



UNIVERSITY OF
FLORIDA

EXTENSION

Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Okaloosa County Extension Service • 5479 Old Bethel Road • Crestview, FL 32536-5512
(850) 689-5850 or 729-1400, ext. 5850 • SUNCOM 698-5850 • FAX (850) 689-5727



CLOVER CONNECTION

4-H NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2003

Volume 03

Issue 7

In this issue:

- 4-H Awards Banquet
- State Horse Show Results
- 4-H State Congress News
- County Council Elections
- Horseman of the Year Award
- Adult Horse Camp
- Our New Club Year
- It's Your Turn to Vote!
- Northwest Florida Fair
- Club News



Summer is whizzzzzzzzzzzing by and the first day of school is fast approaching. Our 2003-2004 4-H year begins September 1 with new challenges, opportunities and adventures for all! August is the time when clubs are busy getting organized and planning for the fair. I am very proud of all your efforts to achieve excellence throughout this past year. This is a great time to think about your future goals...and don't forget to invite your friends to join us...

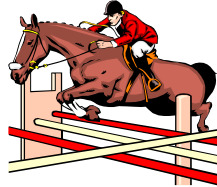
4-H AWARDS BANQUET

The awards and recognition program will be held Tuesday, September 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at the Charles M. Walthall Agriculture Center in Crestview. Those 4-H'ers who completed and turned in a project or record book, competed on a judging team, or participated at County, District, or State Events, will receive an invitation to attend.



4-H volunteers and supporters will also be honored at this special event. When you receive your invitation be sure to RSVP by the requested date, so that we can plan for the meal.

STATE HORSE SHOW RESULTS



Congratulations to our four participants at the State Horse Show in Tampa, July 10-12. A special thank you to the parents, leaders, and participants for making this a real team effort. Your hard work and willingness to support and help each other, ensured that everyone had a great trip and wonderful learning experience.

Now for the exciting show results: In Hunter Showmanship – Katie Marcoux placed 5th, April Simmers placed 8th. In Hunter Under Saddle, Laura Stout placed 12th. In Senior Trail, Katie Marcoux placed 11th. In Dressage, Katie Marcoux placed 3rd and April Simmers placed 7th. Katie Marcoux qualified for Regionals taking place at Perry, Georgia. Kaitlyn Sirico's horse became lame early in the show, but as the trooper she always is, she continued to help and support her friends and worked hard in the barn area, always willing to do anything that was needed.

Our delegation of girls also received two very special awards for our county. The Golden Shovel Award (Small County) for the cleanest and safest barn area, and the Emerald Award (Small County) for the best decorated barn area for their "4-H'ers Up In Lights" display. We are

very proud of each of you and your many accomplishments!

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

Katie Marcoux is back from a great weekend at Regionals, held at the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter in Perry. Katie and her horse did an outstanding job and placed 7th in Dressage. **Congratualtions Katie!!!**

4-H STATE CONGRESS NEWS

Eight very talented Okaloosa 4-H'ers headed toward Gainesville, July 21-25 and returned exhausted, elated and inspired. 4-H State Congress offered each participant the opportunity to compete, learn from experts in their fields of interest, experience leadership and citizenship opportunities, make new friends from all over the state and have a lot of fun!



Katie Marcoux received a First Place Award for her demonstration in the Veterinary Science Category, and Arianna Nelson and Olwen Phillips received a Second Place Team Award for their demonstration in Career Exploration. Kelly Chlebowski, April Simmers, Kaitlyn Sirico, Laura Stout and Jayce Vanderford all did an excellent job in their categories. Katie Marcoux and Kaitlyn Sirico also represented our county as voting delegates at the State Council meetings and elections.

We are very proud of all their accomplishments and the excellent way in which they represented our County. Also a special thank you to Ashley Craft, who assisted as a volunteer leader for our delegation.

COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The 4-H County

Council Officer

Elections will be held on Tuesday, August 12, 6:30 pm at the 4-H Office in Crestview.

Any 4-H'er is eligible to run for office, but must be 13 or older (as of September 1, 2003) to run for President or Vice President. The officers to be elected are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Historian, and Parliamentarian. Each candidate for office should have a one to three minute speech prepared describing their qualifications for the position they are running for. Your speech may include the office(s) you are running for, a list of any offices or prior responsibilities you may have held at the club or county level, and a brief summary of what you plan to accomplish if you are elected.



The new council officers will be installed at a special ceremony at the 4-H Awards Banquet. We hope to have each club represented at the elections, parent's and leaders are also invited to attend.

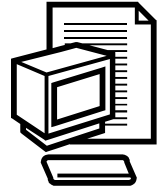
OKALOOSA HORSEMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Okaloosa Horse Advisory Committee is again offering the Horseman of the Year Award to 4-H'ers active in the 4-H Horse Project. To be eligible to apply you



must complete the following requirements:

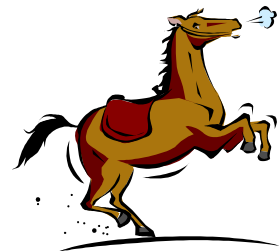
1. Be a registered 4-H'er in the horse project for one year.
2. You have completed and turned in a horse project book this year.
3. Write a 500 word essay about you and your experiences in the horse project area. You may include - club activities; leadership experiences; goals you have set for yourself; horse shows, camps, workshop or clinics you have attended; demonstrations, presentations or exhibits you have done in the horse project area, and why you feel you should be considered for this award.
4. Essays must be typed, double spaced with 1" margins and include a cover sheet with name, address, age as of September 1, 2002, and club name (if you are a community club member).
5. **Essays must be turned in to the 4-H Office, in Crestview, no later than September 2nd.**
6. Awards will be announced at the 4-H Awards Banquet, for one junior and one senior winner.



