

DATES TO REMEMBER - 2015

October 14

PSACF Board Meeting

October 15

- Showcase apps. Due

- 2016 Request for Fair info material, PSACF Associate Dues Invoices, PSACF/PSSA Convention material, Trade Show apps. mailed.

- IAFE Zone 1 Bus trip to Carolina State Fairs

October 21

- PSACF Zone 4 Mtg. - Shady Maple

October 22

- PSACF Zone 3 Mtg. - Huntingdon County Fair

October 23

- PSACF Zone 1 Mtg. - Scrubgrass Grange

October 24

- PSACF Zone 2 Mtg. - Schuylkill County 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 29—December 2

- IAFE Convention - Las Vegas

November 30

FAIRTALK material for December issue due

2016

January 9—16

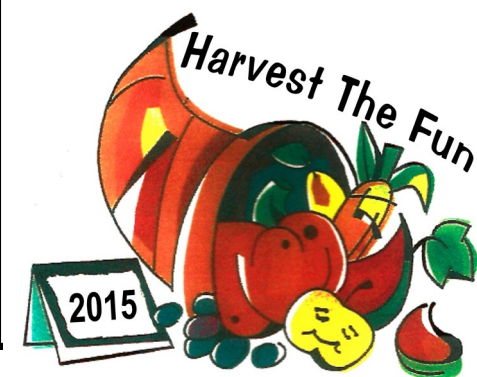
PA Farm Show—All Roads Lead to the 100th
Farm Show

January 20 - 23

104th Annual Convention

May 5—8

IAFE Zone 1 Conference—Concord NH



FAIRTALK



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

VOL. 29

September 2015

NO. 3

DR. RICK RIGSBY HEADLINES THE OPENING CEREMONY IN HERSHEY

SUBMITTED BY : Kevin D. Bieber



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

mind he will once again inspire and energize all of us as we begin another educational and fun filled convention.

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

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

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

See Convention next page

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FAIRTALK published four
times per year by the
Association. Send
information for the
publication to:
Harry Reffner
128 Cumberland Rd,
Bedford, PA 15522

From Convention — previous page

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

Communications Convention

— Martha Ebersole

Harvest the Fun

Now that you have had all the fun doing your fair now it is time to harvest the rewards of all that you did. Please go on line and print out the form and instructions. and get it sent to me by Nov. 1 2015.

Convention Rooms for 2016

— Dr. Sally Nolt

Hershey Lodge is now accepting room reservations for our 2016 Convention. The room rate is \$107 single and \$110 double (plus 11% tax).

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 made after the January 5, 2016 deadline will be made on a space and rate availability basis.

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 code
FAIRQUEEN2016.

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

Michele Maxwell – (717) 534-8696
Ashlee McCann – (717) 520-5433
Michelle Lutzkanin – (717) 534-8636



FROM THE PRESIDENT

It seems like it has been a fast summer. Most fairs are now completed and most report a very successful year. As always, there were a few that had too much rain. Fair people are tough and resilient. We learn to live with these temporary changes in our plans and in the end we will overcome them and survive.

Now it is time to turn our attention to the upcoming Fall Zone Meetings, IAFE Convention and our own PSACF Convention. Every fair should be well represented at the Zone Meetings. The officers and directors will have the latest information on the affairs of the association. Also, be sure to have your fair submit your nominations for Zone Person of the Year, Junior Zone Person of the Year and State Fair Person of the Year. We all have people who are most deserving of these awards for the efforts they put forth for the success of our fairs.

The IAFE Convention will be held in Las Vegas Nov. 29 to Dec. 2, 2015. I would urge all fairs to

attend if at all possible. The amount of information available from IAFE is amazing. All fairs would benefit from attending.

Plans for our own PSACF Convention are well underway. We would like as many representatives from each fair as possible. Kevin Bieber and Debbie Stephenson have arranged for some great speakers, seminars and table topics. The spouses program is all set to go with Basket Bingo, Color Me Calm, and Pretty With Paper. The Trade Show reservations are already coming in. Dick Horstman will have a great Trade Show lined up for us. Our Convention and Trade Show are thought by most to be the best in the country.

As always, the Fair Queen Coronation promises to be the highlight of the convention. This is also thought to be one of the best.

When you add all of the information, entertainment, good food and fellowship with other fair people, the convention is the most enjoyable event of the year. Hope to see you all at convention.

Doc

2017 IAFE ZONE 1 MEETING TO BE IN PENNSYLVANIA

BY: KEVIN D. BIEBER

The Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs Board is pleased to announce that it will be the host for the 2017 IAFE Zone 1 meeting. Currently the committee is looking into locations for the event. It is likely that this event will be held on the Eastern side of Pennsylvania simply to accommodate the fairs travelling from the East Coast. The target date for the meeting will be late March or early April. It is also anticipated that the event will include dinners at two local fairgrounds. Please stay tuned for continued updates on the 2017 IAFE Zone 1 Meeting. The committee is very confident that a date and location will be announced at the convention in January.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee that will be working hard on this event. They include, Kevin Bieber, Chairman, Jim Davis, Karen Dobson, Bev Gruber, Gala Higinbotham, Ron Miller and Harry Reffner.

