

## DATES TO REMEMBER - 2016

**January 9—16**

PA Farm Show—*All Roads Lead to the 100th Farm Show*

**January 20 - 23**

- 104th Annual Convention

**February 15**

- Baking Contests intent to participate due

**February 28**

- Queen Competition intent to participate

- FAIRTALK material for March issue due

**March 25** (week of)

- 1st Quarter FAIRTALK emailed

**April 14**

- PSACF Board Meeting

**April 20**

- PSACF Zone 4 Mtg. - Shady Maple

**April 21**

- PSACF Zone 3 Mtg. -

**April 22**

- PSACF Zone 1 Mtg. - Scrubgrass Grange

**April 23**

- PSACF Zone 2 Mtg.

**May 5—8**

- IAFE Zone 1 Meeting—Concord NH

**May 31**

FAIRTALK material for June due

**June 24** (week of)

- 2nd Quarter FAIRTALK emailed

**August 31**

- Baking Contest checks (PA Preferred, Angel Food)

- FAIRTALK material for Sept issue due

**September 1**

- Showcase apps. For 2017 Convention mailed

**September 24** (week of)

- 3rd Quarter FAIRTALK emailed

**September 30**

- Zone Junior Fair Person nominations due to Zones

**October 15**

- Showcase apps. Due

- 2017 Request for Fair info material, PSACF Associate Dues Invoices, PSACF/PSSA Convention material, Trade Show apps. mailed.

**October 13**

- PSACF Board Meeting

**October 19**

- PSACF Zone 4 Mtg. - Shady Maple

**October 20**

- PSACF Zone 3 Mtg. -

**October 21**

- PSACF Zone 1 Mtg. - Scrubgrass Grange

**October 22**

- PSACF Zone 2 Mtg. -

**November 1**

- Fair Person Of the Year apps. Due

- Communications Competition apps due

- Queen Competition Applications due

**November 15**

- Reimbursement apps.—Fair Fund due

- Baking Contests Summaries due

**November 20**

FAIRTALK material for December issue due

## 2017

**March 30—April 1**

- IAFE Zone 1 Meeting—Wyomissing Pa

# FAIRTALK



*"News From The PA State Association of County Fairs"*  
**"THE VOICE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA FAIR INDUSTRY"**

**VOL. 29**

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**NO. 4**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



The 2015 Fair season is now over. I hope everyone had a very successful fair and

were able to "Harvest the Fun". Now we start planning for next year's fair. There is no better place to begin than at the 104th PSACF Convention in Hershey from Jan. 20 – 23, 2016. Once again this will be a great convention and I would urge all fairs to send as many delegates as possible. Kevin Bieber and his committee has arranged a great program of speakers. Dr. Rick Rigby will present his motivational program at the opening ceremonies on Thursday morning. The rest of the week will be filled with thirty "plus" educational seminars and table topics. Communications exhibits and awards are a great opportunity to learn and see what other fairs are doing to promote their fairs.

The entertainment "Showcase" promises to present some great acts and the "Trade Show" registrations are filling up quickly. More entertainment will be on tap at the annual banquet along with many awards. As always, the convention concludes

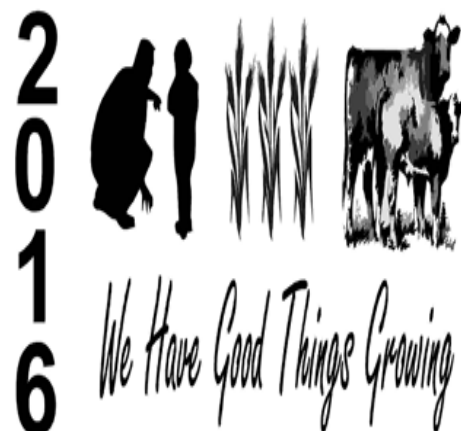
on Saturday night with the always exciting Pennsylvania Fair Queen Coronation. There is now better way to end the convention than with this glitzy and glamorous event.

Besides all the educational opportunities, the convention is a great opportunity to communicate with and enjoy the fellowship of other fair people from all over the state (and usually some from other states).

The Board continues to follow the ever ongoing budget negotiations in Harrisburg. With the excellent help from "Milliron and Goodman", our interests are being will represented.

I hope to see everyone in Hershey as we prepare for next year's fairs and show the rest of the world that in Pennsylvania "We Have Good Things Growing".

*Doc*



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Association. Send  
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publication to:  
Harry Reffner  
128 Cumberland Rd,  
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# DR. RICK RIGSBY HEADLINES THE OPENING CEREMONY IN HERSHEY

## SUBMITTED BY : Kevin D. Bieber

Back to Hershey by popular demand will be Dr. Rick Rigsby as our Keynote Speaker to open the 2016 PSACF / PSSA convention. Although it is not normal practice of the seminar committee to have keynote speakers return, our membership spoke, and we listened. So whether you heard Dr. Rigsby at our convention in 2006, or this will be your first time, I have no doubt in my mind he will once again inspire and energize all of us as we begin another educational and fun filled convention.

As always, our time in Hershey is filled with all kinds of opportunities for you to learn and share ideas. The seminars will provide just that. Our seminar committee is real excited to present a full lineup of some of the best seminars you may have ever attended. On Wednesday as you roll into Hershey, please set aside some time to attend a seminar from 2:00 to 3:30 pm that will bring us students from Penn State engaging in a panel discussion of "Ag-Vocating at your Fair". Also Wednesday afternoon will be the annual "Trucking" seminar that will provide you with all the changes that take place out on the road.

On Thursday after you become energized by our keynote speaker, please plan to attend a very important session on "Small Games of Chance". I know many of you have these games at your fair and I can't encourage you enough to come listen and ask questions as the PA State Police provide information that you need to know. I am also very pleased to announce that to wrap up the seminars on Thursday we will hear from Roxie Mayberry, the Corporate Partnerships Director of the Alaska State Fair. Roxie will inform us on "Getting Your Sponsors Hooked".

As Friday rolls around you will have the opportunity to hear from PEMA (Pennsylvania Emergency Management Association) as well as Karen Dobson and I will update you on any Special Baking Contest information you will need to know. Rounding out Friday we will be paid a visit by Mike Bradley, the Executive Director of the Arizona National Livestock Show. Mike will present "Think Like Disney – Create Magic & Big Fun".

As we start to wrap up a busy week, Saturday morning will bring back Mike Bradley for "The Farm to Fork Movement – It's Here to Stay". We will also hear from Jean Lonie of Penn State on "Why Think Ag" and then wrap up the morning with any Food Safety updates. Well, I hope you can see why the seminar committee is excited. All we need to make this the best convention ever, is you !!!! See you in Hershey !!!!!

## SPONSORSHIP SEMINAR SCHEDULE SET FOR CONVENTION

By: Kevin D. Bieber

Thank you to all the fairs that have shown an interest in meeting with Jen Puentes to review your sponsorship packages and plans. The response was so strong that unfortunately a "lottery" was held to determine which fairs will meet with her and when. All these meetings will take place on **Wednesday January 20<sup>th</sup>**. Please bring with you any material that is related to your sponsorship program. Due to the tight schedule of meetings, PLEASE be on time as well as respect your half hour time schedule. We must stay on time in order to accommodate as many fairs as possible with this seminar. If your fair did not win the lottery, I will be looking (if possible) to bring Jen back in 2017. At that time your fair will be first on the list.

Please find below your time slot. Please make sure you arrive on time.

10:00 to 10:30 Gratz Fair  
10:30 to 11:00 Albion Area Fair  
11:00 to 11:30 Schnecksville Fair  
11:30 to 12:00 Allentown Fair  
12:00 to 12:30 Jen's Lunch Break  
12:30 to 1:00 Westmoreland Fair  
1:00 to 1:30 Elizabethtown Fair  
1:30 to 2:00 Bedford Fair  
2:00 to 2:30 Clearfield Co. Fair  
2:30 to 3:00 Jen's Break  
3:00 to 3:30 Schuylkill County Fair  
3:30 to 4:00 Carbon Co. Fair  
4:00 to 4:30 Harford Fair  
4:30 to 5:00 Lycoming Co. Fair

## 2017 IAFE ZONE 1 MEETING TO BE IN PENNSYLVANIA

BY: KEVIN D. BIEBER

### Tentative Schedule

Thursday March 30<sup>th</sup> as registration and arrival day with Hospitality Room that evening.

