

FAIR



VIEWS

THE SHOW PLACE

OF AGRICULTURE

December 2009

Issue 32 | Number 4

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WSFA Legislative Committee Report

The past several years of collective efforts by many have brought rewards to Fairs and Association members. Communication with your representatives, our lobbyist, and the Department of Agriculture has been good and continues to get even better! The direction of the WSFA legislative program is more proactive now. With a set legislative agenda, rather than being re-active to the many issues and bills that arise each session, WSFA's position is stronger and in a better position for success.

The upcoming legislative session proves to be a serious challenge for all. With a budget shortfall of \$2.6+ billion dollars, every program and expenditure of the state is subject to scrutiny. Your continued communications with representatives about the importance of fairs is more important now than ever. One way to accomplish this is to **join your fellow WSFA members for the annual Legislative Day in Olympia on Thursday, January 28th**! This program, hosted by and beginning at the Thurston County Fairgrounds for a quick introduction to the day's activities, is an excellent way to reaffirm why fairs are so important with your representatives. Your participation makes all the difference! Put the date on your calendar and plan on joining WSFA in Olympia.

In discussions with Department of Agriculture Director Dan Newhouse, he has asked fairs to work closer with a number of staff and groups within the department, helping each to better align our mutual goals. We need to ask how Fairs and the Department of Agriculture help each other during these important but difficult times. This promises to be exciting potential opportunities for each.

The committee needs your help! We encourage you to contact Heather or any member of the committee with issues or concerns you may have. The 2010 legislative process has already begun behind the scenes and issues are best introduced now.

We look forward to your participation at the Legislative Day!

By Mark Campbell, Legislative Chair

**Mark Your
Calendar
for**



Washington State Fairs Association

2nd Annual Legislative Day.

Thursday, January 28, 2010

In Olympia, WA

www.wastatefairs.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



We were all saddened to learn of the accidental death of one of the members of our fair family, Mike Ross a long time board member of the Benton Franklin Fair and Rodeo. I did not have the privilege of knowing Mike, but am told that he epitomized many in our fair circles with his love of Agriculture, passion for fairs and support of young people. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Mikes

family, and members of the staff and board of directors.

Speaking of Benton Franklin Fair and Rodeo, it is time to thank another of their board members, George Clary for his service as President of our Association for the past year. George will provide continuity to the board by continuing to serve another year.

Big thanks go out also to Bob Reynolds and Rick Storvick as their terms on the WSFA board have come to an end. The real benefit to me personally in serving on the board has been an opportunity to get to know quality people like Bob and Rick. They have provided tremendous leadership for this organization, developing a vision for where we should be going. It is my challenge and pleasure to lead our board in the coming year and attempt to carry on some of the programs and initiatives that have been established by these outstanding members of our fair family.

As many of us plan to attend the IAFE convention, and begin in earnest planning the 2010 rendition of our local fair, the WSFA convention in October quickly becomes a distant memory. I've used the term fair family twice already in this column. And that's how I think of the annual convention. In many ways, it's like a family reunion (in the good sense). I love the opportunity to get back together with all of you as we are united by our common interests, or should I say passions. Thank you to the many of you that put in so much time and effort to making this a great event. Special thanks go to Gale Sobolesky who, as our executive secretary, is always there with a watchful eye picking up the pieces when something is dropped.

There are many challenges facing fairs in normal times. Economically, these are not normal times. But I hope you find it encouraging knowing that as a member of the Washington State Fairs Association, you have friends, family members, that you can reach out to for help and support should you face an issue that you are uncertain about. We are a resource. Use us.

At your service.

Jim Baron
WSFA President

2009 -2010 Washington State Fairs Association Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Jim Baron 2005 - 2011

Position #1

Northwest Washington Fair

1775 Front Street

Lynden, WA 98264

Work #: 360-354-4111

Cell #: 360-815-5669

Fax #: 360-354-1315

jim@nwwfair.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Val Watson 2004 - 2012

Position #7

Adams County Fair

996 East Yeisley Road

Lind, WA 99341

Home: 509-677-3536

Cell #: 509-750-6367

lavatson@lindwa.com

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

George Clary 2003 - 2010

Position #8

Benton Franklin Fair

137201 West Kingtull Road

Prosser, WA 99350

Home #: 509-786-1169

Cell #: 509-366-9839

gclary1@excite.com

DIRECTORS

Mark Campbell 2009 - 2012

Position #2

Evergreen State Fair

P.O. Box 129, Monroe, WA 98272

Work #: 360-805-6700

mark.campbell@co.snohomish.wa.us

Paul Nimmo 2007 - 2010

Position #3

Pierce County Fair and

Washington State 4-H Fair

5914 Gerlings Drive SW

Lakewood, WA 98499

Phone #: 253-584-3903

Cell #: 253-230-1502

Fax #: 253-572-3139

pauln@piercecountyfair.com

Ken Kramer 2007 - 2010

Position #4

Kitsap County Fair

P.O. Box 4011

Silverdale, WA 98383-4011

Phone/Cell: 360-271-8873

openclassdir@aol.com

Roylene Crawford 2005 - 2011

Position #5

Kittitas County Fair

4290 Kittitas Highway,

Ellensburg, WA 98926

Phone: 509-925-3484

Cell #: 509-929-1782

crawfords@kvalley.com

Rich Hartzell 2009 - 2012

Position #6

Spokane Interstate Fair

310 North Main,

Spokane Valley, WA 99202-4663

Work #: 509-477-2770

rhartzell@spokanecounty.org

WSFA Service Member Director

Tammie Ryan 2001 - 2009

Super Science Company

3062 NW O'Neil Highway

Prineville, OR 97754

Phone: 541-815-1027

tammie@supersciencecompany.com

WSFA Executive Secretary

Gale Sobolesky, CFE

Southwest Washington Fair

P.O. Box 914, 147 Kennicott Road,

Chehalis, WA 98532

WSFA Office: 360-269-9971

Fax: 360-740-6739

Work #: 360-740-2656

Cell #: 360-219-6580

wastfair@comcast.net or

gksobole@lewiscountywa.gov

WSFA Legislative Liaison

Heather Hansen

120 Union Ave., Suite 201

Olympia, WA 98501

Day #: 360-705-2040

Fax #: 360-705-2018

heatherhh@qwestoffice.net

Washington State Fairs Association Mission

"Washington State Fairs Association is dedicated to the success of Washington's Fairs through coordination, education, information, legislation and public support."



