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2009 NYS 4-H HORSE PROGRAM A GREAT PROGRAM FOR YOUTH!!!

2008 was an interesting year, with many challenges and changes...but once again a busy year filled with great learning opportunities for youths involved in the NYS 4-H HORSE PROGRAM!! Last year approximately 7,396 youths were involved in the NYS 4-H Horse Program!! Youth are involved in almost every county in the state through the Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) system.

The NYS 4-H Horse Program is offered through the leadership of **outstanding Extension staff** in each county. **THANK YOU** to each of them for their continued support of this very **valuable youth education program!**

The Cornell Cooperative Extension office in every county relies heavily on volunteers to provide excellent educational programs. **THANK YOU** to all of the many volunteers and 4-H leaders, as well as parents who support this very positive youth development program. **“If it weren't for volunteers, there would be no 4-H Horse Program in New York State”!**

THANK YOU to all the members of the NYS 4-H Horse Education Committee (HEC), for providing leadership to the 4-H Horse Program.

SPECIAL THANKS to each of the **“Horse Show” Division Chairs** and the program support team for all of their hard work:

Chairs:

Western – Joe Schwartz

Saddle Seat – Maureen McCleary

Dressage – Judy Dennis

Gymkhana – Craig Todd

Cross Divisional – Bill Smith

Public Relations - Bob De Visser

Hunt Seat – Debie Brown-Moon

Driving - Roger Parulski

Minature Horse – Roger Parulski

Drill/Parade – Denise Parrotte

Media and Press – Deborah Saroff

Fund Raising – Nancy Harper

NYS Fair 4-H Horse Program Superintendent:

Robin Bartholomew

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to April Winslow, Terry Kinsman, Judy Sherwood, and Betsy Bartz who are constantly working behind the scenes. **Also THANK YOU** Linda Poppleton, the Department of Animal Science web site manager, for getting the **2009 NYS 4-H Horse Show Rule Book** posted to the web site at: <http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/4H/horses/index.html> Have another wonderful year!!

*Jeannie Griffiths
Extension Horse Specialist
Cornell University
March 2009*

REMEMBER

Please remember, as you work with the 4-H youth this year, that the program is about "kids" not about winning ribbons:

- * We are here to have FUN...if we do well besides, then we had more FUN!
- * If you don't want the judge's opinion, don't go through the gate.
- * You win some, you lose some, and some get rained out!
- * In 20 years from now is it going to make a difference?
- * Youth and Horses...a Natural Combination
- * Learning + FUN = Positive Self Esteem
- * Youth Development Through Positive Life Experiences

We believe that the NYS 4-H Horse Program can be a positive life experience for youth - PLEASE help make it happen!

*Jeannie Griffiths
Extension Horse Specialist
Cornell University
Department of Animal Science*

NYS 4-H HORSE PROGRAM **THEMES**

1993 - “*POSITIVE ATTITUDES*”

1994 - “*TEAM BUILDING*”

1995 - “*EXCELLENCE*”

1996 - “*COMMUNICATIONS AND COALITION BUILDING*”

1997 - “*LIGHTEN UP THE LOAD*”

1998 - “*EVALUATION*”

1999 - “*KEEPING THE FUN IN 4-H*”

2000 - “*MOVING FORWARD*”

2001 – “*I THINK WE’VE GOT IT!!*”

2002 – “*PRIORITIES*”

2003 – “*PERSEVERANCE*”

2004 – “*VOLUNTEERS ARE GREAT!!*”

2005 – “*LET’S KEEP THIS BOAT AFLOAT!*”

2006 – “*KEEP PRESSING FORWARD*”

2007 – “*RAISING THE BAR*”

2008 – “*RENEWED SPIRIT*”

2009 – “*LET THE GOOD SHINE THROUGH*”

*Jean T. Griffiths
Extension Horse Specialist
Cornell University
4-H Program Year - 2008-2009*

I - NEW YORK STATE 4-H HORSE EDUCATIONAL EVENT POLICY

The rules, regulations and procedures contained in this section of the manual represent a combination of the rules and policies derived from national and interstate 4-H education events modified only enough to reflect the philosophy of the New York State 4-H Horse Education Committee and its subcommittee membership.

The information contained in this manual has been designed to serve two functions. The primary function is that of representing a single source of rules, regulations and procedures for all Animal Science 4-H horse educational events conducted at the state level, in particular, the events conducted at the New York State Fair. The secondary purpose is that of providing a set of guidelines or suggestions to counties, districts and regions for their competitive events and to serve in a similar manner for non-4-H organizations and agencies in organizing and conducting events open to 4-H'ers and to which 4-H'ers are specifically invited. The information contained herein is subject to annual review. It is the responsibility of the users of this information to be sure that this manual is kept up to date. It is also the responsibility of each participant in these events, especially in state level events, to be knowledgeable of all aspects of the rules, regulations, and procedures governing the events in which they participate.