

DATES TO REMEMBER

— 2019 —

October 15

- Showcase apps. Due
- 2020 Request for Fair info material, PSACF Associate Dues Invoices, PSACF/PSSA Convention material, Trade Show apps. mailed.

October 17

- PSACF Board Meeting

October 23

- PSACF Zone 4 Mtg. - Oley Valley Community

October 24

- PSACF Zone 3 Mtg. - Hollidaysburg Community

October 25 - PSACF Zone 1 Mtg. - Clearfield Fair Grounds

October 26 - PSACF Zone 2 Mtg. - Beaver Community

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 30

FAIRTALK material for December issue due

December 1-4

IAFE Convention San Antonio

— 2020 —

January 4—11

- PA Farm Show

January 22—25

108th Annual Convention

April 16

- PSACF Board Meeting

April 22

- PSACF Zone 4 Mtg. - TBA

April 23

- PSACF Zone 3 Mtg. - Westmoreland Fair

April 24 - PSACF Zone 1 Mtg. - TBA

April 25 PSACF Zone 2 Mtg. - TBA

May 7—9

- Zone 1 IAFE Conference hosted by the York Fair



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NO. 3

SEMINAR SCHEDULE IS SET FOR CONVENTION

BY: KEVIN D. BIEBER

Once again the PSACF / PSSA convention will be full of some great informative and educational seminars. The line-up is all set, we just need your commitment to attend.

Wednesday will once again bring us the Trucking Regulations seminar, bringing all the new regulations and changes to your attention. We will also be providing you with a Technology seminar on Wednesday afternoon. Matt Naylor, Systems Administrator with Penn State is back with us and will now talk about Incorporating Technology at Your Fair.

Aside from our keynote speaker on Thursday morning, you will have the opportunity to be brought up to speed on Thursday afternoon with the Animal Health regulations as Dr. Elizabeth Santini and Dr. Tony LaBarbera come to Hershey to provide our fairs with everything they need to know with this ever so important topic. We are also welcoming the Office for Bombing Prevention (Cyber & Infrastructure) from Washington DC who will be coming to provide a seminar on what we need to know in order to keep our fairs safe.

On Friday, we anticipate the arrival of Jennifer Giesike, CFE and President of the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Manager of the Washington Town & Country Fair. Jennifer brings to us a seminar on "Sparkling Joy! - Rediscovering Your Passion and Reenergizing Your Team! Although we all love what we do, sometime we cannot help but need that spark to keep us going. Come see how Jennifer does it with her team. Again Karen Dobson and Kevin Bieber will bring you all the updates on the Special Baking Contest, all while Seth Kensinger is preparing a seminar that involve our Youth. Friday will be busy !!!

Make sure you get up and out of bed on Saturday morning as we have 3 exciting seminars for you to choose from and close out the convention. Just in case you did not get to Hershey in time on Wednesday, Matt Naylor has agreed to re-run the seminar on Incorporating Technology at Your Fair.

See Schedule next page.....

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FAIRTALK published four
times per year by the
Association. Send
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publication to:
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From "Schedule" previous page.....

In an effort to make sure we are up to date with the food safety requirements, the PA Department of Ag will be back to provide us with what we need to know. Finally, Bill Koepler from West Virginia will stop by Hershey and present to us "Show me the Money". As all fairs search for corporate sponsorships, legacy gifts, foundation grants and many other forms of support. Bill is the President of WLK Consulting, which specializes in Foundation development and alternative funding master plans.

So, there you go, another full slate of seminars for you to choose from. Please come out and support these seminar speakers and I am sure you will walk away with something that both you and your fair can use that will not only keep you in compliance, but also take your fair to the next level.

SATURDAY SEMINARS OFFER CHANCE TO WIN GIFT CARDS

By: Kevin D. Bieber

By getting up and out of bed and attending one of the three Saturday seminars, you just may have the chance to win a Visa Gift Card, compliments of the PSACF. Each attendee will receive a ticket that will enter you into the contest. At the end of each seminar, the speaker will pick a winner. You must be present to win and you must have stayed for the whole seminar. So, attending one of these fine seminars just may pay off with a special gift for you to enjoy.

KENNY ARONOFF



Influential Keynote Speaker & Best-Selling Author
"Voted Top 100 Greatest Drummers of All Time" – Rolling Stone Magazine

Kenny Aronoff will not only be speaking to us, he will be making sure he has your attention as he shows you what he has done and excelled at for a living.

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2020 SPOUSE PROGRAMS



The Spouse Program for the 2020 Convention will feature three different activities:

- A "Ticket Auction" in the Great Hallway and prizes to be awarded on Saturday at 12:30PM in the Chocolate Ballroom.
- 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 **TBA**.
- On Saturday morning the program is **TBA**.

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.

2020 PA STATE FAIR QUEEN CONTEST SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020

Raffle Table Set Up

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2020

10:30am – 1:00pm	2020 Fair Queen Contest Packet Distribution (<i>near Raffle Table</i>)
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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2020

7:00am – 12:00pm	Interviews - Morning Session
10:00am – 4:00pm	Raffle Table Open to benefit Queen Program
11:00am – 12:00pm	Seminar - Young Women's Leadership
11:00am – 1:00pm	2020 Fair Queen Contest Packet Distribution (<i>near Raffle Table</i>)
1:00pm – 5:00pm	Interviews - Afternoon Session
2:15pm – 3:15pm	Seminar - Young Women's Leadership
3:30pm – 4:30pm	Round Table/Idea Exchange for Queen Coordinators
	Discussion will include how to handle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Dress code issues 2) Other royalty at your fairgrounds 3) Bad press & social media
	<i>The 2020 Fair Queen Contest Packets will also be available</i>
5:30pm – 6:15pm	Judges' Reception with Contestants
7:00pm – 9:00pm	PA Fair Queen Mikara Anderson's Party with Contestants

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020

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 by 2009 PA Fair Queen Nicole (Clemson) Mirra
12:30pm	Drawing for Raffle Table items
1:15pm – 3:00pm	Speech Competition – Afternoon Session
4:30pm	Rehearsal for Coronation
6:00pm	Coronation Banquet (<i>Reserved Seating - Ticket Required</i>)
7:15pm	Line Up for Coronation
7:30 – 8:45pm	Coronation Ceremony
9:00pm	Media Photos / 2020 PA Fair Queen Meeting with State Coordinator

Visit the PA Fair Queen Program's Basket Auction and Raffle Table in the Great Lobby.