Recruitment Announcement for FAIRS COMMISSIONERS

Two **Fairs Commissioner** vacancies will occur March 31, 2010, with the Washington State Department of Agriculture, Fairs Commission Program. One position will be filled by a person who resides east of the Cascades and one is considered "at large" and is open statewide.

Fairs Commissioners are appointed for three-year terms and serve in an advisory capacity to the Director of Agriculture. Primary responsibilities include evaluating eligible fairs and youth shows, assisting with the allocations made to fairs, and performing other duties that may be required by the Director.

Fairs Commissioners must be available to attend and evaluate participating fairs and attend meetings called by the Department. In addition, Commissioners must be able to provide their own transportation to visit fairs and participate in official meetings.

To avoid a conflict of interest or the perception of a conflict of interest, Fairs Commissioners should not serve on fair boards or fair management teams while in office.

Fairs Commissioners are entitled to compensation in accordance with state guidelines. Commissioners receive state per diem for their travel and \$50.00 for each day spent carrying out the assigned duties of Commissioner.

Desirable qualifications for the position are:

- An Education in Agriculture, Home Economics, Education, Business or other related field.
- Knowledge of Washington's agricultural industry, 4-H, FFA, or other youth programs, and the general scope of the fairs industry.
- Knowledge and experience in the fairs industry as an exhibitor, contestant, superintendent, judge, fair board member, 4-H leader or member, FFA teacher or member, or other related activity.
- Experience that would assist in making comprehensive evaluations of fairs, and communicating findings and ideas with the fair people and general public through writing and speaking.

Anyone interested in applying for a Fairs Commissioner position may do so by submitting a resume and letter of interest to:

Kelly Frost
WA Department of Agriculture
Fairs Program
PO Box 42560
Olympia, WA 98504-2560

Email: kfrost@agr.wa.gov
Fax: 360/902-2092
Telephone: 360/902-1802

Application packets will also be accepted via electronic mail or by fax, using the information provided above.

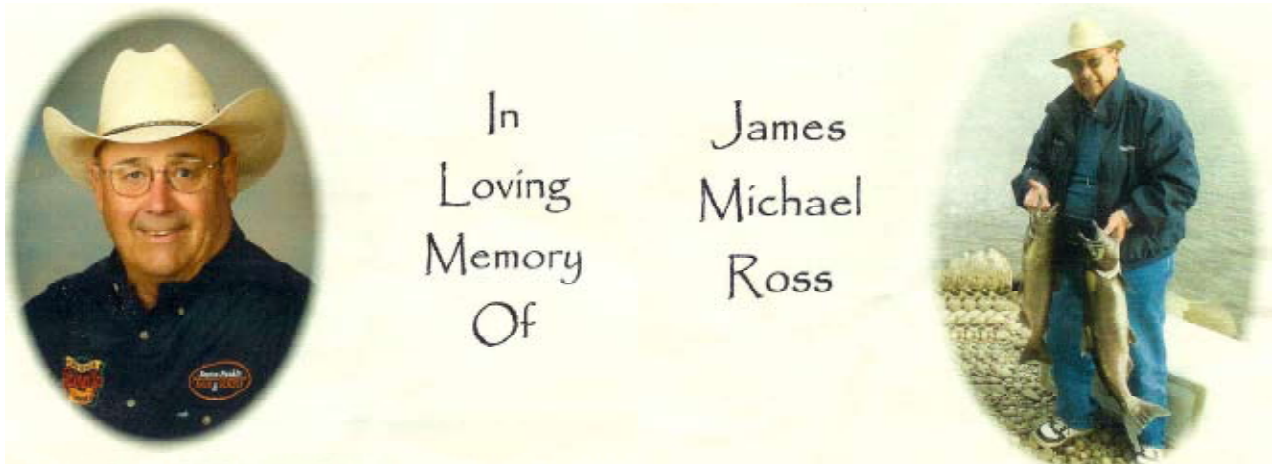
Please submit letter of interest and resume by January 15, 2010.

Department of Agriculture Director Presents Awards

Photo by Ken Kramer



At the recent WSFA convention Dan Newhouse, Director Department of Agriculture presents service awards at the commissioners breakfast to three retiring fair commissioners for their dedicated volunteer service to the department. Each of the commissioners received a desk top clock engraved with their name and thank you for your service. Pictured from left to right are Barry Halvorson of Toppenish, Director Dan Newhouse, Nancy Ruark of Pomeroy and Jay Wood of Tumwater. WSFA thanks them for their comments, suggestions and recommendations for improving our fairs.



Mike Ross 65, of Pasco died on November 4, 2009 at his home. He was born on June 1, 1944 in Santa Barbara California to Leo W. Ross and Esther Henning Ross. Mike married Janis Farwell Ross on August 20, 1966. Mike worked for Energy Northwest as a maintenance scheduler.

Mike was a member of the Benton Franklin Fair Board for 19 years. He was an active member of the Tri-Cities community; he attended all Pasco High School Athletic events and supported Pasco Little League. Mike liked tinkering with machines, working on his farm and planning for next year's fair. Mike also enjoyed fishing and golf. Most importantly he loved watching his grandsons and spending time with his family.

Mike is survived by his wife Janis, 2 daughters, K.C. Bennion (Shawn) and Joy Sanders (Shane), 3 grandchildren; Spencer and Austin Bennion and Sebastian Sanders, Brother Pat Ross (Debbie) and Family.

He is preceded in death by his mother and father and brother Jan Ross.

