

DATES TO REMEMBER

— 2017 —

October 15

- Showcase apps. Due
- 2018 Request for Fair info material, PSACF Associate Dues Invoices, PSACF/PSSA Convention material, Trade Show apps. mailed.

October 19

- PSACF Board Meeting

October 25

- PSACF Zone 4 Mtg. - Kutztown Fair

October 26

- PSACF Zone 3 Mtg. - Fayette Fair

October 27

- PSACF Zone 1 Mtg. - Christ the King Manor

October 28

- PSACF Zone 2 Mtg. - To Be Announced

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 26-29

- 2017 IAFE Convention Last in Vegas

— 2018 —

January 6—13

PA Farm Show

January 17—20

106th Annual Convention



VOL. 31

SEPTEMBER 2017

NO. 3

EDUCATIONAL SLATE OF SEMINARS ON HERSHEY CONVENTION SCHEDULE

BY: KEVIN D. BIEBER

The 2018 PSACF /PSSA convention will soon be in full swing. It is so hard to believe that yet another summer has just passed and we now need to gear up for convention. With that word, "convention", it also means colder weather as we all congregate at the warm Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. Aside from the Farm Show also occurring in January, I cannot think of a better place to be than at our convention amongst all good friends and fair family. Although we use the convention as additional time to catch up with everyone about the past year, we also have to focus on what might help us continue a strong fair tradition and maybe search for something that may take your fair to the next level. The PSACF seminar committee tries very hard to help you do just that. Our focus has been on what we can do in order to continue bringing a full slate of experienced speakers to Hershey. Once again, I am confident you will not be disappointed.

Our convention will start off already on Wednesday with a very busy day. Beverly Gruber is back again with her Judge's School. I encourage you to consider signing up for her school. However, do not think that is the only thing to do on Wednesday. We are very pleased to bring in Jen Puente from the Wisconsin State Fair as she will present a seminar on Sponsorships. I have had the privilege to hear Jen speak on several occasions and I am confident that she just may have some good ideas out there for all of you, no matter how big or small your fair is. Don't forget about the annual Trucking Regulations seminar as well on Wednesday. Our PSSA friends need to stay on top of all those regulations that seem to keep changing out there.



Thursday will again bring our opening ceremonies. I am really excited and cannot wait to hear our keynote speaker this year. He comes from the great state of Texas and is the Executive Director of the Texas FFA Foundation. When speaking with Aaron over the phone, I can sense his excitement for coming to Hershey and sharing some great stories and wisdom about our industry. After some time to allow you to attend the trade show and book all those 2018 fair acts, we will complete Thursday's seminars by bringing Aaron back to speak on "Live Your Brand". That afternoon we will also have the Southcentral Task Force back again to provide a seminar on "Terror on the Fairgrounds; What to do with Livestock and People". None of us want to think about anything like this, but let's be honest with each other, we need to be prepared, just in case !!!

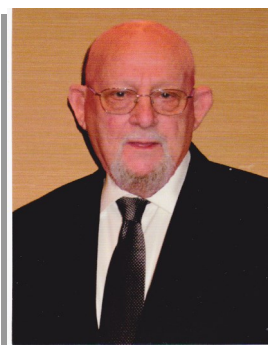
See Educational Slate next page

On Friday we will welcome our IAFE speaker, Ron Diamond, Ron will present "The irrefutable Laws of Leadership". Later that day we encourage you to obtain all the baking contest updates from Karen Dobson and Kevin Bieber while at the same time Maria Lucero from the Erie County Fair in Hamburg New York speaks about "Volunteers".

They say "time flies when you are having fun", since we have lots of fun in Hershey, it will be Saturday morning before we know it, but not to fear, we have 3 great semi-

nars for you before wrapping up. The morning will start with our annual Food Safety Updates as well as Jessica Underberg is also hear from the Erie County Fair in Hamburg New York to speak on "If money were no object, what would the future Ag Pavilion look like"? Finally, we also have the pleasure of Jodi Buresh making her way to Hershey to present "Marketing".

As I mentioned in the title of this article, educational seminars, that is exactly what you will find throughout these 4 full days of fantastic seminars. Please make every effort to attend as many seminars as possible throughout your stay at the convention. I look forward to catching up with all of you in Hershey !!!!



President's Message

September, and fair season is rapidly coming to an end. As always Mother Nature played a big part in our fairs, some having high temperatures and others enduring torrential downpours. Hopefully she will shine favorably on those

still to come.

Your Directors are hard at work getting things ready for the upcoming convention. Seminars, Round Tables, Trade Show, Showcase and Queen Program are coming along nicely. Should you be asked to help in any way please do so, all help is greatly appreciated.

Now is the time to be thinking of your nomination for Fair Person of the Year and Junior Fair Person, not only on the state level but also your Zone. We all have someone that is worthy of this award.

Fall Zone Meetings are scheduled and as many as possible should plan on attending. Your Officers are plan-

ning on having the latest up to date news for your consideration.

Have you made your room reservation yet? If not now is the time to do so as rooms are filling up rapidly.

Have you considered attending the IAFE Convention this year, this well be the last year it will be held in Las Vegas, next year it will be in San Antonio Texas.

Your Officers are still monitoring the proposed changes to the Fair Fund Act. As more information becomes available we well keep you updated. It is not known at this time how it will impact all of our Fairs. Be assured we will work for the best changes in the interest of all our Fairs.

