

DATES TO REMEMBER

— 2018 —

October 15

- Showcase apps. Due
- 2019 Request for Fair info material, PSACF Associate Dues Invoices, PSACF/PSSA Convention material, Trade Show apps. mailed.

October 18

- PSACF Board Meeting

October 23

- PSACF Zone 3 Mtg. - Bedford County Fair

October 24

- PSACF Zone 4 Mtg. - Schnecksville Comm. Fair

October 26

- PSACF Zone 1 Mtg. - Christ the King Manor

October 27

- PSACF Zone 2 Mtg. - Bloomsburg Fair

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 November

November 25 -28

- 2018 Annual IAFE Convention

— 2019 —

January 6 -12

- 1073rd PA Farm Show

January 23 -26

- 107th Annual Convention

April 11—13

- IAFE Zone 1 Conference Rockland MA



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NO. 3

"WE DO WHAT WE LOVE"

BY: KEVIN D. BIEBER

Did you ever have someone ask you, why you are involved in your fair, why do you spend so many hours preparing, setting up and cleaning up? Did you ever have someone ask you why you would want the stress of doing what you do? Oh yes, and why during fair week are we first to arrive on the fairgrounds early in the morning and the last to leave late at night? To most, that answer is easy, it's simply because we love what we do and we do what we love !! However, if you don't believe me, then I would encourage you to come to the "We Do What We Love" seminar on Thursday afternoon at convention. What I just mentioned above will be the topic of a seminar given by our IAFE speaker Jennifer Giesike from Missouri. Jennifer is a CFE and is the President / CEO of the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Manager of the Washington Town and Country Fair. Let's face it, I think everyone reading this article knows why they do what they do for your fair, but come hear what Jennifer has to say as I am confident she will inspire us even more to keep doing what we love to do.

As always, the seminar committee has put together a full line-up of seminars for you to choose from. As much as I would like to tell you to attend all of them, that is simply impossible. Between the seminars and the table topics, our goal is to provide as much learning experience as possible for you to take back to your fair.

Wednesday will start the day with Beverly Gruber putting together another Judge's School, please be reminded that you must sign up separately for Judge's School. Also on Wednesday we will hear about any changes in the Trucking Regulations as well as Maria Lucero of the Erie County Fair, Hamburg New York will present a seminar on STEAM at the Fair. I can read your mind saying "STEAM", wonder what that is about". Well, guess you will have to plan to be in Hershey on Wednesday afternoon to find out. OK, yes, just read the description in the pre-convention agenda.

Continued next page — "We Do"

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FAIRTALK published four
Times per year by the
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PA Department of Agriculture
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From Previous Page — “We Do”



Thursday morning we will once again become energized by our keynote speaker Sam Glenn. I am looking forward to hearing Sam's keynote as watching him on video was just amazing. So rise and shine on Thursday morning and head to the Chocolate Ballroom for Opening Ceremonies. Aside from the Jennifer's seminar that we

spoke about at the beginning of this article, we also have representatives from the SouthCentral Task Force Ag Subcommittee back again. This time they will have a panel discussion on “What Could Shut Down Your Fair” and “Activists’ Tactics and How to Prepare”.

Friday we will have David Feimster of F & F Production LLC who will also discuss some more information on Animal Rights Activists. Although this is similar to what is being presented on Thursday afternoon, it will still provide some different insight. We were also asked to have an additional seminar on this subject for those that cannot attend the convention until Friday. That afternoon Karen Dobson and myself will update you on the Special Baking Contest and discuss any changes that may be taking place. There is another seminar that is currently being finalized for Friday afternoon as well.

Saturday morning I encourage you to rise and shine for some seminars and a chance to win a gift card. Back again this year is the drawing at each Saturday morning seminar for those of you who arrive at the beginning and stay until the end. The seminars for you to choose from include “Fair Funding Overview” by our own Fair Fund Administrator Tracy Barone. We will also have someone from the PA Dept. of Agriculture present any changes in the food safety program. Finally, is your fair up to date with technology? We have a seminar scheduled to present and answer questions on how your fair can use technology to accept payments.

As you can see, another fun filled line-up of seminars. Plan to arrive Wednesday and stay until Saturday and partake of as many educational seminars as you can. I will see you in Hershey !!!



Become a Judge!

There are many opportunities for you to judge the IAFE Contests, both online and in Springfield, Missouri. Be sure to sign up now by sending an email to Brittney McBride brittneym@fairsandexpos.com.

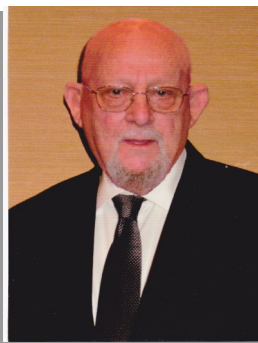
FAIR PERSON OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS NEEDED —Bruce Koppenhaver

As in years past, a 2018 "Fair Person of the Year" award will be presented at the 2019 Convention. The following criteria have been established as a guide in this award presentation, according to Committee Chair, Bruce Koppenhaver.

Rules for the award are:

- In honor of the service rendered to the fair industry, an annual award is given to an individual for distinguished achievement in or contribution to the fair industry under conditions herein described.
- The presentation of the award will be made at the annual convention.
- The eligibility is as follows:
 - 1) The candidate must be a living person at the time of the nomination.
 - 2) The person must be identified with the fair industry for a minimum of ten years.
 - 3) The person shall have contributed to the fair industry in addition to his/her own fair or association of fairs, and something of value in the field of leadership at the state association level.
 - 4) He/she shall have fairly consistently attended the meetings and conventions of PSACF.
 - 5) Each PSACF member fair is entitled to nominate one person. The person need NOT be from the fair making the nomination.

Submit the application (located on the association website or request one be emailed/mailed), along with a brief write-up, supporting documentation, and resume of the nominee on official fair letterhead to Bruce Koppenhaver, PO Box 217, Gratz PA 17030 no later than November 1, 2018. Questions can be directed to Bruce at 717.319.1518 or bckoppy@comcast.net.



**From our
President**

Where has the summer gone? September and fair season is rapidly coming to a close. Once again Mother Nature was a big factor in our season. Most fairs had a tremendous amount of rain to deal with,

those not having rain had high temperatures. Enough of Mother Nature, hopefully she will be kinder to those fairs yet to come.

Now is the time to think about the Fall season, with zone meetings and annual Convention. Your Directors and Officers are working hard to make these meetings worthwhile to attend. All fairs should strive to have as many as possible attend. Remember to invite your local and State officials as Thank You for their support. The latest news and information will be available.

Convention: Kevin is working on seminars, always worthwhile. Seth is lining up round tables. Dick is working on the trade show, always the best. Queen Coronation Saturday will conclude the Conventions activities.

We should also be thinking of nominations for Fair Person of the Year and Junior Fair Person, not only on the State level but also in our zones. Each and every fair has someone that is worthy of this award. In most cases this is the only pay they receive. It is an honor to receive this award.

Fairs should refer to the Toolkit that was distributed at the Spring zone meeting. All dates and deadlines are there. Good job by Tracy Barone in compiling this booklet.

If you have not yet made your room reservations for Convention, now is the time. Convention dates are Jan 23 – 26 2019. It is easier to reserve and cancel if the need arises, rather than trying at a later date to do a reservation. Rooms fill up fast. Reminder if you must cancel it must be done one week in advance or you will be billed for one night.

My wife and I have attended numerous fairs, many that were new to us, we would like to thank everyone for all the courtesies shown to us during our visits. As time permits we have a few more to visit.

See you at the zone meeting or Convention.



107th ANNUAL CONVENTION

PA State Association of County Fairs and
PA State Showmen's Association

The Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, Hershey PA

Wednesday - Saturday, Jan. 23 - 26, 2019



HOTEL RESERVATIONS

2019 Convention reservations will now be accepted by the Hershey Lodge.

Deadline is December 23, 2018. For lodging:

phone 1-800-HERSHEY (717-437-7439) or online at <https://book.passkey.com/go/PSACF2019>. All Queen Candidates must use the Fair Queen Contestant Hotel Reservation Form, and the Credit Card Authorization form. 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, 2018)

\$50 (received after December 15, 2018)

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 23, 2019

MEALS ON YOUR OWN-ALL

9:00am-1:00pm "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)

11:00am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open
12:30pm Judging School Orientation Session
1:20pm – 2:30pm First Session of Judging School
2:35pm – 3:55pm Second Session of Judging School
2:00pm-4:00pm Seminar – "Trucking Regulations Update"
2:00pm-3:30pm Seminar – "Imagination, Innovation & Ingenuity"
3:15pm-4:15pm Table Topics 9, 10
4:00pm-8:00pm Enter Communication Exhibits
Trade Show Set-up
4:45pm PSSA Board Meeting
4:45pm PSACF Board Meeting/Reorganization to follow
6:30pm-10:00pm ENTERTAINMENT SHOWCASE

Thursday, January 24, 2019

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 Ceremony
Keynote Speaker – Sam Glenn
10:30am-4:00pm Trade Show Open
Communication Exhibits Open
(Badge Required)
10:30am-4:00pm PA Dept. of Agriculture display, etc.
1:00pm-2:30pm Seminar – "We Do What We Love"
1:00pm-3:15pm Spouse Program - "Bag & Basket" Bingo
1:15pm-2:15pm Table Topics 4,14,15

