



Jefferson County 4-H Newsletter

July 2008 Volume 27, Issue 6

"Jefferson County 4-H offers learning opportunities in leadership and life enriching experiences within our diverse community. Participation helps develop character in a positive environment."

OSU Extension Service

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The values learned on the playing field - how to set goals, endure, take criticism and risks, become team players, use our beliefs, stay healthy and deal with stress - prepare us for life. ~**Donna de Varona**
(found at: <http://www.motivational-inspirational-corner.com>)

Happy Summer! Welcome to Fair season! July is upon us and I wanted to put my two cents in about the topic of "preparation". I did a Google search for quotes on preparation to find this month's quote. I'd just like to change the phrase "on the playing field" to something like "from being in 4-H" and then the quote would be right on to where my thoughts are today. To take it one step further I'd just add that Fair is just one small part of this life that we need to prepare for. So, are you prepared?

Last year I wrote an article for the July newsletter specifically for the "first timers" out there. I dug it out again and have included it in this year's Fair edition of the newsletter because I think it still applies. As for the rest of you who might be more experienced- this is your time to be able to share the "values [you've] learned on the playing field" with those who might not know what to expect or how to prepare - I participated in Fair not too many years ago but it will mean so much more for the inexperienced to be helped by their peers. Something I learned in college is that preparation is a process that takes time and cramming right before "the test" *does* produce results but those results are never what they could have been if you were truly prepared. You still have some time left to prepare so good luck!

As I mentioned before, Fair is one very small part of this life the we need to be prepared for and I encourage you to keep that in perspective. We have a handful of people in 4-H that their involvement doesn't have anything to do with Fair which I think is a really positive thing because it shows that Fair isn't the only reason why we're in 4-H, or at least it shouldn't be. Please don't get me wrong, I personally love Fair time and always have but I've learned as I've gotten older that there is so much more that each of you will take away from Fair than ribbons or a paycheck.

This newsletter is really full of very important information that you'll need to know as we move into this very busy month. Please take time to it carefully and if you have any questions, don't hesitate to give me a call - that's what I'm here for.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all soon and I hope you're able to meet your goals and have fun this summer at Fair and whatever else may come your way. Make it a great month! ☺

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Important Dates Around the State!

If you need more information on the following events around the state call or stop by the office.

- ✓ July 10: Dairy Goat Show Clinic, Deschutes County
- ✓ July 12: State Livestock Judging Contest, Marion County Fair.
- ✓ July 13: Fair Frenzy Benefit 4-H and Open Schooling Show, Yamhill County Fairgrounds, McMinnville, Oregon.
- ✓ July 17-19: Northwest Junior Sheep Expo, Grant County Fairgrounds, Moses Lake, Washington.
- ✓ Sept. 27: Silver Edge Horse Show, Madras

Fashion Revue just around the corner!

Everyone is invited to attend the Fashion Revue on Wednesday, July 9th. Judging will take place beginning at 9 a.m. at the First Christian Church in Madras followed by a public performance at the Senior Center at 11:45. All are welcome to attend!

Presentations contest coming soon

It is that time again to polish up your public speaking skills and tell us what you know. The Presentations Contest will be Thursday, July 10th from 9-noon and 1-5 and on Friday, July 11th from 1-5 and 6-8 p.m. This year the contest will be held at the LDS Church on 12th and Oak Streets in Madras. One of the purposes of public speaking is to have an audience so all are welcome to come and watch the presentations. If you have questions or need directions, call the Extension office. See you there!

Mandatory Pre-Horse Fair Meeting

All horse leaders, members and parents are asked to attend the Mandatory Pre-Horse Fair Meeting on Monday, July 14th at 6:00 p.m. at the Fairgrounds Pavilion. Please bring your record book and a helmet with SAI identification inside. Ranch Horse members should bring their advancements for approval.

We will be discussing important information for Fair and it is necessary that ALL members attend with a parent. You aren't there, you can't come to Fair. If you have questions or concerns, please call Rebecca.

Exhibit Tags, Explanation Cards available

Members entering static exhibits should pick up exhibit tags and explanation cards at the Extension Office prior to July 15th and bring them completed with their exhibit on Monday, July 21st for check in.

Record Books required for Fair Participation

All 4-H members wishing to participate in the 2008 Jefferson County Fair need to start their Record Book and bring it in to the office to be checked off. In order to complete this requirement you'll need to fill out all appropriate headings on each of your records, include all expenses and activities up until July 1st, and start your 4-H story with an introduction and goals for the year.