As I write this we still have no Budget. It would not hurt to contact your Legislators and thank them for their past support and encourage them to keep up their support of all our Fairs.

Dave

David Hallstrom *PSACF President*

Spouses Program for 2018 at the PSACF/PSSA Convention

BY: Hazel Blaney

Plans are currently being developed for a hands on project "Have a Heart", our Basket & Bag Bingo and a demonstration TBA that will be held on Saturday morning.

As usual registered spouses are invited to attend the showcase, opening ceremonies, table topics, seminars, and the trade show during our convention.

Please remember to participate in the ticket auction in the Trade Show Hallway to support our activities and the Msgr. Mignot/PSACF Scholarship fund.



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

By: Kevin Bieber

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

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

Convention Rooms for 2018

By: Dr. Sally Nolt

Rooms are available by 4:00 pm and check-out is 11:00 am. Cancellations must be made three (3) days prior to your arrival date, or your credit card will be charged for a one night's stay.

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

Queen Contestants are to use the form provided.

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

Michele Maxwell - (717) 534-8696

Marissa Peduto - (717) 520-5433

Michelle Lutzkanin - (717) 534-8636

JUDGES SCHOOL SCHEDULED

On Wednesday, January 17, 2018 the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs and the Pennsylvania Farm Show will host a Judge's School during the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs Convention at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. You may choose two breakout sessions to attend.

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

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

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| • Canning & Preserving | • Fruits, Nuts |
| • Baked Goods | • Flowers |
| • Youth & 4-H (Still Exhibits) | • Homemade Wine & Beer |

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 12, 2018. 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 12, 2018.



2018 SPOUSE PROGRAMS

The Spouse Program for the 2018 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 called "Have a Heart".

On Saturday morning the program will be ***"To Be Determined"***

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.

2018 PA STATE FAIR QUEEN CONTEST SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2018

Raffle Table Set Up

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2018

10:30am – 1:00pm	2018 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 19, 2018

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	2018 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	Queen Coordinators' "Idea Exchange" (<i>and 2018 Fair Queen Contest Packet Distribution</i>)
5:30pm – 6:15pm	Judges Reception with Contestants
7:00pm – 9:00pm	PA Fair Queen Madeline McEachin's Party with Contestants

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2018

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 – <i>"To Be Determined"</i>
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 / 2018 PA Fair Queen Meeting with State Coordinator

Visit the PA 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 during Trade Show hours in the Great lobby.



106th ANNUAL CONVENTION
PA State Association of County Fairs and
PA State Showmen's Association

The Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, Hershey PA
Wednesday - Saturday, Jan. 17 - 20, 2018



HOTEL RESERVATIONS

2018 Convention reservations will now be accepted by the Hershey Lodge. Deadline is December 26, 2017. For lodging:

phone 1-800-HERSHEY (717-437-7439) or online at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/PACOUNTYFAIRS2018>

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, 2017)

\$50 (received after December 15, 2017)

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 17, 2018

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 – "Embracing Sponsorships – Let's grab some extra Dough!"

3:15pm-4:15pm Table Topics 10,13

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 18, 2018

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 – Aaron Alejandro

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 – "Live Your Brand"

1:00pm-3:15pm Spouse Program - "Bag & Basket" Bingo

1:15pm-2:15pm

1:30pm-3:00pm

2:45 -4:30pm

3:15pm-4:15pm

4:00pm

5:30pm

5:45pm

6:15pm

6:45pm

Table Topics 2,4,14

Meeting - Sire, Quaker & USTA

Seminar – "Terror on the Fairgrounds;

What to do with Livestock and People"

Table Topics 7, 15, 18

Associates Gathering

PSACF & PSSA Board

Group Photos

Hospitality Time & Cash Bar

PSACF ANNUAL BANQUET

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

Friday, January 19, 2018

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.

1:00pm -2:15pm

Seminar- "The Irrefutable Laws of Leadership"

12:30pm-1:45pm

Round Table –Pa Fair Fund Update

2:00pm-3:30pm

Seminar – "Special Baking Contests"

2:00pm-3:30pm

Spouse Program - "Have a Heart"

2:30pm-3:45pm

Seminar - "Volunteers, the Heart of the Fair"

2:15pm-3:15pm

Table Topics 1,8,11

3:30pm-4:30pm

Table Topics 3,9,12

6:15pm

Hospitality Time & Cash Bar

6:45pm

PA SHOWMEN ANNUAL BANQUET

(Reserved seating-ticket required-\$36)

Saturday, January 20, 2018

MEAL ON YOUR OWN-BREAKFAST

7:30am-5:00pm

Registration Desk Open

9:00 -10:15am

Seminar – "If money were no object what would the future Ag Pavilion look like?"

