

# CLARKE COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

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The Clarke County 4-H Newsletter can now be found online at  
[http://msucares.com/counties/clarke\\_12/4h.html](http://msucares.com/counties/clarke_12/4h.html)

May 2009

Dear 4-Her's, Parents and Volunteers,

As spring rolls into full gear and it begins to feel more like summer, I know everyone is getting ready for horses shows, water sports and loads of other fun activities, but I hope everyone continues to be safe and have a wonderful time.

BJ McClenton

Extension 4-H Agent  
Clarke County



## The Perfect Horse

by Annamaria Tadlock  
<http://www.UltimateHorseSite.com>

**What is the Perfect Horse?** I think most of us have daydreamed of it-- images of a majestic black stallion with a flowing mane and tail, or golden palomino mare with a perfect blaze come to mind. But I don't think that is the Perfect Horse. I think the Perfect Horse is more like the one that I rode as a kid on a ranch, a horse that is less of a fantasy and more of a teacher and friend.

**The Perfect Horse isn't necessarily stunningly beautiful;** In fact, he's probably gotten a few scars and dings from life. He's probably been hurt but lived through it, been scared but overcome it, and ready to teach his rider to do the same.

**The Perfect Horse is not just arena-ridden.** He will let you feel what it's like to gallop into the ocean waves, chase a neighbor's cows, or play tag on horseback.

**The Perfect Horse will buck you off** when you deserve it, but wait patiently for you to get back on.

**The Perfect Horse has problems;** He will teach you to deal with them. The Perfect Horse knows that you can't learn to be a skilled horseman if everything goes your way.

**The Perfect Horse will challenge you,** but only as much as you are ready to handle. He will teach you that you still have more to learn.

**The Perfect Horse is tough;** He will gallop when he's too tired, jump obstacles that are too high, and go up hills that are too steep. He can handle the results of your ignorance or youth. He will make you, years later, look back and shake your head in amazement, and think, "I can't believe he did that for me".

**The Perfect Horse is not, however, a superhorse.** He may go lame or colic, or suffer from an abscess. He will teach you there is **more to horsemanship that just riding.**

**The Perfect Horse will forgive you when you make mistakes,** and expects you to do the same. He will try to ignore the tack that doesn't fit right, the confusing signals, and will do his best to please.

**The Perfect Horse will not live on air.** He will need food and water daily and a clean shelter to live in. He will teach you to work, but it will be worth it.

**The Perfect Horse may not be the prettiest or the fastest, but he has the most heart.** When he wins a ribbon, you know he really deserved it.

**The Perfect Horse loves a good carrot and a pat on the neck.** In fact, that is his greatest reward; A little treat, a little love, and appreciation is what the Perfect Horse lives for.

My Perfect Horse was-- and still is-- my little chestnut quarter horse, Quin, and I dedicate this essay to him. Your Perfect Horse may be different. He or she may be all of the above or not. He may be old or young, a pony or a draft horse. He may have more problems or more attributes. But if you're smiling, crying, or understanding as you read this, then chances are you too have known a Perfect Horse.

## **CLARKE COUNTY 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS**

*The Clarke County Shooting Sports team recently competed at the Southeast District Shooting Sports Tournament held April 25 in Biloxi, MS. Four Clarke County 4-Her's competed at the event and held a really strong showing. Cooper Thomas competed as a Junior I and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in 5M Air Pistol with a score of 199 and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 5M air Rifle with a score of 198. Zach Early competed as a Junior III and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the .22 Rifle, Open Sight division with a score of 212. Josh Rowell competed in the Junior II division and placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the .22 Rifle, Optical Sight division with a score of 236. Hunter Volking competed as a Junior III and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the .22 Rifle, Optical division with a score of 258. All of our shooters did an excellent job of representing the County as well as their respective disciplines. Please Congratulate these members on a job well done!*

### **State Invitational**

The **2009 4-H Shooting Sports State Invitational** will be held **July 17-18<sup>th</sup>** at the Law Enforcement Academy in Pearl. The **2009 4-H Shooting Sports Shotgun Invitational** will be held **July 24-25<sup>th</sup>** at the Starkville Gun Club in Starkville, MS.

