

FAIR

THE SHOW PLACE



VIEWS

OF AGRICULTURE

March 2010

Issue 33 | Number 1

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Greetings from WSDA!

Last summer, I sent a letter to all fairs regarding some changes that were forthcoming as it relates to the Fairs Commissioners fair visitation schedule. I wanted to follow-up with a recap of that letter and specifics about the schedule.

During the 2009 legislative session and again this year, there are bills in the legislature that would propose eliminating several boards and commissions in Washington State. One of the commissions considered for elimination is the Fairs Commission. These cuts are proposed as cost-cutting, modernization and "streamlining" measures. As I write this, the Fairs Commission has been removed from the one bill that has had a hearing (House Bill 2617), meaning that the commission would remain intact. However, the session is not over so we will see how things progress.

Realizing there was a need to look at efficiencies and cost-saving measures, the Fairs Commission met last March and brainstormed a number of ideas. One of the biggest costs associated with the operation of the commission is travel with visiting each fair annually. Costs include



reimbursement for mileage, meals and \$50 for each day performing official activities. Yearly costs for these activities average approximately \$36,500.

The commission recommended to the Director, and he concurred, that fairs be evaluated every two years instead of annually. We realize you will miss the on-site evaluation and helpful feedback provided but feel this is a necessary efficiency and cost-saving step. We also believe it will not significantly affect the allocation amount.

Beginning this year, Fairs Commissioners will visit and evaluate fairs on an every-other-year schedule. To transition to this biennial schedule, Fairs Commissioners decided the most impartial and fair method for determining the visitation schedule would be a lottery system, splitting fairs between eastern and western Washington and evenly distributing the type of fairs (county/area, community and youth) across each year.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Is this an exciting time for Fairs? Or is it frustrating? Well it depends on who you talk to, and when you talk to them. If a significant portion of your event revenue comes from the distribution of the State Fair Fund and you hear that it may be eliminated in 2011, you probably fall on the frustrated side. On the other hand, if you were at the

recently completed Western Fairs Convention in Reno, you realize that in spite of our difficult economic times, people still are attending their local fairs and even, in some cases, in record numbers.

Speaking of the WFA, they recently implemented a new program where they will give a seat on their board of directors to state associations that have one half of their Fairs as members of the WFA. It truly is a worthwhile organization and I highly recommend joining it if you are not already a member. More information is available on their website at www.fairsnet.org.

I want to personally thank all the Fairs that participated in Legislative Day in late January. This is an important event where we have a chance to share our vision for Fairs and develop relationships with our legislators so that they will have the information needed to continue to support programs that will benefit our Fairs, thereby benefit our young people, agriculture and the citizens of our wonderful state.

Please plan to attend one of the upcoming meeting planned by your WSFA. The Eastside Superschool hosted by the Spokane Interstate Fair on March 6, 2010, or the Westside Superschool hosted by the Northwest Washington Fair in Lynden on April 3, 2010. And for managers, a great program is being planned at the Managers Meeting on April 2, in Lynden. See articles elsewhere in this issue for details.

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
lavwatson@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
14405 179th Ave. SE
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@piercecounityfair.com

Vacant

Position #4

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
404 N. Havana
Spokane Valley, WA 99202
Work #: 509-477-2786
rhartzell@spokanecounty.org

WSFA Service Member Director

Tammie Ryan 2001 - 2009

Super Science Company

P.O. Box 1686

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."

Continued from page 1

The following fairs will be visited by a Fairs Commissioner in 2010 (and each even-numbered year thereafter):

Central WA Jr. Livestock Show
Clallam County Fair
Clark County Fair
Clayton Community Fair
Colton-Uniontown Fair
Columbia County Fair
Enumclaw Jr. Dairy Show
Ferry County Fair
Grant County Fair
Hunters Community & 4-H Fair
King County Fair
Kitsap County Fair
Kittitas County Fair
Lacamas Community Fair
Lewis County Spring Youth Fair
Mason County Fair
Northeast WA Fair
Northwest WA Fair
Okanogan County Fair
Palouse Empire Fair
Pierce County Fair
San Juan County Fair
SE Spokane County Fair
Skamania County Fair
Spokane Interstate Fair
Stanwood-Camano Community Fair
Thurston County Fair
WA State 4-H Fair
WA State FFA Exhibition
WA State FFA Spring Fair
WA State Jr. Horse Show
Walla Walla Frontier Days
West Valley Fair
Wheat Land Communities Fair

The following fairs are scheduled for evaluation by a Fairs Commission in 2011 (and each odd-numbered year thereafter):

Adams County Fair
Asotin County Fair
Benton-Franklin County Fair
Castle Rock Community Fair
Central WA State Fair
Chelan County Fair
Cowlitz County Fair
Evergreen State Fair (Snohomish)
Garfield County Fair
Grays Harbor County Fair
Island County Fair
Jefferson County Fair
Jr. Livestock Show of Spokane
Kalama Community Fair
Klickitat County Fair
Lincoln County Fair
N Central WA Youth Show
North Central WA Fair
NW Jr. Livestock Show
NW Junior Sheep Expo
Pacific County Fair
Pend Oreille County Fair
Puget Sound Jr. Livestock Show
Silvana Community Fair
Skagit County Fair
Southwest WA Fair
St. John Community Fair
Valley Community Fair
WA Jr. Poultry Exposition
Wahkiakum County Fair
Waitsburg Jr. Livestock Show
West Plains Community Fair
Whatcom Co. Youth Fair
Yakima Valley Jr. Fair

Since there will be fewer fairs to evaluate each year, we will also leave two positions open on the Commission. This means we will have five Commissioners instead of seven. Also, please remember that this change in schedule does not change the requirement that eligible fairs submit the annual Application for State Funding. Realizing this is a change from how things have historically been done, I look forward to hearing your feedback and any suggestions for improvement.

