

4-H Symbols

The 4-H emblem, colors, pledge and motto are symbolic of the 4-H organization and its beliefs.

4-H Colors

The 4-H colors are green and white. The white background of the 4-H flag symbolizes purity and the green 4-H emblem is nature's most common color in the great outdoors, symbolic of springtime, life and youth.

The 4-H Emblem

The 4-H emblem is the four-leaf clover with the letter "H" on each leaf. The four "h"s represent the development of the member's head, heart, hands and health.

The emblem and the name "4-H club" are protected by a copyright held by the United States Department of Agriculture.

4-H Pledge

Every member and leader should know and be able to repeat the 4-H pledge:

I pledge:

My head to clearer thinking,
My heart to greater loyalty,
My hands to larger service, and
My health to better living.

For my club, my community, my country and my world.

Note: In repeating the pledge, raise the right hand to side of head when speaking line #1; place right hand over heart when speaking line #2; extend hands, palm upward, when speaking line #3; drop hands and stand at attention when speaking the remainder of the pledge.

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to **Las Animas County 4-H!!** We're excited that you have chosen to become involved with America's largest out-of-school youth organization.

Now that you have joined 4-H, you may be wondering about the scope of the organization and what it has to offer you and your family. This handbook provides information on the Las Animas County 4-H policies, activities, programs, camps, trips, scholarships, and leader opportunities offered.

4-H is a non-profit, educational program, which is open to all young people regardless of race, color, religion or national origin.

4-H is the youth education component of Cooperative Extension and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The USDA copyrights the name "4-H". The uniqueness of 4-H is its linkage to the land-grant system and the research and knowledge resources of the university. Access to the most current research and information on youth development provides a basis for programming in 4-H which other youth-serving organizations lack.

In addition, the conventional "4-H program" (based on local clubs) is organized, led, and run primarily by local **volunteer** leaders. Much of the money that is used for travel for 4-H members' activities, events, and projects comes either from the membership or support from private industry through county, state, and national 4-H foundations. Tax money is used to hire Extension staff who develop educational materials, train leaders in subject matter, and assist in leadership development training with the youth audience of Cooperative Extension.

LAS ANIMAS COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE STAFF

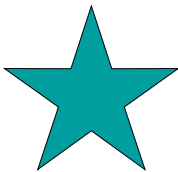
The following Extension Office Staff plan, implement, manage and evaluate educational programs for Las Animas County.

The Las Animas County Staff is available to help you in many ways. The staff includes:

Lorri Arnhold: County Director, Extension Agent
4-H/Youth Development

Dean Oatman: Extension Agent, Ag./Livestock
4-H/Youth Development

Laura McCarver: Extension Secretary



We hope this handbook will provide you with a better understanding of the county, state, national, and international programs offered in 4-H. Once again, welcome to this great organization!

THE 4-H CLUB

The basic and most important organization of 4-H is the 4-H club. This is where members have the satisfaction of belonging and where leaders have the greatest opportunity to help shape the lives of their members.

A well run 4-H Club will challenge the interest of both members and leaders. Such a club will provide a solid foundation on which members may build a meaningful 4-H career.

A GOOD CLUB STARTS WITH:

1. Leaders who like to work with young people and are willing to devote time and energy to 4-H.
2. Members who are dependable and willing to do their share and who want to “learn by doing”.
3. Parents who are interested in their children and are willing to help either as a leader or with the activities of the 4-H Club.

STANDARD CLUB REQUIREMENTS

The following information is a guide you can use in setting up a new club and receiving a charter for your club.

