

# 4-H teens learn importance of Columbia River ports



Top row from left: Swayne Evans, Garl Martin III, Travis Harrison, Kevin Huges, Jennifer Rill, Patty Altizer.

Middle row: Mike Van Schoiack, Susan Plocharsky, Shannon McLaughlin, Nance Wright, Billy Ammons  
Front row: Benji Pearson, Jill Nelson, Katie Doherty.

Morrow County 4-H teens, Jill Nelson, Derek Hoefft, Amy Hobbs, Gibb Evans, Swayne Evans, and Jennifer Rill are in the midst of an educational exchange with 4-H teens in Portland. The purpose is to create an awareness of the importance of the Columbia River and the Port of Portland in moving Morrow County products to markets throughout the USA and the world, according to OSU Extension Agent Steve Campbell.

Portland teens coming to Morrow County will gain an appreciation for the cost, in terms of dollars and time, associated with the production of various products. They will also be involved in the harvest, storage, and transportation of local agricultural products.

Betty Morrison, OSU Extension Agent in Multnomah County conceived the idea and chose Morrow County due to its well-developed and diversified port. She then contacted Steve Campbell in Morrow County and the year-long process of organizing was initiated.

The first leg of the exchange was conducted July 28-31 when the six 4-H'ers, Heppner Mayor Cara Costa, and Steve Campbell were hosted in Portland. They spent half a day with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and learned what is involved in keeping the river open to ocean traffic to Portland. They rode a survey vessel making depth surveys on the channel and observed how the computer sorts and plots the information.

The Maritime Museum put on a special program for the group detailing the history of commerce on

the river. Entitled, "When the River was a Road," it was very informative and provided a useful link between past development and present use of the river.

The highpoint of the trip was a visit to Columbia Grain Inc. (a solely owned subsidiary of a Japanese trading company) and a visit to a Korean bulk cargo ship which was loading Northwest wheat for export. The 223 meter, 44,000 ton vessel is capable of moving 48,500 tons of grain to Asia in one trip. The 4-H'ers were impressed with both the size of the vessel and the spotless condition of the interior and exterior.

The trip was culminated with a three-hour experience at the sailing school where they learned to sail a boat.

The local 4-H'ers will return the hospitality they received by hosting the Multnomah County group in Morrow County August 4-6.

## Premium Books still available

Extra premium books may be picked up at the Fair Office, the Extension Office, the Heppner Gazette-Times in Heppner. In Ione, contact Bill Broderick for a copy. Irrigon residents may pick up a copy of the Premium Book at the county office building. Books are also available at The Enterprise newspaper office next to the post office in Boardman.

It is important that anyone who plans to enter an exhibit has a premium book so that the exhibit can be entered at the proper time and in the correct department and division.

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