

# South Regional Email Blast

sent Oct 14, 2015

Good day and Happy Thanksgiving weekend to each of you! Think colors of orange, and red, and brown..... but never forget GREEN!!!!!!

As promised, here is the mid- October email blast to give you more information going into the new club year! And it is shorter. If you missed receiving the last email blast – especially new leaders – please let me know and I will forward it to you.

I have updated this recipient list and will continue to do so, during the registration of clubs, and change of some club leader contacts. IF your club is in transition and you are an outgoing leader club contact, **please forward** this email to the new leader, and let me know of the transition that is happening. It is a work in progress to ensure that the email list is most up to date.

**Thank you all leaders**, experienced and new, for all that you have done or do and will continue to do for our great program in this Southern 4-H region! If you ever need assistance, please contact your district key leader or give me a call.

A few items are recapped, some updated, and some new, so please review and pass along to your club members, leaders and families.

This email is being sent to: 2014-2015 South 4-H Region club leader contacts (or any 2015-2016 leaders if I have been already advised of the change), 2015-2016 key leaders, district and regional council representatives and committee chairpersons. Plus a few others who have requested a copy. It will also be available on the South pages on the 4-H website [www.4h.ab.ca](http://www.4h.ab.ca) soon. Check this site out for copies of all Regional Council meeting minutes, various committee meeting minutes, application forms for South region events and everything you want to know about 4-H!

PLEASE SHARE THIS AND ALL EMAIL BLASTS WITH YOUR CLUB MEMBERS, LEADERS and families and anyone else you think may be interested in this information. Note that there are several attachments, that may be of interest to different people within our region. I hope that you can find at least one thing that is of interest and value to you through this email blast. THANK YOU to those who take the time to read and share these email blasts. Please also check out the 4-H website calendar for application forms and information, speak with Club and Key Leaders, your council representatives, or feel free to call or email me. Together we can accomplish great things!

1. A final reminder of a great Regional event coming up soon!  
please share this with your club and invite all new and returning members and families to the **Annual Regional Celebration and Learning Day – at the Taber Community Center on Saturday, October 17th** .

The afternoon of **Learning and Fun Sessions Plus SWIMMING** starts at 1pm. Doors open for dinner at 5:30 pm, with Recognition of our volunteer Leaders, Friends of 4-H and Members who have achieved success during the 2014-2015 year at Regional events (Communications, Judging, Horse Record Book etc.) and Provincial recognition at Selections, plus presentation of certificates to our 2014-2015 Regional Scholarship recipients. ALL OF THIS IS FREE!!!! NO CHARGE!! Attached is a list of the leaders who will be receiving recognition for key years of volunteering. Congratulations and thank you to each of them, plus many more who are in different years of leadership – you are all greatly appreciated!

A great meal, lots of great socialization and learning opportunities and the biggest Regional event that we have!! Please let me know if you will be coming for supper by October 8th so that we ensure sufficient food. SEE YOU THERE!!

**2. Provincial Equine Train the Trainers Clinic – November 7 & 8, 2015 at the Bull Pen, Thorlakson's Feedyard east of Airdrie**

Instructed by Muffy Knox, this weekend clinic will give leaders from across Alberta the opportunity to develop their skills in training Levels 1-3 of the Horsemanship Project.

Participation can include riding or observing. The first 12 - 15 who indicate they would like to ride will get the chance, some experience required (if stalling is required, a fee of \$30 per day will be added)

More details will follow. Cost will be around \$50 per participant with stalling costs at \$30 per night.

**Contact Andrea Church @ 403-948-8501 for further information.**

3. 4-H Alberta is offering the **Standardbred 4-H project** again. Check out Track Day at Century Downs on Sunday, October 25th. In addition, if you know of a 4-H member 12 years or older, in horsemanship levels 4-7 and who is looking for a new challenge, the Standardbred 4-H project may just be the answer. Please pass this information on to any member who may be interested. The application form is also attached and the deadline for submission has been extended to Wednesday, October 14th.

Successful applicants to the Standardbred 4-H Project will be matched with a Standardbred breeder late in the fall of 2015 . The breeder and the member will arrange for a weanling to be delivered to the farm or acreage

where the weanling will remain until the ASHA Yearling Sale is held in the fall of 2016.

During the project period (9-10 months) the member will learn how to responsibly care for, feed, manage health requirements and the economics of raising a horse.

Expenses, growth, and special conditions of the yearling will be regularly reported, with an open line of communication between the breeder and the member being encouraged throughout the project's durations.

With this project, the members will gain valuable knowledge and expertise relating to raising a Standardbred yearling. The member will receive support, leadership, information and advice throughout the project.