When a club has completed the first four requirements, a charter will be issued. At the close of the club year the club will be entitled to a seal for its charter provided the members who completed all 10 requirements as follows:

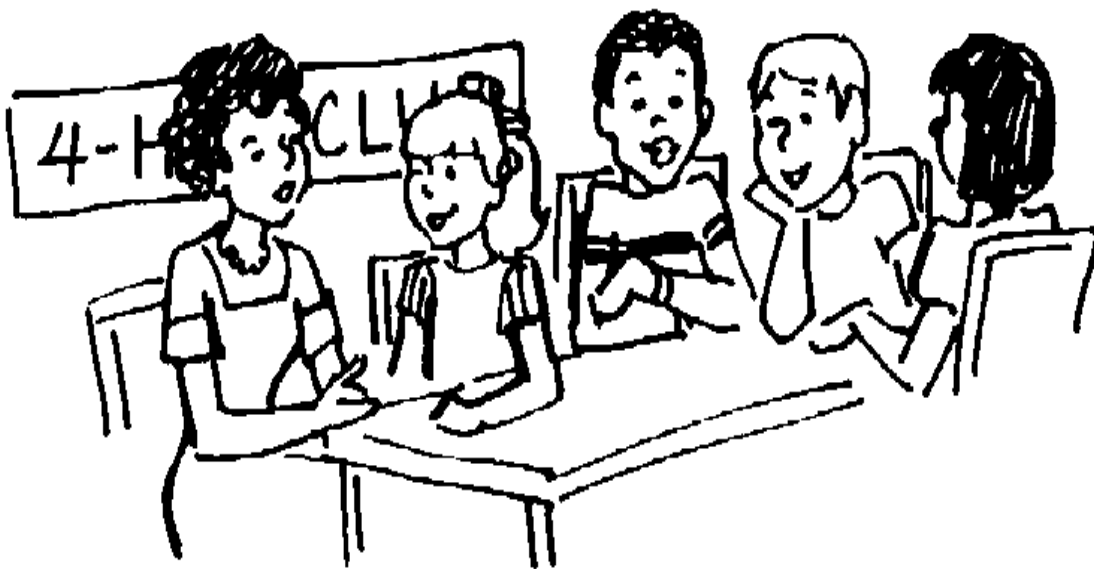
1. A standard club shall have at least five members.
2. A local club leader shall be in charge during the club year.
3. A local club organization with necessary officers shall be formed.
4. A written program of work shall be made using the forms included in the 4-H Secretary's Book. One copy is for each leader and one copy is left in the book. The suggested program of work in the Secretary's Book will be helpful in developing the local club program.
5. The club shall hold regular meetings throughout the year. There shall be enough meetings to keep the club active and allow it to complete its program.
6. Each member is expected to exhibit his project during the club year (exhibits may be local).
7. All members of the club shall present an individual demonstration at some time during the year.
8. At meetings, the members of the club either individually or by teams shall judge products relating to their projects.

9. At least 75% of the members must complete a project and leaders should make a final report to the County Office. If a member completed one project carried, he/she is counted as completion.
10. The club must hold or participate in an Annual Achievement Program.

REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY YOUR CLUB FOR A GOLD SEAL

New clubs should fill out a card for a charter if it meets the first four standard club requirements. A card can be obtained from the Extension Office.

To be eligible for a 100% Completion Certificate, every 4-H member in that club must have completed all their projects. This means 100% of the projects recorded for their club after cancellations must be satisfactorily completed.



PROCESS FOR BECOMING A 4-H VOLUNTEER

In order to provide 4-H members a safe learning environment, the CSU Cooperative Extension is recommending that we require the following process:

- ◆ Each prospective volunteer fills out a 4-H Leader application form.
- ◆ The prospective volunteer has an informal interview with one of the Extension staff, or an organizational leader of 4-H club.
- ◆ References are required from the names submitted by the prospective volunteer.
- ◆ Volunteers are *required* to attend orientation training, and/or make an appointment with an Extension staff member for the orientation process.

4-H AGE DIVISIONS

The official age divisions for 4-H are based on your age as of December 31st of the previous year. The following are official age divisions:

Ages **5-7** - Primary (Cloverbud)
Ages **8-10** - Junior
Ages **11-13** - Intermediate
Ages **14-18** - Senior

Age limits for enrolling in the regular 4-H program are as follows;

- ◆ Members must be 8 years old but must not have passed their 19th birthday as of December 31st of the previous year.

