**Registration Required!**

For those planning to attend, please provide the following information on or before January 15, 2010:

- Your Name
- Your email and/or phone number
- County which you participate or reside
- And indicate one of the following:
  - Certified 4-H Leader, Parent or Involved in Another Capacity.

Forward enrollment information to:

Dr. Dave Freeman  
201 Animal Science Building  
Oklahoma State University  
Stillwater, OK  74078  
Phone: 405-744-6058  
Email: david.freeman@okstate.edu

A minimum and maximum enrollment number will be required for conduct of this conference. Respond as soon as you can, but definitely before January 15th to guarantee your participation!

Do not send any fees prior to attending. A fee of $10.00 will be payable at check in. More information will be provided via reply email after your pre-registration is confirmed.

The Oklahoma horse project goal is to assist our youth in becoming ‘better hands’ on and off their horses. Involvement in 4-H increases their life skills that lead to success in further education and employment. The horse project combines this goal with instruction in developing participation skills with horses.

As leaders, parents and educators, you invest in these efforts for your youth and those with common interests. This conference is designed to help answer some of the big questions we face as educators, both ‘on and off’ our horses.

- What life skills are our high school youth needing to be successful with further education and employment?
- How does 4-H participation fit into developing these life skills?
- What projects and activities should our horse project youth be involved in outside of their horse interests?
- How can we use the natural behavior traits of the horse to our advantage in training programs?
- How do we align our use of bits, bridles and training techniques to our training goals?
- What are the participant responsibilities at group activities (shows, trailrides), and what can organizers do to help participants meet the goals of participation?

Pre-register before January 15th!
Four-H leaders, parents, volunteers and Extension educators are invited to attend this one day classroom instruction aimed at increasing our youth’s skills on and off their horses. The overall theme, ‘Making Them Better Hands’ will be enforced by presentations and round table forums from a variety of educational specialists and others experienced with shaping youth into successful leaders.

**MORNING ACTIVITIES**

The morning will be devoted to life skill development. We will begin by discussing skills that are needed for our high school age youth to be successful in their further education and employment. We will also have panel discussion on the role of 4-H to meet these needs with suggestions for involvement in other project areas and activities outside of those specific for the horse project. Discussions and presentations will be led by university student career instructors and 4-H youth specialists.

**AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES**

The afternoon will be devoted to horse project development with emphasis on the training and use of horses. Presentations on how the natural behavior of horses can be used to our advantage in training programs will lead to demonstrations on selection and use of different bits and bridles. Methods to enforce needs for safe and prepared participation at group horseback activities will be presented and discussed with special emphasis of horse shows and trail riding.

**WHO WILL BE INSTRUCTING**

Instructors slated to date include Cathy Allen State 4-H Curriculum Specialist, Lisa Bryant, OSU Department of Animal Science Student Success Coordinator, Steve Beck, State 4-H Companion Animal Specialist, Charles Cox, Oklahoma State 4-H Program Leader, Dave Freeman, OSU Extension Equine Specialist, Rusty Gosz, OSU Animal Science Youth Livestock Specialist, Donna Patterson, Rogers County Extension Educator and Tommy Puffinbarger, Alfalfa County Extension Educator.

Those already slated will be joined by past 4-H’ers and others that have successful experiences with Oklahoma 4-H.

Instruction will include presentations, round table question and answer, and demonstrations. Participants will be encouraged to actively participate in discussions and demonstrations.

**Registration:**

Cost of $10.00 per participant is required to partially offset the expenses of materials and presentations. Fees are to be paid at check-in on the day of the conference; however participants must pre-enroll by forwarding the requested information before January 15th, 2010.