Thanks as always!

Kelly Frost
Fairs Program Manager,
Washington Fairs Commission, Department of Agriculture

Eastside Super School to be held Saturday, March 6th at the Spokane Interstate Fair and Expo Center

In less than a month, the Spokane County Fair and Expo Center will host the East Side Super School in Spokane, Washington on Saturday, March 6, 2010. Enclosed please find a schedule of events for the day - registration and refreshments begin at 8:30 a.m.

Please complete the enclosed registration form and mail to WSFA East Side Meeting, PO Box 914, Chehalis WA 98532-0914 prior to February 26, 2010. We don't want to miss anyone, so if February 26 comes too quickly, be sure to e-mail us with your intent to attend at fairexpo@spokanecounty.org. The cost is \$20.00 per person and includes lunch.

Super School will be held in the Expo Annex, accessible through the Green Gate after entering the facility off of Havana Street through the main entrance. Judge's Training will be held in the same general area but will begin a little earlier.

Need a place to stay? Hotels / motels close by include the following:

Broadway Inns and Suites
6309 E Broadway, 99212 / (509) 535-7185
Days Inn, 1919 N Hutchinson, 99212 / (509) 926-5399
Fairfield Inn, 311 N Riverpoint Blvd, 99202 / (509) 747-9131
Holiday Inn Express
9220 E Mission, 99206 / (509) 927-7100
Maple Tree Motel & RV Park
4824 E Sprague, 99212 / (509) 535-5810
Park Lane Motel & RV Park
4412 E Sprague, 99212 / (509) 535-1626
Quality Inn Valley Suites
8923 E Mission, 99212 / (800) 777-7355
Super 8 Motel, 2020 N Argonne, 99212 / (800) 800-8000

We will be having a silent auction during lunch. Funds raised during this event will be donated to WSFA. Please bring with you an item for the Silent Auction and completed form (enclosed). If you have some small items that you'd like to share, please bring them with you and we'll have door prizes given throughout the day as well.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Jessie (509-477-2772 or JMcLaughlin@spokanecounty.org). We are looking forward to seeing all of you on March 6

Rich Hartzell

WSFA Board of Directors Position #6
Spokane Interstate Fair, Director

2010 EAST SIDE SUPER SCHOOL Spokane County Fair and Expo Center Spokane Valley, Washington Saturday, March 6, 2010

8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. - Registration and Refreshments

8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. - Judge's Training
(The Philosophy of Judging)

9:00 a.m. - Welcome, Introductions, Legislative Update

9:30 a.m. - Round Tables in the Following Groups. Each moderator will have approximately five group-specific topics to choose from that morning based upon the need of those in attendance.

A. Superintendents – Still Exhibits
(Moderated by Bonnie Sewell, Spokane Interstate Fair)

B. Superintendents – Livestock
(Moderator TBA)

C. Managers
(Moderated by Rich Hartzell, Spokane Interstate Fair / WSFA Director)

D. Staff / Board Members
(Moderated by Val Watson, Adams County Fair / WSFA Director)

9:30 a.m. to Noon - Judge's Training
(Foods or Sewing – Participants will choose one)

10:15 a.m. - Break

10:30 a.m. - Above and Beyond Your Entries
(Unique Contests / Activities for Exhibitors and Public)
Presented by Jessie McLaughlin CFE, Spokane Interstate Fair

11:15 a.m. - Welcome to the Party... And here are the Rules!
(Customer Service) *Presented by Chris Holloway CFE, North Idaho Fair*

Noon - Luncheon / Silent Auction

1:00 p.m. - Public Friendly Displays and Layouts
Presented by The Washington State Fair Commissioners

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Judge's Training
(Needlework or Crafts – Participants will choose one)

2:00 p.m. - Black and White Award Winners –
Why They're Winners *Presented by Representatives from Various Fairs*

2:45 p.m. Silent Auction Closes / Announcement of Winners

2:50 p.m. - Closing Remarks

Judge's Training is being offered during the same time frame. Participants in the Judge's Training program will be eating lunch with those attending the WSFA Super School. For Judge's Training registration information, please contact fairexpo@spokanecounty.org.



Service Member Message . . .

Time for another article...I get the honor of writing four of these a year and this, I believe, is year 9. Occasionally I have a guest writer...today no such luck. I always wait till the last minute to write the article; apparently I work best on crunch time! And as most of you know by now...I am NOT a writer, a reader – yes; a talker – yes; but a writer??? Not so much! I started out

the day with a posting on face book, quickly shut down the computer and headed to the gym to think and ponder my article. I contemplated what would I write about – Change? New ideas? Inspiration? Motivation? And then I picked up good ole’ *Oprah Magazine* and hit the elliptical. I don’t read it often and can’t even tell you the last time I saw the show, but every time I do – WOW! Ideas just came popping into my head. I thought I had the article more or less written...then I get home, pop back on face book and have actual “work” suggestions as an article. Things like the economy, utilizing grounds entertainment as an asset...so here I go trying to combine the suggestions and my thoughts!

