



# Flathead County 4-H News

January 2009  
Volume 4 Issue 4

## Real Colors Workshop Opportunity

Karole Sommerfield, our 4-H Youth Development Agent, presented the first Real Colors Workshop in October and since then has had several requests to repeat the training for those who did not have an opportunity to attend. So Karole is offering the Real Colors Training again. The program will be held at the Flathead County Fish, Wildlife and Parks Building, which is located across from the Fairgrounds on North Meridian Road, at 6:00 pm, on Thursday, January 15th, 2009. Real Colors is a program designed to help leaders gain insight into their own temperament and that of others, learning tools for interaction to reach new levels of communication with others. Those attending are asked to bring a potluck item. **If you would like to attend, please contact the Extension Office at 758-5553.** Class size is limited to 25 and pre-registration is required.



## MSU Specialist Offers Beef Seminar

Rachel Endecott, the MSU Beef Specialist, will be traveling to Kalispell on Monday, January 5th, 2009 to offer our members, parents and leaders an informational seminar on Beef nutrition, genetics, and other significant market beef topics. The meeting will take place at 6:30 pm in the Country Kitchen Building on the Fairgrounds. We are very excited that Rachel is traveling all the way from Miles City to present to our 4-H community. We strongly encourage all Beef members, parents and leaders to attend. Families who are considering involvement in the Market Beef project in future years are also welcome and encouraged to take part in this educational program. We would love to have as many individuals as possible take in this seminar. If you have any questions, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553.

## New 4-H Family Orientation Meeting

Karole Sommerfield, our 4-H and Youth Development Agent, will be hosting a meeting for all new 4-H families at the Country Kitchen Building on the Fairgrounds on Thursday, January 22nd, at 6:30 pm. She will be going over the in's and out's of the Flathead County 4-H program and answering questions for parents and members. 4-H Org Leader's are encouraged to promote this meeting to their new family members. Record keeping requirements, 4-H manuals for projects, deadlines for enrollment, and upcoming 4-H county wide projects will be included in the presentation. If you have any questions about this meeting, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553. We hope that all the new 4-H families will be able to attend.

## One Opening Remaining on Kansas Exchange Trip



If you are a Flathead County 4-H member, who is 14 years of age or older, and interested in traveling this summer, please consider applying to be a part of the Kansas Exchange Delegation. The group will be leaving for Kansas on June 17th and returning on June 23rd. If you would like to be a part of this trip, and possibly future trips to other locations, please submit a brief letter to

the Extension Office no later than Tuesday, January 6th. This letter should describe why you would like to join the Flathead Interstate Exchange Delegation, and what you believe you would contribute to the delegation.

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## Upcoming 4-H Leader Committees



**AG/ Livestock Committee:** The next AG/Livestock Committee meeting will be Tuesday, January 6th, 2009 at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds at 5:30 pm. The meeting will last approximately one hour. **Each 4-H**

**Club's specified F.I.L.L. (first in line livestock leader) should attend this meeting.** If you would like to add an agenda item, please call the Extension Office at 758-5333.

**Horse Committee:** The next horse committee meeting will be held in the Extension Office on Monday, March 9th, 2009 at 5:30 pm. If you have an item you would like to see added to the agenda, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553.

## Amanda Matdies Arranges Plant Land Greenhouse Tour & Other Opportunities for 4-H Hort Members

"Horticulture is the science and art of growing fruits, vegetables, flowers, or ornamental plants."

Amanda Matdies, our county-wide 4-H Horticulture leader, has created a number of opportunities for all 4-H members enrolled in the horticulture project for the new year. She has arranged for members to be able to tour the Plant Land Greenhouses in February. If you would like to attend, please call either Amanda at 212-0520 or the Flathead Extension Office at 758-5553. More details will be available as the date approaches.

Amanda is also arranging a garden tour program this summer, where members will meet at each other's gardens and discuss areas of concern and highlight successes. She is available to assist in finding resources for members requesting help and is also willing to visit your garden during the year if you want any help. Amanda also wants to remind everyone that our new Extension Agent, Pat McGlynn has a great horticulture background and is willing to answer your questions, too.



**Amanda's January Horticulture Trivia Snip-it:** In North America there are two types of mistletoe, American and Dwarf. It grows mostly on spruce and pine trees in clumps of shoot growth called "witches brooms". The berries feed birds and bugs, but are poisonous to humans. Hope to hear from you all!!