Friday March 31<sup>st</sup> – Normal day with seminars etc. and an off site dinner at a fairgrounds. Hospitality room that evening.

Saturday April 1<sup>st</sup> - Normal day with seminars etc. and an off site PA Dutch dinner at the Oley Valley Community Fair Fairgrounds. Hospitality Room that evening to close out the conference

Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel in Wyomissing Pa  
Near the outlets and a mall for shopping if anyone wishes

All other details will be worked on in Hershey by the committee.

**Audiences love  
The Belmont  
Magic Show**

"Crowds loved the show.  
Always a full house!"  
North Florida Fair

**Overwhelming success year after year.  
Showmobile was a perfect fit!"**  
Middletown Grange Fair

**"Big Hit! Big crowds at every show!"**  
Greater Gulf State Fair

**"Glowingly positive comments!"**  
Broward County Youth Fair

**Belmont Magic & Illusions**  
"Award Winning Showmanship"  
belmontmagic@verizon.net — (609) 206-5244





## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS REPORT

-Galla Higinbotham

The warmer weather extending into December makes it hard to realize that the January 2016 PSACF/PSSA convention is just weeks away. A big welcome to all new associates! I hope to see you in person in Hershey.

If you haven't already done so, please book your rooms right away to avoid possible confusion as there is some construction going on.

The Wednesday night entertainment showcase acts have been selected. A wide array of talent will be featured on the 2-sided stage, each performing for 15 minutes. The evening starts at 6:30 and is a highlight of the convention.

We fair associates invite everyone – especially those who are attending for the first time – to visit the Trade Show! And plan to spend some time there!

Pennsylvania's trade show has an excellent reputation and is considered one of the best in the country. With well over 150 booths, one can find many acts and attractions, booking agents, musical attractions, thrill and stunt shows, equipment companies, carnivals, sound & light companies, fair supply and insurance companies, rodeos, fireworks, food concession suppliers, special services, printers...and the list goes on. There is something for every fair and for every budget – small, medium and large.

The deadline for reserving a booth in the Trade Show is December 15<sup>th</sup>. But if you happen to miss the deadline or your plans change and you wish to have a booth, contact Dick Horstman (724-729-3701) to see what can be worked out.

Trade Show participants who have booths will be given menus each day with the option to order food that will be delivered to your booth.

A big "Thank You!" to W. A. DeHart for generously providing complimentary coffee in the Trade Show.

We associates invite all fair buyers to come and see everything we have to offer to make your fair a success.

Be sure to play the popular "Sticker Game" sponsored by the state fair board. Attendees are encouraged to collect stickers throughout the Trade Show which then makes them eligible for wonderful prizes on Saturday afternoon's drawings.

**Fill all your fair needs and  
SUPPORT YOUR ASSOCIATES**

**VISIT**

## The Trade Show

**Your #1 source for fair industry  
Goods, services and entertainment!**

The Trade Show is open Thursday and Friday 10:30 – 4:00 and 9:00 – 12:00 on Saturday.

**Note to associates: our meeting will be on Thursday at 4:00 right after the trade show closes in the back of the trade show.**

I look forward to seeing everyone at the 2016 convention! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Galla      [dangalla@uplink.net](mailto:dangalla@uplink.net)





# In Memory of...

**Carl E. Blank**, 93, of New Sewickley Twp., passed away Friday, Oct. 2, 2015, in Cranberry. Born April 9, 1922, in New Sewickley Twp. Carl was chairman of the Big Knob Fair for 40 years, a member for 73 years with the Big Knob Grange and served as an officer with the state and county level of the grange. He was also a member of the Pomona Grange.

## Memorial Table at Convention

Once again the Trade Show will have a Memorial Table for remembering our dearly departed fair friends.

If your Fair grieved the loss fair volunteers, directors or staff persons this year, we encourage you to honor their memory by bringing photos of them to place on the Memorial Table.

Photos should be framed, and should include an attached note with the following information:

Deceased's name

Home Fair

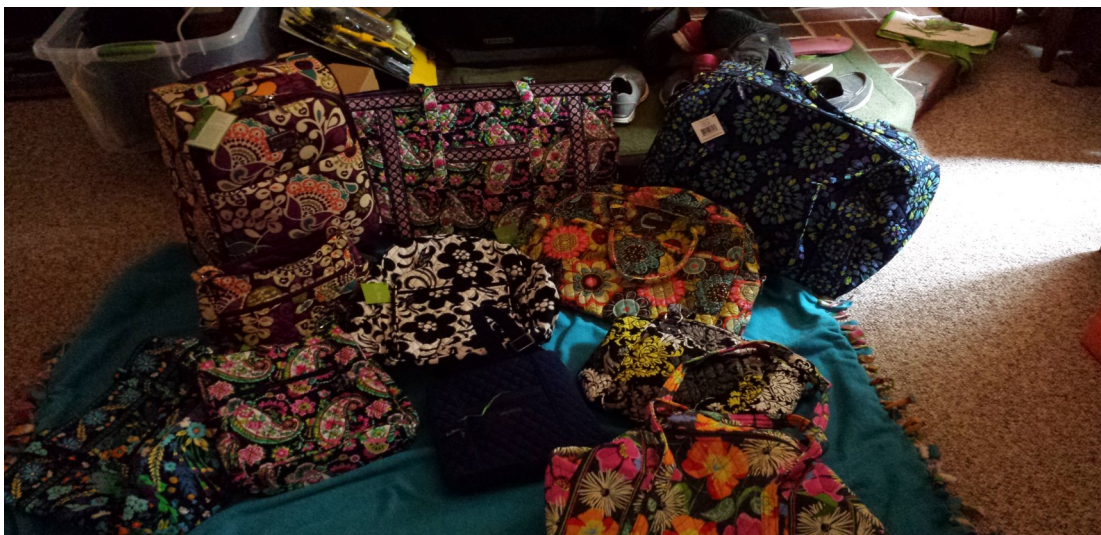
Position or Title

For questions about the Memorial Table, contact John Berne at 814-887-5396.

Thank you for making the Memorial Table a true tribute to these dedicated men and women who left behind a legacy for our fairs!

## Spouse Program Convention 2016 — Hazel Blaney

The Spouse Program for the 2016 Convention will feature three different activities. On Thursday, a Basket and Bag Bingo will be held with Vera Bradley bags and Longaberger Baskets as the prizes. Friday we will have a hands on activity called "Pretty With Paper" where each person will learn how to make a cookie exchange folder from paper. On Saturday morning the program will be "Color Me Calm" that will feature intricate designs to color that will give you relaxation as it increases your brain power. **Come join us for the fun!**





## Convention Photography

The banquets, the awards, the programs, the performers, the glitz and glamour of queens... Convention is always full of memorable moments. And PSACF has once again invited Tim McGowan Studio and Associates back to Hershey to capture them all. Their professional photographers will be available throughout the Convention to anyone who wants a photo taken. This includes photos of your fair committee, family, fair organization and fair queen – candid shots or formal portraits.

There is no charge to have

the photos taken, only if you wish to purchase any. The photographers will be set up for formal portraits at the south end of the hallway, just outside the Great American Hall in the Lodge. They will also be present at the scheduled convention events. You can order photos at the Convention, or choose to view them later on the web at

[www.PSACF16.photoherald.com](http://www.PSACF16.photoherald.com); Passcode = 2016



Tim McGowan

Studio and Pro Media Concepts, LLC is available to photograph your fair and events, weddings, senior portraits, aerial photography of your farm or fair, and fundraising with photos.

Contact their studio at 717-866-9094, cell number 717-228-5357, email [tmstudio@comcast.net](mailto:tmstudio@comcast.net) or stop and speak to them at Convention. You can also visit their website at [www.timmcgowanstudio.com](http://www.timmcgowanstudio.com).