A 50/50 cash raffle drawing will be held Wednesday through Saturday.

Tickets can be purchased as follows:

Wed, Thurs, and Sat. evenings - Chocolate Ballroom Lobby

Fri 10:00 am – 3:30 pm - Great Hall across from Trade Show entrance



108th ANNUAL CONVENTION PA State Association of County Fairs and

PA State Showmen's Association

The Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, Hershey PA

Wednesday - Saturday, Jan. 22 - 26, 2020



1:45pm-2:45pm	Table Topics 1, 13
3:00pm-4:30pm	Seminar - "Bombing Prevention Preparedness for Outdoor Events"
3:00pm-4:00pm	Table Topics 6, 15
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-\$35)

Friday, January 24, 2020

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
11:00am	Fair Advisory Committee 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 Topic 16
1:00pm-2:00pm	Table Topics 3, 10
1:00pm -2:15pm	Seminar- "Sparkling Joy! - Rediscovering your passion and reenergizing your team!"
	Seminar - "Special Baking Contests"
2:00pm-3:30pm	Spouse Program - TBA
2:00pm-3:30pm	Table Topics 8, 17
2:15pm-3:15pm	Seminar - FFA "Blue Jackets, Blue Ribbons"
2:30pm-3:45pm	Table Topics 2, 9
3:30pm-4:00pm	Hospitality Time & Cash Bar
6:15pm	PA SHOWMEN ANNUAL BANQUET
6:45pm	(Reserved seating-ticket required-\$40)

Saturday, January 25, 2020

MEAL ON YOUR OWN-BREAKFAST

7:30am-5:00pm	Registration Desk Open
9:00am -10:30am	Seminar - Incorporating Technology at your Fair
9:00am-10:30am	Seminar - Food Safety Updates
9:00am-10:00am	Table Topics 7, 16
9:00am-Noon	Trade Show Open
	Communication Exhibits Open
	(Badge Required)
9:30am-11:00am	Seminar - "Show me the Money \$\$\$"
9:30am-10:45am	Spouse Program - TBA
10:30am-11:30am	Table Topic 4, 14
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
4:30pm	Mass
6:00pm	QUEEN CORONATION BANQUET
	(Reserved seating-ticket required-\$40)

Sunday, January 26, 2020

8:00am	PSACF Exec. / Conv. Breakfast
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HOTEL RESERVATIONS

2020 Convention reservations will now be accepted by the Hershey Lodge. Deadline is December 23, 2019. For lodging:

phone 1-800-HERSHEY (717-437-7439) or online at <https://book.passkey.com/go/PSACF2020>. 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, 2019)

\$50 (received after December 15, 2019)

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 22, 2020

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 - "Incorporating Technology at Your Fairs"
3:00pm-4:00pm	Table Topics 7, 12
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 23, 2020

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 - Kenny Aronoff
10:30am-4:00pm	Trade Show Open
	Communication Exhibits Open
	(Badge Required)
10:30am-4:00pm	PA Dept. of Agriculture display, etc.
12:30am-1:30pm	Table Topics 5, 11
1:00pm-2:30pm	Seminar - Animal Health
1:00pm-3:15pm	Spouse Program - "Bag & Basket" Bingo
1:30pm-3:00pm	Meeting - Sire & USTA

TABLE TOPICS

1. Organizing Your Scrapbook
Linda Wolfe & Laura James
2. What's New at Your Fair?
Rachel Nichols
3. How Do We Attract New Fairgoers?
Greg Hallstrom
4. Public Involvement: Connecting Participants & Fairgoers
FFA Officer Team
5. Volunteering
Randy Aites
6. Efficient Lighting
George Witherite
7. Passes and Wristbands
Jim Reed
8. Youth Participation: Junior Boards and Youth Contests
FFA Officer Team
9. Landscaping & Beautification of Fairgrounds
Ben Haagen
10. Promoting Fairs on Social Media
Ashley Morgan
11. Board Issues – The Changing of the Guard
Glenn Stoltzfus
12. An Active Shooter/Crisis at Your Fair; What do you do?
Shelly Dehoff
13. Controlling Unruly Crowds at Events
Paul Kennedy
14. Making Fairs Affordable Again
Kathy Ross
15. Service Animals
Greg Hallstrom
16. PA Fair Fund
Laura England, Tracy Barone
17. Organization of Fair Office & Updating Systems
Patricia Fenchak

SEMINARS

Judging School

Session choices for this year are as follows:

- Baked Goods
- Apiary
- Christmas Trees
- Wine & Spirits
- Vegetables
- Youth & 4-H

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, Kenny Aronoff

Kenny has been named by Rolling Stone's Magazine as one of the "100 Greatest Drummers of All Time" and the readers of Modern Drummer Magazine named him the #1 Pop / Rock Drummer and #1 Studio Drummer. Kenny says he is no stranger to the fair industry as he may already have been to your fair banging on his drums with one of the many artists he has played for.

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.

Food Safety Updates

Changes and Updates from the PA Dept. of Agriculture.

Incorporating Technology At Your Fair

Presented by Matt Naylor, Systems Administrator, Penn State University

Technology is an ever growing and sometimes overwhelming topic for Fairs around the state. Having the ability to utilize the technology that is available, both in a conscious and productive manner, are keys to success for any organiza-

tion. Half of the challenge of using technology constructively is understanding the tools that are at your organization's disposal to make an informed decision about how to incorporate it.

