



Fair Family

NEWS

Volume 15, Issue 6

ONE CREATIVE FAMILY

November 2007

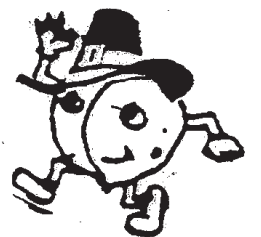
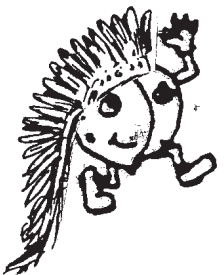
Family Album



2007 photo by sax

The OCF Board members for 2007-08 are (top row, from the left): Carl Taylor, Jack Makarchek, Lawrence Taylor, Diane Albino, Katie Cousins, Danya Ariel, Bear Wilner-Nugent, Deane Morrow, Palmer Parker; (bottom row) Paxton Hoag, Joseph Newton, Lara Howe.

Congratulations to the New Board



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442 Lawrence Street
Eugene, OR 97401

What's Inside

Village Seeks Feast	p2
Bless Our Underwriters.....	p3
What Goes Around	p4
Grateful for What We Recieve.....	p5
Thanks to Our Good Roots	p6-9
Talkin' Turkey	p10-11
The Gift of Peach	p12



Fair Family Calendar

November

- 21 Craft Committee Meeting, 6:00, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene
- 29 Elders Committee Meeting, 6:00, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene

December

- 2 Wreath making party, 11am – 3 pm, Alice's Wonderland, OCF site
- 3 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Community Room, 4th and High, Eugene
- 3 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE

January 2008

- 7 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Community Room, 4th and High, Eugene
- 7 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 28 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, Location TBA, approve 2008 budgets
- 29 Meeting to discuss upland kitchen, 6 pm, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene

July

- 11, 12, 13 The Peach will be great in 2008 (and 1/20/09 will be 193 days away)

Happy Birthday to Our Fair Family Saggitarians

Abe Sky	Pre-Post Security	
Amanda Finegold	Inventory/Crafter	
Anne Tillinghast	Lot Crew	
Audra Lathon	Lot Crew	
Barry Sullivan	White Bird	
Bo Adan	Childcare	
Brooke Thompson	Registration	
Carole DeMar	Sign Painting	
Clinton Thompson	Water Crew	
Crystal Stroud	Pre-Post Security	
Dan Stephens	Lot Crew	
Daniel Betty	Recycling	
David Gizara	White Bird	
Irene Eastman	Recycling	
Isabel Hochberg	Crafter	
James Brown	Admissions	
Jason Cagle	Recycling	
Jeff Allen	Crafter	
Jenny Newtson	Media Relations	
Kathleen Cremonsi	Crafter	
Laura Stuart	Spoken Word	
Marina Soto	Traffic	
Michael Browning	Lot Crew	
Michael Rountree	Fire	
Pojken Danielson	Lot Crew	
Randy Turner	Fair Central	
Rick Overman	Registration	
Rob Endleman	Lot Crew	
Rob Stein	Pre-Post Security	
Robert Painter	Recycling	
Sam Johnson	Registration	
Savoy Basurto	Crafter	
Tom Henegan	Fire	
Wallace Jones	Recycling	



Keep In Touch

MAIL

Fair Family NEWS

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www.oregoncountryfair.org
www.oregoncountryfair.net

Holy Folder!

The Fair Family news staff invites you to join us at our monthly mailing parties. We need a few people who can work with us folding the newsletter to prepare it for bulk mailing. Please contact norma at the office (343-4298, office@oregoncountryfair.org) to find out when our next mailing party will take place. (They're usually on the third Monday of the month at 6 pm at the OCF office.) We can't promise you a pass, but we can promise you an FFN t-shirt, lots of laughter, cookies and invites to our wild holiday and birthday parties.



Wreath-Making Party

Bring your creativity and Solstice spirit to a wreath-making party at Alice's Wonderland at the OCF site on Sunday, Dec. 2, from 11 am to 3 pm. Supplies (greens, ribbons, wires) will be provided but if you want something special in your wreath, please bring it. And please bring refreshments to share with your fellow wreath fairies. Thank you to Kay Kinsley for organizing this!

If you can't make it on Dec. 2, Site Manager Steve Wisnovsky says he can leave everything set up through the next weekend. So come on out and wreath it up!

Community Village seeks Vegetarian Restaurant

Community Village is seeking a new Village Restaurant, preferably one which will have a full-service, organic, vegetarian menu. It must pass the Oregon Country Fair food jury process and meet the OCF Food Guidelines.

The restaurant will also join the Community Village and participate in creating this unique spirit of community at the heart of the Fair. To learn more about Community Village and download a new Village restaurant application, go to www.efn.org/~comvill.

Community Village Restaurant applications must be submitted by Nov. 30; the return address is listed on the application. The date is early so the restaurant selection committee may review all entries for approval by the Community Village at the January Village meeting.

For more information, contact Keith at quackerbacker1@msn.com or Janet at 344-3770.

Get on the FFN and/or Voting Membership List

Some of you may still not be on the lists of your choice, namely, the mailing list that will get you this newsletter every month and/or the membership list so you can vote!!!! So, check some of the following and mail to: OCF, Membership/Mailing, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene, 97401.

I am not receiving the Fair Family News. Please put me on the mailing list.

I do not know if I am on the membership list. Please verify my name and send me a membership application if I am NOT on the list.

I am with (Crew or Booth):

Crew/Booth #:
Crew Leader/Booth Rep:

Who can verify my participation:

My name:

Mailing address:

This is a new mailing address.



FFN Thanksgiving Stuffings

- Emily "Stovetop" Semple
- Mary "Wild Rice" Shuler
- Brad "Basic Bread" Lerch
- Dan "Cranberry Nut" Cohn
- norma "bulgur-raisin" sax
- Joseph "Pine Nut" Newton
- Cynde "Dried Fruit" Leathers
- Suzi "Apple-Pecan" Prozanski
- Michael "Cornbread" Ottenhausen
- Dominic "Herb Dressing" DeFazio

Recently Unclassified Material

We accept UnClassifieds up to 30 words for \$5 each, per issue. Send listing with \$5 to O.C.F.-F.F.N. 442 Lawrence St. Eugene, OR 97401. Questions, or for info. about display underwriting Email bradlerch@aol.com or call Brad @ 541-485-8265 (UnClassifieds not paid for by paste-up won't run)

A local Cottage Grove guy, Michael Cudak has the equipment and expertise to create high quality audio recordings. He is interested in working collaboratively with people who have heart songs they would like to see recorded and shared. Contact telluriscudak@hotmail.com

Looking for a healthy, happy, creative, active sober housemate to share secluded country place NW of Eugene. Get a bedroom, private bath, shared office, possible shop & garden. \$375+, call 606-6299.