### **Daisy/4-H Shooting Sport Scholarship**

Daisy is offering a scholarship to senior 4-Her's that have participated in 4-H Shooting sports for a minimum of 3 years. The application deadline is **May 15**. Contact me for an application and additional information.

## **PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT/ SCHOLARSHIPS**

### **Farm Bureau Scholarship**

Applications are available for the Young Farmers and Ranchers Scholarship. Applicants must be involved in agricultural studies and attend a Mississippi university or community college. **Additionally, applicants must be a member of Mississippi Farm Bureau or a member of a Mississippi Farm Bureau family and have completed at least one full year of college courses.**

**Attention Ladies:** Applications are available for the Berta Lee White Farm Bureau Scholarship that is designated for females entering an agricultural related field of study at a Mississippi university or community college. **Applicants must have completed at least one full year of college courses, be a member of Mississippi Farm Bureau or a member of a Mississippi Farm**

**Bureau family.** Contact me for applications. The deadline to apply is **June 1**.

### **Record Books**

Now is the time to start filling out your 4-H Record Books. Remember to include all 4-H work completed from **July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009**. If you start now, you will not have as much to do this summer. Call me to set up a time if you would like some help with your records. Record book forms can be found online at [http://msucare.com/4h\\_youth/4-hrecords/index.html](http://msucare.com/4h_youth/4-hrecords/index.html)

- Senior Records and Resumes (ages 15-18) and Volunteer Records are due **Tuesday, June 23**
- Junior/Intermediate Records (ages 8-14) and Club Records are due **Tuesday, July 14**

## **LIVESTOCK NEWS**

### **Making Tracks**

Making Tracks is a joint effort between the Mississippi State University Animal and Dairy Science Department; the Mississippi Cattlemen's Association and is sponsored by the Wax Seed Company. The three-day event is held annually during the summer on the MSU campus and includes workshops dealing with all aspects of the cattle industry, including reproduction, parliamentary procedure, and judging. This year's event will be held **June 15-17**.

### **SE District Livestock Judging Camp**

There will be a **Livestock Judging Camp just for youth in the SE District held August 4-6 at the Forrest County Multipurpose Center in Hattiesburg. The deadline to register is July 10. The cost to attend is \$40 for all 3 days, and lunch will be provided for all participants.**

Judging of goats, lambs, hogs, and cattle will be covered. There will be a judging contest and awards presents on the last day. Please contact me for more information and a registration form.

### **MSU Livestock Judging Camp**

The department of Animal and Dairy Sciences will be hosting a Livestock Judging Camp for students involved with judging team activities. The camp will begin the evening of **Monday, July 27** and run through **Wednesday, July 29**.

This will be a working camp focusing on cattle evaluation and oral reasons, but will also allow students to interact with MSU faculty members and fellow campers. The camp is open to 4-H and FFA members' **ages 14 to 18** that are interested in enhancing their judging and reason skills. The cost of the camp is \$85.00 and includes lodging, meals, activities, judging manual and t-shirt. It is limited to the first 50 applicants and registration is due May 19, 2009. For additional information contact me @ (601) 776-3951 or Ann Marie Leed, Livestock Judging Coach @ (662) 325-5208.

## **CLARKE COUNTY 4-H HORSE CLUB**

*The next horse club meeting will be Monday, May 4, at the Extension Office.*

### **Mustang Giveaway**

In June Gentle Mustang and Quantum Horseman will be giving away a gentled mustang to some lucky 4-H youngster. The horse will be absolutely free, no strings attached, as a way to showcase the American Mustang breed of horse. The recipient will be able to use the horse as a 4-H project, thus spreading the word about the usefulness and beauty of this breed. For more information go to [www.quantumhorseman.com](http://www.quantumhorseman.com).

### **Horse Bowl Team**

The Horse Bowl Team is currently holding practices in preparation for the District Horse

Show Competition in June. If there are any 4-Her's with a general knowledge, interest, or willingness to learn whatever they can about horses, feel free to come join the team. This is for any 4-H youth ages 8-18; this allows us to have a junior team (8-13) and senior team (14-18). If you are interested in participating please contact me.

