



December, 2009

4-H Members, Parents and Leaders

This month is a great time to reflect on our involvement in the 4-H program. Why do we participate in 4-H? Members may have a variety of goals ranging from learning to friends to livestock projects. Parents encourage their children to participate because they recognize the value of gaining leadership skills, setting goals and working to achieve those goals. There is not one parent among us who has not suffered the disappointment of unrealized success with our children yet realized that it too is part of the learning process.

Leaders truly make 4-H the great program it is through their seemingly tireless devotion to members. Who would have guessed that watching a Cloverbud tie-dye his own shirt, or sharing a piece of warm bread from the oven of a 4-Her would be all the compensation one would need in return for hours of planning and volunteerism.

Your clubs should be off and rolling with the year's program plan in place, officers installed, community service projects planned and/or organized, and committees appointed. I challenge you to strive to reach a higher level of community service, life skill development and learning by doing as you move into the new year.

Sincerely,

Roubie Younkin  
MSU Extension Agent  
Valley County

**Valley County  
Extension Office**

*Montana State University,  
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**Mountains & Minds**

## ENROLLMENT FORMS

Thanks to everyone for getting your enrollment forms turned in. Eight of the eleven clubs met the Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline and were each awarded \$25 from the County 4-H Council. We are still waiting for the rest to be completed and turned in at the office.

## VOLUNTEER SCREENING Certification Deadline

We still need completed Volunteer Screening and Certification forms from many of you. Council is paying the \$12 processing fee. Please turn your forms into your Organizational Leader or the Extension Office.

## MARKET BEEF TAGGING

Members enrolled in the beef project please have your market animal ready for tagging Dec. 13 at either of the two locations.

Please be on time.

1:00 p.m. Hinsdale

3:00 p.m. Glasgow

### Countywide event

Join us for Winter Fun Day on Wednesday, December 30, 2-5 pm at the Glasgow First Lutheran Church (next to Albertsons). State 4-H Ambassador Katelyn Dynneson will be our guest speaker. There will be officer training groups followed by Skill-a-thons and record keeping. MAQA and Horse Helmet Education will be held the same day. At the end of the day, we will move to the Valley Event Center for ice skating. Plan to attend this fun educational event.

SIGN UP FOR THIS EVENT BY CONTACTING THE OFFICE at 228-6241.

## Meat Animal Quality Assurance



Planning on exhibiting animals at the North East Montana Fair?

All members enrolled in a market animal project need to have completed the Meat Animal Quality Assurance training.

All new members enrolled in a market animal project will need to attend this training along with those that need to re-certify.

Certification is good for two years. Check your certificate or contact the office to see if you need to re-certify.

Training will be held Wednesday, December 30<sup>th</sup> as part of Winter Fun Day.

## Horse Helmet Education

Horse helmet education to be offered at Winter Fun Day. Participants in the 4-H Horse Project are required to attend a helmet education workshop and view the video "Every Ride Every Time" once as a junior 4-H member (9-13) and once as a senior 4-H member (14 and up). After attending a 4-H Helmet Workshop, riders may choose whether or not they will wear a certified helmet. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian of the 4-H member to see that the headgear worn complies with such standards and is in good condition. The Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development encourages the use of ASTM certified/SEI approved safety helmets in all equine events. Protective headgear may be used in all classes and shall not be discriminated against. Helmet use is encouraged in all 4-H horse activities any time a 4-H member is around a horse.

## November Council News

Valley County 4-H Council met on Tuesday, November 10, 5:30 pm at the courthouse. Clubs in attendance were Four Leaf Clover, Jackalopes, Milk River Wranglers, Northern Lights and Western Valley.

- Valley County 4-H Clubs have sold 820 wreaths, 58 garland ropes, 41 crosses and 9 large wreaths.
- Jeff Sather is working on the next state exchange program with 14 members who are interested in participating.
- DC Trip is set for June 1 to June 14 with visits to the cities of Chicago, New York City, Boston, Philadelphia and DC.
- Meggan Walstad presented the audit review with positive comments on the segregation of treasurer duties. The auditors recommended a Budget vs. Actual Profit & Loss Statement be approved at each council meeting.
- Fairbook reviews are currently in progress. Leaders are encouraged to help with this process, please stop by the extension office if you can help with the review.
- Reminder that clubs need to complete a Fund Raiser Form prior to fund raising events. Form available on the website and at the office.
- International 4-H Trips are available. It is possible to travel to Australia, Costa Rica, Finland, Japan, Norway or the IFYE program. See the office or a leader for details.

