



SHOWCASING OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE...

Spring 2016

AMARILLO, TEXAS

Tri State EXPOSURE

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Tom Spanel to Lead Exposition

The annual board meeting of the Amarillo Tri-State Exposition was held on March 8. Over 100 board members and guests attended the annual meeting and dinner held in the Commercial Exhibits Hall.

Jeff Jackson with Wilson, Hagg & Co. completed the annual audit. He indicated that everything looks good and the Exposition is very strong.

Dr. Bob Robinson spoke on behalf of the scholarship committee and let everyone know that with donors and the communities support the Exposition was able to offer four \$6,000 scholarships in 2015.

Committee chairmen gave committee updates and shared plans for 2016. Some of the highlights included:

- Long Range Planning: Glenn McMennamy reported on the improvements on the grounds and WiFi that will soon be installed.
- Volunteer Program: Maryann Hueston shared that over 600 volunteers provided around 13,000 hours of service in 2015.
- Nominating: Vance Reed welcomed the 2016 nominees: Ben Archer, Keith Brown, Dan Quandt and Jonathan Ware, to the board of directors. He then introduced the 2017 nominees: Dustin Artho, Amy Assiter, Hayden Foreman, Craig Huffhines, Seth Lujan, Gloria Palmer, Randy Tivis and Richard Walton. The slate of new officers was presented and voted on by the members present. They are: Tom Spanel, president, Mark Zimmer, president elect, Virgil Bartlett, secretary, Jim Jennings, treasurer and Dennis Horn, treasurer elect.
- Virgil Bartlett introduced the "2016 Volunteer of the Year," Jonathan Ware. As a new board member, Jonathan contributed over 130 hours of volunteer service. He took on the job of coordinating the Ag Education programs held during the fair.

Virgil concluded his reports by updating the crowd on the roofing projects with the Rex Baxter, Bill Cody Arena and Food Court. He also thanked Robert Devin for his years of service as an officer.

Robert expressed his gratitude to not only the office staff and outside staff but also to the committees, their coordinators and to those that mentored him in his leadership role as an officer.

Tom Spanel was introduced as President and let the crowd know that this is a great and humbling experience and he looks forward to working with everyone.

Meeting adjourned.



Robert Devin, outgoing president and Virgil Bartlett, secretary.



Sept. 16-24, 2016



2016 Board Members: Jonathan Ware, Ben Archer, Dan Quandt.



2017 Board Nominees: Hayden Foreman, Amy Assiter, Dustin Artho, Gloria Palmer, Seth Lujan, Richard Walton.

Gala to Kick-Off Fair Season

Rose Colored Glasses and *Friday Night Blues* are just two of John Conlee's biggest hits and we hope you will join us as he headline's the 2016 Tri-State Fair & Rodeo Gala to be held Sept. 10.

The gala will kick-off at 7 p.m. in the Amarillo National Center. Tables of eight are now on sale for \$500. Call the office at 806-376-7767 to purchase your table today.

"The gala is the main fundraiser for the scholarship endowment and we appreciate the support of each of you each year to make sure this part of our program continues to be a success," said Virgil Bartlett, general manager, Amarillo Tri-State Exposition. "We are excited John accepted our offer and feel fortunate to have him join us at the gala. He understands the importance of fundraisers of this type and we look forward to a great show."

When the doors to the Amarillo National Center open at 7 p.m., we will again have area restaurants serving their delicious finger foods and desserts.

"Our 2016 scholarship recipients will be introduced as well as the Western Heritage Honoree, followed by the live auction," said Tom Spanel, president, Amarillo Tri-State Exposition.

Thanks to our gala sponsors:



**John
Conlee**

Display Cases in Bill Cody

The display cases in the Bill Cody Arena took on a new look when the facility was remodeled in 2012. The original case on the north was remodeled and the case on the south was renovated.

Since that time the cases have highlighted professional rodeo contestants and their accomplishments. Clint Johnson, Canyon, saddle bronc rider and Spearfish, S.D. native, awards have become a permanent fixture on the north side, while the south side is changed out from year to year. Originally it highlighted Will Lowe, Canyon, bareback rider. Recent displays have included Stran Smith, Childress, tie down roper and currently Larry Dawson, Arnett, Okla, steer wrestler is on display.