1:30pm-3:00pm Meeting – Sire & USTA
2:45 -4:30pm Seminar – "What Could Shut Down Your Fair? Activists' Tactics and How to Prepare"
3:15pm-4:15pm Table Topics 3,6,7
4:00pm Associates Gathering
5:30pm PSACF & PSSA Board
Group Photos
5:45pm Hospitality Time & Cash Bar
6:15pm PSACF ANNUAL BANQUET
6:45pm Dinner (reserved seating-ticket required-\$34)

Friday, January 25, 2019

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 Table Topics 19
1:00pm -2:15pm Seminar- "Animal Rights Activists"
2:00pm-3:30pm Seminar – "Special Baking Contests"
2:00pm-3:30pm Spouse Program – "Gifts, Gifts, Gifts"
2:15pm-3:15pm Table Topics 8,11,16
2:30pm-3:45pm Seminar - "FFA Youth Panel Discussion"
3:15pm-4:15pm Table Topics 2,12,13
6:15pm Hospitality Time & Cash Bar
6:45pm PA SHOWMEN ANNUAL BANQUET
(Reserved seating-ticket required-\$39.50)

Saturday, January 26, 2019

MEAL ON YOUR OWN-BREAKFAST

7:30am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open
9:00am -10:30am Seminar – Fair Funding Overview
9:00am-10:30am Seminar – Food Safety Updates
9:00am-10:00am Table Topics 1,5
9:00am-Noon Trade Show Open
Communication Exhibits Open
(Badge Required)
9:30am-11:00am Seminar – "Adoption and Growing Fair Technology with Point-of-Sale"
9:30am-10:45am Spouse Program – TBA
10:30am-11:30am Table Topics 17,18
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-\$39)

Sunday, January 27, 2019

8:00am PSACF Exec. / Conv. Breakfast

TABLE TOPICS

1. Organizing Your Scrapbook -- *Linda Wolfe & Laura James*
2. What's New at Your Fair, and How do We Keep Our Current Fairgoers while Attracting the Young Crowd? -- *Greg Hallstrom*
3. Natural Disaster, Now What? -- *Cathy Jenkins*
4. Animal Health Rules -- *Drs. Elizabeth Santini & Tony LaBarbera*
5. Budgets and Fiscal Planning -- *Dale Bliss & Steve Carr*
6. Technology and Connectivity at Your Fair -- *Matt Naylor*
7. Electric for Fairgrounds -- *Chris Nehrig*
8. Organization of Fair Office and Updating Systems -- *Sharyl Vaughn*
9. Passes and Wristbands -- *Jim Reed*
10. Aging Boards & Planning for Transition to New Members -- *Darwin Kitner & Paul Britcher*
11. How to Advertise Your Fair on a Shoe String Budget -- *Dana Lape, et al.*
12. Sponsorships for All Volunteer Fairs -- *Steve Carr & Dale Bliss*
13. Treasurer Reports and Book Keeping in the Technology Age -- *Cody Stevenson*
14. Exhibits Declining...How can We Increase Our Numbers? -- *Kevin Bieber*
15. Are You OSHA Audit Ready? -- *Donna Kramer*
16. Promoting Your Fair Through Social Media -- *Butler & Manheim Farm Show Jr. Fair Boards*
17. What Effects the Bottom Line for Concessionaires and Fairs -- *Kathy Ross*
18. Sound and Public Address Systems -- *Craig Studenroth*
19. PA Fair Fund -- *Laura England & Tracy Barone*

SEMINARS

Judging School

Session choices for this year are as follows:

- Baked Goods
- Grain, Hay and Eggs
- Photography
- Needlework & Needle art
- Handcrafts
- Queen Contests

Serv-Safe

The Food Safety updates will be presented by Paster Training, Inc. Paster Training Inc.'s trainers are the best and most passionate in the business. We are thrilled about the opportunity to provide your association members with a 4 hour food safety review session and proctoring of the ServSafe examination.

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, Sam Glenn

Sam Glenn has been named one of the top 100 best speakers today. He is known for his energizing approach to re-charge you and your team. He is rooted in his belief that keeping a positive outlook in any situation is essential to finding success and fulfillment in life. The self-proclaimed "Attitude Guy" studied marketing at Saint Xavier University until 1995. After losing everything in a fire, Sam decided to take his story of overcoming adversity on the road and traveled to different cities to take part in speaking engagements.

Special Baking Contests

Presented by Kevin Bieber (Oley Valley Community Fair) and Karen Dobson (Kimberton Community Fair)

This is the annual seminar to update everyone who runs any of the Special Baking Contests at your fairs. This is also the perfect time to come and ask questions regarding any of the contests.

Family Feud

Contestants to be announced.

Fair Funding Overview

Presented by: Tracy Barone, PA Department of Agriculture, Fair Fund Administrator

In this session we will discuss the fair funding scenario for the current year, review program requirements, and talk about the newly developed E-Grants system that we will use next year to collect the Fair Reimbursement and Capital Improvement Grant applications.

Food Safety Updates

Changes and Updates from the PA Dept. of Agriculture.

Imagination, Innovation & Ingenuity

Presented by Maria Lucero, Erie County Agricultural Society, Erie County Fair, New York

S.T.E.A.M. at the Fair- Fairs have always been the leaders in showcasing new technologies and inventions. Being a fair in the 21st century is an even bigger reason to be at the forefront of showcasing what's "new", and connecting the community with the labor gap and the tools to reach for jobs in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. The Erie County Fair created the IHub and brought together some of the best interactive displays to ignite imagination, foster ingenuity, and showcase the commitment to Innovation.

See "Seminars" next page

Maria is part of the team at the Erie County Fair, Hamburg, NY where she plays an intricate part in helping put together the IHub exhibit. Maria began her journey in the Fair industry in 2011 at her home fair, the Wisconsin Valley Fair, in Central Wisconsin. She believes fairs will always be a place where community comes together, celebrates together, and learn together. Maria enjoys coaching basketball, cheering for her favorite sports teams, and is an avid bow hunter.

We Do What We Love

Presented by: Jennifer Giesike, CFE; Washington Town & Country Fair, Missouri

Have you ever had someone ask you why you do what you do? Perhaps someone is outside the fair industry who can't understand why you put in countless, sleepless hours for a once a year event. It's fun, right? We do what we love and let's face itthere is a lot to love about our fairs and expositions. This keynote focuses on reenergizing our love and passion for our events.....making it easy to respond, "I do what I love!"

Jennifer Giesike, CFE is President / CEO of the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Manager of the Washington Town & Country Fair. She has been with the Chamber for 17 years. Jennifer oversees the day to day operations of the Chamber and the Fair, which include entertainment contracts, sponsorships, scheduling, finances, volunteers, and working closely with a 24-member Fair Board and a 16-member Chamber Board. She has chaired many of the committees for the IAFE and served as Zone 5 Director (2009-2011). Jennifer was awarded the first IAFE YP Rising Star Award in December 2009. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her husband, Chad and daughter, Hallie, working on the family farm, playing competitive volleyball, and coaching a select volleyball team.

What Could Shut Down Your Fair? Activists' Tactics and How to Prepare

Panel Discussion by the SouthCentral Task Force Ag Subcommittee, Pennsylvania

Panelists:

John Sancenito, president and co-owner of Information Network Associates, Inc., an international investigative and corporate consulting firm

Duane Haglegans, Assistant Professor at
Millersville University in Emer-
gency Management

Linda Spahr, PSU Extension 4-H Science
Educator in York County

Dr. Gregory Martin, PSU Extension

Description: There are many emergencies or crises to prepare for related to animal welfare and human safety at a fair. This breakout session will address the topics of what could shut down your fair related to animal diseases, quarantine considerations, and intentional disruptions as a form of protest. We will discuss current tactics of animal activists, what you have to allow, how you can prepare, and how to potentially identify activists ahead of time. We will also provide an updated Emergency Planning Template to attendees.

Dr. Duane Hagelgans has been involved in the emergency services for over 30 years. He has been working and volunteering in the field of emergency management for over 14 years. He retired in 2011 from the City of Lancaster, Bureau of Fire. He holds an A.S. in Fire Science Technology from Harrisburg Area Community College, a B.S. degree in Occupational Safety from Millersville University and Juris Doctorate from Widener University School of Law. Duane currently serves on the South Central Pennsylvania Counter Terrorism Task Force (SCTF) and the Lancaster County Emergency Management Agency. He is an assistant professor at Millersville University and has taught numerous emergency management courses for the Department of Homeland Security. He specializes in the area of public information and emergency response. He is currently researching better methods to teach emergency preparedness to school age children.

Dr. Gregory Martin serves as the Extension Educator in Poultry in Pennsylvania. His expertise includes poultry health, poultry diseases, poultry production best management practices and is well versed in emergency response and preparedness. Dr. Martin has his undergraduate degree in Poultry Industry from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA; his masters in Business Administration from Cal Poly, and he received his Doctor of Philosophy in Poultry Science

See "Seminar cont'd" next page

Continued from "Seminar cont'd" previous page

from Texas A&M University in 1999. He not only serves Pennsylvania, but also has many responsibilities at the national level related to poultry science education. Gregory is the Coordinator for the Lancaster County Animal Response Team.

John Sancenito: (forthcoming)

Linda Spahr has been a Penn State Extension Educator for 23 years and was involved in the swine industry for 15 years after graduation from college. She grew up on a farm and has a strong desire to keep farms in Pennsylvania prosperous and safe. She is a member of the south Central Task Force and for years was the person kicking tires asking "where is agriculture in this scenario." She likes to learn about new threats and new ways to mitigate those threats. Linda works with 4-H members the Penn States Livestock/Dairy youth team to provide educational programs for youth. Linda is married and has two grown children.