## 100<sup>th</sup> PA FARM SHOW BLUE RIBBON RECEPTION

*Presented by Centerplate, Inc.*

**Friday, January 8, 2016, at 6 p.m.**

**PA Preferred™ Banquet Hall  
PA Farm Show Complex and Expo Center  
2300 N. Cameron St. Harrisburg, PA 17110**

**Tickets are \$35 each.**

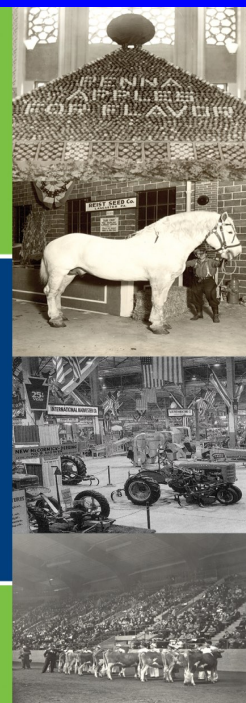
**Dress is business attire.**



[FACEBOOK.COM/PAFARMSHOW](https://www.facebook.com/PAFarmShow)

[@PAFarmShow](https://twitter.com/PAFarmShow)

## REGISTER ONLINE







**104th ANNUAL CONVENTION**  
**PA State Association of County Fairs and**  
**PA State Showmen's Association**  
**The Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, Hershey PA**  
**Wednesday - Saturday, Jan. 20 - 23, 2016**



### **HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

2016 Convention reservations will now be accepted by the Hershey Lodge.

Deadline is January 5, 2016. For lodging:

phone 1-800-HERSHEY (717-437-7439) or online at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/PSACF2016>

All Queen candidates must use the Queen special code of FAIRQUEEN2016; otherwise, no special code is required. Be sure you have a credit card with you and respond to all questions. Rooms will be available by 4:00pm and check out at 11:00am daily for all.

### **CONVENTION REGISTRATION**

ADVANCE REGISTRATION is essential to the smooth operation of the convention. Registration is:

\$30 (received on or before December 15, 2015)

\$50 (received after December 15, 2015)

### **MEALS**

Meal(s) that are purchased are not refundable; there will be a bulletin board near the registration area for you to place a "for sale" notice if you wish to resell them. A limited number will be available for purchase at convention.

### **TENTATIVE CONVENTION SCHEDULE**

#### **Wednesday, January 20, 2016**

##### **MEALS ON YOUR OWN-ALL**

8:30am-2:30pm Food Safety-"Serv Safe" (see newsletter article for details – PA Showmen or fairs who are members of PA Showmen [1 person per fair] may register; others to be considered after deadline if space available) Click here to obtain registration form.

10:30am-4:30pm Fair Sponsorship Review

**You must have pre-registered for this Review**

11:00am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open

2:00pm-3:30pm Seminar – "Ag-Vocating at your Fair"

2:00pm-3:00pm Table Topics 12, 15

2:00pm-4:00pm Seminar - "Trucking Regulations Update"

3:15pm-4:15pm Table Topics 5, 17

4:00pm-8:00pm Enter Communication Exhibits

Trade Show Set-up

4:45pm PSSA Board Meeting

4:45pm PSACF Board Meeting

6:30pm-10:00pm ENTERTAINMENT SHOWCASE

#### **Thursday, January 21, 2016**

##### **MEALS ON YOUR OWN-BREAKFAST & LUNCH**

8:00am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open

8:00am-9:00am Enter Communication Exhibits

8:00am-10:30am Trade Show Set-up

8:30am-9:00am First-Timers Session

9:00am-9:30am Opening Entertainment

9:30am-10:45am Opening Celebration

Keynote Speaker – Dr. Rick Rigsby

10:30am-4:00pm Trade Show Open

Communication Exhibits Open

(Badge Required)

10:30am-4:00pm PA Dept. of Agriculture display, etc.

11:00am-12:00pm PA Harness Racing Commission Meeting

Open to the public

1:00pm-2:30pm Seminar – "Small Games of Chance"

1:00pm-3:15pm

1:15pm-2:15pm

1:30pm-3:00pm

3:00pm-4:30pm

3:15pm-4:15pm

4:00pm

5:30pm

5:45pm

6:15pm

6:45pm

Spouse Program - "Bag & Basket" Bingo

Table Topics 6, 8, 20

Meeting - Sire, Quaker & USTA

Seminar – "Getting Your Sponsors Hooked"

Table Topics 3, 10, 19

Associates Gathering

PSACF & PSSA Board

Group Photos

Hospitality Time & Cash Bar

PSACF ANNUAL BANQUET

Dinner (reserved seating-ticket required-\$34)

#### **Friday, January 22, 2016**

##### **MEAL ON YOUR OWN-LUNCH**

7:30am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open

7:30am COMMUNICATIONS BREAKFAST

meal (served) 7:30am; awards 8:15am-9:00am  
(ticket required-\$19)

9:15am-11:00am Memorial Service /

PSACF Annual Meeting

10:30am-4:00pm Trade Show Open

Communication Exhibits Open

(Badge Required)

10:30am-4:00pm PA Dept. of Agriculture display, etc.

12:30pm-2:00pm Seminar- "PA Emergency Management Association"

12:30pm-2:00pm Round Table –Pa Fair Fund

2:00pm-3:30pm Seminar - "Special Baking Contests"

2:00pm-3:30pm Spouse Program - "Pretty With Paper"

2:15pm-3:45pm Seminar "Think Like Disney – Create Magic & Big Fun"

2:15pm-3:15pm Table Topics 7, 9, 14

3:30pm-4:30pm Table Topics 1, 2, 21

6:15pm Hospitality Time & Cash Bar

6:45pm PA SHOWMEN ANNUAL BANQUET

(Reserved seating-ticket required-\$36)

#### **Saturday, January 23, 2016**

##### **MEAL ON YOUR OWN-BREAKFAST**

7:30am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open

8:45am-10:15am Seminar – "The Farm to Fork Movement – It's Here to Stay"

9:00am-10:30am Seminar – "Why Think Ag"

9:00am-10:00am Table Topics 4, 7, 18

9:00am-Noon Trade Show Open

Communication Exhibits Open

(Badge Required)

9:30am-11:00am Seminar – "Food Safety Updates"

9:30am-10:45am Spouse Program – "Color Me Calm"

10:30am-11:30am Table Topics 11, 13, 16

11:30am-12:30pm PSSA Annual Meeting

Noon-12:30pm Communication Exhibits Released

Noon BOX LUNCHEON

[followed by drawings (ticket required-\$18)

at 12:30pm] Auction Drawings - Winner must be present

2:45pm-4:15pm Family Feud

4:30pm Mass

6:00pm QUEEN CORONATION BANQUET

(Reserved seating-ticket required-\$34)

#### **Sunday, January 24, 2016**

8:00am PSACF Exec. / Conv. Breakfast



## TABLE TOPICS

1. Animal Health
2. Responsibilities and Demands for Food Concessionaires by Kathleen Ross
3. Attracting quality commercial exhibitors
4. Let's communicate
5. How do you pay or reward volunteers?
6. Working with your local Tourism Agency
7. Arena Entertainment
8. Marketing your Fair 101
9. Temporary Workers at your Fair
10. Bikes, Scooters, 4 x 4's how do you handle them at your Fair?
11. Board Members- Who does what with your Fair-what if they weren't there.
12. Can everyone attend your Fair?
13. You and your Carnival-How you should be working together by PSSA Panel
14. Fair budgets-What's in yours? Does it need adjusted?
15. Interactive activities-young and old
16. Politicians at your Fair
17. What do they see coming into your Fairgrounds?
18. Barn Safety
19. Contracts- What's covered, what's not?
20. Campers – Sizes, space needed, rent price.
21. Sponsors

## SEMINARS

### Food Safety Updates

The Food Safety updates will be presented by The PA Department of Agriculture

### Trucking Regulations Update

A representative from the Pa. Motor Truck Association, located in Camp Hill, Pa. will give the latest updates for the industry.

### Keynote Speaker, Dr. Rick Rigsby

Back to Hershey by popular demand will be Dr. Rick Rigsby as our Keynote Speaker to open the 2016 PSACF / PSSA convention. Although it is not normal practice of the seminar committee to have keynote speakers return, our membership spoke, and we listened. So whether you heard Dr. Rigsby at our convention in 2006, or this will be your first time, I have no doubt in my mind he will once again inspire and energize all of us as we begin another educational and fun filled convention.

### Ag-Vocating at your Fair

Presented by the Penn State Student Ag Advocate Team (Panel Discussion).

This seminar will offer tips and techniques from the Penn State Ag Advocate team on how to engage the next generation of young ag leaders, and how to represent your fair to audiences of all ages. The Ag Advocate team represents the College of Agricultural Sciences with prospective students, University and College officials, alums, donors and elected officials. The Ag Advocate team is trained in engaging non- agricultural audiences, advocating on behalf of the College and representing Penn State as young leaders within the University system. This panel discussion will have them sharing the reasons they volunteered for this demanding program, best practices for leading tours, and meeting with new families and supporters, and how you can work with younger populations (teens to 20s) to build the next generation of fair leaders and ambassadors.