**Audiences love
The Belmont
Magic Show**

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

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

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

"Glowingly positive comments!"
Broward County Youth Fair

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



ASSOCIATE MEMBERS REPORT

-Galla Higinbotham

The cooler weather is a nice change after the various 'heat waves' that engulfed Pennsylvania in recent weeks. We associates and the fairs sweated through it all, washed off in the rains, then put on jackets...and carried on as we always do. I enjoyed seeing fellow associates and showmen in the field – some just once and others several times, as if we were on the same circuit!

Those who are having a booth in the tradeshow, please send in your deposit by the deadline. Due to some no-shows in the past, people will not be listed in the convention or directory books until that deposit is received.

Reminder: DO book your room at the Hershey Lodge as soon as possible.

Welcome all new associate members! If you have any questions, please contact me, your associate rep and I will be happy to help in any way I can. I can be reached at dangalla@uplink.net or at www.gallaanddan.com.

Associates who meet the criteria should have received your application to participate in the much anticipated talent showcase for the 2016 PSACF/PSSA convention. This will take place at 6:30 on Wednesday, January 20th.

I strongly urge those of you who qualify, to send in an application. Out of approximately 50 acts, 17 acts are chosen. If you are selected, you will be performing for nearly 100 fairs and buyers

from all over Pennsylvania (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 2016 fair season.

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.

Additionally there is a second application for strolling acts/street musicians/grounds entertainers who are encouraged to apply for entertainment spots in the Chocolate Ballroom lobby prior to the banquets on Thursday and Friday evenings.

For those associate members who qualify (acts are eligible to showcase every three years), applications must be received by October 15th. A DVD of you performing 'live' is required as part of your packet, not just an audio CD or a produced "music video". The entertainment decision-makers want to see what your actual live performance would be. Your submitted DVD should be short – 3 to 5 minutes of your best material. Please make sure it plays on players other than your computer. And **no paper labels!** Each year there are several 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.

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 2016.

All the best, Galla www.gallaanddan.com



2015 SPECIAL BAKING CONTESTS

A reminder to all Fairs that participated in one or more of the Special Baking Contests that they must send in their Contest Summary paperwork to the appropriate Coordinator by November 15. These reports will be used to verify premiums paid and to notify the winners of the State Competition at the PA Farm Show. Forms can be downloaded from PSACF's website under the "Members" menu.

Fairs need to certify the first place winner if they wish to compete in the state competition at the PA Farm Show. If the first place winner cannot or does not want to participate, the Fair can certify the next place winner. Each certified winner must bring an original and one copy of the Special Baking Contest's 'PA Farm Show Certification Form' with their entry in January. Farm Show contestants must follow the same contest rules that were used for the local fair competitions.

Checks for the PA Preferred chocolate Contests and/or Angel Food Cake Contest were mailed to each eligible Fair. Any unpaid premiums not awarded due to the lack of entries, etc. are to be returned to Harry Reffner at the PSACF office address.

Consider sending a representative from your Baking Contest department to our Seminar on Friday afternoon at the 2016 Convention. This popu-

lar session is a great opportunity to hear the latest on any changes in contest rules and requirements. The seminar includes discussion on how to organize the Special Baking Contests at your fair, as well as a general question-and-answer session.

Have any photos of a special event or unique display from your Fair's 2015 Special Baking Contest? Considering submitting a digital copy of the photos so that we can recognize your fair's efforts in our Convention seminar or future FairTalk articles. Photos can be emailed to kardob@msn.com.

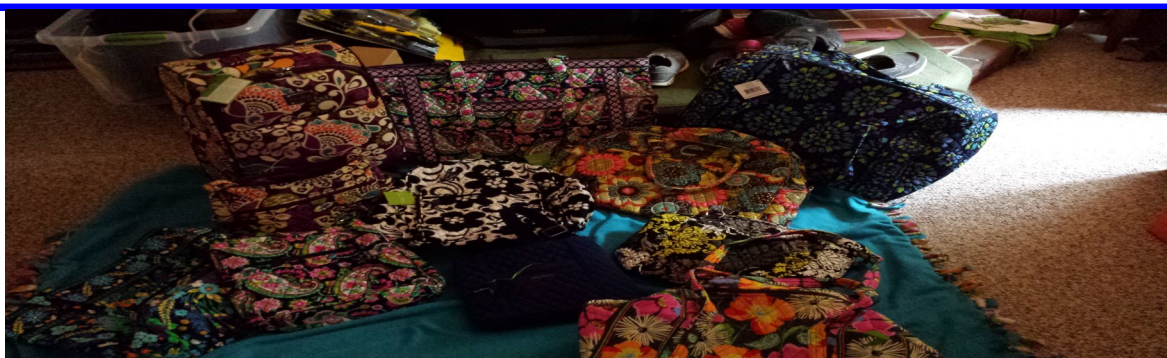
Thank you to all the coordinators who work so hard to follow the contest requirements, publicize the contests, and encourage participation from their local contestants. If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact us:

Kevin Bieber (Angel Food Cake or Apple Pie)
Cell: 484-256-8009, Email: Kevin.Bieber@nationalpenn.com

Karen Dobson (Chocolate Cake & Cookies-Brownies-Bars) Cell: 610-212-6180, Email: kardob@msn.com

Spouse Program Convention 2016 — Hazel Blaney

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





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



HOTEL RESERVATIONS

2016 Convention reservations will now be accepted by the Hershey Lodge. Deadline is January 5, 2016. For lodging:

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

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

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

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

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

\$50 (received after December 15, 2015)

MEALS

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

TENTATIVE CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, January 20, 2016

MEALS ON YOUR OWN-ALL

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

11:00am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open
 2:00pm-3:30pm Seminar – "Ag-Vocating at your Fair"
 2:00pm-3:00pm Table Topics 12, 15
 2:00pm-4:00pm Seminar - "Trucking Regulations Update"
 3:15pm-4:15pm Table Topics 5, 17
 4:00pm-8:00pm Enter Communication Exhibits
 Trade Show Set-up
 4:45pm PSSA Board Meeting
 4:45pm PSACF Board Meeting
 6:30pm-10:00pm ENTERTAINMENT SHOWCASE

Thursday, January 21, 2016

MEALS ON YOUR OWN-BREAKFAST & LUNCH

8:00am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open
 8:00am-9:00am Enter Communication Exhibits
 8:00am-10:30am Trade Show Set-up
 8:30am-9:00am First-Timers Session
 9:00am-9:30am Opening Entertainment
 9:30am-10:45am Opening Celebration
 Keynote Speaker – Dr. Rick Rigsby
 10:30am-4:00pm Trade Show Open
 Communication Exhibits Open
 (Badge Required)
 10:30am-4:00pm PA Dept. of Agriculture display, etc.
 11:00am-12:00pm PA Harness Racing Commission Meeting
 Open to the public
 1:00pm-2:30pm Seminar – "Small Games of Chance"
 1:00pm-3:15pm Spouse Program - "Bag & Basket" Bingo
 1:15pm-2:15pm Table Topics 6, 8, 20

1:30pm-3:00pm Meeting - Sire, Quaker & USTA
 3:00pm-4:30pm Seminar – "Getting Your Sponsors Hooked"
 3:15pm-4:15pm Table Topics 3, 10, 19
 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 22, 2016

MEAL ON YOUR OWN-LUNCH

7:30am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open
 7:30am COMMUNICATIONS BREAKFAST
 meal (served) 7:30am; awards 8:15am-9:00am
 (ticket required-\$19)
 9:15am-11:00am Memorial Service /
 PSACF Annual Meeting
 10:30am-4:00pm Trade Show Open
 Communication Exhibits Open
 (Badge Required)
 10:30am-4:00pm PA Dept. of Agriculture display, etc.
 12:30pm-2:00pm Seminar- "PA Emergency Management Association"
 12:30pm-2:00pm Round Table –Pa Fair Fund
 2:00pm-3:30pm Seminar - "Special Baking Contests"
 2:00pm-3:30pm Spouse Program - "Pretty With Paper"
 2:15pm-3:45pm Seminar "Think Like Disney – Create Magic & Big Fun"
 2:15pm-3:15pm Table Topics 7, 9, 14
 3:30pm-4:30pm Table Topics 1, 2, 21
 6:15pm Hospitality Time & Cash Bar
 6:45pm PA SHOWMEN ANNUAL BANQUET
 (Reserved seating-ticket required-\$36)

Saturday, January 23, 2016

MEAL ON YOUR OWN-BREAKFAST

7:30am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open
 8:45am-10:15am Seminar – "The Farm to Fork Movement – It's Here to Stay"
 9:00am-10:30am Seminar – "Why Think Ag"
 9:00am-10:00am Table Topics 4, 7, 18
 9:00am-Noon Trade Show Open
 Communication Exhibits Open
 (Badge Required)
 9:30am-11:00am Seminar – "Food Safety Updates"
 9:30am-10:45am Spouse Program – "Color Me Calm"
 10:30am-11:30am Table Topics 11, 13, 16
 11:30am-12:30pm PSSA Annual Meeting
 Noon-12:30pm Communication Exhibits Released
 Noon BOX LUNCHEON
 [followed by drawings (ticket required-\$18)
 at 12:30pm] Auction Drawings - Winner must be present
 2:45pm-4:15pm Family Feud
 4:30pm Mass
 6:00pm QUEEN CORONATION BANQUET
 (Reserved seating-ticket required-\$34)

Sunday, January 24, 2016

8:00am PSACF Exec. / Conv. Breakfast

TABLE TOPICS

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

SEMINARS

Food Safety Updates

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

Trucking Regulations Update

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

Keynote Speaker, Dr. Rick Rigsby

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

Ag-Vocating at your Fair

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

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

Special Baking Contests

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

Family Feud

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

Getting Your Sponsors Hooked

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

PEMA – Pennsylvania Emergency Management Association

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

Think Like Disney – Create Magic & Big Fun

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

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

Presented by Mike Bradley

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

Why Think Ag

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

PA Fair Fund

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

ServSafe

Maxine Thompson is a certified ServSafe Instructor and Examination Proctor, certified thru the National Restaurant Association and has taught food safety and sanitation classes since 2007. She has over 25 years of food industry experience ranging from restaurant and retail work to working for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a Food Service Supervisor. Maxine is currently studying to become a food service and retail establishment HACCP trainer.