If you need help with your Record Book please call Rebecca or refer to the "Jefferson County Record Keeping Guide" available at the Extension Office or on the 4-H website.

Weigh-in Times Scheduled for Fair

All animals wishing to sell at the auction will need to be weighed by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 22nd. In an attempt to decrease some of the chaos of weigh-in day, this year there will be a schedule for each species to be weighed. The schedule is as follows:

Swine: 7:30-11:00 a.m.

Sheep & Goats: 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Beef: 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Open scales, re-weigh: 4:00-5:00 p.m.

This means that each species will only be allowed to weigh at its schedule time. If you miss your scheduled time, you will be able to weigh after 4:00 p.m.

Quality Assurance Form Reminders

All market animals are required to have a Quality Assurance Form on file at Fair. This year we would like to have **Club Leaders collect the forms prior to Fair and turn them into the office at the Fairgrounds by Tuesday, July 21st by 5.** Auction animals will not sell without a completed Quality Assurance form.

Show products, ethics with Livestock projects

Another reminder about Quality Assurance...as you are preparing for Fair, please remember that you are to use only "livestock approved" fitting and showing products and **all animals must be washed clean by Friday at 10 p.m.**

Please also remember that it is not okay to feed your livestock things that will artificially put on gain just to make auction weight. Please be ethical and appropriate with your animals as you prepare for fair. Honesty is the best policy.

Last Ranch Horse Clinic Scheduled

The next Ranch Horse Clinic will be Saturday, July 12th at 10 a.m. at Tom Green's Feedlot. There will be instruction with cattle and reining. If you haven't passed off your advancements for the year, this would be a great time to get that done. Pre-registration is encouraged and forms are available on the Jefferson County 4-H Website or at the Extension Office and are due in to the Extension Office on the Monday prior to each clinic.

REMINDER: Members wishing to participate in the Ranch Horse program at Fair must pass off their advancements by July 14th. Also, if you were unable to participate in at least 3 clinics but wish to participate in Fair you must provide documentation of 6 hours of alternative activities that you have participated in.

NOTE: Ranch Horse Clinics are intended to help 4-H horse members prepare for the Ranch Horse Contest. Anyone interested may come to watch the clinics, but clinic participants must be enrolled in the 4-H Horse Project for safety and insurance purposes. If you have questions, call Rebecca.

Livestock Judging Contest Changes for Fair

The newly revised judging contest is just around the corner and hopefully you've all registered because only those who registered for the contest will receive a score. Here are some of the other changes that have been made for you to look forward to at this year's contest:

Registration will take place in the Beef Show Barn followed by the contest being held in the outdoor arena. The animals will be in the shade and the participants will be in the fresh air.

After registration the Novice and Junior members will be given a short orientation and training on judging prior to completing a scaled down contest. This process will allow for appropriate time for younger members to complete the contest as well as help them understand and enjoy the contest and want to participate in it in the future.

If you didn't sign up for the contest but would still like to experience it we will have a special spot for you – you won't be part of the competition but hopefully you'll be better prepared to compete in next year's contest. If you have questions or would like to help with the new set up, please call Rebecca.

Dry camping changes for Fair this year!

The 4-H Leaders Association and the Extension Office have been taking registrations for Dry Camping at the Fair and the campground is filling up fast! Registrations will close on Tues., July 15th and are not considered complete until fees are paid. Spots are reserved on a first come, first paid basis. Dry camping fees for Fair week will be \$20 per site.

We would like clubs to help with the set-up of the camp area closer to Fair – assignments will be made at the July Leader Meetings.

4-H Leaders to get wristbands at Fair

Are you a leader that struggles to keep track of your Fair pass during the Fair? Well, you're in luck! 4-H Leaders will have the option to get a wristband as your passage into the Fair this year for the same price you would pay for the season pass. Wristbands will be available for personal pick-up beginning Tuesday, July 22nd.

4-H Family Fun Days!

The 4-H Family Fun program in Jefferson County is excited about our upcoming Family Fun Day at Juniper Hills Park on Sunday, July 13th. Our theme for the day is "TEAMWORK". We will have an ice cream social, kite building and flying, and much more! The fun will be from 3-6 p.m. Hope to see you there!

4-H Family Fun Days Day Camp

The 4-H Family Fun program is sponsoring a summer day camp Tuesday, August 12th-Thursday, August 14. The themes for each day will be Arts and Crafts, Orienteering, and Pond Science. We will have a great time. The camp is free and registration forms will be available soon – check back at the Extension office or on the website for more information.