As we dive into 2010, most of us are being cautious, treading on an economy that is not stable, facing major budget cuts and of course those will trickle down to the grounds entertainment, the food booths, the commercial vendors and all around the bottom line. How do we deal with this? What ideas are out there? Combining a great article in Oprah on personal goals and popping them into the fair industry –

According to Martha Beck – “*It Takes All Kinds*” – working as a team! What can your grounds acts do besides “juggle” or “clown”? Can they help offset your budget by helping with the voice of the fair? Emceeing a stage? Visiting a local school? Entertainers – can you add value to your package? Become the voice of the fair? Emcee a stage? Use your imagination and be inventive! Vendors – assist in layout? Offer to cater a luncheon? Fairs – tap into the abundance of knowledge that will be coming to your fair. Your entertainers and vendors see many fairs over the year – use them! We all have different talents – some of us are very organized, some creative, some driven, some fact finders - lets combine them! Don’t be afraid to offer up suggestions and let’s work together for a successful and profitable 2010!

Now I need to stash away the other three “Oprah Wow’s for my next articles! See you on the road! And again, please don’t hesitate to call, email, face book or whatever your form of communication is – if you need anything.

Take Care and Hugs!

Tammie Ryan

WSFA Service Member Director, Super Science Company
FAIRVIEWS



Showcases for the Fall WSFA Convention

Is it winter or is it spring? After being in Olympia last week and seeing all the daffodils emerging and actually having buds on them, they think it is already spring. But, reality check says it is the 1st of February and that means it is still winter. Anyway, we still

have to start to prepare for Showcases at Convention 2010. If you know of anyone that is interested in being a part of our showcase, we ask that you send them our way. Our way, meaning, Val Watson or Gale Sobolesky.

We have a committee that will go over all of the applicants sometime in July. We will be looking forward to hearing from you. Again, we are looking for ground acts, master of ceremonies, (so you don’t have to listen to me again), musical entertainers, hypnotists, comedians or anyone who can entertain us and our fair.

We need a videotape, CD or DVD and send it to the Washington State Fair Office by July 5th, 2010. Please be sure to tell us what format your entry is in.

If you have any questions, feel free to call Gale at 360-269-9971 or Val at 509-750-6367. E-mail addresses are Gale’s at wastfair@comcast.net or Val’s at lavwatson@lindwa.com.

We hope to have a quality showcase this year at convention and we will be sending in those applicants that we need. We appreciate your help and input. It takes many hands to have the best convention yet. See you there!

Much Appreciation,

Val Watson, Vice President
WSFA Director
Showcase Chairman



Showcase 2010
Washington State Fairs Association
Yakima Convention Center
Yakima, Washington, October 28- 30, 2010

POLICY

The WSFA Directors have established the following policies for the 2010 Showcase:

SELECTION: The WSFA Showcase committee has sole authority in the selection and development of the showcase schedules. Selection of acts will be based on the originality and talent of the act, capability of production at the showcase facility, and appropriateness of fair audiences.

ELIGIBILITY: Agents/Acts must be a member of the WSFA. If selected, Agent/Act must be registered for the WSFA Convention.

CANCELLATIONS: If an act is unable to appear, no substitutions by Act or Agency will be permitted for showcase performances. A list of alternates will be established by the Showcase Committee and in the event of a cancellation; the first act on the list will be notified.

PRODUCTION/EQUIPMENT/PERFORMANCES

STAGE ACTS:

1. Each stage act in the showcases shall have a maximum of **20** minutes to perform.
2. Each showcase will have an Emcee provided by WSFA.
3. Stage and production equipment are the responsibility and control of the WSFA Production crew. The house sound system will be provided by the WSFA and will be scaled to the venue used and reasonable requirements of the attractions. The WSFA Showcase Chairperson will have absolute control over this system, including overall volume levels (both stage and house).
4. A schedule for sound check will be provided to each act prior to the Convention. The WSFA Showcase Chairperson will conduct daily meeting (usually mornings) with the attraction or its representative required to be present.
5. All attractions will perform under standard stage lighting provided by the WSFA Showcase Committees unless a representative of the attraction is present to operate/call lighting cues.
6. All instruments, instrument amplifiers, drum kits; equipment and/or special lighting effects are the sole responsibility of the entertainer.
7. The WSFA Showcase Committee assumes no responsibility for any expenses, transportation, meals or rooms, of any attraction.
8. All members and support staff of the showcasing acts will be given Showcase Act credentials. This badge will entitle them to be at the convention on the date of their showcase only.
9. For 2010, there may be a Hypnotist Show selected for a Showcase slot.
10. Meals for the entertainers and their family and friends are available at the WSFA Convention Meal Rate. Please contact

WSFA for arrangements

STROLLING ACTS:

The WSFA Showcase Chairperson will set the schedule of performance for Strolling Host Performers. Each act will be notified in advance of the Convention. In addition, each act will receive an advance schedule of Convention events and programs along with a layout of the Convention site. Every effort is made to ensure that all performances coincide with high traffic areas and events throughout the Convention schedule.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

APPLICATION FORMS/SUPPORT MATERIALS

1. Completed applications must be returned with the following required material:
 - d. Application Fee, per act (non-refundable)
 - e. Audio CD - sufficient selections to depict talent, originality, style, versatility, etc.-
Musical and variety stage act that incorporate musical performance. Important: ***Label weather the Disc is a CD or a DVD.***
 - f. VHS, 1/2" video recording or DVD (A quality video, 10 to 12 minutes in length, may significantly help your chances of being selected.)
 - g. References and/or Letters of Recommendation from Fairs.
 - h. Diagram of stage plot including list of stage props, technical requirements (Stage acts Only)
 - i. Promotional packet to include 8"x10" black and white photo suitable for publication.
2. Applications and required materials must be received by WSFA office on or before Monday, July 5, 2010.
3. Agencies may submit unlimited number of applications.

APPLICATION FEES: (All Fees Payable in US Funds)
All application fees are administrative processing fees and are non-refundable. Fees will be used for the Sound System for the Showcasing.