9:00am-10:15am

Seminar – Food Safety Updates

9:00am-10:00am

Table Topics 5, 16

9:00am-Noon

Trade Show Open

Communication Exhibits Open

(Badge Required)

9:30am-11:00am

Seminar – "Marketing to Millennials"

9:30am-10:45am

Spouse Program – "TBA"

10:30am-11:30am

Table Topics 6, 17

11:30am-12:30pm

PSSA Annual Meeting

Noon-12:30pm

Communication Exhibits Released

Noon

BOX LUNCHEON

[followed by drawings at 12:30pm]

(ticket required-\$18)

Auction Drawings - Winner must be present

2:45pm-4:15pm

Family Feud

4:30pm

Mass

6:00pm

QUEEN CORONATION BANQUET

(Reserved seating-ticket required-\$39)

Sunday, January 21, 2018

8:00am

PSACF Exec. / Conv. Breakfast

TABLE TOPICS

1. Passes regulated for livestock exhibitors and concessions
2. What's your problem?
3. The benefit of having junior fair boards
4. Animal Health Rules for 4-H and Commercial Animal Exhibits
5. Budgets and Fiscal Planning
6. Campers and Golf Carts/ Four Wheelers at the Fair
7. Electric for Fairgrounds
8. Organization of Fair Office and Updating Systems
9. Loss of Livestock Fair Entries
10. Alcohol on the Fairgrounds
11. How to Advertise Your Fair on a Shoe String Budget
12. Sponsorships for All Volunteer Fairs
13. Grants: Applying and Writing Process
14. Benefit Auctions and Other Fundraisers
15. What to Expect from an Entertainment Booking Agent
16. Handicap Accessibility
17. Co-oping With Concessionaires for a Successful Promotion
18. Sound and Public Address Systems

SEMINARS

Judging School

Session choices for this year are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| • Canning & Preserving | • Fruits, Nuts |
| • Baked Goods | • Flowers |
| • Youth & 4-H (Still Exhibits) | • Homemade Wine & Beer |

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, Aaron Alejandro

Aaron is currently the Executive Director of the Texas FFA Foundation. An inspirational speaker, his unique style of delivery transcends all age groups and cultures, offering a clear message of personal dynamics for success. Aaron will also be giving a seminar "Live Your Brand" on Friday.

Embracing Sponsorships – Let's grab some extra dough!

Presented by Jen Puente Wisconsin State Fair Marketing Director. Who doesn't need a little extra money in the bank? This program will cover not only the basic "How To's" of sponsorships, but will also take a look at fun, new and innovative ways to incorporate sponsors into our Fairs. Sponsors these days aren't as focused on signage as they once were. They are now concentrating on engaging customers through promotions and onsite activations. This session will also cover current trends in sponsorships, and most importantly, how these trends can translate into additional dollars for Fairs, and how we can make these seemingly complicated programs a bit easier. It's time to think outside the box and have a little fun!

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 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.

Terror on the Fairgrounds; What to do with Livestock and people

Dr. Steve Goldsmith Southcentral Task Force will be primary speaker, with others also involved. Dr. Goldsmith has been a Veterinarian from 1979 to 1991 when he was with the Florida Dept. of Ag – State Vet Office; he had served his country since 1993 and retired from the Military in 2016.

The Irrefutable Laws of Leadership

Ron Diamond, CHT, spent 10 years as a performer and trainer with the Walt Disney Company. Ron has been performing his Magic and Illusions, Comedy Hypnosis Shows and Stage Production at fairs around the country for 26 years and has presented over 18,000 programs in his 36 year career. Ron also leads seminars and speaks extensively on Clinical Hypnosis at Universities and Medical related gatherings. Ron is also certified as a speaker, trainer and coach with one of the most prestigious organizations in the world on leadership development, The John Maxwell Team. You may check out this area of expertise at <http://www.johnmaxwellgroup.com/rondiamond/>. Ron received his Degrees in Sociology and Educational Psychology from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas. Ron's other passions include being very involved in graphic design and media production, as well as a private instrument rated pilot, and teacher. This is an introduction to the basic laws of leadership and why it is so important to help everyone in your fair's organization from the top down find and develop their leadership potential so that continued growth and maximum efficiency can be achieved. Most people, including those in management, are not aware of these leadership laws and how critical they are to moving an organization to the next levels of success and continued importance.

PA Fair Fund Update

Fair Reimbursements and Program Update

Volunteers, the Heart of the fair -Recruiting, Motivating, utilizing and appreciating our Volunteers

Maria Lucero is a cheesehead at heart. Maria Moved to New York to take on a new role at the Erie County Fair in 2016. Prior to working with the Erie County Fair, Maria worked at the Wisconsin Valley Fair for 5 years as Fair Manager. Her passion for the fair began at a young age with her involvement in 4H. Maria has a passion for community. Whether it's where she lives or another part of the world, she feels relationships are what lead us to succeed. She is a 2017 Institute of Fair Management graduate, and is a part of the Young Professionals Initiative Steering Committee. Maria herself has volunteered with many organizations, and has been able to travel and serve in many different capacities. She loves Jesus, her family, her yellow lab, Stella and traveling. One odd thing about Maria, she does not like Cheese!

Marketing to Millennials

Jodi Buresh, joined the Saffire team in early 2016 as a Director of Partnerships and is committed to helping venues, destinations and events share their story with beautiful websites and ticketing by assisting in marketing to a vast and diverse audience. Jodi is a creative and successful strategic marketer. Her prior positions have given her a wide range of experience in the event and destination markets. She has held positions as the University Scheduling Coordinator and Campus Conference Coordinator for North Dakota State University; the Center Director of the North Dakota State University Alumni Center; Special Events Coordinator for the Fargo Moorhead Chamber of Commerce; Assistant General Manager for the Red River Valley Fair Association and the Big Iron Farm Show; and is President of the Red River Area Attractions Association.