Artists are invited to submit digital images of work related to the theme of track & field sports for a juried exhibit that coincides with the 2008 Olympic Team Trials at historic Hayward Field in Eugene: Track Town USA, May 30-July 11, 2008. Work in all media, especially photography, is sought. The postmark deadline is April 8, 2008. Application forms and prospectuses are available at the Art Center or at www.mkartcenter.org

Clinic coordinator. Full time in collective, non-profit social service agency. Three years experience in non-profit Admin. & mgmt. required. Salary \$1913 per month, plus health benefits. Pick up application & Job Description at White Bird Clinic, 341 E 12th Ave, Eugene, or access on-line app. @ whitbirdclinic.org

OCF Elders Info

OCF Elders Committee Web Page:

www.ocfelderscouncil.org/ocfecommittee/ocfec.html

Council of Elders Web Site:

<http://www.ocfelderscouncil.org/index.html>

To join the Elder listserve:

WonderfulOCFelders-owner@yahoo.com

eMail Elders: ocfelders@hotmail.com or PHONE OCF office.

OCF Fair Family Wiki:

<http://wholecountryfair.pbwiki.com/FrontPage>

OCF Fair Family Listserve:

org.opn.lists.ocfdiscuss@lists.opn.org



Craig Ralston

Licensed Tax Consultant

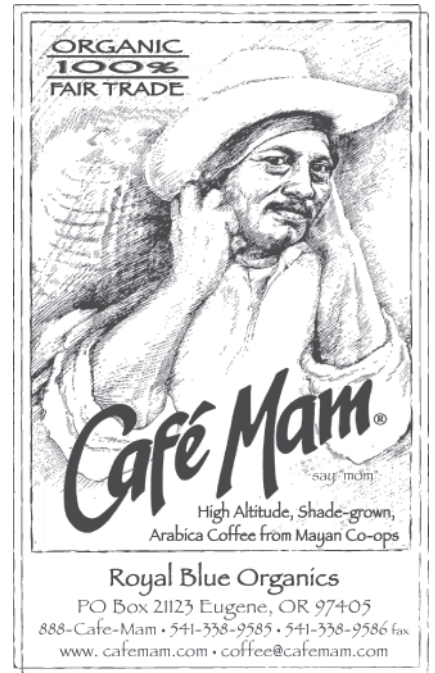
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msharpy@comcast.net

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www.jeyaerenon.com

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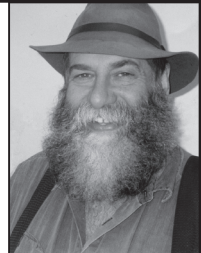
Morning Glory Cafe

Gail M. Brown
Owner

450 Willamette St. Eugene

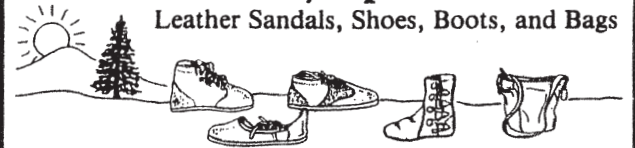
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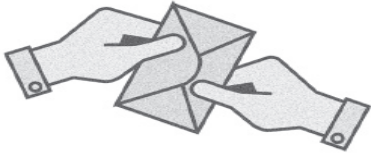
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11/24 THE KITCHEN SYNCOPATORS
11/29 APHRODESIA / ELEVEN EYES
11/30 ANTI-FLAG / DEAD TO ME
12/1 VAGABOND OPERA / HILLSTOMP
12/6 JEW MONGOUS
12/7 RADIO ACTIVE / MARV ELLIS
12/9 EYEDEA & ABILITIES
12/15 WOW HALL MEMBERSHIP PARTY
12/28 JERRY JOSEPH BAND
12/31 FAERIEWORLD'S NEW YEARS
MASQUERADE with WOODLAND

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Family Letters

This newsletter is directed to the Oregon Country Fair Family and all material is volunteered from the membership.

Opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Fair or the FFN.

Letters must be limited to 300 words. They will be edited for length and clarity. Please include name, Fair Affiliation and a method of communication (i.e. phone number or e-mail).

Creative and Caring Entrepreneurs

Dear Fair Family News,

The Daily Astorian printed the AP article about Willy Breninghouse and Lara Howe, Recycling Crew, featuring the OCF. I felt so proud! And I thought about all of the small businesses that have been spun off from the Fair's creativity. The Security people do other events, several food booths started at the Fair and branched out into restaurants, etc. I'm sure you know of more.

Anyhow, I'd like to see an article about how the Fair, through its support of its creative volunteers, has helped launch many small businesses that enrich the local economy.

I love the FFN. Keep it up!

Lois Morford
Elder / Wristbands

Dear Readers,

We at Fair Family News are also

proud of Willy and Lara and all they're doing to promote recycling. We also like the idea of highlighting Fair-related businesses. However, it's a difficult topic to get a handle on because there are so many creative people involved with the Fair. We're not so sure that the Fair actually helps launch businesses, so much as the Fair attracts a lot of positive, creative and caring entrepreneurs who work together every year to help launch the Fair!

We'd like to invite our Fair Family entrepreneurs to write us and tell us how the Fair has helped your business or nonprofit venture, or how your business reflects Fair values. Because of space considerations, please limit the articles to 500 words. Include your name and contact information (phone and e-mail). We'll publish what we receive in the Fair Family News.

Thank you!

Fair Family News Staff



Third-generation Patti's Pie's crew member Edwin Cruz Hall — son of April and Grady Hall — enjoyed his second Fair, and he's looking forward to many more.



Wristband Redux

Hi Y'all,

I just thought I'd send a brag-gart's report. I am still wearing my 2005, 2006 & 2007 Camping Pass "wristbands." I have not done anything to sustain their length of "life," other than to wear them. The 2005 band is frayed to a degree that makes me suspect it won't make it to the next Fair. It might not finish the year. I won't bother you with a report of its demise, but I'll show the others, and the 2005 (if it lasts), at the 08 event.

Bright Moments!!

Artis
Entertainment

Are We Really Cool, or Do We Just Think We Are?

Dear Fair Family News,

Sometimes I wonder what it means when we call ourselves alternative. Does it mean that we are better or just different? If we are different, how so?

Do we assume that because we use "alternative" social lubricants and buy sustainable goods we have instinctively downloaded positive social values and that we now treat all as equals? Do we agree on what equality looks like? Do we rest from looking within for the way we still

carry forth oppressive behavior? Are we done now?