**Sheep Level 1 Book Error:** The Level 1 4-H Sheep Curriculum "Rams, Lambs, and You" lists an activity in chapter 2 entitled "Sheep Shelter", but unfortunately this activity is nowhere to be found. It is actually in the Level 2 Book. If you need a copy of this activity, please call the Extension Office. 758-5553

## County-wide Arts & Crafts Meeting

Bill Prichard, our county-wide arts and crafts leader, is once again offering monthly arts and crafts meetings to all Flathead County 4-H members enrolled in the arts and crafts project. The January meeting will be held at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds on Monday, January 19th, 2009 at 6:30 pm. This month's guest artist is Kim Sutton. Members who would like to attend, should be bring the following items:



- Smooth glass container such as a vase or jar
- Paint brush
- Decoupage

If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 758-5553 or Bill Prichard at 257-6209.

## Camp Counselor Apps Due 23rd!

We are now accepting applications for Camp Counselors and CIT's for the Flathead County Camp. Camp will be July 20th-24th. Anyone 14 and older by October 1st, 2008 can apply as a Counselor. If you are 13 years of age you can apply as a CIT (Counselor in Training). All Camp Counselors and CIT's will be involved with planning the Camp programs and activities, and have a major role in the success of the Camp. We are taking applications earlier this year so that we can spread out the training and camp planning meetings. Applications are available in the Extension Office. The apps are due in the Office no later than Friday, January 23rd, 2009. Please feel free to call if you have any questions. 758-5553



## International Opportunities

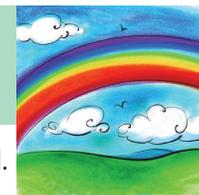


4-H provides senior 4-H members wonderful opportunities to travel abroad after graduating high school. Locations include Japan, Australia, Costa Rica and Finland. Trips can vary in length from 4 weeks to one year. Amanda Brandt, a 4-H member has recently returned from a six month trip to Europe through 4-H and would be happy to tell you about her experiences with this extraordinary opportunity. Her number is 854-9441. Applications are available in the Extension Office and are due in the office no later than Tuesday, January 6th, 2009. There are also numerous opportunities for 4-H families to host an inbound international exchange member. Hosting families receive further funding for members who would like to travel themselves in the future. Hosting applications are also available in the office and are due no later than Monday, March 9th, 2009.

**If you have an item or article you would like to have added to the February newsletter please contact the Extension Office by January 22nd, 2009. Thanks!**



## Flathead County Foods Fair: A Rainbow of Flavor!



The 2009 Foods Fair will be held on Saturday, January 24th, 2009 at the Whitefish Mountain Mall.

The Foods Fair is open to any and all 4-H members wishing to participate. You **do not** have to be currently enrolled in a 4-H Foods project. The Foods Fair has been and continues to be an excellent way to allow the public a chance to see what 4-Her's can do. It also gives 4-Her's a chance to prepare some special food and display it in an attractive way in a booth with other members of their club. All booths need to display their club name and have a 4-H logo or some type of 4-H paraphernalia on their table. An adult leader or older Jr. Leader needs to be at each booth at all times. This person also needs to be responsible for seeing that entries go to judging on time. Each club needs to bring their own table, chairs, decorations, and table cover. The Whitefish Mountain Mall is open until 9:00 pm Friday night and opens at 7:00 am on Saturday morning. Clubs are welcome to bring their tables in Friday night before mall closing. **(The Mall is not responsible for items left overnight.)**



All entries must be tagged and have the following items on it: Person's Name, age (as of October 1st, 2008), division, and category entered. Entries must be in place no later than 9:45 am. Judging will start at approximately 10:00 am. We will not have preliminary judging. 4-Her's are such outstanding cooks that each will compete against all entries in their age and food category. Judges will pick a first and second place winner in each category and in each age division. Each entrant must fill out a Foods Fair application/ recipe form. Recipe Forms are available in the Extension Office and is also included in this newsletter. Members may enter in up to 2 categories. Cloverbuds may enter only one item in their division.

Age divisions are as follows: Cloverbuds (5-7 years), Junior (8-12 years), and Senior (13-and older). Age is determined as of October 1st, 2008.

