Winning and Losing at 4-H Fairs

It seems far too often we place too much emphasis on winning and losing at 4-H shows. Unfortunately, many time adults consider 4-H projects a failure if their son or daughter does not win that purple ribbon. If our only goal at a fair is to win, maybe we need to make some adjustments in our goals and in understanding the benefits our youth are gaining from fairs.

Ideally, 4-H projects should be a family affair. If youngsters and parents together spend the right percentages of time and energy, these projects can help our young people learn the basic life skills and eventually help them develop into better citizens. If the percentage gets out of hand, we see a group of spoiled kids whose parents are sore if they don’t win, constantly criticizing the judge and trying any “trick” possible to win.

Very few 4-H projects are economically sound. However, neither are having children, paying for band lessons, taking them to summer recreation programs, buying them bicycles and paying for other youth activities. If a parent’s goal is for the child to make money, investing in a savings account is less risky than investing in a 4-H project. However, if a parent’s goal is to invest in the future and to help their son or daughter develop as a person, learn responsibility, set goals and gain some knowledge about their 4-H project, then 4-H projects are a low cost investment.

Most likely we will have 4-H fairs as long as there are youngsters who have parents and grandparents. However, let’s keep these fairs in proper perspective. They are not beef shows, cooking shows or horse shows, but they are KID SHOWS! The project is simply the ticket for the youngster to take part.

(continued on next page)
(Winning and Losing at 4-H Fairs, continued from pg. 1…)

Through schools, the Extension Service and other educational units, we constantly hear of improved teaching tools to better equip our young people for life. As we analyze all the new and innovative ideas, many of which are very excellent methods, we find 4-H projects are one of the oldest & greatest teaching tools that we have to teach youth life skills.

- **How To Get Along With People.** A large number of people in society quit or lose jobs because they cannot get along with others. 4-H’ers who exhibit 4-H projects are around people they have never met but have similar interests. They learn to communicate with these people.

- **Sportsmanship.** At a 4-H Fair, there are only a few Grand Champions. However, there are many winners. Most 4-H’ers who exhibit for any period of time usually experience the extreme high feeling of an exceptional effort and the extreme disappointment of a project that didn’t turn out as well as was expected. Normally, win or lose, the competitors at the fair (the 4-H’ers) can be seen after the event talking and enjoying life together.

- **Responsibility.** Working with a project (livestock, horse, home economics or other) teaches responsibility. Top exhibitors follow set procedures in their project work that are based on industry standards. This is a good habit to start at a young age & may reap youngsters substantial benefits in a career later in their lives.

- **Attend To Details.** Most young people take care of major items in a 4-H project. However, many times it’s the little things that make a difference: keeping water and feed troughs clean, working on grooming and showmanship several months before the show, making many practice cakes, catching way more bugs than the project suggests, etc. Paying attention to details is beneficial in almost everything we do in life.

- **Decision Making.** Decision making is never easy at any point in our lives. 4-H projects require several key decisions to be made: selection of the project, care and management decisions, construction of the project items, etc.

- **Goal Setting.** For every successful 4-H project, there is usually a good plan. Most details and plans on selection and management of the project have been planned well in advance. Goal setting is important for everyone regardless of future endeavors.

Are 4-H projects successful? We may hear some negative things about them, but these projects are a long way ahead of whatever is in second place in helping teach our young people to adjust to life. Next time you are at a 4-H Fair, study the kids instead of the projects. You will notice that most classes have several winners, not just the one standing in first place.

~ Adapted from California 4-H Staff October 1989 Newsletter

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**REMEMBER: The YAVAPAI COUNTY FAIR**

**September 18 - 21, 2008**

You can enter the County Fair as another chance to show off your talents & animals.

Questions: Contact Elizabeth Lind, Indoor Exhibits, 4-H, County Fair Supervisor @ 928-583-0250.

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**Western Warehouse Offers 15% Discount to all Active 4-H/FFA Members!**

Western Warehouse in Prescott Valley offers a 15% discount on the total purchase of items when you let them know that you are currently an active member of Yavapai County 4-H or any Yavapai County FFA Chapter. This offer is good throughout the year.
Don’t forget to sign up for HERDSMANSHIP at EXPO ~

Special awards will be presented in each large livestock department to the club or chapter that best exemplified cleanliness & the educational element of EXPO ~ to teach the public about animals and agriculture and the high caliber of people associated with them. An overall perpetual plaque will be awarded with a smaller plaque going to the winning club/chapter. To qualify for Herdsmanship competition, the following criteria must be met:

1) Each project club or chapter must sign up at check-in.
2) Each pen must be labeled with a stall card as issued by the EXPO committee.
3) All club/chapter displays must be up and ready no later than 8:30 a.m. Thursday, April 24, and remain in place until 5:00 p.m. Saturday, April 26, 2008.