4-H CLOVERBUD POLICIES FOR MEMBERS AGES 5, 6 AND 7 (Effective September 1996)

The Cloverbud Project is a carefully designed, non-competitive, curriculum focused on age-appropriate development activities for youth five to seven years of age.

Children in this age group interested in joining 4-H may not be excluded from the program. Members enroll in existing 4-H clubs, in a group with the same age members, work with their own parents or any combination thereof.

The primary object of the Cloverbud Project is to provide young children with the opportunity to be involved with 4-H to:

- ▲ learn life skills;
- ▲ increase self-esteem; and
- ▲ have fun.

A secondary objective is to develop parent/child relationships through educational programming that parents/guardians can do with their children.

AGE REQUIREMENTS

Members ages 5, 6, and 7 as of December 31st of the previous enrollment year.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents/guardians are expected to be involved with Cloverbud members. Their involvement will enhance the parent/child relationship and decrease the opportunity for the program to become a baby-sitting service.

ENROLLMENT

Cloverbuds will enroll through the 4-H enrollment system the same as any other 4-H member. This age group may enroll in the Cloverbud Project (L1005) and any state or county project except large livestock (i.e., Beef, Swine, Sheep, Horse) and do not have to complete a project record book.

MEMBERSHIP

Cloverbud experience will be cumulative. 4-H membership will begin at the first year of enrollment in the program and continue through such time as the individual continues enrollment.

PARTICIPANT IN COMPETITIVE EVENTS

The Cloverbud Project is a non-competitive membership opportunity. Cloverbuds are to be recognized for participation only and are *not* to be awarded any recognition based on competition. Members may display their completed projects at the county fair and/or other events, but may not be part of any competitive team or performing group. Cloverbud participation in the State Fair is not allowed.

ANIMAL PROJECT/ACTIVITIES

Colorado State University 4-H Youth Development programs do not allow, support, or recommend the following for youth under the age of eight:

- ✧ large animal activities and projects including but not limited to: cattle, sheep, swine, and horses (including horseback riding); and
- ✧ shooting sports activities and projects.

Exploratory activities where the youth under age eight does not have contact with animals or firearms are acceptable. These might include reading about, studying and observing animals' behavior and events, or reading shooting information and observing events.

RATIONAL FOR POLICY

The following rational for some project exclusions for the five-to-seven year old 4-H member is based upon developmental research and knowledge. They include:

- ❖ inadequate development of judgement ability;
- ❖ short attention span; can complete very simple projects;
- ❖ less developed physical abilities, like eye-hand coordination, muscle strength, balance, etc.;
- ❖ child is not mature enough to separate failure from personal feelings about self;
- ❖ limited understanding of animal behavior;
- ❖ inadequate firearm safety and capabilities;
- ❖ lack of insurance coverage; and
- ❖ lack of maturity to handle emergency situations.

ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE

By enrolling, the youth receives 4-H newsletters, 4-H literature and becomes eligible for 4-H programs such as fairs, trips, awards, and scholarships.

1. Enrollment is completed through clubs. If a youth does not have a club, he/she may call the Extension Office for help in locating one.
2. Anyone may enroll in the 4-H program at anytime. However, individual clubs may set deadlines for enrollment in that club. All members wishing to exhibit at Exhibit Day and County Fair must be enrolled in the project and have the forms turned into the CSU Cooperative Extension office by the following deadlines:
 - ✧ Continuing Members December 1st
 - ✧ New Members May 1st
3. Colorado 4-H uses the computer enrollment system. Each youth must fill out a form with the help of their leader. This form includes the name and related

information along with the project and the literature needed for each project. Leaders bring copies of the enrollment forms and enrollment fees to the Extension Office. The leader will receive the club literature from the State 4-H Office. It takes approximately two weeks to receive this information.