### **Lincoln County 4-H Open Youth Horse Show**

The 4-H Horse Club in Lincoln County will be hosting a **Youth Horse Show on Saturday, May 9, at the Lincoln County Multipurpose Complex in Brookhaven beginning at 9:00 a.m.** The 2009 4-H Horse Shows Book will serve as the official rules for the show. Events will \$4 each.

**Pre-registration is due by Wednesday May 6, to Paige Zeigler, Lincoln County 4-H agent.** She can be reached at 601-469-4143 for more information.

### **NBHA Barrel Race**

Scott County 4-H is sponsoring a **NBHA Barrel Race on Saturday May 9, at the Scott County Forest Coliseum in forest beginning at 2:00 p.m.** Call Kristi Gibbs at 601-469-4143 for more information.

### **Horse Judging Workshop**

A horse judging workshop will be held on **Thursday, June 4, in Madison at Reunion Farms beginning at 9:00a.m.** Mr. Tom McBeath will be the instructor for the clinic, and lunch will be sponsored by Watson Quality Ford. The registration cost is **\$3.00 per participant**, and each person will need to bring his or her own chair to the workshop, as there is no seating available. Participants should also bring paper and a pen. Contact me if you are interested.

### **NBHA July Jamboree**

There will be a **NBHA Jamboree July 3-5 at the Lincoln County Multipurpose Complex in Brookhaven, as well as an MS05 NBHA shows on Saturday, July 4. Entries are due by June 15.** For more information contact Valerie Oglesby at (601) 757-0551.

### **AQHYA Non-Riding Opportunities**

The Mississippi Quarter Horse Youth Association would like to encourage youth to investigate the non-riding contest held at the AQHYA World Show in Oklahoma City. Check out [www.aqha.com](http://www.aqha.com) for all the contests, qualifications, and entry deadlines. Opportunities include horse judging, horse bowl, and different speech and demonstration competitions. If you have any questions, please contact Aprille Watts at [wattsaf@hotmail.com](mailto:wattsaf@hotmail.com).

### **Horse Day Camp**

Forrest County will once again be hosting the 4-H Horse Camp! The dates for the camp are June 2-4, 2009. It will be limited to the 30 participants. Registration is due May 15, 2009. Contact me for additional information.

### **Team Penning**

Perry County is hosting Team Penning Practices on every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday nights to get ready for the 4-H Horse Show Season. They are looking for 4-Her's, Parents, or Volunteers that would be interested in these practices. The cost would be \$10 per person. If you interested in participation contact me or Brittany Odum at (601) 964-3668. They will also be hosting a buckle series of horse shows throughout the summer with the addition of goat tying as a new event.

### **4-H Horse Shows**

The Southeast District Horse Show will be held **June 25-27** at the Lauderdale County Agri-Center in Meridian. The State 4-H Horse Show will be held July 8-12 in Jackson. The Regional 4-H Horse Show will be held **July 28-August 2** in Little Rock Arkansas. Mark your calendars now!

## **CAMPS/LEADERSHIP**

### **Conservation Camp**

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation Camps are a grand success! These intergenerational camps include parents and teachers, brothers and sisters, and even some grandparents. The minimum age for unaccompanied children is 10 and there is no age limit for parents or teachers. Camp is limited to 25 participants. The cost is \$275 per individual or \$225 per person in a family or group that includes at least one parent/guardian. This fee includes an intensive wildlife and fisheries experience, a t-shirt, lodging and meals, and transportation to various sites. Four residential camps will be hosted this summer. Each camp starts Sunday afternoon and ends at 1:00 P.M. Thursday afternoon after a wildlife dinner. You can register for these camps online at <http://msucares.com/wildfish/education/camp.html>

Conservation Camp I ~ May 31- June 4 ~ Basic Wetland Ecology and Outdoor Sports Camp

Entomology Camp ~ June 14-18 ~ Basic Insect and Plant Ecology Camp

Conservation Camp II ~ June 28- July 2 ~ Basic Upland Ecology and Outdoor Sports Camp

Advanced Concepts Camp ~ July 12-16 ~ Campers will be selected based on essay.