A Celebration of Life Ceremony was held Friday, November 13, 2009 at the Benton Franklin Fairgrounds. Donations can be made to the Benton Franklin Fair Association, special memorial.

A Legacy of Knowledge

As professionals in the Fair & Exposition industry wend their way toward the sunset of careers, it is quite common to have thoughts of legacy, the enrichment a person leaves as a product of dedicated service. It is just as common that when they retire or expire, the wealth of knowledge accumulated departs with them.

About 25 years ago, the gaming industry of Nevada recognized the value of capturing the knowledge of industry leaders such as Bill Harrah, Charles Mapes, and John Ascuaga, to name a few. The University of Nevada, Reno, The Gaming Board of the State of Nevada and the association representing the Casinos and gaming industry formed a collaborative effort to document their careers. The record that ensued preserved the knowledge of men and women in leadership positions, for those pursuing advancement in their careers or those new to the industry.

A very well scripted interview process was developed as was audio-visual documentation. The information gleaned from these professionals resulted in a virtual mountain of knowledge on every aspect of the gaming, entertainment, food and beverage and hospitality industries. The insight and nuances shared by those participating revealed a unique mix of practical and innovative applications of management practices including marketing, operations, facility planning, capital development, security, finance and a host of other industry functions. The histories of their lives, experiences and encounters, their great days and not so great days added immeasurably to the richness of understanding the industry.

As I consider my own experiences over the past 36 years of service with Fairs and Expositions, both in management and as a consultant, and all the outstanding people I have

come to know and respect for their dedication and capacity, the thought of accomplishing something similar as that done in Nevada strikes me as being worthy of consideration.

There are those, such as Alex Freedman, Ralph Hines, J.C. Ageganian and Morgan 'Bill' Evans who have graduated from this mortal existence that mentored me, gave counsel and offered concepts regarding the Fair and the customer that deeply enriched my understanding of what works and why it works. I only wish that they would have had the opportunity to leave a record for others who did not know them personally or in a professional capacity. What a marvelous thing if they could have left their *legacy of knowledge* to benefit others.

It may be plausible for such an undertaking to occur in Washington State. If the State Department of Agriculture, Washington State Fairs Association and Washington State University were to consider the potential benefits of such an undertaking, then act upon it, the resources could be assembled to carry out a "Fair & Exposition Industry Legacy" project.

I am confident you would concur that a number of men and women, now retired, are an important resource of industry knowledge. There are many others, active in their various capacities as managers, Board of Directors members, even "Past Presidents" of the Washington State Fairs Association, which could contribute immeasurably to a pool of archived and retrievable knowledge. Their individual and collective experiences represent a basis of curricula from which any "student" of the industry would surely benefit. And, by the way, are we not all students of the Fair & Exposition Industry?

Article prepared by

Norman J. Landerman-Moore, President
Landerman-Moore Associates

November 5th 2009

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE 2010
WASHINGTON STATE FAIRS
ASSOCIATION CONVENTION YAKIMA
CONVENTION CENTER

October 28, 29, 30, 2010

For room reservations call Red Lion Yakima Center Hotel at
(509) 248-5900 or Howard Johnson at (509) 452-6511
Remember to mention Washington State Fairs Association
to get the Convention Rate!



Some of the many scrap book entries
from the WSFA Convention

WSFA Convention Contest Winners

POSTER

Poster Informational "A"

1st - Castle Rock Fair

2nd - Pend Oreille County Fair

Poster Info "B"

1st - Jefferson County Fair

2nd - Clallam County Fair

3rd - Island County Fair

Poster Info "C"

1st - Stanwood Camano Community Fair
no other entries

Poster Info "D"

1st - Southwest Washington Fair

2nd - Kitsap County Fair

Poster Info "D"

1st - Benton Franklin Fair

2nd - Western Washington Fair (Puyallup)

3rd - Evergreen State Fair

Poster Artistic "A"

no entry

Poster Art "B"

1st - Jefferson County Fair

no other entries

Poster Art "C"

1st - Grays Harbor County Fair

2nd - King County Fair

only 2 entries

Poster Art "D"

1st - Kittitas County Fair

2nd - Southwest Washington Fair

3rd - Kitsap County Fair

Poster Art "E"

1st - Northwest Washington Fair

2nd - Evergreen State Fair

3rd - Western Washington Fair Puyallup

HAT

Hat "A"

No entries

Hat "B"

1st - Asotin County Fair

2nd - Island County Fair

Hat "C"

No entries

Hat "D"

1 st -Southwest Washington Fair

2nd -Kitsap County Fair

Hat "E"

1st -Benton Franklin Fair

2nd -Central Washington State Faier

3rd -Western Washington Fair Puyallup

T- SHIRT

Service Member

1st-Cosmo the Balloon Wizard

T-Shirt "A"

1st -Castle Rock Fair

2nd- Pend Oreille County Fair

T-Shirt - "B"

1st -Jefferson County Fair

2nd - Island County Fair

3rd - Clallam County Fair

T-Shirt "C"

1st - Stanwood Camano Community Fair

2nd-Grays Harbor County Fair

only 2 entries

T-Shirt - "D"

1st - Kitsap County Fair

2nd- Kittitas County Fair

3rd- Southwest Washington Fair

T-Shirt "E"

1st - Benton Franklin Fair

2nd -Spokane Interstate Fair

3rd - Western Washington Fair Puyallup

SCRAPBOOK

Scrapbook "A"

1st - Lacamas Community Fair

2nd - Castle Rock Fair

3rd - Ferry County Fair

Scrapbook "B"

1st - Thurston County Fair

ALSO JUDGES CHOICE FOR ALL

SCRAPBOOKS

2nd - Pierce County Fair

3rd - Clallam County Fair

Scrapbook "C"

1st - King County Fair

2nd - Grant County Fair

3rd - Cowlitz County Fair

Scrapbook "D"

1st- Kitsap County Fair

no other entries

Scrapbook "E"

1st - Benton Franklin Fair

Scrapbook Sweepstakes Award

Thurston County Fair

WEBSITE

Category A - No Entries

Category B - 1st Place

Clallam County Fair

Category C - No Entries

Category D - No Entries

Category E - Honorable Mention

Thank you for Participating

Benton Franklin Fair

Evergreen State Fair

1st Place - Western Washington Fair

2nd Place - Clark County Fair

3rd Place - Northwest Washington Fair

Washington State Fairs Association Vision

“Leading Washington Fairs in successfully meeting the changes
and challenges of the 21st Century.

