

The FAIR FOUNDATION

north idaho fair and rodeo

And...That's A Wrap!

The 2015 edition of the North Idaho Fair & Rodeo is in the books! While the mix of poor weather and smoke presented an extra challenge for everyone, attendance remained strong with 67,747 people coming through the gates.

Highlights included four sold out arena shows, grounds attractions such as the Sea Lion Splash show, over 200 commercial vendors, 34 food locations and so much more. The competitive exhibits program alone grew over 1,000 exhibits when compared to the 2014 numbers which is against the trend being seen at other fairs.

The Foundation had a great presence throughout the five days. One of the most prominent examples was on Friday which was Paint the Fair Pink Day, a special project of the Foundation, Knudtsen Chevrolet and Kootenai Health's Cancer Patient Support Fund. People wore pink throughout the grounds to provide awareness and exposure for those dealing with cancer.

We appreciate everyone who made the 2015 North Idaho Fair & Rodeo a success!



Capital Projects Completed

This was another busy summer at the Fairgrounds! Staff, volunteers and contractors completed three major capital projects that were all unveiled at this year's Fair. Many thanks to everyone who was involved in making these improvements happen.



Silver Buckle Club Sky Lounge

The new viewing platform features VIP seating for nearly 200 sponsors, doubling the capacity of the space from prior years. The lounge sold out for 2015 and there is already a waiting list developing for next year. The Fair Foundation contributed \$20,000 towards the construction of the platform.



Community 1st Bank Pavilion

This new structure, located just North of the Main Arena, was built as a picnic and social space. The pavilion is 2,500 square feet in size and can hold up to 200 people. The Fair Foundation contributed \$4,200 towards the construction of the building.



New Arena Gate & Park Area

Over twenty new trees and eighty shrubs were planted to create a park area where the former "Red Gate" used to sit on the north side of the property. A new Arena Gate entryway and ticket booth were also installed and realigned with the roadway leading into the Main Arena. The Fair Foundation contributed \$5,000 towards this project.

"Farm To Table" Initiative A Huge Success

Agriculture and education are both a top priority for the Fair Foundation. As a key partner on the Farm to Table planning committee, two successful programs came to life this summer.

Farm To Table

Day – Nearly 350 5th grade students attended a day long workshop at the Fairgrounds to learn about agriculture. Stations were hosted by volunteers and covered topics such as beef, sheep, crops, bees and machinery. The



day was filled with hands on activities throughout the facility and even included wagon rides. A hamburger lunch was also provided at no charge for the students, volunteers and teachers.

The Fair Foundation contributed \$2,000 towards the experience.

Farm to Table Park – The planning committee continued their efforts throughout the summer to create a new park area for the public to learn about agriculture. It was complete with nearly twenty

raised beds with various crops, a goat milking station, chickens, farmer's marketplace and so much more!



Thank you to the Kootenai/Shoshone County Farm Bureau for the support of the Farm to Table initiative. If you are interested in getting involved in 2016, please contact the Fair Office at (208)765-4969.

Chicks N' Chaps Completes Seventh Year

Once again the rodeo was decked out in pink as nearly 120 ladies cheered the contestants from the Chick Pit culminating a grand day at the 7th annual Chicks n Chaps at the North Idaho

Fair & Rodeo. Chicks n Chaps is a women-only rodeo clinic and FUNraiser that brings together women to learn about rodeo, explore the Fair and build

friendships while raising money for the Fair Foundation and the Kootenai Health Foundation Cancer Patient Support Fund.

After getting some basics on the rodeo from a competitive cowboy, the girls were turned loose on the Fairgrounds to various sites to send selfies back to the Clubhouse and compete in our version of Amazing Race. The groups only had an hour



to get through six different tasks with guests from the Western Fairs Association handing out

roadblocks. It was a blur of pink racing around the Fair! Rodeo clinics gave the girls their chance to test their skills at roping, bull-riding, barrel racing and this year, target shooting with rubber band guns. Following dinner and a live and silent auction, the group headed out to the Chick Pit to watch the rodeo and cheer for their new heroes.



Thanks to attendees, ranch hands, and our committee of volunteers a record amount was raised this year to be shared with both organizations. **Next year's event will be held on Friday August 26th ~ make plans to attend!**

SAVE THESE DATES FOR 2016!

5th Annual Cowboy Ball
Friday, April 8th

North Idaho Fair & Rodeo
Wednesday, Aug. 24th
through Sunday, Aug. 28th



Western Fairs Association Visits

Each year, the Western Fairs Association (WFA) board selects a Fair within the western United States to take staff and board members to in order to see fresh ideas and share their expertise.

This year, the North Idaho Fair & Rodeo was selected and nearly 25 attendees came to Coeur d'Alene for the Friday and Saturday of our August event.



Fair Foundation and Fair Board members hosted the delegation which included several joint social functions and a grounds-

wide tour of our facility.

This is one of smallest Fairs that has ever been selected for the tour, however attendees responded with great feedback. The tour included



\$1,500 in donations from WFA to the Fair Foundation and the Fair itself. Thanks to Christina Petit for coordinating the Association's visit and Paradise Amusements for sponsoring their meals.

