



SHOWCASING OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE...

AMARILLO, TEXAS

Tri State EXPOSURE

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Tri-State Fair & Rodeo Wrap's Up

It truly was a "Blue Ribbon" event in each and every way for the Exposition's annual fundraiser the Tri-State Fair & Rodeo. Whether you enjoyed the food, carnival, rodeo, 4-H and FFA competitions or just great family fun, there was plenty of it during the nine day event.

The weather always plays a big part in any event and the cold front that dropped in on Amarillo for Friday was nothing new to attendees. "Cold temperatures and wind cost us the opening night but things could have certainly been worse," said Virgil Bartlett, Tri-State Fair general manager.

Saturday dawned a beautiful but chilly morning and things took off from there for the rest of the fair. "We were hit and miss with the rain. However, for what was originally predicted for precipitation the last Friday and Saturday of the fair, things ended up well," said Bartlett.

Below are a few facts from the 2014 Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies Tri-State Fair & Rodeo.

2014 Fair & Rodeo Facts

Livestock Entries

- Jr. Heifers-117
- Jr. Lambs-273
- Jr. Hogs-228
- Jr. Goats-184
- Jr. Steers-444
- Open Cattle-127

- Dairy Goats-227
- Chickens-346
- Rabbits-328
- Boer Goats-71

Equine Entries

- 223

Creative Arts Entries

- Garden & Agronomy-481
- Ceramics-62

- Art-172
- Youth Culinary-168
- Open Culinary-379
- Youth Textiles-450
- Open Textiles-179
- Amateur Photography-432
- Professional Photography-85

Livestock Judging

- 4-H & FFA-220
- Junior College-74

Senior Citizen Day

- Attendees-451
- Vendors-175
- Oldest Man-91
- Oldest Woman-100

Rodeo

- 597 competitors
- 24 states
- Canada & Australia represented

How did we do it all?

- 19 Departments
- 12 Superintendents
- 26 Co-Superintendents
- 41 Asst. Superintendents
- 13 Committees with 650 Volunteers
- 100 Temporary/Seasonal Employees
- 11-Full-Time Staff



Gage Whatley, Groom, is excited for his win in the recipe contest. Whatley was also a winner in the small crafts and marker art divisions of the creative arts contests.



Sept. 18-26, 2015

Junior Fair Board of Directors

Each year since 2001, junior fair board advisors have had the task of seeking out the next set of junior fair board members.

Taking on a junior fair board position is not one that is to be taken lightly. Potential members fill out an application and are selected based on their leadership and community service through their 4-H and FFA careers. Once selected, junior board members are required to make presentations in their community about the fair. The junior fair board also assists superintendents and volunteers with setting up for the fair and taking entries as well as assisting with the judging of numerous competitions.

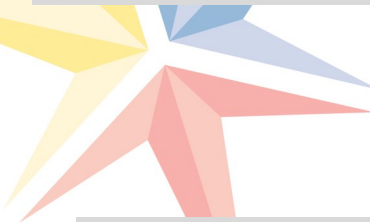
"The junior fair board gives kids the opportunity to work with all aspects of the fair. From working with arts and textiles to livestock shows, the junior fair board member has the opportunity to sign up for shifts in the various areas and gets the experience of working with adult volunteers and exhibitors," said Kim McKinney, junior fair board advisor.

Junior fair board applications are accepted in early May each year and can be procured from the county Extension agent, FFA advisor or FCCLA advisor.

Current junior board advisors are: Kim McKinney, Carrie Montgomery and Tori Wellman.



2014 Junior Fair Board Members (L-R): Front Row-Cutter Smith, Hereford; Marco Mata, Hereford; Shyanne Bailey, Amarillo; Josie Harkins, Amarillo. Second Row-Rylee Barber, Channing; Laura Corder, Amarillo; Macey Thurman, Happy; Haley Thurman, Happy. Third Row-Shelby Foster, Happy; Katelynn Monroe, Claude; McKenna Yauck, Claude; Clay Burkham, Canyon. Back Row-Jessica Dorsey, Claude; Alex Eichelmann, Claude; Tizzy Walker, Kress and Sarah Winters, Canyon. Not pictured Andee Young, Tulia.