RV HOOKUPS during EXPO:

If you are planning to stay overnight at EXPO and use the RV hookups, reservations with money will be taken (starting NOW) on a first-come-first-serve basis. The cost is $100 for the week (Mon-Sun). Spaces are not available on a daily basis. General camping with your own generator (no hookups) is free. Make your check out to Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds and either mail it or bring it to the Prescott Extension Office. You will be given a permit at the time of payment to display indicating that you have a reservation. If you have questions please contact Pam Denney at (928)445-6590 ext. 226.

Reminders for EXPO Exhibitors:

- Livestock areas must be kept clean.
- You must be neatly dressed and/or in proper uniform while exhibiting small or large livestock in the show ring.

4-H/FFA EXPO Meetings

The Yavapai County 4-H/FFA EXPO Committee meets the first Tuesday of every month in the Shelby Hansen Memorial Room at the Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds starting @ 6:30 p.m.

Every community club is encouraged to send a representative to every meeting.

For more info or to confirm meeting dates/times, contact Ken Vargha, General Superintendent by email at kvargha@cableone.net or by phone at (928) 541-9097.

TO ALL OF OUR EXPO EQUINE SHOWMANSHIP PARTICIPANTS:

Reminder; You will be allowed to show in either your Western or English attire for your Equine Showmanship class.

For questions prior to the show, please call Marsh Cometh at 776-8567 after 6:00pm.

COMMUNICATE!

With EXPO upon us, parent support and involvement is a necessity. 4-H leaders must THINK Ahead; plan for your club needs at Expo and ask family members to become involved. Be specific with details. What are you asking them to do, when and where? Most people are willing to help if they are only asked. As EXPO approaches, let’s remember to communicate.

LEADERS: Communicate with members - be sure they have project & EXPO information.
PARENTS: Communicate with leaders - be sure your child is ready for county activities & fair competition.
LEADERS: Communicate with parents - let them know how much the 4-H members need their support.
PARENTS: Communicate with your children, make sure they complete their projects.
EVERYONE: Communicate with your County 4-H Extension office if there is something you don't understand.
4-H EXTENSION OFFICE: Communicate with those who need the information.

It takes all of us to make 4-H happen and remember...

communication is a two way street.
EXPO Week Dates & Deadlines ~ Week of April 21\textsuperscript{st} – 27\textsuperscript{th}, 2008

Monday, April 21 & Tuesday, April 22, 2008
• Set-up for EXPO

Tuesday, April 22, 2008
• Continued Set-up
• Beef animals ONLY may check-in AFTER 1:00 p.m.
  *2:00 pm - 7:00 pm Indoor Exhibits Check-in and Interviews
  *4:00 pm Demonstration/Public Speaking Competition

Wednesday, April 23, 2008
10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Weigh-in: Market Beef, Lamb, Goats & Market Swine
(Priority weigh-in is given to exhibitors also participating in the Small Stock show)
10:00 am - 6:00 pm Check-in of Breeding Animals (Cattle, Sheep, Goats, & Swine)
*12:00 pm Small Stock check in
1:00 pm Show Dedication & Opening Ceremonies
2:00 pm Horse Showmanship
*2:00 pm - 3:30 pm Small Stock Conformation (in cages)
4:00 pm Small Stock Showmanship
Small Stock Round Robin – immediately following S. S. Showmanship

Thursday, April 24, 2008
*8:00 am Dairy Goat Show
Pygmy Goat Show - immediately following Dairy Goat Show
Market Goat Show – immediately following Pygmy Goat Show
*9:00 am 4-H/FFA Dog Show
*10:00 am Dairy Cattle Show
*10:30 am Market Beef Show
Breeding Beef Show - immediately following Market Beef
Beef Showmanship – immediately following Breeding Beef Show
2:00 pm 4-H/FFA Exhibits Area Open
*3:00 pm Breeding Sheep Show
*4:15 pm Market Lamb Show
Sheep Showmanship – immediately following Market Lamb Show

Friday, April 25, 2008
*8:00 am Breeding Swine Show
Market Swine Show
Swine Showmanship – immediately following Market Swine Show
4:00 pm – (Approx.) Large Livestock Round Robin – after conclusion of Swine Show

