

1960

Frank Curtis, the grounds keeper resigned and Carroll Lewis was hired. The Fair Office, along with some commercial exhibits were located under the grandstand. The annual Carnival was set up on the midway in front of the Home Economics Building. Professional talent was hired for the Arena show.

The Junior Rodeo was sponsored by the Sheriff's Posse. Formed in 1956, the Sheriff's Posse was a group of men who wanted the opportunity to enjoy horseback riding activities together and also be of service. Members at this time were Tom Byrne, Jim Hayes, Gene Hilty, Charles Bryne, Dwight Broadhead, Chuck Curtis, Dwayne Shahan, Jim Moore, Dick Abbott, and Ralph Cocking.

Queen of the rodeo was Sandy Aaring, Ewartsville. Inland Empire Mother was Minnie Stevig, Steptoe.

Fair Queen: Julie Anderson, Pullman

1961

The usual Arena show on Saturday was joined by a Gymkhana sponsored by the Whitman County Sheriff's Posse. It was a display of competitive horsemanship featuring some of the best young riders in the Palouse Empire.

Inland Empire Mother was Mrs. William Morton, Farmington.

Fair Queen: Bonnie Jensen, Colfax

1962

Clint Luce, 4-H Extension Officer, served as the general advisor for the Junior Agricultural Division.

The horticulture display was quite sparse because of an early frost for flowers and vegetables. Come fair time, the perfect weather kept many farmers home working their fields and attendance was low.

The EL Katif Temple Shrine Motor Patrol was the color guard and the grand escort for the parade. Queens on floats and high school bands participated.

This was the last year for the Inland Empire Mother contest, sponsored by the Eagles Auxiliary Club. Mrs. J Beecher Neal, Garfield, won the honor.

The Fair Board voted to add Sunday events next year, making the fair a four-day show.

Fair Queen: Norman Bruce, Oakesdale

1963

A mobile home was brought in for Carroll Lewis to live in. The Mockonema Cow Cutting & Roping Club used the beef barn for meetings and practices in the summer.

The first Palouse Empire Farm Family contest was held in 1963, won by the Don Morton family. The Fair became a four-day event with exhibit buildings open and the arena show on Sunday afternoon. Carnival rides were offered through the four days in the midway area. The annual Arena presentation was joined by the Silver Spurs folk dancers of Spokane, professional wrestling and a thrills show.

Fair Queen: Linda Spencer, Pullman

1964

Lesta Work, replaced Carol Quigg in the 4-H Extension Office. This was the first year for the Miss Booster Button Sales award to the Miss Palouse Empire Fair queen contestants. The queens and princesses were asked to sell admission buttons to their communities for fair entry.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles, J.C.'s (Junior Chamber of Commerce), and Steptoe Fireman added roof extensions to their food booths with park benches underneath.

A concrete wall was added to the front side of the grandstand. A new 37' x 100' barn was built by the Horse Racing Association. It was the first year the premium book cover contest was held encouraging local artist designs.

The Palouse Empire Farm Family was the Paul Vernier family, Pullman

Fair Queen: Louise Hoenike, Oakesdale

1965

The County Commissioners were advisors to the Fair Board and the County Extension office handled fair funds. It was decided to turn over the handling of fair funds to the County Treasurer.

The Fair Board voted to allow only vehicles with commercial stickers into the North parking area. Problems incurred and resolved included: insurance coverage of \$300 (paid in thirds by Cattlemen's Association, the Horse Racing Association, and the Fair Association) increased to \$729 with less coverage.

The Fair was contacted that business and occupation tax for the past three years was due. Good news came through – a law changed and repealed the provisions requiring fairs to pay tax. No tax was due in the present or future. Horse racing was still going on in the summer.

The area under the grandstands was boarded up, allowing storage room. The Fair Office was moved to the Jockey Room of the Horse Racing association office.

The Fair Farm Family of the year was the Melvin Camp family, Lacrosse.

Fair Queen: Peggy Morton, Colfax

1966

Concrete walkways were laid in front of the three main exhibit buildings with an approach to the doorway and an intersection to the main gate entrance. The Fair Board made the decision to set up a financial budget for each Fair year. Tents were still being set up for the Herford Show and horticulture exhibits. The Sheriff's Posse was asked to plan a parking program for all the incoming and outgoing vehicles during the fair. This venture has carried through all the remaining years with great success.

Chosen as Fair Farm family of the year was the Harold Weber family., Uniontown. This was the first year a recognition dinner followed the fair for all volunteer workers.

Fair Queen: Marilyn Beitzel, Palouse

1967

A triangle piece of land adjoining the fair was purchased from Carl Ousley. Land across the road was leased for additional parking. FFA boys volunteered to help make picnic tables for fair use. Open Division Horse Classes were held in the arena on Sunday morning followed by the first Annual Palouse Empire Amateur Rodeo, sponsored by the Palouse Empire Rodeo Association.

The arena show was supported by an "Up With People" presentation. A Harvest Dance was held In the Community Building on Saturday night. The Robert and Gerald Gilchrist families were chosen for the honor o Palouse Empire Farm Family.

Fair Queen: Alicia Glorfield, St. John

1968

Edith McCormack replaced Lesta Work as Extension Agent and Home Economics general advisor.

A "Pink Cow" appeared on the Fair's publicity posters. This character was created by Whitman County Gazette artist Jerry Jones. The beast originally was intended to spice up the posters for that year. She also made an appearance on the Garfield float and picked up the name of "Patience" from the float designer. The cow has since served as a Fair trademark.

Children's relay races were held during the fair and the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers performed. The John Druffels, Uniontown, were chosen as Palouse Empire Farm Family.

Fair Queen: Jan Baken, Lacrosse

1969

The decision was made to turn over fair fund handling to a Fair Board member instead of the County Treasurer. Tents were still in use for the exhibit of fruits, vegetables, and cattle. Plans for a multi-purpose building were in discussion. Judging in the Flower division changed from the Standard method of only the first, second, and third Place to the Danish system where all worthy entries received a placing. The perimeter fence was begun and the ticket gates were moved to a new location.

The Farm Family Contest, started in 1966 was canceled due to lack of entries. The rodeo was held on Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon under the leadership of the Palouse Empire Rodeo Association.

Fair Queen: Janice Scheuerman, Endicott