### Food Categories:

- Cookies: any kind. Please encourage 4-Her's to be creative and different with their cookie exhibits.
- Decorated Cakes/ Cupcakes: judged only on decorating ability and creativity. A cake form can be used instead of a real cake.
- Pies: any kind (if custard or cream they must be kept cool).
- Candies: any kind
- Appetizers
- Baked Cakes from Scratch
- Side Dishes
- Cloverbud Division: This is a separate category for Cloverbuds only. All entrants receive participation ribbons.
- Best theme
- Adult/ Leader Category: This category is open to all adults, leaders and parents. You may enter one item of your choosing, totally pot luck so this should be a fun category to view as well as taste!!
- Other Deserts: any kind
- Yeast Breads: from scratch
- Quick Breads: from scratch
- Salad: both hot and cold
- Main Dishes: hot or cold
- Soups, Stews, and Chowders



## 4, 40, 400 Montana State 4-H Foundation Fundraiser Challenge

The MT 4-H Foundation is currently challenging 4-H members, clubs, and counties to meet the 4, 40, 400 County Challenge in honor of the Foundation's 40th anniversary in 2009! The challenge is for 4-H members to donate \$4 each, clubs to donate \$40 each, and for counties to donate \$400 each to the Montana 4-H Foundation. The Foundation exists to support statewide 4-H programs and projects and gives out about \$100,000 a year in support of these statewide efforts. All clubs meeting the challenge will receive a certificate of completion that can be displayed in historian books or elsewhere. For more information regarding this event please contact our MT 4-H representative, Sandy Evenson, at 257-9038.



## Trip Award Applications for Senior 4-H Members



If you may be interested in attending any of the following state and nationwide events in the upcoming 4-H year, and you are at least 14 years of age by October 1st, 2008, then you should definitely consider filling out a trip award application. Trip Award Applications are not required to participate in these events, however, you may receive extra funding if you apply. **Trip Award applications are available in the Extension Office and on our website, and are due January 23rd.** For more information, please feel free to contact us.

**Citizenship Seminar** is held in Helena on March 1st-3rd, 2009. Members will learn how the legislative process works, how to write a Bill, and enhance speech and debate skills. Applications are available in the Extension Office and online. The application for the trip itself is also due in the Extension Office January 23rd.

**Montana State Recreation Lab** will be held in Forsyth on March 20th-22nd, 2009. Recreation lab provides an opportunity for youth and adults to enhance their leadership, communication and team building skills in an action packed and interactive setting. More information on this event will be in future newsletters.



**Citizenship Washington Focus** is a program where 4-H members experience a six day intensive training on the democratic process and their role as citizens while enjoying our nation's capitol. Members must be 15-19 years old and will travel June 6th-13th, 2009.

Partial scholarships are available for this program. Registration for the trip itself is due in the Extension Office no later than January 23rd.

**Montana 4-H State Congress** provides youth from across the state an opportunity to come together on the MSU campus in Bozeman for 4 days (July 7th-10th) and participate in an event which includes contests, workshops, entertainment, social events and much more. Actual applications for this event will be announced in future newsletters.

## KMON Judging Contest

KMON will be held in Great Falls January 16th & 17, 2009. Career Development, Meat ID, Crop Judging, and Livestock Judging events are available, and cost is \$3.00 per person, per event. Lunch tickets (\$4 per meal) are also available. Pre-registration is due in Cascade County Extension by January 8th. Contest guidelines and registrations are available in the Extension Office. There will also be a 4-H and FFA dance held on January 16th at the Black Eagle Community Center for participants (\$4 per person admission). For more information contact the Extension Office.

## People Partner Grants

People Partner Grants are provided to 4-H groups and individual members who apply for funding to provide a program or project that enhances the quality of living for people in their communities. Youth should be involved in determining, planning, conducting and evaluating the project. The project should make it possible for people to accomplish something educational and worthwhile that helps them reach a higher quality of life. Community support of the project must be evident in the application, and can include additional funding, resource persons taking part in the activity, and other agency involvement. Grants are awarded in various sizes, exceeding no more than \$500. Several clubs in our area have taken part and received these grants in the past. B&F Livestock applied and used funds to create baby blankets for the Hope Pregnancy Center, High Mountain Meadows received a grant to help with the landscaping around the Kila School, and the Kila Rangers used the grant funding to build a new storage shed at the 4-H camp on Loon Lake so that the camp had a safe location to store life jackets and other equipment. Applications are available in the Extension Office. Applications must be returned to the Extension Office no later than January 23rd, 2009.

## Shooting Sports Invitational's

It seems like the 4-H shooting sports year has just begun and we are already talking about end of season invitationals. There are three invitationals available to shooting sports members this year previous to the state shoot in Bozeman, which will be held on March 7th and 8th, 2009.

**February 7th:** Lewis and Clark County Invitational will be held in Helena Montana. Registrations will be available in the Extension Office soon and will also be posted to the website.