WASHINGTON STATE FAIRS ASSOCIATION

PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS 2009

A – CARNIVALS - COLOR PHOTOGRAPHER

- 1ST PLACE PUYALLUP FAIR
PAT HAGERTY - **SWEEPSTAKES**
2ND PLACE - JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIR
SHANNON BISHOP
3RD PLACE - THURSTON COUNTY FAIR
PAUL HENDERSON

A – CARNIVALS – BLACK & WHITE

- 1ST PLACE KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
STEVE SCOTT - **SWEEPSTAKES**
2ND PLACE COWLITZ COUNTY FAIR
LISA NATHAN
3RD PLACE - KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
STEVE SCOTT

B – CONTESTS & GAMES - COLOR

- 1ST PLACE - KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
STEVE SCOTT
2ND PLACE - COWLITZ COUNTY FAIR
SAM NATHAN
3RD PLACE - BENTON FRANKLIN FAIR
JEFF FULKS

B – CONTEST & GAMES - BLACK & WHITE

- 1ST PLACE - COWLITZ COUNTY FAIR
SAM NATHAN
2ND PLACE - BENTON FRANKLIN FAIR
JEFF FULKS
3RD PLACE - COWLITZ COUNTY FAIR
SAM NATHAN

C - ANIMALS - COLOR

- 1ST PLACE - EVERGREEN STATE FAIR
ROBERT KASH
2ND PLACE - COWLITZ COUNTY FAIR
LISA NATHAN
3RD PLACE - BENTON FRANKLIN FAIR
JEFF FULKS

C – ANIMALS - BLACK & WHITE

- 1ST PLACE - KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
STEVE SCOTT
2ND PLACE - CLALLAM COUNTY FAIR
ERNST SCHAEFER
3RD PLACE - COWLITZ COUNTY FAIR
LISA NATHAN

D - KIDS - COLOR

- 1ST PLACE - KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
STEVE SCOTT - **RUNNER UP**
2ND PLACE - PUYALLUP FAIR
CHRISTINE FISHER
3RD PLACE - CLALLAM COUNTY FAIR
BYRON WOOLSEY

D - KIDS - BLACK & WHITE

- 1ST PLACE - CLALLAM COUNTY FAIR
ERNST WOOLSEY - **RUNNER UP**
2ND PLACE - KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
STEVE SCOTT
3RD PLACE - BENTON FRANKLIN FAIR
SHAWN BENNION

E – SENIOR CITIZENS - COLOR

- 1ST PLACE - BENTON FRANKLIN FAIR
JEFF FULKS
2ND PLACE - EVERGREEN STATE FAIR
ROBERT KASH
3RD PLACE - KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
STEVE SCOTT

E – SENIOR CITIZENS - BLACK & WHITE

- 1ST PLACE - CLALLAM COUNTY FAIR
ERNST SCHAEFER
2ND PLACE - COWLITZ COUNTY FAIR
LISA NATHAN
3RD PLACE - BENTON FRANKLIN FAIR
JEFF FULKS

F – ENTERTAINMENT - COLOR

- 1ST PLACE - EVERGREEN STATE FAIR
ROBERT KASH
2ND PLACE - COWLITZ COUNTY FAIR
LISA NATHAN
3RD PLACE - KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
KEN KRAMER

F – ENTERTAINMENT - BLACK & WHITE

- 1ST PLACE - CLALLAM COUNTY FAIR
ERNST SCHAEFER
2ND PLACE - KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
STEVE SCOTT
3RD PLACE - COWLITZ COUNTY FAIR
SAM NATHAN

G - RODEOS - COLOR

- 1ST PLACE - KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
RON ROGERS
2ND PLACE - ISLAND COUNTY FAIR
JUDI SLEPYAN
3RD PLACE - CLALLAM COUNTY FAIR
BYRON WOOLSEY

G - RODEOS - BLACK & WHITE

- 1ST PLACE - CLALLAM COUNTY FAIR
ERNST SCHAEFER
2ND PLACE - KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
STEVE SCOTT
3RD PLACE - COWLITZ COUNTY FAIR
SAM NATHAN

H – GENERAL INTEREST - COLOR

- 1ST PLACE - EVERGREEN STATE FAIR
ROBERT KASH
2ND PLACE - THURSTON COUNTY FAIR
PAUL HENDERSON
3RD PLACE - PUYALLUP FAIR
PATRICK HAGGERTY

H – GENERAL INTEREST - BLACK & WHITE

- 1ST PLACE - CLALLAM COUNTY FAIR
ERNST SCHAEFER
2ND PLACE - KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
STEVE SCOTT
3RD PLACE - BENTON FRANKLIN FAIR
JEFF FULKS

THE 287 PHOTOS ENTERED ARE FROM:

1. BENTON FRANKLIN FAIR
2. CLALLAM COUNTY FAIR
3. COWLITZ COUNTY FAIR
4. EVERGREEN STATE FAIR
5. FERRY COUNTY FAIR
6. ISLAND COUNTY FAIR
7. JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIR
8. KING CO FAIR
9. KITSAP COUNTY FAIR
10. LACAMAS COMMUNITY FAIR
11. NORTHWEST WASHINGTON FAIR
12. PEND ORIELLE COUNTY FAIR
13. PIERCE COUNTY FAIR
14. PUYALLUP FAIR
15. THURSTON COUNTY FAIR

PHOTOS WERE JUDGED BY:

Tia Leonard/Shane Brant -- Portland, OR

PHOTO CONTEST CHAIR:

