

DATES TO REMEMBER -

2012

October 15

- Showcase apps. due
- 2013 Request for Fair Info material, PSACF Associate Dues Invoices, PSACF/PSSA Convention material, Trade Show apps. Mailed

October 18

- PSACF Board Meeting

October 24

- PSACF Zone 4 Mtg.-Oley Valley Community Fair

October 25

- PSACF Zone 3 Mtg.- Bedford County Fair

October 26

- PSACF Zone 1 Mtg.- Scrubgrass Grange

October 27

- PSACF Zone 2 Mtg.-Bloomsburg Fair

November 1

- Fair Person Of The Year apps. due
- Communications Competition apps. due

November 15

- Reimbursement apps. - Fair Fund due
- Baking Contests Summary due
- Queen Competition apps. due

November 30

- FAIRTALK material for December issue due

November 26 - 29

- IAFE Convention - Las Vegas

December 24 (week of)

- 4th Quarter FAIRTALK - emailed

2013

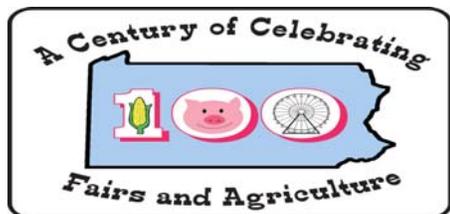
January 5 to 12

- PA Farm Show

January 23 to 26 101st PSACF/PSSA Convention - Hershey

April 18-20

- IAFE Meeting Portland Maine



FAIRTALK

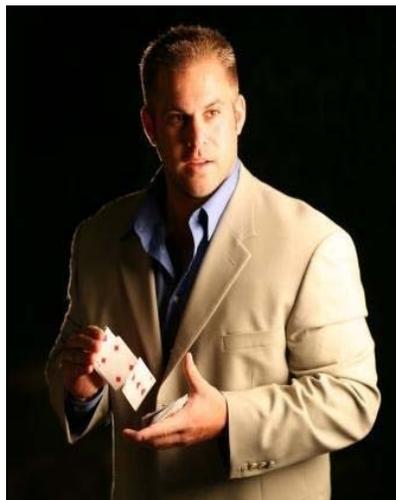


"News From The PA State Association of County Fairs"
"THE VOICE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA FAIR INDUSTRY"

VOL. 26

September 2012

NO. 3



PHILADELPHIA EAGLES LONG SNAPPER TO DELIVER KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT CONVENTION

Current Philadelphia Eagles Long Snapper Jon Dorenbos has been contracted to deliver the keynote address at the PSACF / PSSA Annual Convention in Hershey. Dorenbos was born on July 21, 1980 in California and played football for Texas - El Paso before being drafted by the Buffalo Bills in 2003. His career led him to play for teams like the Bills, Tennessee Titans and now the Eagles. In 2010 he was named to the NFC's Pro Bowl team. Although Jon Dornebos has excelled in the game of football, his life story has been something much different. As a child growing up in Woodinville Washington, Jon was only 12 years of age when his father killed his mother. Dorenbos was then sent to a foster home until an intense legal battle was over allowing Jon to be adopted by his Aunt and Uncle.

See "Keynote Speaker" - page 5



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2300 N. Cameron St.
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FAIRTALK published four times per year by the Association. Send information for the publication to:
Harry Reffner
128 Cumberland Rd.
Bedford, PA 15522

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fair season is almost over and I have had mixed reports from the fairs on how they had done. Some are telling me they have increased attendance and others have had lower attendance. Weather has played a big role in fairs this summer from the 90 and 100 degree heat to downpours of rain.



Fall is coming and it is election year for directors in all zones. Please have at least one person from your fair attend the zone meetings and have your vote count. The zone meetings will have important information to take back to you board.

We have received 2 Million dollars in funding for the 2012 fair season. This money is coming from the Race Horse Development fund, so we need to say a heartfelt thanks to the Horsemen's Associations for working with the Legislature for these funds. On top of the 2 Million, the three Standard-bred Horsemen's groups have paid the race expenses for the 15 racing fairs.

Thanks again, for the opportunity to serve you as the president of the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs. Hope to see you at the Zone Meetings this fall and at the Convention in January.

Sincerely, Ron Miller

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

ATTENTION :

FAIR PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES

During my travels to fairs this year I have noticed some things that need your attention: When you send in your info for the PSACF Directory all info needs to be checked... the directions to your fair need to be revised to show proper updated exit numbers and route numbers. The directions should be actual suggested routes to find your fair. AND you need to provide a physical (911) address for your fair. It would be a lot easier to find your fair if the address could be put into a GPS. I would also suggest that you use this physical address in your brochures and other ads to help the public find your fair. ALSO if your dates are different for next year – PLEASE – send that info in so the directory, the Dept. of Ag brochure and all of the tourism information is correct. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

John Blaney, PSACF Vice President

The MidLife Cowboys Band



"Range Rovin" Richard Rupert, "Bluesman" Chris Trasatti, "Trail Boss" Gary Stoner, "Too Dang Cool" Ed Scholl, and "Cactus" Drew Kanaskie

GOT A HANKERIN' FOR A ONE-OF-A-KIND SHOW?

These spit 'n' polished buckaroos from PA pack a saddlebag-full of music most folks haven't heard since the buffalo roamed - cowboy songs, western swing, old-time country and originals! Round up a rip-roarin' good time at your shindig with

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Aside from football, Dorenbos had turned to magic in order to help escape the everyday reminder of his childhood. Now Dorenbos is also a professional magician and has performed in places like Las Vegas and Hollywood. Dorenbos earned his business degree from UTEP with an emphasis in economics, finance and marketing. Dorenbos keeps busy during the off season by delivering motivational speeches to many corporate and non corporate entities. Jon has spoken to many groups including the National FFA Organization, Pioneer Investments, Jackson Hewitt and ING Group. Dorenbos also works with several charities that help kids with terminal diseases. Among all the accomplishments and highlights of Jon Dorenbos, he says that his greatest love besides football is his wife Julie whom he married in April of 2010.



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PA FAIR QUEEN PROGRAM

- Karen Dobson

This summer is full of royalty as Fairs across PA crown their new 2012 local Fair Queens. These amazing young women will then have the opportunity to advance to the State Competition where they will vie for the title of 2013 PA Fair Queen.

The State Competition will be held January 24-26, during the PSACF/PSSA Convention in Hershey, PA. State Contest Applications were already distributed at the Spring Zone meetings to Fairs that submitted their Request Forms by the February 28 deadline. All State Contestants' completed applications must be returned, postmarked by November 15.

Registering for the State Fair Queen Contest is as easy as **1-2-3!**

Contestant completes her Application Items #1-8 and submits the completed application postmarked by November 15 to Bitsey Kopfinger, PA Fair Queen Program Correspondence Coordinator, PO Box 456, Milford, PA 18337,

Fair/Queen Coordinator registers the Contestant and all other attendees for Convention Badges and Meals through the PSACF Convention Form postmarked by December 31 (*instructions will be made available to Fairs at the Fall Zone meetings and also online*), and

Fair/Queen Coordinator secures a hotel room for the Contestant directly with Hershey Lodge and Convention Center by December 31 using the special Passcode for the Queen Contestant Room Block (*instructions will be made available to Fairs at the Fall Zone meetings and also online*).

