



San Juan County 4-H Leaders News June/July 2007

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MAKING THE BEST BETTER

State Ambassadors Come to SJC

Written by Clinton Gauthier

On July 13, 14 and 15 the 12 State Ambassadors (SA's) and their advisors traveled to San Juan Island for one of their quarterly meetings. The meeting was being hosted by second year State Ambassador, Clinton Gauthier, and held right at the Gauthier home.

While on the island the group revised the by-laws

and constitution of the state ambassadors. They also made some key decisions about the election process and new term lengths. The group enjoyed seeing the town, as well as Roche Harbor. Everyone was pleased by the laid back attitude of the island and the opportunity to just relax.

It was a sad time for all the second-year SA's knowing that this was their last meeting together. Everyone was looking forward to Teen Rallies and other future events so they could see all of their friends again.

At Home Magazine Honors 4-H "4-H Prescription for a Better Community"

A gracious thank you for the generous time and thoughtful efforts of Mike MacDonald (Editor) and Claudia La Cava (Publisher) for the powerful article on how "4-H helps kids navigate their lives". Cindy, myself, Tom and a few San Juan Island clubs spoke directly to Mike and Claudia to help them understand fully the positive impact of 4-H for youth, families and our community. A special thanks to Cynthia Stark-Wickman, Director of the SJI Prevention Coalition, for her vision and support of 4-H as an important community prevention program. Thank you Country Critters, Bits N' Spurs, Baking Bandits and K-9 Kids for being available for interviews and photos.

Together with Mike and Claudia's help, the public will have a greater understanding of the "4-H prescription for a better community". Hopefully, the special efforts of At Home Magazine will lead to increased support for our 4-H Program

Coordinator position, our 4-H Endowment funds, and for our need for new leaders to serve the diverse interests of our youth.

If you haven't yet read the article, please take the time to do so, and share it with your club parents and members. We believe this well-written article will help you feel deeply honored that you are a 4-H Volunteer Leader for San Juan County.

We will have extra copies of this August issue of the magazine here in the office, gratis of At Home Magazine.

HOME ON THE ISLANDS

4-H Community Service

Cleaning our Islands Shores

On Sunday July 15th, most of the Shaw 4-H members joined forces to clean up the shores of Shaw Island. The team of members and leaders turned their community service efforts into a fun social event with a group picnic. You can see a group shot of the group in the At Home Magazine article about 4-H.

On Sunday July 30th our largest horse club in the County, the Bits N' Spurs Horse Club on San Juan Island, conducted a beach cleanup at Jackson's Beach in Friday Harbor.

With the tourist season in full motion and lots of boats out and about, the trash on the beaches has been accumulating. Shaw Island 4-Hers and the Bits N' Spurs members came through to help keep San Juan County's shores a healthy, clean habitat for both wild and human beings. 4-Hers' "Hands for Greater Service" in action once again!

Country Critters' Fit and Show Clinic

On Sunday, August 5th the Country Critter Club offered a Fit and Show Clinic for members raising rabbits and poultry. This was held at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds.

Katie and Clinton Gauthier, experienced 4-Hers, demonstrated fit and show for rabbits and poultry for their peers and younger youth. They gave examples of questions and answers, talked about what judges expect and gave some one-on-one instruction. They also talked about judging, giving examples of that as well. Refreshments and a

snack were provided, too! Lead by leaders Cathy Cole and Diana Porter, this event was beneficial for all youth in these project areas.

Dollars for Scholars Hours

We are always eager to provide opportunities for youth to earn Dollars For Scholars through 4-H. We have specific tasks here at the Extension office that need to be completed, i.e. filing, photocopying, organizing, labeling, creating notebooks, data entry. We have annual camp programs with OMSI at English Camp where Teen Leaders are needed, ages 16 or older (32 hours of DFS hours!). There are always Fair tasks we need help with, too, like phone calls for trophies, photocopies for State Fair, checking in and organizing trophies, etc. Members can earn credit if they help us with tasks that are not directly related to their own Fair preparations. We have other projects during the year, too, just ask!

E-Learning for 4-H Volunteers Update

From Jan Hiller, WSU

Is your county one of the 9 who have not had anyone experience E-Learning for 4-H Volunteers yet? So far 236 individuals have logged in, some several times: 106 individuals from 23 counties have completed all 4 modules.

Why not go right now to the Washington State 4-H Homepage <<http://4h.wsu.edu/> and click on E-Learning for 4-H Volunteers. This takes you directly to learn a little about this training program. Click again to provide your contact information and proceed to begin E-Learning for 4-H Volunteers! Encourage others to do the same! Very positive comments are coming from those who have participated! Four modules—About 4-H, Positive Youth Development, Getting Started in 4-H, Leadership & Teaching---are waiting for you!