**February 14th:** Flathead County Shooting Sports will be hosting an invitational event at the Fairgrounds. More information and registrations will be available soon.

**February 21st:** Broadwater County Invitational will be held in Townsend, MT. Registrations are available on our website and in the Extension Office. Cost is \$10 per event. Entries are due by February 13th to the address listed on the form.



## Shiloh Sharps Rifle Raffle

The Montana 4-H Shooting Sports program is hosting a raffle for a \$2500 gift certificate used toward the purchase of a Shiloh Sharps Rifle. The drawing will be held on June 21st, 2009 and you need not be present to win. Tickets are \$25 each or five tickets for \$100. **Only one thousand tickets will be sold.** If you would like to purchase a ticket please call Todd Kesner at 406-994-6816 or email Todd at [tkesner@montana.edu](mailto:tkesner@montana.edu)

**Shiloh Sharps®**

## Horse Project Guidelines



All 4-H Horse Project members wishing to participate in the 4-H Horse project and/or NWMT Fair 4-H horse competition, must meet the following requirements:

**Horse Cards:** The Extension Office must have a picture of the member with the horse they intend to ride at the Fair. A card can be picked up at any time in the Extension Office. The card has a place for you to attach the picture and list the projects you are currently enrolled in. These cards must be in the office no later than Monday, June 1st, 2009.

**Project and Helmet Release:** Each member who wishes to participate in the 4-H horse project (at any time during the 4-H year, including competition), must have a Horse Project Release Form on file in the Extension Office. They must also have a Horse Helmet Release Form on file in the Office, if they choose to ride or handle their horse at any time without a helmet while working on the 4-H horse project.

**Assessments:** Each horsemanship manual has level assessments included in them. Members must turn in a copy of their assessment to the Extension Office if they would like to move into the next level. You must compete at the Fair in the level that the Extension Office has on file. Submit assessments to the Extension Office by Monday, June 1st, 2009.

**Clinics:** To participate in the 4-H events at the Northwest Montana Fair each horse member must attend at least one 4-H sponsored horse clinic during the upcoming year. There are four clinics being offered this year. Watch the newsletter for details regarding these clinics. Refer to the 4-H yearly calendar, which can be picked up in the office or found on our website, for the dates of these clinics.

**Horse Clinic #1:** The first Horse Clinic Opportunity will be held on Friday, January 9th, 2009 and the topic will be the Do's and Don'ts of Tack and Tack Fitting. Grandview Supreme and Dandy Dudes and Dolls are hosting this clinic. The clinic will be held at the Fisher's home which is located at 105 Wapiti Meadows Road, Columbia Falls. The clinic will begin at 6:30 pm. If you need more information please contact Linda Jaquette at 250-8813. If you find you are lost please try Linda or call the Fisher home at 892-8919.

**Directions:** Take Hwy 206 to Elk Park Rd. There is a sign at the intersection of Hwy 206 and Elk Park Rd. that reads Fisher's Green House. Turn right onto Elk Park Rd. (if coming from Kalispell). Follow Elk Park Rd. until you reach Mooring Rd. Turn right onto Mooring Rd. Go past the green houses and turn left onto Wapiti Meadows. The Fisher home is the first house on the road.

**Horse Clinic #2:** Topic is Lameness. Dr. Erfle will be presenting. Hilltop Arena at 10:00 am on Saturday, February 21st. More information will be available in the February newsletter.

## Market Livestock Project Guidelines



To participate in a Market Livestock project, a member must be enrolled in an active 4-H Club and meet certain requirements.

**All 4-H members involved in a Market Livestock project must attend one Livestock Quality Assurance Clinic every two years.** We will be offering two Livestock Quality Assurance Clinics this year. Dates are also listed below. **If you are taking a Hog, Beef or Sheep to the Fair, and you did not take this training last year, you are required to attend a LQA Training this year.** There are no exceptions. Young members who completed an LQA training last year are allowed to repeat their training this year if they choose. **Members must call the Extension Office at 758-5553 to sign up for a session.** Materials need to be prepared for each member who attends.

**Market Livestock Contracts:** All members who are participating in a market animal project (hog, beef, or sheep) need to read and sign a Market Livestock Contract form. A parent is also required to sign the form. The contract should be turned into the Extension Office no later than April 15th, 2009. Your livestock club leader will have these forms for you soon. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Office at 758-5553.