### Special Baking Contests

Karen Dobson and Kevin Bieber will be updating everyone who runs any of the Special Contests at your fairs. This is also the perfect time to come and ask questions regarding any of those contests.

### Family Feud

Sign your fair up now, the deadline is December 1<sup>st</sup>. How do you sign up? It is easy, please e-mail me at [kevin.bieber@nationalpenn.com](mailto:kevin.bieber@nationalpenn.com) or call my cell at 484-256-8009 and I will put you on the list. Make sure you have 5 willing players from your fair who will participate. If I have more than 4 fairs that would like to participate, the PSACF Board will hold a drawing to see who will be on the Feud!!!!

### Getting Your Sponsors Hooked

Presented by Roxie Mayberry, the Corporate Partnerships Director of the Alaska State Fair since 2009. Sponsors need to feel like they are special. They need to know that you have taken time to find the right fit for their business or organization. The day of handing them a general list of levels is over. You need to give them ideas of how they can leverage their sponsorship and they need to feel as if they are a partner in your event. Providing them with sponsor education and networking opportunities can create trust. Holding out benefits that you can "throw in" and offering to brainstorm with their team sets the hook and creates a loyalty to your event.

### PEMA – Pennsylvania Emergency Management Association

Derek Ruhl and a state patrolman will speak on Flash Mobs and Emergency Preparedness.

### Think Like Disney – Create Magic & Big Fun

Presented by Mike Bradley the Executive Director of the Arizona National Livestock Show. The world of entertainment is still learning from Uncle Walt. His attention to detail, creativity and driven success can teach us everyday values as well as how to dramatically improve fairs or just make minor but impressive improvements.

### The Farm to Fork Movement – It's Here to Stay

Presented by Mike Bradley

We live in unique times. Food dialogues now dominate social media and Food Network is on fire with growth. The Farmer is suddenly a hero. Consumers have reached a level of passion that demands knowledge of where their food comes from and how it was grown. That passion is an opportunity for fairs which are natural (and historic) showplace for everything farm, food and farmer. Local can be defined in a multiplicity of ways. Learn the ins and outs of demographics, great food and farmer programming, marketing opportunities, current and future food trends, as well as the resources for making your fair a farm to fork showplace.

### Why Think Ag

Presented by Jean Lonie, Director of Student Recruitment and Activities, Penn State. Explore the role of agriculture in promoting your fair and connecting the community to Pennsylvania's number one industry. Agriculture was recently named the #5 highest paying college degree in the United States and projections show nearly 60,000 job openings each year to ag graduates. What does this mean in terms of your fair? It becomes a chance to use agriculture to engage attendees and highlight the many opportunities available in this diverse industry. From online scavenger hunts that are fun and informative to using physical locations to highlight educational and career opportunities in agriculture, your fair can be a key part of the story in why agriculture matters- and agriculture can be a great way to engage and attract more visitors.

### PA Fair Fund

Zachary K. Gihorski is the Fair Coordinator with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Bureau of Market Development. Zach will be discussing the PA Fair Fund Act.

### ServSafe

Conducted by a certified ServSafe Instructor and Examination Proctor, certified thru the National Restaurant Association.

### Small Games of Chance

Presented by Todd M. Merlina, Enforcement Supervisor, PA. State Police Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement. This seminar will provide information on what is legal and what is not under the Small Games of Chance law. It will also help Fairs determine how to conduct games of chance for the purpose of raising funds legally.





## **2016 SPOUSE PROGRAMS**



The Spouse Program for the 2016 Convention will feature three different activities:

- A "Ticket Auction" in the Chocolate Ballroom (prizes to be awarded on Saturday at 12:30PM).
- On Thursday, a Basket and Bag Bingo will be held with Vera Bradley bags and Longaberger Baskets as the prizes.
- Friday we will have a hands on activity called "Pretty With Paper" where each person will learn how to make a cookie exchange folder from paper.

On Saturday morning the program will be "Color Me Calm" that will feature intricate designs to color that will give you relaxation as it increases your brain power.

Come join us for the fun!

All fairs and showmen are requested to donate one (1) or two (2) gifts for use in the above activities. Your support is truly needed and will be greatly appreciated.

## **2016 PA STATE FAIR QUEEN CONTEST -TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016

Raffle Table Set Up

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2016

10:30am – 1:00pm	Queen Program – 2016 Contest Packet Distribution
12:00pm – 4:00pm	Raffle Table Open to benefit Queen Program
2:45 – 3:15pm	Queen Contestant Check-in
3:15pm – 4:00pm	Queen Contestant Orientation
6:00pm	Line Up for Evening Gown Competition
6:15pm	Evening Gown and Introduction Competition
6:45pm	PSACF Annual Banquet
Immediately after Banquet	Queen Contestants Group Photo & Gift Exchange

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2016

7:00am – 12:00pm	Interviews - Morning Session
10:00am – 4:00pm	Raffle Table Open to benefit Queen Program
11:00am – 12:00pm	Seminar
11:00am – 1:00pm	Queen Program – 2016 Contest Packet Distribution
1:00pm – 5:00pm	Interviews - Afternoon Session
2:15pm – 3:15pm	Seminar
3:30pm – 4:30pm	Queen Coordinators' "Idea Exchange" (and 2016 Contest Packet Distribution)
5:30pm – 6:15pm	Judges Reception with Contestants
7:00pm – 9:00pm	Queen Alana Eisenhower's Pizza Party with Contestants

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2016

7:30am – 12:00pm	Speech Competition – Morning Session
9:00am – 12:45pm	Raffle Table Open to benefit Queen Program
9:00am – 1:45pm	Hair Styling Appointments
10:45am-11:45am	Seminar
12:30pm	Drawing for Raffle Table items
1:15pm – 3:00pm	Speech Competition – Afternoon Session
4:30pm	Rehearsal for Coronation
6:00pm	Coronation Banquet (Reserved Seating - Ticket Required)
7:15pm	Line Up for Coronation
7:30 – 8:45pm	Coronation Ceremony
9:00pm	Media Photos / 2016 PA Fair Queen Meeting with State Coordinator

Visit the PA State Fair Queen Program's Basket Auction and Raffle Table in the Great Lobby.  
50/50 raffle tickets will also be sold in the Chocolate Ballroom Lobby  
Wed, Thurs & Sat. evenings, and Fri evening in the Fireplace lobby.

# 2015 MONSIGNOR MINOT PSACF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS — Jim Davis

**Abigail Gillis**, a Greensburg native, placed highest among our 15 candidates from the four PSACF zones. This young lady was first in a class of 213 at Greensburg Salem High School. She is presently enrolled at Seton Hill University in Greensburg preparing her undergraduate degree to further her studies to practice Osteopathic medicine. Abigail's essay stated, "Everyone has someone or something to thank for his or her success. They can attribute that person or event to inspiring them, challenging them to learn more, and pushing them towards their success." "Many years from now, when I am practicing Osteopathic Medicine, giving back to my community, and am happy with the path I have chosen for my life, I will take time to give thanks to my local county fairs and to all of the people that have influenced me through those organizations."

**Sarah Jefferis** from Alexandria is in her third semester at Venango College of Clarion University. Ms Jefferis is studying Medical Imaging Sciences with a concentration in Radiology Technology. Sarah has been on the dean's list her two previous semesters. Sarah is a junior member of the Huntingdon County Fair board. For her senior project in high school, she organized a 5K race to benefit the Alzheimer's Association raising \$1,487. For her fair queen project at the fair, Sarah organized another 5K race to raise \$1,000 for the Msgr. John W. Mignot PSACF scholarship. Sarah writes in her essay, "The Huntingdon County Fair is a place where I learned who I am, where I made friends, where I gained a second family but most importantly, it's a place that I call my second home."