Animal Rights Activists

Presented by: David Feimster – F & F Production LLC
If you have not had "Animal Rights Activists" at your fair, it's only a matter of time. Activists come in all shapes and sizes, and will come at you in many different ways. This program is designed to help you know your rights, the law and be prepared.

David Feimster is the owner of F& F Production LLC, providing animal shows to the fair industry for the past 35 years. He was also a teacher of Technology and Robotics for 32 years in Jackson Township Public Schools, Jackson, NJ (Retired). In 2006 David was name Jackson Township Teacher of the Year and 2007 State of New Jersey Technology Teacher runner-up. He is currently an active member of the

Ocean Fair County (NJ) and a Director for the Maryland Association of Agricultural Fairs and Shows.

FFA Youth Panel Discussion

Panel Presenters and Seminar Description forthcoming.

Adoption and Growing Fair Technology with Point-of-Sale

Presented by Matt Naylor, Systems Administrator, Penn State University

As a new generation of technology adopters makes their way to your fair with credit cards and mobile payment devices, are you prepared to accept them? Research suggests fairgoers who expect to be able to use a credit card is increasing year-over-year. Accepting credit card payments can be a training and logistical nightmare without the right framework before, during and after implementation. In this seminar, we will discuss all the technical and non-technical considerations for adopting a point-of-sale system that will benefit and grow your fair.

Matt Naylor has been a volunteer with the Huntingdon County Fair for the past ten years, while also volunteering with the Centre County Grange Fair for the past three years. Matt is a technology professional from the State College, Pennsylvania area. He works at Penn State University full-time as a Systems Administrator and performing general IT consulting on the side. Matt grew up in rural Adams County, Pennsylvania and is a 2009 graduate of Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania. In his spare time, Matt is an avid Penn State football fan, traveler and bowler. He is very passionate about the benefits that technology can bring to the Fair business, and is excited to share that passion and experience with you.



JUDGES SCHOOL SCHEDULED

On Wednesday, January 23, 2019 the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs and the Pennsylvania Farm Show will host a Judge's School during the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs Convention at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. You may choose two breakout sessions to attend.

The day starts at 12:30 PM with an orientation session on ethics in the judging process. This is followed by the six sessions.

Session choices for this year are as follows. Presenters will be announced at a later date.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| • Baked Goods | • Grain, Hay and Eggs |
| • Photography | • Needlework and Needle art |
| • Handcrafts | • Queen Contests |

The first session is from 1:20 - 2:30 PM and the second is from 2:35 - 3:55 PM.

The fee for the school is \$10.00 per person.

At the conclusion of the sessions a certificate of attendance is given to all participants who complete the program.

By mid-February the "PSACF Suggested Judges List" is compiled and goes online on the Fair Association website, www.pafairs.org. Many fairs have found it very helpful in finding qualified judges.

If you are planning to participate in Judges School, you need to pre-register and send your payment by January 11, 2019. Send your name, address, phone number and e-mail to Beverly Gruber, P.O. Box 5, New Tripoli, PA 18066. If you prefer, registration may be called in. Phone 610-767-5026 or email lowhill@rcn.com or b.gruber@rcn.com.

Judge's School Registration

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

If affiliated with a fair, give name of fair: _____

Number of People _____ @ \$10.00 = \$ _____ (list additional names below)

Return form and check **payable to Beverly Gruber** • P. O. Box 5 • New Tripoli, PA 18066

Registration may be called in. Phone 610-767-5026. Please register by January 11, 2019.



PSACF Association Update

PA Preferred Junior & Angel Food Cake Contest

Please refer to Karen's article regarding the baking premiums and their payment. Remember to submit your Contest Summary information to the appropriate person by the deadline specified.

Showcase

Associate members eligible to showcase were mailed an application in early September. To be considered for the showcase, that application must be postmarked by October 15th to Sam Zaffuto. Note: Dues must be paid in the year you received the application, and if selected, in the year you showcase.

Fair Person of the Year

An application is available in the "Member Fairs Only" section of our website. Applications are also available in the convention packets at your zone meeting. Completed applications must be postmarked no later than November 1st.

Communications Competition

A Communications Competition criteria and registration form are also available in the "Members Fairs Only" section of our website, and will be in the convention packets at your zone meeting.

Fair Dates for 2019

I will be mailing a request for the dates of your 2019 Fair and any changes that you may wish to make personnel, directions, etc. The dates are not only used for the Department of Agricultural Fair 2019 Fair Guides but our 2019 Directory. I will also be requesting these dates at your zone meeting.

Msgr. John W. Mignot/PSACF Scholarship

Scholarship selection process will be completed by September 30th, the Chairperson will be notifying those selected. Those not selected will be notified by the Chairperson or the Zone Chairperson. At the Fall zone meetings, recipients will also be recognized.

Associates Members

Convention packets will be mailed in October, as well as invoices for membership. The invoice requests current information to be printed in the 2019 PSACF directory. Information needs to be returned to the PSACF office no later than December 1, 2018 to appear in the 2019 directory.

Zone Meetings

Be sure to attend your zone meeting as you will be electing your State Directors and Zone 2 & 4 will be electing Queen Board members.

New Faces at Convention

Scott A. Schmittel from Elizabethtown Fair will be our MC this year at the Opening Ceremony. Michael A. Froehlich, who has been our MC for a number of years, is relocating to Georgia.

Fr. Ross Miceli from Sykesville Ag & Youth Fair will be conducting the Memorial Service. Jim Davis due to health issues has asked to be replaced.

Poster Contest

Winners of the "Strength in Our Diversity" poster contest can be brought to your zone meeting and given to Tracy. Do not fold or bend posters, they must be flat and protected. Tracy will get them to the Farm Show.



Welcome New Associate!

Musical Attractions

October Rose Music

17 Evans Road Riverdale NJ 07457

Phone: (201) 787-0613 Phone 2: Fax:

WebSite: www.octoberrosemusic.com

E-Mail: octoberrosemusic@gmail.com

Info: High energy country duo who performs acoustically or with full band.

ATTENTION FOOD HANDLERS!

PSSA is hosting an educational seminar in conjunction with our annual Hershey Convention.

Paster training will again be taking care of the instructional portion of the class as well as proctoring the exam on Wednesday January 23, 2019. Cost \$139 and includes study materials and test. The course is open to all PSSA and PSACF members. Class size is limited to 70 persons.

Study materials will be mailed directly to you and you will be able to study at your own pace and on your own schedule. A wrap-up session of materials review, current updates and questions and answers will be given at Hershey on Wednesday, January 23, 2019, and testing for your license will take place on site. The time allotted for the session is 4 hours after which you break for lunch on your own at the Lodge.

Registration deadline is November 19, 2018. (Registrations received after the deadline will be held on a waiting list pending any cancellations.)

SERV SAFE EDUCATION/REGISTRATION

Sponsored by PSSA

COURSE DATE: Wednesday, January 23, 2019 (approximately 4 hours)

COURSE TIME: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Check In @ 8:30 am

LOCATION: Hershey Lodge, 325 University Drive, Hershey, PA 17033

COST: \$139.00

PAYABLE TO: PSSA Scholarship Account

Name_____

Address_____

City, State. Zip_____

Phone_____

Email is required for downloading your own ServSafe certificate upon successful completion/passing of the test.

Email_____

MAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION RESERVATION AND INCLUDE CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO PSSA TO:

Donna M. Kramer
Treasurer
318 Vinemont Road
Reinholds, PA 17569

PSACF Communications Awards Competition

PSACF COMMUNICATIONS AWARD COMPETITION

CATEGORY

CRITERIA

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Premium Book & Tabloid | Follow PSACF guidelines. Attractive cover design and binding; table of contents; includes judging schedule, premium list, entry form, list of officers, directors and/or department chairs; easy to read; overall appeal. |
| Non-Premium Tabloid | Follow PSACF guidelines. Attractive cover design and binding; overall layout; balance of ads and fair information; easy to read; overall appeal. |
| Video/Slide Show | Entry must be in DVD or CD format, and marked accordingly. No commercial entries, amateur only. Must be at least 3 minutes in length, no longer than 5 and should include all areas of your fair, blending the agricultural and commercial aspects of your fair. Soundtrack, photos and or scenes should compliment each other, be of good quality and narrated when appropriate. |
| Brochure | Overall appearance, layout and flow of information, fair highlights and information, quality and use of graphics and photos, use of theme. |
| PowerPoint Presentation | CD format only, with soundtrack; no commercial entries, amateur only; must be less than 5 minutes in length. Overall appearance, use of graphics, photos, animation, transition and use of fair theme. |
| Billboard | Must be an 8X10 photo of your billboard; Judging on billboard, NOT photo - use of graphics, content, appearance, design and creativity. |
| Placemat | Layout, content, use of graphics and/or photos, creativity, use of a theme, includes fair information and overall appearance |
| Website | Website address and brief paragraph (max. 100 words) explaining usage and promotion of the site, to be submitted on letterhead with registration form prior to November 1. Judged on overall appearance; use of graphics and how they affect load time; content; organization; purpose and promotion to the public (how to you direct people to your site). |
| Scrapbook cover | Cover will be judged as a separate item and as part of the scrapbook entry. Identification of Fair, follows theme of fair; overall appeal; durability; creative use of materials. |
| Scrapbook - Traditional | This is NOT a Photo Album. Follows theme of your fair; covers all areas of the fair and blends ag, commercial and entertainment aspects; includes table of contents and list of fair officers; photos identified; layout, overall appearance and creativity. |
| Scrapbook - Digital | Created digitally, you can use a professional company such as Shutterfly or Snapfish. Follows theme of your fair; covers all areas of the fair and blends ag, commercial and entertainment aspects; includes table of contents and list of fair officers; photos identified; layout, overall appearance and creativity. |
| Promotional Material | Display of promotional items from your fair - <i>display should be neat and appealing, but the judging is of the promotional items, not the display itself.</i> All items follow common theme; variety and creativity of materials, use of media outlets - print, radio, TV and internet; fair name and dates prominent in appropriate items. All items are to be arranged by your fair personnel at the State Convention. One 6 ft table will be provided, maximum size for "uprights" or "proper" is 3 ft high and 6 ft wide and must be self-supporting. Any display that is not self-supporting will be disqualified. No ribbons or awards for promotional items should be displayed (i.e. past PSACF or IAFE competitions) |
| Fair Display | Floor or table - specify on registration form. Floor display to be maximum of 8 ft wide X 8 ft high X 4 ft deep. Table display to be maximum of 6 ft wide X 4 ft high X 4 ft deep. Will be judged from distance of 3 ft - use of current PSACF theme, conveys a message, creativity, neatness and overall appearance. |
| Creative Fair Idea | Must be displayed on 11"x17" black paper. Include photos (Black/white or color) and narrative of 50 words or less detailing the idea and how it was used at your fair. Judged on design, creativity, layout, content and overall appearance. |