I wonder, too, if using the term alternative serves us in a world where it might be more useful to focus on what we share with all inhabitants of the planet. Because once we've decided we or our way of life is superior, we have lost connection with other humans.

George Oshawa said arrogance is separation from the self. When we have the illusion that we are superior to others, we get stuck

in duality. Unless you were raised heavily Catholic, it usually seems better to be on top.

The Fair has necessarily limited its growth, but has done so in part through exclusivity. Is it possible to be exclusive and diverse and inclusive at the same time?

I don't have answers, just sprinkling some thoughts out there to see what grows.

Love and thanks,
Ruby the Resourceress
Bring Recycling Booth



The NIMBY Song

by Ruby the Resourceress



Once upon a time I had the American dream
A big expensive house full of beautiful things
Then I got sick and lost most of my stuff
What I had left didn't make me happy enough.
So I gave it away.
I gave all my stuff away
That stuff was the bars of a golden cage.

But I didn't lose my wealth
And I still got my beauty
And you gotta admit I got a nice patootie
I see beauty and riches in my spirit every day
And my gratitude for being alive will never go away.

Go away? Where's away?
There is no away
My ever-loving' soul is here to stay.

Sometimes I and other people feel sorry for me
'Cuz I'm poor and I have health problems mentally
What a fuckin' waste of time
Being poor is not a crime
And coming out about my mental state has set me free.

Don't look away
Away where?
I'm not going away
Take your pity to the potty 'cuz I'm here to play.

I'm Ruby the Resourceress; that's one of my names
Sometimes I get in trouble for speaking too plain
It's called Rubyoga—just stand on one leg
Open your mouth and insert other foot or peg
I'm not complaining, I'm just noticing
I like to speak out
For disenfranchised folks who don't have much clout
Pretending you don't see us doesn't work
anyway

4 And you know why — there is no away!
Throw me away? Throw you away?

We won't go away
"Each human's an entire world" the Jewish folk say.

My friend Rachel preferred to use disposable diapers
She wanted to know why it made me so hyper
I said, "Think of your grandchildren in the garden
someday
Digging up all the trash that you threw away."
Threw away? Yeah, right. There is no away
The garbage we produce today is here to stay
Throw it away? Where's away? There is no away
Might as well turn junk to art and make it pay.

I got two nephews who went to Iraq
I thank God every day that they're safely back
When I hear "innocent civilians" I feel blue,
'cuz I know my nephews are innocent too
They got sucked into the poverty draft —
when I called it that, neither of them laughed.
Bush takes people's lives in God's name
as his fellow American I feel shame
He uses living soldiers for his private play
He takes human beings and he blows them away.

Away where? Where's away? There's no fucking away
George, can I please watch you on judgment day?

I choose to believe that the dead are with us all the time
Guiding and laughing and watching our love and
crimes
When my friends leave their bodies, they still got
something to say
I like to think they're here, that they didn't go away
Away where? Where's away?
There is no away
The spirit world is ambient night and day.

There aren't many things that bother me
dishonesty, abuse, entitlement that's three
I want to find a way to do my part

To transform these ugly things from junk into art
'cuz smoking pot and wearing tie dye doesn't make you
enlightened
if you think you're done evolving dude, whoa! That
makes me frightened
It's a lifelong task to make my own training go away
Please tell me pompous-ass entitlement ain't here to stay
Go away, go away
Can oppression go away?
Can we face the way we mistreat others day to day?

Every action gets reaction
On ad infinitum
So I strive to love and help other people, not fight 'em
The best lessons are learned by humor and wit
It's an easier way to face myself when I've been a shit
If I think something or something is disposable today
I remind myself that there is no away
Where's away? Where's away?
There is no away
We can't throw people or garbage away.

I want truth, justice, and equality
In the outside world and inside me
So I do my best to live with curiosity
Rather than fear about those different from me
I hope you'll do the same
And then you'll share this name
Resourceress
Resourceress
Resourceress

A resourceress knows that there is no away
It's all here and now, no matter what they say
Where's away? Where's away?
There is no away
please keep that in mind when you go out to play
where's away? Where's away?
There is no away
It's all here and now, no matter what they say.

The Votes are In!

The annual membership meeting of the Oregon Country Fair was held on October 13, 2007 at the Knights of Pythias Hall in Eugene. The six board members who were elected to two-year terms are Paxton Hoag, Lawrence Taylor, Katie Cousins, Deane Morrow, Danya Ariel, and alternate, Joseph Newton.

The question about food sold at the Fair being made from locally or organically produced ingredients received 275 yes votes and 118 no votes. Questions such as this on the ballot are advisory.

There were 450 votes cast in all: 361 absentee ballots and 89 ballots at the meeting. A few members returned their absentee ballots in person, with some traveling from Arizona, Colorado or California to attend the meeting. Eleven ballots arrived by mail after the meeting and were therefore not opened or counted.

The election committee is very grateful for the volunteers who helped count the ballots. They are Anita Sweeten, Peggy Fitzgerald, Kay Kintzley, Roger Lesiak, Hilary Anthony, Robert Jacobs, norma sax, Dick Stewart, Irene Eastman, Andy Strickland, Bill Wright, Cathy Coulson-Keegan, Pete Barron, John Roberts,

Lara Howe and Kenny Howe. Fair Treasurer, Hilary Anthony, also verified the election results.

The election committee welcomes additional committee members and suggestions for increasing voter participation. If you would like to join the committee, please submit a letter of interest to the Board at the Fair office.

The next annual meeting of the Oregon Country Fair, to vote on the board of directors, will be mid-October, 2008. Current board members whose terms will end next year are Lara Howe, Diane Albino, Jack Makarchek, Carl Taylor, Bear Wilner-Nugent, and Palmer Parker. Candidate statements will be due in August, before the September Fair Family News deadline.

Election Count

Paxton Hoag	273
Lawrence Taylor	271
Katie Cousins	261
Deane Morrow	230
Danya Ariel	216
Joseph Newton	202
Ellen Singer	177
Rivka Gross	175
Marlene Monette	167
Steve Tracer	165
Deb Hardwick	139



\$1,000 PRIZE Poster Design Contest

Become part of a 40-year tradition and design the 2008 Oregon Country Fair poster!!

★★★★

Submission deadline is Dec. 7, 2007
For details & application call 541-343-4298 or on the web www.oregoncountryfair.org

Application for the Oregon Country Fair 2008 Poster Contest

The internationally known Oregon Country Fair has been a northwest tradition for the last 40 years. Here is your opportunity to design this year's poster and be part of this amazing event.

The Oregon Country Fair poster is both offset printed, and a limited edition will be silk-screened by hand, so being familiar with both printing processes is helpful.