The State Contest Application must be completed using the official forms. The digital Application as a fillable Adobe pdf form is available online at <http://pafairs.org/convention.htm>. A complete and detailed **Official Contestant Handbook** will be sent in early December by Contest Coordinator Karen Dobson to each qualified Contestant, with a copy sent to her Coordinator.

Some State Contest items to note:

- a) Contestant Orientation will begin at 3:30 pm on Thursday afternoon during Convention;

- b) There will be a "Contestant Pizza Party" sponsored by *Drum The Bucket* on Friday night as part of the Queens' Party. Fairs should not purchase Showmen's Banquet tickets for their Queen contestant that same Friday night;
- c) **NEW Seminar:** There will be a panel discussion titled "*Living the Fair Queen Experience*" scheduled for Saturday morning. It will feature a few of our past PA State Fair Queens who will share how their Fair Queen experiences influenced their lives, careers, education, and futures. They will also give tips to our next Class of Queens on how to take full advantage of their time as Fair Queen.
- d) Convention badge registration is necessary for all convention attendees (Contestants, Fair Board, Coordinators, chaperones, family and friends). Those only attending the Saturday coronation banquet must request tickets under their Fair's registration; and
- e) The Queen Contest Information Packets distribution for 2013 Fair season will take place at the Convention during designated times near the Convention Registration Desk. Fairs must return their *State Contest Application Request Form* for the 2014 State Contest by February 28 in order to receive the 2014 State Contest Application packet at the Spring Zone meetings.

See "PA Fair Queen" - next page



From "PA Fair Queen" - previous page

The Convention is always an important fundraising time for the PA Fair Queen Program. All fairs and interested individuals can participate in various ways. Flyers were distributed to all Fairs at the Spring Zone meetings. The info is also available on the PSACF website (www.pafairs.org). Opportunities to support the Queen Program's fundraising include being a sponsor, bringing a gift basket, making a monetary donation and/or helping at the 50/50 nightly cash raffle or the Basket Raffle Tables. Any Fairs or individuals interested should return the Fundraising form by November 15. If you have a suggestion for a new sponsor or a fundraising idea, contact John Berne (McKean County Fair) or Judy Kmetz (Luzerne County Fair). If you have questions or need additional information on any aspect of the PA Fair Queen Program, please contact the appropriate

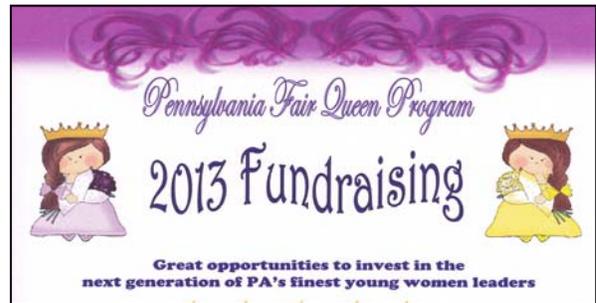
committee person:

Applications/Registrations - Bitsey Kopfinger, 570-296-8790

Fundraising - John Berne, 814-887-5396 or Judy Kmetz, 570-675-2952

PA Fair Queen's State Appearances & Media Events - Sarah Long, 814-684-4379

State Contest Schedule - Karen Dobson, 610-212-6180



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Web site: batesbros.com

“New”

PSACF Associates Welcome

Attractions, Miscellaneous

Rock N Roll Pet Store Kids Show

14 Craig St. Brookville PA 15825
Phone: (866) 410-6615 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.rocknrollpetstore.com
E-Mail: mike@rocknrollpetstore.com
Info: A magical imagination adventure that is geared towards the younger audience approximately 12 and under. The show contains music, magic, puppets, and live, friendly, gentle animals that kids will meet, love and remember for a lifetime.

Attractions, Thrill & Stunt Shows

Tonny Petersen's Hell Drivers

133 Sage Dr. Brighton CO 80601
Phone: (916) 801-6933 Phone 2: (916) 457-2308
Fax: (303) 498-0014
WebSite: www.helldrivers.info
E-Mail: 1gailheinrich@comcast.net
Info: Automobile thrill and stunt show.

Equipment

TMD Fast Cash

20 Hardy Ct. Lancaster PA 17602
Phone: (610) 737-9871 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.pavendors.com
E-Mail: tmdfastcash@aol.com
Info: ATM's for events. www.pavendors.com (financial).

Musical Attractions

AC Express

542 E. Hillside Ave. State College PA 16803
Phone: (814) 380-1617 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.acexpressmusic.com
E-Mail: chrissy_bodyandsoul@yahoo.com
Info: High energy top 40 Country & Classic Rock featured award winning Fiddle player; female fronted; soaring vocal harmonies.

Courtney Stewart Music

111 Stone House Rd. Knox PA 16232
Phone: (814) 797-5899 Phone 2: (814) 221-6632
Fax:
WebSite: E-Mail: jans3143@windstream.net
Info: Courtney Stewart is an acoustic songwriter and country music entertainer. Signed with Lanon Records, Nashville. See Courtney Stewart fan page on Facebook.

Girlz in Black Hats

320 Stoneybrook Ln. Dawson PA 15428
Phone: (724) 529-0707 Phone 2: (412) 496-0186
Fax:
WebSite: www.girlzinblackhats.com
E-Mail: manager@girlzinblackhats.com
Info: Country music with a touch of sass~!

Jessica Kenney Entertainment, LLC

PO Box 422 Kings Mills OH 45034
Phone: (513) 600-1625 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.JessicaKenney.com
E-Mail: JessicaKenneyMusic@yahoo.com
Info: Rock'n Country Band.

Laredo

217 E. High St. Hummelstown PA 17036
Phone: (717) 439-0162 Phone 2: (717) 566-1726
Fax:
WebSite: www.LaredoRocks.com
E-Mail: dmguitar@verizon.net
Info: High energy country band.

Michael Christopher Band

121 Maplewood Dr. Irwin PA 15642
Phone: (724) 422-7574 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.michaelchristopherband.com
E-Mail: info@michaelchristopherband.com
Info: Nashville recording artist with a country band that performs across the region.

Nancy Deckant and Black Rock County

3926 Caroline Dr. Pittsburgh PA 15234
Phone: (412) 389-6697 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.BlackRockCounty.com
E-Mail: nancy@nancydeckant.com
Info: Modern country rock band featuring the sharp contemporary sound of Nashville recording artist Nancy Deckant.

The One Man Band by Marc Dobson

383 Chester Dr. Cocoa FL 32926
Phone: (407) 399-7673 Phone 2: Fax:
WebSite: www.marcdobson.com
E-Mail: marc@marcdobson.com
Info: Serious music with comedy from an all live, mechanically controlled, standing One Man Band.

See “New Associates” - Page 19

From The Zones



Zone One --- Sam Zaffuto

Its hard to believe that fair season 2012 is almost over. Most fairs are reporting successful fairs this year.

The Zone One Fall meeting will be held on Friday October 26 at the Scrubgrass Grange. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm. This is a very important meeting because we will be electing six members to the Executive Committee from our zone to serve our fairs during 2013 and 2014. In addition to the election, our PSACF officers will be with us to update us on our state association; we will present the zone person of the year award as well as the Junior Fair person award. A zone meeting notice as well as information on the election and awards was mailed to all fairs at the end of August. A meeting reminder, a listing of all nominations received, and a credential form for voting will be sent to all fairs in early October. We hope to have all fairs represented at this important meeting.