PSACF COMMUNICATIONS AWARD COMPETITION Registration Form

All forms must be postmarked by NOVEMBER 1, 2018.
Mail to Martha Ebersole 640 Dellville Road, Duncannon PA 17020

Fair: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone No: _____

Address: _____

The following entries must be submitted with this registration form before November 1.

- _____ PREMIUM BOOK
- _____ PREMIUM TABLOID
- _____ NON-PREMIUM TABLOID
- _____ BROCHURE
- _____ BILLBOARD (8X10 photo)
- _____ POWERPOINT PRESENTATION (amateur)
- _____ PLACEMAT
- _____ VIDEO TAPE (amateur)
- _____ WEBSITE (include web address & explanation of the site – typed, max. 100 words)

The following entries should be brought to the convention, the registration form is still due by Nov. 1. Entries will be accepted at the convention on Wednesday from 4 to 8 pm and Thursday from 8 to 9 AM. (NO EXCEPTIONS). Judging will begin promptly at 9:00 AM.

- _____ PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS
- _____ SCRAPBOOK Traditional _____ Digital _____
- _____ SCRAPBOOK COVER Traditional _____ Digital _____
- _____ FAIR DISPLAY - FLOOR (max. 8' high x 8' wide x 4' deep)
- _____ FAIR DISPLAY - TABLE (max. 4' high x 8' wide x 4' deep)
Please note the display tables are only 30" deep.
- _____ CREATIVE FAIR IDEA
- _____ BEST OF SHOW (Fair qualifies for this category if they've entered 5 other categories.)

2018 PSACF Theme:
Farms Families Fairs Fun!

Questions should be directed to the following executive committee members:

Martha Ebersole (717) 834-4435
Luke Bruckhart (717) 665-5198

Craig Lash (724) 872-8967
Roger Dirlam (570) 253-3540

Judy Kmetz (570) 675-2952

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



2018 IAFE Annual Convention Registration Details:

(Best Option) Early Bird Registration available May 24 – October 2, 2018

\$389

– Add a 3 day meal ticket for \$35*

Advance Registration October 3 – November 1, 2018

\$459

– Add a 3 day meal ticket for \$35*

Day Passes will be available during On-Site Registration (\$200/person/day)

IN MEMORY



William "Bill" E. Scouten Jr., 72, of Washington St., Spartansburg, Pa., died Thursday, June 21, 2018.

He was a lifetime member of the Spartansburg Volunteer Fire Department where he held many positions over the years. Bill co-founded Spartansburg Ambulance Service, and was a lifetime member of the Sparty Fair, serving as president for 35 years.



James "Jim" R. Dissinger, 82, passed away peacefully on Wed., August 8, 2018 after a lengthy illness.

Jim was a volunteer fireman in his younger days and was past president of the West Earl Fire Company. He also served on the Conestoga Valley School Board & during his term was the President of the Lancaster County Vocation School. Another of his special interests was the New Holland farm show fireman's tug-of-war where he was the announcer for 40 years. He also served on the board of the New Holland fair.

FAMILY FUED IS BACK AT CONVENTION SIGN UP NOW !!!!

BY: KEVIN D. BIEBER

What would the PSACF and PSSA convention be without a little fun amongst our fair families? Well, to satisfy that "fun" part, we are bringing back Family Fued on Saturday afternoon. Last year presented lots of laughing, stiff competition and yes, silly answers. However it was all in fun.

It was great to see that a few fairs wanted to participate again last year, so this year I am once again asking for you to sign up ahead of time. Unfortunately due to time on Saturday afternoon, we have to limit the game to 4 teams of 5 people. If more than 4 teams sign up, we will hold a drawing to see which 4 fairs will be on stage this year.

Sign your fair up now, the deadline is December 1st. How do you sign up? It is easy, please 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 Fued !!!!!

SURVEY SAYS

See you at Hershey !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Convention Rooms for 2019

By: Dr. Sally Nolt

Room reservations are officially open at the Hershey Lodge for our **2019 Convention!**

Rooms are available by 4:00 pm and check-out is 11:00 am.

Cancellations must be made three (3) days prior to your arrival date, or your credit card will be charged for a one night's stay.

Reservations can be made at 1-800-HERSHEY (437-7439). To receive the convention rate, tell reservations you are with the "PA Fairs and Showmen Convention."

Queen Contestants are to use the form provided.

Rooms in the Showmen's Hall must be booked at one of the following numbers:

Michele Maxwell – (717) 534-8696

Darci O'Donnell – (717) 520-5431

Michelle Lutzkanin – (717) 534-8636



RISE AND SHINE FOR SATURDAY MORNING SEMINARS & WIN A \$100.00 GIFT CARD

By: Kevin

Bieber

Getting up early on Saturday morning in Hershey and attending a seminar could result in winning a \$100.00 gift card. This year we are encouraging everyone to get up and moving and attend one of three Saturday morning seminars. Your attendance (must be on time for the start) will result in you receiving a ticket for a chance to win a \$100 gift card. Winner must also be present at the conclusion of the seminar when the winning ticket is picked.

There will be 1 gift card winner at each seminar. So, rise and shine, get your coffee and head down to one of three great seminars that are lined up for the conclusion of our convention.



Look Before You Leave: Help Pennsylvania Combat the Spotted Lanternfly

The Spotted Lanternfly is an inch-long black, red and white spotted insect native to Southeast Asia and first identified in Pennsylvania in 2014. The invasive insect, whose first egg hatch was spotted in May in Berks County, feeds on agricultural commodities produced in the state, such as hops, grapes, apples, and hardwoods.

After the pest was found, a quarantine was immediately put in place to slow its spread. The Spotted Lanternfly population is currently concentrated in a 13-county quarantine zone in the southeast portion of the state: Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, and Schuylkill.

These bugs have trouble flying, but they are great hitchhikers. They can be transported on vehicles, on commodities traveling in and out of the quarantine zone, and on belongings. Visitors to fairs should take extra care as they travel this season, as they may unknowingly transport these insects as they hitch a ride.

Some commonly asked questions include:

How can I identify a Spotted Lanternfly?

After hatching, Spotted Lanternflies go through five stages of growth. Their life begins as masses laid on trees, under bark, on yard furniture, cars and trailers, outdoor grills, and other surfaces. During the nymph stage, Spotted Lanternflies are small with black spots, and can look like ticks. Adults, first seen in July, have a black head and grayish wings with black



spots. When startled or flying, the Spotted Lanternfly will display hind wings that are red at the base and black at the tip with a white stripe dividing them. The red portion of the wing is also adorned with black spots. The abdomen is bright to pale yellow with bands of black.

I think I saw/killed/caught a Spotted Lanternfly—what do I do now?

If you live outside the quarantine zone, report any sighting of Spotted Lanternfly to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) at Badbug@pa.gov or 1-866-253-7189.

Where can I stay up-to-date on information about Spotted Lanternflies?

PDA, Penn State University, and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) provide helpful information, quarantine up-dates, printed material, educational videos and other resources on their websites.

Learn more at:

agriculture.pa.gov/spottedlanternfly, www.aphis.usda.gov/hungrypests/slf, and <https://extension.psu.edu/shopby/spotted-lanternfly>.



PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY FAIRS

OVERVIEW

After three years of protracted budget fights, Pennsylvania's election year budget plan was wrapped-up more than a week ahead of its June 30th deadline. And, for the first time in Democratic Governor Tom Wolf's tenure, he has signed a budget. His signature came hours after the Republican-controlled Legislature sent a \$32.7 billion spending plan to his desk, barely three days after the first details of the no-new-taxes or fees package were unveiled. The [budget](#) increases overall spending by 2.2%, invests in education with an emphasis on workforce development and school safety initiatives and increases funding to combat the opioid crisis, among others.

