

December 31, 2023

2024 CONVENTION DETAILS/REMINDERS FOR FAIR MEMBERS”

The Wisconsin Association of Fairs (WAF) is excited to see you at our annual convention at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells January 7-10, 2024. It's fair week for me, so here are a few reminders as you begin to prep for your travels to convention.

Please share this information with your convention attendees, especially your first-time attendees!

Convention Schedule:

Please use the link below for the latest convention schedule. We are excited to have added a session on 501@3 for Dummies to Wednesday's schedule. Please see the updated convention schedule for more details.

<https://www.wifairs.com/p/convention>

Volunteers Needed:

We are looking for volunteers to staff some of our doors to the Trade Show and Evening Receptions. If you have an hour or two to spare, please sign up by using the following link below. The Credentials Committee will be there to guide you, but we could use some additional help. Thanks in advance for any time you can volunteer!

volunteersignup.org/3WT3J

Fairs Coordinator Update:

Deb Gegare is doing a workshop on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 from 1-2 PM. Following, she will once again be offering one-on-one sessions following. For those members that would like a little more assistance with SharePoint, you can sign up for a one-on-one session using the following link to reserve your time slot between 2-4 PM.

volunteersignup.org/PB8M3

Bright Ideas:

Deb Gegare will be doing a workshop for us at convention about "Bright Ideas" or "What's New to Your Fair". This was usually something we covered at the fall district meetings. If your fair has something new they did and have photos, please send to Deb at your earliest convenience. If it was something you entered in our Photo Contest already, no need to send to her as I'll get those to her. Thanks for your help on this.

Please email her at: Debbie.Gegare@wisconsin.gov

Special Projects:

For fairs that are bringing a centerpiece to the convention, be sure to have them the Grand Ballroom between **9:00-9:45 AM on Monday, January 8, 2024**. We will not have room to display them until then. If you haven't registered your centerpiece, please use the link below to do so before convention.

<https://www.wifairs.com/p/convention/convention-theme>

Silent Auction:

We are excited to again offer a silent auction at convention. In addition to the live auction on Monday night, the silent auction will take place on Tuesday. We are asking all Fair and Associate Members to donate an item or two to the silent auction. Consider a bottle of wine, box of chocolates or an item from a local business to add to the silent auction.

Donated items are asked to be delivered to the Riverview South room on Tuesday from 12:00PM to 12:30 PM. Items will then be on display for bidding from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM and again from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The winning bids will be announced at 7:00 PM before the showcase begins. We will accept credit card, cash or check payment for the live and silent auctions. Proceeds from the auction help keep our convention registrations fees at a minimum.

Carnival Night:

Special thanks to Deb Gotlibson for coordinating Carnival Night. This reception will be held on Sunday evening and is sponsored by members of the carnival industry. Enjoy free food and beverages while socializing with our carnival members. In addition, a 50/50 Raffle will be held with the proceeds going back to the WAF to help with our evening receptions.

Fairest Scrapbook Room:

Each convention the Fairest of the Fairs Contestants scrapbooks on display for our attendees to view and share/steal ideas for their own program. New this year, the scrapbooks will be on display either in the Trade Show or the Grand Ballroom. Please refer to your convention program for more information. If you used to volunteer to staff a door for the scrapbooks, please consider volunteering for a door at the trade show instead.

HOSPITALITY

Again this year we will offer beer, soda and food at the evening showcases. We will keep the Riverview Room bar open a half hour after the last act has performed. Feel free to stay and socialize in the Riverview Room or go visit our Associate Members on Vendor Row.

Committee Meetings:

We will be having committee meetings at the convention. A separate committee meeting reminder was sent to those committee members.

Chula Vista Liaison:

The Chula Vista Resort has assigned **Renata Prellwitz**, as our hotel liaison, for the duration of our convention. You can call or text her at any time **between 8 AM and 6PM**, at **608-547-7830**, during convention regarding a hotel issue.

Hotel Check-In:

Check in for your room will take place in the Main Hotel Lobby near the Grand Ballroom. The condo lobby will NOT be open to check in. Check-in is 4:00 PM and check-out is 10:30 AM. It is door #7 if you refer to the map on our website of the Chula Grounds.

<https://www.wifairs.com/p/convention/Chula-Vista-Hotel>

Room Cancellations: Just a reminder that if you have any rooms to cancel, that must be done 3 days in advance of your arrival to avoid penalties.

Late Check-Out: Also, if any fair needs a late check-out on Wednesday, please connect with Renata. She will see the availability of doing that on an as-needed basis. Late checkout could possibly extend your check out from 10:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday only.

Housekeeping Changes:

No housekeeping service will be offered during your stay. Following this current industry standard, hotel rooms are cleaned at the end of your stay. If you need fresh towels, please contact Renata and she will be sure it is addressed.

Garbage:

Chula Vista will plan on picking up garbage throughout the hotel between **9:00-10:00AM Monday-Wednesday** of Convention. Simply put your garbage in the hallway outside your entry door and they'll take care of the rest. No need to do on the day you are checking out.

Waterpark Hours:

Waterpark hours may vary due to staffing so please confirm with the front desk upon arrival for their updated hours or visit the link on our website.

<https://www.wifairs.com/p/convention/chula-vista-hotel>

Buffet Breakfast:

A full breakfast buffet is included in the rate of the room with the number of people as listed below. When you check-in you will be given tickets for the breakfast buffet for each morning.

- Two-bedroom condo includes 4 tickets.
- Three-bedroom condo includes 6 tickets.
- Standard room includes 2 tickets.

The breakfast buffet will be located in the buffet downstairs and in the Upper Dells Ballroom. Both buffets will offer the same menu options. **Tips for the staff working the breakfast are not included, so gratuity for the service is appreciated.**

Getting to know the hotel:

Chula Vista has three buildings all joined together by walkways. To help you navigate around Chula Vista, please keep these things in mind....

Building 2 is the guest suites and condominiums

Building 3 is the North Tower
(located closest to the showcase area)

Building 4 is the South Tower
(located between the convention area and the condos)

Your hotel room will either have four or five numbers.

- “ The first number is the building it is located in.
- “ The second number is the floor the room is located on.
- “ The third and fourth numbers are the room you are located in.
- “ If you have a fifth number, it will be a 0, and means you have a three-bedroom condo.
- “ Example: 2421; is building 2, floor 4, room 21.

WAF Convention Registration:

All convention attendees are required to wear a name badge throughout the convention beginning on Monday. Your badges will get you into all of our convention events, except the banquet as that is a separate charge. There are evening receptions Sunday-Tuesday evenings that include free food and beverage.

An email was sent to all fairs with a recap of their convention and banquet reservations. Please look over all information and connect with the office ASAP if there are any major corrections needed. Convention credentials (badges and banquet tickets) may be picked in the Grand Ballroom Lobby with our WAF Registration staff.

Our Registration Desk is open during the following hours:

Sunday: 2:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Monday: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Tuesday: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Wednesday: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Thank You:

Thank you again for participating in the upcoming convention. We are excited to see you! If you have any questions about any of the information, please don't hesitate to contact me. We look forward to seeing you at convention.

Have a great Fair Day!

Jayme