

Animal Science Opportunities

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Equine News

The first issue of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Equine News will be mailed out to 4-H horse families, horse enthusiasts, horse association, club members, and extension offices. Nebraska Equine News provides current important educational information to equine audiences. In the future, this quarterly newsletter will be available only on the World Wide Web at <http://4h.unl.edu/equine>. This site will also include additional links and horse-related information, as well as a form to sign up to receive e-mail notices for new newsletter postings and timely communications. Topics highlighted in the first issue include: UNL Equine Science Option Programs, Extracurricular Collegiate Equine Opportunities, New DVD Resources for 4-H Families, UNL Horse Donation Program, Information for Prospective Students, and Salt Needs of Working Horses. Nebraska Equine News is a joint effort between the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Extension 4-H Youth Development, and the Department of Animal Science.

Ninth Annual 4-H Trail Ride Benefit

The Ninth Annual Nebraska 4-H Foundation Trail Ride Benefit has been scheduled for October 13 and 14. The trail ride will be held at the Nebraska State 4-H Camp and Nebraska National Forest near Halsey, Nebraska. The Trail Ride Committee is working hard to provide participants with an enjoyable weekend of guided trail rides in the scenic Sandhills of Nebraska. Participants will be able to savor the outdoors riding trails in the Nebraska National Forest. Meals, activities and entertainment will be held at the Nebraska State 4-H Camp located on the Forest Service Land. The fun-filled weekend will include lots of fun and plenty of riding. All proceeds from the benefit will go to the Nebraska 4-H Horse Program.

ATTENTION

Dodge County 4-H Horse Project Members

Held on May 11, 2002 the Dodge County 4-H Horse Trail Ride Fund Raiser was overwhelmingly successful. The funds generated have been utilized for a horse learning laboratory kit and the 2004 Dodge County 4-H Horsemanship clinics. The additional dollars have been and will be utilized as scholarships for Dodge County 4-H horse project members to attend the Nebraska 4-H Foundation Trial Ride Benefit. For more information on receiving a scholarship to attend, contact Tracy at the Dodge County Extension Office, 402-727-2775.

Make It With Wool Contest 2007

This year is the 60th Anniversary of the Make It With Wool Contest which promotes the beauty and versatility of wool fabric and yarn. The object of the contest is also to encourage personal creations in sewing, knitting, crocheting, spinning, and weaving of wool fabric or yarn, and to recognize creative skill. Our district contest will be November 3, 2007 in Lincoln. The state contest will be November 16-17 also in Lincoln. State winners will win a trip to the National Competition in Las Vegas, Nevada on January 24-26. National Contest winners will receive scholarships and prizes. The deadline to register for district competition is October 20, 2007. Contact the extension office for more information about the contest and to register.

Ak-Sar-Ben Seeking Alumni Exhibitors

Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Show officials are seeking the names of alumni exhibitors to help celebrate eighty years of continued success. The annual 4-H Show has been scheduled for September 25-30, 2007 and is held in conjunction with Ak-Sar-Ben's River City Roundup at the Qwest Center located in downtown Omaha. Alumni exhibitors of the stock show are encouraged to visit the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben website at www.aksarben.org to sign up to receive more information and an invitation to attend some of the special events. An alumni reception will be held Saturday, Sept. 29 from 2-4 p.m. A history photo wall will be displayed for the public to see and a memory scrapbook is being assembled. Some other special events are still in the early planning stages and will be announced later this summer. For more information about this event or to share some of your memories, please email info@aksarben.org or call at 402/554-9600 or write in care of the Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Exposition at 302 South 36th Street, Suite 800, Omaha, NE 68131.

NEBRASKA 4-H FOUNDATION

...a private sector partner of University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension 4-H, dedicated to seeking and managing contributions that will best meet the needs and advance the interests of Nebraska 4-H club work and maintain 4-H camps and centers for instructive and recreational purposes.

Character Counts in 4-H Livestock Production

The six pillars of character relate to the way you work with your livestock.

Trustworthiness: When you faithfully feed and water, as well as groom and train your animals every day you are being loyal and keeping a promise to yourself to do the best possible job you can with your 4-H project. When you begin a 4-H animal project, you accept the responsibility for taking the best possible care of those animals every day. You are also probably keeping a promise to your parents, neighbor, or other person who helped you get started with your project. When your parents helped you purchase your animals, they put their trust in you to take care of the animals. When you are loyal and keep promises, people will say you are trustworthy!

Respect: When you handle your animals properly, treat them humanely, and take care of them daily, you are showing respect for the animals. Handling animals properly will help prevent stress on both you and your animals and will reduce injuries to both you and the animals. You will need both patience and skill to handle animals. However, the rewards for proper handling include less time spent on tasks, fewer injuries to yourself and the animals, and a high quality end product for consumers. Treating animals humanely means treating animals with consideration for their comfort and discomfort. For example, providing your steers with protection from wind and snow and giving them additional dry bedding during a storm would show that you were concerned about the animals' comfort and were treating them humanely.

Responsibility: At the beginning of a project, responsible members will work to develop their knowledge and skills about the desirable traits of their animals, and they will be honest and encouraging with other members who ask for advice. Responsible members will follow all ownership rules and deadlines. Throughout a project, a major responsibility is feeding, watering and caring for the animals. Exhibitors will also need to spend more time and attention to train and groom the animals.

Caring: Caring means showing concern for others' welfare. Caring means being kind, compassionate, and doing things to show you care. Caring people express thanks to others, they forgive others for mistakes, and they help others in need. Caring people consider how their decisions, words, and actions might affect everyone around them. They treat others as they would like to be

treated themselves. As a 4-H livestock or small animal exhibitor, you have many opportunities to show that you are a caring person. First, you can show caring behavior with the other exhibitors, club members and family members with whom you work. Second, you can show caring behavior toward the animals themselves.

Fairness: Justice, justness, fair treatment, fair play, fair trial, square deal, fair shake - these are all words or phrases that have similar meanings to **FAIRNESS**. Fairness means being equally good to everyone. Fairness involves being consistent in the application of rules and standards. We all like to be treated fairly, but do we always treat others fairly? The Golden Rule: "*Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.*" is a standard measure of fairness. This is the kind of treatment that a fair and ethical person will display in all areas of their life, including when they are working with their livestock.

Citizenship: A citizen is someone who is part of a city, town or community. Practicing citizenship means doing what you can to make your home, community, and country a better place to live for yourself and for others. Practicing citizenship has always been and always will be part of being an active 4-H member. As a livestock exhibitor, you are part of an "exhibiting community", and are therefore responsible for knowing and obeying all rules, regulations, and laws regarding exhibiting. Other members of the "exhibiting community" include other exhibitors, family members, show or fair hosts and sponsors. When you are involved in livestock production and exhibiting, you represent the exhibiting community as a whole. What you do or say can reflect positively or negatively on the entire community.

Photos from 2007 State 4-H Horse Show

A variety of photos were taken during the 2007 State 4-H Horse Show. Please go to <http://www.animalscience.unl.edu/extension/equine/4H.html> to view the photos.