WSFA MEMBER APPLICATION FEE: \$25 per act

NON-MEMBER APPLICATION FEE: \$35 plus

\$125.00 Membership Dues with Application for Membership.

SHOWCASE FEE: (All Fees payable in US Funds)

The Showcasing Fee is \$100.00 per act selected for showcasing. If your act is selected to showcase, upon notification of your acceptance as a showcase act for the 2010 WSFA Convention, you will be billed \$100.00 as a showcase fee. This fee will be used to insure each act has optimum sound and lighting for their showcase. Individuals who are showcasing, as emcees will not be billed this fee.

Managers Meeting Scheduled April 2 at the Northwest Washington Fairgrounds, Lynden, WA

Attention: Fair Managers! If your job is managing a Fair, or a department of a Fair, you will not want to miss the WSFA Spring Managers meeting on April 2, 2010. This will be a great networking opportunity: a time to discuss common issues with your fellow managers. The program, designed specifically for Fair managers, will include the following:

1. Finding additional sources of revenue in a down economy.
2. A nationally published author and speaker, will be on hand to discuss "Crisis Management". This session will help you be prepared for the unexpected.
3. Saving your county fair: looking at alternatives.
4. "A Legacy of Knowledge" with Norm Landerman

All this in less than a day. Watch for more details and registration forms in your mail. It could be the best "less than a day" management retreat you ever experienced.

Tentative Schedule:

Friday, April 2, 2010

1:00 - 5:00 Meetings

5:00 - 6:00 Social

6:00 - 7:30 Dinner

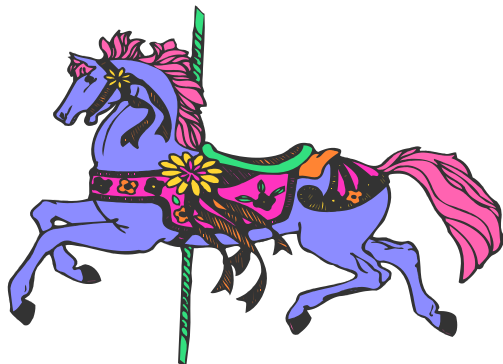
7:30 - 9:00 Structured Conversation

Saturday, April 3, 2010

8:00 -9:30 Breakfast, Speaker
and Fairgrounds tour.

9:30 Adjourn

10:00 Westside Superschool begins.



News from George . .

Hello to All! It is hard to believe that we are into the year 2010. In the year 2003 I was appointed a WSFA director to fill a vacated position and in 2010, I will leave that position. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as a director of the WSFA for all those years.

I want to Thank each and every-one of you for allowing me to be a part of the Washington State Fairs.

However, I still have a few months to go and would like to remind you; our 2010 Fair Season begins April 1-3 with the North Central Washington Junior Livestock Show in Moses Lake and ends Oct 3 at the Central Washington State Fair in Yakima. After all 69 Fairs have concluded it is time to set our sights on the 70th Annual Washington State Fairs Assoc. Convention to be held Oct. 28-30 at the Yakima Convention Center. I know we are a few months away from the convention, but I would like to remind you all of our costume contest and invite each and everyone of you to think about participating in the contest. The costume contest will be on Thursday evening this year and will be judged on how well the costumes depict our theme "S'port Your Fairs". The evening will be especially fun if we have the whole group participate whether it be individually, in pairs or by group. So mark your calendar for the 28th of October and start brainstorming costume ideas.

The Presidents Banquet will be on Friday evening the 29th. In the past one of my fondest memories of convention was the President Banquet and being able to see all of my fellow fair members dressed in formal attire. We have kind of gone away from that practice in the last few years and I, personally, would like to see us all dress nicely for the evening in honor of our new President and Board.

Finally, I want to Thank everyone who has brought items for the silent and live auctions. The funds raised by these auctions greatly help in reducing the cost of convention to our participants. I hope that everyone continues to bring items for the auctions this year. There will be 4 silent auctions and one live auction. The live auction will be on Thursday evening. I Thank You in advance and look forward to seeing as many of you as I can throughout the upcoming fair season.

Till next time,

George Clary

WSFA Immediate Past President

WSFA Director Position # 8

Showcase 2010
Washington State Fairs Association
Yakima Convention Center
YAKIMA, WASHINGTON ~ OCTOBER 28 - 30, 2010

APPLICATION

☐ Showcase Stage - Musical ☐ Strolling Acts
☐ Showcase Stage - Variety ☐ Emcee

Name of Act _____

Description of Act _____

Number of People in Act _____ Performance Fee \$ _____ per day.

Represented by: ☐ Self ☐ Agent

Name of Agency _____

Address of Act or Agency _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone# _____ Fax# _____

Name and Phone # of person who can answer technical questions for act:

Name _____ Phone# _____

This application has been submitted by _____

How long have you been members of Washington State Fairs Association? _____

THIS APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH:

- 1. Nonrefundable application fee ~ \$25.00 (WSFA Member) or \$35.00 (Non WSFA member)**
- 2. Promotion Packet including 8 x 10 black and white photo, and a write up that can be used in the Fair Views if your act is selected for the 2010 Showcase**
- 3. CD (for musical acts)**
- 4. VHS tape or DVD of Stage Acts**
- 5. Stage Plot, sound and technical requirements**
- 6. References and Letters of Recommendation**

Application must be received in the WSFA Office by Wednesday, July 5, 2010

Selected Acts will be notified by the last week of July.