Our 2013 convention is just a few months away. Plans for the convention will be shared with all in attendance. Hope to see you there!



Zone Two—Dr. David Reese

It hardly seems possible that another fair season is nearly over. Time seems to fly from fair season to convention and back to fair season again. The weather has cooperated for most fairs this year. Most fairs are reporting that attendance has been good and the fairs have had a successful year.

The Bloomsburg Fair will host the Zone II fall meeting on Oct. 27, 2012. Elections will be held for PSACF Directors and Pennsylvania State Fair Queen Program Board of Directors. The Zone Fair Person of the Year Award will be presented. New this year is the Zone Junior Fair Person of the Year Award. This will also be presented at this meeting. Please forward all nominations for these positions to me by Sept. 30, 2012. All state officers will be present to keep us up to date on matters of concern to the Association. Plan to have your fair represented. Your support is needed to help make our organization a success.



Zone Three — Debbie Stephenson

Well, fair season is almost over and hopefully everyone had or will have a good year. I want to remind you about the fall zone meeting that will be held at the Bedford County Fairgrounds on Thursday, October 25, 2012. Registration begins at 6pm, the meal at 6:45pm and the meeting at 7:30pm. This is a very important meeting as we elect six PSACF directors whom will take office the next two years. In addition, we will honor a zone person of the year. We will also have announcements regarding the 2013 convention and more. Also, if you would like to contribute to the door prizes that would be greatly appreciated. Please be sure to have at least one representative at this meeting. See all of you there and check your mail for zone meeting details! Note: the spring zone meeting will be hosted by the Westmoreland Fair.



Zone Four — Dr. Sally Nolt

Congratulations to all completed fairs for another successful fair season and best wishes to those fairs yet to be held! In spite of heat or rain (or both!) the fair season continues.

I would like to thank our officers and Fred McKillop for all the hard work and many hours they put into getting the funding increase. No Zone 4 Fairs were canceled this year, although some continue to struggle with the extreme cut in funding. Thank your legislators and keep in close contact with them

The Zone 4 Fall Meeting will be hosted by the Oley Valley Community Fair. The dinner meeting will be held Wednesday, October 24, 2012. Reservations may be made with Karen Dobson. At this meeting two awards will be given. One for Fair person of the Year for Zone 4 and a new award for the Junior Fair person of the Year for Zone 4. Thank you to the Fairs that submitted applications.

Six Directors to serve on the PSACF board will also be elected at this meeting. Please send someone from your fair to vote!

Please plan to attend this important Fall Meeting!



GOVERNMENTAL CONSULTANTS'S REPORT

- Fred & Randy McKillop

I want to start out the legislative report with a thank you to two House members that worked hard to increase funding for the fairs. I am making reference to Rep. David Millard and Rep. John Maher who went far and beyond the call of duty in support of our funding.

Both individuals were our standard bearers for increased funding in a year when increases were not part of the budget process.

A salute also to Sen. Bob Robbins who supported our increase in the Senate of Pennsylvania along with Sen. Vogel, the Agriculture Committee Chairman in the Senate.

Instead of the \$874,000 we received last year, in 2012-13, the fairs will receive \$2,000,000. This is an increase of over \$1,000,000. And we will continue to press for \$3,000,000 in funding which we had in the budget until the last hours of the negotiations for the budget.

The fairs would also like to thank the Standard Breed Horseman's Association for their willingness to discuss the increase in funding for this year. And our condolences go out for the loss of Paul Spears from the Hanover Shoe Farms who died recently.

I want to thank all the fairs that invited me to attend their fairs this year. I did have the opportunity to attend the opening of the "Great Allentown Fair" and the luncheon at the West End Fair in Gilbert, Pa. I will visit the York Fair and the Gratz Fair in the weeks ahead. I want to thank all the fairs for their invitations to the legislators to attend the fairs in their areas. Your support and assistance are greatly appreciated.

Please take the grass-roots training program found on our website in preparing to meet with your legislators this fall and next spring.

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HOTEL RESERVATIONS

2013 Convention reservations will now be accepted by the Hershey Lodge. Deadline is December 31, 2012. For lodging:

- phone 1-800-HERSHEY (717-437-7439) or online at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/PSACF2013>

All Queen candidates must use the Queen special code of QUEEN2013; otherwise, no special code is required. Be sure you have a credit card with you and respond to all questions. Rooms will be available by 4:00pm and check out at 11:00am daily for all.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

ADVANCE REGISTRATION is essential to the smooth operation of the convention. Registration is:

- \$25 (received on or before December 31, 2012)
- \$40 (received after December 31, 2012)

MEALS

Meal(s) that are purchased are not refundable; there will be a bulletin board near the registration area for you to place a "for sale" notice if you wish to resell them. A limited number will be available for purchase at convention.

TENTATIVE CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

MEALS ON YOUR OWN-ALL

- 8:30am-2:30pm Food Safety-"Serv Safe" (see newsletter article for details - PA Showmen or fairs who are members of PA Showmen [1 person per fair] may register; others to be considered after deadline if space available)
- 11:00am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open
- 12:30pm-4:30pm Seminar - "MarTech Blue Ribbon Training"
- 1:30pm-3:00pm Seminar - "Keeping Your Fair History for Future Generations"
- 2:00pm-3:00pm Table Topics 2, 3
- 2:00pm-4:00pm Seminar - "Trucking Regulations Update"
- 3:15pm-4:45pm Seminar - "Trends in Online Marketing"
- 3:15pm-4:15pm Table Topics 5, 6
- 4:00pm-8:00pm Enter Communication Exhibits
Trade Show Set-up
- 4:45pm PSSA Board Meeting
- 5:00pm PSACF Board & Reorg Meeting
- 6:30pm-10:00pm ENTERTAINMENT SHOWCASE

Thursday, January 24, 2013

MEALS ON YOUR OWN-BREAKFAST & LUNCH

- 8:00am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open
- 8:00am-9:00am Enter Communication Exhibits
- 8:00am-10:30am Trade Show Set-up
- 8:30am-9:00am First-Timers Session
- 9:00am-9:30am Opening Entertainment
- 9:30am-10:45am Opening Celebration
Keynote Speaker - Jon Dorenbos
- 10:30am-4:00pm Trade Show Open
Communication Exhibits Open
(Badge Required)
- 10:30am-4:00pm PA Dept. of Agriculture display, etc.
- 11:00am-12:00pm PA Harness Racing Commission Meeting -
Open to the public

- 1:00pm-2:30pm Seminar - "50 Ways To Improve Your Fair and our Bottom Line!"
- 1:00pm-2:30pm Seminar - "Social Networking 101"
- 1:00pm-3:00pm Ride Safety Session
- 1:00pm-3:15pm Spouse Program - "Bag & Basket" Bingo
- 1:15pm-2:15pm Table Topics 8, 11, 13
- 1:30pm-3:00pm Meeting - Sire, Quaker & USTA
- 3:00pm-4:30pm Seminar - "Hazardous Weather - Planning for Lightning Delays"
- 3:15pm-4:15pm Table Topics 3, 12, 15
- 4:00pm Associates Gathering
- 5:30pm PSACF & PSSA Board
Group Photos
- 5:45pm Hospitality Time & Cash Bar
- 6:15pm PSACF ANNUAL BANQUET
- 6:45pm Dinner (reserved seating-ticket required-\$31)