Please submit 3-5 samples of your previous work to be considered to design the 2008 poster. We will accept 35mm film slides, or in a digital jpg, tiff or pdf format on cd or disk.

The **deadline for all contest entries is December 7, 2007.** Please fill out the application below and mail it along with your samples, in a clearly marked envelope to:

**2008 Poster Contest
Oregon Country Fair
442 Lawrence Street
Eugene, OR 97401**

You may also submit digital jpg, tiff and pdf files by e-mail with 2008 Poster Contest clearly marked in the subject line to:

ocfgrafix@comcast.net

Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like your samples returned to you.

Any finalists will be notified within 2-3 weeks of the contest deadline by a member of the Poster Committee to continue working on the design process.

For more info and inspiration go to the Fair's website at:

www.oregoncountryfair.org

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip: _____ Phone: _____
E-mail: _____



OCF Board Increases Vision Fund Support Cap

by Kathryn Madden, Jill Heiman Vision Fund



The OCF Board of Directors at its October Board meeting approved a proposal from the Jill Heiman Vision Fund to increase to \$20,000 the amount it will give to the Vision Fund annually. Although the Fair increased its matching ratio (from 1:1 to 2:1) in 2005, the maximum annual dollar amount from the Fair has remained \$10,000 since the inception of the Vision Fund in 1996. The Vision Fund volunteers are extremely grateful for this very generous gift from the Fair and appreciate very much the continued support from the Fair Family. Thank you!

The Vision Fund experienced an increase in donations when the Fair increased its matching ratio to 2:1 in 2005 (for every dollar donated the Fair gives two — up to \$10,000). That year and every year since then, the Fair has reached its cap of \$10,000. 2007 was our biggest year yet: we collected over \$13,000 from the Fair Family and, after adding the Fair's \$10,000, we gave away slightly over \$23,260. With the increased

cap of \$20,000, we plan to do even better in 2008!

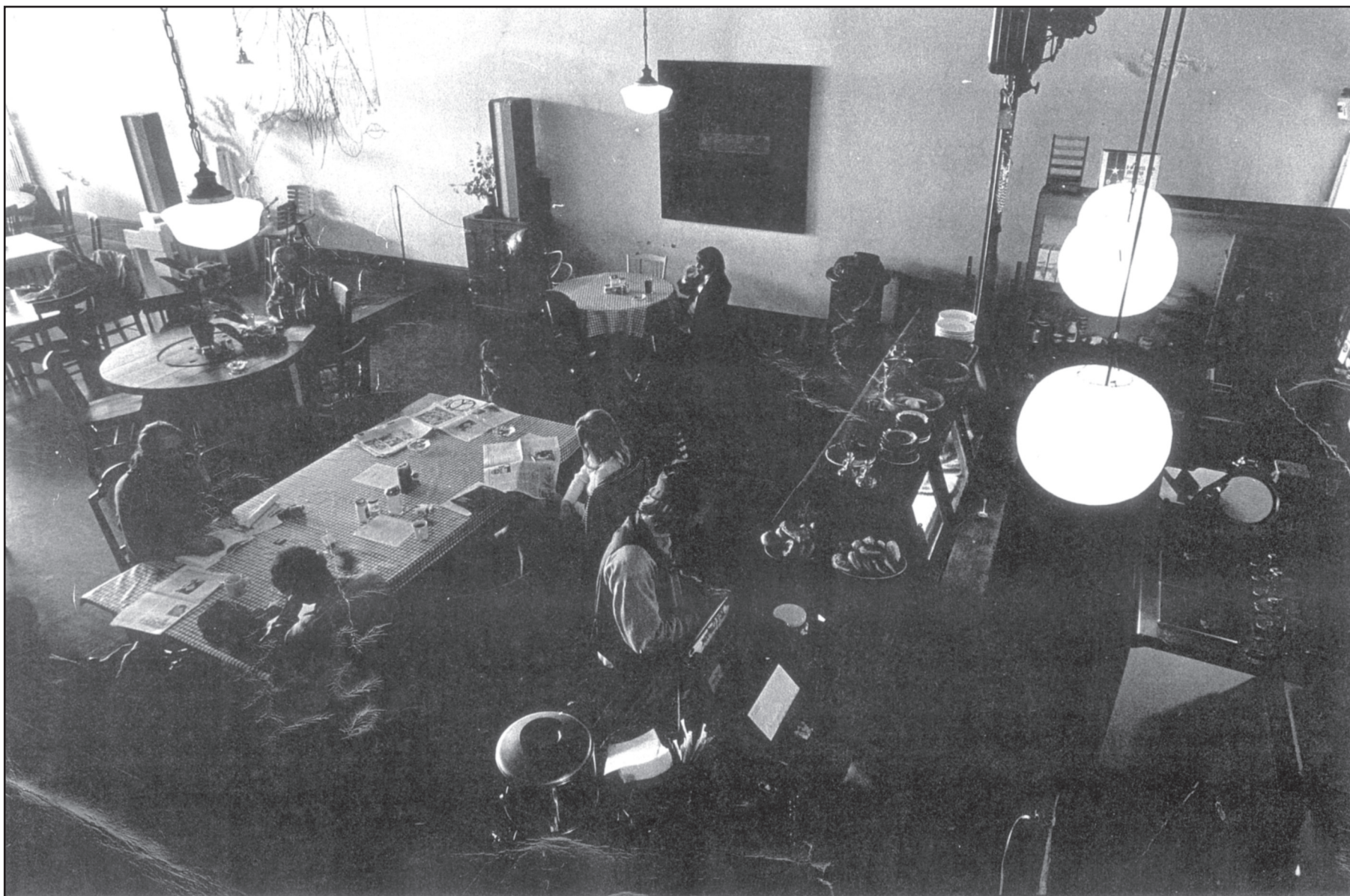
In addition to the donations of food vouchers and cash from crew members, there are several booths who give generously every year. Some food booths are able to donate all their tips or all their profits to the fund — truly heart-warming. Many individuals also take advantage of the tax deduction and make the Vision Fund part of their charitable giving.

The recipients for 2007 were: Lane County Law and Advocacy Center (\$6,000), for legal services for victims of domestic violence; Siuslaw Outreach Services (\$5,000), for the emergency services program; Shelter Care (\$4,400), for expansion of the children's program for homeless families; Springfield School District Student Dental Days (\$5,860), for dental health services for low-income school children; Senior Meals on Wheels Program (\$2,000), for nourishing noon meals for seniors throughout Lane

County.