ENROLLMENT CHARGE

4-H membership cost is \$18.00; Cloverbuds is \$10.00.

EACH CLUB MUST TURN IN A COPY OF THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS TO THE EXTENSION OFFICE AT THE TIME OF ENROLLMENT. THIS MUST STAY CURRENT AND ON FILE AS LONG AS THE CLUB IS IN OPERATION.

- * Yearly Treasury Reports and Affirmative Action Reports for the club are due February 1st.
- * Club Programs for the club are due February 1st.

COMPLETION GUIDELINES

1. Member in Good Standing Policy. (Effective Oct. 2003)
The purpose of this policy is to encourage a higher level of participation from members. A member must:
 - A. Attend six of the regularly scheduled meetings.
 - B. Give a demonstration or illustrated talk.
 - C. Participate in a community service activity.
2. 4-H members are **required** to complete the guidelines set forth in their Club Standards/Contract. The 4-H club leader will determine acceptable participation in club activities and meetings.
3. A proper record book must be completed for every project a member is enrolled in.
4. Each project should be completed and exhibited at Exhibit Day and Fair.
5. Projects may be added and/or dropped by June 1st.

STATE AND COUNTY PROJECTS

The state projects are listed in the "Colorado 4-H Project Selection Guide", as is the literature needed. The main leader of every club should have a copy of this guide. Each member should be given a sheet which lists all the state projects that are available.

4-H RESOURCES

There are several books and kits that will be helpful to you in setting up a club and planning your meetings. A book that each main club leader should have is the “**4-H Project Selection Guide**”. This guide lists materials and objectives required for each project.

- ⚙ The 4-H Newsletter informs members and leaders of 4-H activities and events.
- ⚙ The Extension Staff and experienced leaders can be valuable resources to you in conducting your 4-H Program.

PARENTS

Parents of members provide support and guidance with project work to their youngsters at home. Parents should be willing to assist when asked.

GENERAL/ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS

Club leaders provide the basic overall leadership for the 4-H group. These volunteer leaders coordinate the clubs programs and activities and give general guidance and leadership.

PROJECT LEADERS

Project leaders help organizational leaders by providing expertise and experience in certain project areas as they work with the members on projects.

JUNIOR LEADERS

These are the older 4-H members who assist the project and organizational leaders with the club programs, activities and projects.

TEEN LEADERS

These are the older 4-H members who actually replace an adult leader in the program. An agent or aide should approve this.

ACTIVITY LEADERS

These leaders primarily serve as trainees of older members and leaders in specialized project areas. They are leaders who help with 4-H activities.

RESOURCE LEADERS

These are resource persons on a multi-county basis who assist local project leaders and activity leaders.

EXTENSION AGENT - YOUTH

These are professional trained employees responsible for servicing the total 4-H program. They organize, plan, direct and evaluate programs and activities. They provide literature, organize training meetings, answer questions and solve problems.

EXTENSION SECRETARY

The Extension Secretary inputs the 4-H members, cloverbuds and leaders into the 4-H Blue Ribbon Program, orders literature from the Cooperative Extension Resource Center for each 4-H club and answers questions.

JUNIOR LEADERSHIP

Junior Leaders may be any age, however, they should assume only those responsibilities (or tasks) they and their leaders agree they are qualified for or are prepared to handle. *Fourteen* has been found to be a good age for most youth to assume leadership roles.

Junior Leaders must have specific duties within the club. They may fall in any of two general categories:

1. **Helping with meetings.** The junior leader together with the leader and club officers should plan the club program. A junior leader might be in charge of the demonstration schedule for the members in their club. An important job is for junior leaders to advise club officers of their duties and help them prepare for meetings.
2. **Helping with project work.** If a junior leader is experienced in a project area they could be given the responsibility of teaching a small group in that area. Junior leaders could also be in charge of planning club activities such as tours, parties, and community pride projects.