If you haven't had a chance to take a look at their awards and read about their accomplishments, it's worth the time.

Additionally, you can learn more about the horse, Bill Cody, by taking a look at the framed prints in the concessions area.





Fair Convention Highlights

The Tri-State Fair & Rodeo always has a strong showing in the Ray Cammack Awards for Marketing and Communications Excellence and the 2015 campaign showed just that.

Each year the Texas Association of Fairs and Events (TAF&E) honors the brightest and best in its annual Marketing Awards Contest held during convention. Promotional materials from members are judged by a panel of experts and awards are presented in many categories. The Tri-State Fair & Rodeo falls in the 100,001-250,000 attendance category.

Awards are as follows: First place-Program/Brochure/Flyer, Newsletter. Second Place-Media Guide, Newspaper Ad (black and white), Promotional-Outdoor, Online Advertising. Third Place-TV Promotion, Radio Promotion, Website and Miscellaneous Single Page.

Additionally, Angela Ragland, sponsorship/marketing director, was accepted by the association membership to serve as a director of TAF&E.



Angela Ragland and Guy Leavitt, president and CEO of Ray Cammack Shows.



Amarillo Welcomes New Event in October

The Southwest Reined Cow Horse Association (SRCHA) will be making it way to the Amarillo National Center this fall. Amarillo will host the SRCHA Fall Festival October 20-24.

"We are looking forward to show at the Amarillo National Center and look forward to meeting the Amarillo folks" said Gay Lenz, executive director, SRCHA.

SRCHA produces five shows a year in the Oklahoma and Texas area. This year two events will be in Fort Worth at the Will Rogers Arena and one event in Amarillo.

Reined Cow Horse events are about cows and are generally geared toward the cowboy lifestyle. The events are as follows: Cow Horse, Herd Work, Reining, and Ranch Riding.

"Cow Horse is a very exciting event and it is growing on a great scale," said Lenz. "The people and horses that compete at this event are resilient and have daring personalities, which makes it a very unique event."

Last fall the SRCHA paid out over \$40,000 in purse money at the October event.

Make plans to attend this event, bring your friends, and learn about the world of reined cow horse.

For more information, www.srcha.org.





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

April

15 | Junior League "Best of Texas" Gala | Rex Baxter Bldg.
16 | Original Team Roping | Amarillo National Center
19-20 | AISD 4th Grade Education Program | Bill Cody
23-24 | Palo Duro Cutting Horse Assoc. | Bill Cody Arena
30 | Potter County Steak Out | Rex Baxter Bldg.

May

14-15 | Carson Barnes Circus | West of Commercial Exhibits Hall
14-15 | CBT "Summer Da\$h" Barrel Race | ANC
21 | Original Team Roping | ANC
21 | Panhandle Reined Cow Horse | Bill Cody Arena
27-30 | AOTC Agility Trials | ANC
28-29 | Panhandle Cutting | Bill Cody Arena

June

3-4 | Coors Cowboy Club Ranch Rodeo | ANC
4 | High Plains Ranchers & Breeders Horse Sale | ANC
10-12 | Palo Duro Cutting | Bill Cody Arena
15-19 | AQHA Region 8 Show | ANC & Bill Cody Arena
25 | Panhandle Team Penning & Sorting | Bill Cody Arena
25-26 | McCracken Team Roping | ANC

tristatefair.com for a complete list of events.

Exposition Staff

Virgil Bartlett-General Manager
Cindy Backus-Office Manager
Lavonna Davis-Events Coordinator
Angela Ragland-Sponsorship/Marketing Director
Maryann Hueston-Development/Fundraising
Tawney Sippey-Bookkeeping
Alton Wilson-Grounds/Maintenance Supervisor
Jonathan Strader-Assistant Supervisor

Exposition Officers

Tom Spanel-President
Mark Zimmer-President Elect
Virgil Bartlett- Secretary
Jim Jennings-Treasurer
Dennis Horn-Treasurer Elect

Call or Check our website 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.