In the recent Board elections, we asked you, the Fair Family, to choose where 2008's donations should go. We have tallied your votes and the Fair Family has, once again, chosen Basic Needs for funding through the Jill Heiman Vision Fund. This should come as no surprise since Basic Needs has been the choice in all but one of the twelve years that the fund has been listening to the Family's advice on how best to spend your contributions. In second place was Environmental Protection and Recovery with about half the support garnered by Basic Needs. We'll be giving you a complete break-down on the Fund's advisory poll next month.

The Vision Fund volunteers received some very good feedback from the Board and Fair Family about how our giving categories are chosen each year. Stay tuned for a full report, including ideas for changing the system, on that topic next month. Thanks, again!



A lot of discussions took place around "Bill's Table" near the counter at Odyssey Coffeehouse and Theatre.

RENAISSANCE ROOTS

The Odyssey begins...

*Story by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News; © 2007, Suzi Prozanski
Photos from the archives of Cynthia Wooten and Sandra Bauer*

This installment of Renaissance Roots tells about the Odyssey Coffeehouse and Theatre, a vital meeting place in downtown Eugene that was owned by Bill and Cindy Wooten from 1968-1972. This article was compiled from newspaper reports, Fair records, and dozens of interviews with fascinating Fair folks. A special thank you goes to Cynthia Wooten for her help and encouragement.

Coffeehouse a center for connectivity

The Odyssey Information Booth near the bus entrance to the Oregon Country Fair originally was an extension of the Odyssey Coffeehouse and Theatre owned by Bill and Cindy Wooten. When the Odyssey booth first opened at the Renaissance Faire in October 1970, it sold bratwurst, beverages and pastries. Because the Wootens were Fair co-organizers then, the Odyssey booth also became the hub and communication center for the Renaissance Faire. It has kept that role throughout the years, serving as Fair Central for 37 years now.

The Odyssey booth's role for the Fair mirrors that of the Odyssey Coffeehouse and Theatre as a vital gathering place in downtown Eugene. Bill and Cindy Wooten opened the coffeehouse in October 1968; it was torn down in August 1972 by the Eugene Urban Renewal Agency. Before its untimely demise, the Odyssey was a center of connectivity for people exploring new ways of living and working together. Many people have said that the



Bill and Cindy Wooten, early 1970s.

early success of the Fair can be directly attributed to the visionary people who came together at the Odyssey and helped create a new sense of community. Bill and Cindy Wooten converged in Eugene from disparate paths in October 1967. Bill first moved to Eugene from his native Oklahoma in 1963 to do independent studies in philosophy as a graduate student at the University of Oregon. During those years, the University of Oregon was a leader in the emerging peace movement, a cause that Bill strongly supported. In 1963, the UO hosted one of the

first Peace Corps trainings, sending students to Nepal. As early as April 1965, students and faculty held an all-night protest against the Vietnam War with Oregon's own U.S. Sen. Wayne Morse as keynote speaker.

Meanwhile, Bill encountered serious philosophic differences with department professors and staff. While Bill was a respected scholar of Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, his Marxist interpretations of Hegel's work did not fit prevailing viewpoints. Bill felt ostracized and unwelcome in the department and decided to move on. He got a job with the State of Oregon Employment Division and was sent to Medford.

In the spring of 1967, Bill and Cindy met at the Medford employment office, discovered they were soul mates despite their age difference (he was 33 and she was 20), and married two weeks later in Jacksonville. They organized anti-war demonstrations at the Medford Federal Building and also worked with the local "Vietnam Summer Movement," engaging in civil disobedience activities at the military recruiting office. Probably as a result of those activities, the Employment Division transferred Bill to the Eugene office in October 1967.

"By that time, there was just so much going on in Eugene," Cynthia Wooten says. The Wootens soon got involved with the peace movement in Eugene and joined the Democratic Party, working on such causes as the War on Poverty, land use and saving the environment.

"It was an unbelievable explosion of excitement, cultural change and opportunity, in the midst of which the Black Panthers were extremely prevalent in Eugene," Cynthia says. "That, combined with anti-war activity and this huge cultural shift and renaissance, somehow led us to begin thinking about doing a central meeting place in downtown Eugene, not near campus, but doing it in a place that allowed for our presence and view of culture to become more part of the mainstream. We wanted to have an influence in the community."

"I had no idea how to run a coffeehouse . . ."

They rented a building at 713 Willamette, originally the old Carroll's Drug Store, from Archie Weinstein, who ran the Eugene Surplus Store across the street.

"Ralph's Bail Bonds was next door," Cynthia remembers, "and Mrs. Pope's Donuts was across the street. Stark's Vacuum Cleaners was on the corner, where that sports bar is now."

The Wootens and some friends gathered some secondhand tables and chairs and opened the doors to the Odyssey Coffeehouse and Theatre in October 1968.

"Talk about on the skinny," Cynthia says. "We initially rented it for \$200 a month and just did the bare minimum. I had no idea — no idea — how to run a coffeehouse, a restaurant, or anything. I had no clue. But we did it."

Jimbo Lesiak (Fair crafter) remembers the Odyssey building as the “ice cream parlor on Willamette Street that I used to go to as a kid. I used to go in there and get sodas. So I was interested to see how it changed. Now who are these different people moving into the building? They had long hair; the hippie movement was starting up.

“I stopped in to see what it was like,” Jimbo says. “They made it into kind of a deli, and we’d never seen a deli in Eugene before. ... They’d have sandwiches, cakes, pies, luncheon items. The Vietnam War was taking place. Bill talked about that; they’d have meetings.”

Jimbo was among the friends who helped Bill find some recycled couches and chairs for the coffeehouse.

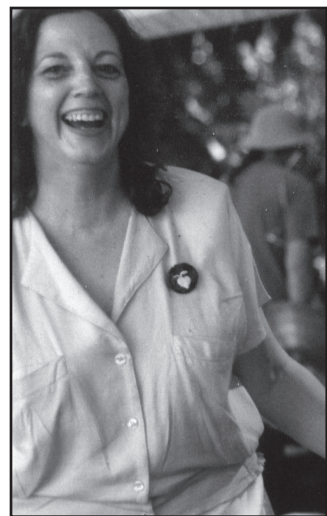
“It was a great old building,” says Nancy Albro (early Main Camp), who worked at the Odyssey. Nancy was a regular at Odyssey when Cindy offered to hire her to tend the counter sales. “It had beautiful wooden counters, and Cindy and Bill managed to keep a few of those. The inside was pretty nice. It was a funny place. It was kind of creaky and old and shabby, but it also had a lot of charm.”