When youth are ready to go beyond their club in leadership, there are many activities they can participate in such as the following:

- ❖ Teen leaders in other clubs needing help
- ❖ Teen Superintendent at Exhibit Day and County Fair
- ❖ Serving on the county committee for operation of activities
- ❖ Involvement in the 4-H Council
- ❖ Teen counselor at 4-H Camp
- ❖ District and State 4-H level officers

FINANCES

The basic 4-H club experience can be accomplished at very little individual cost. Some desirable activities do require expenditure. We encourage club leaders to keep individual cost to a minimum since this may limit large families with limited resources.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN COLORADO STATE 4-H YOUTH FUND

Every youth enrolled in the 4-H program is asked to give a \$1.00 donation to the Colorado State 4-H Youth Fund. This money is used for State Washington Focus Trips and International 4-H Youth Exchange.

FUND RAISING POLICY

CLUBS

1. 4-H clubs are encouraged to earn money as needed by the club through fund raising events such as: bake sale, dinners, fun days, etc. As long as the 4-H name is not discredited by the event.
2. All monies raised in the name of 4-H can only be used for 4-H activities, programs, resources, etc.
3. All monies raised in the name of 4-H must be accounted for. Each club is required to submit a Yearly Financial Report to the Extension Office.

STATE POLICY

The Colorado 4-H Youth Fund shall basically pursue only businesses that have a multi-county or statewide interest. Counties should be aware of soliciting within the county

AWARDS

1. There are no restrictions on clubs giving trophies in their club.
2. In order to assure consistency in trophies or awards in our county program, Extension Office requests that any additions of trophies or awards for any county activity, event, or project area be approved by the Extension Office.



Awards

4-H COUNCILS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Councils are organized to provide coordination between the 4-H clubs in the county. Representatives of these councils/boards/committees serve as spokespeople for the membership and provide leadership for many of the countywide activities. Clubs are encouraged to be involved in these councils for their mutual benefit.

4-H COUNCIL

Each 4-H Club is asked to designate older members as their 4-H Council Representative, however, all members are welcome. The respective member has the responsibility of reporting the happenings of the council back to the club.

The purpose of the council is to:

- ◆ Make recommendations on county programs and issues
- ◆ Serve the clubs and assist them with mutual problems
- ◆ Inform clubs of opportunities in 4-H
- ◆ Provide youth for county committees and events

The Las Animas County 4-H Council shall be composed of:

- ◆ One club representative for each 15 members
- ◆ Two club representatives for every 16-30 members
- ◆ Three club representatives for every 31-45 members

The maximum number of representatives you may have in the 4-H Council is three. 4-H members in attendance shall have voting privileges.

The **4-H Council Officers** are elected members. These officers are:

☼	President	☼	Reporter
☼	Vice President	☼	Parliamentarian
☼	Secretary	☼	Recreation Leader
☼	Treasurer	☼	Senator

FAIR BOARD

The Fair Board is the policy making body of the Las Animas County Fair. It is comprised of 18 members. The Fair Board selects replacements and appoints them. Memberships are rotated on a four-year term; a member may serve more than two terms. The Fair Board meets bi-monthly.

LAS ANIMAS COUNTY 4-H FOUNDATION

This organization is comprised of business people and individuals interested in giving financial support to 4-H. A Board of Directors elected at their annual meeting runs the organization.

The purpose of the Las Animas County 4-H Foundation is to:

- * Raise funds for the Las Animas County 4-H Program.

The Las Animas County 4-H Foundation has a non-profit status. Major projects supported by the Las Animas County 4-H Foundation include Citizenship/Washington Focus Trip, State 4-H Conference, special trips, and county achievement recognition.

4-H RECORDS

Keeping necessary records is very important in life. 4-H has *two* major records that are kept by the youth.

1. The **project record** required for all projects.
2. The **Achievement Levels** are records that list all 4-H activities of a youth and can be used throughout a 4-H members career. This record is optional.