Coeur d'Alene Chamber Recognizes Fairgrounds



The Coeur d'Alene Chamber of Commerce recently recognized the Kootenai County Fairgrounds with their "Business Excellence Award" for continuing to expand year-round usage of the facility and encouraging support of local businesses. The presentation took place at the Coeur d'Alene Resort during the August 11th Upbeat Breakfast with Fair staff and board members in attendance.

Thanks to the business development committee of the Chamber for the recognition!

5 Ways You Can Help The Fair Foundation

- 1** Share this newsletter with a friend or neighbor so they can learn about the purpose and impact of what we do.
- 2** Make an in-kind donation of equipment or services. Contact us at (208)765-4969 to discuss the possibilities!
- 3** Host a fundraiser at your home or business and designate the Foundation as the beneficiary.
- 4** Sign up to volunteer at one of our events. Email dane@northidahofair.com for more information.
- 5** Consider a donation in tribute to someone special.



Volunteers help scrape pens during the Fairgrounds Summer Service Day



Foundation Honors Linda Rider

The North Idaho Fair & Rodeo Foundation presented Linda Rider with the Clyde Boatright Award for her outstanding service and dedication to both the Fair and the Foundation. The recognition occurred during the “Friends of the Fair Appreciation Ceremony” on Saturday, August 29th.

Linda has been involved with the Fairgrounds for almost 50 years and has served on the Fair Board since 2001. She has also been instrumental in developing our new Farm to Table Park, which serves as an agricultural learning center for families in our area. Linda and her husband Robert operate the Rider Ranch in the Wolf Creek



Linda Rider Recognized

area which has also been extremely supportive of the Fair, Cowboy Ball and many other activities at the Fairgrounds. Hats off to Linda for her passion and support!

Have Your Next Event At The Fairgrounds

As a primary gathering place for the community, the Fairgrounds continues to expand the number and types of events hosted at the facility. With 83 park-like acres and over 30 structures across the grounds, there is an option for every occasion.



Rental highlights include:

- Friendly and outgoing staff who are onsite to help coordinate your event
- Parking for 6,000 vehicles
- Equipment rentals such as tables, chairs, linens, sound systems, drapery and more
- Staging, tents, theme décor, bleachers, fencing and other items available
- Food and beverage services
- Assistance with marketing public events through signage and social media
- Existing vendor partnerships – basically, if we can't help you with something, we know who to call!

Contact our new Office and Sales Manager, Tammie Peacock, to book your next event!
(208)765-4969

New Miss North Idaho Fair & Rodeo Selected



On September 26, 2015 the fairgrounds was taken over by many lovely ladies who came to compete for the title of 2016 Miss North Idaho Fair & Rodeo. 2015 Miss North Idaho Fair & Rodeo Haley Jackson, along with the program coordinator Hayle Carver planned a great event. Contestants included Cassy Rippatti, Kehra Pennington, Kimberly Hutchins and Shannon Dryden. These ladies showed their skills in horsemanship, speech, modeling, rodeo knowledge and personal interviews throughout the program. After a full day of events, Cassy Rippatti was crowned as the 2016 Miss North Idaho Fair and Rodeo. 1st runner went to Shannon Dryden. Stay tuned for Cassy's coronation date in early spring. *The Fair Foundation annually contributes \$500 for a scholarship to the reigning queen.*

Foundation Selects New Board Members

Fair Foundation President, Katie Bane, is pleased to welcome four new members to the organization's board. The following individuals have been seated over the past year.



Gayle Stegmann

Gayle and her family have a longstanding history of supporting the Fair and being involved in the community. She and her husband Mike are annual sponsors of the Cowboy Ball and the North Idaho Fair & Rodeo through their business, the Gem State Mule Company. Gayle has been involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters and a number of other organizations in the past. Her objective in serving on the board, as she states, is "I would like to keep the Fair vision alive and moving forward".



Gena Loper

Gena grew up on the Fairgrounds as she was heavily involved in the 4-H horse project her entire adolescence. She served as the 1981 Pro Rodeo Queen for North Idaho and has been a supporter of the sport ever since. Gena is

a certified AQHA Professional Horseman, serves on several equine industry boards and is owner of the Duns n Roses Ranch. Her goal with the Fair Foundation is that "I'd like to see the facility develop an indoor equine event facility capable of bringing in large events".



Bob Peters, DVM

Bob is, to the core, passionate about kids and horses. He works with both in a number of ways as an owner of McKinlay and Peters Equine Hospital. Bob's work on the Foundation is to "do anything I can to solidify and grow the Fair and its agricultural roots for future generations".



Dave Paul

Dave is no stranger to the Fairgrounds, rodeo, nonprofits and agriculture. He currently works for Watts and Associates, an economic consulting firm and has been a part of the North Idaho Fair rodeo committee for many years.

Dave recently retired from his post as the regional director for the USDA's Risk Management Agency for 33 years. In the past he has volunteered with United Way, the Post Falls School District, Washington State High School Rodeo and many other organizations. Dave feels that "Kootenai County has a jewel in its Fairgrounds" and that's why he chose to serve on the Foundation.

"We are honored to have each of these well regarded individuals join our board. They all bring a specific skill set, as well as a passion for the long term sustainability of the North Idaho Fair & Rodeo. With all of the recent improvements we have seen at the fairgrounds, it's an important time to capitalize on the synergy created between the Fair Board, the Fair Foundation, the fairgrounds staff, and the community as a whole", stated Katie.

Contact Us

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