Millennials...does the very word make you cringe? Marketers everywhere are scrambling to understand what drives and inspires this younger generation's habits. In fact, you've probably been to a session or two about how to reach millennials or work with millennials - but have you ever heard a millennial's side of the story? Join us as we present an interesting twist on how to market to this extremely lucrative audience. Leave with the millennial mystery finally solved!

Food Safety Updates

The Food Safety updates will be presented by PA Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Food Safety & Laboratory Services.

If money were no object what would the future Ag Pavilion look like?

Let's dream big and create ideas that can be applied to any size fair. This is an interactive workshop. Jessica Underberg has been with the Erie County Fair for 22 years and is currently serving as the Assistant Fair Manager and the Agriculture Manager. She is actively involved in the International Association of Fairs and Expositions. She has served on the Young Professionals Initiative, chaired the Competitive Exhibits Committee, the Agriculture Committee and the Advertising, Promotions and PR Committee, and is the current 2nd Vice Chair. She earned Certified Fair Executive status in 2007 and graduated from the Institute of Fair Management in 2010. She is also a past president of the New York State Association of Agricultural Fairs. In her spare time she enjoys reading and showing livestock with the kids. Jessica loves being involved in the fair

Legislative Update Article

Andy Goodman

As this is being written, the Pennsylvania General Assembly is returning to voting session after the summer. When they return to vote, the primary focus will be on the Commonwealth's outstanding budget requirements. The House, Senate and Governor's Office continue to try and resolve our state's dire financial structure. In the meantime, the PSACF continues to work legislatively to uphold a long standing fun tradition in Pennsylvania. While there are numerous issues being considered by the General Assembly, we do our best to make sure County Fairs are always thought of during legislative budget discussions. How we do this is through numerous channels, including good old fashioned advocacy from our member Fairs. Our Association's strength has always been the willingness of the members to participate and be advocates for their Fair. It is critical that this advocacy continues in the near and long-term future. If you are reading this, you are already showing an interest in issues that have a direct impact. Make sure you are an advocate and spend time with your local House and Senate members. Make sure they know you well enough to call when they are making a policy decision in regard Pennsylvania Fairs.

BUDGET UPDATE

The state House and state Senate have returned to Harrisburg for the fall legislative session. We are still in the midst of budget negotiations and lawmakers are focused on completing the 2017-18 state budget, which started July 1.

Although Governor Tom Wolf let a nearly \$32 billion budget bill become law without his signature, there is still much work to do. With the spending plan enacted, lawmakers must come up with \$2.2 billion to balance the books and work on legislation necessary to enact the budget (i.e. the Code bills that direct how the dollars are spent). Also held up in the Legislature are measures to provide state funding to Penn State, Pitt, Temple, Lincoln and Penn.

Budget talks have been intense. New revenue options and how much in new, repeating revenues (i.e. taxes) is a major sticking point between the House and Senate chambers. Revenue options being discussed include borrowing against or selling a portion of future tobacco settlement payments, gambling expansion, tax credit reductions, taxing natural gas drillers, imposing new or additional taxes on consumers' utility bills (telephone, electric and gas), and special fund transfers, including \$200 million in reserves from the state-created medical

malpractice insurer of last resort for doctors in the state.

We are cautiously optimistic that an agreement will be worked out soon to avoid a repeat of the 9-month gridlock of the 2015-2016 session. However, the situation is still fluid. Just like 2015, we urge you to keep in mind reimbursements and dollars will likely be held until the entire budget is resolved. Be mindful that this could take some time. County Fairs will be receiving the same amount of state dollars it did last year.

The state's Constitution requires a balanced budget. Without a revenue package, the budget remains out of balance, raising questions about whether the state can legally spend money.

LEGISLATION

Milliron Goodman continues to work with the Academy's leadership on legislation affecting our fairs. While we continue the discussion, it does seem as if a rewrite of the Fair Act has been slowed because of the state budget fight. We expect to continue the dialogue, in the future. However, this complicated and detailed issue will take a tremendous amount of time and effort to ensure our fairs can thrive and do good by their communities.

GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY

At Milliron Goodman, we spend a lot of time emphasizing the importance of getting to know your legislators and more importantly, making sure they know you. We also will help you get engaged if needed. By calling us or emailing, we can start the process of you being and advocate for your Fair. Your involvement in the legislative process is crucial to the future success and stability of our Fairs. If you have any questions regarding this legislative update or would like to get involved, please do not hesitate to contact us at 717.232.5322. We have an open door policy.

2017 FALL LEGISLATIVE SESSION SCHEDULES

SENATE FALL SESSION SCHEDULE

September	18, 19, 20
October	16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25
November	13, 14, 15
December	11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20

HOUSE FALL SESSION SCHEDULE

September	11, 12, 13, 25, 26, 27
October	2, 3, 4, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25
November	13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22
December	4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20

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

BY: KEVIN D. BIEBER

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

It was great to see that a few fairs wanted to participate again last year, so this year I am once again asking for you to sign up ahead of time. Unfortunately due to time on Saturday afternoon, we have to limit the game to 4

teams of 5 people. If more than 4 teams sign up, we will hold a drawing to see which 4 fairs will be on stage this year.