The Standardbred Project culminates at the 4-H member's Achievement Activity and then at the sale of the yearling at the ASHA Yearling Sale.

For more information about this exciting program please contact:

Lee Carothers

4-H Volunteer

403-574-3761

[leora@butchthecat.com](mailto:leora@butchthecat.com)

4. **4-H Canada News!** Please check out their website anytime, for lots of things on the go – [www.4-h-canada.ca](http://www.4-h-canada.ca)
- a. 4-H Canada is excited to announce the launch of the **4-H Canada Science Fair!** You can get more information at [4-h-canada.ca/sciencefair](http://4-h-canada.ca/sciencefair). You will also find attached to this email the 4-H Canada Science Fair poster. (\*French materials are available upon request, or at [4-h-canada.ca/fr/expo-sciences](http://4-h-canada.ca/fr/expo-sciences) in the coming weeks.)

The contest is open to 4-H members, in Grade 7 – Grade 12 (or Grade 7 – CEGEP 2 in Quebec), and you can work individually or as partners. If you are no longer in school, we encourage you to spread the word, and share this opportunity with eligible 4-H members!

The first round starts September 1, and is a Virtual Round, meaning that members across Canada can submit their projects digitally until the deadline: December 15, 2015. Winners of the Virtual Round will attend the 4-H Canada Science Fair, being held at Dalhousie University Agricultural Campus in Truro, Nova Scotia, March 3-6, 2016. Winners of that round will move on to compete at the Canada-Wide Science Festival, in Montreal, Quebec.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to spark your passion for science, get messy, and cultivate your curiosity about how things work!

**b. Careers on the Grow**

Careers on the Grow is a great program with inspiring work placements and mentorship opportunities to grow from.

4-H'ers can have the opportunity to engage in hands on learning, develop skills, network with business and community leaders, and discover career options. Applications are open now and close November 30, 2015.

Learn more at [www.4-h-canada.ca/careersonthegrow](http://www.4-h-canada.ca/careersonthegrow)

**c. National Volunteer Leader of the Year Award**

Volunteer leaders are the lifeblood of 4-H Canada. 4-H'ers, show them your appreciation and nominate your leader for the prestigious National Volunteer Leader of the Year Award.

The winning leader from every province will receive a \$100 cash prize, as well as the chance to be chosen as 4-H Canada's National Volunteer Leader of the Year.

New this year, each provincial winner will win a pizza party for their club!

Nominations are open now until January 31, 2016, so nominate your leader today at [www.4-h-canada.ca/nvly](http://www.4-h-canada.ca/nvly).

5. That's a good way to remind you all of

**4-H Show Your Colours Day is November 4th.** Attached is a poster if you wish to hang it in your community, or school. Remember to **WEAR GREEN!!!**

6. Mark your calendar's for the **South Region's upcoming 1<sup>st</sup> ever Consumer Decision Making Workshop and Competition – Saturday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at the Vauxhall Elementary School. Registration will be at 9:30 am** with the workshop to follow, and then try your hand at a competition!

We are planning for different workshop groups – for members who already judge and just need the basics of the differences between Judging and Consumer Decision Making, for those who may be quite knowledgeable already and for those who are new to Judging AND Consumer Decision Making.

This is an exciting NEW EVENT for the South, which involves NO ANIMALS for those who may have allergies or are involved in projects other than livestock projects. Other regions are taking this on, very successfully and there may be a chance to add to the Provincial Judging event for Senior members, offering new and exciting opportunities to compete at other competitions including Denver!

Come out and give it a try!!!! A big thank you to Committee chairperson Clancy Holthe and to 4-H Regional Specialist (Northwest Region) for leading this event.

7. Leaders - Start thinking about attending a really great event with lots of mingling and learning opportunities!! And did I mention FUN?!?!?!?!? Join over 250 other 4-H leaders from Alberta, Montana, plus many other Canadian provinces at the **73rd Annual 4-H Alberta Leaders Conference 2016 - January 15 - 17, 2016 Radisson Hotel, Edmonton, Alberta**

**On-line registration begins October 15th**

Registration Deadline is December 5th

8. **Communications 2016.** This is a REALLY big part of everyone's life in 4-H – at the club, district and regional levels!
- I was asked to again provide the form that assists committees at every level, when working with a school, arena or other facility – rented or free. Attached is the form that can help make certain everyone is on the same page – no pun intended – to make certain everyone leaves a great impression after the event is over.
  - As a heads up – **2016 Regional Communications will take place on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016.** The location is just being finalized. **This year's districts** that are responsible for looking after the event are:

**Host District – Taber**

**Junior Public Speaking – Newell**

**Intermediate Public Speaking – Cactus Country**

**Senior Public Speaking – 40 Mile**

**Presentations – Warner**

More information will be forthcoming, but **please forward the name of your District contact person as soon as possible to Ginny.**

9. **Farming Smarter Conference and 4-H Auction – December 8 and 9 at the Coast Hotel in Lethbridge.** This conference features some of our top Southern 4-H Region speakers, each day after lunch. It should make everyone very proud to know that our 4-H speakers have always rated as one of the top segments of the conference! Our future is in good hands!