**Michala Kuhlman** is a Rome resident from the north eastern section of Pennsylvania, is active in the Troy Fair of Bradford County. She, too, is a junior fair board member and placed in the top five at the state fair queen competition. Last year, Michala spent as chaplain for the FFA officers team in Pennsylvania. Today, Ms Kuhlman is studying Agricultural Sciences on main campus at Penn State. She writes, "As a young girl I had the

dream that many girls have, being a princess in a castle of some far away land. A few years later my dream came true but my castle was replaced by the Troy Fair and it wasn't some far away land after all just a short drive away to the small town of Troy....The fair has become my home away from home, my family reunion, and has made me the person I am today."

**Hattie Henderson** of New Florence is studying Agriculture at Penn State. Hattie has been very active at the Derry Township and Westmoreland fairs. She has been a department superintendent. Hattie pens the following paragraph, "Leading a team to plan the show was difficult, but skills from showing livestock assisted me in helping guide our team through the various issues we encountered along the way. Showing an animal requires patience, and so does being a leader. Even with thorough planning, things do not always run smoothly. When I hit a road bump, I would take a deep breath and approach the problem from a new angle. I learned to be patient with countless stubborn calves, goats, and horses throughout the years both inside and outside of the show ring, and now I am able to take those things that I learned to the other side of the fence, and lead the planning team with a calm and clear head."

**Marissa Aurand** is in her first year at DuBois Business College preparing to be a Certified Accountant. Marissa spends her summers working in the Huntingdon County fair office working with vendors, and preparing their spaces, and following through making them accountable for liability, space, and team players. Marissa writes, "I have learned many lessons by raising and showing animals at my county fair that have included responsibility, time management, communication skills, and several more. I spent countless hours raising and preparing animals for my county fair, which has made a greater impact on who I am today. A few of those life skills are that I plan on continuing my passion of training young horses along with competing with them. Training any animal whether it be horses or market animals I show at my county fair, showcases my personal traits such as patience, dedication, and diversity."

See Scholarship — next page



**Emma Munyan** of Elizabethtown in south eastern Pennsylvania, is a sophomore at Delaware Valley University studying to be a large animal veterinarian. At her Lancaster County fair, Emma was a volunteer aspects of the fair. She was always available to lend a hand. Emma has also been an integral part of A-days at Del Val. She writes, "The running joke among friends and family is that I should pitch a tent for the week because I'm usually on the fairgrounds all day, minus a couple hours to sleep. But behind the jokes is the reality that I love my fairs. They have given me a huge leg up in learning vital skills for my

future, and I believe my career tools would be very different if it weren't for the Elizabethtown and A-Day Fairs."



### **Marla Calico Named President and CEO**

The International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) is proud to announce **Marla Calico** as the new president and CEO of the organization. Ms. Calico will take over the position on Jan. 1, 2016, from outgoing President & CEO Jim Tucker.

### **Kent Hojem Named 2016 Chair of IAFE**

LAS VEGAS, NV — December 2, 2015 — Kent Hojem, CEO of the Washington State Fair in Puyallup, Wash., was elected the 2016 chair of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) today during the final business session of the 125th IAFE Annual Convention. The convention began Nov. 29 and continues through today at the Paris Hotel in Las Vegas, Nev.



## **2015 IAFE CONVENTION LAS VEGAS**

Pennsylvania was represented by over 20 attendees to the Convention. Picture above are those that attended the Zone I Business meeting. Workshops, Round Tables, and Seminars were held during the 4 day event. Marla Calico was introduced as the new President and CEO, also announced was the retirement of Max Willis CFO. Kent Hojem was also introduced as the 2016 Chair of IAFE. Dr. Rick Rigsby spoke at the General Session and gave a highly motivating message. Dr. Rigsby will be the speaker at our Convention, you will most certainly want to attend to hear his dynamic message.



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## **“NEW”**

### **PSACF Associates Welcome**

#### **Attractions, Animal/Zoo**

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995 Camp Road Telford PA 18969

Phone: (267) 280-6047 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Pony Rides

WebSite: [branchwoodfarm.wix.com/visitus](http://branchwoodfarm.wix.com/visitus) E-Mail: [branchwoodstables@gmail.com](mailto:branchwoodstables@gmail.com)

#### **Attractions, Miscellaneous**

##### **Laurel Highlands Magic Company**

671 Hauger Road Rockwood PA 15557

Phone: (814) 926-3551 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Featuring experienced magical entertainers who amaze audiences of all age on smaller stage venues.

WebSite: [www.laurelhighlandsmagic.weebly.com](http://www.laurelhighlandsmagic.weebly.com)

E-Mail: [laurelhighlandsmagic@gmail.com](mailto:laurelhighlandsmagic@gmail.com)

##### **Professor Bubblemaker's Eclectic Entertainments**

1915 Market St Parkersburg WV 26101

Phone: (304) 916-8677 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Cutting edge bubble entertainment featuring both strolling entertainment and bubble and light shows to music.

WebSite: [www.bubbles-and-fleas.com](http://www.bubbles-and-fleas.com) E-Mail: [bubblemaker@bubbles-and-fleas.com](mailto:bubblemaker@bubbles-and-fleas.com)

#### **Attractions, Thrill & Stunt Shows**

##### **Circus Stella**

2915 Brantley Rd Kannapolis NC 28083

Phone: (612) 770-0451 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Self-contained family circus featuring trapeze, aerial silk, rope-walking, comedy, and performing rescued dogs.

WebSite: [www.CircusStella.com](http://www.CircusStella.com) E-Mail: [CircusStella@gmail.com](mailto:CircusStella@gmail.com)

##### **DerbyDog Productions**

P.O. Box 104 Madison OH 44057

Phone: (440) 223-4723 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Demolition Derby Promoter.

WebSite: [www.derbydog-productions.com](http://www.derbydog-productions.com) E-Mail: [derbydog77x@gmail.com](mailto:derbydog77x@gmail.com)

##### **Keystone Equine Entertainment and Training LLC**

6196 Beacon Street Altoona PA 16601

Phone: (814) 215-7171 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Trick riding, Trick horses, Roman riding all in one show!

WebSite: [keystoneequineentertainmentandtraining.com](http://keystoneequineentertainmentandtraining.com) E-Mail: [keystoneequinetraing@gmail.com](mailto:keystoneequinetraing@gmail.com)

##### **Monsters Of The Fair**

12377 Sisson Highway Lawtons NY 14091

Phone: (607) 227-3278 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Monster truck and tough truck thrill show

WebSite: E-Mail: [mark@monstersofthefair.com](mailto:mark@monstersofthefair.com)

##### **New Penn Jersey Tractor Pullers Association**

1015 Browntown Road Nazareth PA 18064

Phone: (484) 223-9000 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Tractor pulling

WebSite: [www.npjpullers.com](http://www.npjpullers.com) E-Mail: [zfulmer72@gmail.com](mailto:zfulmer72@gmail.com)

#### **Food Concessions**

##### **The Readneck Poet**

1586 Market Rd Wilcox PA 15870

Phone: (814) 929-5679 Phone 2: (814) 512-4944 Fax:

Info: Food Trailer and Alligator trailer.

WebSite: E-Mail: [thereadneckpoet@gmail.com](mailto:thereadneckpoet@gmail.com)

#### **Lights, Sound, Stage, Communications**

##### **Lightning Audio Productions**

22 Wood Ave. Elysburg PA 17824

Phone: (570) 847-8185 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Sound and light stage company.

WebSite: [www.lightningaudiopro.com](http://www.lightningaudiopro.com) E-Mail: [ltaudio@aol.com](mailto:ltaudio@aol.com)

See "New Associates" next page .....





## **"NEW" Associates cont'd**

### **Musical Attractions**

#### **BeeGeeZ USA**

1306 Paxton Street PO Box 246 Paxtonville PA 17861

Phone: (570) 837-1612 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Top tribute show-band recreating the Bee-Gees experience with costumes, backup band, lights and sound.

WebSite: E-Mail: breegeezusa@gmail.com

#### **Elaini Arthur**

2202 Reservoir Road Hollidaysburg PA 16648

Phone: (814) 502-9387 Phone 2: (814) 650-2271

Fax:

Info: Self-containing, self-booking, classic country music show.