Saturday, April 26, 2008
8:00 am
Grounds preparation for Auction
*10:00 am Silent Food Auction items available for bid in BBQ Building
10:00 am Auction Buyers’ Sign-in
11:00 am EXPO BBQ Opens
11:00 am Dog Exhibition in Auction Arena
Noon Auction Opening Ceremonies
Herdsmanship Award
12:30 pm Auction Begins
5:00 pm Release of Small Stock & Non-Selling Livestock

Sunday, April 27, 2008
7:00 am - 10:00 am Sale Livestock Shipping & Pick-up. EXPO grounds clean-up
10:30 am EXPO Party
11:00 am Final check-out

*Please note Time and/or day changes

NOTE: Event times are approximate and may be subject to change should circumstances require.
Useful Websites:
To buy 4-H project books (curriculum) visit the National 4-H Council at http://www.4-hcurriculum.org/

RECORD BOOKS are DUE to your Leaders no later than APRIL 1st!

4-H Horse Members – Interview Evaluations

Sunday May 4, 2008 ~ OR Saturday May 11, 2008 ~
Five M Arena, Chino Valley Whistlestop Arena, Dewey

4-H Horse members!

Please contact your 4-H horse leader about scheduling your interview evaluation. Evaluations will be scheduled for either arena starting at 8:30 AM. Your 4-H Horse leader has information to explain & help you prepare for your interview. We look forward to seeing you at this exciting & important event.

Cottonwood Clovers Club Happenings:

The Cottonwood Clovers Small Stock Club held a Small Stock Proficiency Day on March 8 at the Verde Valley Fairgrounds. A group of 25-30 members and parents judged a class of rabbits and chickens. They were given the opportunity to test their knowledge of Waterfowl, Cavy, Poultry, Pigeon, and Rabbit.

Attendees also received a very informative demonstration on showing poultry by Aubrial Harrington and Riley Fielitz. Miranda Chavez was our guest judge. Aided by Aubrial and Riley, she demonstrated to the crowd what might be experienced while showing poultry and rabbits. She also gave participants examples of oral reasons in both classes. All in attendance were given the opportunity to practice showmanship. Prizes were given to all who participated.
**Karen Clingman Memorial Award**

… was established in 2000 in honor of Karen Clingman who was a dedicated and knowledgeable Community Club and Project Leader with the Tumbleweed 4-H Club in Chino Valley and Superintendent of the Sheep Department at the Yavapai County Fair for 22 years. This Award is given to the outstanding sheep member at EXPO each year. There will a monetary award given, along with the recipients name on a perpetual plaque. A smaller plaque with the recipients name will also accompany the monetary award.

**Application is due Tuesday, April 1 and is available at www.4hffaEXPO.org/**

Information and applications may also be obtained from either Extension Office.

For questions contact Pam ~ Phone: (928)445-6590 x 226 OR Email: pdenney@ag.arizona.edu.

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**Mandi Michael Memorial Award Applications**

Available Online at www.4hffaEXPO.org/

The Mandi Michael Memorial Award was established in 2005 in honor of a precious little girl who is no longer with us. This award will be given to a deserving Yavapai County 4H/FFA member exhibiting at this year's Yavapai County 4-H/FFA EXPO in the beef department who meets the requirements as set by Mandi’s parents. A monetary award will be given, along with the recipients name on a perpetual plaque. A smaller plaque with the recipients name will also accompany the monetary award.

**Deadline for submission is Tuesday, April 1 to either Cooperative Extension office.** Qualified applicants will be scheduled for an interview by the selection committee on Friday, April 25.

Information and applications may also be obtained from either Extension Office.

For questions contact Pam ~ Phone: (928)445-6590 x 226 OR Email: pdenney@ag.arizona.edu.

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**Yavapai Cowbelles, Inc. and the Yavapai County Cattle Growers to offer Scholarships**

Visit [http://cals.arizona.edu/yavapai/4hyd/](http://cals.arizona.edu/yavapai/4hyd/) and click on the links for forms or forms are available to be picked up in either Cooperative Extension Office.

The deadline for submission is April 1, 2008 for Cowbelles and Thursday, May 1 for Cattle Growers.
Arizona National Livestock Show Scholarship

APPLICATION DEADLINES: March 15th and October 15th!