We in the Southern 4-H Region are very fortunate that Farming Smarter holds a Silent Auction throughout the conference, with all proceeds going to the Southern 4-H Region! In past, these funds have supported our Annual Regional Judging Competitions, multiple livestock events and most recently, two Southern 4-H Regional Scholarships. **Please help out by using the attached letter and seeking some auction items,** plus if you are in the neighborhood, stop by the conference to write down a bid or two.

And parents and leaders - if you wish to attend the very popular and educational Farming Smarter conference, please check it out and register: <http://www.farmingsmarter.com/events/farming-smarter-conference-2015/>

10. **District Councils**

- We have yet to receive any form of **district sponsorship application form** or process from the 4-H Foundation as they are currently updating their forms. In anticipation that they will be coming soon, please prepare and send your program plan, budget for the year, and meeting minutes to the Regional office as done in past years, **by December 1<sup>st</sup>.**
- Key members** – Please let me know as soon as possible who your 2015-2016 Key members are. Some have already attended Key Member training the end of August, but I just want to make certain I have a complete and accurate list. These are very helpful members in educating other members and clubs in all of the great things in 4-H. Many thanks for your help.

11. **Regional and District dates** – Please check with your district and regional committees to confirm all dates.

- Districts** – please **send me your dates** as soon as possible so that they can be added to the calendar and information can be added to the website to help advertise your events.
- For **Regional events - VOLUNTEERS WANTED!!** If you are interested in being part of any Regional event committee, please remember that you do not have to attend Council meetings – your participation and involvement would be very welcome and greatly appreciated! Please contact your district council representative, district key leader or give Ginny a call so that she can connect you with the committee chairperson.

In particular at this time, we are in need of a person, persons or committee to **lead 2016 Snowfest.**

October	9, 2015	Friday	Lethbridge District	Fall Fun Day
october	14, 2015	Wednesday	Willow Creek District	District meeting, 7 pm, Lutheran Church
<b>October</b>	<b>17, 2015</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Regional</b>	<b>Southern 4-H Regional Learning Day and Celebration,</b>
October	21, 2015	Wednesday	Cactus Country	Norm Payne Competition
October	29, 2015	Thursday	Cactus Country	Elkwater Camp Committee Meeting
October	29. 2015	Thursday	Cactus Country	Cactus Country District Meeting @7pm
November	6, 2015	Friday	Lethbridge District	Executive Workshop, New Parent Night, Leader 1 & 2 T
<b>November</b>	<b>17, 2015</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Regional</b>	<b>Southern 4-H Regional Horse committee meeting</b>
November	16, 2015	Monday	Warner District	District Meeting @ Warner School 7:00pm
November	21, 2015	Saturday	Cactus Country	District Colour Night @ Seven Persons Hall
November	14 or 28, 2015	Saturday	Cactus Country	District Learning Day
November	14 or 28, 2015	Saturday	Cactus Country	UFA 4-H College
November	28, 2015	Saturday	Lethbridge District	Public Speaking Workshop, District Christmas Dance
<b>November</b>	<b>28, 2015</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Regional</b>	<b>Southern 4-H Regional Consumer Decision Making - V</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>5, 2015</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Regional</b>	<b>Southern 4-H Regional Council meeting, 10am Lethbri</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>8 &amp; 9, 2015</b>	<b>Tuesday &amp; Wednesday</b>		<b>Farming Smarter Conference - Lethbridge Coast Confe each day, 4-H benefit auction</b>

The 4-H Branch of Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD), Government of Alberta, collects your email address to be used to send to you regional and provincial newsletters, promotional information, event notifications and other information about 4-H Alberta. Please respond to this email address with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line if you do NOT wish to continue to receive this information.

## Ginny Smith

4-H Specialist - Southern Region

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry  
4-H Branch  
100, 5401 - 1st Avenue South  
Lethbridge, AB T1J 4V6  
phone: 403-381-5815 fax: 403-382-4526  
email: [ginny.smith@gov.ab.ca](mailto:ginny.smith@gov.ab.ca)

*Live Life Like Someone Left The Gate Open.....*

Life's lesson from an equestrian point of view:

*"There are only 2 emotions that belong in the saddle - one is a sense of humor, the other is patience" - John Lyons*