This session will start by discussing technology centered around efficiencies in general fairground operations and the back office. We will then discuss incorporating technologies in other areas of the organization such as at ticket gates, livestock and fair entries/sales, as well as camping and storage management. The session will conclude with a Q&A session focused on any questions you may have about incorporating technology into 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.

Animal Health Rules

Presented by: Dr. Elizabeth Santini & Dr. Tony LaBarbera

This presentation will cover the PA Department of Agriculture Animal Health Requirements and Recommendations, biosecurity considerations, and the Animal Exhibition and Sanitation Law. Information on the new exhibition swine and poultry quarantine orders will also be presented. There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion for fair managers challenged with incorporating these requirements into their programs.

Bombing Prevention Preparedness for Outdoor Events

Presented by: CISA (Cyber+Infrastructure) Office for Bombing Prevention
The Office for Bombing Prevention (OBP) will lead a presentation on OBP products offered to benefit these stakeholders, such as the Security and Resiliency Guide, including applicable subsector Counter-Improvised Explosive Device (C-IED) annexes like the Outdoor Events Annex, Bombing Prevention Lanyard cards, and OBP's Virtual and In-person training offerings.

"Sparkling Joy! – Rediscovering your passion and reenergizing your team!"

Presented by: Jennifer Giesike, CFE, President/CEO of the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Manager of the Washington Town & Country Fair
We all have some days that are more challenging than others. How we handle those days has a major impact on your team and your fairgoers. When your team is energized and focused almost anything is possible. But when your team's enthusiasm fades, how can you help set the tone to regain the level of energy and passion that our fairs deserve? Let's talk through some strategies to keep you energized and focused on why you work or volunteer for your fair.

Show Me The Money \$\$\$

Presented by: Bill Koegler

Bill Koegler, a Nationally recognized speaker, Foundation and Sponsorship expert and University and Seminar Instructor on Special Event development and operation for Parks, Recreation and Tourism will outline the opportunities available for Fairs and Festivals to "Find" and "Secure" new financial support. He will detail Presentation sponsorships, Legacy Gifts and Foundation Grants that are available to all Fairs and Festivals. Koegler will outline the components of an Alternative Fund Development Business Plan that can be adopted and implemented by non-profits to assure long term survival and growth.

FFA Seminar Blue Jackets, Blue Ribbons

You may have known what FFA was many years ago, or maybe you are even a proud alumni of the organization yourself... but do you know what the National FFA Organization is today? This seminar conducted by the Pennsylvania FFA State Officers will examine the history of our organization and take a look at the many opportunities available to members today. Sharing of monumental events in our organization's history and our own personal experiences will help tell our collective story. In sharing this narrative, we hope to foster conversations on increased youth leadership in fairs across the state. We hope you will join us as we showcase the future of youth in agriculture!



Thomas Harold Mikesell, Jr., 92, of Indiana, PA, formerly of Blairsville, went home to be with the Lord surrounded by his loving family on Wednesday, July 3, 2019 at St. Andrew's Village, Indiana, PA.

An activity that he was most proud of was being associated with the Indiana County Fair. He became a member in 1963 and a member of the board of directors in 1964. He held various positions including superintendent, vice president, president and general manager for 17 years. He was also a PSACF State Director and became an Honorary Director in 2003.



Irvin L. Good, Jr., 77, of Hanover Twp., died Thursday, August 8, 2019 at St. Luke's Hospital, Fountain Hill. Irvin owned and operated Goodtime Amusements, Hellertown for 32 years; Past President of the PA Showmen's Association. Irv was an avid Eagles fan and enjoyed playing poker. There will be a Celebration of Irvin's life service announced at a later date

History of Fairs



The core elements of the agricultural society events of the early 1800s - those early fairs - are at the heart of the agricultural fair in North America today. Competition for the best agricultural and domestic products of the county and/or community (or region or state), an annual celebrate for the community to come together, to share, to learn.

Today, about 2,000 fairs are held in North America each year. They provide industrial exhibits, demonstrations and competition aimed at the advancement of livestock, horticulture and agriculture with special emphasis placed on educational activities such as 4-H, FFA and similar youth development programs. While enjoying these high-minded pursuits, fair visitors are also able to see, hear, touch, smell and taste the richness and variety of what the world has to offer.

Above from IAFE History of Fairs.

JUDGES SCHOOL SCHEDULED

On Wednesday, January 22, 2020 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.

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| • Baked Goods | • Wine & Spirits |
| • Apiary | • Vegetables |
| • Christmas Trees | • Youth & 4-H |

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 10, 2020. 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 10, 2020.

From our President



As the 2019 Fair season throughout Pennsylvania rapidly approaches an end, I can't help but reflect on the many Fairs that I visited this year. What an exciting season it has been for me! The hospitality extended to me during each visit has been overwhelming! Fair personnel were enthusiastic and eager to share their Fair with me. Each

event is unique and has a lot to offer as they showcase Pennsylvania agriculture and the community support behind each fair was evident.

Please continue to keep in touch with your legislators. Thank them for their support and include them in your activities whenever possible.

Committees are hard at work preparing for the convention. Please plan to attend this important event. The room block at Hershey Lodge will soon be full! Please book ASAP to avoid disappointment! It is easier to cancel than to get a room after November 1st. remember, however, that rooms must be cancelled one week prior to the convention to avoid a one night charge.

A bus trip is being planned to Big E in New York and the Friesburg Fair in Maine in October 2020. In order for this trip to be possible we will need to fill a bus. Please contact me at sknolt@comcast.net or by phone at 717.367.7256 if you are interested in participating.

Also, mark your calendars and plan to attend your Fall Zone Meeting. I hope to see you there!

Sally

Bull's Eye Security, Inc.