Benefits of E-Learning training are: ability to reach more learners, more consistent, quality instruction, self-paced interactive learning, increased knowledge retention, cost-effective way to train, reduces staff delivery time, helps determine committed volunteers, and ready to use "24/7". 4-H Educators appreciate that basic information about 4-H is available online so that they can focus on other topics for face-to-face training.

BEYOND THE ISLANDS

State 4-H Leaders' Forum

October 19-21, Pasco

The WA State Leaders' Forum will be held Friday through Sunday at the TRAC center in Pasco. This is the best State 4-H opportunity annually for leader training through workshop participation, and, to network with other club leaders from around Washington.

Friday's schedule includes a twelve all day "Track" workshops on a variety of topics from "Building a Better Judging Contest" to "Working With Challenging Groups". Saturday includes shorter workshops (1 ½ to 3 ½ hours) with an enormous list of topics to choose from including (just a few): Sewing, Horses, Livestock Games, Food Fundraisers, Fleece, Managing Fair Crisis, Club Finances, Adolescence Challenges, KYG, Scrapbooks, Mobile Technology Van and PowerPoint Presentations. There will also be extended special programs on "Shooting Sports Training", and "Care of Your Project Goat".

Another important opportunity at Forum is the Council meeting where each District elects representatives to the 4-H State Advisory Board and State 4-H Fair Board of Trustees. Project committees review suggested changes and improvements to the 4-H Program and recommend their acceptance or rejection. Committees that finish their agenda items can use the extra time to discuss issues facing their project area. Voting delegates are elected by counties and are based on enrollment statistics. Committees without Council recommendations and projects groups are welcome to meet and discuss issues and share ideas about their area. The deadline for board applications and council recommendations is September 1. These forms are available here at Extension or on the State website: <http://4h.wsu.edu/council/index.htm>.

The registration information should now be up on the State 4-H. Here is the direct links for workshop descriptions: <http://4h.wsu.edu/conferences/Forum/index.htm>

NW Teen Rally

October 26-28, Eatonville

Teen Rally is an opportunity for 4-H youth and their friends to meet teens from other counties. Hosted by Pierce County, the Rally will be held at the foot of Mount Rainier at Camp Arnold.

Camp Arnold is owned and operated by The Salvation Army and is located on 600 pristine acres, with a spectacular view of Mount Rainier. It has nature trails, outdoor playing fields, modern cabins, an indoor gymnasium, a game room, an outdoor amphitheatre, a dining hall, and indoor and outdoor activity areas. We will be staying in heated cabins and the camp will provide all meals.

There will be a battle of the bands, fun workshops, space and time to hang out, and, plenty of excellent opportunities to make new friends.

Registration forms are due to SJC Extension, postmarked by October 5th or faxed in by October 9th (fax 378.2187). Registration with the tee shirt is \$90 (\$68 without). Checks must be made out to Pierce County Leaders Council. There are three required forms. Go to <http://www.pierce.wsu.edu/4-H/index.htm> for all forms and information. Call 253.798.7160 for further information.

National 4-H Congress

November 23-27, Atlanta Georgia

National Congress is a pinnacle of the 4-H experience for many 4-H members. The Congress provides youth, ages 14-19, a once-in-a-lifetime educational and cross-cultural experience at the national level. The program combines plenary (required) sessions, topic seminars, discussion groups and a service learning experience. Outstanding national community leaders, speakers and educators present the most current and timely information available.

The registration deadline has just passed (August 1st). However, please begin to educate your teen members on this unique educational, leadership event. It is just one of several great teen leadership opportunities that 4-H offers. For more information, go to: http://4h.wsu.edu/kidstuff/crit_proced.pdf. If you have further questions, please contact Jan Klein: jlklein@wsu.

Country Living Association Complimentary Membership

Country Living Association (CLA) was publicly launched on January 1, 2007. As of 4/10/07 we have nearly 9,000 members. Their official publication is *Living the Country Life*, a Meredith Publication. Founding sponsors include John Deere and Nationwide Agribusiness/Allied Insurance. Additional sponsors and partners are Fastline publications and Farm Safety 4 Just Kids. Their mission is to create and foster a community for like-minded people who share a passion for country living. They strive to connect members to each other and to sponsors and partners who truly understand and provide for the needs of a rural lifestyle. Membership benefits include a free subscription to *Living the Country Life*, a monthly e-newsletter, free online classifieds, special offers and promotions from sponsors, "Ask an Expert" advice and resource services, reduced rates to attend the regional clinics and national event, and product and service discounts.