Shyanne Bailey, junior fair board member was a little excited at the opportunity to meet Tuf Cooper after the Wrangler Champions Challenge and get her boot signed.



National Junior Bull Riders Event Moves to Amarillo



November 13-15 will bring junior bull riders from all over the nation to the Amarillo National Center. The National Junior Bull Riders Association (NJBRA) event makes its move to Amarillo from Oklahoma and is looking forward to a larger facility than they have been in prior to the move.

The NJBRA has six age groups: 6 and under, mutton bustin'; 8 and under, calf riding; 11 and under, steer riding; 13 and under, pee wee bull riding; 15 and under, junior bull riding and 19 and under, senior bull riding. The contestants will be competing for national championships in each age group.

There are currently 13 state organizations sanctioned with the NJBRA.

Performance prices are \$18 adults (11 years and up), \$12 children (5-11 years), and are scheduled Thursday, November 13 and Friday, November 14 at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. and Saturday, November 15 at 6 p.m. Discount prices for the weekend's five performances are available and can be found at tristatefair.com or panhandletickets.com.

R. W. “Digger” Howard Western Heritage Hall of Fame Inductee

The Western Heritage award honors those who have made significant contributions to the agriculture community of the Golden Spread.

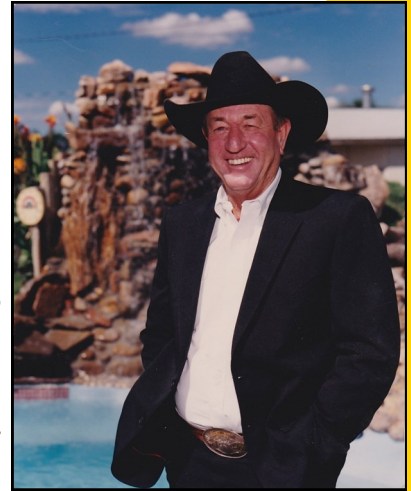
The Amarillo Tri-State Exposition named R. W. “Digger” Howard as the 2014 inductee into the Western Heritage Hall of Fame.

Digger grew up in Childress and moved his family to Amarillo in 1959. He owned and operated Howard’s Mechanical, a plumbing, heating and air-conditioning business.

In the 1970’s, Digger became involved with the youth of Randall County and began his involvement as a leader with the 4-H program, and hosted and taught riding clinics and roping schools. Digger helped organize the Randall County Buyers Club to ensure that every youth was helped and rewarded for their work.

Team roping was a hobby that Digger and a few buddies enjoyed on the weekends. He didn’t begin roping until he turned 30 and quickly found out that it was hard to compete with the “big guns.” He got tired of not only donating money to them, but also getting beat by them. Digger developed the concept of the handicap system in the team roping sport. In 1987, Digger developed the Original Team Roping’s that were held in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Digger and his wife, Carolyn, have two sons, Todd (Jennifer) and Lance, and daughter, Kim Estes (Jay) and six grandchildren.



R. W. “Digger” Howard

PRCA Rodeo Finishes out Tri-State Fair

Amarillo Makes Top 5 Nomination for Medium Size Rodeo

The final four nights of the Tri-State Fair were jam packed with rodeo contestants, mutton busters and calf scramblers. Competitors from 24 states, Canada, Brazil and Australia made up the 597 PRCA entrant at the Amarillo competition.

Wednesday night at the Wrangler Champions Challenge presented by Justin Boots, the top cowboys and cowgirls not only competed in their respected events, but hustled to the concourse to sign autographs for the fans that awaited them. “Many of our rodeo fans don’t get the opportunity to travel to Las Vegas to the National Finals Rodeo each December, so the Wrangler Champions Challenge events have made it possible for the fans to be able to meet their favorite contestant,” said Angela Ragland, Sponsorship/Marketing Director.