WebSite: [www.elainiarthur.com](http://www.elainiarthur.com) E-Mail: elaini-music@yahoo.com

#### **The Essential Elvis Tribute Show**

3650 Nazareth Pike Suite 13-109 Bethlehem PA 18020

Phone: (484) 268-0754 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Entertainer/Show

WebSite: [www.bjeproductions.com](http://www.bjeproductions.com) E-Mail: scott@bjeproductions.com

#### **Greenwood Valley Boys**

752 Crawley Hill Road Hughesville PA 17737

Phone: (570) 584-4396 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Traditional Bluegrass, Old Time Country and Gospel Music

WebSite: [greenwoodvalleyboys.weebly.com](http://greenwoodvalleyboys.weebly.com) E-Mail: wardjj@windstream.net

#### **Ryan Pelton - Tribute To The King**

2870 Ambarwent Rd, Reynoldsburg OH 43068

Phone: (310) 490-8800 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Elvis Presley Tribute Artist

WebSite: E-Mail: blakerayne007@gmail.com

#### **Phillip Fox Band**

3086 Aleshire Dr Dublin OH 43017

Phone: (614) 526-9104 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: The band's trademark Southern Rock-inspired sound dubbed "Country-Fried Rock'n'Roll".

WebSite: E-Mail: jonathan@phillipfoxband.com

### **Special Services**

#### **Starbright Media, LLC**

401 E. Louthier St., Suite 215 Carlisle PA 17013

Phone: (717) 512-2830 Phone 2: (717) 448-5725

Fax:

Info: Media services, video produciton, event media consulting.

WebSite: [www.starbrightmedia.net](http://www.starbrightmedia.net) E-Mail: tpmalley@starbrightmedia.net

### **Talent/Booking**

#### **Bob's Music and More**

22 Maple Ave Smithsburg MD 21783

Phone: (240) 784-6230 Phone 2: Fax:

Info: Country music mainly booking agent and photographer

WebSite: [www.bobmusicandmore@freesites.com](http://www.bobmusicandmore@freesites.com) E-Mail: bobmusicandmore@gmail.com

#### **Eagle Entertainment & Production**

415 Palisado Ave Windsor CT 06095

Phone: (860) 560-3784 Phone 2: Fax:

WebSite: [www.eagleentertainment.productions](http://www.eagleentertainment.productions) E-Mail: adam.miclette@gmail.com

Info: Your complete Stage, Sound, Lighting, Back-line & Entertainment Talent/Booking Company

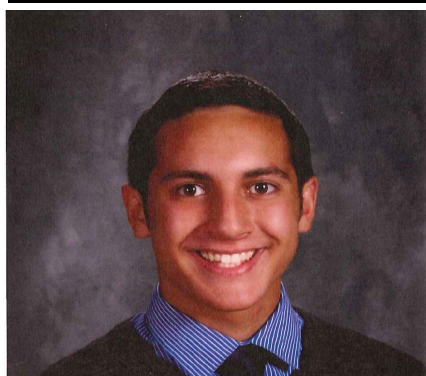


## Wednesday January 20, 2016 Talent Showcase

Chris Ruble	Self Booking
Tussey Mountain Moonshiners	Tillie's Sunshine Family Entertainment
Green River	Self Booking
David Darwin-One Man Sideshow	Self Booking
Lindsey Erin	Self Booking
Branch and Dean	Liz Gregory Talent
Phillip Fox Band	Self Booking
The Joseph Sisters	Rick Modesitt Assoc. (RMA)
amRadio	Variety Attractions
The Belle Tones	Anjoli Productions
Grand Junction	Self Booking
The Magic & Illusion of "Kid" Davie	Tillie's Sunshine Family Entertainment
Charles M. Lee	Self Booking
Jimmy Swogger and Friends	Self Booking
Chef Landry	WOW Attractions

**Not listed in order of performance  
Subject to change  
Showcase MC: Galla Higinbotham**

Sound and Lights provided by Larry Starcher - Sound Rental Service



## 2015 Junior Fair Person of the Year

This year's recipient of the Junior Fair Person of the Year goes to Michael Zaffuto, from the Sykesville Ag & Youth Fair. Michael has been involved with the fair for 15 years, starting with exhibiting in the Family Living Center. He had won the first prize in the Hershey Cookie, Brownie, Bar Contest, and went to Farm Show and won first place competing against 81 other entries. He has shown poultry every year and has won many grand championship awards.

In addition, he has been involved in all aspects of the fair and this year helped process entries in the computer program. He developed a scavenger hunt, where more than 600 scavenger hunt forms were picked up. The hunt helped to get traffic to livestock and display areas and was an important way to promote agricultural.

Michael attends the annual convention attending seminars and table topics, learning techniques that will help improve the fair. He volunteers to help with Community Days, is an Altar Server at Church, plays piano for school and community functions, earned a black belt in karate, and visits residents and plays piano at the local nursing home.

Michael will receive his award at the Saturday evening Coronation Ceremony.

***Congratulations***

# The MidLife Cowboys Band



"Range Rovin" Richard Rupert

"Bluesman" Chris Trasatti

"Too Dang Cool" Ed Scholl

"Miss Alison" Alison Rupert

"Trail Boss" Gary Stoner

"Saddle Sore" Mike Celline

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# 2015 PENNSYLVANIA STATE FAIR QUEEN

— Alana Eisenhour



I cannot believe that I am writing my final Fair Talk. This year has been more than I've ever imagined it would be. It most certainly has gone by way to fast. I will never forget the memories I've made and the many traditions that I have been so lucky to

be a part of. In October, I finished up my Fair season at the Dillsburg Farmer's Fair, which just so happens to be in my hometown. I got to help Dillsburg celebrate 100 magnificent years. I also attended the 2015 Farm-City Day and want to thank all of my Queens that could make it. Each and everyone of you did an amazing job and have educated and inspired many young individuals. It's hard to believe that so many people today are so far removed from the agricultural world. It's because of all of you that over 1,000 students know about where their food comes from and how important it is to thank our farmers. In November, I had the chance to go to the Hanover Farmer's Market and promote local

businesses in the area. 22 fairs and many great activities has really taught me that our local communities are what make us who we are. It is important to appreciate where we come from and support the area that has given us so much more than just a hometown.

As I am busy working on scrapbooks, displays, and my final farewell speech, it's a bittersweet moment thinking that my reign is coming to an end. Although my title as the 2015 Pennsylvania State Fair Queen is almost over, I am sure a new journey for me will soon begin. This opportunity was truly an experience of a lifetime. I owe it all to the love and support of my family and friends. Thank you Pennsylvania for your love for agriculture and your continued support for our Fair Industry. Also, thank you to the PSACF for an incredible year.

Happy Holidays and please never forget to

**Harvest the Fun!**

Your 2015 PA State Fair Queen,  
Alana Eisenhour

## TEAMS ARE SET FOR FAMILY FEUD

**BY: KEVIN D. BIEBER**

The four fairs that will square off against each other at convention are set to do battle. Which team will prevail, will Elizabethtown defend their title?

The teams listed below should report on Saturday afternoon of convention to the location that is listed in the convention guide. Each team should come with 5 players that are ready to compete and have some fun. Everyone is invited to attend and watch this fierce competition.

- Game # 1 Carbon County Fair vs. Hookstown Fair
- Game # 2 Elizabethtown Fair vs. Harmony Grange Fair
- Game # 3 The winner of Game # 1 vs. The winner of Game # 2

Good luck to all and "Let's Play the Feud" !!!!!

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**Ladies and Gentlemen.. Boy and Girls... Children of All Ages... Welcome to the 100<sup>th</sup> PA Farm Show....**

Wow what an amazing year! Boy was it fun getting a chance to travel this beautiful state and get a chance to meet all of the people who make PA Fairs the best in the country. As a kid

who spent most of his "free" time traveling to fairs showing livestock it still amazes me of all the cool things I see happening at Pennsylvanias agricultural and community fairs.

**Farm Show Important Information**

Throughout the summer, you have heard us note that "*all roads lead to the 100th Farm Show!*" We have celebrated many milestones, handed out many Blue Ribbons, and have had one of the best fair seasons in recent memory. And now, our journey is nearly complete. As we put the finishing touches on the 100<sup>th</sup> Farm Show, we would like to recognize your contributions by inviting you to join us for two very special events.

The first event is the **100<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Farm Show Opening Ceremony**. This traditional kick-off to Farm Show Week will be held on **Saturday, January 9, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Large Arena**. In acknowledgement of the significant role that Pennsylvania's fairs play in "Our Commonwealth's Blue Ribbon Experience," we will be recognizing you during this opening ceremony. While this ceremony is open to everyone, we will have a special reserved seating section specifically for our fairs, with two (2) seats reserved per fair.