PROJECT RECORD

4-H Records are now in an electronic format. Records are a part of most 4-H projects. Records should be maintained as the project progresses rather than waiting until the end of the project and then completing the record. These records can be downloaded on our website: www.coop.ext.colostate.edu/lasanimas/ under the Program Area 4-H Youth Development. Youth can work on it online or print it off and complete the record by hand. If a hard copy or CD is needed contact the Extension Office.

- ★ Completed project records are required for all Exhibit Day entries.



Scholarships

High school and college students have access to many scholarships. These scholarships are published in the 4-H Newsletter, the Colorado State 4-H Awards Handbook and at the CSU Cooperative Extension Office.

- ◆ Most scholarships have specific requirements and submission dates.

Las Animas County offers three scholarships for its members who are seniors in high school.

1. Warren and Dorothy Taylor Scholarship

\$1,000

Requirements:

- Have a good academic record - 3.0 GPA
- Acceptance to an accredited post-secondary school or university
- Leadership and Citizenship Skills

2. Dave Lewis Memorial Scholarship

\$500

Requirements:

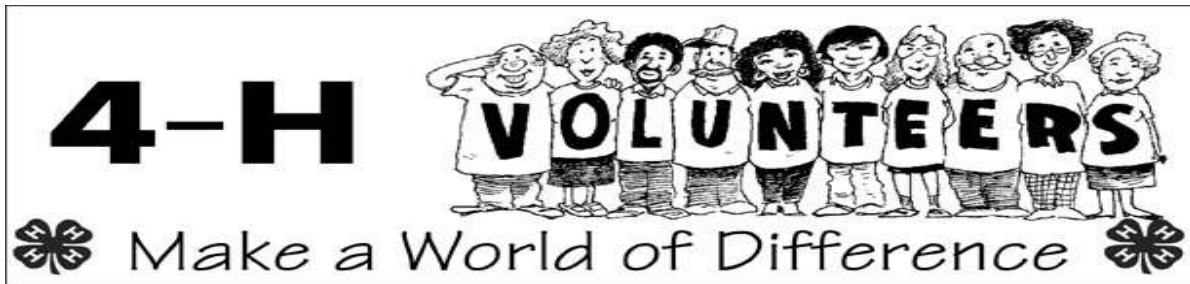
- Have a good academic record - 3.0 GPA
- Acceptance to an accredited post-secondary school or university
- Leadership and Citizenship Skills
- Exhibit Livestock at Fair

3. Sid Bayes Memorial Scholarship

\$1,000

Requirements:

- Open to Las Animas County 4-H members who are in good standing and have completed 4 years in 4-H.
- Recipients must attend a college or university with an accredited agriculture program.
- Grade point average of 3.0 or higher
- Evidence of being accepted by a college or university
- Citizenship/leadership/community service (in 4-H, school and community)
- Majoring in an agricultural field



LEADER OPPORTUNITIES

COUNTY

4-H is an educational program. It relies on the ability of leaders to teach. Each project has individual requirements many of which change periodically. One of the most important factors in the quality of project work is leader knowledge. A leader education program is offered in Las Animas County to orientate new leaders, to inform more experienced leaders of recent changes, and to offer information that helps leaders become more effective in their work with 4-H members.

STATE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

There are various opportunities for 4-H leaders to serve on a state development and planning committees.

- ♠ State Senator/Leader Meeting official chaperon
- ♠ State 4-H Conference

WESTERN REGIONAL LEADERS FORUM

Each spring, 4-H leaders from 13 western states have the opportunity to meet, learn and share new information about being a local leader and exchange concerns. The Western Regional 4-H Leaders Forum is planned and conducted by a hosting state in cooperation with National 4-H Council.

STATE WASHINGTON FOCUS

This is held in Washington, D.C. each July. Two 4-H leaders from throughout the state will be selected by application to chaperon 4-H delegates on the Washington Focus trip. Leaders in this program must be skilled in working with older youth. These programs also require an active person, long hours, and considerable walking

WESTERN 4-H ROUND UP - EIGHT STATES

Held in Denver, Colorado in January. One woman and one man 4-H leader from throughout the state will be selected by application to chaperon the Colorado delegation at the Western 4-H Round Up. Youth and leaders from eight Rocky Mountain States participate in this four day educational recognition event.