Keith Weimer
President

635 Hauger Road
Rockwood, PA 15557

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Cell 814-442-0019



BullsEyeSecurity@Verizon.net

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“ We were introduced to Saffire a little over a year ago and once we saw how easy it was to navigate through the site, to make changes or additions we were sold! The team at Saffire is awesome to work with. We gave them a very short deadline and they delivered on time. Thanks to Saffire, The Big E now has one of the most creative websites in the industry! ”

The Big E, Eastern States Exposition

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Pennsylvania State Association Of County Fairs

2019 PSACF FAIR PERSON OF THE YEAR NOMINATION REQUEST

A "Fair Person of the Year" for 2019 will be selected and presented with an award at the 2020 Convention. The following criteria have been established as a guide in this selection. No previous year nomination will be considered. If you have a nominee, please submit the application and resume.

The rules for the award are:

- The candidate must be a living person at the time of the nomination.
- The person must be identified with the fair industry for a minimum of ten (10) years.
- 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 preferably at the state association level.
- He/she shall have fairly consistently attended the meetings and conventions of PSACF.
- Each PSACF member fair is entitled to nominate one person. The person need NOT be from the fair making the nomination.

To submit a nomination, submit the name and a brief write-up of the person you are nominating by November 1, 2019 to: Bruce Koppenhaver 314 E. Market St., PO Box 217, Gratz, PA 17030

1. Submitting Fair's Name: _____

2. Submitting Fair's Address: _____

3. Contact Person's Name and Phone Number: _____

4. Name of Nominee: _____

5. Fair Name of Nominee: _____

6. Citation: A concise (approximately 50 words) supporting statement as to why the nominee should be selected as the recipient of the award (attach).

7. Supporting documentation: List and attach to this application any documents, such as magazine articles, special citations, designs, etc. that would support the worthiness of the nominee.

8. Attach a resume of the nominee on official fair letterhead.



In my travels to the fairs, 45 so far this season, I specifically looked for innovative displays and activities that help tell Pennsylvania's agricultural story. I was excited to see that many of you (including your exhibitors) are continually striving to find creative ways to engage the next generation of ag enthusiasts and provide information to fairgoers.

Kudos to the fairs that sponsored free, on-site fishing for the kiddos, it was a big hit and gave children the opportunity to experience an often unsung aspect of Pennsylvania's agriculture economy. One of my favorite swine shows featured a singing pig who delighted everyone in the stands - young and old while performing a duet of "Old MacDonald" with a child from the audience. And, if you haven't met my new friend Lee, the 3,200 lb. Brown Swis Ox (pictured above), you're missing out, he's quite the conversation starter!

I was happy to see the efforts several fairs put into promoting their agricultural assets. From directional signage reminding folks to check out specific ag exhibits, to scavenger hunts that hit all the ag highlights. Mixing aspects of traditional competitive exhibits in high traffic areas or on the main event stage, like hanging quilts as a backdrop are subtle but highly impactful. While the games, rides, entertainment, and food (oh, the food!) have a tendency to take center stage, it's encouraging to see that efforts are being made to shine a spotlight on agriculture, which continues to have top billing as the commonwealth's number one industry.

I know many fairs are happy to share their ideas with fellow fairs. If you haven't been to a fair lately (other than your own that is), take the time to visit one of your neighboring events.

As for me and Lee, we have a date at the 2020 PA Farm Show!

E-Grants

I'm Happy to report that we received 81 Capital Improvement Matching Fund Grant applications via the eGrants Single Application for Assistance. Next year's applications must be submitted online. If your fair was unable to apply via eGrants this year, and is uneasy regarding this new process, please reach out to the Fair Office for assistance.

UPDATE: Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Capital Improvement Project Matching Fund Grant Applications

We have begun processing the payments for the FY 2018/2019 grants and anticipate most of the contracts will be paid by mid-October at the latest.

Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Capital Improvement Project Matching Funds Grants

The applications are under review and will be presented to the Fair Advisory Board at its September meeting. We will update applicants on their application's status in early October.

Fair Reimbursements

We have not changed the procedure for fair reimbursement applications. You must submit the paper applications and corresponding supporting documentation by **November 15th**. If you are unable to download the form from the PDA website, please contact the Fair Office. PSACF emailed a copy of this year's form to the fairs; however, we are happy to email or send a paper copy to you if necessary.

Great Pumpkins!

We received a request from the Executive Chef at the Governor's residence for pumpkin donations. Each year, the residence is decorated for Halloween and open to the public. In recent



years, visiting children have been delighted by the creative carvings dreamed up for the festivities. They're looking for several 100 plus pound prize winning pumpkins to carve and display. If your fair would like to donate or knows someone who would be interested, please call or email the Fair Office and we'll work out the details.

Forms & Information

Please check out the Fair Fund page on PDA's website: www.agriculture.pa.gov for additional information, forms and instructions. You can also call or email us:

Tracy Barone - tbarone@pa.gov, Office: 717-772-3094

Holly Zarefoss - hzarefoss@pa.gov, Office: 717-787-6298

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

November 1st -Fair Poster Contest Entries Due

November 15th - Fair Reimbursements Due

Bedford County Fair Disaster



The old saying "You don't know what you got until it's gone" really hit home on Tuesday August 6th at 10:03 pm. A fire was reported at the Bedford County Fair-

grounds and the result was total loss of the interior of the office building. Because of the tremendous response of three county volunteer fire companies, the exterior structure was saved and we will be able to rebuild.

Having just celebrated our 146th year a week earlier, you can only imagine what the loss of records and photographs has played on the minds of the members of the Fair. The support of community has been wonderful with helping to replace our days of old with old family photos and records. But no matter how hard that we try, it will never be the same.

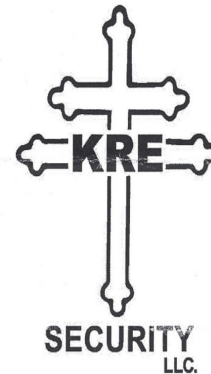
Fair people are a very strong and loyal group. They have a determination that can't be surpassed by anyone and nobody works harder to get things accomplished then they do. With their outpouring support and our determination, we will come back stronger and better. We will always be the "Great Bedford Fair".