On behalf of Founding Sponsors Allied Insurance, Nationwide Agribusiness, and John Deere, complimentary memberships to the Country Living Association are being offered to families of 4-H members. CLA values the commitment of 4-H to promote leadership, citizenship, and life skills for youth, and wishes to provide an additional means for both youth and their families to expand their knowledge. Through their website, five regional educational clinics, a National event in October, and their official publication - *Living the Country Life* - they offer connectivity to others with similar interests. To join the Country Living Association, go to: www.countrylivingassociation.org and use the special code of 4H2007. Please contact Courtney Yuskis, Director of CLA, with any questions at (636) 449-5088 or yuskis@drakeco.com.

New Electronic Filing Requirement: Small Tax-Exempt Organizations By Pat BoyEs

I realize that you have all faced significant changes in procedures in reporting requirements in recent years. I am forwarding along to you information recently sent to me by National 4-H Program Director Cathann Kress. The IRS is placing new requirements on small tax-exempt organizations like 4-H Clubs. We do not know the

exact form or full reach of these changes yet. Her office continues to represent 4-H on the national level with the IRS so that we can have a united approach in full-filling these new requirements. I am sharing the following information with you because I want you to be informed and not blind-sided. The level of compliance we will need to follow is still under discussion with the IRS. Thank you all for your understanding.

Beginning in 2008, small tax-exempt organizations that previously were not required to file returns may be required to file an annual electronic notice, Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations not Required To File Form 990 or 990-EZ. This filing requirement applies to tax periods beginning after December 31, 2006.

Who Is Included?

Small tax-exempt organizations, whose gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less, are not required to file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax, or Form 990-EZ, Short Form Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax. With the enactment of the Pension Protection Act of 2006, these small tax-exempt organizations will now be required to file electronically Form 990-N, also known as the e-Postcard, with the IRS annually.

Who Is Excluded?

Exceptions to this requirement are organizations that are included in a group return, private foundations required to file Form 990-PF, and section 509(a)(3)-supporting organizations required to file Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

Karla Howard, the CFO at National 4-H Council, and I are working to prepare a briefing sheet for all of you, and I am investigating if there might be flexibility or exemption for 4-H clubs under our shared umbrella EIN. We will keep you informed as we learn more. In the meantime, for more information:

<http://nonprofitrisk.org/nwsltr/archive/internalcontrol050607.htm#continue>

COUNTY/STATE FAIR NEWS

The Weirdest and Best Fair Yet Fair 2007!

We have been having several signs and clues that this may be the weirdest Fair yet. Strange things have been happening that have Cindy and I shaking our heads in disbelief. We are laughing more and more to get through these quirks. What this really means is that we, and all of you leaders, will have lots of extra opportunities to practice essential life skills, like those your 4-Hers are learning with you during their club activities. Just to name a few character traits essential to managing the weirdest Fair, so you know what we're talking about, when things get strange, dig for your: Tolerance, Patience, Gratitude, Respect, and, Lightness. We had come up with a little 4-H Fair sub theme, "Grace and Gratitude". And a leader added on to this, "Play Nice and Have Fun". With all this in our Hearts and our Hands in Greater Service, our Weirdest Fair ever will also be the Best Fair ever!

Groomin' and Bloomin'

Don't forget to pass on any 4-H slogans or statements that line up with the Fair theme to leader Terri Brown. She has initiated a project of making signs to hang up around the barns that will teach the public about the important impacts of 4-H on youth and families.

Fair Passes

As a 4-H Leader you are eligible for a discounted season pass for \$15. Your name will be on a list at each ticket booth entrance to the Fair. Let the booth volunteer know that you are a 4-H Leader and they will look you up on the Leader list. Your club parent helpers for Fair are listed on a separate list we've given to the Fair office, along with our lists of volunteer judges. These lists may or may not be merged at the Fair ticket booths. Please be patient with the booth volunteers as they try to help you get your passes.

If you are a superintendent, you receive a free pass from the Fair for taking on this role over the week. Please stop in at the Fair office to pick up your pass, your names tag, and, your free camping pass if needed.

Parking and Camping

All horse trailers are invited to park free of charge at designated areas on the new Fair property. All main Superintendents needing to be on the Fairgrounds all week, are also provided with free parking, and camping on the new property. Check in with the Fair office on details for this (378.4310).

All other vehicles, campers both RV and tent and car, must sign up for camping and pay for parking and camping fees. If your camper and vehicle are separate units and you will be driving in and out of the Fairgrounds, you'll need to pay the parking fee. See the Premium Book map for locations.