STATE LEADERS FORUM

The State Leaders Organization sponsors the State Leaders Forum. Its purpose is to provide training and an opportunity for idea exchange among leaders. It is a weekend event starting Friday night and lasting until Sunday. It is usually held in the fall rotating through the different districts in the state. Costs are kept low and are paid by the leaders unless the county provides financial support.



Youth Opportunities

The 4-H program offers many opportunities beyond the local club level. These opportunities reinforce the youth development in the areas of leadership, citizenship, responsibility, decision-making and teamwork.

COUNTY

The Las Animas County 4-H program encourages youth to participate in a variety of activities, events, and contests offered on the county level.

- ✧ The Las Animas County 4-H Council elects two senators to represent Las Animas County on the district and county levels.

DISTRICT

The state is divided into 13 4-H districts and sub-districts. Each sub-district elects officers. The 4-H district officers provide leadership for activities and events on the district and state levels. These include:

- * District Retreat held in the spring for 13 to 18 year old youth.
- * DARE to Be You Leadership Camp held in the winter for 11-13 year old youth.

STATE

The Colorado 4-H youth program provides activities and contests held where youth can be recognized for achievement and leadership.

- * The District President and Vice President become part of the state 4-H officer team, which works together to plan, conduct and evaluate events and activities of 4-H members statewide including such as Youth Fest.
- * The Las Animas County Senators and other youth attend Colorado State 4-H Conference and Leadership Development Conference.
- * The State 4-H Conference, held in June on the CSU campus, includes leadership development, educational workshops, social and recreational activities, horse judging, hippology, public speaking, demonstrations, livestock judging, and consumer choices.

- * The Colorado Leadership Conference is held to provide an opportunity for the State 4-H Senate to conduct business, exchange ideas, participate in educational activities and recognize members.
- * Las Animas County 4-H selects two youth to attend the State Citizenship/Washington Focus Trip.

NATIONAL

Opportunities available on the National level to 4-H youth include:

- * Western 4-H Round-Up - January
- * National 4-H Event - November/December
- * National 4-H Conference - April
- * Camp Miniwanca (a leadership camp) - Summer

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

These programs provide a chance to learn, appreciate, understand and evaluate one's culture and that of another individual. These programs instill positive, cross-cultural attitudes and skills that enhance mutual understanding and acceptance. They expand the opportunities for young people to experience global citizenship responsibilities in today's independent world.

- * Labo/Utrek Japanese Exchange (4-5 weeks)
- * Labo/Utrek Japanese Exchange (year long)
- * Japanese Intern Program (year long)
- * International 4-H Youth Exchange (6 months)
- * International 4-H Youth Exchange (4-6 weeks)





JUDGING PROGRAMS

The purpose of the Judging Program is to develop the individuals evaluation skills, ability to make decisions and give oral reasons to support those decisions. It promotes development of self-confidence, decision making, and speaking skills. Judging simulates the ability to think clearly and logically and present concise oral reasons with confidence and poise. Judging also teaches an appreciation for the opinions of others.

- To participate in a judging program, youth must be enrolled in a project.
- Las Animas County Judging Programs is Livestock.
- Practice sessions are open to all 4-H members regardless of project training.

For more information on Livestock Judging contact Dean Oatman.

JUNIOR CAMP

This event is designed for youth ages 9-12. Junior leaders provide workshops and activities during this overnight camp out. It is usually held in July.

DAY CAMP

This event is for members 5-8. 4-H Council officers provide leadership for this event. It is held during the month of June.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

The Achievement Program is provided to give recognition to 4-H members and 4-H leaders for their outstanding service and achievement levels. It is held in November each year.

