



January

Brenda Wilkinson

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Brenda Wilkinson as winner of January's "Heart of 4-H Award" in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

Brenda has volunteered with 4-H for nearly 15 years and has helped with the Stevens Creek Stars and Happy Go Lucky 4-H clubs. She has helped with the 4-H Sheep Show at the Lancaster County Fair and is currently Assistant Superintendent of the 4-H Goat Show.

She says, "All through the years our children were showing, 4-H gave us more opportunity to spend time as a family. I like volunteering for 4-H because I think 4-H is a great project for youth and I like to see them get interested in agriculture. My favorite experience as a 4-H volunteer was watching children come into a project never having any agricultural background, giving them an understanding of what it takes to raise and take care of livestock."

Brenda lives in Walton with her husband, Jay (he received a Heart of 4-H Award in July 2007). Even though their two daughters have outgrown the 4-H program, Brenda and Jay still volunteer with 4-H.

Congratulations to Brenda. Volunteers like her are indeed the heart of 4-H!

Nominate your favorite 4-H volunteer by submitting the form available online at <http://lanaster.unl.edu> or at the extension office. Nominations of co-volunteers welcome.



Shooting Sports 4-H Clubs Reorganizing

Youth interested in joining the **Shooting Sports Trap 4-H club** must contact Tracy by Jan. 2 at 441-7180 or tkulm1@unl.edu. Youth must be at least 12 years old and not older than 18 by Jan. 1, 2009 and have a hunter safety certificate.

There will be a **Shooting Sports BB/Air Rifle 4-H club** starting this spring. Youth must be at least 8 years old by Jan. 1, 2009. More information will be published in upcoming NEBLINE issues.

Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Expo Livestock Results



The 2008 Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Exposition was held last September at the Qwest Center in Omaha. Congratulations to all Lancaster County 4-H livestock members who competed. Peyton Goracke was named Champion Feeder Steer. Complete results are at www.aksarben.org.

4-H Award & Scholarship Forms Due Jan. 2

Lancaster County 4-H award forms and college scholarship applications are due by Jan. 2. Forms are available at <http://lanaster.unl.edu/4h> and the extension office. The online forms are provided as fill-in pdfs, which anyone with Adobe Reader 7 or 8 can fill in, save and print. Recipients will be announced at Lancaster County Achievement Night.

Application for 4-H Clubs of Excellence Due Jan. 2

Leaders: Don't forget to complete your Nebraska 4-H Club of Excellence application! All leaders received an application form in their October reorganizational packet. All clubs meeting the requirements and sending in the application form will be recognized at Achievement Night and will receive a Nebraska 4-H Club of Excellence certificate. Seals will be awarded in subsequent years. Applications are due to the office by Jan. 2.

4-H/FFA Market Beef Weigh-In, Feb. 7

Lancaster County 4-H/FFA members with market beef projects, please plan for next year's market beef weigh-in on Saturday, Feb. 7, 8-10 a.m. at the Lancaster Event Center.

New 4-H Pick-a-Pig Project

A new 4-H pick-a-pig class will be added to the Lancaster County Fair this year. Local pig producers are coming together to give any youth interested in showing pigs a chance to do so. Local producers will sponsor a 4-H youth and provide them with a pig in April.

In return, the 4-H'er will need to pay for grain, work with the animal and keep records on their project. Local producers have also offered to house the pigs for any urban youth that may be interested. The pig will then be shown and marketed at the county fair.

After county fair, the 4-H'er will reimburse their sponsor for the beginning value of the project pig. Anyone interested in being a part of the pick-a-pig project needs to contact Deanna at 441-7180 by Feb. 9.

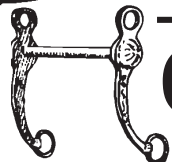
Photography Themes

Photography themes have been announced for 2009 4-H county and state fairs:

- Unit 2 - Go Green: Healthy Living in Nebraska
- Unit 3 - Right Next Door: Places that Shape Nebraska Communities

4-H Membership Cards Available

Lancaster County 4-H membership cards are available for all 4-H members. Stop by the extension office to pick them up.



HORSE BITS



In November, nearly 60 youth attended the 4-H Roping and Goat Tying Clinic led by clinicians Jim Berry and Justy Hagan. Thanks to the Fort Western Stores for donating gloves to all youth ropers. A series of three more clinics are planned for 2009 (dates to be announced).



Horse Stampede Entries Due Jan. 30

The 7th annual 4-H Horse Stampede will be held Saturday, March 14 at the Animal Science Building on UNL East Campus. The Stampede consists of the 4-H state horse-related competitions: Horse Bowl, Public Speaking, Demonstration and Art Contest.

Stampede contestants must be enrolled in a 4-H horse project with the exception of the art contest. Contestants may participate in all contests. Senior division is ages 14-18, junior division is 12-13. Teams are to consist of three to five youth.

Stampede T-shirts will be available to participating youth. You must pre-order your T-shirt, the cost is \$6. Lancaster County 4-H Council will pay the entry fees for the contests! Stampede Entry forms along with T-shirt orders are due by Jan. 30 to the UNL Extension in Lancaster County office.

Forms and additional information are available online at <http://www.animalscience.unl.edu/extension/equine/4H/stampede.html>

Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Expo Horse Results

The 2008 Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Exposition was held last September at the Qwest Center in Omaha. Congratulations to all Lancaster County 4-H members who competed in the Horse Show. Listed below are the 2008 Ak-Sar-Ben Horse Show trophy winners.

Chelsea Beach	Junior English Equitation	Reserve Champion
	Junior English Pleasure	Reserve Champion
Abbie Heusinger	Junior Pole Bending	Reserve Champion
Brooke Preston	Senior Western Horsemanship	Reserve Champion
Alex Scheideler	Advanced Western Pleasure	Reserve Champion