Friday, January 25, 2013

MEAL ON YOUR OWN-LUNCH

- 7:30am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open
- 7:30am COMMUNICATIONS BREAKFAST
meal (served) 7:30am; awards 8:15am-9:00am
(ticket required-\$17)
- 9:15am-11:00am Memorial Service /
PSACF Annual Meeting
- 10:30am-4:00pm Trade Show Open
Communication Exhibits Open
(Badge Required)
- 10:30am-4:00pm PA Dept. of Agriculture display, etc.
- 2:00pm-3:30pm Seminar - "Special Baking Contests"
- 2:00pm-3:30pm Spouse Program - "Food Carving"
- 2:15pm-3:15pm Table Topics 1, 7, 14
- 2:15pm-4:00pm Seminar - "501(C)(3) for Fairs"
- 3:30pm-4:30pm Table Topics 4, 9, 16
- 6:15pm Hospitality Time & Cash Bar
- 6:45pm PA SHOWMEN ANNUAL BANQUET
(reserved seating-ticket required-\$32)

Saturday, January 26, 2013

- 7:30am-5:00pm Registration Desk Open
- 7:00am-8:30am BREAKFAST (buffet)
(ticket required-\$15)
- 8:45am-10:15am Seminar - "Revised ADA Regulations"
- 9:00am-10:00am Table Topics 10, 12, 13
- 9:00am-Noon Trade Show Open
Communication Exhibits Open
(Badge Required)
- 9:30am-11:00am Seminar - "Food Safety Updates"
- 9:30am-10:45am Spouse Program - "Antique Appraisal"
- 10:30am-11:30am Table Topics 5, 8, 9
- 11:30am-12:30pm PSSA Annual Meeting
- Noon-12:30pm Communication Exhibits Released
- Noon BOX LUNCHEON
(ticket required-\$16)
- [followed by drawings at 12:30pm] Auction Drawings - Winner must be present
- 3:00pm-4:30pm Game Olympics
- 4:45pm Mass
- 6:00pm QUEEN CORONATION BANQUET
(reserved seating-ticket required-\$31)

Sunday, January 27, 2013

- 8:00am PSACF Exec. / Conv. Breakfast

See "Convention" - next page

TABLE TOPICS

1. Judges Fees
2. Do's and Don'ts of Judging
3. "New" Small Games of Chance Requirements
4. On the Road to Fairs - Can They Find You?
5. The How To of Facebook & Twitter
6. Bylaws, Conflicts of Interest, etc.
7. Animal Health Issues
8. Getting Around the Fair..Moving People, etc.
9. Dealing With Passes
10. Surprises During the Fair
11. Do You Vet Check?
12. Know Your Vendors
13. Is Your Fair Worth the Value?
14. Officers Only Session
15. Federal Health Care Law
16. Status of H2B and J1 Workers

SEMINARS

MarTech Blue Ribbon Training

The areas to be covered by Bruce Koppenhaver, MarTech user for many years, are: Installation, System Requirements, Coding Systems; Year End Processing; Entering Data (Master Fair Information, Preferences, Department Description, Section Description, Fairbook File, [Market Book File](#), Exhibitor File); Pre-Fair Reporting (Exhibitor/Entries, Exhibitor Lists, Entry Count Reports, Fee Reports, Entry Tags, Livestock Programs, [Market Animal Weigh-in Worksheet](#), Judging Sheets); Fair Time ([Mark Market Entries Query](#), Enter All Judging Results, Proof Judging Results, Publicity Reports, Exhibitor Checks); After-Fair Reporting (Check Register Report, Index of Exhibitors, Departmental Premium Report, Premiums Offered/Paid); PA Fair Reimbursement Application; Data Backup; Deadline and Types of Forms Needed. Those underlined will be reviewed based on demand along with online entries, scanning, the use of tablet computers and others.

Keeping Your Fair History for Future Generations

Does your Fair have an anniversary coming up soon? Or in the back of your head, do you keep wondering what you should be keeping to preserve the history of your event? This seminar will help you organize your "stuff" and give you ideas on how to present your history. Beverly Gruber has been involved in agriculture her entire life and active in fairs since her 4-H days. Currently she and her staff manage five associations and work with two local fairs, the largest being Allentown, as well as the Pennsylvania Farm Show, where she serves as Farm Products Director. Her job at both the Allentown Fair and the Schnecksville Community Fair is to coordinate all the competitive exhibits.

Trucking Regulations Update

Dean Riland of PMTA, located in Camp Hill, Pa. will give the latest updates for the industry.

Trends in Online Marketing

The web changes so fast that keeping up with the latest and greatest online trends can seem like a full-time job. But since none of us have that kind of time, join Saffire Events for a fast-paced session to learn what you need to know to stay head of the curve. They will discuss fair websites, social networking, ecommerce, mobile, email marketing and other must-haves that will help you increase revenue for your event.

Keynote Speaker, Jon Dorenbos

Current Philadelphia Eagles Long Snapper and NFL Pro Bowler Jon Dorenbos will address that we all have hurdles in life, (and at our Fairs) you will be amazed to hear Jon's story as how he has overcome some very difficult situations and turned them into positives. His words will be an inspiration to all of us both on and off the fairgrounds.

50 Ways To Improve Your Fair and Your Bottom Line!

These 50 ideas will help you make your Fair fresh, and your Fairgrounds prosper. Some ideas are very simple and easy to implement, some will take time and money. And you will enjoy a photo trip to several fairs, including the

San Diego County Fair. Chana Mannen is the retired Deputy General Manager of the Del Mar Fairgrounds in San Diego, CA. She was responsible for the production of the annual San Diego County Fair. She is now the executive director of the Don Diego Scholarship Foundation, a nonprofit associated with the Del Mar Fairgrounds.

Social Networking 101

Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, YouTube, Instagram: the list goes on and on and it seems like a new social media outlet is popping up every day! But let's be clear: social media and social networking are not the same thing. Social media is an outlet for you to reach customers, but the network you create through interaction is your social network, and that needs to be your focus. Join Saffire Events as they help you decipher the social networking puzzle and what it can do for your event by discussing effective hashtags, understanding the Facebook timeline and how to successfully incorporate social media into your current marketing mix.

Hazardous Weather – Planning for Lightning Delays

The focus specifically will be on the dangers involved with lightning. The process of developing plans for lightning delays involves following guidelines in a toolkit which can be utilized by the site as a template for creating their plan. Attendees will be taken step-by-step through the toolkit and address the hazards and challenges that thunderstorms bring to outdoor venues. The toolkit is intended to increase the awareness of lightning hazards and enhance relationships with fair managers and the National Weather Service. This seminar will be presented by Charlie Woodrum, a Meteorologist with the National Weather Service (NWS) in Pittsburgh PA, and a member of the National Lightning Safety Team.

Special Baking Contests

Karen Dobson and Kevin Bieber will be updating everyone who runs any of the Special Contests at your fairs. Karen and Kevin will also review the changes from the Hershey's Contest to the PA Preferred Contest. This is also the perfect time to come and ask questions regarding any of those contests.

501(C)(3) for Fairs

Leon Butler, a CPA and senior partner with the firm of Butler, Gingerich & Co., and the treasurer of the York County Agricultural Society (the York Fair) will cover the requirements for preparing an application for IRS recognition as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable organization. Discussion will include internal structural requirements such as bylaws, charitable purposes and legal formation necessary prior to actually filing the application. General guidelines to assure a proper and complete form 1023 will be covered. The balance of the session will cover the annual form 990 filings including individual and organization responsibilities, filing requirements, board member independence and oversight. Recent changes to the form 990 and new required filings will also be discussed.

