

Fall 2016 Montana 4-H Ambassador Newsletter

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2016-2017 Ambassador Officer Team

CONTACT YOUR STATE OFFICERS! THEY WILL ANSWER QUESTIONS YOU HAVE AND COME WORK WITH YOU IN YOUR COUNTY!

The Montana 4-H State Ambassador Officer Team is selected each year through an application and interview process to serve and promote Montana 4-H across the state. Contact any of the state ambassadors or advisors to come and do a workshop, assist with an event, answer 4-H questions, or provide leadership to your county ambassadors and members. We are here to serve you!



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Meet the 2016-2017 Ambassador Officer Team

Watson Snyder, President



As a 4th generation Montana rancher, much of who I am comes from the love of the land and the people that care for it. I am 17, youngest of four and a junior at Choteau High School. I have been raised on the Rocky Mountain front on a small acreage that allowed me

the ability to raise animals and learn the basics of animal husbandry. Since we raise sheep, market lamb has been my main livestock project throughout my 4-H years.

I am happiest when I am creating something with my hands or doing something productive. Doing leather projects and woodworking has been a great part of 4-H. They have also been a great help to the family outfitting business.

My very first demonstration was about the parts of a bow. 4-H demonstrations helped me be able to organize my thoughts clearly and overcome the fear of speaking in front of others.

Other projects I have taken are photography, mechanics, robotics, and poultry.

4-H camp was a favorite summer event when I was young and now I feel a responsibility to give back as a counselor by making camp fun for younger members.

Music is a very big part of my life. I have been playing the violin since I was four and there is never enough time for music.

I enjoy being a part of a local church and the youth group and am challenged to live my faith serving others. Life is too short to be able to do everything I want to do.

Jessica Horan, Publicity Chair



Hi everyone! I am 17 years old and a senior at the small class C school of Moore Public School. I'm an eight year member of the Silver Spurs 4-H Club. Growing up on a cattle ranch in the shadow of the Snowy Mountains, I've grown to love

animals and hard work. Knowing this information, it's no surprise my favorite project in 4-H is the horse project (specifically the colt to maturity project) and the close second is my beef project. I've thoroughly enjoyed not only learning to care for and train these animals, but also showing the animals and forging friendships that I would've never formed otherwise. My other projects include veterinary science, dog, and teen leadership. All of my projects have inspired me to

pursue a career involving both animals and people as a veterinarian or equine therapist. As a young 4-H member, I looked up to my 4-H camp counselors and older members who mentored me and helped instill in me a passion for 4-H. I feel the need to give back the same level of commitment that they gave to me. Not only the have the people in 4-H inspired me, but 4-H has also given me numerous opportunities to work on my public speaking skills and learn to communicate with all ages of people--both are important skills to have.

Apart from 4-H and my passion for animals, music is a huge part of who I am; I've played the piano for 12 years and have played guitar in my church's praise band for the past 5 years. If I have a spare moment, music fills it. I love basketball and volleyball as well; due to injuries, I can no longer play, but I student coach the junior high teams in both sports.

I've really enjoyed 4-H and all the people I've met through it. I can't wait to meet more of you this year and give back a portion of what 4-H has given me!

Katey Sutton, 4-H Council Representative



Hi! I am Katey Sutton from Beaverhead County. I am proud to serve as your 2016-2017 Montana 4-H Council Representative. This is my tenth year in the Beaverhead Stock 'N' Stitch 4-H club. I am currently a senior at Lima High School. Through my experiences in 4-H, I have

learned more about myself and working with others than any other club or organization has taught me. I have been involved in Beaverhead County 4-H for as long as I can remember, showing my first rabbit at the age of five, trying my best to keep up with my two older brothers.

