

Bridle Bunch

June Newsletter

Up, Up and Away at Hendricks County Fair 2008

This year's theme is Up, Up and Away and we'd like to have the best looking barn. So get out that poster board and those crayons and honor our four legged friends with stall decorations. It's a fun way to show how our horses enrich our lives

Stall Requests

Included with this newsletter is the stall request form. If you will be bringing horses to the fair, please fill this out and turn it in. You can turn it in one of four ways: at the next meeting (June 26th), at the Extension Office (Monday through Friday 7:30 – 4), mail it to the Extension Office (P.O. Box 7, Danville, IN 46122) or mail it directly to Julie (363 East CR 500 N, Pittsboro, IN 46167). However you get it turned in, please have it in by July 1st (note deadline extended). We ask for this so we can assign stalls for fair. This helps us spread the horses out in the barn, helps put people who share tack together and make sure we can plan for tack stalls. Please be realistic and only sign up for the horses you will actually bring.

June Meeting

Much of the June meeting will talk about fair issues. We'll talk about versatility, barn procedures, and provide other helpful information. It will be especially important for people that this is their first experience with the fair.

Book signing

Book signings will be held in conjunction with the open arenas in July. The dates for book signing are: Horse & Pony leaders will be able to sign off on all of your books. Also, if you are in a township club, those leaders can sign off on your Horse & Pony book. Remember that seven activities each year are required. This is set by the 4H guidelines and it even tells this in the book. Please be sure that you have marked in the front with the date and your helper's initials those activities that you completed since last fair. This helps make the book signing process go quicker.

4H Only Show

This year's show will be held on July 5th starting at 8 am. This show has classes much like the county fair classes and the judge will provide helpful tips and suggestions for things to work on before fair. We will also award 8 high point awards during the county fair for results from

this show. The categories are Western, Hunt Seat, Saddle Seat, Contesting, Grade 3-5, Grade 6-7, Grade 8-9, and Grade 10 & above.

Sponsorships

We are still collecting sponsorships for county fair classes. Last year we spent over \$3000 on trophies and banners. When the club changed the plaques to recognize 1st through 3rd place as well as award the championship banners, the cost for these awards more than doubled. The Horse & Pony Committee has done a wonderful job of mailing requests to businesses to ask for help. Now it's your turn to help out. All sponsorships need to be turned in by July 11th. Information is available on the Bridle Bunch website. Members also receive participation points for getting sponsorships.

Participation Points

Don't forget that you can turn in showbills from open and breed shows that you attend. Just have the show manager or secretary sign a copy of the showbill and turn it in. Also, don't forget to turn in your ticket from Hooser Horse Fair. Put your name on the back and turn it in for credit. Members are competing against themselves to achieve their desired award level.

Club Treasury

We still have a few people who owe for geraniums, shirts, dues and camps. Please be sure you turn in all money as soon as possible. The club is for all members and it's only fair that everyone settles up. The money left at the end of the year is what is used for year-end awards and to start the club out next year.

Your Help is needed

With the 4H Only show coming up and the County Fair, we still need members and parents to volunteer to help. We ask that everyone take a turn helping at one of the events. Parents, we all have children showing so we ask that you try to find a time when your child is not showing to help out. That will allow other parents to also enjoy watching their kids show. Together, we can all enjoy the show and support the kids. One suggestion is that you try to help on County Fair days when your child is not showing; example, if the Junior parents/kids help on Senior days and the Senior parents/kids help on Junior days, we can all enjoy the show and support the club. We really appreciate all of those that have stepped up and helped out. If interested, please let a leadership team member, a committee member or Julie know and we'll get you plugged in. Thanks again to

those that have already stepped up.

State Fair Entry

Deadline for regular state fair entry is July 1st which is just around the corner. A note from Dr. Colleen Brady at Purdue states "Reminder – For the 2008 State Fair Horse and Pony Show, exhibitors will be required to present the yellow copy of their enrollment form when they check-in. They will not receive a stall assignment, or their number, without it. This is not a new policy, but we will begin enforcing it more closely. Please help get the word out to the potential exhibitors." On the last day of the fair, from 2-3:30 p.m. Scott Foster, Extension Educator for Hendricks County, will be signing yellow copies for livestock members wishing to participate in the State Fair. If it's convenient for H&P members to get their forms from at that time (in fair office), they will be made available. His other suggestion is that H&P members pick them up during fair week from the office. Please be sure and get your yellow copy.