Betty Backstrom, Pierce County Fair

ASSISTANTS:

Pierce County Fair Directors

**THANK YOU TO ALL THE FAIRS WHO
ENTERED OUTSTANDING PHOTOS**



WSFA Convention
October 22 - 24, 2009
Yakima Convention Center, Yakima, Washington
(All Photos taken by Jeff Fulks Photography)



2009 - 2010 WSFA Board of Directors



Dick Pulis visiting with Alan at the
Kid's Pedal Tractor Pull Booth



Tammie presenting the Best Trade Booth Ribbon to
Rocky Mullen for his Got Bull Productions Booth



Immediate Past President George Clary
and his wife Billie



Best Trade Booth Display
Marcus, Funny Man Who Does Tricks



Dept of Ag Fair Commission
Bob Carlson, Jerry Grill, Jay Wood,
Kelly Frost (Program Manager)
Patricia Myers, Barry Halvorson and Nancy Ruark



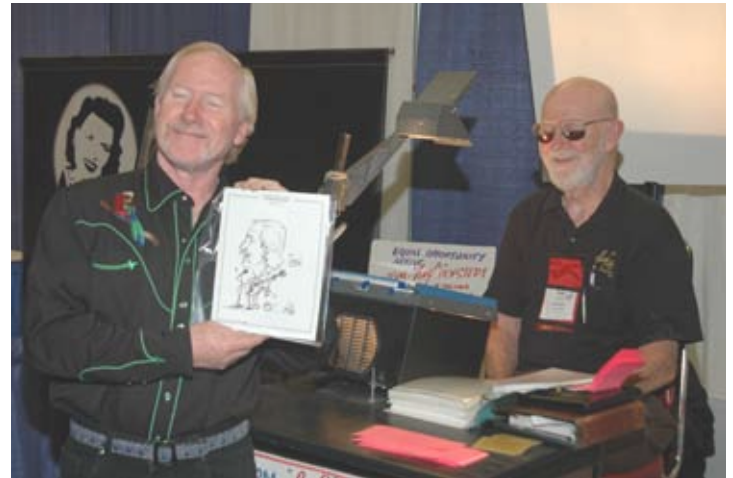
Mike Egan, Director of Corporate Affairs, Microsoft
WSFA Convention Keynote Speaker



President George Clary Passes the Gavel to
2009 - 2010 WSFA President Jim Baron



Tom Hofstedt creates a caricature of John Dunnigan



John Dunnigan presenting his new caricature



Jerry Harris – Master Hypnotist
in his Trade Show Booth



IAFE Director of Grants and Special
Education Marla Calico and George
Clary visiting at WSFA Convention



Leroy and Val Watson
Val was elected WSFA V. President
at the 2009 WSFA Convention



The Hot Shot Tap Dancers at their Booth



President George Clary presents Lifetime Membership Award to Marilyn Rasmussen for her life time of support to Washington Fairs



The Muppets (aka the crew from Jefferson County Fair) at the WSFA Convention, with Billie Clary



Service Member Message

Hi there. It was great to see many of you during iafe in Las Vegas. I hope everyone had a successful convention and a safe trip home. It is now time for the holidays! A time to be with the ones we love and embrace home!

As I sit here in the office – a warm fire is going in the front room and I just tucked a cute little 9 year old into bed!

Cherish your moments at home with your family. Take a minute to give them an extra hug and an extra kiss!

Happy Holidays to each and every one of you! May God be with you and your loved ones this holiday season. And an extra hug for you too!

Tammie Ryan

WSFA Service Member Director
Super Science Company



Welcome to these Newest WSFA Service Members

Boogie Bodies West

Jennifer Jarnagin
4429 South 12th Street
Tacoma, WA 98405
Video Entertainment

Brady Goss Piano and Vocal

Brady Goss
P.O. Box 133
Wallowa, OR 97885
Phone: 541-398-0144
Email: bradygoss22@yahoo.com
Website: www.bradygoss.com
One Man Band. Brady Goss Piano and Vocals.
He plays Rock N Roll, Country, Classic Rock, etc.

Countryside Ride Music**Bret Ervin Lien**

P.O. Box 307

LaCenter, WA 98629

Phone: 360-521-9581

WE provide entertainment in the form of classic Honk-Tonk/Country and Western Music. We're a "Honky-Tonk Stringband!"

Cowgirl Tricks**Karen Quest**

540 Alabama Street Suite 205

San Francisco, CA 94110

Phone: 415-487-0787 Fax: 208-485-6132

Hilarious Interactive Comedy Cowgirl Act complete with Trick Roping, Whip Cracking, Audience Participation and lots of Kooky cowgirls Shenanigans. Perfect Family Entertainment. Free Stage, Opening Act, Emcee and More upon request. Got Stilts? The irrepressible 8 – Foot tall wise crackin' rope spinnin' cowgirl is always a "big" hit! Custom characters can be created for your fair – just ask!

"Karen Quest's spiffy cowgirl tricks – roping and whip cracking – are surpassed only by her feisty banter, which lights up the stage – San Francisco, Examiner

Funnbiz.com/Evolution Ticketing**L. Reed Williams**

P.O. Box 4345

Missoula MT 59806-4345

Phone: 406-273-7888

Fax: 406-273-7889

Email: l-Reed@funnbiz.com

Website: Funnbiz.com

Online ticketing priced for all size events

Hollywood Lighting Services

660 South Dakota Street

Seattle, WA 98108

Phone: (206) 292-2353 Fax: (206) 215-9370

Lighting Design, Equipment, and Production Services for the Concert, Tradeshow, Corporate and Special Event Industry.

Kid Lopez and The Groove Deluxe**Jeannette Kid Lopez**2311 SW 6th Avenue #13

Camas, WA 98607

Phone: 360-833-1006 or 503-307-3686

Entertainment and Music

Marcus, Funny Man Who Does Tricks**Marcus Wilson**

4997 West Edinburgh Lane

West Jordan, Utah 84081

Phone: 801-556-3355 Fax: 801-282-8560 call first

Marcus, Funny Man Who Does Tricks, Is the Best and funniest and most amazing and most attractive Juggler in the whole world.