Revised ADA Regulations

Sally Conway the Deputy Chief, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice who will present to us an overview of the Revised ADA Regulations. This interactive session will address specific provisions in the recently revised Americans with Disabilities Act regulations that apply to the conference participants involved in the operation and management of state and county fairs. Topics will include information on compliance dates and safe harbor, the use of wheelchairs and other power-driven mobility devices, service animals, and ticket sales, as well as a brief overview of some of the changes in the ADA Standards for Accessible design.

Food Safety Updates

The Food Safety updates will be presented by The PA Department of Agriculture.

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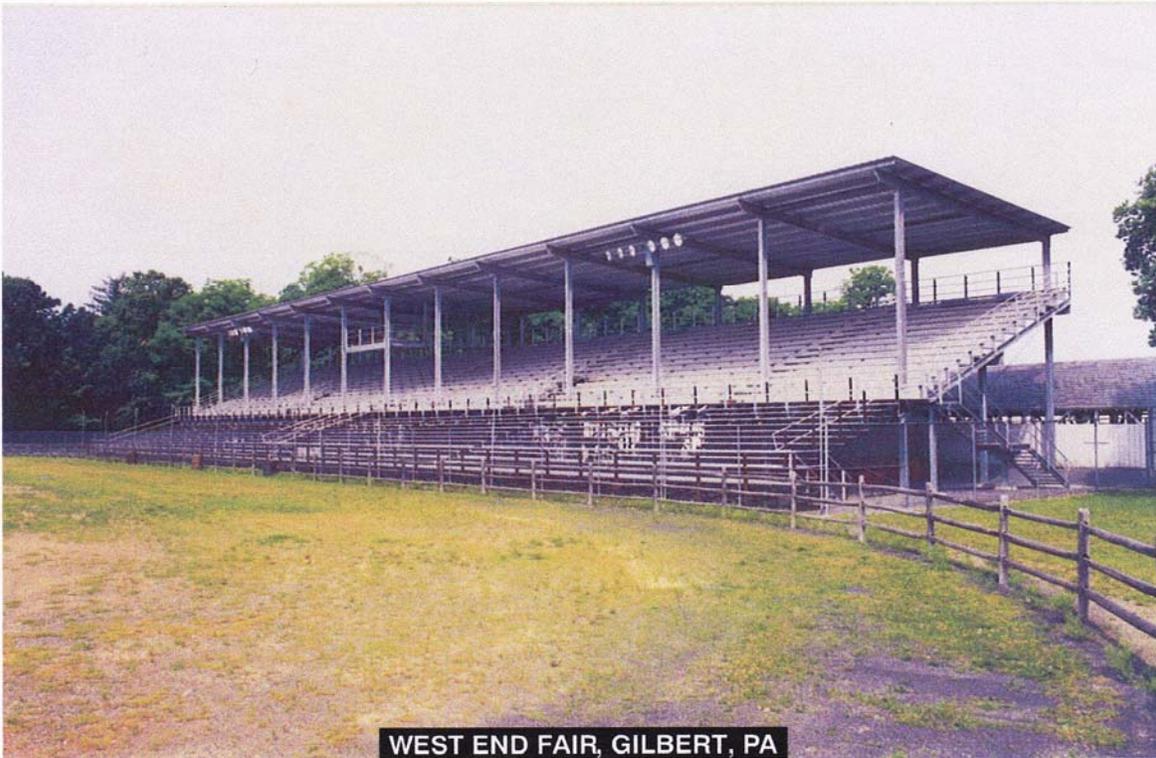
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FULL SLATE OF SEMINARS SCHEDULED FOR CONVENTION

- Kevin D. Bieber

The 2013 PSACF / PSSA convention in Hershey will have a full field of various seminars for you to choose from and hopefully bring back ideas and suggestions to your fair. The seminar committee worked hard to prepare a diverse selection of seminars that would help everyone no matter if your fair is of the larger size, medium or small category. The seminars will start off on Wednesday January 23rd with a course on Instant Technology. As we all know, Social Media has become a main form of communication, but what is most important is that we have to understand how to use it properly.

That afternoon will also feature a seminar by the PA DOT to keep the truckers up to date of all the rules and regulations that effect their industry. Our own Beverly Gruber will be presenting a seminar also on "Keeping Your Fair History for Future Generations." You can only imagine that she will put together a very interesting and informative seminar on fair history. As for Thursday, you will want to make sure you get to the opening ceremony to hear current Philadelphia Eagles long snapper Jon Dorenbos. Jon has faced adversity in his childhood and I can only imagine the inspirational speech he will give to all of us. Rumor has it that he may be bringing some Philadelphia Eagles merchandise to auction off and contribute back to the PSACF.

Thursday also brings us Chana Mannen former Deputy General manager of the Del Mar Fairgrounds in San Diego California. Chana will bring to us a seminar on "50 Ways To Improve Your Fair and Your Bottom Line." I am sure we

all want to hear her ideas. That day will wrap up with Charlie Woodrum speaking to us about preparing for a weather situation. Charlie is a Meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Pittsburgh.

Friday will again bring us an updated version of the Baking Contests held at your fair. Karen and Kevin will share rule and regulation updates, and answer questions. Karen will also spend some time talking about PA Preferred in regards to the Chocolate Contests. How we all love to talk about and worry about the IRS, Leon Butler of the York Fair is going to spend some time reviewing what we need to be aware of when it comes to 501C(3) organizations as well as the 990 tax forms. Due to some recent changes in the filings of 990 forms, I highly recommend you send a representative to this seminar.

As we wrap up convention on Saturday, we have invited Sally Conway from Washington DC to come back since she was not able to make it last year due to some weather related travel difficulties. Sally will update us on the "Revised ADA" laws that we need to be aware. Also that morning we will hear from someone from the Dept. of Ag to update us on Food Safety Regulations.

As you can see, we have a full slate of seminars scheduled for convention. This is only part of what you will find in Hershey. There is only one thing missing, that is you !!!!! Please plan to attend convention in January and take part in all these informative seminars as well as enjoying some fun and relaxation after a busy fair season. See you in Hershey !!!!!

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ATTEND YOUR ZONE MEETING THIS FALL

MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE:

- Election of PSACF Directors (all zones - 6 per zone)
- Election of Fair Queen Program Directors (zone 2 & 4 - 1 per zone)
- Recognition of Zone and Jr. Zone Person
- Distribution of convention material and confirm next year's fair dates

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS REPORT

-Galla Higinbotham



Happy Fall everyone! Associate members should be getting their letter along with an application to participate in the Wednesday evening talent showcase at the 2013 Hershey PSACF/PSSA Convention.

In addition to the Wednesday showcase for stage show talent,

this year's convention will also feature an additional opportunity for strolling acts and other acts that do not normally perform on a stage to showcase. If you are one, look in your packet for a second application to submit yourself. Street performer and/or strolling acts will be selected to entertain and mingle with the crowds of people congregated outside the Chocolate Ballroom prior to the Thursday and Friday night banquets. Acts for both showcases can apply every three years. I strongly urge those of you who qualify, to submit an application. You will be performing for nearly 100 fairs and buyers from all over Pennsylvania (Maryland and New Jersey too) who will be looking for acts that will make their fair special.