Jim Edwards, President

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IAFE Annual
Convention

Dec. 1-4
San Antonio, Texas

TIPS FOR YOUR CONVENTION EXPERIENCE

1. Reserve your hotel room in one of the [OFFICIAL IAFE hotels](#) – the best rates available! Reservations now open.
2. [Discounts are available on airlines – right now!](#) Book your flights now – it is a very busy travel time.
3. Don't feel like walking from your hotel to the Convention Center? Convenient shuttle bus service is provided by the IAFE at no charge to attendees – watch for details

in our Convention E-News, on the website, and in your confirmation email after you register.

4. REGISTER! The best rates are available only through October 2, 2019! Online registration opened May 29, 2019. If you need assistance registering a large group, or if you have attendees not yet in the database, please contact the IAFE Office for assistance before going online.

5. READ THE REFUND POLICY before you click "submit" on your payment for registration.

6. There are numerous providers of travel insurance in the marketplace should you feel you'd like to have that type of coverage.

7. Day passes are available for purchase on-site if you have a guest not participating in the total registration package.

8. Lunch & Learn – first, the food is fabulous and second, the networking is phenomenal! BUT ... tickets are not sold on-site! You must purchase Lunch & Learn tickets (3 meals for just \$55) no later than November 1, 2019.



PSACF Association Update

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.

Junior Fair Person

Applications were sent to the appropriate Zone Chairperson, they will notify me by October 1st of their selection. By November 15th the Chairpersons must submit their nominee's to the PSACF Junior Fair chairperson.

Communications Competition

See **new** category this year - **Website**. A Communications Competition criteria and registration form is available in the "Members Fairs Only" section of our website, and will be in the convention packets at your zone meeting.

Fair Dates for 2020

I will be mailing a request for the dates of your 2020 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 2020 Fair Guides but our 2020 Directory. I will also be requesting these dates at your zone meeting. During the year please notify me of any personnel

changes and I will note them in the next FairTalk issue.

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 2020 PSACF directory. Information needs to be returned to the PSACF office no later than December 1, 2019 to appear in the 2020 directory.

Poster Contest

Winners of the "Inspiring Pennsylvania's Agriculture Story" poster contest can be brought to your zone meeting and given to Tracy. Do no fold or bend posters, they must be flat and protected. Tracy will deliver them to the Farm Show.

Convention Update

The office has received numerous calls for the Showcase and Trade Show. The Showcase application was put on the website last year and acts have been taking advantage of it, several have been received by the committee. The Trade Show has 5 confirmations for Convention. We also received the first registration for the Queen Contest. The Fair Fund Advisory Committee is meeting Friday after our Annual Meeting, all are welcome, great opportunity to sit in one of their meetings. Room registration is currently at 80% of our blocked rooms.

Below the U.S. Postal Service celebrates the fun of America's state and county fairs with four stamps. The whimsical artwork of the stamps is meant to evoke a nostalgic feeling for America's fairs past and present. The stamps show a traditional fair theme where communities gather to socialize and have fun

Harry



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 22, 2020. Cost \$139 and includes study materials and test. The course is open to all PSSA and PSACF members. Class size is limited to 35 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 22, 2020, 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, 2019. (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 22, 2020 (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 _____ Ad-
dress _____

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



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Spotted Lanternfly Permitting

The Spotted Lanternfly may be pretty, but it presents an ugly outlook for Pennsylvania. It is an invasive and extremely destructive pest that threatens our commonwealth's agricultural commodities and trade.

What is being done?

- Pennsylvania has put a quarantine zone in place to stop the spread of SLF to new areas in or out of the current quarantine zone.
- Businesses, agencies, and organizations operating within the quarantine zone that move vehicles, products, or other conveyances are required to obtain an SLF permit.
- On May 1, 2019, The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Bureau of Plant Industry began performing inspections and verification checks to confirm that businesses are properly permitted.

Why are permits important?

- Permits are critical to protect interstate commerce and to avoid spreading the bug, ensuring our crops and quality of life is not affected.
- Permit training is available at no cost, and teaches businesses what to look for and how to safeguard against moving Spotted Lanternfly.

Who can constituents contact?

All permitting-related questions can be directed to slfpermit@pa.gov or 717-787-5674

FAMILY FEUD IS BACK AT CONVENTION

By: Kevin D. Bieber

Our PSACF President Sally Nolt has asked me to bring back the Family Feud game on Saturday afternoon at convention. So, when the President speaks, we listen !!!
Family Feud is set for Saturday afternoon to allow everyone to "wind down" before the queen Coronation dinner that evening. The event will once again need your participation. If your fair has five willing people to battle another fair in the game of Family Feud, I need to hear from you. Please contact me at 484-256-8009 to sign up your fair for this friendly game of Family Feud. We will be in need of four teams, should we receive more than four teams that want to play, we will have a drawing to see which four teams will battle each other in quest of the title of "champion" for Fair Family Feud.

FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

By: Martha Ebersole

Hi Fair Members,

I hope all have had a great Fair Season.

It is never too early to start planning for our 2020 convention. January will be here before we know it! As you know, one of the highlights of the annual convention is the communications contests. Your fair's entries make these contest a success, and it's important to start planning them well in advance. The purposes of the communications competition is:

- . To show off the great things we are all doing for our fairs.
- . To display entries so we can learn from each other.
- . To improve our methods of communication to best promote our fairs.
- . To be recognized for the great work your fairs are doing.

This is why we need your participation--without your entries, the rest of us might be missing out on some very helpful information. You are encouraged to enter as many of the categories as you want; all categories are listed on the registration form.

Please fill out the Registration form; it must be submitted with your entries. The form and these items **MUST** be postmarked by November 1, 2019; Premium books and tabloids, non-premium tabloids, brochures, billboards, power point presentations, placemats, videos and websites information.

2020 New Contest -- Facebook

Criteria: Facebook address and brief paragraph (max. 100 word) description of how you use Facebook to promote your fair and interact with community, to be submitted on letterhead prior to Nov. 1. Will be judged on overall appearance; use of graphics and photos, interaction with followers, frequency of posts and relevance to your fair activities.