Return application to: **WSFA Showcase 2010**
 P.O. Box 914
 Chehalis, WA 98532

QUESTIONS: **PHONE: 360-269-9971 OR CELL PHONE: 360-219-6580**

Email address: wastfair@comcast.net Website: www.wastatefairs.com

Washington State Fairs Association Vision

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

Washington State Fair Association 2010 Annual Conference attendees:

The Red Lion Hotel Yakima Center is now offering a "Roaring Start Breakfast"! This is a full breakfast buffet that includes eggs, bacon & sausage, pancakes,



breakfast breads, fresh fruit, yogurt and beverages and best of all.....it's included in your rate!



In addition, we are adding a 24 hour Cafe2Go, which is a grab and go case filled with salads, wraps, sandwiches and beverages. We will no longer be serving lunch in our restaurant but, along with Cafe2Go, there are several dining options within walking distance to the hotel and dinner will still be served in Johnny's lounge.



Don't Forget to make your Hotel Reservation. Remember to mention Washington State Fairs Convention to get the Convention Rate. Breakfast is now included with your room rate at the Red Lion Yakima Center located next door to the Yakima Convention Center.

See you in October,

Amy Henderson

Red Lion Yakima Center Hotel

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!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE from Heather Hansen



As of this writing, the legislative session is nearing the halfway mark. The Senate expects to release its budget proposal the week of February 15. They have already taken the first step to pave the way for tax increases. A hearing was held on SB 6843 which would suspend I-960, the voter approved

initiative that requires a two-thirds majority vote of the legislature, or a vote of the people, to raise taxes.

Also in the Senate, SB 6841 was introduced to repeal numerous tax preferences, including the business and occupation tax exemption for the sale of agricultural products. That means all agricultural producers would pay B&O tax on the gross income from all sales.

Part of the logic behind this approach may be that removing tax exemptions is a way to raise revenue without technically increasing taxes, thereby avoiding having to vote to increase taxes in an election year.

Once the Senate budget comes out, it must pass the Senate, and then move to the House. The House will amend it, and then selected members from the House and Senate will meet to work out the differences. The final outcome won't be known until the legislature adjourns March 11.

Legislators on both sides are not optimistic about fair funding. They need to hear from you about the value of fairs to your community. Many people think of fairs as simply what they see during fair week. They do not realize the value to youth and service organizations, local businesses and other groups. At a time when numerous social services are being cut, to many, fair funding appears expendable.

One note of optimism, the Fairs Commission had been removed from the bills to eliminate boards and commissions. If the bills continue to move as expected, the Fairs Commission will be spared.

Heather Hansen
WSFA Legislative Liaison

Words from Legislative Committee. . .

The Legislative committee is continuing to work closely with Heather on the current funding challenges for Fairs. We wish to extend our appreciation for all the phone calls, e-mails, and letters you've sent to your representatives. Heather's comment of the "half-way" point is important because many decisions are yet to be made and we can't be finished until the end of the session. Please continue your efforts and communication with your elected officials throughout the final days of the process.

Mark Campbell

WSFA Legislative Committee Chair

WSFA Director, Position # 2

Reflections on Legislative Day from one of our 2010 participants . . .

On January 28th I was privileged to attend the WSFA 2nd annual Legislative Day in Olympia. This is the first time I have ever participated, as well as the first time I have visited the Capitol during the Legislature. I was slightly apprehensive about getting there, finding parking, and getting to the appropriate building/office in a timely manner since our appointments were at a specific time and for only 15 minute time frames. My apprehension disappeared quickly once I was on-site and found my way around.

After gathering together at the Guest House Hotel in Olympia with our lobbyist Heather Hansen and the other fair representatives from all parts of the state, eating up their supportiveness and information, we branched out, made our way to the Capitol and visited each of our appropriate legislators. I found all of our area legislators to be very supportive of fairs, but apologetic in that there are so many cuts left to make they could not guarantee that our fair fund would remain intact. Even knowing that, I am very glad I participated in the endeavor and plan to do so again.

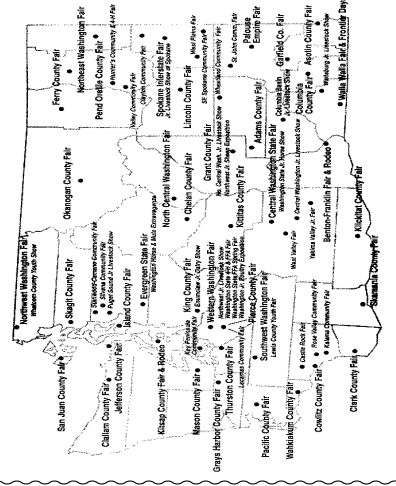
It was great to get to see all of my fair "friends" as well as participate in a necessary positive group effort.

Please contact your legislator and let them know how important the fair funding is to our fairs and how important our fairs are to our communities.

