartial judge and that 4-H members might not be ready for it by Youth Fair. By consensus, leaders concluded that there will be no assessment before fair; however, jumping competition at fair will be as follows: (1) Hunter Hack, beginning with a qualifying round over judge's choice of 2 jumps; (2) a cross-rail practice class open to all, with a qualifying round over 2 jumps; and (3) Juniors, Intermediates and Seniors Over Fences, each beginning with 2 qualifying jumps at the appropriate height for the division. Rhonda and Woody will write language for the fair book. Jumping clinics may be offered before fair if possible.

**Dressage:** Laura has asked the same person to judge. Riders will have to choose Test A or B on their fair entry and the judge will be handed the proper test with the rider's name on it.

**Safety:** Kurt Tarkalson reported safety checks went well last year. Riders need to remember to cut off the cinch buckle tongue if it is not used.

**Barn:** No report. Info about needed repairs, with exact locations, should be given to Woody.

**Posters:** No report.

**Horse Classic:** Lynn Green and Cora Van Osdol will run the concession. June Brady coordinated a Horse Bowl practice; another is set for Jan. 26, 6:30 p.m. at 4-H office. Teri McGettigan will run the junior track program as her high school senior project. June has gone through horse bowl questions and verified source and page numbers; she can accept additional questions by e-mail. Woody is preparing the written test. Janice and Stephanie Gates volunteered for horse judging and Carrie Duyck to help Woody with hippology. 4-Hers must attempt the team hippology problem to be eligible for the state team.

**Poker Ride:** Kate Olson offered to host a 4-H fundraiser poker ride at the end of August and can get event insurance through her homeowner's policy for \$350. Jim Smith moved that the committee sponsor a poker ride and pay for the insurance. The motion was seconded and passed. Kate volunteered to chair a committee for the ride. Woody said money has been set aside for it.

**Youth Fair:** Laura explained that judged classes last year did not finish until 5 p.m. Sunday, and this is a hardship for some families. Woody will ask Nancy Collins if she can begin judging Saturday afternoon so that classes finish earlier. Laura hopes to have a dressage clinic Saturday. There will be no gaming.

**Old Business**

Woody will finalize and e-mail the fair schedule. Gaming is Sat. 6/26 in the rodeo arena; Janice will try to schedule a practice. The open horse show is Sunday 7/11, stall decorating is Monday, and Int/Sr begins Tuesday a.m., with Run for the Gold at 4 p.m. Thursday 7/15 is changeover day, with dressage

and ground training for all ages. Juniors show Friday/Saturday, and horses stay until 5 Sunday, so stalls will be full throughout fair. Horse awards on Sunday will be combined with other 4-H project awards.

### **New Business**

Rhonda asked on behalf of the new fair premiums group for donation of seed money to operate the 4-H concession café as a fundraiser for 4-H premiums and buy needed software. The group will run the concession at Horse Classic, Youth Fair, and fair. The group requested \$750 and hopes the Leaders Ass'n will match that. Laurie Mapes expressed appreciation that the group is willing to run the concession and concern that a loan might not be repayable, then moved that horse leaders donate \$750 to the group. The motion was seconded and passed. Kate volunteered to chair a budget committee; Karen Van Winkle and Janice will serve on it.

### **Announcements**

Next meeting is Feb. 16. Horse Classic is Feb. 20. Horse Bowl practice is Jan. 26, 6:30-8:00 p.m.