With the state budget complete, Lawmakers spent the summer back home in the districts gearing up for the looming general election. All 203 state House members and half of the state Senate (25 seats – even numbered district seats) are on the November ballot along with Democratic Governor Tom Wolf. The House and Senate will return to Harrisburg the week of September 24. With the election stakes high, there will be limited voting session days this fall – 9 days in the Senate and 8 days in the House. Although the 2-year Legislative Session constitutionally ends on November 30, lawmakers have refrained from coming back to session to vote on bills after the November Election.

FALL SESSION SCHEDULE

2018 SENATE SESSION SCHEDULE

| | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| September | 24, 25, 26 |
| October | 1, 2, 3, 15, 16, 17 |
| November | 14 |

2018 HOUSE SESSION SCHEDULE

| | |
|-----------|---|
| September | 12 (non-voting), 13 (non-voting), 24, 25, 26 |
| October | 1 (non-voting), 2 (non-voting), 9, 10, 15, 16, 17 |
| November | 13 |

PENNSYLVANIA'S FAIRS FUNDING

The 2018-19 state budget provides \$4 million for Pennsylvania's fairs. We are pleased lawmakers and the Governor continue to recognize the importance of funding Pennsylvania's fairs and thank them for maintaining the funding in this year's budget.

SALES TAX EXPANSION

A six percent sales tax on admissions to amusement parks, fairs and other recreation-type businesses was considered by the state Legislature during past budget negotiations as well as negotiations on property tax relief. Milliron Goodman con-

tinues to be actively engaged on this issue. We would like to thank all the PSACF members that contacted their local legislators on the sales tax issue in the past. Next year Pennsylvania is expected to face fiscal challenges. As lawmakers look for ways to balance the budget or reduce property taxes, we will need your continued support. Taxing affordable family-friendly amusement is counterproductive. If ticket prices go up, more people will choose to stay home. Pennsylvania's fairs, festivals and amusement parks are economic drivers for every community of the Commonwealth. As always, please stay alert for updates.

MOBILE FOOD LICENSING LEGISLATION

The lobbyists at Milliron Goodman are working on language that would address the members' concerns regarding food licensing fees.

As you know, to participate in events throughout the state, some mobile retail food facilities are subject to multiple licensing fees per year. This legislation would address the issue by utilizing the concept of an "operating base location," which is essentially the area where trucks return regularly to restock, clean, etc. Mobile units would be required to pay food licensing fees based on the "operating base location" instead of fees from multiple jurisdictions.

State Rep. Doyle Heffley (R-Carbon) has introduced this legislation as [HB 2518](#). The bill is currently awaiting consideration by the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee. We plan to begin meeting with committee members throughout the fall session, clarify any questions and generate overall support. However, with only nine session days remaining between now and December, we are anticipating a reintroduction of the bill and a heavy push for legislative committee and floor votes next session. The 2019-20 legislative session begins on January 1, 2019.

PROPOSED MINIMUM WAGE REGULATION CHANGES

The House Labor and Industry Committee recently held a hearing regarding the Department of Labor and Industry's proposed minimum wage regulation changes. The proposal would increase the overtime salary threshold for white collar employees from \$455 per week (\$23,660 per year) to \$921 per week (\$47,892 per year). Public, private, and nonprofit groups provided the committee with testimony regarding the impact this proposal would have on their organization.

Secretary of Labor and Industry Gerard Oleksiak noted that the goal of the regulation is to: modernize (increase) the minimum weekly salary an employee must earn to be exempt from overtime compensation and simplify the duties test to improve compliance and align with federal regulations. He stated that salaried workers earning about \$24,000 a year may be subject to unlimited hours a week without a guarantee of overtime. He argued that this is unfair. Deputy Secretary for Safety and Labor-Management Relations Jennifer Berrier noted that to qualify for the white collar exemptions, employees must meet the minimum threshold and duties test. When it was originally enacted into law, the exemption was intended for higher salaried employees. Further, she stated that the salary threshold has become outdated.

From M&G previous page.....

Organizations, including MHY Family Services, Mercyhurst University, Skirmish Paintball and Pocono Whitewater Rafting, and North Country Brewing Company, provided testimony in opposition of the proposed regulations. Some reasoned that this would increase employment costs, limit overall budgets and lower the quality of services. Others noted that some non-profit health care organizations would be unable to continue services altogether. And some noted they would have to switch from paying salaries to hourly wages.

The department's proposal is pending with the Independent Regulatory Review Commission. The proposed rulemaking can be accessed here: <http://www.irrc.state.pa.us/docs/3202/AGENCY/3202PRO.pdf>

ELECTIONS 2018

Four incumbent lawmakers – Sen. Randy Vulakovich (R-Allegheny), Rep. Paul Costa (D-Allegheny), Rep. Emilio Vazquez (D-Philadelphia), and Rep. Dom Costa (D-Allegheny) – and Lt. Governor Mike Stack lost their Primary Elections and will not be on the November ballot. State Senator Scott Wagner secured the GOP nomination for governor, setting up an Election Day matchup between him and a fellow millionaire and York Countian Democratic Governor Tom Wolf. In June, Wagner resigned from his Senate Seat to focus on his campaign. Nearly 30 state lawmakers are not seeking reelection.

Lawmakers who are not running for reelection in 2018 are: Rep. Bernie O'Neill (R-Bucks); Rep. Mike O'Brien (D-Philadelphia); Rep. Hal English (R-Allegheny); Rep. Michael Corr (R-Montgomery); Rep. Stephen Bloom (R-Cumberland); Sen. John Eichelberger (R-Blair); Rep. Jim Christiana (R-Beaver); Rep. Rick Saccone (R-Allegheny); Rep. Nick Miccarelli (R-Delaware); Rep. Dave Reed (R-Indiana); Rep. John McGinnis (R-Blair); Rep. Curtis Thomas (D-Philadelphia); Rep. William Keller (D-Philadelphia); Rep. Mike Hanna (D-Clinton); Rep. John Maher (R-Allegheny); Rep. Joe Markosek (D-Allegheny); Rep. Mark Mustio (R-Allegheny); Rep. Flo Fabrizio (D-Erie); Rep. Kevin Haggerty (D-Lackawanna); Rep. C. Adam Harris (R-Juniata); Sen. Stewart Greenleaf (R-Montgomery); Sen. Charles McIlhinney (R-Bucks); Rep. Ron Marsico (R-Dauphin); Rep. Bob Godshall (R-Montgomery); Rep. Katharine Watson (R-Bucks); Rep. Will Tallman (R-Adams); Rep. Harry Lewis (R-Chester); Rep. John Taylor (R-Philadelphia); and Rep. Eli Evankovich (R-Westmoreland).

Lawmakers who are not running for reelection and are running for a different seat in 2018 are: Sen. Guy Reschenthaler (R-Allegheny) - running for US House (not up for reelection to State Senate); Rep. Marguerite Quinn (R-Bucks) - running for State Senate; Rep. Kristin Phillips-Hill (R-York) - running for State Senate; Rep. Judith Ward (R-Blair) - running for State Senate; and Rep. Madeleine Dean (D-Montgomery) - running for US House. Rep. Tina Davis (D-Bucks) is running for reelection in her current seat and running for the state Senate seat held by incumbent Republican Senator Tommy Tomlinson.

TOURISM FUNDING

The 2018-2019 state budget dedicates \$17,839,000 for Marketing to Attract Tourists. After earmarks, the budget level funds the dollars directed to the Pennsylvania Tourism Office at \$4,067,000 for statewide tourism promotion. Less than a decade ago, Pennsylvania was investing \$30 million each year in tourism marketing and promotion. Tourism is a vital part of Pennsylvania's economy. Over the years, state investment in tourism has dwindled. With limited state dollars, the industry is being challenged to develop a sustainable funding model that doesn't rely on the annual budget. One of the proposals being looked at this Session would require online travel companies (OTCs) – such as Expedia, Orbitz, and Travelocity – to pay the full retail rate on the hotel occupancy tax on transactions booked for hotel stays on their sites. A current loophole in Pennsylvania law allows the OTCs to calculate the hotel tax they remit on their wholesale costs rather than the retail price paid by their customer and the OTCs keep the balance as profit. Closing this loophole is projected to generate nearly \$20 million in new revenue a year for tourism. The bill would direct funds collected from closing this loophole to the Pennsylvania Tourism Office. [House Bill 1511](#) (Rep. Marguerite Quinn, R-Bucks) is pending in the State House. The bill was voted out of the House Finance Committee before the Summer recess. On the Senate side, [Senate Bill 721](#) (Sen. Guy Reschenthaler, R-Allegheny) was introduced and is pending in the Senate Community, Economic and Recreational Development Committee. Another measure that is being discussed is [House Bill 1810](#). This legislation, sponsored by Rep. Doyle Heffley (R-Carbon), requires online home-sharing and short-term rental companies, such as AirBnB and HomeAway, doing business in Pennsylvania to register with the state and share information with taxing authorities. This will help the state enforce hotel tax collection laws, further warranting both fair competition across the hospitality industry and accurate hotel tax revenue for the state and counties. HB 1810 was passed by the State House and is currently in the Senate Community, Economic and Recreational Development Committee.

GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY

At Milliron Goodman, we spend a lot of time emphasizing the importance of getting to know your legislators and more importantly, making sure they know you. Your involvement in the legislative process is crucial to the future success and stability of Pennsylvania's fairs – whether opposing a tax or advocating for tourism dollars – we encourage you to get engaged.

CONTACT

If you have any questions regarding this legislative update or would like to get engaged in grassroots, please do not hesitate to contact us at 717.232.5322. We have an open door policy.