Camping on the new property must be dry camping only- meaning there are no hookups. If you must have a hook up please let the Fair office know so you can be set up in the original, traditional camping area. Potable water will be available. Portable toilets will be placed in the camping area and showers at the RV camping area. There will not be camping in the Boy Scout area this year. 4-H families are offered an approximate 10% discount off the regular daily camping fee this year.

Leaders' Council and Award Meetings August 18, 9-11:30 am

Please join for our annual Fair Leaders' Council meeting at 9:00 am on Saturday of Fair week. As usual, the focus will be on immediate Fair decisions and details. This is the time to vote for countywide member awards (Harold Kjargaard Memorial and Pomona Grange Leadership). We have received two nominations for both awards by the early August deadline.

At 10:00 am the Horse, Small Animal and Still Life leaders will meet to decide on special awards. At 11:00 (or when the sub groups are done), all Livestock leaders will meet for their award choices. Please join in for our final gathering before the big day of both Livestock and silent Still Life Auctions, as well as the beloved Awards Ceremony!

State Fair Preparations

Just a gentle reminder... Most any blue ribbon entry from County Fair is eligible for participation at State Fair. Sometimes there are limited slots available for each County, especially for livestock and animals. There aren't any limitations for Still Life entries.

Cindy is looking for someone to volunteer to be the Still Life Coordinator for State Fair. She will train you right after Fair and get all the supplies ready you'll need to assist members in entering their projects.

Terri Brown is looking for a second State Fair Coordinator to help her help members sign up and get ready to show their stuff at State Fair. This is a huge job so please consider giving Terri a hand.

Year Completion Certificates

September 27th

In order to create your members' Year Completion Certificates, your Leader Certificates and pack up annual pins in time for your ceremony, we'd like to have your final lists of members' names by the date above. If you have any questions about the criteria for members' to compete the 4-H year, please give us a call. Please also let us know at your earliest convenience what the date of your island award ceremony will be. This really helps with our planning.

Helping You Put Knowledge To Work

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Friday Harbor, WA 98250
(360) 378-4414
<http://sanjuan.wsu.edu>

4-H CALENDER 2007

Aug 15-18: San Juan County Fair
Aug. 18: Fair Leaders' Council Mtg, 9:00 am
Aug. 18: Fair Awards Mtgs 10-11:00 am
Sept 7-23: Washington State 4-H Fair: Puyallup
Oct. 13 : Leaders' Council Meeting,
Oct. 19-21: WA State Leaders' Forum, Pasco
Oct. 26-28: NW Teen Rally, Eatonville
Nov. 23-27: National Congress, Atlanta, Georgia

DEADLINES & GUIDELINES 2006-2007

Animal Ownership Deadlines to show at the County Fair or Junior Livestock Shows (State Deadlines)

- * **April 17** (120 days*): Market Beef
 - * **May 17** (90 days*): Horses, Breeding Beef, Llama/Alpaca, Dairy (except replacement heifers)
 - * **June 16** (60 days*): Goats, Sheep, Swine, Cats, Cavies, Dogs and Dairy Replacement Heifers
 - * **July 1** (45 days*): Rabbits and Poultry
- *Number of days prior to County Fair or Junior Livestock Show.

Jan 31: Financial Summary Report and Peer Review to Extension

Jan 31: WSU Scholarship Applications: To WSU

Mar 1: Animal Member/Project Enrollment For Fair 2007 Exhibition to Extension or postmarked

Mar 1: WA State 4-H Scholarship App's: To State 4-H Scholarship Committee

Mar 1: Insurance Payments due to Extension

Mar 1: Enrollment Fees due to Extension

May 15: Horse Certificates and Leases: To Extension or postmarked.

June 1: Still Life Member/Project Enrollment for Fair 2007 Exhibition to Extension or postmarked

June 28: Perpetual Trophies to be turned into Extension Office

July 15: Local 4-H College Scholarship Applications to Extension or postmarked

July 26: Animal & Still Life Entry Form: To Extension. Postmark by July 23

July 26: Horse Entry Forms: To Fair Manager (PO Box 1094, FH 98250) Postmark by July 23

Aug 30: Complete Record Books (entered for judging): To Leaders

Sept 5: Judging results of Compete Record Books to Extension

Sept 27: List of Club Members who've Complete 4-H Year: To Extension.

Please Note: If a deadline for submitting something to the Extension office falls on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday or holiday when the office is closed, please submit on the last working day before the deadline date. (Motion passed Mar/06)

OUR WEBSITE

<http://sanjuan.wsu.edu>

Links include:

National 4-H web: www.4-h.org/

National Council: www.fourhcouncil.edu

Washington State: <http://4h.wsu.edu/>

Whatcom: whatcom.wsu.edu/

Snohomish: snohomish.wsu.edu/