Next council meeting will be Tuesday, January 12, 2010, 5:30 pm at the courthouse.

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## Club Assignments

(each club is to assist in organizing one county-wide event)

- **Four Leaf Clover** – *Wreath Sales* - October
- **Tampico Boys** – *Awards Days* - November
- **Jackalopes/Highlanders** – *Winter Fun Day/Officer Training*-Christmas Vacation
- **Western Valley/Stars & Stripes** – *Life Skills Day* - Late March or Early April
- **Northern Lights/Green Clover** – *Food Festival*
- **Milk River Wranglers** – *Sewing Camp*
- **Cherry Creek/Tampico Boys** *Summer Project Day*
- **Lucky Clover** – *County Scrapbook & 4- H History*

## Albertsons Community Partners Program

We earn much needed funding through the Albertsons Community Partners Program. We need your help to continue earning funds. Link (or re-link) your Albertsons Preferred Savings card to our organization at [www.albertsonscp.com](http://www.albertsonscp.com). All you need is your Preferred Savings Card Number and our Organization ID. If you do not know your Preferred Savings Card Number, please call: (877) 932-7948. Our organization ID # is 49000118571. Please pass this information on to your friends, relatives, co-workers and neighbors so they can link their cards for us as well. Every time you shop at Albertsons and scan your linked Preferred Savings Card, we will earn back up to 4% of your shopping dollars! Thank you for your support.

## CALENDARS FOR SALE

Greytak 2010 calendars are available for purchase at the Extension Office. They sell for \$10. A portion of the profit goes to Valley County 4-H. These make nice gifts and help support our county 4-H youth.



## COOKBOOK UPDATE

The cookbook is being proofed at this time. It will however not be available for sale until after Christmas. Thanks for your patience on this project.

## Western Regional Leader Forum –

New Mexico is less than four (4) months away from hosting WRLF 2010!

*The Hyatt Regency Hotel in Albuquerque, March 11-14, 2010, is the place and time to be for Blazing Trails.... Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow!* Check out the website at <http://aces.nmsu.edu/4h/wrlf2010/> for information about:

- ✓ workshops
- ✓ speakers & special activities
- ✓ tours
- ✓ first time attendees
- ✓ teen activities
- ✓ community service
- ✓ schedule
- ✓ registration
- ✓ Hyatt Regency Hotel reservations

Checkout all the forms needed for participating in 4-H displays, silent auction, variety show and more! Early Bird (\$200) registration deadline is December 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Community Service

### Opportunity

### “Block of Bucks Volunteers”

Soroptimist International of Glasgow is in need of volunteer shoppers for the annual Block of Bucks. Volunteer shoppers must be at least 16 years old and will be assigned a family to shop with. The volunteer is in charge of the money and receipts, and assists the family with shopping for winter clothing. A great community service opportunity for youth. Date is Saturday, December 12. Please meet at 8:45 am at the Odd Fellows Hall.

## PEOPLE PARTNER GRANT

Applications for this grant are due at the State 4-H Office by February 1, 2010. Money is available for groups that wish to do a project to improve the quality of life for children, youth and adults in Montana. For more information contact the Extension Office.

## MONTANA SILVERSMITHS'

See a sampling of Montana Silversmiths' offerings at [www.montana4h.org/#give4h](http://www.montana4h.org/#give4h) Any items that have 4-H clover, 4-H brand or a figure representing a project can be purchased through the 4-H Foundation and you can enjoy a 4-H discount and support 4-H in the process!