### **Natural Resources Camp**

A Natural Resources Camp will be held **June 7-11 on the campus of Mississippi State University in Starkville** for youth entering ninth grade or above. It will be a fun week, full of learning and new activities. There will be an archeological dig at Choctaw Lake. Monday will be spent at Dorman Lake, Tuesday at Noxubee Wildlife Refuge (campers will linger until dark for the astronomy session), Wednesday at Choctaw Lake in Tombigbee National Forest near Ackerman for fishing, a tree identification scavenger hunt and the dig, and Thursday campers will tour the animal pens and finish with a big graduation event and luncheon for them and their families. **The**

**cost per camper is \$150.** Contact me if you would like more information.

### **Young Guns Leadership Development Camp**

The young Guns Leadership Development camp is cutting edge programs at Mississippi State University that will help students develop personal character and leadership skills as they take charge of their life. The dates for camps this summer are:

Session	1:	June	15-20
Session	2:	June	22-27
Session	3:	July	13-18
Session	4:	July	20-25

Young Guns are an inspiring and life-changing adventure for rising high school seniors who have impeccable character, a keen sense of responsibility and willingness to work hard to achieve honorable goals. The unique, weeklong camp is a part of MSU's leadership continuum which seeks to build confidence, teach leadership skills, and create opportunities for people from all walks of life. The experience will equip students with the skills they need to become an enlightened and courageous leader capable of motivating others to do extraordinary things.

MSU partners with the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and the Riley center to develop this one-of-a-kind experience. This partnership will allow students to spend time not only on the MSU campus, but also on the Native American reservation in Choctaw, and at the conference center housed in the MSU Riley Center in Meridian. For more information, please visit <http://www.youngguns.msstate.edu/>

### **Expressive Arts and Technology Camp**

An Expressive arts and Technology Camp will be held **July 20-24 on the campus of Mississippi State University in Starkville** for 4-Her's ages 14 to 18. Possible tracks include drama, creative writing, art, clowning and music. **The cost will be \$250 per participant.** Please let me know if you are interested.

## **CONTESTS**

*4-H Contests are just around the corner. Start now thinking about the contests you may be interested in. If you would like to find out more about the many projects/contests in 4-H, give me a call.*

### **Mississippi 4-H Poster Art Contest**

The Mississippi 4-H Poster Art Program will be held again this year. The themes are: **4-H: Celebrating the Green and Open Theme** (this category allows 4-H members to create posters using their own theme). Posters are due on the first day of 4-H Congress; **May 26. Only one poster per 4-H member and there is not a category for team poster designs.** All 4-H posters will be placed in blue, red and white categories with the three most outstanding posters in junior and senior categories receiving cash prizes. Contact me for rules and regulations.

### **Dairy Poster Contest**

The dairy poster contest consists of preparing a poster (22" x 28") with a theme of milk and/ or milk products. Posters not on correct size poster board and not using the current year's theme will be disqualified. This year's theme is "Fuel Up with Dairy". These posters are due in the extension office by May 15, 2009. The first place in each division will move on to state competition. For a complete list of rules and regulations please contact the extension office. The winning posters will receive a special award sponsored by the Southeast United Dairy Industry Association

(SUDIA) and American Dairy Association of Mississippi and will be displayed at special events throughout the year.

### **Club Congress**

Club congress will be held **Tuesday-Friday, May 26-29** at Mississippi State University. For those of you that don't know this is for senior 4-Her's ages 14-18, that gives them an opportunity to display their skills. Now is the time to decide in which competitions you wish to participate in. There are many possibilities such as poultry judging, meats judging, clothing construction, share the fun talent show, linnaean games, forestry judging, tractor driving, visual presentations, consumer judging, and much, much, more. Also, there will be dance and other social activities... it is always a lot of fun! **Registration is Due by May 1<sup>st</sup>.** Please contact the office if you would like to attend.