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

SURVEY SAYSSee you at Hershey !!!!!!!!!!

PSACF Association Update

By: Harry Reffner

PA Preferred Junior & Angel Food Cake Contest

At this time the contest participating Fairs has not been released. Upon receipt of the check please cash as soon as received. Note that any unpaid premiums due to lack of entries, etc. are 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 unpaid premiums. 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.

Showcase

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

Fair Person of the Year

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

Communications Competition

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

Martha Ebersole, chair of the Communications Competition is also asking that a blue 1st place ribbon be sent to Convention

for a display. Ribbons may be taken to convention, or given to me at your zone meeting.

Fair Dates for 2018

I will be mailing a request for the dates of your 2018 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 2018 Fair Guides but our 2018 Directory. I will also be requesting these dates at your zone meeting.

Mmgr. 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.

Donation of prize baskets or auction items

A PLCB ruling will not allow alcohol products to be included in our baskets or auction items, without obtaining a license. Please do not include them, as they will be removed.

The PLCB generally considers charitable organizations to be selling alcohol if their fundraising activities include alcoholic beverage products. These organizations can only "sell" alcohol if they have a proper license or permit from the PLCB.

Harry

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PSACF COMMUNICATIONS AWARD COMPETITION

CATEGORY

CRITERIA

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

PSACF COMMUNICATIONS AWARD COMPETITION

Registration Form

All forms must be postmarked by **NOVEMBER 1, 2017.**
Mail to Martha Ebersole 640 Dellville Road, Duncannon PA 17020

Fair: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone No: _____

Address: _____

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

_____ PREMIUM BOOK

_____ PREMIUM TABLOID

_____ NON-PREMIUM TABLOID

_____ BROCHURE

_____ BILLBOARD (8X10 photo)

_____ POWERPOINT PRESENTATION (amateur)

_____ PLACEMAT

_____ VIDEO TAPE (amateur)

_____ WEBSITE (include web address & explanation of the site – typed, max. 100 words)

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

_____ PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

_____ SCRAPBOOK Traditional _____ Digital _____

2017 PSACF Theme:
Country Scenes..Blue Ribbon Dreams

_____ 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

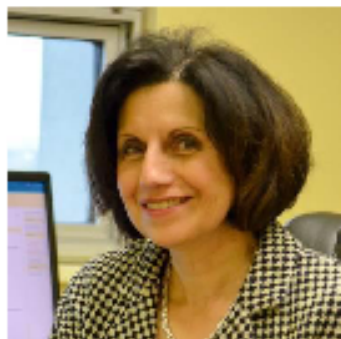
_____ BEST OF SHOW (Fair qualifies for this category if they've entered 5 other categories.)

Questions should be directed to the following executive committee members:

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

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

Judy Kmetz (570) 675-2952



Visiting fairs this summer has brought back plenty of wonderful memories. Growing up in Blair County's farming community, I showed dairy cattle at the Morrisons Cove Dairy Show and participated in the Williamsburg Community Farm Show. It was a pleasure to come full circle when visiting fairs in my position with PDA.

By the time you read this, Sec. Russell Redding and other members of his staff will have attended more than 80 fairs and recognized the contributions of 38 friends of our fairs. Sec. Redding plans to visit all 109 fairs in four years, this year attending 35. It's been an incredible opportunity to see what makes each fair unique and what unites you all.

Thank you to the volunteers – fair board directors and committee members, youth coordinators and Extension educators, and all others – who devote your time, energy and passion to creating lifetime memories for the thousands who attend the fairs each year. You help to tell the story of our diverse, robust agriculture industry.

Gov. Tom Wolf Continues Support of Fairs

Gov. Wolf demonstrated his continued support of our fairs by proposing \$4 million in the 2017-2018 state budget. He recognizes, as we do, that you are both a gateway to agriculture and the largest tourism event in many rural communities.

Sometimes we focus simply on hosting the event and forget that we are also ambassadors for agriculture. Visitors return to fairs because they remind us of who we are and where we've come from. They inspire us to get back to our roots – back to the soil.

At the same time, fairs welcome 5.5 million visitors yearly who, like you as exhibitors, volunteers, and vendors, patronize local businesses to the tune of \$126 million each year. Whether economic, societal, educational, or otherwise, the benefits of an investment in fairs are clear.

Fair Fund Advisory Board Meets, Reviews Proposed Changes to Fair Act

But does the current investment in fairs meet your needs? Do provisions that made sense in 1986 when the Act was passed still make sense today? Can we offer fairs a better chance at future success?

The Fair Fund Advisory Board and PDA generated some ideas, brought them to you as the fair community, and asked for your input and suggestions.

The Fair Fund Advisory Board met on Sept. 6, and revisited the proposed changes to the Fair Act and the feedback provided. For the past year, the board, comprised of fair representatives and members of the legislature, has been involved in discussions about potential changes to the Fair Act, including expanding the board to ensure all four zones are represented.

We hope that changes would make funding distribution more equitable to everyone who benefits from the fund, encourage investments of taxpayer funds in ways that promote fairs' long-term viability, and ensure that agriculture remains the focus of our fairs. Support would continue for 4-H and FFA programs and state-wide agricultural organizations.



Sec. Redding visits with PA Fair Queen Madeline McEachin and Hookstown Fair volunteers and exhibitors.

