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Subject: 4-H Presentation Day/Favorite Foods Day  
March 16, 1996

The sun was shining, the daffodils were blooming and the cows were mooing at the Mariposa Middle School on Saturday! Mariposa 4-Hers enjoyed a very successful and exciting Presentation Day/Favorite Foods Day this year. This year's event was held at the Mariposa Middle School and many members displayed their knowledge and expertise for local judges to evaluate. The different categories included: demonstrations, oral interpretations, illustrated talks, displays, posters and favorite foods.

Demonstrations ranged from "Bovine Beauty Tips" and "3-2-1 Blast Off!" (rocketry) to "How To Use A Juicer" or "How To Make a Campfire". The "Bovine Beauty Tips" was presented by Michelle Forsythe, an in-depth explanation of beauty products and their uses for show cattle. By the time Michelle was done, she has probably the cleanest and shiniest steer in the county! "3-2-1 Blast Off!" By CJ Petretti, was a presentation explaining just how a rocket is constructed and actually launched. Yes, he even launched an actual rocket to the enjoyment of the judges as well as the audience. Victoria Clawson was in the Easter spirit and brought a bunch of bunnies to support her demonstration. She described the different breeds and uses of them all. She explained how some are bred for their fur, others their meat, some just for pets and all for show. Then her brother, Robert Clauson, used a larger-than-life paper mache hog for his demonstration on hog body parts. Each part had been numbered and Robert went over the paper porcine from top to bottom. Nancy Fluharty chose "How To Use a Juicer" for her topic. She



juiced carrots to create a healthful drink, and even juiced parsley to sweeten the fresh carrot juice. Nancy's sister, Rosey Fluharty delighted the judges by constructing a rock-ringed campfire on a desk in the classroom. (Note to Judy Eppler, the principal: No, the fire wasn't lit!) She explained how it is more efficient to tear your newspaper into strips rather than bunch it up, as the air can circulate better and create a quicker flame. Michelle Williams helped prepare our judges for the warm weather and onslaught of insects...she created and presented a bug carrier to facilitate bug studies this summer. Then for the dog days of summer, when it is too hot outside, Ashley Hunter shared an indoor skill of applique. She showed how to apply bonding material to fabric then adhere that fabric to a t-shirt. Her last step explained how to seal the edges with paint to prevent unraveling. Her end product was a newly decorated floral t-shirt.

Oral Interpretations included a wide range of topics. A children's favorite, "Squawk to the Moon, Little Goose" was performed by Michelle Williams. Many different themes were chosen for the Oral Interpretation. She chose that story as it was a childhood favorite of hers. "Letters to Roger" was the chosen story of Jessica Wight. That story came out of a book titled, It's Hard To Look Cool When Your Car Is Full Of Sheep! As you probably guessed, her interpretation had the judges chuckling!..

A third category of entries included Illustrated Talks...at times, illustrated song....Nicole and Stacy Vanderschans along with Lauren Howard and Tristin Morrow performed a musical version of all the responsibilities and necessities of horse ownership titled, "Me and My Horse". Both other entries included livestock themes. Erin Wice explained to the judges how to further their judging skills by placing classes of livestock. She offered slides of various species to support



her presentation of "I Place This Class..." And CJ Petretti also entered this category with his topic, "Who's Been Eating My Flock?" CJ compiled photos from the county trapper and displayed them along with titles and explanations of what type of predators could have been responsible for the livestock losses by analyzing the type of attack. CJ received the Judges Award for his efforts.

Two different displays included "Differences Between New and Old Engines" by Ben Fluharty, and "Blast Off With Rocketry" by Josh and Aaron Sherman. Ben's display on engines included aluminum as well as iron engine parts and received the Judges Award. Josh and Aarons rocketry display included actual rocket parts and launch pads for the judges to peruse.

Posters made up the bulk of the entries and covered from horse gestation and baby lamb survival to dog training tools and rocket recovery systems. Shawn Briggs presented a poster titled, "Beef Is Not All Steak" and handed out interesting information on beef by-products. Both Shannon Poole and Randa Allen chose hogs as their topics. Shannon made sure to note to the judges that she had excluded two important swine by-products in her poster: pigs' feet and pigs' ear dog chews! Randa's poster showed meat locations on the pig on her poster. Keeping in the animal mode...Nicole Vanderschans entered "Don't Help Worms Kill Your Horse" showing the damage parasites can do to your equine, and Jenniffer Woods explained the "Positions and Stages of Horse Gestation", showing fetal positions and stages. Sara Royer also chose horses as her specialty with "Hay, The Way To A Healthy Horse". Her poster was a type of "family tree" with baggies of grains and hay. Sheep were represented by Christopher Ritter with his "By Products Of Wool", displayed on a gorgeous sheep fleece and another by the youngest entry for the day, Alicia Petretti, 7, who told about "Lambing and Baby Lamb Survival" and warmed the judges' hearts



with her charm and enthusiasm. Dog Training was covered by Ammie Nelson with her "Dog Training Tools". Ammie presented the 5 basic things a prospective dog trainer would need: leash, choke chain, baggie (to clean up any messes), doggie treats and, of course, a heart! In a different field, George Hunter's poster, "Rocket Recovery Systems" explained the three types of rocket recovery and when each is used.

Mariposa is growing some up-and-coming chefs these days...Favorite Foods included a scrumptious bunch of entries! Koby Wendt prepared a "Pork Chop Picnic" complete with basket and flowers! "The Cowboy Dinner" cooked by Jessica Wight was popular as well, stew, biscuits and even bandanna napkin! Three more hearty meals were in the contest: Erin Wice with a cheesy Lasagna (who received the Judges' Award), Michelle Williams with a complete meal of chili and corn bread, titled, "Chili Con Queso", and Shawn Briggs with "Spaghetti Pie" served on an antique place setting. Then for dessert, the judges sampled "Easy Cake Cookies" made by Marcus Hollan, "Old Time Favorites", molasses cookies by Kassie Pattee, and "Holiday Jello Dessert" from Kelly Fluharty. No judge left that room hungry!

Presentation Day/Favorite Foods judges included: Tom Williams, Sr., Merle Wood, Dr. Rosebrock, D.V.M., Gary Estep, Don Phillips, Noma Moore, Mary Jane Erickson, Judge La Roche, Marie Denton, Sandy Wice, Bob Stewart, Sherry and Leigh Gamble. This conscientious and dedicated group worked hard to decipher awards for the talented 4-Hers. The awards given were as follows:

Gold Medals: C.J. Petretti, Jessica Wight



Silver Medals: Michelle Forsythe, Victoria Clawson, Michelle Williams (3), Erin Wice, Rosey Fluharty, C.J. Petretti, Josh Sherman, Aaron Sherman

Bronze Seals: Robert Clawson, Koby Wendt, Marcus Hollan, Kelly Fluharty, Shawn Briggs, Jessica Wight, Nancy Fluharty, Ashley Hunter, Ben Fluharty, Nicole Vanderschans, Shannon Poole, Alicia Petretti, Scarlett Pedersen, Anne Schneider.

Blue Seals: Kassie Pattee, Nicole Vanderschans, Lauren Howard, Tristan Morrow, Stacy Vanderschans, Erin Wice, Shawn Briggs, George Hunter, Ammie Nelson, Christopher Ritter, Randa Allen, Sara Royer, Jennifer Woods.

Judges' Trophies: C.J. Petretti for "3-2-1 Blast Off!" and "Who's Been Eating My Flock?", Erin Wice for Lasagna, Rosey Fluharty for "How to Make a Campfire", Ben Fluharty for his poster "Differences Between Old Engines and New Engines".

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