Las Animas County Exhibit Day & Fair

The Las Animas County Exhibit Day and Fair provide a show place for projects of 4-H and FFA members. The 4-H Exhibit Day is held the first part of August and the Fair is held over Labor Day weekend. The Las Animas County Fair and Exhibit Day are organized according to the rules and schedules printed in the Las Animas County Fair Book. Members and Leaders should refer to the Las Animas County Fair Book as a resource for advising their members on preparing exhibits for Exhibit Day and County Fair.

- ▶▶ The Las Animas County Fair Board is the policy making body of the Las Animas County Exhibit Day and Fair.
- ▶▶ An entry form is to be submitted to the CSU Extension Office for each project being exhibited.
- ▶▶ The Danish and American Systems judge all exhibits. All exhibits receive a ribbon and are divided into blue, red and white ribbon groups according to quality.

STANDARDS FOR RIBBONS:

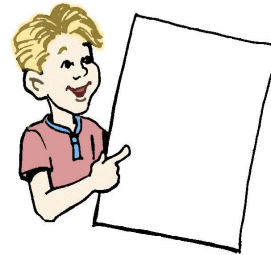
BLUE: Meets requirements
High quality

RED: Meets requirements
Average quality

WHITE: Exhibit does not meet all requirements
Exhibit is below standard quality
Improvement needed

- ▶▶ Only exhibits in the blue ribbon category are eligible for champion or better. All reserve champions or better are on the merit system and the judge determines merit.
- ▶▶ American System ribbons are awarded 1st through 4th place.
- ▶▶ Cloverbuds are encouraged to exhibit at the Las Animas County Fair. They are not in competition but receive a special participation ribbon.

Interview Judging



Interviews are conducted in the Home Economics and General Departments. Youth are given the opportunity to interact with the judge and learn more about evaluating their project.

Fashion Revue



It is held prior to Exhibit Day. Projects eligible for the Fashion Revue are clothing, quilting, knitting, crocheting and leathercraft.

State Events

COLORADO STATE FAIR

Each exhibitor or contest participant must have been designated at a county fair or competition before participating at the Colorado State Fair. Beef, swine and rabbits may be entered in a previous competition. The County Extension Agent must authorize all entries. Supplemental educational events held at the Colorado State Fair are:

- ‡ Dog Obedience and Showmanship
- ‡ Demonstration Contest
- ‡ Creative Cooks
- ‡ Cake Decorating
- ‡ Talent Contest
- ‡ Shooting Sports
- ‡ Model Rocket Fly Day
- ‡ Fashion Revue
- ‡ Livestock and Horse Shows
- ‡ Camp Tobin - the dormitories and dining hall are available to 4-H families during the Colorado State Fair at reasonable cost.

COLORADO STATE FAIR VOLUNTEERS

Teams of volunteers, agents and youth conduct all of the 4-H events held during the Colorado State Fair.

- ❖ Adult volunteers are needed for management and operation of events.
- ❖ Youth 14 years of age can apply to be a teen clerk, assisting in entering, judging and displaying projects.

STATE 4-H CONFERENCE

The State 4-H Conference is a four day annual event held on the CSU Campus in June. It is designed for 4-H members 14-19 years of age. This conference includes

- * Social activities
- * Workshops
- * State Judging Contests - Livestock, Horse Judging, Public Speaking, Demonstrations and Consumer Choices.

YOUTH FEST

The State 4-H Senate officer team plans and conducts a camp for 4-H members ages 9-13. The purpose is to involve youth in leadership training and keep them interested in 4-H. The youth attend workshops and social activities during the retreat. Chaperons are provided by each county for their delegates.

4-H CATCH-A-CALF CONTEST

The 4-H Catch-A-Calf Contest is held during the National Western Stock Show. Youth must be 4-H members between the ages of 12-19 and must apply. The steer calves are received in the spring and shown at the following National Western Stock Show. The project is judged on rate of gain, records and communication with sponsors.



Las Animas County



**New 4-H Member
Handbook**