His show will attract huge crowds, make people laugh and be a highlight at your fair.

MedTech Wristbands**Account Executive**

7380 Sand Lake Road Suite 500

Orlando, Florida 32819

Phone: 800-361-1259 Fax: 888-652-6565

MedTech Wristbands, is a leading manufacturer of Tyvek, Plastic, Vinyl, 3D, Elegance & Photo ID, stock & fully customizable, wristbands for: Identification, age Verification, Ticketing, admission/Re-Entry, Crowd-Control, coupons, Security, Promotions, Special Events & Advertising. Secure online ordering and same day shipping is available. Ideal for maximum ROI.

Northwest Events and Marketing**Tom Fohn**

1157 Cascara Loop South

Salem, OR 97302

Phone: 503-763-1944 Fax: 503-763-1955

Website: nweventsandmarketing.comemail: tom@nweventsandmarketing.com

A talent buying, production and event management company that can offer full and personal service for all your entertainment needs. Specializing in fairs, festivals and special events.

Travelintrain**Chris McDaniel**21803 32nd Place South

Seatac, WA 98198

Phone: 206-790-8124

Our Electric trackless train has been used as transportation or a Shuttle. It holds up to 20 Adults and children and will run all day on a charge. Has working headlight, bell, stereo, PA System and whistle. Merry-Go-Round is a great attraction for the smaller children with a love seat and 5 horses that rise and lower.

Vortex Insurance Agency, LLC**Robert Holmes**8400 West 110th Street Suite 650

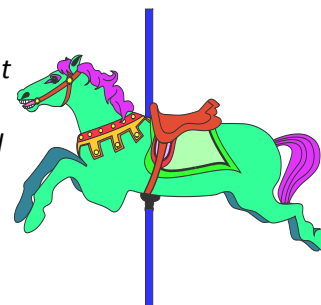
Overland Park, Kansas 66210

Phone: 913-253-1210 Fax: 913-338-1654

We offer weather insurance designed to recover lost revenue or unforeseen expenses caused by inclement weather for a time period on and around the fair/event.

Join us in welcoming our latest members to WSFA.

Please support their businesses and remember to support all the Service Members of WSFA. For a complete list of our Service Members please check our membership Roster.



New WSFA Directors elected at the October Convention



Rich Hartzell

Fairs have always been a passion of mine. Starting out as an exhibitor when I was eleven years old and still exhibiting cattle today.

I first became involved in Fair Administration in 1989 working part time at the Evergreen State Fair placing vendors for the annual Fair. In 1990 I was hired full time as the Events Specialist. I became Fair Manager in 1994 and was there until after the fair in 2001. I also owned and operated a 60 acre farm with registered Holsteins for over 30 years.

In March of 2004 I was hired by Dolly Hughes at the Spokane County Fair and Expo Center and was the Event Coordinator and held that position until August of 2007. Upon Dolly's retirement at the end of July of 2007, I was appointed as the Director for the Fair and Expo Center and have held that position ever since.

My hobbies include Cougar sports, a little hunting and fishing, and still fooling around with a few registered cattle. My wife of nearly 40 years, Eileen, and I have four sons, and 5 grandchildren. Eileen and I have a small farm in Deer Park, WA.

Rich Hartzell
WSFA Director
Position #6



Atlas Robotics



Mark Campbell

My interest in agriculture started as a young 4-H and FFA member showing cattle at a number of County Fairs. Upon entering college, I made the connection of how to continue my support of agriculture and learning. Fairs provided the medium to expand peoples

understanding and education of ag in an environment that was fun, exciting, and provided a diversity of learning experiences.

I have worked in fairs since 1983, beginning with two internships during college. My career began at the National Orange Showground with an assistant manager position, responsible for facility booking, livestock, commercial exhibits and food concessionaires. I then spent 10 years as the manager of the Shasta District Fair in Northern California. I moved to Washington in 1997 to work as the King County Fair Manager and then moved to the Evergreen State Fair in March of 2002.

I live in Monroe with my wife Stephanie and we are blessed with three boys, Aaron, Tyler and Michael.

My time with the WSFA Board (1999 – 2005) was very rewarding. Being elected to serve an additional term on the WSFA Board is an honor.

Mark Campbell
WSFA Director
Position # 2



Cindy Diamond and Regalia Display,
WSFA Trophy and Ribbon Sponsor



A BIG THANKS to all the WSFA Service Members for selecting us as 2009 Service Members of the Year! We value being a part of the WSFA Service Member family, a hardworking, talented and diverse group of people who help each other throughout the year. We feel honored and humbled to be recognized by our peers, and receiving an Oscar added to the fun! Again our thanks,

***Bruce and Susan Matley
aka Nevada Slim & Cimarron Sue***



Giant Rooster



Jerry Harris - America's Premier Hypnosis Show



WSFA Past Presidents

(From left to right) Paul Creighton(1960), Ellis Schneider (1994), Kent Hojem (1995), Yvonne Knuth (2006) Lee Graham(2001), Kathy Underwood(1997), Bob Reynolds(2007), Nancy Ruark (1999), Rick Storvick (2008), Pat Nostrand (1996) Greg Stewart (1977), Dan Sharp(1998), Mark Campbell(2004).

On Saturday of Convention the Past President's all met over a Breakfast Sponsored by Landerman-Moore and Associates of Anacortes, WA.



More Scrapbooks



Travlin' Opry



At the 2009 WSFA Convention Val Watson was reelected as a WSFA Director and she was elected Vice President of the Washington State Fairs Association.