## TEEN CORNER

Leadership: Clearly there needs to be a leader in most situations, but even as there are many emerging leaders, no one wants to step into that role. We need good leaders. Your peers want to have someone to follow. We stand back and wait for someone to take charge, get to the point, lead decision making, and get things going in the right direction. Here is my challenge to you...are you in a situation or setting or even just involved with people who are seeking that leader? What's holding you back? Step up and take the challenge. No one wants to be bossed around, but they sure do want to be led. Each of you has the potential and some of you the training, to step up to the plate and take that leadership role. Boost your confidence and move into the role the next time the opportunity presents itself.

### Leaders, Give Yourself a Pat on the Back

4-H volunteers are a key component of the 4-H program. A team of committed, trained volunteers and an extension professional has a great impact on leadership, service and delivery of programs, and ultimately positive youth development. Research has shown that in counties where volunteers assume leadership in the 4-H program the following results:

- 1) A stronger 4-H program
- 2) Clearer understanding of 4-H goals
- 3) More volunteer ownership
- 4) Greater program diversity
- 5) Increased support for 4-H

Strong volunteer leader involvement is the key to a strong 4-H program worldwide. Consequently, local program quality is, to a great extent a reflection of the involvement of organizational and project volunteers.

Motivating volunteers becomes a challenge as each has different reasons for devoting so much time to 4-H. Individuals are motivated by **achievement, affiliation or power**. **Achievement** is described as working toward something only to achieve a goal or dream. Achievement is trying to accomplish something with great effort, skill or perseverance. Each of us has felt the joy of achievement. **Affiliation** is described as establishing, maintaining, or restoring a positive affective relationship with another person. This relationship is described mostly by the word friendship. This could be in terms of "being liked by others", "accepted by someone" or "seeking approval". The need for **Power** is described as the control or the influence of the thoughts of a person or group.

As 4-H volunteers, we each bring our own "needs" to the organization and behave in a manner that reaps the desired results. Thank goodness we all have these needs and bring so much to our 4-H table. Don't be ashamed to need these basic motivations. Sometimes the social aspects are enough to bring satisfaction to volunteers. What ever the motivation, 4-H volunteers "Make the Best Better".

## 4.H RECORDS

We are starting a new year. What a better time to get off to a great start with your 4-H records. 4-H is an educational program of Montana State University and the land grant system. As an educational program we provide "textbooks" (project manuals). You learn the important information about your project by completing the required number of activities in these project manuals.

Remember that your records are a requirement of your 4-H project. If you prefer to do your records on the computer go to [www.msuextension.org/valley/FORMS.html](http://www.msuextension.org/valley/FORMS.html)

You will need to save the file and then you can type your information into the record each time you have something to add. Record keeping is an integral part of the 4-H learning experiences. They must be kept up-to-date to successfully complete a project.

As you obtain your project materials remember that every 4-H member needs to have:

**My 4-H Journal** - This is where you keep track of club meeting attendance, committees, presentation, communications, awards and honors, activities, events and experiences.

**Project Journal** - One for each project you are enrolled in. If the project is an animal project, you will also need to complete the orange Animal Journal. In these journals you will need to record each thing you do and learn in that project.

HINT: The best way to keep up-to-date records is to spend 10 minutes at each club and project meetings working on them together.

# Discovering 4-H

This is a new section for new 4-H'ers and all 4-H families. I hope we can be of help to you during your years with 4-H.

### **Word Bank**

arms      Hands      blue      heart      club      world  
head      service      brain      health      country      green

The 4-H pledge is: "I pledge my \_\_\_\_\_ to clearer thinking,  
My \_\_\_\_\_ to greater loyalty, My hands to larger \_\_\_\_\_,  
My \_\_\_\_\_ to better living, for my \_\_\_\_\_, my community, my  
\_\_\_\_\_, and my \_\_\_\_\_."

The four H's stand for Head, Heart, \_\_\_\_\_ and Health.

The 4-H colors are \_\_\_\_\_ and white.



## Countywide Event

WINTER FUN DAY & OFFICER TRAINING  
Plus more.....

December 30, 2009 2 – 5 p.m.

First Lutheran Church, Glasgow (behind Albertsons)

Skating at the Valley Event Center to follow afternoon activities.

Katelyn Dynneson, State Ambassador from Sidney will be in attendance.

All ages are invited and encouraged to attend this countywide event.

Event planner: Jackalopes 4-H Club