Kathi Mattinen,
Fair Coordinator
Cowlitz County Fair, Longview, WA

2010 WASHINGTON STATE FAIRS

APRIL	APRIL 1 - 3, 2010	North Central WA Junior Livestock Show Moses Lake, WA 509-431-1585	APRIL 9 - 10, 2010	Whatcom County Youth Fair Lynden, WA 360-366-3144 www.geocities.com/whatcomcountyouthfair/	APRIL 15 - 18, 2010	Puyallup Spring Fair ~ Puyallup, WA 253-845-1771 www.thefair.com/	APRIL 15 - 18, 2010	FFA Spring Fair ~ Puyallup, WA 425-432-3455	APRIL 15 - 18, 2010	Northwest Junior Livestock Show Puyallup, WA 253-927-2297	APRIL 16 - 18, 2010	Asotin County Horse Show	APRIL 23 - 25, 2010	Asotin County Fair and Rodeo ~ Asotin, WA 509-256-3361 www.asotin.wa.us/fair_	APRIL 21 - 25, 2010	St. John Community Fair St. John, WA 509-648-3767	APRIL 30, 2010	Colton Uniontown Fair ~ Colton, WA 509-229-3703	APRIL 30, May 1 & 2, 2010	Lewis County Spring Youth Fair Chelalis, WA 360-245-3452	MAY	May 2 - 5, 2010	Central WA Jr. Livestock Show Toppenish, WA 1-509-877-6332	May 4 - 9, 2010	Junior Livestock Show of Spokane Spokane, WA 509-535-6737 www.juniorshow.org	May 21 - 22, 2010	Enumclaw Junior Dairy Show Enumclaw, WA 360-668-3101	JUNE	June 3 - 5, 2010	Puget Sound Junior Livestock Show Mt. Vernon, WA 360-395-8909 pugetsoundjuniorlivestock.org	June 12 - 13, 2010	Waitsburg Jr. Livestock Show Waitsburg, WA 509-337-6241	JULY	TBA	King County Fair at Enumclaw Enumclaw, WA 360-615-5631 www.enumclawskingcountyfair.com	July 15 - 17, 2009	Castle Rock Fair ~ Castle Rock, WA 360-274-4042	July 15 - 17, 2009	Northwest Junior Sheep Expo Moses Lake, WA 509-754-2011 ext 413 www.grant-adams.wsu.edu	July 22 - 24, 2010	Kalama Community Fair ~ Kalama, WA 360-673-2994 www.kalamafair.com	August 19 - 22, 2010	West Valley Community Fair Yakima, WA 509-965-1851	July 31, 2010	Silvana Community Fair Silvana, WA 360-652-8682	AUGUST	August 4 - 8, 2010	Thurston County Fair ~ Lacey, WA 360-786-5453 www.co.thurston.wa.us	August 5 - 8, 2010	Cowlitz County Fair ~ Longview, WA 360-577-3121 www.cowlitzcountyfair.com	August 6 - 8, 2010	Stanwood - Camano Community Fair Stanwood, WA 360-629-4121 www.stanwoodcamanofair.com	August 6-15, 2010	Clark County Fair ~ Ridgefield, WA 360-397-6180 www.clarkcofair.com	August 11-15, 2010	Grays Harbor County Fair ~ Elma, WA 360-482-2651 www.ghcfairgrounds.com	August 11-14, 2010	Skagit County Fair Mt. Vernon, WA 360-336-9453 www.skagitcounty.net/fairgrounds	August 11 - 14, 2010	Yakima Valley Fair and Rodeo Grandview, WA 509-786-2927 www.yvfair-rodeo.org	August 11 - 15, 2010	Skamania County Fair and Timber Carnival Stevenson, WA 509-427-3979 www.skamaniacountyfair.com	August 12 - 15, 2010	Pierce County Fair ~ Graham, WA 253-843-1173 www.piercecountyfair.com	August 13 - 15, 2010	West Plains Community Fair ~ Cheney, WA 509-235-4848 westplainsfair.swiftfarm.net	August 13 - 15, 2010	Jefferson County Fair ~ Port Townsend, WA 360-385-1013 www.jeffcofairgrounds.com	August 13-15, 2010	WA State Junior Horse Show Yakima, WA 509-930-2334	August 14, 2010	Valley Community Fair Valley, WA 509-937-2638	August 16-21, 2010	Northwest Washington Fair ~ Lynden, WA 360-354-4111 www.nwfair.com	August 17-21, 2010	Grant County Fair ~ Moses Lake, WA 509-765-3581 www.grantcountyfair.com	August 17-22, 2010	Southwest Washington Fair Chelalis, WA 360-736-6072 www.southwestwashingtonfair.net	August 18-21, 2010	San Juan County Fair ~ Friday Harbor, WA 360-378-4310 www.sanjuancountyfair.org	August 19 - 21, 2010	Wahkiakum County Fair ~ Skamokawa, WA 360-795-3480 www.co.wahkiakum.wa.us	August 19-22, 2010	Clallam County Fair Port Angeles, WA 360-417-2551 www.clallamcountyfair.com	August 19 - 22, 2010	Pend Oreille County Fair ~ Cusick, WA 509-445-1367 www.povn.com/pocofair	August 19 - 22, 2010	Klickitat County Fair Goldendale, WA 509-773-6212 www.klickitatcountyfair.com	August 19 - 22, 2010	Island County Fair ~ Langley, WA 360-221-4677 www.islandcountyfair.com	August 21, 2010	Hunters Community & 4-H Fair Hunter, WA 509-722-4112	August 24-28, 2010	Benton Franklin Fair ~ Kennewick, WA 509-586-9211 x 201 www.bffairrodeo.com	August 25 - 29, 2010	Kitsap County Fair - Stampede Bremerton, WA 360-337-5350 www.kitsapgov.com/parks	August 25 - 28, 2010	Pacific County Fair Menlo, WA 360-942-3713 www.co.pacific.wa.us/pc%20fair/index.htm	August 26 - Sept. 6, 2010	Evergreen State Fair ~ Monroe, WA 360-805-6700 www.evergreenfair.org	August 26-29, 2010	NE Washington Fair ~ Colville, WA 509-684-2585 www.co.stevens.wa.us	August 26-29, 2010	Lincoln County Fair ~ Davenport, WA 509-725-5161 www.lincolncountyfairgrounds.org	August 26 - 29, 2010	North Central Washington District Fair Waterville, WA 509-745-8480 www.douglascountywa.net	August 27 - 29, 2010	Clayton Community Fair Clayton, WA 509-276-2444 www.claytoncommunityfair.com	August 28 - 29, 2010	Lacamas Community Fair ~ Roy, WA 253-843-1566 www.lacamasfair.com	September	Sept. 1 - 6, 2010	Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days Walla Walla, WA 509-527-3247 www.wallawallafairgrounds.com	Sept. 2 - 5, 2010	Wheatland Communities Fair Wheatland, WA 509-887-2409 www.ritzville.com	Sept. 2 - 6, 2010	Kittitas County Fair ~ Ellensburg, WA 800-426-5340 www.kittitascountyfair.com	Sept. 3 - 5, 2010	Ferry County Fair ~ Republic, WA 509-775-3146 www.ferrycountyfair.com	Sept. 9 - 11, 2010	Columbia Basin Jr. Livestock Show Connell, WA 509-545-4523 www.cbjls.org	Sept. 9 - 12, 2010	Chelan County Fair ~ Cashmere, WA 509-782-3232 www.chelancountyfair.org	Sept. 9 - 12, 2010	Okanogan County Fair ~ Okanogan, WA 509-422-1621 www.okanogancountyfair.org	Sept. 9 - 12, 2010	Palouse Empire Fair ~ Colfax, WA 509-397-6263 www.palouseempirefair.org	Sept. 10 - 12, 2010	Columbia County Fair Dayton, WA 509-382-4741	Sept. 10 - 19, 2010	Spokane Interstate Fair Spokane Valley, WA 509-477-1766 www.interstatefair.org	Sept. 10 - 26, 2010	Puyallup Fair Western WA Fair Puyallup, WA 253-845-1771 www.thefair.com/	Sept. 10 - 26, 2010	Washington State FFA Exhibition Puyallup, WA 425-432-3455 www.4h.wsu.edu/statefair/index.htm	Sept. 10 - 26, 2010	Washington State 4-H Fair Puyallup, WA 253-445-4630	Sept. 15 - 18, 2010	Adams County Fair ~ Ohlento, WA 509-750-6690 www.adamscountyfair.info	Sept. 17 - 19, 2010	Garfield County Fair Pomeroy, WA 509-843-3701	Sept. 23 - 26, 2010	Washington Junior Poultry Exposition Puyallup, WA 360-280-8054	Sept. 24 - 26, 2010	SE Spokane County Fair Rockford, WA 509-291-FAIR www.sespokanecountyfair.org	Sept. 24 - Oct. 3, 2010	Central Washington State Fair Yakima, WA 509-248-7160 www.fairfun.com
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Westside Super School to be Held Saturday April 3, 2010 at The Northwest Washington Fair and Event Center in Lynden, WA