"Fun with Ag in August" Science Day Camp

The "Fun with Ag in August" Science Day camp will be held August 19-22 from 9-noon each day. Any local youth ages 9-12 are eligible to attend. Each day will have a different theme: Food Science, Plant Science, Animal Science, and Technology – all with an agricultural twist! Registration for the day camp is \$10 per child, \$25 maximum per family. Registration forms will be available at the Extension Office and on the website after July 10th and will close August 8th. Sign up early!

4-H Lego Robotics Challenges Open to Public at State Fair

This year's Lego Robotics Challenges are open to youth ages nine and up and will be in the 4-H Exhibit Building at the State Fair Aug. 24-26. They are one of nine projects in the Oregon 4-H Youth Development Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) program. This nationwide effort teaches analytical, logical and critical thinking while engaging young people in fun activities. The goal is to cultivate a new crop of astronomers, biologists, physicists, engineers and other scientists.

Registration for the Lego challenges can be made by contacting county OSU Extension offices or by contacting Mona Easley at 541-737-1327 or mona.easley@oregonstate.edu. Registration also can be made the day of the fair at the 4-H information desk in the 4-H Exhibit Building, but there is a limit to the number who may participate. Registration fee is \$10. Robots can be created from Lego kits or miscellaneous parts. You can find more information at: <http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/programs/event/state%20fair/2008/computer.pdf>

Livestock Field Day a HUGE Success!!

A big thank you goes out to the B'aad Oinkers Livestock Club members and leaders (Treana Henley and Kelly Jacobsen) for sponsoring the Livestock Field day on Saturday, June 28th. There were lots of kids there to brush up on their livestock judging skills, visit with the Purina dealer, and enjoy an awesome BBQ put together by the club dads and volunteers. Thanks also to Haley Hunt, our guest clinician for the day. The event was well organized with a good balance of education and recreation (water games) mixed with good company. Great job, B'aad Oinkers!

Parking available for Cars, Trailers @ Fair

The Culver and Madras FFA chapters will be organizing a parking area for 4-H and FFA families to use during Fair. The area allocated by the Fairboard is near where the shavings have been dumped in years passed. You will be able to park your livestock trailer there for the week for \$5 and a parking pass for vehicles will be \$10. Passes will be available at fair. For more info contact Brook or Dale.

Regional Forums – Save the date!

The State 4-H Staff has announced that there will be several Regional Forums this Fall to help members and leaders stay up to date on policies and project areas that are available in the 4-H program. The scheduled dates are as follows: September 27, Beaverton (Washington County) October 4, Roseburg (Douglas County) October 11, Redmond (Deschutes County) October 25, La Grande (Union County)

The registration fee is \$10 for the day of educational activities, resources to take home, gifts, and door prizes. You may pre-register for the \$5 catered lunch or bring a “brown bag.” Simple pre-registration forms are available on the State 4-H Website.

Jefferson County Fairgrounds adopts Smoke Free policy

The following article was submitted by Danna Hastings, Tobacco Program Coordinator with the Jefferson County Health Department:

“In keeping with its focus of offering healthy and fun events for Jefferson County families, Jefferson County Fair Board announces the adoption of a smoke free policy for the county fairgrounds effective June 30, 2008. The policy will prohibit smoking on the fairgrounds at all times and during all events. Adopting this policy ensures that the fairgrounds are a healthy and clean place for event attendees. Included in the policy is the provision of a designated smoking area.”

The Jefferson County 4-H staff encourages the 4-H clientele to support the Fairgrounds in this policy and abide by its regulations during our activities at the Fairgrounds.

Jefferson County 4-H Leader Meetings

<i>July Meetings</i>	
Horse Leaders	Wed., July 9, 6:30 p.m.
Livestock Leaders	Tues., July 8, 7:15 p.m.
Executive Council	Mon., July 14, 8:00 p.m.
Mandatory Horse Meeting	Mon, July 14, 6:00 p.m.
<i>August Meetings</i>	
Horse Leaders	Thurs, Aug 7, 6:30 p.m.
Small Animal	Tues, Aug 12, 6:00 p.m.
Livestock Leaders	Tues, Aug 12, 7:15 p.m.
Executive Council	Mon, Aug 18, 7:00 p.m.

Meetings are held in the Extension Office meeting room.

Leaders, your attendance and input at Leader Meetings is greatly appreciated. If you are unable to attend and have something that you would like to be discussed, please feel free to either call Rebecca at 475-3808 or e-mail rebecca.mills@oregonstate.edu.

Fair for First-timers – tips from your friendly 4-H Agent...