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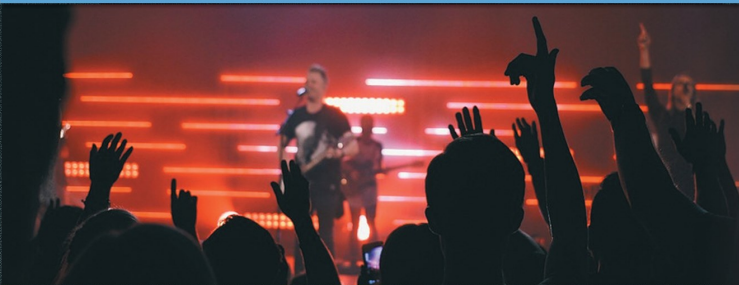
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SPECIAL BAKING CONTESTS

— Karen Dobson

As I travel around to my fair visitations this summer, I make sure to take special notes of each Fair's special baking contest displays. I always look forward to seeing the creativity and detail that Baking Department volunteers put into making these displays eye-catching for the fairgoers. The displays are also a meaningful way to give the well-deserved recognition to the baking contestants who took the time to bake the entries and travel to the fair to compete.



Our baking contest sponsors also appreciate recognition. They play a big part in making these contests successful each year. Every time they see their name in print, it reassures them that their sponsorship has a real impact.

Fairs can help promote these sponsors in various ways including the premium book, newspaper ads, tabloids, brochures, flyers, website and social media. Two of our major contest sponsorships – PA Egg Farmers (Angel Food Cake contest) and PA Preferred (Junior Baking contest) – include special contest banners as another way to promote and recognize. All participating fairs are required to display these banners at their events. PA Preferred even redesigned the Junior Baking contest banner and made sure each fair received the brand-new version this year.

However, throughout the summer I saw that some fairs are still incorrectly advertising the cake and youth contests as “PA Preferred Chocolate Baking”. Some are still displaying the old banners. Others are still using the wrong contest name in their premium books, entry tags and bake sale signage. So just to set the record straight...

The Homemade Chocolate Cake contest is sponsored by PSACF; not PA Preferred.

The youth contest is called the “PA Preferred Junior Baking Contest”. It is not to be advertised as a “chocolate” contest. While contestants may use chocolate in their recipes, youth bakers can use a variety of PA Preferred products including fruits and, vegetables!

So, if your fair still has the old “chocolate contest” banner, please remove it from your collection of fair display items! Check your premium books and other advertising to be sure that you are using the correct contest names. Share this newsletter article with your Baking Department chairperson! Let's show our appreciation to our sponsors and our contestants by promoting the proper contest information.

The state finals at January's PA Farm Show are just around the corner. Make sure your special contest 1st place winners receive their Farm Show Certification Forms. They do not need to register through the Farm Show. They already have the “golden ticket” by just bringing that certificate credential at the time they bring their entry. If the 1st place winners choose not to come to Farm Show, fairs can certify their next place winner. If the certified winner is unable to physically get to Farm Show, a representative can bring their entry for them if they possess that Certification Form.

Remember this year ... **“Report Made-Get Paid!”** Premiums will be distributed after November 15 only if the Fair submitted its Contest Summary Reports on time. Reports can be mailed or emailed to the respective PSACF baking contest coordinator, or submitted online at :

<https://goo.gl/forms/32XnLXydwqIF0wvm1>

Only two contests are eligible for sponsored premiums: Angel Food Cake (\$50) and the Junior Baking (\$45). All other contest premiums are at the discretion of the Fair.

If there are any questions, contact the appropriate committee chairperson:

Angel Food Cake and Apple Pie Contests - **Kevin Bieber** (484-256-8009, email KBieber@BBandT.com)

Junior Baking and Chocolate Cake Contests - **Karen Dobson** (610-212-6180, email kardob@msn.com)



I wasn't kidding when I said that I was a big fair fan, and I was serious when I said that I'd be out on the fair trail looking for animals to hug (and smooch)! By the time you read this, I'll have visited 40 fairs. I had the opportunity to mix and mingle with fairgoers,

exhibitors and participants about their experiences at the fair, and meet many of the fair directors and volunteers whose efforts should be commended for a job well done! A few things impressed me in my travels:



No Complaints. Other than the heat and the torrential downpours, all the people I spoke with were ready to enjoy *their fair* with enthusiasm! Whatever mother nature decided to throw at them wouldn't matter much. It was fair time, and they were ready to go!



Community Pride. The majority of the folks I spoke with were locals, visiting *their fair*. Communities that aren't lucky enough to have a fair of their own may not understand how these events are really part of the people. They've become a standard, something they can rely on year in and year out, an opportunity to showcase their industries and the area's finest.



Community Support. The value placed on Pennsylvania's fairs is highlighted by the investment made by the local community in *their fair*. Civic associations, commercial establishments, municipalities, and individuals donate money, in-kind services, equipment, and volunteers. They understand how important it is to continue the tradition of not only showcasing agriculture but educating as well. Their support is crucial to *their fair's* success. It's clear fairs are a big part of local communities. These fairs are their own, and they beam with pride when sharing *their fair* with the rest of the world.

Fairs are an important resource and part of Pennsylvania's character. Like the communities they represent, some are small, some are large, but no matter what their size, they represent the best of the agriculture industry!

E-Grants

Everyone here at PDA agrees: anything we can do to make your lives easier when it comes to processing the paperwork that comes with grants and reimbursements is well worth the effort. To that end, we've been working on an electronic application system that will allow fairs to upload capital improvement matching fund grant applications and fair reimbursement applications directly to us online. We'll launch e-grants next year for FY 2019-2020. Stay tuned; more details will follow soon.

UPDATE: 2018-2019 Capital Improvement Matching Funds Grant Applications

The applications we received this year have been processed and were presented at the September Fair Advisory Committee meeting for review, comment and recommendation. Once the 2018 fair reimbursement applications have been processed, we will officially notify you of your grant status in early January.

Payments: 2017-2018 Capital Improvement Matching Funds Grants

We are waiting for the fully executed contracts to be returned from the executive branch. Once we have them in hand, we'll process the FY 2017-2018 payments. If you haven't done so already, please forward your certificates of completion and associated documentation so we'll be able to process your payments as soon as possible.

Forms & Information

Please check out the Fair Fund page on PDA's



website: www.agriculture.pa.gov for additional information, forms and instructions. The tool kit is available for you as well. You can always call or email us:

Tracy Barone - tbarone@pa.gov

Office: 717-772-3094

Cell: 717-510-8037

Holly Zarefoss -

hzarefoss@pa.gov

Office: 717-787-6208

Important Dates to r!

November 1st Poster Contest Entries Due

November 15th Fair Reimbursements Due

January 5th-12th  **Pennsylvania Farm Show**

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Message from Our Associates

— Galla Higinbotham

Plans for the 2019 PSACF/ PSSA convention are coming along well. The dates are January 23 – 26, which is later than in recent years. Our annual associates meeting will take place (in the Trade Show) after the Trade Show closes on Thursday, January 24th, at 4:00.

I welcome all new associates and encourage you to check out the PSACF website. Go to www.pafairs.org.

If you have not already done so, BOOK YOUR ROOM now. In the past, some people were not able to get rooms as they waited too long to make their reservation. Call 1-800-437-7439 and to receive the convention rate, tell them that you are with the "PA Fairs and Showmen Convention." Go to www.pafairs.org; click on CONVENTION/Hotel Reservations for everything you need to know.

Associates meeting the criteria (eligible to apply if you have not showcased in the last 2 years) should have received the letter and application to participate in the talent showcase. This year the showcase will take place at 6:30 on Wednesday, January 23rd.

You must be a paid up member of the state association at the time you submit your application as well as at the time of the convention - January 2019.

The applications for the showcase and strolling entertainment must be received by Sam Zaffuto by October 15th. ***This year the application process offers a new option of submitting a link to a short (3 to 5 minute) video of you performing live. The video should be available on YouTube or a similar alternative. A link to a video of you performing 'live' is required as part of your packet.***

DVDs of you performing 'live' mailed in with your application (instead of submitting a link to a video) will also be accepted, Sam confirmed.

If you do prefer to mail a DVD, make sure it plays on players other than your computer. And ***no paper labels!*** It's frustrating when there are acts that cannot be considered because their DVD will not play. Paper labels are a major culprit, or the DVD is only formatted for the computer on which it was burned.

The DVD or video link should be a sample of your actual live performance, not just a produced 'music video' or CD.

I strongly urge those of you who qualify, to send in an application. You may not be selected because out of 45 – 50 acts, 17 acts are chosen, but continue to submit yourself. The Wednesday night showcase committee looks for diversity: juggling, magic/illusion and novelty stage acts as well as musical groups, bands and singers – for all sizes of venues. Those showcasing perform for over 100 fairs and buyers from all over Pennsylvania (some from Maryland and New Jersey too) who are actively looking for acts that will make their fair special. The showcase is a highlight of the convention, an excellent opportunity for fairs to experience acts/ attractions/bands firsthand and book them early for the 2019 fair season.

Additionally, strolling acts/street musicians/grounds entertainers (roving acts who do not offer a stage show) may apply to perform in the Chocolate Ballroom lobby prior to the banquets on Thursday and Friday evenings. The strolling act application is on the PSACF website www.pafairs.org.

Finally, a big THANK YOU to the fairs who utilize all that the Trade Show vendors and associates have to offer.