The second opportunity to recognize the contributions of our fairs will occur at a special event held during **Fairs and Public Officials Day** on **Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. in the PA Preferred Banquet Hall**. This event will provide an opportunity to celebrate the shared history of the fairs and the Farm Show; and will give you the opportunity to connect with your state and local public officials and to hear from past and present leadership at the Department of Agriculture. For each fair, there will be three (3) seats reserved at this event.

We realize the success of your fair is the culmination of the collective efforts of many. As you give thought to who should attend each of these events, we suggest that you consider those who have played key roles in the successful execution of your fair, such as Outstanding Fair Ambassadors and Fair Board Members.

**Outstanding Fair Ambassador Awards**

There was quite a lot of deserving fair volunteers who received an Outstanding Fair Ambassador Award from Sec. Redding this fair season. It continues to be one of the most personally rewarding programs that I have ever had the privilege to be involved with. The genuine humility and emotion displayed during each recognition was truly a magnificent sight and is constant reminder of the amazing work that continues to be done at the Fairs in Pennsylvania. Think ahead to 2016 – it's never too early to come up with a nominee or, better yet, a list of potential nominees.



**Fair Fund Training Returns to PSACF Convention**

I will be conducting the PA Fair Fund Reimbursement roundtable Friday of the fair convention from 12:00-2 p.m. No matter your experience, bring your questions and suggestions to share with me and fellow fair secretaries.

I hope to see you at the Farm Show starting with the fantastic Blue Ribbon Reception on Friday, Jan. 8, at 5:30 p.m. in the PA Preferred Banquet Hall. I strongly suggest you join us.

You won't be disappointed.



## *Pennsylvania State Fair Queen Program*

There were 22 fairs who invited PA Fair Queen Alana Eisenhour to their event this summer. PA Fair Queen Alternate Brittany Balmer also visited 3 fairs. Together they did a great job of promoting PA Fairs and Agriculture! Thank you to the PA State Association of County Fairs for their continued support by funding Alana and Brittany's mileage expenses so that these appearances could be made possible.

Next stop for our 2015 PA Fair Queen is the 100<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Farm Show. What an exciting time it will be as Alana represents our fairs and our Association at the largest indoor agricultural exposition in the nation on its landmark anniversary! If you are attending the Blue Ribbon Reception on Friday, January 8 at 6:00 pm, and/or the Opening Ceremony on Saturday, January 9 at 10:00 am in the Large Arena, make sure to look for Alana as she will be taking part in those events. Alana will also be helping with the PSACF Special Baking contest finals between 12:00 – 4 pm in the Family Living Area.

The PA Fair Queen Program is excited to announce there will be **61 contestants** competing for the title of 2016 PA Fair Queen! Contestant Handbooks will be mailed before Christmas with details about how to prepare. Fairs are reminded to register their Contestants, queen coordinators, family/friends and fair board members for Convention, meals and hotel accommodations by the deadlines set in the Convention packet.

Whether you are from a fair that already has a Queen or are interested in starting a Queen Program, there is something at convention for you! Just check out the Queen Schedule in this edition of FairTalk for more details. The Convention's finale will be the grand Coronation Banquet that will showcase some of the finest youth in Pennsylvania. This salute to youth will include the PSACF Junior Fair Person of the Year award, singing performance by the "Farm Show's Got Talent" 2015 winners, Mountain Folk Youth Bluegrass Jam Group, the final presentation of the 61 fair queen contestants, and the crowning of the new 2016 PA Fair Queen! This event's attendance grows bigger every year, so seats will sell out quickly. **Don't delay in ordering your Coronation tickets!**

The Convention is the Queen Program's biggest fundraising opportunity. The Fundraising Committee is working on their display of amazing gift baskets, raffle prizes and live auction items. **Back by popular demand will be another autographed guitar** signed by some of country music's hottest stars:

**Trace Adkins**  
**Lee Brice**  
**Dan + Shay**  
**Montgomery Gentry**  
**Cassadee Pope**  
**Cole Swindell**

Special thanks to our friend Todd Boltin from Variety Attractions who takes the guitar around all summer to get these autographs! The guitar will be up for auction at the Coronation Banquet! Want to get in on the fundraising fun? There's still time. Just contact Judy Kmetz or John Berne if you or your fair is interested in donating an auction item or gift basket.

If you have questions or need additional information on any aspect of the PA Fair Queen Program, please contact the appropriate Committee person:

Convention/Coronation Registrations - Bitsey Kopfinger, 570-296-8790  
Fundraising - John Berne, 814-887-5396 or Judy Kmetz, 570-675-2952  
PA Fair Queen's Appearances - Martha Ebersole, 717-580-6753  
State Contest - Karen Dobson, 610-212-6180





## The Secretary's Notepad

— Harry Reffner

### 2016 Theme

The 2016 Fair season theme and for the fair display at the 2017 Convention, is "We Have Good Things Growing". A logo to use with the theme is on our website.

### Recent Mailings

All mailings for the last quarter of the year have been completed. Fairs were given at their zone meetings or mailed a 2016 Convention packet. The Annual Meeting and a Voting Delegate form were included. Associates were mailed a 2016 Convention packet, trade show packet, and dues notice. Those dues received by the Association office will appear in the 2016 Directory, those received after this newsletter will not appear.

### Distribution of Material at Convention

Hershey Lodge and PSACF personnel will enforce the NO distribution of material (printed matter, CDs, tapes, etc.) on public tables in the Great Lobby, Chocolate Lobby and Chocolate Ballroom (except performing acts).

### PSACF/Msgr. John W. Minot Scholarship Program

The six recipients for 2015 are noted in an article in this newsletter and on the Association's website. The 2016 scholarship material will be released early next year. Through the efforts of the Spouse program at our 2015 convention, and donations of a number of Fairs and individuals, the six scholarships were entirely funded.

### 2016 IAFE Zone 1 Conference

The conference will be held May 6 – 7, 2016, in New Hampshire. Each fair that is a member of IAFE will receive complete details early next year and a link to Zone 1 will be on the association website.

### Banquet Entertainment

The MidLife Cowboys Bane will be presenting the entertainment at our Thursday Opening Celebration, followed by our Keynote speaker Dr. Rick Rigsby. At the PSACF Annual Banquet Hoop Dance with Theresa will have a strolling act in the lobby prior to the banquet. Collin Raye represented by Variety Attractions will entertain. The PSSA Annual Banquet will have Phil Crosson, Artist of Magical Illusion a strolling act in the lobby prior to the banquet. For the entertainment Friday night the Justin Fabus Band will be performing.

### Convention Schedules & Lodging Reservations

Please review the tentative schedule in this issue. If you have special requests or difficulties with lodging, contact Sally Nolt at (717) 367-7256, or email sknolt@comcast.net. It is our understanding that our rooms are entirely booked and a waiting list has been established at Hershey Lodge.

# DENNIE HUBER



**BALLOON  
ARTIST**



**MAGICIAN**

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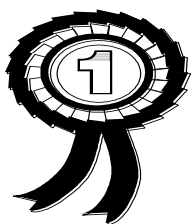
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## Update from The Zones



### Zone One –Sam Zaffuto

Our fall zone meeting was held on Friday October 23 at Scrubgrass Grange. Our secretary, Harry Reffner and Vice President, Dave Hallstrom, updated us on the upcoming convention and issues regarding the state association.

Zach Gihorski, Fair Coordinator for the Department of Agriculture, was with us and reported on his first fair season as fair coordinator. He was able to visit most of the fairs in the state this year. Zach discussed the 2016 Pa Farm Show and invited all fairs to attend. The Farm Show is celebrating 100 years in 2016 and there are plans to include the fairs in the celebration.

John Berne, one of our zone one directors, is president of the Queen Board. John discussed the queen program and updated all on what to expect at the convention. Following his report, John was reelected to serve another term representing zone one on the Queen board.

Sam presented a summary of fair visitations by our zone directors. Twenty-nine of our fairs were visited this year. Summaries of all the zone visitation reports will be found on the state association website.

Sherman Allen presented the Zone Junior Fair Person award to Michael Zaffuto. Michael has been involved in the Sykesville Ag and Youth Fair since he was a child. At this year's fair he developed a scavenger hunt that 600 people participated in. He also helped with registering and processing exhibits as well as assisting with concession contracts. Congratulations, Michael.

We hope to see all fairs at the PSACF convention in Hershey in January.