Congratulations on making it to Fair time! Are you scared? Worried? Excited? Confused? Are you feeling like you have no idea what to expect? Maybe even completely stressed out? Whether you are a first time leader, a first time 4-H parent, or a first time 4-Her, I imagine all of these emotions (and many more) have crossed your mind about the upcoming Jefferson County Fair. The first year in 4-H can really be rough because 4-H is truly a unique culture with its own lingo and rules. I wanted to put together a few tips that might help. The 4-H Staff is here to help you so if there's anything we can do, please don't hesitate to let us know.

General things...

-First of all, try to remember how to breathe. Stress levels get really high at Fair time for both kids and adults. Try to keep things in perspective – if you find yourself getting overwhelmed take a break but don't take it out on someone else.

-Horse folks and Livestock members/leaders/parents: there's a meeting every morning before the shows start. Simple instructions here: you need to be there. This will be a time where you can get your questions answered and hear about what's going on that day which is all important information for you to know.

-What's herdsmanship? Herdsmanship is something that is required of every member who has an animal at the Fair. It means that you need to make sure that your animal's pen is cleaned each morning and that they have fresh water and feed. It also means making sure your club's area is neat and tidy for the people coming to the Fair. And third, it means talking to the public about your projects and being a good representative of the 4-H program at all times. Herdsmanship is something that the 4-Hers do – not parents or leaders.

-Everyone needs to have their record book checked off before they can participate in Fair. Bring your record book to the office by July 15th to have this done. Refer to the "Jefferson County Record Keeping" Guide for more info (this can be found on the website or at the Extension Office)

Horse things...

-Monday, July 14th you need to attend the Mandatory Horse Meeting if you want to go to Fair. Bring your record book and your helmet to be checked off. It starts at 6 p.m. and will be in the Pavilion at the Fairgrounds.

-If you keep your horse at your trailer during Fair you need to put your stall card on your trailer – all members must have a stall card.

-It is going to be hot: please make sure you and your animals have enough water.

-We need to leave the barns as clean as we found them.

-Don't forget to come to the BBQ on Sunday afternoon after the gaming events – it is a lot of fun and a great way to unwind from the stress of the weekend before the rest of the Fair starts.

Livestock/Small Animal things...

-You need to have your animal at Fairgrounds on Tuesday where you'll have to have them weighed in again. Check the weigh-in times in this newsletter.

-You can help set up the swine pens Saturday night and the Sheep pens Sunday night, whichever applies to you.

-Your animals will be stressed because they are in a new, unfamiliar place. Try to keep things as close to normal as you can – same feed, buckets, etc. Continue to be a good manager of your animal, too – just because the animal is going to go to slaughter at the end of the week, doesn't mean it is healthy to pour the feed into them so they weigh more for the auction.

-Swine kids: there is a good chance that when you're in the show ring that pigs are going to fight. There will be adults in the ring with you to separate fighting pigs so don't be alarmed – it is just part of animals being unfamiliar with one another.

-In each barn there will be a white board where all the class lists and other important information will be posted – find it and refer to it often.

Home Ec/ Exp. Arts/ Horticulture, etc.

-Monday is when you enter your exhibits and sign up for a time to meet with the judge about your project.

-Tuesday you'll need to come and have an interview with the judge. Interviews are not required but they are highly encouraged and recommended.

-Exhibits can be picked up Sunday morning, the earlier the better.

Good Luck and I'll see you at the Fair! ~Rebecca



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To the 4-H Family of:

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Please be aware that this newsletter (with links included) is available on the Jefferson County 4-H Website

Dates to Remember: Leader meeting dates and times listed on Page

There are more important dates and events listed on Page 2.

July:

- 9 Fashion Review Practice and Contest, First Christian Church, Madras
- 10-11 Presentations Contest, LDS Church, Madras
- 12 Ranch Horse Clinic, Tom Green's Feedlot
- 14 Mandatory Horse Meeting 6:00, Executive Council 8:00, Fairgrounds Pavilion
- 17 Jefferson County 4-H Dog Fair 9 a.m. Jefferson County Fairgrounds
- 18-20 Jefferson County 4-H Horse Fair, Jefferson County Fairgrounds
- 21-27 Jefferson County Fair (Schedule for Horse Fair and Jefferson County Fair in the Fairbook)

August:

- 12-14 "4-H Family Fun Days" Day Camp
- 15-19 Oregon State Horse Fair
- 19-22 "Fun with Ag in August" Science Day Camp
- 22-23 Oregon State Dog Fair
- 22-31 Oregon State Fair