Tyson Durfey stays busy signing autographs

The finals three nights of PRCA action kicked off with mutton bustin’ and calf scramble. Then it was on to the high flying and dirt-throwing rodeo action. When the dust had settled Trevor Brazile was named All-Around Cowboy. Brazile won the Steer Roping and placed seventh in the Tie-Down Roping. Other event winners included: Tim O’Connell, Bareback Riding; Jesse Wright, Saddle Bronc Riding; Aaron Pass, Bull Riding; Riley Duvall, Steer Wrestling; Erich Rogers and Cory Petska, Team Roping; and Fallon Taylor, Barrel Racing.

Early September brought notification to the fair office that Amarillo’s rodeo was again nominated in the Top 5 Medium Size Rodeo category. The medium category is determined by total added money and there are 152 rodeos in the category. Amarillo is competing against Coleman, Texas; Weatherford, Texas; Deadwood, South Dakota; and Estes Park, Colorado. Contestants and contract personnel nominate their favorite rodeos from the previous year for the award. Winners will be notified December 3 at the annual PRCA Awards Banquet in Las Vegas.



Amarillo Tri-State Exposition
3301 S. E. 10th Avenue
Amarillo, TX 79104



Amarillo Tri-State Fair

Mission Statement

The Amarillo Tri-State Exposition will provide a wholesome, educational, cultural and recreational experience for area citizens by hosting the Tri-State Fair & Rodeo and other events to strengthen the Amarillo economy.

Upcoming Events

November

Oct. 31-Nov. 2 | Panhandle Cutting | Bill Cody Arena
Nov. 4 | Potter County Voting | Commercial Exhibits Hall
Nov. 8 | Cattle Baron's Ball | Rex Baxter Bldg.
Nov. 13-15 | National Jr. Bull Riding | ANC
Nov. 22 | Panhandle Team Penning & Sorting | Bill Cody Arena
Nov. 29 | Turkey Bash Demolition Derby | ANC

December

Dec. 5-7 | Christmas Cash Barrel Race | ANC
Dec. 6 | Michael Martin Murphy "Cowboy Christmas Ball" | Rex Baxter Bldg.
Dec. 12-14 | Alpaca Show | Bill Cody Arena & Glenn McMennamy Livestock Bldg.
Dec. 20 | Panhandle Team Penning | Bill Cody Arena
Dec. 19-20 | Salvation Army Gift Distribution | Rex Baxter Bldg.
Dec. 31 | Roughstock Rodeo | ANC

January

Jan. 1-4 | AKC Dog Show | Bill Cody Arena
Jan. 10 | Tri-State Chili Cook-Off | Rex Baxter Bldg.
Schedule is subject to change

Exposition Staff

*Virgil Bartlett-General Manager
Cindy Backus- Office Manager
Lavonna Davis- Events Coordinator
Angela Ragland- Sponsorship/Marketing Director
Lani Ambs- Receptionist
Trinidee Chambers- Bookkeeper
Maryann Hueston- Development/Fundraising
Alton Wilson- Grounds/Maintenance Supervisor
Jonathan Strader-Assistant Supervisor*

Board Officers

*Robert Devin-President
Tom Spanel-President Elect
Virgil Bartlett- Secretary
-Treasurer
Mark Zimmer-Treasurer Elect*

Call or Check our web sites for additional information
Phone: 806-376-7767 Fax: 806-376-6942
www.tristatefair.com

The Amarillo Tri-State Exposition is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. Contributions are considered tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



The Future of Magic Show



Raylee Bain in the grand champion steer drive.