Beyond my 4-H involvement, I enjoy other extracurricular activities. I am a three sport varsity athlete. I am a middle hitter in volleyball, a post in basketball, and I throw the javelin, the disc, and shot in track. I have attended various leadership seminars and camps like HOBY and RYLA. I served on the Governor's and First Lady's Youth Leadership Council as well. Through this program, I was selected as the Montana representative to the YSA National Youth Service Council. In my hometown I started a weekend backpack and a breakfast program for the children in my community. I have been a member of student council since 7th grade and am currently serving as Lima's Student Body President.

In my spare time I like to hang out with my friends, enjoy my beef cattle, and work with my rabbits!

This year, I am excited to learn more and meet new people. I will love every moment. I can't wait to meet you or see you again if we have already met.

Taylor Schepens, 4-H MEAC Representative



Hey everyone! My name is Taylor Schepens, and I am your 2016-2017 Montana Ambassador Officer MEAC Representative. I am super excited to be a part of the team this year, and I look forward to all the upcoming events.

I have been in 4-H for nine years.

Projects that I am actively involved in are market beef, woodworking, quilting, and leadership. My favorite project that I am involved in is market beef. Spending a summer working with my steer every night builds a special connection between you and your animal.

My overall goals for 4-H are being the best leader that I can be. Working with the junior members and cloverbuds is one of my favorite things to do. Our county has many opportunities for me to be able to go and work with those younger members. Being a good leader is very important to me because I have so many opportunities to spend time with and influence the younger members. During the time I have been in 4-H, I have had the opportunity to attend many different state events. While at those events, I remember meeting the State Ambassadors and looking up to them. Now that I am a State Officer it means a lot to me because I worked really hard to get here. I'm very excited to meet more Montana 4-Hers this year!

Henry Smith, MT 4-H Foundation Trustee



Hi, my name is Henry Smith, and I'm your 2016-2017 Montana Foundation Trustee. I am from the amazing Ravalli County and am currently a senior at Hamilton High School.

In my eight years of 4-H I have been in the Dairy Goat, Meat Goat, Dog, and Teen Leadership projects. I am a 4-H mentor and a 4-H Camp Counselor/Youth Director in my county as well.

Now to let you know a little bit more about me! I have been very active on the Ravalli County Teen Council for 4 years. In and out of school I have been involved in many different extracurriculars and clubs. I have been in Speech and Debate, MCTM, Math Counts, Science Olympiad, National Honor Society, Pep Band, Montana Conservation Corps, BPA, Travel Club, Model United Nations, Boys State, HOBY, Ski PE, and Drama. For years I was very active in FFA and was my chapter's sentinel. I

have been in Student Council since 6th grade and am the senior class president at Hamilton High. One last interesting fact about me is after I graduate, my goal is to attend the University of Washington with a major in aeronautical engineering.

I have spent years in many different activities improving my leadership skills at every opportunity. Yet out of all these different clubs and activities I have never experienced anything like 4-H. 4-H has a community unlike any other and without it I know for a fact that I would not be the person I am today. I am incredibly excited for this opportunity to give back to the program that has given me so much!

Workshops!

The Montana State Ambassador team has put together a list of workshops which you may ask us to come conduct in your county. If you have another workshop you would like us to conduct, contact us, and we'll see if we can put it together.

- Cloverbud activities, projects, and engagement ideas
- Livestock fitting and showing (cattle, sheep, and goats)
- Parliamentary Procedure: Learn how to run a meeting using some fun techniques.
- Public Speaking
- Rabbit 101 (caring for and showing your rabbit)
- Volunteering and Service Ideas
- National 4-H Congress
- How to: Self Determined Projects
- Small Animal (Showing and training cats, dogs, rabbits, and chickens)

Information about state (Congress, Fall Ambassador Training, Rec Lab) and national events and the ambassador program at every workshop!

Up-Coming Events

October 20-22, 2016 Fall Ambassador Training at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bozeman

November 25-29, 2016 National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia

January 5-8, 2017 4-H Western National Roundup, Denver, Colorado

January 14-16, 2017 Citizenship Seminar Helena, Montana

January 16-17, 2017 Legislative Breakfast Helena, Montana