Any questions about any contest please e-mail Martha Ebersole mebasket@embarqmail.com or call 717-834-4435.

We hope to see you all at convention!



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).
Facebook	Facebook address and brief paragraph (max 100 words) description of how you use Facebook to promote your Fair and interact with community, to be submitted on letterhead prior to November 1 st . Will be judged on overall appearance; use of graphics and photos, interaction with followers, frequency of posts and relevance to your Fair activities.
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.

GOOD NEWS for 2020 Spouse Program

Thanks to the efforts of our PSACF Board Member Martha Ebersole, we WILL have Longaberger Baskets for our BINGO!! And thanks once again to Showmen's Deborah Good we will have a wonderful selection of Vera Bradley bags.

Plans for the other Spouse program is still being finalized by your Spouse Committee.

See you at the Convention!

PSACF COMMUNICATIONS AWARD COMPETITION Registration Form

All forms must be postmarked by NOVEMBER 1, 2019.
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)

____ FACEBOOK (include address and brief paragraph – 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 _____

2019 PSACF Theme:
Fairs Feature Agriculture

____ 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.)

Questions should be directed to the following executive committee members:

Martha Ebersole (717) 834-4435
Ben Haagen (814) 383-4428

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

Judy Kmetz (570) 675-2952

Additional showcasing 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 szaffuto73@gmail.com or Galla Higinbotham at www.gallaanddan.com.

2020 PSACF/PSSA CONVENTION

STROLLING/STREET PERFORMER APPLICATION

Return by October 15, 2019 to: Sam Zaffuto

355 N. Park St.

Sykesville, PA 15865

(814) 894-5723

A link to a short (3 to 5 minute) video of yourself performing live. ***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).

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a broad audience including families,
seniors & teens.

Belmont Magic Show

(609) 206-5244 belmontmagic@verizon.net
www.belmontmagic.com





Message from Our Associates

— Galla Higinbotham

Greetings and Happy
Fall!

A big "thank you" to all the fairs who have booked/are booking fair associate members and utilizing our goods and services. I'm hoping the weather this fair season has been better than last year - at least for most. It's been great seeing fairs, fair associates, volunteers and showmen across Pennsylvania this summer hard at work, making it all happen. Another year, another season, positive things happening.

Welcome new associate members! Go to the PSACF website: www.pafairs.org. It is a little early for the specific details of the 2020 convention, but there is a lot of other information available.

Regarding the convention: BOOK YOUR ROOM now. In the past, some people were unable to get rooms as they waited too long to make their reservation. Go to www.pafairs.org, click on "2020 Hershey Room Reservations" and follow the prompts.

The convention dates are January 22 – 25, 2020. Our annual associates meeting will take place (in the Trade Show) after the Trade Show closes on Thursday, January 23rd.

Everyone is invited to visit the Trade Show and plan to spend some time there as there is a lot to see. Pennsylvania's trade show is considered one of the best in the country. Applications for a trade show booth will be in the mail mid-October. The deadline for reserving a booth is December 15th. Get your information/reservation in on time so your information makes it into the directory and

convention program book.

The Wednesday night showcase committee is looking for diversity: juggling, magic/illusion and novelty stage acts as well as musical groups, bands and singers – for all sizes of venues. Out of 45 – 50 acts, 17 acts will be chosen to showcase for an audience of several hundred, mostly comprised of fairs and buyers from Pennsylvania (and Maryland and New Jersey) 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 2020 fair season.

Associates who meet 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 2020 showcase (Wednesday, January 22nd at 6:30). Additionally, strolling street musicians/grounds entertainers (roving acts who do not offer a stage show) may apply to perform in the lobby outside the Chocolate Ballroom prior to the annual PSACF banquet on Thursday, January 23rd.

Email/mail applications for the showcase and strolling entertainment to Sam Zaffuto by October 15th. ***A link to a short (3 - 5 minute) video of you performing 'live' is required as part of your application.*** The video should be available on YouTube or a similar alternative. *DVDs of you performing 'live' mailed in with your application (instead of submitting a link to a video) will also be accepted*, Sam confirmed. The DVD or video link should be a sample of your actual live performance, not a produced 'music video' or CD.

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 2020.

All the best, Galla dangalla@uplink.net

DIRECTORY CHANGES

New Address:

The Hobbs Sisters

Box #128545
Nashville, TN 37212

New Address & Phone

Tony Frazier

1303 Franklin Drive
Bloomsburg, PA 17815
Cell Phone only (570) 317-8099

New Address & Phone

Larry Krome

102 Lazy River Road
North Port, Florida 34287-3305
Phone (570) 730-0252
Email: larkro@ptd.net

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WWW.VARIETYATTRACTIONS.COM**

Update from The Zones

1

Zone One –Sam Zaffuto

Its hard to believe that the 2019 fair season is just about over. Most of our fairs have been successful when the weather has cooperated. If your fair is still to come, best of luck to you for a successful one.

Our Fall Zone meeting is scheduled for Friday October 25 starting at 6:30 pm. It will be held at the Clearfield County Fairgrounds, Expo II Building in Clearfield, PA. Following dinner an informative meeting will be held. We expect all of our state officers to be in attendance in addition to Tracey Barone, our Fair Fund Administrator.

All fairs in our zone have received information regarding reservations for this meeting. There will be lots of information regarding our upcoming convention in January as well as an update from the Department of Agriculture. We will present the Junior Fair person award as well as the Zone One Fair person of the year award. We will elect a representative from our zone to serve on the Fair Queen Board. Spartansburg Fair has offered to take care of the raffle to support the Msgr. John Mignot Memorial Scholarship program. So please come prepared to support this worthy cause.

We hope to have all fairs in attendance at this meeting. Looking forward to seeing you there.

2

Zone Two— Roger Dirlam

Fair season is quickly coming to an end. Shortly we will be getting the buildings ready for the off season, making sure the water is drained and power shut off. Seems like it is as much work to close it down in the fall as it is to get it ready in the spring.