During the meeting, the Advisory Board recommended that PDA approve qualified top priority projects for 2017-2018 capital improvement matching grants. Notices will be sent to those fairs whose projects meet qualifications as determined by the Fair Office.

Reimbursement Applications Due November 15

Fair reimbursement applications are due in the fair office, postmarked no later than November 15. Please be sure to complete the application in its entirety, including the correct mailing address, your vendor number, and your fair's attendance for this year. Don't hesitate to contact the fair office if you have any questions.

"Know Your Farmer" Poster Contest Entries Due November 1

We've already received some great entries in this year's "Know Your Farmer" poster contest! Keep the momentum going by submitting your entries to the fair office by November 1. Posters must be shipped flat. Rolled or folded posters will be ineligible for judging. Please include the contact information for each participant.

Thank you again for the hospitality you've shown to me and all of us at PDA. We look forward to continued support of our fair community.



Message from Our Associates

— Galla Higinbotham

Plans are rapidly coming together for the 2018 PSACF/PSSA convention. Please note that our annual associates meeting will take place (in the Trade Show) after the Trade Show closes on Thursday, January 18th, at 4:00.

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

If you have not already done so, BOOK YOUR ROOM now. In the past, some people were not able to get rooms as they waited too long to make their reservation. Follow the instructions on the PSACF website to get the convention room rate.

Associates meeting the criteria (you are eligible to apply if you have not showcased in the last 3 years) will be receiving your application to participate in the much anticipated talent showcase. This will take place at 6:30 on Wednesday, January 17th and every year, features a top notch array of entertainment: magicians, jugglers, bands and musical acts, tribute bands and more.

The applications for the showcase and strolling entertainment must be received by Sam Zaffuto 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 a sample of your actual live performance. Your submitted DVD should be short – 3 minutes or so – excerpts of your best material. I say this every year: please make sure it plays on players other than your computer. And **no paper labels!** It's frustrating when there are acts that cannot be considered because their DVD will not play. Paper labels are a major culprit, or the DVD is only formatted for the computer on which it was burned. 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 2018.

I strongly urge those of you who qualify, to send in an application. The Wednesday night showcase committee looks for diversity: juggling, magic/illusion and nov-

elty stage acts as well as musical groups, bands and singers – for all sizes of venues. Out of 45 - 50 acts, 17 acts are chosen. Those showcasing will be performing for over 100 fairs and buyers from all over Pennsylvania (some from Maryland and New Jersey too) who are actively looking for acts that will make their fair special. The showcase is a highlight of the convention, an excellent opportunity for fairs to experience acts/attractions/bands firsthand and book them early for the 2018 fair season.

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

We met an interesting man at the Erie County Fair at Wattsburg a few weeks ago. As a young boy, his family didn't have much money. So each year he would pick and sell black berries to earn enough money to be able to come to the fair. He looked forward to it every year. Then his family moved to California and he lost touch. Fast forward many years (the last fair he'd been to was in 1952!) and he can't stop thinking about those days and how much the fair meant to him as a young boy. So he gets in touch with the fair to see if there even is still a fair...yes there sure is...and he immediately books a flight to come see the fair again after 65 years. I meet him as I am making announcements at the fair office and he is fascinating to talk to. He spent a couple days at the fair, seeing all the improvements and talking about "how important fairs are to young people – especially those who have never seen a cow or pig up close and they come to the fair and see them for the first time." He was interviewed by a local radio station. I interviewed him. He has such a strong message, wanted everyone who works on fairs to know that just when you think all the hard work is for nothing, you find out what an impression it made on a young boy, back again 65 years later.

All the best, Galla www.gallaanddan.com



Welcome New Associates!

Attractions, Miscellaneous Rannels Rustics

PO Box 121 Glasgow PA 16644
Phone: (814) 687-4143 Phone 2: (814) 330-9661 Fax:
WebSite: www.rannelsrustics.com E-Mail: rannelsrustics@windstream.com
Info: Chain saw carver & log furniture maker.

Attractions, Thrill & Stunt Shows East Coast Extreme

10 Roanoke Rd Sound Beach NY 11789
Phone: (631) 834-3066 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.eastcoastextreme.org E-Mail: ulfbckr@yahoo.com
Info: We specialize in grandstand and motorsport attractions

Musical Attractions

Indigo Entertainmnet, LLC

6841 W Raleigh Dr McCordsville IN 46055
Phone: (765) 524-7803 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.indigoarmy.com E-Mail: theindigos765@gmail.com
Info: The Indigos, a Funky Rock group, play a variety of music from dance to rock

Music Mike Rocks

316 M Street Harrisburg PA 17112
Phone: (570) 916-7511 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: facebook.com/The-Funky-Rooster-Band-5245530545989281 E-Mail: musicmikerocks@gmail.com Info: Specializing in the provision of professional caliber multi-genre live music shows.

Heather Olson

15 Carl Road Curwensville PA 16833
Phone: (814) 553-0089 Phone 2: (814) 236-4375 Fax:
WebSite: www.facebook.com/HeatherOlsonMusic E-Mail: cntrygirlpunk@yahoo.com
Info: Patsy Cline Tribute artist/Country music tribute artist singer

Timothy Earl Band

521 Milbeth Dr Pittsburgh PA 15228-2632
Phone: (412) 721-9480 Phone 2: (412) 343-7216 Fax:
WebSite: www.timothyearlband.com E-Mail: keenan.ed@gmail.com
Info: Country band/entertainment

Toolshed Jack

2101 Juniper Dr Coplay PA 18037
Phone: (610) 509-2518 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.toolshedjack.com E-Mail: toolshedjack@yahoo.com
Info: Cover band for high energy rock and roll and party atmosphere

In Memory...