The Arizona National Livestock Show Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to undergraduate college & university students who have demonstrated an interest in agriculture. Through this Program, the Arizona Horse Lover’s Foundation provides funding for scholarships for students who participate in equine related activities.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- High school graduation
- Currently taking at least 12 hours at a college or university
- Complete 12 semester hours prior to applying
- Maintain a minimum GPA of 2.5
- Participation in the Arizona National Livestock Show

For further information or a Scholarship application, please contact:

ARIZONA NATIONAL LIVESTOCK SHOW,
1826 W. McDowell Rd.,
Phoenix, AZ 85007-1696

(602) 258-8568 ~ Email: information@anis.org
Application is also available online at: http://anis.org/rules/ANLSScholarshipAppl.pdf

High in the Pines Small Stock Show
May 10, 2008 ~ Lakeside, AZ

4-H Members enrolled in rabbits, cavies, poultry or pigeons:
~ bring your animals & participate in showmanship competition, breed judging and quiz bowl.
Fun for everyone. There will be animals available for sale/trade.

Go to http://cals.arizona.edu/navajo/4-h and click on the green star for information and registration.

Miss Prescott Frontier Day’s Rodeo Royalty Pageant

To be eligible to be Miss Prescott Frontier Day's queen, you must be between 18 - 23 & be a resident of Arizona. Candidates for Senior Court queen must be between 15-17 and Junior Court queen must be between 11-14 years of age, and be a resident of Yavapai County. You will need to reach age category by the pageant date of June 21, 2008. Orientation is May 10, 2008. Girl's will be competing in horsemanship, modeling, speech and personal interviews. Applications are available online at www.worldsoldestrodeo.com or by calling the rodeo office at 928-445-3103.

Remember, the Prescott Frontier Day's Rodeo will be needing flag bearers for their grand entry.

Summer Shooting Sports Education Certification Workshop

AZ 4-H policy requires that, prior to being recognized as 4-H Shooting Education Instructors, volunteers must complete a Shooting Education Instructors Certification Workshop. This workshop is conducted once a year by volunteer instructors who have received special instructors training endorsed by the National 4-H Shooting Education Committee.

Event Date: June 6-8, 2008.
Stay tuned for more information in upcoming newsletters or by checking online at http://cals.arizona.edu/4-h/events.html.
Community Service Opportunity - Granite Creek Cleanup

April 19, 2008 – 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Here is an opportunity to work with the Prescott Creeks organization to preserve, protect, restore and celebrate our community’s creeks. Last year nearly 200 volunteers collected eight tons of trash from the creeks.

Pre-register: by calling 928-445-5669 or emailing BDeVries@PrescottCreeks.org to be matched with an appropriate stretch of creek.

Sign-in: (The day of the event) 8:00 a.m. at the Granite Creek Park Ramada to receive your free Granite Creek t-shirt and trash bags ready to go.

Celebrate: In the afternoon 11 am – 4 pm with live music, a community parade and food vendors.

2008 Yavapai County Leadership Camp And Service Learning Opportunity

Open to all 4-H and FFA Members ages 12 and Up

WHEN: Saturday, May 10th from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds

Join Us For a Morning of Interactive Workshops & Service Learning, Lunch, and an afternoon of Challenging Trust Building Activities. This is your opportunity to help supply a birthing center in Malawi, Africa with blankets for their newborns. Members will learn about the village & about the UN’s Millennium Development Goals. If you wish to contribute, bring 2 yards of cotton, fleece or flannel material with you for this project.

For registration: http://cals.arizona.edu/yavapai/4hyd/
Questions?: Call Katie Radosevic at 928-649-3575

Journey of Opportunities for Leaders of Tomorrow (JOLT)

Event Date: June 16 –20, 2008 ~ Location: Camp Shadow Pines, Heber, AZ.

JOLT is an Arizona Teen Leadership Camp, a camp designed by teens for teens with a positive environment that promotes personal development, team building and self-confidence. JOLT participants enjoy activities that build trust, leadership and communication skills. The dynamic staff and inspirational workshop speakers that JOLTeers experience help make the week memorable. Conflict resolution skills and relationship building skills create the existence of the "JOLT Team" which instigates life-long friendships that are uncommon at other camps.

More Information: Check on line at http://ag.arizona.edu/4-H/events.html#5

Natural Resource Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth

Dates: July 7 - 11, 2008 ~ Deadline for Application: Postmarked by May 15th (address below)

Where: Mingus Springs Camp between Prescott & Jerome Tuition: $100/student (Financial assistance available)

This is an exciting opportunity for youth entering grades 6-11 (for the fall, 2009) to explore the great outdoors and experience the thrill of a unique adventure. Mingus Mountain is our area of focus as we learn about forestry, water, wildlife, soils, plants, geology, GPS, & orienteering by conducting experiments & outdoor projects.