Acts for both showcases can apply every three years. I strongly urge those of you who qualify, to submit an application. You will be performing for nearly 100 fairs and buyers from all over Pennsylvania (Maryland and New Jersey too) who will be looking for acts that will make their fair special.

Showcase applications are due on October 15th. Remember to include a DVD in your packet of materials. **Acts submitted without a DVD will not be considered.** And do make sure the DVD

plays in a player other than your computer!

The Wednesday night showcase committee is looking for diversity: musical groups, bands and singers, as well as juggling and magic/illusion and novelty stage acts – for all sizes of venues. And now there are opportunities for street performers and strolling acts as well.

Remember you must be a paid up member of the state association at the time you submit your application as well as at the time of the convention - January 2013.

Those who are having a booth in the tradeshow, please send in your deposit by the deadline. Due to some no-shows in the past, people will not be listed in the convention or directory books until that deposit is received.

The fair industry is of paramount importance for many reasons and I hope everyone is having a good year. Lots of work and planning goes into making fairs happen throughout the state. I look forward to seeing everyone at Hershey.

If you have any questions, email me at dangalla@uplink.net or go to our website at www.gallaanddan.com.

Until then, happy travels!

Galla

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2013 SPOUSE PROGRAMS



The activities at the 2013 PSACF/PSSA Convention will feature:

- A "Ticket Auction" in the Chocolate Ballroom (prizes to be awarded on Saturday at 12:30PM).
- Wednesday – shopping on your own at the many outlets and malls in the Hershey area.
- Thursday afternoon, the Showmen's Association and the Fair's Association will conduct a "Bag and Basket" Bingo (Vera Bradley bags and American Tradition baskets) from 1:00PM - 3:15PM. Purchase cards at the door.
- Friday afternoon, "Food Carving" by Guido Michael from Fruitopia Artistry from 2:00PM - 3:30PM.
- Saturday morning, "Antique Appraisal" from 9:30AM - 10:45AM. Bring your antiques to share with others and have them appraised.

All fairs and showmen are requested to donate one (1) or two (2) gifts for use in the above activities. Your support is truly needed and will be greatly appreciated.

2013 PA STATE FAIR QUEEN CONTEST - TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Thursday, January 24, 2013

10:30am – 1:00pm	Queen Program - 2013 Contest Packet Distribution
12:00pm – 4:00pm	Raffle Table Open to benefit Queen Program
3:00pm – 3:30pm	Queen Contestant Orientation Check-in
3:30pm – 4:15pm	Queen Contestant Orientation
6:00pm	Line Up for Evening Gown Competition
6:15pm	Evening Gown and Introduction Competition
6:45pm	PSACF Annual Banquet
After Banquet Entertainment	Queen Contestants Group Photo

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2013

7:00am – 12:00pm	Interviews - Morning Session
10:00am – 4:00pm	Raffle Table Open to benefit Queen Program
11:00am – 12:00pm	Seminar – Denise Yoho
11:00am – 1:00pm	Queen Program - 2013 Contest Packet Distribution
1:00pm – 5:00pm	Interviews - Afternoon Session
2:15pm – 3:15pm	Seminar – Denise Yoho
3:30pm – 4:30pm	Queen Coordinators' "Idea Exchange"
5:30pm – 6:15pm	Judges Reception with Contestants
7:00pm – 9:00pm	Queen Drew An Baker's Pizza Party & Gift Exchange with Contestants

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2013

7:30am – 12:00pm	Speech Competition – Morning Session
9:00am – 12:00pm	Queen Program - 2013 Contest Packet Distribution
9:00am – 12:45pm	Raffle Table Open to benefit Queen Program
9:00am – 10:30am	Seminar – "PA Fair Queen Program Overview"
9:00am – 1:45pm	Hair Styling Appointments
10:45am – 11:45am	Former PA Fair Queen Panel – "Living the PA Fair Queen Experience!"
12:30pm	Drawing for Raffle Table items
1:15pm – 3:00pm	Speech Competition – Afternoon Session
4:30pm	Rehearsal for Coronation (Contestants only)
6:00pm	Coronation Banquet (Reserved Seating-Ticket Required-\$31)
7:15pm	Line Up for Coronation
7:30 – 8:45pm	Coronation Ceremony
9:00pm	Media Photos

Visit the PA State Fair Queen Program's Basket Auction and Raffle Table in the Great Lobby. 50/50 raffle tickets will also be sold in the Chocolate Ballroom Lobby Wed., Thurs. & Sat. evenings, and Fri. evening in the Fireplace Lobby.

The Secretary's Notepad

- Bruce Koppenhaver, CFE



PA Preferred Contests & Angel Food Cake Contest

Checks for PA Preferred Contests and/or Angel Food Cake Contest were mailed in August. Please cash this check as soon as received. Also, coordinate between the contest coordinator(s) and fair that the check was received for the contest(s) and cashed.

Note that you are obligated to pay full premium for each placement regardless of the state budget and any decision your fair makes to pay less than full premium. In addition, any unpaid premium due to the lack of entries, etc. are to be returned to PSACF. Failure to do so will result in next year's check being reduced by that amount. Your post contest report will be used to identify unpaid premium. Any questions are to be directed to the appropriate state baking contest coordinator. Remember to submit your Contest Summary information to the appropriate person by the deadline specified; otherwise, your fair will be ineligible to participate in 2013.

Showcase

Associate members eligible to showcase/strolling were mailed applications in early September. To be considered for the showcase/strolling, the appropriate application must be postmarked by October 15th to the showcase chairperson. Note: Dues must be paid in the year you receive the application, and if selected, in the year you showcase/stroll.

Fair Person of the Year

A Fair Person of the Year application is available in the "Fairs Only" section of the association website. Completed applications must be postmarked no later than November 1st.

Communications Competition

A Communications Competition application is available in the "Fairs Only" section of the association website and must be postmarked no later than November 1st.

Future Association Mailings

Please refer to the "Dates to Remember" on the cover concerning future mailings for the

remainder of the year. These mailings will be important to both fairs and associate members as we approach the 2013 convention and the next fair season.

Fair Dates for 2013

I received some fairs 2013 dates previously; however, I will be confirming those dates at the zone meetings or through personal contact. Many requests are received before the end of the year for next year's dates, and those dates will be posted on the association web site by mid-November. Please assist me in compiling this information.

Reimbursement Applications

Read the instructions, complete the 2012 Reimbursement Application using the current version of the MarTech Blue Ribbon software or the application through the association/PDA website. The association/PDA website application had some changes made for this year; however, time did not permit those same changes to be made to the MarTech version. Print 3 copies of the completed application, obtain original signatures on all copies, and send to PDA Fair Fund Office along with the required supporting documentation (i.e. Premium Book, addendums, etc.). Also, an electronic copy is to be emailed or placed on a CD and mailed with the paperwork. Deadline is November 15th.

Msgr. John W. Mignot Scholarship Fund

Six scholarship selections have been made and the selected applicants/fairs will be notified by the committee chairperson. Those not selected will be notified by the committee chairperson or the zone chairperson.

County Fairs Appropriation Rises to \$2M

The final budget passed by the legislator and signed by the governor for fiscal year 2012-2013, lists the County Fairs appropriation at \$2M. That's up from \$874,000 (\$981,000). It is anticipated that the percentage of your request this year will double as compared to last year. The funds are from the Race Horse Development Fund, and we want to thank the Legislature and Horsemen's Associations for that funding.