A bigger mission than just serving coffee

Nancy also remembers a wide diversity in Odyssey customers. “The Smeede Hotel down the street was a flophouse, and the old guys would come down for coffee. So we knew all of the old winos in town,” Nancy says. “And the Lane Hotel was still a flophouse, too. We were right between the two, so we got that interesting section of humanity. And I tell you, still to this day, some of the nicest people I ever met were those old guys. ... So we knew all of them and we knew all the street kids who couldn’t afford to buy anything to eat. They’d come in and drink ice water and make messes ... We got tired of cleaning up after them. It was like a mom-kid kind of thing: ‘If you pour hot wax on the tablecloth one more time. ...’ you know, little stuff like that.”

Odyssey “was not the first coffeehouse” in Eugene says Dan Knapp, who later helped create the Appropriate Technology area at the Fair. “The New World (Coffeehouse) was the first and ...was a revolutionary thing, I mean, that was really amazing. But when the Odyssey started up, I thought the Odyssey kind of trumped the New World in a way because it had this much bigger vision than the New World guy had, and that was because of Bill.”

Bill and Cindy Wooten strongly believed that the Odyssey Coffeehouse and Theatre had a much bigger mission than just serving coffee.



Connie Epstein Dineen, late '80s.

“Cheap food, live music and an ‘anything can happen’ image made the place popular among the young,” Bill Wooten wrote. “Activists, university students, high school dropouts, hippies, street people, musicians, artists, bohemians, beatniks and bums used the Odyssey as their connection point. ... We of the Odyssey were there to serve the people of the movement with information about shelter and employment in addition to food and entertainment.”

Connie Epstein Dineen worked at the New World Coffeehouse and also was instrumental in getting Bill and Cindy involved with the Renaissance Faire in 1970. “The Odyssey was really a community center,” Connie says. “The New World Coffeehouse was between 12th and 13th on Alder Street and it was a university political (gathering spot) ... and so there were those two different sort of centers for professors and college kids. ... Odyssey was downtown, and they were different. ...

“Those were the years when the armory was bombed and all the demonstrations were taking place and the National Guard was marching down the street,” Connie says. “I was managing the New World, and every time I’d leave – I was living on 10th and High Street with the president of the student body, the editor of the Daily Emerald, you know, all these political people at the university – and every time I’d go to work, I’d be stopped by an unmarked car, just wanting to see who I was and what I was doing.”

‘Way ahead of their time’

“(The Odyssey) was a coffeehouse that was out of the Sixties — coffeehouse, political, bohemia, tinge of bohemia becoming hippie political,” says Rick Herson (Security Crew), who was AWOL from the military when he met the Wootens at the coffeehouse in 1968.

“They were way ahead of their time,” says Julia Herson (Security Crew, Homestead Lemonade booth). “Sort of like a New York early coffeehouse, gathering spot. It was really interesting.”

“It was a gathering place,” Rick agrees. “As the Fair became a gathering place, Odyssey Coffeehouse was a gathering place for people with ideas and talk and coffee and community and discussion.”

“Cindy — she’s the same age as I am — but it was like she was the momma,” Julia Herson says. “You walked into the Odyssey ... and I thought Cindy was a lot older than me ... because she was very mothering and very welcoming. And I found out years later she was my age. It was funny, I thought she was like 20 years older because she had the attitude

of taking care of. She knew what she was doing, for one thing, she was very organized.”

Music, politics and Bill’s table

One of the first coffeehouse events the Wootens presented was a radio show broadcast live from the Odyssey on Sunday nights.

“At the time the University radio station was KWAX,” Cynthia says. “Paul Ollswang was doing classical music at KWAX and he decided that he wanted to broadcast live from the Odyssey Coffeehouse. So in the winter of 1968, we did what was necessary in terms of phone lines and such for live broadcasting, and we called it ‘Farmers Almanac on the Air.’ It was something akin to what Garrison Keillor does (with his ‘Prairie Home Companion’ radio show). ... Musicians would show up and Paul Ollswang and a zither player named Ed Darwin” would introduce the musicians.

The Odyssey also sponsored Legal Defense Fund events for UO chemistry professor John Froines, who was one of the Chicago Seven arrested in the riots at the 1968 Democratic convention. “Artists, such as Elaine Brown, and other interesting people would come and do day-long benefits for the Legal Defense Fund,” Cynthia says.

Sheri Hamilton Teasdale Lundell (Route 66 food booth) became a regular customer at the Odyssey Coffeehouse soon after it opened. “I used to hang out at the Odyssey quite a bit with Bill and Cindy,” Sheri says. Sheri drank her first espresso there, and enjoyed the diversity of pastries and soups. Interesting people would hang out at the Odyssey in the evening, listening to music or poetry, talking politics and drinking coffee, Sheri says. “It was just great — the whole scene — it was a really comfortable place.”

People would come from as far away as New York “because of the radical stuff happening on the (University of Oregon) campus,” Sheri says. “There were radicals coming through ... and usually people were known more by their first names. I think most were just passing through. We’d talk about politics and the (Vietnam) war all evening. So it was really intellectually stimulating.”

Mary Cay Liebig (early Main Camp) said that people from area communes and collectives would regularly go to the Odyssey. “I came here in 1970, in January. ... I found my way to a commune called the Goat Hovel in Dexter. What we did in those days besides hang out on the commune was hang out in town. And the Odyssey was the place. So we would pile in the pickup truck in the morning and go to the Odyssey and spend all day in town. I didn’t know anybody in Eugene and I hung out there and I met Nancy Albro. ... But I got bored hanging out. I wasn’t a very good hippie. So I started washing dishes at the coffeehouse and then I began working there.”

Bill Wooten encouraged groups from all walks of life to meet at the Odyssey and discuss the political and social issues of the day. “There was this one table in the coffeehouse that was closest to the counter and there were always six or eight people sitting there, and Bill usually was there,” Mary Cay says. “And that’s where a lot of organizations ... were spawned. There were people from the University — Ron Eachus was the president at the U of O, student body president. There was war protest going on. Just a lot of it happened there.”

Lane Free School drew controversy

In the spring of 1969, Bill and Cindy started the Lane Free School, where people were free to teach any topic they wanted. The first catalog had 40 pages listing informal classes. For a \$2 membership fee, students could take any of the courses.

“The idea of the school grew in part out of a failure of mine,” Bill Wooten said in a 1969 newspaper interview. “I’m sort of a street philosopher, and I’d dreamed of opening a coffeehouse where people of differing views could come in and engage in free and open dialogue with each other.” Bill said that he was disappointed in the one-sided nature of the discussions that



Sandra Bauer (left) jokes with Ray Sewell and Nancy Albro, mid-'70s.

took place after the Odyssey opened. So he and Cindy and some friends started monthly meetings to organize the Lane Free School as a way to help open up people’s perspectives.