Here it is, time for the Holiday Season and I am late with my article. Currently I am at Las Vegas attending the IAFE Convention. The weather is great here, sunny days and in the 60's. If you

haven't attended the IAFE Convention before, you gotta go! By the way, I just won a set of golf clubs, I don't even play golf, but I am going to learn. I am currently enrolled in the IAFE institute of Fairgrounds Management, and am taking more of my required classes here. I have finished five institute classes; one of the classes was Emergency Planning for your fairgrounds. I have two more classes to finish this week. Hopefully, I will be done with my IAFE institute classes next December, if my plan goes well.

I have just been re-elected to serve my final three years on the board of the WSFA; I was also elected Vice President. This has been one of my goals to accomplish during my life. What an honor to be bestowed on me. I hope great things will be happening in the next few years making a difference for you, with the help of our legislatures.

In all my years at the Adams County Fair, I never knew there was so much to learn about running a fair. Before the institute classes, everything that I learned, was from other people or learning how

to do it on my own. Now I am learning a lot of new ways from the IAFE institute of Fairgrounds Management. Working with the Fair industry is truly a passion of mine and I hope to be a part of it as long as I am able. I have my immediate family, but I also have this huge family of "Fair People" from all over the United States that I have made friends with through all of my Fair activities. We need all of you to help make a difference for the Fairs. Talk to your representatives and senators, we must keep what we have worked so hard for.

A little bit about my personal life. I have been driving school bus for 30 years this coming January. I have been a 4-H leader for 28 years and have about 2 more years before possible retirement from that position. Currently I am secretary to the Adams County Fire Protection District #2, a position I have held for a number of years. I have been a member of the Adams County Fairboard since 1982. Married to LeRoy since 1983 and have the best marriage that I could have ever imagined. Between us we have 6 kids, three boys and three girls. We now have sixteen grandkids aging from 18 to 1 ½, the two oldest granddaughters are now 18. In the midst of the grandkids we have triplet girls who are just adorable. We own a wheat farm and have 5 horses. We helped our oldest granddaughter raise her pigs she showed in 4-H since she was old enough to be in 4-H. We love our grandkids very much and hope to spend more time with them.

If there is something that you have a passion about or a dream, reach out and grab it because life is shorter than we think. Remember your loved ones and embrace life. BE HAPPY!

Val Watson

WSFA Vice President

WSFA Director, Position #7

Washington State Fairs Association - 2010 Meetings

January

Legislative Day - Thursday, January 28, 2010

8:00 AM Olympia, WA

**WSFA Board Meeting - Thursday, January 28, 2010
and Friday, January 29, 2010**

March

Eastside Meeting - Saturday, March 6, 2010

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Spokane Interstate Fairgrounds, Spokane Valley, WA

April

Manager's Meeting --Friday, April 2, 2010

Time to be Announced

Northwest Washington Fairgrounds, Lynden, WA

Westside Meeting - Saturday, April 3, 2010

10:00 AM

Northwest Washington Fairgrounds, Lynden, WA

Spring WSFA Board Meeting

Date and Location to be determined

June

WSFA Board Meeting - Friday, June 25, 2010

1:00 - 6:00 PM

Yakima, WA

October

WSFA Convention October 28 - 30, 2010

Yakima Convention Center

2010 WSFA Director's Assignments

WESTSIDE

Jim Baron Position 1

Enumclaw Jr. Dairy Show - Evergreen State Fair
Northwest Washington Fair - Puget Sound Junior Livestock Show
San Juan County Fair - Silvana Community Fair
Skagit County Fair - Stanwood ~ Camano Community Fair
Whatcom County Youth Show

Mark Campbell Position 2

Island County Fair - Lewis County Youth Fair
Southwest Washington Fair - Thurston County Fair
Washington Junior Poultry Expo - Western Washington Fair
Clark County Fair - Mason County Fair
Grays Harbor County Fair - Skamania County Fair

Paul Nimmo Position 3

Castle Rock Fair - Lacamas Community Fair
Northwest Junior Livestock Show - Pacific County Fair
Pierce County Fair - King County Fair
Washington State FFA Exhibition - Puyallup Spring Fair
Rose Valley Community Fair* - Washington State 4-H Fair
Washington State FFA Spring Fair

Ken Kramer Position 4

Camas-Washougal Community Fair* - Cowlitz County Fair
Kalama Community Fair - Key Peninsula Community Fair
Wahkiakum County Fair - Kitsap County Fair
Clallam County Fair - Jefferson County Fair

EASTSIDE

Roylene Crawford Position 5

Chelan County Fair - Ferry County Fair - Grant County Fair
Kittitas County Fair - North Central Washington District Fair
North Central Washington Junior Livestock Show
Northwest Junior Sheep Exposition - Northeast Washington Fair
Okanogan County Fair

Rich Hartzell Position 6

Asotin County Fair - Ferry County Fair - Garfield County Fair
Lincoln County Fair - Palouse Empire Fair - Pend Oreille County Fair
Southeast Spokane County Fair - St. John Community Fair
Spokane Interstate Fair - Spokane Junior Livestock Show
West Plains Community Fair

Val Watson Position 7

Adams County Fair - Central Washington State Fair
Clayton Community Fair - Colton Community Fair
Columbia County Fair - Hunter's Community & 4-H Fair
Klickitat County Fair, Valley Community Fair
Wheatland Communities Fair

George Clary Position 8

Benton~Franklin Fair & Rodeo
Central Washington Junior Livestock Show
Central Washington State Fair - Kittitas County Fair
Waitsburg Junior Livestock Show - Walla Walla Frontier Days
West Valley Community Fair - Yakima Valley Junior Fair



Gale Sobolesky, WSFA Executive Secretary receiving the Federation of Fairs Executive Secretary/Director Award from Bill Fugate, President of the Federation of State and Provincial Associations of Fairs in Las Vegas on December 2nd.



Mick & Kris Brajevich of Butler Amusements, Inc. and Mark Campbell, Evergreen State Fair Manager at the Showmen's League of America President's Banquet in Las Vegas, NV on December 1st at the Paris Hotel.