### **District Project Achievement Day**

District Project Achievement Day will be held on **Tuesday, June 9** at North Forrest elementary school. Now is the time to start preparing. This is for junior 4-Her's ages 8-13. Mark your calendars! If you interested in this great event please contact the extension office to sign up for a contest by April 30.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 1	<b>SE District Horse Show Membership Deadline Ownership Deadline Ethics Certification Deadline</b>	June 1	<b>Horse Show Entries Due  Project Achievement Day Registration Deadline  Farm Bureau Scholarships Due</b>
May 2	Perry County 4-H Trade Day ~ Richton, MS  ATL Lamb Sale ~ Raleigh, MS  BASH Lamb Sale ~ Forest, MS  Layton/ Robertson Lamb Sale ~  Dean Club Lamb Sale ~ Hernando, MS	June 2-4  June 4  June 7-11	Forrest County 4-H Horse Day Camp ~ Forrest County Multi- Purpose Outdoor Arena  Horse Judging Workshop ~ Reunion Farms, Madison, MS  Natural Resources Camp ~ MSU
May 9	Strickland Show Lambs Production Sale ~ Raymond, MS  Stars and Stripes Brangus Sale ~ Raymond, MS  Lincoln County Open 4-H Youth Horse Show ~ Brookhaven, MS  NBHA Barrel Race ~ Forest, MS	<b>June 9</b>  June 14-18 June 15-17 June 23 <b>June 25-27</b>	<b>District Project Achievement Day ~ North Forrest Elementary, Hattiesburg, MS</b>  Entomology Camp ~ MSU  Making Tracks  Statewide Dairy Field Day  <b>SE District Horse Show ~ Meridian</b>
May 15	<b>4-H Horse Show Entry Registration</b>  <b>Daisy/4-H Scholarship Applications Due</b>  Forrest County 4-H Horse Day Camp Registration Due	June 28- July 2  July 3-5  <b>July 8-12</b>  <b>July 10</b>  July 12-16	Conservation Camp II ~ MSU Upland Ecosystems  NBHA July Jamboree ~ Brookhaven, MS  <b>State 4-H Horse Show ~ Jackson</b>  <b>Judging Camp Registration Due</b>  Advanced Concepts Camp ~ MSU Campers selected based on essay
May 19	MSU Livestock Judging Camp Registration Due	July 27- 29	MSU Livestock Judging Camp
May 26	4-H Poster Art Posters Due	July 28- August 2	Regional 4-H Horse Show ~ Little Rock, Arkansas
May 26-29	<b>State 4-H Club Congress ~ MSU</b>	August 4-6	SE District Livestock Judging Camp ~ Hattiesburg, MS
May 31- June 4	Conservation Camp I ~ MSU Wetlands and Aquatic Ecosystems		

**SOUTHEAST DISTRICT 4-H HORSE SHOW  
LAUDERDALE COUNTY  
LAUDERDALE COUNTY AGRI-CENTER  
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2009**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 25**

9:00 A.M. – Roping Classes (\$10.00 cattle charge)  
Goat Tying, Jr. 8-13 (\$5.00 cattle charge)  
Goat Tying, Sr. 14-18

**(Cattle charge will be \$10.00 to be paid at the time of entry, re-runs will be charged an additional \$10.00 at the time of the run.)**

12:00 NOON. - Jr. Horse Judging Contest (Lauderdale County Agri Center)

2:00 P.M. - Jr. Horse Bowl (USDA Building Conference Room)  
Followed by Jr. Public Speaking Contest and Jr. Horse Demonstration Contest

3:30 – 5:00 p.m. – Pony Measuring

**FRIDAY, JUNE 26**

8:30 – 10:00 A.M. – Receive Horse Art Entries (USDA Building Conference Room)

7:30 – 10:00 A.M. – Pony Measuring

8:30 A.M. – Show begins

**30 minutes after show concludes – Drill Team Performances**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 27**

7:30 – 10:00 A.M. – Pony Measuring

8:00 A.M. – 4-H Flag Ceremony – Bring county flag

Immediately following Flag Ceremony – Speed Event Classes

**Horse Art Schedule  
Friday, June 26, 2009**

8:30-10:00 Receive Horse Art entries (USDA Building Conference Room)

10:00 -1:00 Judging of entries

1:00-3:00 Entries open to Public

3:00-4:30 Check out entries

**The Extension Agent or one volunteer from each county can drop off art work and pick it up. Please make arrangements to have all art work from each county dropped off by one person and picked up by one person. Artwork will not be taken if separate from the county.**

**\*\*If your county Horse Club is entering the T-shirt Contest please submit one T-shirt with the County name attached during Horse Art Check in.**