Continued on page 8

Renaissance Roots: The Odyssey Begins . . . continued from page 7

Classes covered a wide range of topics – from leathercraft, homemaking, math and creative writing all the way to batik, yoga and existentialism. But some course listings became targets for community criticism. Because of the outcry, a course on “drug information” was canceled, and the “sex education” class was moved to other sponsorship. Other “controversial courses” listed in a news article included: “resisting bureaucracy,” “liberation for women,” “black studies” and “encounter group discussions.”

All of this activity got the attention of the Eugene Establishment, Cynthia Wooten says.

The Lane Free School was so controversial that the Eugene Metropolitan Club hosted a panel discussion and forum for people to voice their concerns. Hundreds of people attended the forum in July 1969 in the Eugene City Council Chambers. The meeting went on for three long hours on a suffocating summer night. Some people misunderstood the concept of the Free School, criticizing it for not having accredited teachers. Others shouted accusations that bordered on hysteria: that the school was run by left-wing revolutionaries, atheists, drug addicts and sexual perverts. Some called for the city to shut down the Free School and the Odyssey Coffeehouse, Cynthia Wooten says.

“There were moments when we didn’t know what was going to happen,” Cynthia says. “It was a very intense three hours, with no real conclusion, agreement, or compromise brokered.”

The Odyssey Coffeehouse faced opposition from the start, Cynthia says. “Just as a very small example, (in January of 1969) there was a huge, huge snowstorm, the likes of which Eugene has not seen since. It came in 24 hours and there was like 6 feet of snow everywhere. And all the streets were closed.” (News articles document that 6 feet of snow fell that month in Eugene; 3 feet fell in one day.)



Mary Cay Liebig, late '80s.

“A bunch of sculptors came to the coffeehouse and went out in the street and built these story-high sculptures out of snow,” she says. “One of them was a Rodin-type sculpture of a nude woman. People were coming to look at these works of art. It was a great scene, there were no cars, no one could drive. And at 11 one night, the police came with a bulldozer to knock it down because of the nudity. I mean, it was not obscene, it was just Rodin-ish, you know. It was that kind of resentment we had to put up with.”

Police officers often came by the coffeehouse to roust people outside, looking for drugs.

“We were targeted for extinction,” Cynthia says. “But we also elicited really good support in the community

from a lot of liberal community leaders. (Eugene attorney) Art Johnson was one of our very first and most ardent and dynamic defenders. And a number of UO’s tenured professors ... were just really strong and defensive voices, not only for us but other change that was occurring so fast.”

And by all accounts, young people with alternative attitudes were flocking to the area in unprecedented numbers in the early '70s. Oregon’s reputation as an oasis of anti-war sanity and tolerance attracted young people who followed this new Oregon Trail in their brightly painted vans, buses and house-trucks. Many of the newcomers formed collectives, intentional communities and communes as they tried out new ways to live. The music scene also was “happening.” In the early '70s, Jimi Hendrix played at the old Eugene Armory. The Grateful Dead played at Lane Community College (\$3 ticket) and other venues around town.

Odyssey connections led to Switchboard

“The Odyssey was a place of connectivity for people coming to town,” says Eugene radio personality Alan Siporin. He was volunteering for a church whose members opened up their homes to young people in need. “You had this list of middle-class people who were willing to let people stay in their homes,” Alan says. “Then people who were on the road would somehow get the word that they could come to us. They’d go through a quick interview and then we’d make a call to find out if one of those people was available and if they could spend the night or a few nights. The Odyssey became the obvious place to set that up.”

When Joseph Sage came to town looking to create a Switchboard program similar to the one then operating in Haight-Ashbury, “I sort of became the bridge” between Joseph and the church group, Alan says. Joseph and Alan cleaned out a storage closet underneath the stairway at Odyssey, and set up Switchboard in the fall of 1969. “From that little spot underneath the

stairs where I looked out at the coffeehouse, I got a good taste of the Odyssey for a few months,” Alan says.

Alan says that people would come to Odyssey seeking free food. “The Odyssey had a case with desserts and people would say, ‘I’m broke. Can you give me a cookie, or can you give me a brownie?’ And the Odyssey started making a bowl of soup available to anybody for free. And it was amazing how many people who said they had no money and were starving would turn down a bowl of soup because they only wanted a brownie or cookie. Not everybody; some people gladly took the free soup.”

The first Faire office

Later on, Switchboard moved to the Growers Market when it needed more space. Then the closet under the stairs became the office for the Renaissance Faire.

“Mary Cay (Liebig) and I were registering people for booths,” Nancy Albro says, “in a little office in the closet at Odyssey.”

“The first Country Fair office — I think it might still have been called the Oregon Renaissance Faire — but the office was in the stairwell, it was like the closet under the stairway at the coffeehouse,” Mary Cay says. “So I sat in there. I had a telephone in there and I processed registration forms. I think that was the first time we ever had any organized registration in advance. ...

But we also had a big table, and there were discussions, you know, more than conversation, it was like political debate and new thinking, maybe old thinking revisited in a

new context,” Mary Cay adds.

“That part was very exciting,” Nancy says, “because ... that’s where things came from. I mean, they really did come from the Odyssey. A lot of stuff, the Free School, White Bird, Saturday Market — the first Saturday Market was inside the coffee house. And it was just fun to hear all those people plan these things.”

“Everybody was young,” Mary Cay says, “and oh gosh we had so much energy and so much idealism and so much willingness to make it be different somehow. We were out to change the world. I think we might have, just maybe a teeny, tiny bit.”

“They cared about people”

Brian Livingston, who helped create Community Village, recalls the kindness he found at Odyssey Coffeehouse when he had just hitchhiked to Eugene from Portland to start a new job at the Augur counterculture newspaper.

“I got to Eugene about 6 in the afternoon and everybody in the Augur had gone,” Brian says. “So there I was standing on 13th Avenue and Oak Street with the door locked in my face. I didn’t know anybody. I didn’t have anybody to call.

“So I somehow wandered down to the Odyssey and sat at a table and got a cup of tea or something. And I must have looked so forlorn that Cindy Wooten came over and said, ‘You look like you’re having a terrible day. What’s the matter?’ ” Brian told her his story and Cindy offered to drive him to a place he could stay. “I got into the back seat of Bill and Cindy’s car and they drove me to a commune that was at 15th and Kincaid,” Brian says.

“You know, to just go over and ask a person you’d never seen before about their mental state because they look a little bit sad, that’s such an incredible thing,” Brian says. “They cared about people who went through the Odyssey and of course that developed a lot of loyalty to them. If they had not formed the Odyssey, the Oregon Country Fair wouldn’t have developed in the way that it did.”

Throughout its few years of existence, Odyssey Coffeehouse continually hosted gatherings, happenings and informal discussion groups. “The coffeehouse became this intersection of people from all over the country,” Cynthia Wooten says. “It was a communication center.”