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 3, as the Washington State Fairs Association will be sponsoring its annual West Side Super School at the Northwest Washington Fairgrounds in Lynden, Washington. Registration will begin at 9:30 AM in Expo Building on the Northwest Washington Fairgrounds.

This event is a great opportunity for your fair's superintendents, volunteers, board, and staff to gain additional training and to network with other fair's representatives. The draft schedule is enclosed with this notice; we ask that you make copies to distribute to those you wish to invite to the Super School. We hope they will find sessions that will interest them.

Registration will be \$12.50 per person, this includes your lunch. A Food Judges Training will be offered for a cost of \$15.00 per participant.

- ✓ Donations for the silent auction are requested. Please bring silent auction donations and your contributions with you to Super School, and check them at the Registration Desk.
- ✓ Bring Cookies or donuts to share in the morning for registration and social time.

We look forward to seeing you at the ---

Westside Super School SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 2010 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM NORTHWEST WASHINGTON FAIR AND EVENT CENTER

Directions to the Northwest Washington Fair and Event Center:

From I-5 South: Take I-5 North to exit 256A "Guide Meridian". From exit 256A turn right onto Guide Meridian (Highway 539). Go north approximately 10.2 miles. Turn right onto Front Street in Lynden. Go east approximately .5 mile. The Northwest Washington Fair is located on the south side of Front Street with parking surrounding.

From I-5 North: Take I-5 South to exit 270 "Birch Bay-Lynden Rd". From exit 270 turn left onto Birch Bay-Lynden Rd. and travel east approximately 8.2 miles. At the intersection of Birch Bay-Lynden Rd. and Guide Meridian, turn left onto Guide Meridian. Travel north approximately 0.2 mile, turn right onto Front Street and travel east .5 mile. The Northwest Washington Fair is located on the south side of Front Street with parking surrounding.

See you in Lynden . . . April 3

Washington State Fairs Association West Side Super School Tentative Schedule

Northwest Washington Fair and Events Center
1775 Front Street, Lynden, WA 98264

- Registration 9:30 a.m.
Light refreshments/share your best cookie recipe!
- 10 a.m.
Welcome From WSFA
Introduction of WSFA Directors, Staff and Organizers of West Side Meeting
Introduction of Dept. Ag. Commissioners and staff
- 10:15 a.m.
Opening Speaker Norm Landerman- Moore
- 10:30-11:20 a.m.
Session 1
1.1: One Hundred and One Diseases to Host at your Fair/ Kent Hojem
1.2: Winning with New Exhibitors/ Stephanie Hagarty & Kathleen Wright
Attract new exhibitors to your competitive programs and teach them how to win so you win too! Reach new markets with creative programs and make them simple and easy to participate in. When new exhibitors understand how to enter and win, they return to enter again
1.3: A Look at Award Winning Exhibits at Fairs
1.4: TBA
- 11:30 a.m.-12:00
Tour-Take a look at the Northwest Washington Fair and Events Center
- 12:00-12:30 p.m.
Lunch
Silent Auction
Announcements
- 12:40-1:30 p.m.
Session 2
2.1: Emergency Preparedness
2.2: Creating an Award Winning Exhibit/ Debbie VanderVeen
2.3: New Project Direction in 4-H/Michael Wallace
2.4: WA Fair Commissioners: Tentatively
- 1:40-2:30 p.m.
Session 3
3.1: Going Green, The Changing Fair Environment/Mark Campbell Fairs and special events in Washington are required to have a formal recycling program at their events. Hear about simple and effective ways to make your Fairgrounds a part of the green movement.
3.2: Educational Posters-How to highlight as a Fair Exhibit/Yvonne Knuth
3.3: New Project Direction in 4-H/Michael Wallace
3.4: On-line entries/Leslie Anderson
- 2:40 p.m.
General Gathering
Announcements
Capnote Speaker - TBA