**Livestock Quality Assurance #1:** Monday, February 23rd.  
6:30 pm at the Country Kitchen on the Fairgrounds.

**Livestock Quality Assurance #2:** Thursday, March 19th.  
6:30 pm at the Country Kitchen on the Fairgrounds.

**Please remember to put these dates on the Calendar.**

## National 2009 Youth Horse Leaders Symposium in Nebraska

The 32nd Annual National Youth Horse Leader's Symposium, presented by the American Youth Horse Council will be held on March 27th-29th, 2009 in Lincoln, Nebraska. Over 2 dozen international and national presenters will be providing information on the keys to successful youth horse programming and horse management. A weekend program for teen leaders is also available, where teens learn many different horse disciplines, breed activities, develop leadership skills and effective horsemanship techniques. For more information go to [www.ayhc.com](http://www.ayhc.com) or call 1-800-TRY-AYHC.



## Fiber a Success at NWMT Fair

The fiber project is growing in Flathead Valley and to meet the needs of this growth the Fiber Barn will continue to offer Fiber competition to 4-H members at the 2009 Northwest Montana Fair. They would like to encourage the 4-H community to take part in this program by holding their fiber animals at the Fair throughout the week. The goals are to educate the public about fiber animals, the fiber community, and the industry. We encourage all 4-H members to look into fiber as a project. For more information, please call the Extension Office. 758-5553



## Engineer Girl! Essay Contest

The National Academy of Engineering is hosting the Engineer Girl Essay Contest. The contest is available to girls in 3rd –12th grades. Submission forms and guidelines are available at <http://www.engineergirl.org/?id=10104>. Entries must be submitted by March 1st, 2009. The topic for the essay is based on three images that can be found at the above website. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winners in each division.

## Christopher Columbus Awards

The Christopher Columbus Awards is a national, community-based science and technology program for middle school students. The program challenges the students to work in teams of three to four, with an adult coach, to identify a problem in their community and apply the scientific method to create an innovative solution to that problem. Eight finalist teams and their coaches will receive an all-expense-paid trip to *Walt Disney World*® to attend National Championship Week and compete for valuable U.S. Savings Bonds and the \$25,000 Columbus Foundation Community Grant, plus a \$200 development grant to further refine their idea. Information regarding this grant is available at <http://www.christophercolumbusawards.com/>



## Girls for a Change Conference

Mark your calendars for the 2009 day-long conference in Bozeman, Saturday, February 28. It will be held in the Student Union Building on the MSU campus. This year's theme is The Courage to Climb and keynote speaker, Dr. Luanne Freer, will inspire girls as she talks about the volunteer medical clinic she set up at the base of Mt. Everest. Workshops will focus on giving back to your world (service), protecting your world (environment), understanding your world (culture), caring for yourself in your world (self care) and expression in your world (art, crafts). The registration fee is \$15.00. For more information, contact Deborah Neuman at 406-587-3840 or [dneuman@bridgeband.com](mailto:dneuman@bridgeband.com)

## Glacier Stars Helps Food Bank During Roll Call

Glacier Stars 4-H Club, headed up by Kelly Morrow and Judy Sommers, decided they wanted to help the Flathead Food Bank during the holiday season. Glacier Stars brainstormed and chose to ask members and leaders who attended the December meeting to please bring at least one item for the Food Bank, to be presented during club roll call. To encourage attendance to their December meeting the club chose to hold a family potluck and gift exchange. Over 25 lbs of food was donated to the Flathead Food Bank! What a great idea to share the holiday spirit. We are very proud of our 4-H clubs for taking such an active roll in the surrounding communities.



**Horse and Livestock Leaders Forum:** Carbon County has volunteered to organize a Horse and Livestock Leaders' Forum on February 27th-March 1st, 2009. Registrations should be available sometime mid January. We will update our website as soon as we have the information.

**Error in December Newsletter:** We would like to apologize to the A Bit of Difference 4-H Club for not including them in our thank you to clubs who participated in the Gift Wrapping project at Murdoch's during the Christmas Season. Their club took on Black Friday in November which I'm sure was quite a busy day. Thank you to all of the clubs who participated in this event.

**Club Program Outlines/Treasurer Reports:** This is just a reminder to a few clubs that your club outlines and/or treasurer reports are now past due. Please submit these reports soon so that we can wrap up the 07-08 4-H year. *Thanks to all of our 4-H org leaders for all that you do!!!!*

**Courage doesn't always roar.  
Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the  
day saying "I will try again tomorrow".  
Mary Ann Radmacher**



# Flathead County 4-H News



# January 2009

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