All the best, Galla www.gallaanddan.com



ADDITIONAL SHOWCASTING FOR CONVENTION

Additional showcasing opportunities are available for stilt walkers, balloon artists, strolling acts, jugglers, magicians, clowns and other street performers outside the Chocolate Ballroom prior to the nightly banquets. This is a popular way for grounds acts to entertain and mingle with the crowds of people congregated outside the ballroom prior to (and perhaps after) different functions, such as the nightly banquets.

See below.

The committee will review these applications and several acts will be featured each day. Having some short video clips of you "in action" on the fair or festival grounds would be most helpful in the selection process.

If you have any questions, contact Sam Zaffuto at szaffuto@penn.com or Galla Higinbotham at www.gallaanddan.com.

2019 PSACF/PSSA CONVENTION

STROLLING/STREET PERFORMER APPLICATION

Return by October 15, 2018 to: Sam Zaffuto

355 N. Park St.

Sykesville, PA 15865

(814) 894-5723

A DVD MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS APPLICATION. **ANY APPLICATION RECEIVED WITHOUT A VIDEO WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.**

This application is to provide additional showcasing opportunities for stilt walkers, balloon artists, strolling acts, jugglers, magicians, clowns and other street performers. Acts will be selected to entertain and mingle with the crowd outside the Chocolate Ballroom prior to the Thursday and Friday evening banquets.

NAME OF ACT _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE (____) _____

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACT _____

BOOKING AGENT (if you use one) _____

APPROXIMATE PRICE RANGE _____

(For information only – no fee will be paid by PSACF/PSSA for any act)

REFERENCE _____

Name Phone number

Qualifications:

1. Act or the act's agent must be an Associate Member of PSACF
2. Act must be appropriate for the fair circuit.
3. Act must be a strolling act and not a stage act to be considered.
4. No act may showcase more than once during the convention.
5. The acts selected will be permitted to perform in the Chocolate Lobby up to 30 minutes prior to the start of the PSACF Banquet on Thursday and the PSSA Banquet on Friday.
6. Only acts that are chosen by the showcase committee may perform in the Chocolate Lobby prior to the banquets.
7. The acts chosen must be non-amplified performers (if musical, they shall be acoustic).

PA FAIR QUEEN PROGRAM

Submitted by: Karen Dobson

2018 PA Fair Queen Elizabeth Voight has been busy this summer showing folks that PA Fairs are the place to be! She is available to help your fair promote special events, contests and ceremonies. If your fair is interested, be sure to contact Martha Ebersole to obtain the proper Request Form. There is no cost to the inviting Fair for the PA Fair Queen's mileage expenses thanks, in part, to PSACF's sponsorship. The only costs would be any meals while she is on the fairgrounds and any overnight hotel accommodations (only if necessary).



The 2019 State Competition will be held January 24-26. Completed applications and hotel reservation forms are due postmarked by November 1. The application form can be downloaded from the PA Fairs website under "Members/Queen Program".

Take note of the new application process this year! The completed applications still get mailed to Bitsey Kopfinger, but **all payments** – including the **\$120 Contestant Application Fee** and **any other payments** for convention registrations and meal tickets for the Contestant's guests (*friends, family, chaperones, etc.*) - are to be submitted directly to Harry Reffner using the PSACF Convention Registration Form. The **Official Contestant Handbook**

will be mailed in early December to each qualified Contestant who has properly submitted her Application and payments. Queen Coordinators will also receive a copy.

Fundraising is critical to maintaining the high standards of excellence that have made our Fair Queen Program one of the most respected commodity programs in PA and beyond. The January Convention is our only fundraising opportunity. We welcome contributions of gift baskets, auction items and monetary donations to help make this a successful event. Download and complete the **Fundraising Flyer** from www.pafairs.org under "Members/Queen Program" to learn how you can participate. It is important that donors contact Judy Kmetz by November 15 so that she can plan for the number of items that will be arriving at convention. **NOTE: Please refrain from including any alcohol products in donated prize baskets or auction items to avoid any conflicts with Hershey Lodge and the PA Liquor Control Board's licensing policies.**

One of the more popular Live Auction items at last Convention was the "Dining Out" prize packages made up of restaurant gift cards donated by the queen contestants. So we'll be doing it again at the next convention. Each 2019 contestant will be asked to bring a \$25 chain restaurant gift card to the Queen Raffle table (*ex: Applebees, Olive Garden, Red Lobster, etc*). Cards will be bundled into two Dining Out prize packages for the Live Auction on Saturday night.

Lastly a reminder to fairs in Zones 2 and 4 to hold an election at their 2018 Fall Zone meetings to appoint a member to serve a two-year term on the PA Fair Queen Board of Directors, beginning March 1, 2019.

Questions or requests for additional information on any other aspect of the PA Fair Queen Program should be directed to the appropriate committee person:

Applications - Bitsey Kopfinger, 570-296-8790
Fundraising - Judy Kmetz, 570-675-2952
PA Fair Queen's Events and Fair Visitations - Martha Ebersole, 717-834-4435
State Contest & Coronation Banquet - Karen Dobson, 610-212-6180



Message from the PA State Fair Queen

Elizabeth Voight

Summer...it's a time for lemonade, watermelon, the smell of fresh cut hay and bales stacked in the barn. It's also the season for county fairs all over the country! Right now, I am in the process of attending as many fairs as I possibly can and enjoying every minute of it!

On June 19, I attended my second fair which was the Schnecksville Community Fair! What a great way to kick off the summer fair season. I enjoyed passing out ribbons at the Dairy Show. Then, it was a pleasure to speak at the opening ceremonies and tour the fairgrounds with the Allentown Fair Queen. I saw some familiar faces and enjoyed visiting with Mr. Harry Reffner and many others. I ended the night having a lovely dinner in the fair office with many of the fair volunteers.

The end of July marked the beginning of my own fair: the Lebanon Area Fair. At the start of the week, I enjoyed helping with the queen contest. I gave my farewell speech and crowned the next lucky queen! Then, I passed out ribbons at the goat show on Sunday. On Friday, I took part in taking pictures with the Champion and Reserve Champion steers, hogs, and lambs at the sale. Thank you to the Lebanon Area Fair for being the first fair that I fell in love with at a very young age. You have given me lasting friendships, lifelong skills, and unforgettable memories!

The Kimberton Community Fair took place on July 28! I enjoyed judging babies which was so hard to do! All of the babies were endearing and many had contagious smiles that just melted my heart. We judged the babies on appearance, contentment, personality, and interaction. I enjoy judging livestock but I must say that baby judging was certainly an awesome experience! Then, I was honored to be able to take a bite of Kimberton's FAMOUS donuts! They were certainly delicious. I toured the facilities where the donuts were made and enjoyed meeting the volunteers who helped to make them year after year! It was wonderful to visit with Mrs. Karen Dobson, Mr. Gary Moore and many others. Thank you Kimberton Community Fair for sharing your delicious donuts with me and for being so welcoming!

On July 30, I had the opportunity to attend the Schuylkill County Fair! I enjoyed helping and speaking at the Fair Queen Contest. I loved catching up with the 2017 Schuylkill County Fair Queen (Emily Witmier) and the 2017 Union County West End Fair Queen (Tricia Lloyd). I was given a tour of the fair by Schuylkill County Commissioner, Mr. George F. Halcovage, Jr. Later in the tour, I was joined by Secretary Russell Reading! I ended the night helping crown the 2018 Schuylkill County Fair Queen, the Schuylkill County Fair Princess as well as the Schuylkill County Fair Little Miss. Congratulations to all the royalty! I met so many new people and

couldn't be any more thankful for this wonderful opportunity of serving my state. Thank you, Schuylkill County Fair, for being so hospitable!

I was honored to attend the Reading Fair on August 5th. I started off my visit by meeting with the newly crowned Reading Fair Queen and Reading Fair Alternate Queen. I enjoyed touring the fairgrounds which started off in the barns... one of my favorite places at any fair! I, also, enjoyed touring the indoor exhibits. The quilts, canned goods, youth projects, baked goods and other items are a beautiful showcase of the many hands who took time to create them. The Eating Contest was definitely the most interesting event I have attended so far! The contestants were challenged to eat food native to the area including pickled eggs, scrapple, sauerkraut, bologna, a funnel cake and a few other items. The first one to finish eating everything was the winner! I rounded out the evening by speaking and helping to hand some awards out to the volunteers at the Reading Fair. What a lovely evening! Thank you, Reading Fair!

On August 9th, I was honored to attend the Huntingdon County Fair. Having shown Angus cattle on these grounds since I was 8 with the Pennsylvania Junior Angus Association, I was amazed to see this venue set-up for the fair! Once I arrived at the fair, I was greeted by the newly crowned 2018 Huntingdon County Fair Queen. My mom and I enjoyed a lovely tour with her and her mom. I spoke at the Round Robin Showmanship Finals. Will Nichols, a family friend and Huntingdon native, gave us a wonderful tour of the famous Huntingdon Fair Farm Museum! What a unique showcase of agricultural artifacts and antiques from the Huntingdon area! Thank you, Huntingdon Fair, for a most pleasant day!

I headed west on August 11 to attend the Warren County Fair. I was given a tour of the fairgrounds by the 2018 Warren County Fair Queen Runner Up, the 2018 Warren County Fair Junior Miss and the queen coordinator, Ms. Jeanette Walters! The large area designated for campers was neat to see. There were many families who gather there year after year and have done so for quite a long time. I enjoyed helping the queens and had the pleasure of speaking at the introduction of the evening's entertainment which was led by the royalty! I ended the night watching Stock Car Football with the 2018 Warren County Fair Queen. What an exciting event! Just like so many other fairs, I met many dedicated volunteers who help to make this fair possible. Thank you, Warren County Fair, for a fun-filled visit and for your warm hospitality!