See "Notepad" - next page

From "Notepad" – previous page

Economic Impact Study

The economic impact study of fairs by Shepstone Management Company, on behalf of the association, is nearing completion; however, a number of fairs have yet to respond. If you have not done so, complete the survey within the next 30 days. Our expectation is to receive a 100% response. If you need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Association Website

The association website has been around since 2003, and it's time to transition to a "new" and "improved" site. We have partnered with Saffire

Events and will begin with the convention portion of the site. That portion is expected to be in place within the next 45 days and for the near-term cause no changes as we redirect from the "old" to the "new."

MarTech Blue Ribbon Software Training

It is noted in the tentative convention schedule the topics to be discussed/reviewed along with the day/times. **To make plans for room size, setup, printed materials, etc., drop me a note by email, mail or phone indicating the name of the fair and potential names of those attending no later than December 15th.**

From "New Associates" – page 9

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Info: Security and Event Safety Planning Services, includes event public safety management.

[IAFE Convention Registration is Now Open!](#)

"Find New Ways" at YOUR fair with the IAFE annual convention!

How is your fair "Finding New Ways?" We'll be asking that question each month on the IAFE's Facebook Forum pages. Each month a different topic will be explored and all comments will be compiled as a resource for our members as well as to generate discussion topics for the 2012 Convention.

This year's Convention features a FULL DAY of educational workshop sessions on opening day, Sunday, in addition to Institute of Fair Management credit courses. Make your plans to arrive in Las Vegas on Saturday so that you can take full advantage of all sessions!

The Monday general session has moved to the morning and will feature entertainment and presentation of individual awards (Rising Star, Heritage, State/Provincial Executive of the Year) and featuring the Hall of Fame Award.

Round table topic discussion – a Convention favorite – will be included Monday through Wednesday along with educational workshops from peer leaders and professionals. Stay tuned for complete Convention program details later this fall.

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Boots Hetherington, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

My grandfather, a lifetime farmer, said many times, “A hot and dry summer will scare you, but a cold and wet summer will break you.” The same holds true for the fairs.

This summer may have been a little hotter than 2011, but the big difference was our rainy days as opposed to rainy weeks or months. As a result, the 2012 season has been much more profitable for many fairs. Also good news is Governor Tom Corbett’s 2012-13 state budget, which increased funding to fairs and county FFA and 4-H organizations.

The Department of Agriculture has revised the reimbursement applications to make them easier to understand and fill out. By reducing errors in the filing process, we can get the applications processed and returned to the fairs more quickly. If you have any other suggestions to make the process less complicated or faster, please pass on your ideas.

As we reviewed premium books and lists over these last two fair seasons, we noted some situations that need to be addressed. Several fairs included a disclaimer in their premium books that they might have to adjust premiums because of funding and revenue shortfalls. The Pennsylvania Agricultural Fair Act specifically requires a published premium book or premium list for the fair that identifies the “amounts of premiums offered for each class.” The premium book or premium list should specify the exact dollar amount that will be awarded for each finishing place in each class. I understand that fairs were trying to avoid financial difficulties, but adjusting premium awards after the book or list was published and before exhibitors are paid could make your fair ineligible for reimbursement. A few fairs decided not to pay premium awards when three or fewer exhibitors entered a particular class. They reasoned that with too few exhibitors there was no actual competition, and this was a way to preserve premium dollars and reduce fair expenses. Nothing in the Fair Act or the Department’s regulations specifically states that a fair can’t enact this policy, but I will caution

that if your fair is trying to encourage exhibitor participation and/or trying to create interest in new departments, this policy may discourage your exhibitors from coming back.

The Fair Fun and Safety Poster Contest theme for this year is food safety, which prompted many creative posters. Several fairs reached out to local school district art departments and engaged students – a great way to encourage young people to exhibit at your fair and visit to see their poster. The contest features three age categories from eight to eighteen. Local fair winners in each age group can compete at the Farm Show in state wide competition.

Be careful when shipping posters to Harrisburg for the Farm Show. Some have been damaged. Feel free to bring posters to your zone meeting and I’ll take them to the Farm Show. If you have questions on shipping posters, contact Michelle Worden at 717.787.6298 or mworden@pa.gov.

I commend all the PDA Veterinarians, fair livestock superintendents, PSU Extension Educators, 4-H Adult Leaders, FFA Advisors and all fair exhibitors. Influenza was a concern again this summer, but vigilant use of hand washing and sanitizing stations coupled with posters reminding our fair participants to play it safe and wash your hands resulted in only a few reported cases of influenza. Proper sanitation in conjunction with veterinary checks and on-fair inspections is still our best defense to avoid disease outbreaks. As I toured fairs, I was pleased to see everyone taking a serious role in this effort.

Another animal issue concerns exotic animals for entertainment – a popular fair attraction. When booking animal acts, be sure the animals have proper health certificates. You can find those requirements by visiting www.agriculture.state.pa.us and searching “health requirements.” Also, inquire about import requirements. Animals being used for entertainment purposes fall in the “transitional” category.

See “Boots” - next page

From "Boots" - previous page

The Outstanding Fair Ambassador award was once again a very popular program. It is a great way to publically acknowledge the hard workers who have dedicated themselves to their fair's success. Secretary Greig and I both enjoy the opportunity to honor fair volunteers. With your support, our fairs remain a showcase for Pennsylvania agriculture and a source of pride for your communities. Keep up the good work.

Boots



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ATTENTION FOOD HANDLERS!

PSSA is hosting an educational seminar in conjunction with our annual Hershey Convention. Continuing Education "grant" monies available through our Scholarship Fund (no requests for grants were received for 2012) will help to fund the cost (up to \$50) per individual who registers by the deadline up to the first 70 registrants. Your Board of Directors agreed that this program was a great way to have the continuing education scholarship funds reach the greatest number of members!

A self-study SERV SAFE program offered by Maxine Thompson of State College has been chosen as the course that makes the most sense for our group. Study materials will be mailed directly to you and you will be able to study at your own pace and on your own schedule. A wrap-up session of materials review, current updates and questions and answers will be given at Hershey on Wednesday, January 23, 2013, and testing for your license will take place on site. The time allotted for the session is 6 hours including a break for lunch on your own at the Lodge.

Cost to PSSA members is \$90.00 (regular fee of \$140 less a \$50 credit through the Scholarship Fund.)

Class size is limited to 70 persons.

Registration deadline is November 1, 2012. (Registrations received after the deadline will be held on a waiting list pending any cancellations.)