ADULT HORSE CAMP

The Okaloosa 4-H Horse Advisory Committee is sponsoring an Adult Horse Camp, October 9-12 at 4-H Camp

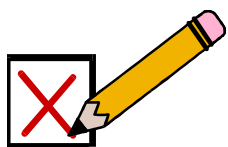
Timpoochee. This is a great opportunity



for adults (age 18 and older) to improve and learn new skills in English and Western styles. Qualified instructors, educational presentations, and fun activities on horseback, all enjoyed at our beautiful 4-H camp on Choctawhatchee Bay. The registration fee of \$200.00, due by September 26th, includes three nights in comfortable cabins, all meals, stalls, instruction and insurance. Don't miss out on the fun. Call the 4-H Office for a registration packet today!

OUR NEW CLUB YEAR

September 1 starts the new 4-H year. Everyone must complete a new enrollment form. You need a form for **each** club you want to be enrolled in. Remember you can sign up for as many projects as you like...but we will only be able to give you the materials for **three at a time**. After you have completed and turned in three, we will gladly send you your next requested project book. Club leaders will be receiving their club registration packets soon.



IT'S YOUR TURN TO VOTE!!!

Soon we will be honoring all our 4-H Club Leaders, Advisory Committee Members and other adult volunteers and supporters, who make the Okaloosa County 4-H Program such a success. In addition we would like to recognize three special categories and we need your nominations. Here is your opportunity to tell us how wonderful that

volunteer or supporter is to you, your club and 4-H!

Anyone in Okaloosa 4-H can nominate that "someone special" they would like to see receive special recognition. Call in your nominations to the 4-H Office by August 22nd. We would appreciate a brief description of each nominee's involvement in 4-H or the community, and if selected, they will be honored at the 4-H Awards Banquet.

Leader of the Year - Let us honor your 4-H club leader. We're looking for that special volunteer who "goes the extra mile," and has done some especially interesting activities with your club this year.

4-H Alumni - We'd like to recognize a former 4-H'er who has become successful in life and who feels 4-H had an important role in his/her achievements. They do not need to be helping with 4-H at this time, but should have demonstrated outstanding leadership and citizenship in their community by helping others.

Friend of 4-H - We'd also like to recognize an adult (or organization) who is not a 4-H Leader, but who has been a big help with the program in other ways. It may be in the area of financial assistance or sponsorship, giving time to promote a particular area of 4-H, or contributed in any other way.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA FAIR

The Northwest Florida Fair at the Ft. Walton Beach Fairgrounds is scheduled for October



24-November 1, 2003. Club members and leaders need to start thinking about project exhibits and club booth ideas. Last year was the first year in our new fair building. The booth size varied slightly but on the average was 10' X 8'. (We recommend measuring your booth space once it has been assigned.) Don't forget the back walls are metal sheeting with four 1" X 4" wood strips running horizontally from the floor to approximately 6 ft. high at the top of the back wall, to attach paper, fabric, plywood or booth decorations or letters. **Leaders please call the 4-H Office to reserve your club booth space as soon as possible**, we have a limited number of spaces available for club booths, they will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

CLUB NEWS

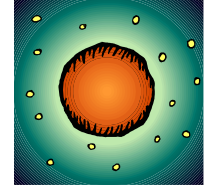
Hot Wings Poultry Club

– Our club last met on Monday, July 28th. We are planning to order candy for a fundraiser after November. We also looked at some great record books from a few years ago. Courtney Bowden did a talk on Feathers on a Chicken.” We are planning our Fair Booth and thinking about our fair exhibits. Next month Evan Vanderford will be doing a talk on “Chicken Combs.”

Submitted by: Tiffany Morton



DID YOU KNOW?



In August Earth is catching up with Mars, an encounter that will result in the closest approach between the two planets in recorded history. The next time Mars may come this close is in 2287.

Due to the way Jupiter's gravity tugs on Mars and perturbs its orbit, astronomers can only be certain that Mars has not come this close to Earth in the last 5,000 years, but it may be as long as 60,000 years. The encounter will culminate on August 27th when Mars comes to within 34,649,589 miles and will be (next to the moon) the brightest object in the night sky.

It will attain a magnitude of -2.9 and will appear 25.11 arc seconds wide. At a modest 75-power magnification Mars will look as large as the full moon to the naked eye.

Mars will be easy to spot. At the beginning of August Mars will rise in the east at 10:00 p.m. and reach its azimuth at about 3:00 a.m. But by the end of August when the two planets are closest, Mars will rise at nightfall and reach its highest point in the sky at 12:30 a.m.

That's pretty convenient when it comes to seeing something that no human has seen in recorded history.

So watch the sky at the beginning of August to see Mars grow progressively brighter and brighter throughout the month.



The Okaloosa County Extension Service provides research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function without regard to race, color, sex, age, handicap or national origin. For persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations, please contact the Okaloosa Extension Office at least 5 working days prior to the program so that proper consideration may be given to the request.

CLOVER CONNECTION NEWSLETTER

Published Monthly By:
Okaloosa County Extension
(850) 689-5850 or 729-1400, ext. 5850

Prepared by:

JENNIFER G. HEADY
4-H Program Coordinator

Linda Meyers
4-H Program Assistant

Visit our Website:
<http://okaloosa.ifas.ufl.edu>
University of Florida, Extension Website:
<http://ifas.ufl.edu>