August 12 marked another fair visit to the Washington County Fair! I started off my day by attending the annual church service at the Washington Fair. Many community members filled the large hoop barn to worship. The service was led by folks from several community churches. The newly crowned 2018 Washington County Fair Queen and the Fair President, Mr. Todd Richards gave me a wonderful tour of the grounds. Next was the Babies on Parade event! I loved seeing all the babies dressed up! After that, my mom and I enjoyed a delicious lunch at the "Hog Father's Barbecue" hosted by Mrs. Cathy Hunnell and enjoyed visiting with the royalty and Mrs. Denise Leigh. Special thanks to you, Washington County Fair, for a lovely visit!

See "Queen" - next page

From "Queen" - previous page

Following a visit to the Washington County fair, we headed north to the Dayton Fair later in the day on August 12. Upon arriving at the fair, I was immediately greeted by a good friend, Gabi Kriley, the 2017 Dayton Fair Queen! We were then joined by several other newly crowned queens as well as queens I had met at the state convention. It was so nice meeting with the new queens and hearing about their journey so far. I enjoyed catching up with the 2017 West Alexander Fair Queen, the 2017 Indiana County Fair Queen and the 2017 Clearfield Fair Queen! Pictures were taken, a tour of the Great Dayton Fair grounds was given and we prepared for the queen coronation ceremony that evening. I was honored to be a part of their ceremony and spoke briefly about my reign as the 2018 Pennsylvania State Fair Queen. Congratulations to the newly crowned 2018 Dayton Fair Queen! It was just a pleasure to attend the Dayton Fair!

Ag Progress Days- Ag promotion at its best! On August 14-16, I got to experience this first hand. There were numerous companies and organizations educating the farm community as well as the general public about their products. Choppers, tractors, livestock, feed bins, wood splitters, fencing supplies, seed corn, livestock waterers, banking needs, commodity groups and equipment demonstrations...you name it, it was there! I had the privilege of working the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs booth. While there, I interacted with all ages but spent most of my time making an agricultural craft with children! A special thanks to the FFA State Officers for being so willing to be my first "customers" for my "painted thumb print sheep craft!" I then took part in a tour of the grounds given to me by my dad, Del Voight, who has worked at this event for many years. I had the chance to visit with the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Russell Reading, the head of Ag Progress Days, Mr. Jesse Darlington, Mr. Jeff Hyde, the head of Extension at Penn State, Mr. Craig Williams, the Vice President of the National County Agent Association, and many others. Last, what would a Pennsylvania agricultur-

al event be without PA Preferred Products? I enjoyed sampling the fried mushrooms, milkshakes, fresh cut French fries, and pulled pork sandwiches. It was wonderful to see how agriculture was truly showcased at this event! I am thankful for all of my experiences at Ag Progress Days and am so proud to be part of the agricultural community in our state!

Nestled in the beautiful, lush mountains of northwest Pennsylvania is the McKean County Fair! On August 17, I had the opportunity to attend this fair. I started off my day with a tour of the fairgrounds given by Mr. John Berne, the Chairman of the Board for the PA State Fair Queen Program. It was a pleasure to speak and help at the Family Day events with the McKean County Fair Queen Court. Children and adults participated in many fun-filled relays and friendly competitions. It was wonderful to see families having some old fashion fun at this event. After that, my mom and I enjoyed a tour of the barns given by the royalty. I even got to hold a goat! How cool is that? Special thanks to you, McKean County Fair, for a lovely visit!

As you can see, it has been a very busy summer of attending fairs! I have learned and seen so much along my journey as the Pennsylvania State Fair Queen. One thing I will always remember for years to come is the beautiful rural countryside and mountains of Pennsylvania. In contrast, for the very first time, my mom and I drove through the heart of Pittsburgh and appreciated the city landscape as well. Without a doubt, every fair throughout our state is unique in its own way but they all share one thing in common: the volunteers who put in countless hours, spend late nights at the fair, set up the fair before anyone arrives, tear down the fair when the crowd is gone and much more. Special thanks to all the volunteers!

Thank you to all the fairs that I have attended so far! I am looking forward to several other upcoming fair visits. If you would like for me to attend your fair, please contact Martha Ebersole, and she can give you all the information you need!



2019 SPOUSE PROGRAM

Hazel Blaney

This year the programs for the spouses will include basket and bag bingo (featuring Vera Bradley bags and Longaberger baskets) on Thursday, on Friday the program will be Gifts, Gifts, Gifts (ideas for inexpensive homemade gifts to give for a special occasion or as a special thank you), on Saturday there will be a hands on project to be revealed in the next newsletter. Please plan to attend and please encourage your Fair to donate a door prize and a gift for the basket/ticket auction. Remember, we have fun while raising money for the PSACF Monsignor Minot Scholarship.



Msgr. John W. Mignot PSACF Scholarship

A reminder of the time lines for the Scholarship.

September 30-application rankings by each PSACF committee member due to the state chairperson.

October 1-state committee chairperson identifies the top six candidates to the state secretary, local fairs of selected recipients, and each individual recipient.

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Update from The Zones

1

Zone One – Sam Zaffuto

Our Zone One Fall meeting will be held on Friday October 26, 2018 at the Community Center at Christ The King Manor in DuBois. At our spring meeting, we had all 30 fairs from our zone present. Please be sure to have your fair represented because we will be electing six members to the Executive Committee of the PSACF. These six will represent our zone during 2019 and 2020.

Nomination forms for directors and applications for the Zone Person and Junior Fair Person were mailed to all fairs in our zone in August. During the meeting the Zone Person Award and Junior Fair Person awards will be presented.

We look forward to our PSACF officers updating us on the state of our association as well as presenting information about our 2019 convention in Hershey. We anticipate that Tracy Barone, our Fair Fund Administrator will be in attendance to bring us up to date on the happenings of the PA Department of Agriculture.

The McKean County Fair will sponsor the raffle to support the Msgr. John Mignot Memorial Scholarship. Please plan to support this important program.

As you can see, this will be an important meeting. Please plan to have your fair represented so that you are aware of everything that you need to know for your fair.

2

Zone Two — Dale LeVan

The fair season is about to come to an end. Another month and we'll be getting the buildings ready for storage, making sure the water and electric are closed down. There is just as much work closing the grounds as it is in opening them. I'm sure that most fairs endured all the rain during this season. It seemed to be relentless. But if it wasn't for the rain then it was 90* heat and humidity.

My wife and I got to visit some different fairs this season. It's amazing how much fairs are so different and unique in their own different ways and the things they come up with to make their fairs work for their guest. Each fair does different things that set them apart from all the rest of the fairs and so we've enjoyed everyone through out the years. I've been in the fair scene for 37 years, met some amazing people whom I will always cherish the friendships made. Seen some incredible fair grounds and enjoyed everyone that I've visited. Being on the State Board and Zone Two Chairman has been an eye opening experience and I was happy to have served.

The Zone Two Meeting will be held at the Bloomsburg Fair Grounds on October 27th. More information will follow. Plan on attending this meeting as it is the year of elections of officers.

I wish all fairs great success for the coming year. Now is the time to start planning for the 2019 fair season. And don't forget to get ready for the convention in January. There is always such excitement amongst the fairs at this annual event.

Blessings to all during the up and coming Holiday Season.

3

Zone Three — Debbie Stephenson

Hello everyone! I hope this finds you either finished with a great fair and or you have just begun the week of your fair. Time goes by so quickly and we need to remember to book your rooms for the 2019 Fair Convention in Hershey as rooms are booking up fast. Also get your information in on the Baking Contests, Fair Queen information, Person of the year, Jr. Fair Person, Msgr Mignot Scholarship Applicants to your zone chairperson and your reimbursement by Nov 1. Also remember that there will be elections in Zone 3 this year for State Fair Director. Applications are due to John Blaney for the election. Please join us at Bedford for our Zone meeting; Hazel will be emailing the information shortly. Note that the meeting is being held on Tuesday October 23rd. We will have a lot to discuss so please send a representative from your fair. Donations of door prizes are greatly appreciated. Thanks to all the fairs that have been visited by your State Directors, your hospitality is awesome! See you at the meeting!!

4

Zone Four - Kevin Bieber

As the summer months have been winding down and we welcome the fall harvest season, you cannot help but look back at this past summer and think about the weather pattern that seemed to come across the whole state of Pennsylvania. This summer I have been to fairs where I have experienced, very warm weather, some cooler temperatures and then I have also experienced lots of rain as Shirley and I would run from building to building as we would partake of the fair. Although when it rains, we are all very saddened because the attendance is usually down and the "fun" part of the fair tends to be not so much fun anymore. Many of the fairs in Zone 4 as well as across the state were faced with lots of rain and mud conditions. To all of you, keep your heads up and charge on as you did the best you could do with the conditions you were given. Those fair attendees will be back next year. As I said earlier, when it rains, sometimes the fun goes away. Well, not always. The night I attended the Lebanon Fair, it rained so hard I am not sure where all the water was even coming from. But, despite that, I still was able to capture a photo of a small child (soaking wet) run in and out of the rain. Despite the parents not being happy, he was having a great old time !!! So, do not think that even when it rains, you cannot