SERV SAFE EDUCATION/REGISTRATION

Sponsored by PSSA

COURSE DATE: Wednesday, January 23, 2013 (approximately 6 hours)
COURSE TIME: 8:30 am to 2:30 pm (includes break for lunch)
LOCATION: Hershey Lodge, Chocolate Avenue, Hershey, PA
COST: \$90.00
PAYABLE TO: PSSA Scholarship Account

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

MAIL REGISTRATION TO: PSSA Treasurer
Donna M. Kramer
318 Vinemont Road
Reinholds, PA 17569

Questions...call Donna at (610) 678-7231

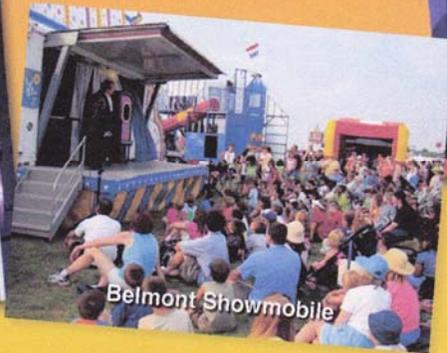
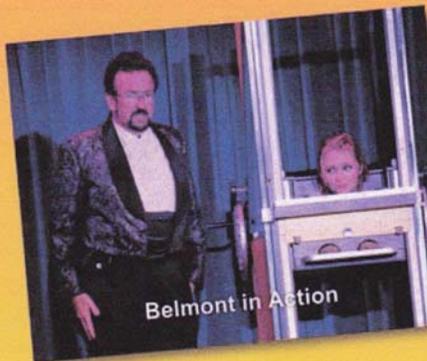
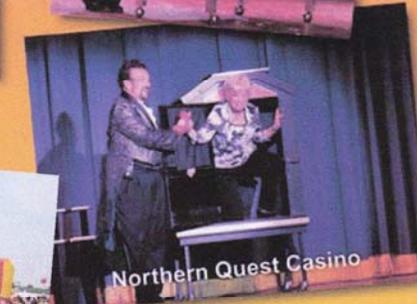
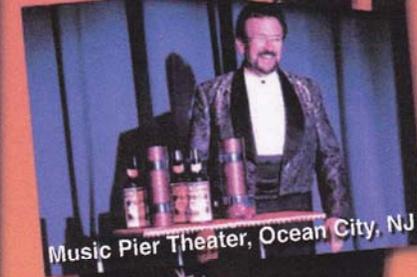
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PENNSYLVANIA STATE FAIR QUEEN

- Drew An Brubaker



Dear Fair Friends,

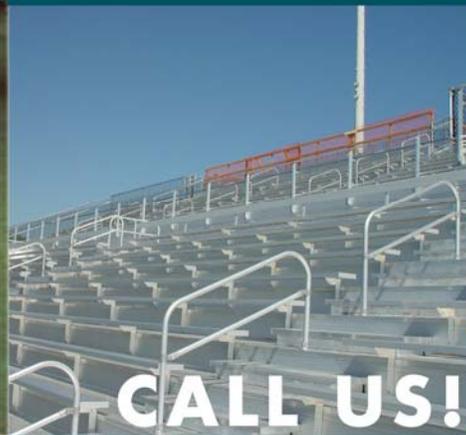
Over the past few weeks, I have explained the purpose of Pennsylvania fairs as well as the role of a state fair queen countless times every day. No, these questions have not arisen solely from fair attendees during appearances or visitors during Ag Progress Days. In fact, the majority of these conversations have occurred with my fellow classmates at Eastern University. Throughout orientation and the first few days of classes, I constantly explained, urged, and emphasized the importance of supporting Pennsylvania fairs to my classmates, professors, and faculty. The opportunity opened my eyes to the “unfair” per say and instilled in me a desire to extend the various beauties and benefits of the fair to those that remain in unfortunate oblivion. If your fair is still approaching, you may just be visited by the entire class of 2016 from Eastern University. I have insisted on bringing many new friends home with me

in September to attend my local fair, and I have also urged them to visit all your upcoming fairs. This experience reminded me that those closest to us may not always have the exposure we do so do NOT hesitate to invite your friends, family, and neighbors to your fair. You are not being pushy or overbearing; you are being nice. So invite!

As the changing leaves usher in a new season once again, fair time reaches its peak of friends, family, food, and fun. Over the past few months, I have immensely enjoyed my travels to different fairs sharing in diverse traditions of excellence. From tractor pulls to corsages, from baby contests to bike giveaways, I have seen, touched, experienced, and lived many different fairs. I have marveled at the talent, beauty and excellence exhibited in Fair Queen contests across the state; I was astonished at the vast similarities connecting fairs geographically distant. I mostly recently spent three days in Rocky Springs attending Ag Progress Days and manning a PSACF/Fair Queen Program Booth. I will never tire of watching a young girl’s face light up when her eyes reach my tiara, reminding her that dreams do come true, and encouraging young and old to attend county fairs. One Ag Progress Days attendee inquired, “What is a fair?” After recovering from my temporary shock, I quickly informed her about the many benefits fairs had to offer, showed her a brochure detailing local fairs, and handed her pamphlet with winning recipes from Farm Show. With a wide smile, she walked away excited to attend her local fair, leaving me with a broader perspective. It is so easy for me to assume everyone knows the beauty of our Pennsylvania fairs when immersed in the fair culture, but that is simply not the case. I find it absolutely essential to share the joy I have found in county fairs with those who have not had the vast advantage I have. With this in mind, I urge you to continue to attend fairs as the season continues and to bring along those that lack the experience. You will be consequently improving your local community and the culture of Pennsylvania.

As the leaves fall, I will continue to make my last few fair appearances representing the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs. Although the welcome snow of winter break seems distant to the scrambling college student, Convention steadily approaches. My reluctance to acknowledge such a melancholy transition is only overcome by my vast excitement for another fair queen to experience such a wonderful program. I can honestly reflect on the past months as PA State Fair Queen with a simple sense of awe for how much the program has shaped me, instilled confidence in me, equipped me for the infamous “real world”, and molded me into a better person. My gratitude has not wavered nor diminished since the day Claire set the dazzling tiara upon my head. Although the winter winds swiftly approach, I still encourage you to enjoy the last fairs of the summer as I cherish my last few appearances and the crowning of my next West Lampeter Community Fair Queen in late September. Words remain insufficient to capture my intense gratitude for this opportunity, my extreme excitement for my last few fair appearances, and my pronounced growth as a direct result of the PSACF. I cannot wait to see you at the last beautiful fairs of the summer, and I anticipate our reunion at Convention.

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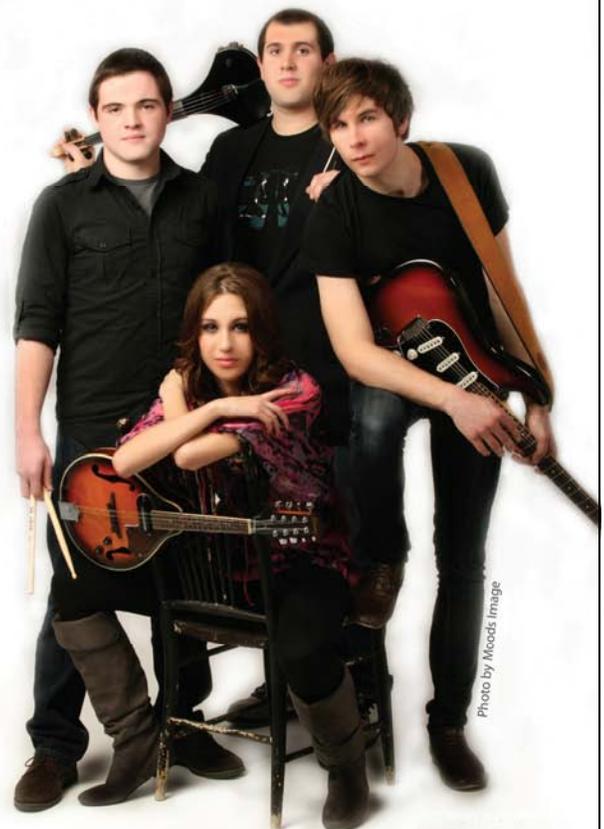


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