



November 2009

4-Ward Thinking

News and Information for Gunnison County 4-H Members and Their Families

Join and Re-Join 4-H Today!

Pick up your enrollment forms at your club meeting or in the Extension Office. Enrollment forms can also be found on-line at www.gunnison.colostate.edu. 4-H members must be 8-18 as of January 1, 2010. Cloverbuds need to be 5-7 as of January 1, 2010. Enrollment fee remains at \$15.00 plus fees for any manuals or leases.

Once you have enrolled in the 4-H program, take the advice of hundreds of thousands of 4-H alumni, and members, GET INVOLVED! Take the time to dedicate yourself to an activity that interests you. Become an officer and gain the leadership skills you'll need to be successful in today's world. MEET PEOPLE! You will meet people from across town, and across the state, and across the country that have the same feelings and interests as you. You will make friends that will last a lifetime and then after.

Re-enrollment deadline is December 18, 2009. Please have enrollment forms turned in by then. Reminder: We have gone to a new enrollment information tool. Once we have entered your contact information the program sends an automatic email email verifying that you are enrolled – if you provided an email. So don't be alarmed when you receive an email from 4HOnline...Congratulations you have been enrolled in 4-H."



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4-Ward Thinking is sent the first week of each month by the Gunnison County Extension Office.

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Eric McPhail, Director
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Sylvia Bonham, Outreach Programs
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Please Come to the 2009 4-H Achievement Banquet

November 7

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Each family is asked to bring a side dish that will serve 15.

Awards start at 7:00 p.m.

Multipurpose Building ↔ Esty Room

Dance open to public

9-12 p.m.

\$2 4-H members

\$4 non-4-H members

What's New?

When you "make the best better" there are always going to be changes. Please be aware of new policies or requirements for certain projects. We also have a new club and new project areas.

New Club!

Ivy McNulty has stepped forward to be a leader for a new club. Dawn Spencer will help as a project volunteer. Members have decided to be the Country Clovers. Membership is open to anyone with any project interest. The leaders do have an interest and experience with the horse project. Country Clovers will meet the last Tuesday of every month.

New Project Areas!

4-H Project Areas will continue to incorporate more fun science projects and activities. A couple of pilot projects will continue including Robotics and Power of Wind. Opportunities to learn how to take Lightening Photos will continue.

Heads Up to Changes to Livestock Show Rules!

- Attendance Requirements for Quality Assurance and Animal Care Program will be changing.
- Initial weigh in date for Market Beef animals will be February 7, 2010.
- New minimum weight for Market Beef is 1,100 lbs.
- New minimum and maximum weight for Market Hogs is 240 and 300 lbs.

In With The New!

Congratulations to the 2009-2010 Gunnison County 4-H Council Officers:

President – Wyatt Lehmann
V. President – Meaghan Pike
Secretary – Hannah Anderson
Treasure – Jessica Lehmann
Senators – Dally Hanson, Meghan Matuszczak
Recreation Leader – Dally Hanson
Parliamentarian – Tyler Haus
Livestock Committee – Hannah Cranor,
Wyatt Lehmann
Horse Committee – Hannah Cranor
General Project Committee – Meaghan Pike,
Haley Shrieves
Male Advisor – Steve Hamilton
Female Advisors – Michelle Lehmann

The Officer team eagerly awaits the additions of the club representatives. Hopefully those will be decided this month. A club can have as many club representatives that it wants. And, anyone is always welcome to attend Council meetings and activities.

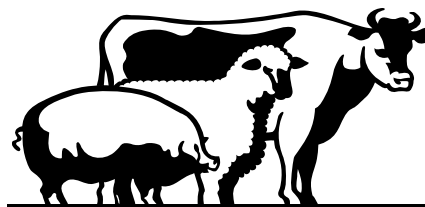
Officers will be installed at the Achievement Banquet.

Thanks Gunnison Savings & Loan for Donating Calendars

Gunnison Savings and Loan has generously donated 2010 calendars for 4-H members. The calendars with pictures taken by 4-H youth across the country will be handed out to each 4-H participant in their club meetings. Gunnison Savings & Loan has been a supporter of 4-H for many years, and their generosity is greatly appreciated. Please send a thank you card to Steve Williams, President of Gunnison Savings and Loan at 303 N. Main Street in Gunnison.

