



Jean Brazell, Lexington, serving on State 4-H Advisory Committee, discusses activity with Barb Sawyer, 4-H specialist.

Local Leaders On State Committees

When the role is called at the state 4-H Development committees this spring, many leaders from Morrow County will be there. Recently appointed to state committees are Geri Grieb, Gladys Hobbs, Nancy Miller, Rolinda Meakins, and Benji Pearson.

Jean and Kathleen Brazell, Lexington, will complete terms on the state advisory committee, but Benji Pearson, Heppner, will assume a youth representative position on the committee.

The livestock development committee will benefit from Grieb's expertise with livestock. She is familiar with livestock from the vantage point of experience with the family Angus herd as well as ten years as a 4-H member and a degree from OSU prior to becoming a 4-H leader.

Camping has always been a favorite activity of Gladys Hobbs, Irrigon. She volunteered as camp cook for many years and filled other roles at Morrow's 4-H Camp. A busy, retired educator, Hobbs now will become a part of the committee that works to promote and improve camping experiences for all Oregon 4-H members.

Selection of Oregon 4-H Ambassadors, National Award winners, scholarship recipients, as well as reviewing awards and recognition program statewide will be the responsibility of Nancy Miller, Ione, as a member of Recognition and Awards Committee. Miller also has a background of 4-H membership having excelled in both Horse and Home Economics programs as a 4-H'er in Gilliam County. She currently provides leadership for a foods club.

Rolinda Meakin, Irrigon has ideas to share as a new member on State Horse Development Committee. Presently a horse club leader, she is a ten year 4-H'er from Sherman County, now residing in Irrigon.

In addition to volunteers serving on state development committees, Bill Broderick fills an agent position on Horse Committee, and Birdine Tullis on Home Economics.

Committees meet twice yearly. Those serving on state level benefit from association and work with other leaders, county and state staff from all areas of Oregon, while providing their ideas and input that keeps youth programs on target to needs of modern youth.

4-H To Alaska

North to Alaska is the motto of a group of 4-H'ers and their chaperones that are headed to Alaska this summer. This is an exchange and we will be hosting some Alaskan 4-H'ers next summer. The 4-H'ers that are going to venture north are Nance Wright, Nikki Brisbois, Trish Coe, Benji Pearson, Casey Pedro, Libby Britt, Brandon Pedro, Scott Johnson, and Cory Rill.

Judy Wright and Angie Pedro will be the chaperones for this summer's tour. This kind of experience can't happen without the hard work and dedication of the leaders. This is Judy's second trip with 4-H'ers to Alaska. Morrow County's youth are extremely fortunate to have leaders with this kind of dedication. This is Angie's first trip with the Alaskan exchange and if she has as much fun as the last group, it won't be her last trip.



Pictured above, (l to r) 4-H leader, Judy Wright; teen leader, Benji Pearson; and junior leader, Nance Wright look over schedule of events at recent State 4-H Leader Conference at Corvallis. Twelve leaders attended from Morrow County.

Locals Attend Oregon Leaders Forum

"Reach out, You're Special" was the theme of the Oregon Leader's Forum held in Corvallis this year.

Twelve 4-H leaders and junior leaders from Morrow County were able to attend. The Junior Leaders who participated were Kathleen Brazell, Carmen Britt, Debi Driver, Benji Pearson and Nance Wright.

The Adult Leaders included were Jean Brazell, Gladys Hobbs, Lynnea Meakin, Chloe Pearson, Ann Spicer and Judy Wright.

Oregon 4-H'ers Learn Knowledge, Skills

Oregon 4-H members are learning basic information about raising and caring for animals while developing skills they will use throughout their lives.

That's what Barbara Sawyer, OSU Extension 4-H youth specialist, found from a survey of young people enrolled in 4-H beef, sheep and swine projects.

"From their answers, we know that 4-H is doing what we say it does," she noted. "For years we have said that 4-H transfers specific knowledge from OSU to the 4-H member, allows young people to build on experience, and contributes to development of such life skills as a sense of responsibility and how to make decisions. Now we know it really does happen."

The 4-H'ers said they learned most about fitting and showing animals. Care and feeding of their animals was the next highest category of learning. Young people learned about choosing proper equipment, designing feed programs and about caring for animals under various weather conditions. Another topic high in learning dealt with keeping proper cost records.

Sawyer also looked at how 4-H'ers were learning to accept responsibility, make decisions, communicate effectively, get along with others, and develop leadership.

As might be expected, she found greater learning in these areas among intermediate and senior members. However, all three age groups ranked accepting responsibility high.

As members gain experience through accepting responsibility, they tend to develop more confidence in their decision making skills, which ranked second. More than 80 percent had participated in judging contests and 80 percent said they had designed feeding programs.

Leadership experiences reflected the tenure of the 4-H member "which isn't surprising," Sawyer noted. For instance 32 percent of the juniors said they had been 4-H club officers in contrast to 81 percent of the seniors.

In all, 61 percent had been club officers, 33 percent had been junior 4-H leaders and 12 percent were teen leaders.

While acknowledging the importance of animal science knowledge, intermediates and seniors also stressed the importance of life skills in their responses when asked for comments. One member summed it up this way: "4-H is relaxed education; people learn in a way that's fun".

4-H'ers To Tour OMSI

Morrow County 4-H has a very ambitious weekend planned for May 14 and 15 for any 4-H member who would like to participate.

The weekend will begin very early Saturday morning arriving at OMSI. Saturday will be full of touring OMSI, Forest Center and the Portland Zoo. From Portland the group will head to Salem to the State 4-H Center, for dinner and the night.

Sunday events will include a nature hike to view the many different types of trees around the 4-H Center.

If possible, a short tour around the State Capitol will be included Sunday, before returning home.

There will be a cost for the trip of approximately \$25. 4-H'ers interested in this weekend, please call the Extension office at 676-9642 and reserve a place on the bus. Call early to guarantee a place for you!