How to apply: Obtain a form online at http://azrangelands.org/ (click on “NRCWAY Information”) or Type on a sheet of paper the following: Name, address, phone number, & email.

Answer these questions:
1) Explain why you want to attend
2) Describe your interests & activities related to Natural Resources
3) Describe any other special interests, hobbies, and involvement in community or school activities &
4) If appropriate indicate the need for financial assistance.

Mail to: Kim McReynolds, Workshop Director
AZ Section Society for Range Management
450 S. Haskell
Willcox, AZ 85643

Contact: Kim McReynolds at 520-384-3594 or kimm@cals.arizona.edu
Have you ever been out for a hike and seen a goat carrying a pack?

Did you know that goats make excellent pack animals? The truth is “goats make great trail companions and relieve their owners of a lot of work”, says Carolyn Eddy, author of “Practical Goatpacking” and “Diet for Working Wethers”. Ms. Eddy formerly was a horse packer, but about fourteen years ago discovered that goats made excellent pack stock & were also fun to own.

The Pack Goat as a 4-H project began mostly in the Pacific Northwest in the 1980’s and 1990’s. Lonesome Valley Wranglers is the first 4-H Club in Yavapai County to offer the 4-H Pack Goat project! We have started with 4 members last October, and unfortunately cannot continue at this point and time because a few of the members were using their (doe) goats as breeding projects as well as their pack goat project and they will be kidding any time and nursing kids. They become less agile as they grow in pregnancy and can get hurt while hiking, for this reason it is suggested to use a wether goat (castrated male goat) as a pack goat. We are hoping to start back up this summer when the 4-H members find replacement goats, and hopefully we will gain some more members since it will be summer time and EXPO will be over.

The Lonesome Valley Wranglers are raising money to host a county training event by bringing professional goat packers from Washington State who will train on the correct way to pack and train the goats.

Why do a 4-H Pack Goat Project?
1. A pack goat is relatively easy to train.
2. Goats and their gear are much less expensive than horses and their gear.
3. Goats are easily led by children and are easy to pack for all ages as you need not lift your load very high.
4. Goats, like dogs, bond with humans at a young age and will follow anywhere.
5. They are ideal companions. They are affectionate, playful, and very smart.
6. Goats can utilize areas that are inaccessible to horses.
7. Goats can travel over a wide variety of terrain.

A 4-H Pack Goat is a project animal that you can train for a useful purpose AND keep the animal as a companion and a pet. The 4-H members learn to lead, tie, and walk the goats on a lead rope, as well as teach them to accept a pack saddle. The project members train their pack goats to walk through an obstacle course where they learn to cross water, walk over a bridge, climb up straw bales and down the other side, and walk through a brush covered archway. All these obstacles are things that they will encounter when the 4-H members take their pack goats on hikes. Eventually the pack goats will do all this, without a lead rope, as they follow their owners. The pack goats become very attached to their owners & bond to them like dogs do.

For more information click on the following links for the 4-H Pack Goat Skills Checklist, the 4-H Pack Goat Project Requirements, a list of The Things You will Need for a 4-H Pack Goat Project, and an article about Pack Goats from All Animals by Carolyn Eddy. You may also contact Tanya Baker, 4-H Pack Goat Project Leader for Lonesome Valley Wranglers at 928-710-3700.

“This is Bob the packgoat, a 1 year old wethered male Boer goat mix who was born on our ranch. His mother had a hard birth and he almost died. I had to pull him and bottle feed him for the first 24 hours until his mother came into milk. He had pneumonia 3 times while he was very young and I promised him if he lived he would be my pet for the rest of his life.”
~ Tanya Baker
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- **1** RECORD BOOKS!
  - EXPO, Michael & Clingman Scholarships Due -

### May 2008

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- **4** Horse Interview Evaluations
- **10** Horse Interview Evaluations
- **Leadership Camp**

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**Office Closed**
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We would love to hear from you! Email your club’s activities to tkieren@ag.arizona.edu or submit by mail to:
Tamara Kieren - 4-H Youth Development, Yavapai County Cooperative Extension
2657 S. Village Drive, Cottonwood, AZ 86326
928-646-9113 x 10

Deadline for submitting articles for the May/June issue is Tues, April 22.

**RECORD BOOKS are DUE to your Community Club leader by Tuesday, April 1st.**

*Good luck at EXPO!*