Gale Sobolesky, WSFA Executive Secretary holding the 2009 IAFE Communication Award for Outstanding State Membership Directory at the convention in Las Vegas.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE from Heather Hansen

The state budget will be the issue when the legislature convenes January 11, 2010. The current deficit is \$2.6 billion and it's likely to continue growing. Last year's budget used many one-time fixes including federal stimulus money. That is not an option this year.

Washington State has a biennial budget. The budget passed last spring covers July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011. But, every year there is a supplemental budget to make adjustments for things that have changed. Because of the recession, case loads are up for every social service agency and revenues continue to decline.

Solving the current deficit with budget cuts would be challenging. One-quarter of the \$31 billion budget passed in April has already been spent. About 70% of the state budget is protected from cuts by the state constitution, federal law and legal commitments to bondholders and those who are on pensions. Medicaid, K-12 basic education and parts of higher education are protected. Human services (including basic health care), corrections, other education (financial aid, class-size reduction, levy equalization) and general government make up the unprotected parts of the budget. General government is only 5%.

So, what to do? First, the legislature will look to eliminating tax preferences. There are hundreds of tax preferences, each put in place for a specific reason. For example, most non-profit organizations are exempt from paying property tax. Agricultural producers don't pay sales tax on feed, seed and fertilizer. Each of these may be examined as a source of revenue.

Many fees will be increased. But fees only pay for specific programs. They can't be used for general funding.

Some government programs may be restructured.

Then, the legislature will look at new taxes. Specific taxes, such as a tax on admissions, are almost surely to be proposed. But to raise enough money, increases in sales, property, and business and occupation taxes may be considered.

Governor Gregoire just released the list of Boards and Commissions she would like to eliminate through

legislation. The Fairs Commission is on the list. In order for this to become a reality, the legislature would have to pass a bill. Eliminating the Fairs Commission will not save the state any money. In fact, it will increase the workload for the Department of Agriculture. Paid staff would have to do what volunteers are currently doing. Also, since members are not appointed by the Governor's office, there is no workload to reduce there. But, reducing the number of board and commissions give the appearance of streamlining government.

Stay tuned, the legislative session begins January 11, 2010 and runs through March 11.

Heather Hansen

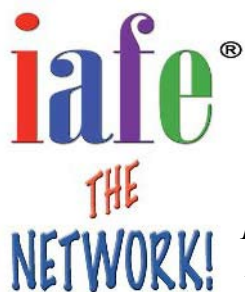
Office: 360-705-2040

Cell: 360-480-5567

E-mail: heatherhh@questoffice.net



Debbie VanderVeen, volunteer from the Northwest Washington Fair who was responsible for the Small Animal Experience at the fair with the Award of Excellence received at the IAFE Convention in Las Vegas



IAFE - Washington State Award Winners

2009 IAFE Agricultural Awards Contest

From Washington State

Presented at the Agricultural Awards Program and Breakfast on Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at 7:30 AM

Category 7

What was Newly Established or Developed at your Fair to Promote Agriculture

Division 2 Fair Size: 100,001 – 250,000

Northwest Washington Fair – Lynden, WA

Category 13

Fair and Sponsor/Partner Joint Exhibit Program

Division 2 Fair Size: 100,001 – 250,000

Clark County Fair – Ridgefield, WA

2009 IAFE Competitive Exhibits Contest From Washington State

Presented Wednesday, December 2, 2009 5:00 PM at the Competitive Exhibits and Communications Awards Reception

Category 8

Competitive Exhibit Display Photo Series

Division 2 Fair Size: 100,001 – 250,000

Northwest Washington Fair – Lynden, WA

2009 IAFE Hall of Honor

Communications Contest – From Washington State
Presented Wednesday, December 2, 2009 5:00 PM at the Competitive Exhibits and Communications Awards Reception

State and Provincial Association Categories

Category 2

State and Provincial Association Membership Directory

Winner: Washington State Fairs Association

Category 11a

Newsletter – Email/Web

Division 5 – Fair Size Over 1 Million

Western Washington Fair – Puyallup, WA

Category 12

Web Site

Division 5 – Fair Size Over 1 Million

Western Washington Fair – Puyallup, WA

2009 Federation of Fairs' Executive of the Year
Presented Wednesday, December 2, 2009 8:30 AM IAFE General Session at the Paris Theatre

**Gale Sobolesky, CFE – Executive Secretary
Washington State Fairs Association**




Bob Sobolesky (Southwest Washington Fair) and George Clary visit at the IAFE Convention in Las Vegas



Members of the WSFA Board of Directors gather for a picture at the IAFE Convention in Las Vegas



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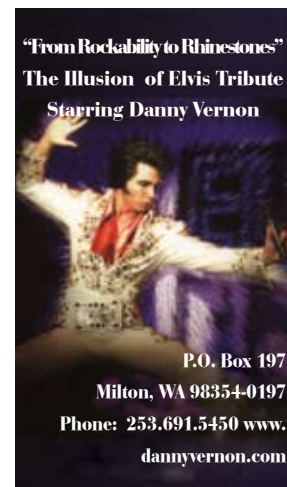
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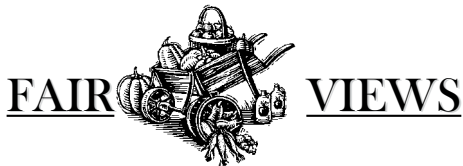
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HOST FAIRS

North Central Washington District Fair - Kittitas County Fair
Grant County Fair - Adams County Fair - Benton Franklin Fair

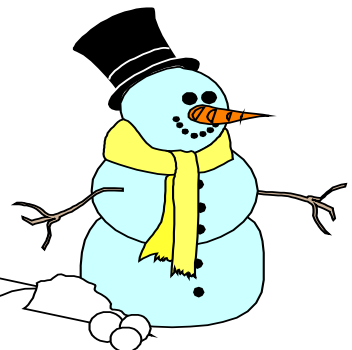
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Washington State Fairs Newsletter
P.O. Box 914
Chehalis, WA 98532

Merry Christmas



and a happy new year