Small Games of Chance

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



2016 SPOUSE PROGRAMS



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

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

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

Come join us for the fun!

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

2016 PA STATE FAIR QUEEN CONTEST -TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016

Raffle Table Set Up

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2016

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2016

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

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2016

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

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

“NEW”

PSACF Associates Welcome

Attractions, Miscellaneous

Crosson Magic (Phil Crosson)

1018 Ridge St Olyphant PA 18447
Phone: (541) 981-9062 Phone 2: (570) 507-1136
Fax:
WebSite: www.crossonmagic.com E-Mail:
phil@crossonmagic.com
Info: Magical Entertainment

Hoop Dance with Theresa

PO Box 59 DuBois PA 15801
Phone: (814) 661-2957 Phone 2: (814) 371-2149
Fax:
WebSite: www.theresahoopdance.com E-Mail:
tciavarella02gmail.com
Info: Specializing in hoop dance workshops and performances.

Attractions, Thrill & Stunt Shows

Circus Incredible

8466 N Lockwood Ridge Rd. #133 Sarasota FL 34243
Phone: (941) 228-5653 Phone 2: (786) 512-7453
Fax:
WebSite: www.circusincredible.com E-Mail: circusincredible@gmail.com
Info: Family Friendly Entertainment for ALL Ages. Circus Thrill Show featuring Wallenda Duo and Simon Arestov!

Musical Attractions

The "Bob Hartle" Family Band

1317 Big Shanty Road Lewis Run PA 16738
Phone: (814) 598-1725 Phone 2: (814) 598-1189
Fax:
WebSite: E-Mail: bobhartleband@atlanticbb.net
Info: Country "Family" Band

Brian Dean Moore Band

140 Foul Rift Road Belvideve NJ 07823
Phone: (615) 489-9800 Phone 2: (615) 633-2443
Fax:
WebSite: www.briandeanmoore.com E-Mail:
email@briandeanmoore.com
Info: Country Music Band

East Coast Turnaround

6 Elizabeth Terrace Jeannette PA 15644
Phone: (412) 558-5768 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.eastcoastturnaround.com E-Mail:
rleonard6@comcast.net
Info: Live Entertainment

Green River CCR Tribute Band

4 Beechwood Drive Lake Ariel PA 18436
Phone: (570) 862-2586 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.ccrband.com E-Mail: bookings@greenrivertributeband.com
Info: Premier Creedence Clearwater Revival/John Fogerty tribute band performing all the CCR/ Fogarty hits.

Kenzie McCarter

4306 US Hwy 322 Reedsville PA 17084
Phone: (717) 667-9729 Phone 2: (717) 994-7512
Fax:
WebSite: www.kenziemccarter.com E-Mail: jenmc-carter@yahoo.com
Info: Kenzie sings country music, covers from Reba to Miranda, with a few originals

Randy Fisher

1352 Troup Valley Rd Mt Pleasant Mills PA 17853
Phone: (570) 541-8656 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.randyfishermusic.com E-Mail:
randyfishermusic@hotmail.com
Info: International award winning Christian singer/ songwriter

The Salamanders

68 Duck Hollow Drive Elkton MD 21921
Phone: (862) 432-3488 Phone 2: (570) 275-3217
Fax: (443) 406-7904
WebSite: www.TheSalamanders.net E-Mail: Salmanders@TheSalamanders.net
Info: Vintage rock trio, including country, blues, original music and humor. Acts: "Fat Elvis", "Blues Cousins".

See "New Associates" next page

“NEW” PSACF Associates Welcome

Musical Attractions

Stellar Vision Productions

8838 Amber Stone Ct Zionsville IN 46077-8569

Phone: (317) 670-0945 Phone 2: Fax:

WebSite: www.KendallPhillips.com E-Mail: StellarVisionProductions@gmail.com

Info: Kendall Phillips is a CMA recording artist and former American Idol contestant popular throughout Pennsylvania.

Jimmy Swogger & Friends

PO Box 40 Distant PA 16223

Phone: (814) 598-0636 Phone 2: Fax: (814) 275-3229

WebSite: www.jimmyswogger.com E-Mail: jswogger@windstream.net

Info: Jimmy Swogger and Friends is a musical ventriloquist show.

Talent/Booking Local Musician Productions

603 Alex Ct Cranberry TWP PA 16066

Phone: (724) 816-1777 Phone 2: Fax:

WebSite: www.localmusician.com E-Mail:

mmeinert@localmusician.com

Info: Providing "top notch" high energy bands for your fair.