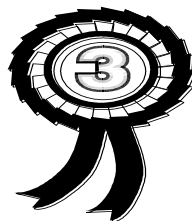


### Zone Two — Rod Ralston

Zone II held the Fall Meeting at the Pottsville Ramada, hosted by the Schuylkill County Fair on October 24<sup>th</sup>. President Dave Reese, Vice-President David Hallstrom, and Secretary Harry Reffner gave updates on the Association and convention updates. Zach Gilhorski, from the Department of Agriculture, gave updates on his year and the upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> Farm Show in January.

Logan Koser was selected to receive the Junior Fair Person of the Year Award. Logan is from the Lycoming County Fair.

Hope to see you in January at Convention.



### Zone Three-Debbie Stephenson

The Zone 3 Fall Meeting was held on October 22, at the Smithfield Fire Hall, hosted by the Huntingdon County Fair at 6:30 PM. Discussed at this meeting was the Hershey Convention 2016 by Vice President Dave Hallstrom, Secretary Harry Reffner spoke on rooms and meals reservations. John Blaney reminded us regarding the Queen entries and their reservations and also the Communication entries are needed soon. Department of Agriculture Zach Gihorski reminded us that the 100th anniversary of Farm Show was in 2016 and urged all of our fairs to send a photo with a 200 words or less bio along with it to be on display and he hoped we all could attend such an event. We awarded a Jr Fair Person of the Year to Abby Gilis from Westmoreland County and also honored an award for Zone 3 Person of the Year Award to Michelle Long. We were pleased to have with us some of the Monsignor John Mignot Scholarship Award winners. If anyone is interested in being a moderator for one of the Table Topics at the Hershey Convention please let Debbie know as soon as possible. Our team is still looking for persons to do this. Have a wonderful holiday season and hope to see all of you at the Fair Convention.



See "Zones" next page.....

From "Zones" previous page....



#### Zone Four — Dr. Sally Nolt

The Fall Zone 4 Meeting was held October 21, 2015 at Shady Maple Smorgasbord, East Earl. Thank you to Karen Dobson for handling the reservations.

The Zone 4 Zone Person of the Year Award for 2015 was presented to Marie Haas. I would like to personally thank her for her many years of dedication to the Oley Valley Community Fair, the Pennsylvania Farm Show, agriculture and the Fair Industry. Congratulations and thank you Marie for jobs well done!

The Jr. Fair Person of the Year Award for 2015 was presented to Daulton Lape of the Leba-

non Area Fair. Daulton has worked hard for the Lebanon Fair, 4-H and FFA.

Thank you for your service and congratulations Daulton!

Continue to keep in touch with your legislators. Thank them for their support of Fairs and agriculture.

Please mark your calendars now for the spring zone meeting. The spring meeting will be at Shady Maple Smorgasbord, East Earl on April 20, 2016. For reservations contact Karen Dobson.

Congratulations to all completed fairs for another successful fair season and I hope to see you all at the PSACF Convention in Hershey in January! If anyone has trouble with room reservations please call me at 717-367-7256 or 717-808-1397 or e-mail [sknolt@comcast.net](mailto:sknolt@comcast.net).



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#### **Budget Update**

Pennsylvania has been without a budget for the past 170 days. Many budget plans have been exchanged between both the House of Representatives and Senate, a few have even been presented to Governor Tom Wolf - all have included at least \$4 million for county fairs. However, a final agreement is still being negotiated. The latest proposal included a \$30.8 billion spending plan with a \$600 million-plus tax increase attached. House Republicans pulled away from the agreement insisting on a smaller spending plan and looking for alternatives to broad-based taxes. The stalemate continues with state lawmakers pushing to have a budget enacted before Christmas day.

#### **Sales Tax Expansion**

**Budget negotiations continue to focus on removing some sales tax exemptions.** Among the items on the list is admissions to amusement parks and other recreation-type businesses (e.g., county fairs, festivals, etc.). Adding a 6% state

sales tax on affordable family friendly amusement is very concerning. The tax would have a huge economic impact on businesses and families that are still recovering from the recession. Milliron & Goodman has been and continues to be actively engaged on this issue to protect Pennsylvania's county fairs so they are not unfairly taxed. We encourage you to contact your local legislators and ask them to oppose a sales tax on amusements.

#### **Grassroots Advocacy**

We would like to thank those PSACF members that are engaged on the sales tax issue. As the Pennsylvania legislature looks for ways to fill the budget gap or fund property tax relief, we will need your continued support. If you have not done so already, please take the time to get to know your legislators. By building relationships with your legislators, you are developing legislative champions that will seek your advice and be your voice in the Capitol.

#### **Contact Us**

If have any questions regarding anything that you have read in this article, please do not hesitate to contact M&G at 717.232.5322. We have an open door policy.



# Z O N E A W A R D S



Above Dale LeVan presenting the Zone 2 Junior Fair Person of the Year to Logan Koser



Above Debbie Stephenson presenting the Zone 3 Junior Fair Person of the Year to Abby Gillis



Above Dr. Sally Nolt presenting the Zone 4 Junior Fair Person of the Year to Daulton Lape



Above Debbie Stephenson presenting the Zone 3 Fair Person of the Year to Michelle Long

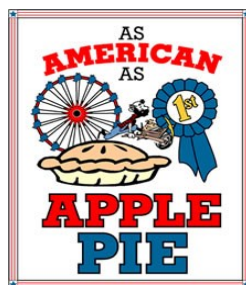


Above Sherman Allen presenting the Zone 1 Junior Fair Person to Michael Zaffuto



Above Dr. Sally Nolt presenting the Zone 4 Fair Person of the Year to Marie Haas





## SPECIAL BAKING CONTESTS

By now all participating Fairs should have mailed or emailed in their Contest Summary Forms for the 2015 Angel Food Cake, Blue Ribbon Apple and PA Preferred Chocolate contests! Any sponsored premium money not awarded must be returned to the PSACF Office. Include a description of which placings are being returned (ex: 3<sup>rd</sup> place, PA Preferred Cookies, Brownies, Bars).

A post card will be mailed (*before Christmas*) to all 1<sup>st</sup> place winners listed on the Contest Summary forms. The card includes information on when, where and how to participate in the Farm Show finals in January. Our goal is to show our sponsors how much these contests mean to our fair exhibitors by having a great turnout at Farm Show! So remember that if your fair's first-place winner cannot attend, you can certify your next place winner.

Frequently Asked Questions we get from the contestants about the PA Farm Show competition . . .

***"I don't have my Winner Certification paper! Where do I get one?"*** The Fairs must give their certified winner the signed form. That is their "ticket" to enter at Farm Show. Carbonless duplicate forms were included in the Fairs' contest packets in April. Forms are also available on PSACF's web-site under the "Baking Contest" page of the "Members" menu. <http://www.pafairs.org/p/members/266>

1. ***"My Fair only gave me one (1) signed Certificate Form! What do I do now?"*** We need an original and 1 copy when the contestant enters at Farm Show. Most likely the Fair printed the single page form from the PSACF website. The winner can just make a photocopy of the signed Certificate.

2. ***"Do I need to fill out an entry form or enter my cake/pie/cookies online through the PA Farm Show's website?"*** No. All Special Baking contests co-sponsored by PSACF are strictly handled through Kevin and Karen. As long as the contestants have their signed Winner Certification, their baked entry and any other required items listed in the contest rules, they are good to go. No other entry paperwork is needed. Please do not call the PA Farm Show office as they will not be able to assist with information about these contests.

3. ***"I really want to enter at Farm Show, but I can't get there. Can someone else bring my entry?"*** Yes. As long as your helper has the original signed Winner Certification Form, the baked entry and all other required items per the contest rules, they can enter the contestant's item.

***"Do you have to present at the time of award to get your ribbon/cash prize?"*** No. While we certainly encourage contestants to stick around for the live judging, it is not required. We will contact any absent winners and their fairs after the contest.

To learn more about how to run a successful baking contest at your 2016 Fair, come to the Special Baking Contest Seminar at Convention on Friday, January 22. We will review any rule updates, give tips and ideas, and address any issues/concerns. In the meantime, feel free to contact the appropriate committee chairpersons with any questions:

Angel Food Cake and Apple Pie

Kevin Bieber (484-256-8009, email [kdbieber@natpennbank.com](mailto:kdbieber@natpennbank.com))