John Harrison
Miss Rodeo Universe



Dumas FFA participants in the Scrap Processing Ag Mechanics Show



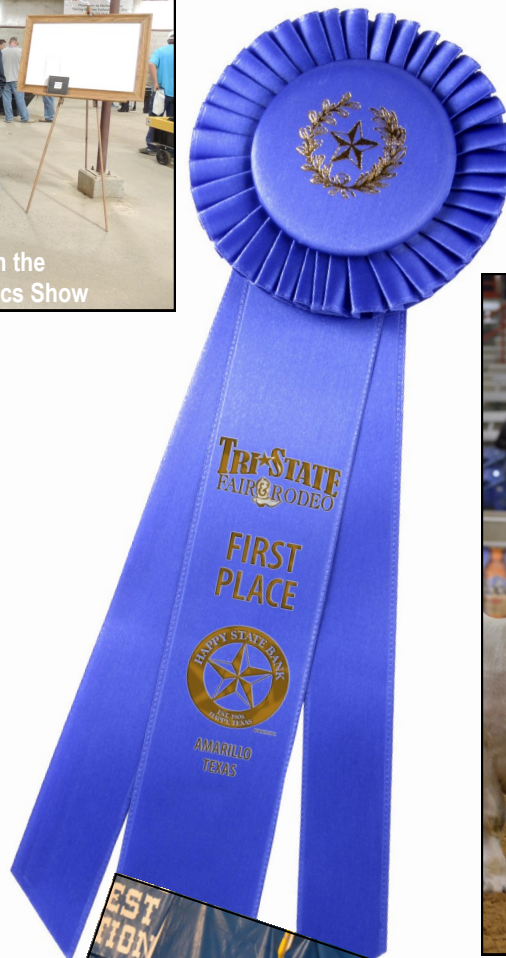
Range & Pasture Plant ID Contest



Jr. Dairy Goat Exhibitor



Garden & Agronomy Exhibit



Lillie Skiles with Judge Cody Lucher and her Grand Champion Steer. Skiles went on to win the prospect steer show at the State Fair of Texas!



Those "Funny Little People"



The Rhinestone Roper



Ready to ride a few Saddle Broncs

Scholarship Fund Sees Growth with Gala

Since 2005, the gala has been a great way to kick-off the fair season, honor our Western Heritage Inductee and scholarship awardees. This year was no different and support from the community was evident with the crowd and the bidding on the live auction items that support the scholarship endowment.

The minute guests hit the Amarillo National Center floor they were treated to festive decorations from Budding Art by Kerry to set the mood for the fun evening ahead.

Eighteen generous businesses provided a wide variety of great food and drink for the gala guests. Several have been serving the gala since its inception in 2005. Thank you to the following: 575 Pizzeria, Baker Bros. American Deli, Belmar Bakery and Café, Chick fil-A, Chili's, Coors Cowboy Club, Dr. Pepper/Snapple, Dyer's Bar-B-Que, Hoffbrau Steaks, Joe Daddy's, Kushi Yama, La Fiesta Grande, Nordic Galley Bakeri, Pescarez, Rudy's BBQ, The Plaza Restaurant, Virdinski's Rub Shack, Youngblood's Café and MGC.

Funds raised from the auction go directly to the endowment fund and without the support of the following, it would not have been possible. Thank you to these donors: Amarillo Truck Center, Backyard Adventures, Coors Cowboy Club, Matt Hicks and Wiley Hicks, III, MGM Grand Hotel and Casino, Nelson Welding, Racata Trails, Reed Beverage, Southwest Airlines, Townsquare Media, and several anonymous donors.

The Randy Rogers Band finished off a night of fun with a great concert and kick-off to the nine-days that were ahead for the annual Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies Tri-State Fair & Rodeo.



Hoffbrau Steaks have been supporting the gala since 2005.



New to the gala was Kushi Yama Restaurant.



Lloyd Mabry entertains with his witty way of composing a jingle about you when he first meets you.



Everyone enjoys supporting a great cause and fans of the gala came out to show their support of the scholarship fund and Western Heritage honoree.



R. W. "Digger" Howard was inducted into the Western Heritage Hall of Fame and to finish the evening, the Randy Rogers Band performed.