Pennsylvania State Fair Queen Program

Submitted by: Karen Dobson

As we make our way around PA visiting fairs this summer, it has been great to see the enthusiastic fair queens who are actively promoting their local fairs and agriculture. Thank you to the fairs that took advantage of the opportunity to include our 2015 PA Fair Queen Alana Eisenhour and Alternate Brittany Balmer in their events, and special thank you to PSACF for sponsoring the mileage reimbursement plan that made those visits possible. All of these young women are showing Pennsylvania what fairs and ag are all about! And we are look forward to meeting our next slate of contestants vying for the title of 2016 PA Fair Queen.

The State Competition will be held January 21-23 at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center.

State Contest Applications are available for download on PSACF's website under the "What's Happening" section of the Home Page. There are three critical deadlines to remember:

November 1 -

Postmark deadline for submitting the State Contest Application, \$100 fee, and

Name Form for the Contestant's reserved Coronation Banquet table seating

December 15 -

Deadline for ordering Convention Badges and Banquet Tickets all attendees including the Queen Contestant, her Fair Board, Coordinator, Chaperone, Family and Friends

December 31 -

Deadline for reserving all hotel rooms at the Hershey Lodge

State Contest Coordinator Karen Dobson will mail the **Official Contestant Handbook** to each qualified Contestant and her Coordinator in early December.

From "State Fair Queen Program" previous page

Our major fundraisers will be held at Convention. They include a basket raffle, silent/live auction, and a 50/50. Download the Fundraising Flyer from the www.pafairs.org website (Home Page-Queen Contest) for more information. We request responses by November 15 so the Fundraising committee can plan accordingly.

Our next promotional event is at Farm-City Day on October 1 when fair queens across PA will serve as tour guides to over 1200 students who will be learning about Pennsylvania agriculture through various learning stations. The event is held in conjunction with the Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE) at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg. This year the PA Fair Queen Program also received an invitation to have fair queens hand out awards during KILE's

Draft Horse & Hitch Pony Show October 1 – 3. Interested Queens must respond to Martha Ebersole 717-580-6753 or email: mebas-ket@embarqmail.com before September 26 to sign up to participate at either the Farm-City Day or the Horse Show awards.

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

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

Order Your Copy Today Celebrate the 100th PA Farm Show



To commemorate this milestone, the Friends of the Farm Show has published a 176-page hardbound Collectible book. This distinctive book records the rich history of one of the nation's largest indoor agricultural exposition. It is filled with inspiring stories, interviews and photos that chronicle

its unique 100-year history. This is a special keepsake that you and your family will enjoy for generations to come. To order, use the following link:

<http://pafarmshowbook.com>

In Memory

It is with great sadness that I am sharing the news of the passing of the Lebanon Area Fair's Assistant Fair Chairman -- Art Sweinhart. He passed on Tuesday, September 22, and his memorial service was held Saturday, September 26. He also served as Chairman for our Fair's Rabbit and Wine Departments, chaired our Catalog Committee, and was a valued member of our Apiary, Publicity, and Scholarship Committees. He has left a big void for our Fair to fill as well as a large hole in my heart. He had a wonderful standing room only memorial service -- what a terrific testimony to his life !!!

In tearful and joyful remembrance,

Sue Werner
Lebanon Area Fair
Chairman

The MidLife Cowboys Band



"Range Rovin" Richard Rupert

"Bluesman" Chris Trasatti

"Too Dang Cool" Ed Scholl

"Miss Alison" Alison Rupert

"Trail Boss" Gary Stoner

"Saddle Sore" Mike Celline

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ATTENTION FOOD HANDLERS!

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

A self-study SERV SAFE program offered by Maxine Thompson of State College has been chosen as the course that makes the most sense for our group. The course is open to all PSSA and PSACF members at a cost of \$142.00. 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 20, 2016, and testing for your license will take place on site. The time allotted for the session is 6 hours including a break for lunch on your own at the Lodge.

Registration deadline is November 1, 2015. (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 20, 2016 (approximately 6 hours)

COURSE TIME: 8:30 am to 2:30 pm (includes break for lunch)

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

COST: \$142.00

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 AS WELL AS CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO PSSA TO:

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

2015 PENNSYLVANIA STATE FAIR QUEEN

— Alana Eisenhour



Dear Fair Friends and Agriculturalists,

WOW! What an exciting summer, filled with many fairs and many miles traveled. I have spent my fair visits, handing our ribbons and other various awards, crowning queens,

judging different contests, participating in games, and of course eating delicious fair food. As Summer has passed and Fall has now begun, most people believe that the fair season has come and gone. In fact there are many fairs that are still gearing up and getting ready to make memories that will last a life time.

It is crazy to look back on these past few months and realize that I have traveled to 19 fairs thus far. Along with the fair visits, I had the chance to have my own booth at this years Annual Ag Progress Days. During those three days, I had the opportunity to represent and promote the Pennsyl-

vania State Association of County Fairs as well advocate for the leading sector in our economy, Agriculture. I very much enjoyed informing the public about the importance of Pennsylvania Fairs as well. This September, I was also honored to be invited back to my hometown fair for the 250th Celebration of America's First Fair, the York Fair. It is amazing to think that the fair industry begun 250 years ago right here in this state. Today, Fairs all over continue to inspire and rally communities across the great commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

I am beyond blessed and fortunate to have this opportunity as the 2015 Pennsylvania State Fair Queen. I have met so many influential people that continue to help me strive to be a better individual each and every day. Thank you to all the of the fairs that have allowed me to be a part of their wonderful traditions. I wouldn't trade this amazing experience for anything in the world. I am excited for my remaining fair visits and I am looking forward to Farm City Day this October. I hope to see you there!