Rain early in the season put a damper on some fairs, but eventually Mother Nature somewhat cooperated and allowed for what was hopefully a successful season for most.

If you have not already done so, now would be the time to make your reservations for the 2020 Convention. Registration at Hershey Lodge has been open for some time and I am sure that the rooms are filling up fast.

The Zone Two Fall Meeting will be held at Beaver Community Fair on Saturday, October 26th. More information will follow – please plan on attending.

Remember that Applications for Zone II Junior Fair Person are due by September 30, 2019. Applications for PSACF Fair Person of the Year are due by November 1, 2019.

Also, please make sure to submit the results of your Baking Contests.

Hope you all enjoyed a successful fair and hope to see you in January at the 2020 Convention.

3

Zone Three — Debbie Stephenson

Summer is coming to an end and so are our fairs and hopefully we had better weather this year than last. Please get all your information sent in to the respective committee for closeout reports from your fairs results and don't forget your reservations for 2020 Hershey Convention. Our fall zone meeting is being hosted by Hollidaysburg Community Fair being held at the East Freedom Fire Hall with the address of 139 Municipal Street in East Freedom, PA. There will be information sent out soon from Hazel I am sure. I am sure our zone 3 directors will have a lot to talk about from their visits with the fairs. Many new updates will be presented to all fairs so please plan to attend as I am sure there is something to take back to your fairs and don't forget door prizes are greatly appreciated!! Also please note: Spring meeting will be held at Westmoreland County Fairgrounds.

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Zone Four - Kevin Bieber

As I write this article, all of our Zone 4 Directors have been visiting fairs throughout Zone 4. Although we still have a few to go, the report has been that overall the weather has been fairly favorable and the overall attendance at the fairs has been good. This is such a huge relief after all the rain and challenges many of you experienced last year. We cannot thank you enough for the welcome and the hospitality that you provided to us during our visits. It is always a pleasure to come out and see your accomplishments and your hard work in producing your fair.

I am certainly hoping that you were able to invite your legislators out to your fair and show them why they should support your fair and the overall fair funding. There is nobody better to tell the fair story than you and your fair boards.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all of you in Zone 4 to attend the next Zone 4 dinner meeting to be held on Wednesday October 23rd at the Oley Fairgrounds. You will be greeted that evening by some of our local FFA students, and oh yes, a special guest that the Oley Fair has arranged to be there for you. Watch your e-mail as Karen Dobson will once again be sending those invitations shortly.

As you wrap up your fair and get ready for convention, please remember to consider nominating someone from your fair for the Zone 4 Fair Person of the Year as well as the Zone 4 Junior Fair Person. We all have people in our fairs that are deserving of this nomination, so please consider getting those applications in quickly. Nomination forms and instructions can be found on the PSACF website.

Finally, please make sure you start preparing for the PSACF and PSSA Convention in Hershey. Please reserve your rooms quickly before they sell out. As you will see in this edition, there will be plenty of great seminars and Table Topics, not to mention all the fun and fellowship to be had. I will see all of you at the Zone 4 meeting in October and the convention in January.

PA FAIR QUEEN PROGRAM

Submitted by: Karen Dobson



2019 PA Fair Queen Mikara Anderson has been busy this summer showing folks that PA Fairs feature agriculture! She even proved that Queens know how to show a cow – with style! If your fair is interested in having Mikara or Alternate Madison Sickler come to your event, download the Appearance Request Form from www.pafairs.org webpage under *Member-Queen Program* and submit to Martha Ebersole. 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 2020 State Competition will be held January 23-25. Completed applications and hotel reservation forms are **due postmarked by November 1.**

The application form can be downloaded from the website under "Members/Queen Program". Pay close attention to the instructions:

- **completed applications** get mailed to **Amy Utegg**, 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 to the correct person. Queen Coordinators will also receive a copy.



The January Convention is the Queen Program's only fundraising opportunity. The funds are critical to maintain the high standards of excellence that have made the PA Fair Queen Program one of the most respected commodity programs in PA and beyond. The Program is currently accepting donations of monetary contributions, gift baskets, and live auction items from fairs and friends of the Queen Program. This 39" Smart TV will be featured as just one of the amazing prizes!

Download and complete the **Fundraising Flyer** from the "Members/Queen Program" webpage to learn how you can participate. It is important that donors contact Judy Kmetz by November 15 so that she can plan for the num-

ber 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.**

See "Queen Program" next page

From "Queen Program" previous page.....

One of the more popular Live Auction items at past few Conventions has been the "Dining Out" prize packages made up of restaurant gift cards donated by the queen contestants. Each 2020 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 multiples Dining Out prize packages for the Live Auction on Saturday night.

Lastly a reminder to fairs in Zones 1 and 3 to hold an election at their 2019 Fall Zone meetings to appoint a member to serve a two-year term on the PA Fair Queen Board of Directors, beginning March 1, 2020.

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 – Amy Utegg, 570-499-7515

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

Greetings!

As I sit down to write this article, I have realized that my reign is over half way through and the next Pennsylvania fair Queen will be crowned in just a few short months! I would first like to extend my congratulations to each county or community queen contestant across the commonwealth thus far. If any coordinators or contestants would like advice or help from someone who went through the process last year, I am more than happy to help where I can. I want every contestant to come into the pageant feeling confident and comfortable, just like the 2018 PA Fair Queen, Elizabeth Voight, did for me! Reflecting back on my experience last year, I know that I was busily preparing my application, essay, speech, introduction, and other materials for the state competition at this time. All of this was a task in itself with school starting, sports practices, and managing my farm. It was nice to have people to reach out to for a second opinion and to keep my head on straight!

In the meantime, I have been very tied up attending as many fairs across Pennsylvania as I possibly could. So far, my mom and I have traveled over 4,000 miles, visiting 18 different fairs and about 15 other events. What has been amazing to

me is that every fair is alike, but yet so different. Each fair has at least one factor that makes them very unique. For example, the Washington County Fair is the only fair left in Pennsylvania that is accessible by trolley, or that only a few fairs still present harness racing. I have loved traveling the state, making memories to last a lifetime and meeting people that I will never forget. Most importantly I've enjoyed the opportunity to promote agriculture and fairs to a much larger audience than what I had as my county's fair queen. I look forward to my fair visits that are marked on the calendar and upcoming state events.

