



Wasco County 4-H Newsletter

February
2008

Positive Youth Development Study Update

Oregon 4-H is partnering with National 4-H Council and Tufts University to participate in the National 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development. The study is entering its 6th year, and early results are indicating that 4-H does a particularly good job of helping youth develop into healthy and contributing citizens. To date, the study does not include any 4-H youth from Oregon, but we would like to change that!

This year, the study will look primarily at youth who are in the 10th grade-but we can also include 8th and 9th graders as well. Letters of informed consent were sent to parents of 4-H members in this age group in late January. This consent needs to be signed and returned to the State 4-H office. Once consent is received, county 4-H agents will work with the youth to set up a time to complete the survey. We would like to receive all signed informed consents by mid-February.

A word about the survey: Because of the complex nature and national scope of the study, the survey is quite long (36 pages). It will take youth about 90 minutes to complete. The study is trying to establish the impact of 4-H on positive youth behavior, but in order to do so, it needs to ask about risk behaviors as well (such as substance use and sexual behavior). We want to be sure that parents and youth understand the complete nature of the survey. Please know that these types of questions are very common in the world of adolescent research and that this survey has been used with thousands of youth without any problems.

Questions about the study can be directed to Mary Arnold, 4-H Youth Development Specialist (541) 737-1315 or Roger Rennekamp, State 4-H Program Leader (541) 737-1737.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

- 9 Cat and Rocketry Clinic, CGCC, Rm. 2.273, 10-12 pm
- 12 Leaders' Association Mtg., CGCC, Rm. 2.273, 7 p.m.
- 17 Teen Council Mtg., Spookys, 3:30-4:30 p.m..
- 19 Horse Leader's Mtg., CGCC, Rm. 2.273, 6: p.m.
- 21 Scholarship and Congress App. Help, 4-H Office, 6-8 p.m.
- 23 Babysitting Clinic, CGCC, Lecture Hall, 12:30-5 pm
- 25 Scholarship and Congress App. Help, 4-H Office, 6-8 p.m.
- 29-3/3 Youth Evaluation Training, Eagle Crest

March

- 6-9 Western Regional Leader's Forum, Boise, ID
- 8 Rocketry Clinic, CGCC, 10 a.m.
- 11 Leaders' Assoc. Mtg, CGCC, Rm. 2.273, 7 p.m.
- 14 Steer Weigh-in, Auction Yard, 4-6 p.m.
- 15 Steer Weigh-in, Fairgrounds, 8-10 a.m.
- 27-29 Know Your State Gov., Salem
- 28-30 Tri-County Leadership Camp, Camp Morrow

April

- 5 Wasco County Horse Bowl
- 8 Leaders' Association Mtg., CGCC, Rm. 2.273, 7 p.m.

To Dock or Not to Dock?

After many discussions with numerous people in the sheep industry, State 4-H has made a decision on the issue of tail docking.

The official language is: "No animal showing signs of rectal prolapse or mechanical repair can be exhibited."

The tail should be docked no shorter than 'the distal end of the caudal fold'. There is no positive reason to dock the tail any shorter. Shorter docking is only 'a cosmetic induced illusion of a correct animal' at a health risk to the animal.

The 4-H Program focuses on teaching youth how to make healthy and positive decisions and putting an animal at

risk for health issues for the sole reason of attempting to win a show does not fulfill that goal.



Important Fair- Related Dates

Please keep the following dates in a safe place to refer to as fair grows nearer.

May 1, 2008 – All changes to the Wasco County Fair Book are due.

June 23, 2008 – Fair books available

July 8, 2008 - Mandatory Leaders' Association Meeting

July 21, 2008 – **Fair Entries due** in the Extension Service

July 28, 2008 – Mandatory superintendent/clerk meeting

August 2, 2008 - Fairgrounds workday to prepare for fair

August 6, 2008 – Fair set-up day

August 10, 2008 – Horse move-in day



Got Hogs?

If you are in need of purchasing market sheep and/or hogs, please note that Lisa Nannini will have both. The hogs are Yorks or York/Hampshire Crosses and are due to be born at any time. The sheep are Suffox/Hampshire Cross and will be born at the end of this month. Please call Lisa (980-5143) for more information.



New 4-H Classes and Fair Exhibit Opportunities

There are many new exhibit opportunities for 4-H members. The Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) area has been expanded and is open to all 4-H members (even if you are not enrolled in those project areas). The new exhibit areas include projects completed using computers, Legos, GIS/GPS, rockets, and geography. More than a dozen new classes have been added! For more information contact Lynette.