Enjoy the Fall Season! It sure is one of my favorites!

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. The Elizabethtown Fair took the championship last year, who is going to try to be the champion this year?

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 e-mail me at kevin.bieber@nationalpenn.com or call my cell at 484-256-8009 and I will put you on the list. Make sure you have 5 willing players from your fair who will participate. If I have more than 4 fairs that would like to participate, the PSACF Board will hold a drawing to see who will be on the Fued !!!! If your fair has already participated, please allow a new fair to have a turn at all the fun.

SURVEY SAYS See you at Hershey !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs

2015 JUNIOR Fair Person Award

We all know that our Fairs would not be possible without our many volunteers. We also know that, if our Fairs are to continue to survive and thrive, we must look ahead to the future and start including more youth in our planning and operational efforts.

Last year PSACF had some amazing young people nominated for the Junior Fair Person of the Year award. They not only demonstrated significant involvement in their fairs, but they also stepped up and took the lead with several fair projects: promotional (*websites, banner design*); contests; events (*barn dance, princess tea, chick hatching and duck slide exhibits*); Junior Fair Boards; and sponsor recruitment. Our fairs are in good hands with youth volunteers of this caliber!

PSACF is seeking nominees for the 2015 State Junior Fair Person of the year. The award will recognize and honor a youth Fair volunteer for his or her outstanding efforts and contributions in making a difference at their fair. Each Zone will choose one Junior Fair Person from nominations received by their respective fairs. Then one State Junior Fair Person will be chosen by the PSACF committee from those four winners and recognized at the 2016 Convention. All nominees will be judged on fair participation, number of years of fair involvement, a written endorsement by their Fair, and other awards, activities and community involvement.

As you go through your 2015 Fair year, pay special attention to the volunteers. Do you have a youth volunteer who came up with a new contest? ...Helped organize your fair office or exhibit entries? ... Assisted with data entry for your auctions or livestock shows? ... Created artwork for your fair publications? ... Took charge of your fair's social media efforts? Then consider nominating that young person for the Junior Fair Person award. A little recognition goes a long way in encouraging them to continue their involvement in our Fairs.

Nominations forms have been distributed at the Spring zone meetings and are available from PSACF's website for download.

Make More Fun on a Small Budget

This year's Convention will feature a series of workshops designed specifically for fairs with limited budgets. From Entertainment to Grounds Beautification, all aspects of fair management will be covered with respect to a small budget.



With some cooler and wetter weather and just a handful of fairs left this season, it's time to reflect on an amazing summer! I can't thank you enough for the gracious welcome the fair community has shown me this year. The department is on track to visit 108 fairs this season. These visits are important, not only so we can extend

our admiration for all the work that you do, but also to witness the impact you have in your communities and to hear firsthand your successes, challenges, and concerns for your fair and for agriculture. They help us keep a pulse on the agriculture community large and small across the state.

Honoring Fairs at the PA Farm Show

Yet even before fair season started we were busy planning the 100th Pennsylvania Farm Show. You may have heard Secretary Russell Redding refer to its theme: Our Commonwealth's Blue Ribbon Experience.

But really, that blue ribbon experience starts at the local level with you, our fairs. We like to think that, from our fairs, all roads lead to the PA Farm Show, bringing the best winning chocolate cake recipes, top dairy cattle, or other local entries, and the visitors and volunteers from our fairs, too.

Clearly, we couldn't do it without you. To honor your contributions to our show's success, we're creating a new "Public Officials and Fairs Day" at the 2016 PA Farm Show on **Wednesday, January 13, 2016**. We'd like you to send your "Best of the Fair" representative to be honored as part of a special reception we're holding. I encourage you to bring your fair's Outstanding Fair Ambassador, and/or the members of your Fair Board who deserve special recognition for their hard work this year and every year to providing a blue ribbon experience at the local level. Stay tuned for more information in my update at your Zone Meeting and in the next edition of FairTalk.

We're also inviting the fair families featured in the 100th Farm Show book to join us at the 2016 Farm Show Opening Ceremonies on **Saturday, January 9**. A special section of the Large Arena seating will be reserved for you. By featuring those families for our 100th celebration, we hope to make the relationship between fairs and the PA Farm Show – that all roads lead to the Farm Show – even clearer. If you'd like to view and/or order a 100th Farm Show book, visit pafarmshowbook.com.

Fair Photo Display at the PA Farm Show

We're developing a way to recognize fairs for the duration of the show for the benefit of all of its estimated 500,000 or more visitors. Just as not everyone can travel to the PA Farm Show each year, we can't make it to all 109 county and community fairs, even if we try! So instead, we're asking each fair to provide an 8x10" high-quality photo for display at

the Farm Show. Please bring it to your respective zone meetings (which will take place **October 21-24, 2015**). We will collect them there and begin to build the display for Farm Show. Your photo should represent a historic or unique trait about your fair – giving visitors insight into your fair and telling a story worth 1,000 words. We ask that a brief description (no more than 250 words) of the significance of your photo accompany it.