Mr. Chuck Burns passed away August 23rd. He was chairman of the Draft Horse Department at the Crawford County Fair for the past two decades and also served on the fair's Building Committee. He was very proud to be continuing the family tradition of showing draft horses at the Crawford County Fair, something his ancestors began at the first fair. He also enjoyed fishing, gardening and cooking a good meal on the grill. He was an avid hunter and loved spending time with his band of brothers in the John Burns Hunt Club.

Doyle Elwood Paul, 74, of Berlin went into the arms of his beloved Lord and Savior on July 2, 2017. Doyle was a pillar of strength in the town of Berlin serving his community in many capacities. He served as President of the Berlin Community Fair for 48 years, He received many local, state, and national awards including being a finalist in the Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year award, received awards from the Pennsylvania Department of Education for excellence in Agriculture Production and Adult Young Farmer Education.

Robert J. Brubaker, 73, rural Williamsburg, went home to be with his Lord on July 11, 2017, after an extended illness. He was a lifelong dairy and crop farmer in the Williamsburg area. He formerly served as the president of the Williamsburg Community School Board, Southern Cove Power Reunion and the Williamsburg Farm Show, where he was currently serving as vice president. He also served with the Blair County Farm Bureau for many years.

PA FAIR QUEEN STATE CONTEST

One of the PA Fair Queen Program's purposes is to promote greater public understanding and awareness of agriculture and its importance to Pennsylvania. And our current PA Fair Queen Madeline McEachin has enthusiastically taken on this mission.



Through the power of technology, Madeline has been documenting all her fair visits this summer. Her exceptional social media posts have allowed a larger audience to experience the unique features and community spirit of our PA fairs that are showcasing agriculture. She has truly been an ambassador for our industry.

Once again we thank the PA Fairs who invited the PA Fair Queen and the Alternate Rachel Duke to their events, and also to PSACF for sponsoring the mileage reimbursement money that makes the State Queen's fair visits possible.

The 2018 State Competition will be held January 18-20 at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. The State Contest Application packet is available for download on PSACF's website under the "Members-Queen Program" section of the Home Page.

To make it simpler this year, we made **ONE** deadline date and **ONE** place to submit all the contest paperwork... **November 1 to Bitsey Kopfinger** That is the postmark deadline for submitting the State Contest Application, the \$120 application fee, the Contestant's reserved Coronation Banquet table seating, AND - **new this year** - the Fair Queen Contestant's Hotel Room request form/credit card authorization. It's also one-stop shopping!

The **Official Contestant Handbook** will be mailed to each qualified Contestant and her Coordinator in early December. **A reminder:** for 2018 we ask that each contestant bring a \$20 chain restaurant gift card to the Queen Raffle table (ex: *Applebees, Olive Garden, etc*). Cards will be bundled into two Dining Out prize packages for the Live Auction on Saturday night!

Florida Georgia Line

is supporting the PA Fair Queen Program



See Queen Program next page

Our Fundraising Committee is preparing great ways that fairs, businesses and individuals can support the Queen Program. They include sponsorship opportunities, a basket raffle, silent/live auction, and a 50/50. **New this year** will be a guitar autographed by the popular country music group Florida-Georgia Line courtesy of Variety Attractions. Download the **Fundraising Flyer** from www.pafairs.org under "Members/Queen Program" to learn how to get involved. Responses are requested by November 15. *Reminder: 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.*

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/Events - Martha Ebersole, 717-580-6753
- State Contest - Karen Dobson, 610-212-6180

Message from the PA State Fair Queen

By: Madeline McEachin



It is so hard for me to describe the past three months in three short paragraphs because it feels like I have enjoyed three years worth of experiences at this point. I have traveled to every edge of our great state to enjoy each of the unique and impactful ways that your communities celebrate agriculture. I feel so blessed that you all were so willing to open your arms and your gates to welcome me into your corner of Pennsylvania and to take the time to show me all of the intricacies that make your fair so special.

Over the past few months I have spoken at opening ceremonies, taken photos with hundreds of little boys and girls, milked cows, presented awards, crowned queens,

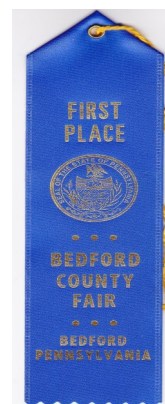
ridden in parades, hidden from rainstorms, met government officials, posed with over-sized vegetables, reconnected with old friends, taste-tested donuts, hopped rabbits, eaten (lots) of fair food, educated the public, judged pageants, listened to famous musicians live, driven horse-drawn carriages, stood on the border of Pennsylvania and so much more; and my favorite part is that fair season is not over yet! In amongst all of this excitement, I also had the opportunity to represent our fairs for three days at Ag Progress Days in August. It was an honor for me to share your stories to all who attended – plus I got to spend some time crafting sun-catchers with the kiddos!