Livestock Committee Looking For New Member

The Sammons family has moved to the San Luis Valley so Jim's position on the Junior Livestock Committee has been vacated. If you are interested in serving on the Jr. Livestock Committee please write a letter of interest and send it to or drop by the Extension Office. A complete list of committee responsibilities and by-laws can be obtained at the office or contact Randy Pool, 641- 2221 with questions. Letters of interest need to be submitted by December 1.



The Cloverpatch

Tuesday, November 17, 2009
3:45 p.m.

We will be doing a variety of Thanksgiving Activities—Making a Harvest Blessing Snack and Setting a Table.



Next Council Meeting
November 18
7:00 pm

Tackling the Beef Project

It's that time of year when many kids are thinking about doing the steer project. The beef project is a great but time-consuming project that highlights and supports our local agriculture. Know that any time you have questions, Eric at the Extension Office can help (641-1260), even with selection. Most kids now are buying 500 to 600 lb weaned steers that will be fed daily for about 250 days or more until fair and be shown at a best weight of 1250-1350 lb. The minimum weight your steer must weigh to sell at show is 1100 lbs.

Having a successful project means asking for help when needed. With the time and money associated with the project, mistakes can be costly. When picking out your calf here are a few suggestions.

1. Go for the "club" look: level back or slightly elevated at the hip, deep body both chest and flank, wide standing and feet spaced apart, thick boned, and balanced or they should look like a big rectangle box.
2. Disposition should be judged, a hyper calf will be harder to halter break, and gain less than a calm one.
3. Know the breeder, the calf should be healthy, when weaned make sure they get their vaccinations, call Eric. Also they should be wormed at least every 3 months to have best feed efficiency.
4. **Halter break as soon as possible, this work should be done before Christmas! New Weigh In date is February 7.**
5. Always provide fresh hay, water, salt block, and a trace mineral block free-choice, all the time. Any type of shelter is also great with our winters.
6. When feeding your grain supplement, start with small amounts and make changes slowly. A 600 lb steer could be started out with 3 lbs/day going up to 6 lbs/ day should take a week. Then up to 9 lbs/ day by the next week. Never go over 2.5-3% of their body weight and feeding twice a day is best. Call Eric for supplement tips. Calves should be on a finishing ration by January to meet the energy needed for proper weight gain with our winters.

While the project requires dedication for the next eight months, it also can bring you many rewards. Please call the Extension office if you ever need help or just have questions!



Time to Catch-A-Calf Approaches

It is time to apply for the Catch-a-Calf program sponsored by the National Western Stock Show.

The program is a great opportunity to promote youth development and understanding of the cattle feeding industry. Youth are encouraged to manage their projects from the mindset of commercial cattle feeding. *A new opportunity has been added this year. The top two exhibitors who have met all their requirements and placed in top four of their class will be eligible to sale in the National Western Junior Livestock Sale.*



Applicants must be between the ages of 12 and 18 as of December 31, 2009 to apply, and also enrolled in 4-H at the time of application. Successful catchers must have adequate facilities available to house their steer as they are responsible for the care, feeding, and handling of their animal.

Applications are due by November 27, 2009 in the Extension Office. Applications can be found at www.NationalWestern.com/cac or in the office. If you have any questions regarding the program, please contact Eric or Nadine at 641-1260.



Extension

CSU Extension of Gunnison County
275 South Spruce St.
Gunnison, CO 81230

On the web at:
www.gunnison.colostate.edu

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Inside this Issue...



- Time to Register for 4-H
- What's New?
- 4-H Achievements Celebrated
- New Council Officers Installed
- Upcoming Events & Opportunities

And much, much more.....

Schedule of Events

- November 3: Future Fitters Club Meeting, 6:30PM
- November 7: 4-H Achievement Banquet 7:00 PM
- November 11: Boots to Bridles Club Meeting, 6:30PM
- November 17: Hob Knobbers Club Meeting, 6:30PM
- November 17: Cloverbuds meeting, 3:45PM
- November 18: 4-H Council Meeting, 7PM
- November 24: Country Clovers Club Meeting

November 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 <i>Future Fitters Meeting,</i>	4	5	6	7 <i>Achievement Banquet, 7PM</i>
8	9	10	11 <i>Boots to Bridles Meeting,</i>	12	13	14
15	16	17 <i>Hob Knobbers Meeting,</i>	18 <i>Council Meeting, 7PM</i>	19	20	21
22	23	24 <i>Country Clovers Meeting</i>	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				