Important reminders regarding the photo submissions: Print your photos sized at 8x10. To ensure best quality, the digital files should be at least 300 dpi at 8x10.

If your photos need scanned for reproduction, scan at 600 dpi.

If you need assistance with touching up older photos and/or with reproducing negatives or slides, contact the Press Office at 717-787-5085 or wilnichols@pa.gov.

The photos will be placed in a custom made PA Hardwoods frame (provided by the department).

The photos will be returned to your fair representative during the 2016 PA State Association of County Fairs Convention in Hershey.

Reflecting on Fair Season

I'm pretty close to logging 15,000 miles on the road to nearly 100 fairs this summer. It's been a team effort in attending all our fairs – it required the support of Secretary Redding as well as Executive Deputy Secretary Michael Smith and deputy secretaries Hannah Smith-Brubaker, Fred Strathmeyer, and Gregory Hostetter. I appreciate the hospitality you've shown us all, as well as our other department staff – food sanitarians, regional veterinarians, and others who are our boots on the ground, providing support that ensures the safety of visitors, vendors, exhibitors, and your fairs.

The ribbons we provided are just a small token of our appreciation for your role in telling our story. I hope they serve as a symbol of the unique relationship we have and our mutual commitment to the success of Pennsylvania agriculture.

I'm looking forward to catching up with you all at the Fall Zone Meetings. Don't forget to bring your photos and their descriptions. See you then!



The Secretary's Notepad

— Harry Reffner

Convention Packets

A convention packet will be available for each fair at your zone meeting, please have a representative of your fair present to pick up this informational packet.

Fair Person of the Year

A Fair Person of the Year application is available in the "Member Fairs Only" section of the association web-site. In addition the application will be included in the Convention packet given to your Fair at the Zone meetings. Completed applications must be postmarked no later than November 1st.

Communications Competition

A Communications Competition application is available in the "Member Fairs Only" section of the association website; in addition the application will be included in the Convention packet and must be postmarked no later than November 1st.

2016 Fair Information date requests

Fair information request for 2016 have been mailed. Please respond by December 1st to have the correct information in the 2016 directory.

Showcase

Associate members eligible to showcase were mailed applications in early September. To be considered for the showcase the appropriate application must be postmarked by October 15th to the showcase chairperson. Note: Dues must be paid in the year you receive the application, and if selected, in the year you showcase/stroll.

2016 Associates Membership Invoices

Invoices will be mailed to our Associates early in October. The invoice requests current information to be printed in the 2016 PSACF directory. The information is to be returned to the PSACF office no later than December 1, 2015.

PSACF/Msgr. John W. Mignot

Scholarship

The committee has the final scholarship resumes in their hands. The final decision for the 6 scholarships will be made in October. Thanks to all who have donated to this worthy scholarship. And good luck to those that have applied.

PA Preferred Contests & Angel Food Cake Contest

Checks for PA Preferred Contests and/or Angel Food Cake Contest were mailed in September. Please cash this check as soon as received. Also, coordinate between the contest coordinator(s) and fair that the check was received for the contest(s) and cashed. Any unpaid premium due to the lack of entries, etc. is to be returned to PSACF. Failure to do so will result in next year's check being reduced by that amount. Your post contest report will be used to identify un-paid premium. Any questions are to be directed to the appropriate state baking contest coordinator. Remember to submit your Contest Summary information to the appropriate person by the deadline specified; otherwise, your fair will be ineligible to participate in 2016.



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WEST END FAIR, GILBERT, PA

M&G Legislative Update

The Budget Stalemate of 2015

According to the constitution of Pennsylvania, a budget must be adopted by June 30th each year. The Republican Majority of the Senate and House of Representatives worked diligently to make that happen this year. Five hours before the deadline they sent Governor Tom Wolf a balanced budget that President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati (R - Jefferson) and Speaker of the House Mike Turzai (R - Allegheny) agreed would “boost education funding and fund essential services without raising taxes.” Two hours after that, Governor Tom Wolf assembled a press conference vetoing the legislation and stating:

“The citizens of Pennsylvania sent us here to do serious work and to address the problems facing this commonwealth. This includes enacting a budget that contains fair and adequate education funding in part by implementing a commonsense severance tax, providing property tax relief to Pennsylvania families and seniors, fixing the structural deficit, and providing a sound plan to create jobs across the commonwealth. This budget does not accomplish these essential tasks, so I cannot, in good faith, give it my approval.”

Without a budget in place, significant financial problems loom for state funded programs, including fairs. The leadership of the General Assembly and the Administration have been meeting around-the-clock since the veto, but still an agreement has not been met. Session has convened for several July and August days and yet, no strategy materialized. On August 25th, after 56 days of budget impasse, the House Republican leadership made a historic effort to override specific parts of Governor Wolf’s budget veto, namely those relating to human services - line items that both Republicans and Democrats agree need to be funded. The “political stunt” as the House Democratic leadership called it, was unsuccessful. The House Republicans were unable to provide enough votes to pass the motion.