Do you have a family favorite cookie or perhaps even an award winning recipe you want to share? Bring your cookies and note cards of the recipe to share.

We will gladly take donations for our silent auction. Has your fair selected a theme for 2010? Have some fun and create a basket that represents your fair!

*Registration for the West Side Super School will be \$12.50 per person. Judge's Training is being offered during the same time frame. Participants in the Judge's Training program will be eating lunch with those attending the WSFA Super School. Cost for Judge's Training is \$15.00 this covers training supplies and lunch. See the Training Schedule on page 13 of this Newsletter. Watch our website for updates to this schedule
www.wastatefairs.com*

Judges Training for Food

“What Makes a Blue Ribbon Cookie?”

Saturday, April 3, 2010

Northwest Washington Fairgrounds, Lynden, WA
Sponsored by the Washington State Fairs Association
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

9:30 AM REGISTRATION - Expo Building

10:00 AM

WELCOME – Expo Building

Jim Baron, WSFA President
Paul Nimmo, WSFA Director and
Super School Chair Opening Speaker
Norm Landerman-Moore

10:30 AM - 12:00

4-H Building – Tentative Location

INTRODUCTION TO JUDGING FOR
FAIRS JUDGING BAKED GOODS -
WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN
JUDGING BAKE GOODS
Presenters: Jean Swift, 4-H Volunteer

12:00 – 12:30 PM

LUNCH – Mt. Baker Rotary Building

12:40 – 1:30 PM

ACTUAL JUDGING AND
EVALUATING OF BAKED GOODS
Presenters: Jean Swift, 4-H Volunteer

1:40 – 2:30 PM

FOOD PRESERVATION -
WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN
JUDGING CANNED GOODS AND
DEHYDRATED FOOD
Presenters: Jean Swift, 4-H Volunteer

2:40 – 3:30 PM

ACTUAL JUDGING AND
EVALUATING OF CANNED GOODS
AND DEHYDRATED FOOD
Presenters: Jean Swift, 4-H Volunteer

3:30 – 3:50 PM

CLOSING – Expo Building
Check on Silent Auction Bids, Payments
and Good Bye

*Cost for this training is \$15.00 and includes
Training Supplies and lunch! See you there.*



WEST SIDE SUPER SCHOOL ~ Saturday, April 3, 2010
9:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Northwest Washington Fairgrounds,
Lynden, WA

JUDGES TRAINING REGISTRATION

Fair Name: _____ Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Judges Training for Foods

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

(List additional attendees on the back)

TOTAL Enclosed: \$ _____

Cost: \$15 per person. Lunch and Beverages included in the cost of registration.

~ Remember to bring an item for the silent auction ~

Mail registration to:

Gale Sobolesky, Executive Secretary
Washington State Fairs Association
PO Box 914
Chehalis, WA 98532
Phone: 360-269-9971


Checks payable to: WSFA

(Washington State Fairs Association)

Please return registration form by Friday, March 26, 2010.....Thank you! *Washington State Fairs Association*



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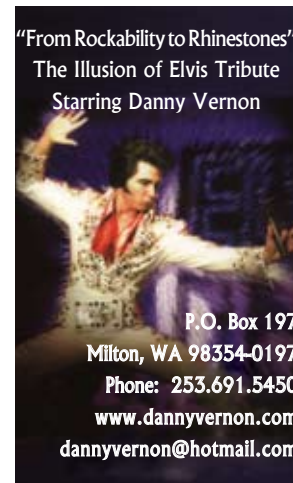
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USDA TO MEASURE THE FINANCIAL HEALTH OF THE AG INDUSTRY

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON - Starting in January, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) began conducting its Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS). This survey will provide farmers and ranchers with an opportunity to provide accurate, real world data that will help shape the policies, programs and issues that affect them.

"ARMS asks a small, but representative, sample of farmers about their operation in order to understand the current financial state of U.S. agriculture," said David Knopf, director of the NASS Washington Field Office. "Participation in ARMS is so important because government and agricultural leaders use the information needed to make sound decisions that impact the future of farmers, their families, their businesses and their communities."

The field enumerators will be contacting the producers selected in the sample from February through April. In an effort to obtain the most accurate data, NASS will reach out to nearly 35,000 producers nationwide, including 1,552 in Washington. Producers will be asked to provide data on their operating expenditures, production costs and household characteristics.

"Farm organizations, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington State University, Congress and State officials use the collective information from ARMS to answer questions and make important decisions concerning the economic viability of American agriculture, the rural economy and other emerging issues," explained Knopf.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses, ensuring no individual respondent or operation can be identified.

The economic data gathered in ARMS will be published in the annual Farm Production Expenditures report on August 5, 2010. All NASS reports are available online at wunry.nass.usda.gov. If you have any questions please call David Knopf (800) 435-5883 NASS Washington Field Office.



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