Weigh-In Dates for Auction Animals

Weigh-in dates for auction animals have been set and are as follows:

- Steer: Friday, March 14th at the Auction Yard from 4:00 - 6:00 pm
Saturday, March 15th at the Fairgrounds from 8:00 - 10:00 am
- Sheep, Goats, and Hogs: Friday, June 6th at the Auction Yard from 4:00 - 6:00 pm
Saturday, June 7th at the Fairgrounds from 8:00 - 11:00 am
- Rabbit and Poultry: Friday, July 18th – location and time TBD

Want to Improve your Judging Skills?

The Judging Connection.com is a website focused to bring judging education to 4-H youth. It offers a virtual library that allows viewers to search educational video clips and see judging in action, as well as many informational articles. This is a cool website and a 'must see' for anyone who is interested in livestock judging or wants to improve their judging skills. Check it out at: <http://www.thejudgingconnection.com/>

Additional Classes Offered for Horse Projects

There will be additional classes offered this year at the Wasco County Fair! Working Rancher will be offered on Monday (8/11/08) afternoon. We are looking for input on what you would like included in this class. Ideas include: bowline knot, walkovers, roping, dragging, take the bridle off and put the halter on, picking feet – things a rancher/cowboy would need to do. The pattern will be designed at the next Horse Leaders' meeting which is scheduled for February 19, 2008. Please give your ideas to your leader by this date.

Horse judging has been moved back to the county fair. After much discussion, your leaders decided to move the judging contest back to county fair in an attempt to make this event available to as many members as possible. The judging contest will be scheduled for Monday (8/11/08) evening.

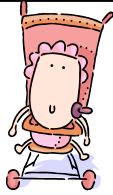
Saturday, April 5th is the date for the Wasco County horse bowl, presentation, and public speaking contests. The time and place is yet to be determined. Please mark your calendars and save this date for this important

event. The state Spring Horse Classic will be held in Pendleton this year, and we want to encourage you to participate. In order to represent Wasco County at the state event, you must have competed at the county level.

Note: The Deschutes County Judging and Hippology contest has been rescheduled for Sunday, March 16th. This is a high quality contest and we encourage you to participate.



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Babysitting Clinic

The annual 4-H babysitting clinic for youth in grades 6th-8th will be held this year on Saturday, February 23rd, from 12:30 to 5:00 at Columbia Gorge Community College.

Students will learn infant care, first aid and emergency procedures, what to do in case of accident or illness, and ways to entertain and play with children.

The cost of the clinic is \$15.00 which includes a babysitting handbook. A 4-H Babysitter certificate and wallet card will be presented to those who attend.

Registration and payment must be received by February 18th. Space is limited.

Registration forms are available at the Extension Office or online at : <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/wasco/fourh/Calendar/4hcalendar.php>



Tri-County Leadership Camp Scheduled

“Trails to Success” is the theme of this year’s Tri-County Leadership camp to be held March 28-30th at Camp Morrow.

Camp Activities for students in grades 7-12 will include teamwork games and competition, public speaking training, challenge activities, counselor interviews and more.

The cost of camp is \$55.00. Registration and fees must be received at the Extension Office by Friday, March 14th. Registration forms are available at the Extension Office or on our website at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/wasco/fourh/4hmainpage.php>

Show Opportunities

Horse:

OSU Equestrian Playday: 2/9/08 at Hopper Arena in Monroe. Contact Megan (503/859-7050) for more information.

Washington County Leaders’ Show: 2/23/08. Contact Suzanne Adlesich (503/357-2898) for more information.

NWMHC Schooling Clinic: 3/1&2/08 at Cowlitz County Fairgrounds. Contact Kim Schult (360/561-3018) for more information.

Dairy Goats

20th Annual NW Oregon Dairy Goat Assn Conf. on 2/23/08 at Clackamas Community College. For more information, contact Kim Johnson at 296-3024.

Small Animals:

Happy Hoppers 4-H Small Animal Show: 3/1/08, Benton County Fairgrounds. Contact Wendy Pilkerton (541/926-6792) for more information.

Dog:

Paws in the Rain 4-H Dog Fun Match: 5/10/08 at Tillamook County Fairgrounds. Contact Tillamook Co. Extension Service (503/842-3433) for more information.

2008 Summer Conference T-Shirt Design Contest

Win up to \$100 off of your Summer Conference registration by designing a t-shirt around this year’s theme: Pathways to Possibilities.!

Clover use rules must be followed and computer generated designs are preferred. Entries must be emailed no later than March 1st to sara.miller@oregonstate.edu.

For more information and specific guidelines, contact Lynette Black at the Extension Office at 296-5494.