Current Budget “Hail Mary”

The Senate, following the thought process of the House of Representatives, met September 16th - 18th to work on a “stop-gap budget.” The “stop-gap budget” provides 4 months of funding or one-third of the distribution dollars (\$1,333,000 to fairs). The intent being, to provide funding for those that rely on state dollars. Senate Majority Leader Jake Corman said “we can allow schools and social services to run out of money or we can pass a stopgap budget.” With that in mind, the Senate successfully passed the “stop-gap budget,” and it has been referred to House of Representatives for consideration. The House is expected to successfully pass the “stop-gap budget.” However, Governor Wolf has already shared with the public that he would only consider signing the “stop-gap budget” if all sides were able to reach an agreement on a final budget.

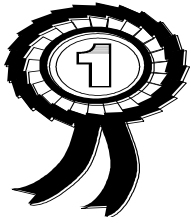
The budget impasse continues.

Future Budget Considerations

The full General Assembly is scheduled to return to Harrisburg on September 28, 2015. With session scheduled consecutively for the next three months, we are optimistic that a final budget agreement will be reached, and that fairs will be pleased with the outcome. Nonetheless, until then, everything is left on the table to negotiate, including sales tax expansion and fair funding. If you will recall, Governor Wolf’s budget proposal suggested to increase the states sales tax from 6% to 6.6 and expand the tax to dozens of goods and services currently exempt, including admission to amusement parks and fairs. We are continuing to advocate against this proposed tax expansion and will continue to fight until the final budget is signed. Likewise, we are continuing to campaign for fairs to receive \$4 million from the Race Horse Development Fund (an additional \$1 million from last year’s budget for grants). Please continue to contact your legislators and ask for the same.

Being a county fair advocate is critical. Take the time to ensure the future of our beloved fairs by building a relationship with those who have the ability to affect change. Invite your legislators to witness the intricacies of planning a fair, setting up for your community attraction, or ask them to participate in a fair contest. First-hand experience provides the best insight. Reach out, make a connection, and educate! That is all it takes.

Update from The Zones



Zone One –Sam Zaffuto

The 2015 Fair season is just about complete. When the weather cooperated, most fairs reported having a good fair. Our Fall

Fall Zone Meeting is scheduled for Friday October 23 at the Scrubgrass Grange. Dinner will be served at 6:30 followed by our meeting. Information on the meeting has been mailed to all zone one fairs. Please be sure to make your reservation to attend, Your state officers will be in attendance to let you know what's going on in your state association. We will have a report from the Department of Agriculture and present information about the convention in January. The Zone One Person of The Year Award as well as the Junior Fair Person Award will be presented. Our zone will also be electing a representative to the Queen Board at this meeting. We hope to have all fairs in attendance at this meeting. See you there.



Zone Two — Rod Ralston

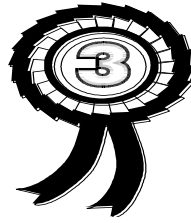
Once again, the summer Fair season is fast coming to a close. The weatherman has been cooperative in most cases, some

Fairs experienced very hot weather, some had more rainy days than normal, and others had good weather most of the week.

Our fall meeting will be hosted by the Schuylkill County Fair on Saturday, October 24, 2015. The meeting agenda will include the presentation of the Zone II Junior Fair Person of the Year and the Fair Person of the Year awards.

The budget for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has not been adopted as of this date. Hopefully the final budget will include at least \$3,000,000 allocated to the Department of Agriculture for the Fairs and other agriculture organizations.

HOPE TO SEE ALL FAIRS AT THE FALL ZONE MEETING



Zone Three-Debbie Stephenson

Congratulations to all fairs for another successful fair season and to those who are still waiting to hold theirs good luck!! In spite of the

heat, it seems all fairs did a great job! Our Fall Zone 3 meeting will be hosted by the Huntingdon County Fair on October 24th 2015. Reservation notices will be sent out shortly with directions and times. Please send someone or all of your members to the meeting as it will update the convention to be held in Hershey 2016 as well as the Farm Show 2016 Anniversary. Don't forget to start making your reservations for the convention at Hershey if you already haven't.



Zone Four — Dr. Sally Nollt

Congratulations to all completed fairs for another successful fair season and best wishes to those fairs yet to be held! In spite of heat or rain (or both!) the fair season continues.

I would like to thank our officers and Milliron Associates for all the hard work and many hours they put into maintaining fair funding. Thank you also to those fairs that contacted legislators. All Zone 4 Fairs operated this year. Thank your legislators for the funding and continue to keep in close contact with them as they continue to work on the state budget.

The Zone 4 Fall Meeting will be held at Shady Maple Smorgasbord in East Earl. The dinner meeting will be held Wednesday, October 21, 2015. Reservations may be made with Karen Dobson. At this meeting two awards will be given. One will be given for Fair Person of the Year for Zone 4 and one for the Junior Fair Person of the Year for Zone 4. The Junior will be eligible for the State Junior award to be given at the 2016 PSACF Convention.

Please plan to attend this important Fall Meeting!

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