In closing, I absolutely love quotes and I recently came across a quote that I found fitting. It read, "Don't tell people about your dreams, show them!" I find this quote to describe my life one year ago. I dreamt of being not only my county, but the state fair queen for years, and I never thought it would be possible. However, with plenty of determination, positivity, and the help from all of those around me, I made that dream come true. To everyone; whatever your dream may be, anything is possible if you have a game plan, goals, the will to accomplish the task, and the people you need to support you. So as you return to school, go to work, interact with family and friends, whatever the case may be, you can accomplish your goals, go reach for the stars. The same goes for every contestant vying for the title of 2020 Pennsylvania Fair Queen.

Fondly,
Mikara Anderson
2019 Pennsylvania Fair Queen

HARRISBURG OVERVIEW:

On June 28th, the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed the 2019-20 budget package and shortly thereafter, Governor Wolf signed it into law. Here are a couple key takeaways for PSACF members:

The final budget *did not* include (1) any increase in minimum wage or (2) new taxes. Although Governor Wolf proposed a minimum wage increase and the Senate Republican leadership indicated they were open to further discussion on the topic, ultimately, it did not make it through final negotiations. While the issue is done for now, the legislators will likely return to the topic in the near future.

In addition, Milliron Goodman successfully advocated for a fully-funded line-item for PSACF. For the 2019-20 budget, Pennsylvania's fairs will be supported with \$4 million.

Lawmakers are wrapping-up the summer recess and returning to Harrisburg for the Fall Legislative Session. The House of Representatives returns September 17th and the state Senate is scheduled to return September 23rd. The Fall Session Schedule amounts to a little over a month of voting session days between now and the end of the year. Among the challenging issues facing lawmakers during the abbreviated Fall Session are criminal justice reform, the minimum wage and redistricting reform. Gun violence reform, Medicaid work requirements and competing infrastructure plans (Gov. Wolf's [Restore PA](#)/House GOP's [Energize PA](#)) are also expected to be hot topics this fall.

MOBILE FOOD LICENSING LEGISLATION:

Representative Doyle Heffley (R-Carbon) has reintroduced the mobile food truck licensing bill ([HB 671](#)). This legislation would establish the concept of an 'operating base location.' Mobile units would be required to pay food licensing fees based on the operating base location instead of fees in multiple jurisdictions. In addition, while conducting business in jurisdictions other than their base location, mobile units can still be inspected by that jurisdiction, but they are not responsible for inspection fees. During the Spring Session, Milliron Goodman successfully advocated for advancing the bill out of the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee with a unanimous vote. Our team is now engaged in negotiations with stakeholders and is pushing for a Floor vote this fall.

REGULATIONS:

Milliron Goodman continues to monitor the Department of Agriculture's (Bureau of Ride and Measurement Standards) updates to the amusement regulations. Milliron Goodman along with the PA State Showmen's Association (PSSA) has met with the Department and submitted feedback outlining concerns with the current draft. So far this year, the Amusement Ride Safety Board held one stakeholder meeting regarding the draft and they did not discuss the draft at their recent meeting in August.

RECEPTION:

Milliron Goodman hosted the biennial PSACF legislative reception in our offices in June. The turnout among legislators and staff was great. A big thank you to attendees for making the reception a success!

GRASSROOTS:

We cannot emphasize enough 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 fair funding – 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.

SPECIAL BAKING CONTESTS

— Karen Dobson

I have been hearing a lot from various fairs' baking contest coordinators and contestants this summer. They are reaching out for rules clarifications and asking some very good questions. We appreciate these everyone's dedication to making sure the baking contests are following all the requirements.

Here were some of the questions that might help your fair:



Q: Are youth allowed to enter the chocolate cake, apple pie and angel food cake contests?

A: Absolutely! The rules for these three contests specifically say “open to any individual who is a Pennsylvania resident”. The only contest that has an age limit is the PA Preferred® Junior Baking contest which is only for youth ages 8 through 18).

Q: We received two banners this year from PA Preferred® - which one are we supposed to use?

A: Either one - PA Preferred® gave two banners this year to ensure a great promotion of this contest. 2018's PA Preferred® Junior Baking banner is also still acceptable, so technically there are three banners. The only banner that is forbidden is the old PA Preferred® “chocolate contest” banners. Believe it or not, we are still finding them at fairs. Your PSACF officers and directors will be asking you to remove them if they see them on display. So take them down and throw them out!

Q: What constitutes a “professional” baker and should they be allowed to enter?

A: Professional bakers would be considered those individuals who make money from selling their baked products on a regular, frequent basis. They may have a brick-and-mortar store front or may run a business from their home or a website. The intent of the state baking contests is to provide opportunities for amateur home bakers to compete. We will be researching this question further and will provide more information at the Special Baking Contest seminar at the January convention.

Q: Our judge disqualified several of the entries because they misinterpreted the rules. Now what do we do?

A: It is unfortunate when we hear that entries are disqualified since our goal is to encourage as many entries as possible. It is recommended that baking departments review the rules with their judges before they start. You can also save time (and confusion) by having your baking department volunteers check the entries and recipes as the entries are being submitted to make sure all the requirements were followed. That way the judge only has to concentrate on judging the baking merits of the entries.

See “Special Baking Contests” next page

From "Special Baking Contests" previous page

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 should not register through the Farm Show. The PSACF baking contest state finals are by invitation only, i.e. only contestants who were issued as signed official certification form are eligible to compete at the PA Farm Show. If the 1st place winners choose not to or cannot 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 as long they possess that signed certification form.

Contest premiums reimbursements will be distributed after November 15 only if the Fair has 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://forms.gle/HjDnYH1eHHELQza8>

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)

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