Headed into the fall I am looking forward to the rest of my fair visits, Farm City Day in October and preliminary plans for the 2018 Pennsylvania State Fair Queen Pageant! I wish well to every one of you this fall season and encourage you to reach out to me or to Martha if I can be of any service to your fairs or your communities in the future!

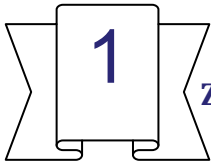
All the best,
Madeline McEachin

FIRST PLACE RIBBON REQUEST

Martha Ebersole, Communication Chair, is requesting that all Fairs send a 1st place ribbon to Convention. Please bring it to the Communication area at Convention. You may also give it to Harry at your Zone Meeting.

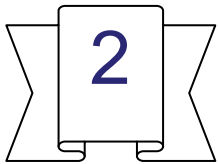


Update from The Zones



Zone One –Sam Zaffuto

It's hard to believe, but the 2017 Fair season is just about complete. Most fairs reported having a good fair when the weather cooperated. Our Fall Zone Meeting is scheduled for Friday October 27 at the Christ The King Manor Community Center in DuBois. Dinner will be served at 6:30 followed by our meeting. Information on the meeting will be mailed to all zone one fairs during September. 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 and to 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. Looking forward to seeing you there.



Zone Two — Dale LeVan

As I ponder to think of things to write for this issue of "Fair Talk," I think of this time as "Bitter-Sweet." For most of us the fair season is over and for a few fairs theirs are yet to come. I've visited up to 13 fairs and still have at least 2 more to visit. That's three less than last year.

We've all worked hard in getting ready for our fairs. The time comes and we are all excited as we welcome our guest and see all our hard work come together. The lights coming from our fair lighting and the concession trailers, the smells of the different foods and of course the barns. Then there are the noises of the rides and kids screaming as they go round and round and up and down on the thrill rides, the crashing of cars in the demos, and let's not forget the roar of the tractor and truck pulls. We catch a glimpse of the kids faces as they smile and laugh at the animals, clowns and all the excitement that they don't see everyday. We all enjoy the entertainment and the exhibits and seeing all the animals that most of our guest don't see from day to day. What we did to prepare was worth all the hours and sweat we put into making the days as enjoyable as we could for our guest. Then the last night comes and it all comes to an end. The sweet turns into bitter and it's all over.

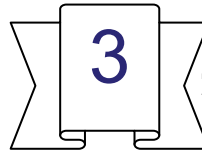
The next day all that is left is an empty fair grounds, brown patches of grass where concessions were just a day before and litter. We sit back and take a deep sign of satisfaction and we are happy we did our best and made it through another year.

I hope all fairs had a successful year without any bad incidents. Now is our time to turn our eyes on January's convention and getting ready for the 2018 fair season.

Just a reminder to send one of your "Blue Ribbons" (preferable with your fairs name on it) to Martha Ebersole. She needs one from every fair for the communications section of the trade show.

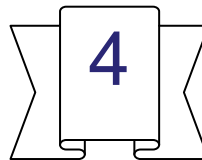
The zone 2 fall meeting will be hosted by Schuylkill County Fair on October 28th. Hope to see all of you from zone 2 there.

To all fairs I hope you all had a successful year and hoping for a grand and better 2018 fair season.



Zone Three - Debbie Stephenson

As fast as the fair season approached it seems it is ending as quick and all the obstacles that have come and gone. Just a few reminders for all, get your baking final sheets back in to Karen Dobson and Kevin Beiber, your communication entry's to Martha Ebersole and your Hershey room reservations can be made anytime as they will fill up early. Thanks to all the fairs that submitted Msgr Mignot Scholarship applications this year as we really had some good ones to choose from. Don't forget the Jr Fair Person of the year award entry's also. The Fall Zone 3 meeting will be held at Fayette Fairgrounds on October 26 at 7 PM. Notices will be going out soon please watch your emails and send at least one representative from your fair please. If for some reason you can't attend please feel free to call us as well. A special thanks to all fairs for the great hospitality while we were doing your visitations. Any concerns or questions that need addressed please feel free to contact anyone of us. See you at the meeting!!



Zone Four - Kevin Bieber

Considering it is September, most of the Fairs in our Zone have been conducted. However, there are still a few to go. Hopefully your Fair was able to survive any rain or heat over the summer. We wish all the best for the fairs yet to come. As we all know, this is a crucial time for the PSACF as we await to hear how our Governor handles the budget and especially the Fair Funding line item.

See Zones, next page

From Zones, previous page

I want to extend a THANK YOU to all of you who reached out to your local legislators and invited them to your Fair as well as anyone who sent them letters asking for their support of our Fair Funding line item. This truly does go a long way when it comes time for them to “lobby” for you !!!! Please continue to stay in front of your legislators and let them know just how important the Fair Funding is to all of us.

The Zone 4 Fall Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 25th at the Kutztown Grange Hall, this is being hosted by the Kutztown Fair. Let's show them our support and make every effort to have 100% Fair participation from Zone 4. Karen Dobson will be sending out reservation requests shortly. Also at this meeting we will present a Fair Person of the Year for Zone 4 as well as a Junior Fair Person of the Year. The Junior Fair Person will be eligible for the State Junior award to be given at the 2018 PSACF convention. We all know people who deserve these awards, please send me your nominations no later than September 30th.



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