In November of 1969, the coffeehouse sponsored the first community free Thanksgiving dinner at the First Congregational Church. The Eugene Crafts Guild held its first organizational meeting at the Odyssey in November 1969; then in February 1970, the Guild put on the first Saturday Market upstairs at the coffeehouse. The Wootens, along with their friend Sandra Bauer, started the Olde Oregon Christmas Fair in December 1970. (The Christmas Fair later became the Holiday Market when it was taken over by the Saturday Market.)

The Eugene Youth Hostel was born after coffeehouse discussions of Switchboard identified the need for it. And once, “Ken Kesey and the Merry Pranksters held a 24/7 telethon, without the tele, to raise money for their destined trip to Stonehenge for the Solstice,” Cynthia says. “It was hilarious and tedious, fun and frustrating.”

KZEL after hours

Meanwhile, the coffeehouse continued to host live radio broadcasts on the weekends. By 1970, “we shifted to the brand-new, cool rock ‘n’ roll station, KZEL-FM,” Cynthia says. “We traded out advertising not only for our own shows that we were doing on Friday and Saturday nights, and the Sunday night broadcast, we’d trade out advertising on KZEL for after-hours parties from concerts that they would sponsor. So KZEL

“The coffeehouse became this intersection of people from all over the country. It was a communication center.”

- Cynthia Wooten



The Odyssey Coffeehouse and Theatre hosted live radio broadcasts and after-hours concert parties.

presented the Doobie Brothers and their after-hour parties were always at the coffeehouse. And so we did a lot of those for a lot of entertainers who came to town. For example, when the San Francisco Mime Troupe came, we'd always do their after-hours shows."

Skeeter Duke (Community Village) says, "I moved to Eugene just in time to catch the last year or so of the Odyssey before urban renewal tore it down. I remember going to a Doobie Brothers concert in the Odyssey. It was a real fun hang-out scene."

"It was a place we could speak our piece," Jimbo Lesiak says. "We'd sing the Country Joe McDonald song: 'What are we fighting for?' People would come together at Odyssey and talk about war, diversity, things to help make Eugene better. Everybody sat on the couches to talk, there were paintings from artists all over the walls. Certain days, maybe 10 crafts people would come show their stuff — jewelry, pottery and so on. Odyssey was a neat place. It turned me on to a whole walk of life. I protested a lot with the hip community. It was an anarchist place to connect."

"The best of the counterculture"

Nancy Albro says people were searching for a new way to live.

"The people who started things like the Renaissance Faire and White Bird Clinic and Saturday Market were people who were looking for a way to make an opportunity out of a new way of thinking," Nancy says. "There was a direction toward cottage industry, trying to find ways for people to support themselves through their own handwork. I think that's what propelled the growth of the Country Fair and the institution of Saturday Market — trying to give people an outlet for those ways of making a living that were less distressful for the land and less distressful for society and that came out of people's own creativity."

Mary Wagner (Info Crew) agrees. "Bill and Cindy Wooten used the Odyssey Coffeehouse as a center point for community development within this structure, this very small, closely-knit counterculture community that was in Eugene at that time," she says. "A lot of times I'd go down to the Odyssey Coffeehouse right about closing time. And then after it closed, we would sit there with Bill and Cindy and half a dozen or a dozen other people and everybody would just talk all night long — talk politics, talk culture change, talk community building, whatever was on our minds."

"I think that so frequently, the hippie counterculture revolution that's portrayed today is just a big drug indulgence, a cheap thrills kind of deal," Mary says. "But I think that Eugene was really blessed because we had the best of the counterculture here and we had the idealism and the enthusiasm and it was really a positive experience. The Odyssey Coffeehouse was like a center for thought and intellectual stimulation and music and art."

Odyssey's Legacy

Although there's no telling how many demonstrations and other activities were hatched during coffeehouse discussions, all of these organizations can trace their roots to meetings at the Odyssey Coffeehouse and Theatre, 1968-1972:

- Farmers Almanac on the Air,
a weekly live radio program
- Lane Free School
- Switchboard
- Eugene Youth Hostel
- Eugene Crafts Guild
- Community-sponsored free
Thanksgiving Dinner
- Eugene Saturday Market
- Olde Oregon Christmas Fair
(now called the Holiday Market)
- Renaissance Faire
(now called the Oregon Country Fair)



GIVE THE GIFT OF PEACH

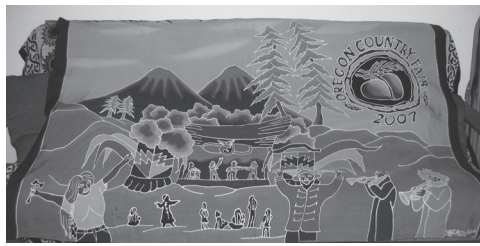


We have shirts, sarongs, patches, posters and bumper stickers available for your holiday giving. Please see us at the Eugene Holiday Market on December 15 and 16, call the OCF office (541-343-4298) or send in the attached form before December 19 in time for holiday giving. Please add \$3 per shirt, poster or sarong, \$1 per patch or bumper sticker for priority shipping.

YOU CAN SEE THESE ITEMS IN COLOR ON OUR WEBSITE, oregoncountryfair.org



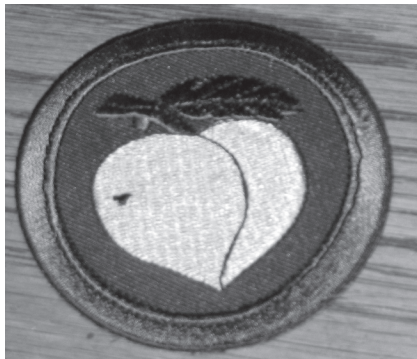
French cut \$20 each



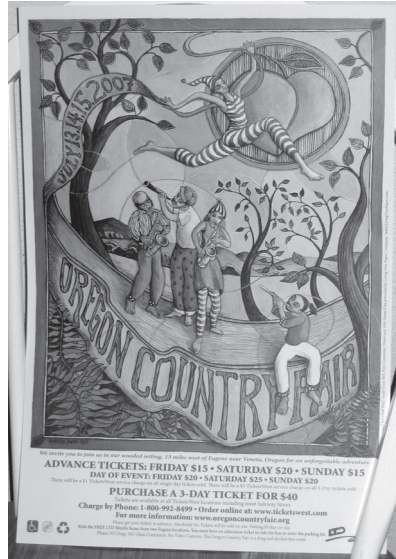
Sarong/ Wall hanging \$28



T-shirt \$20



Patch \$6



Poster (print) \$12
Poster (silkscreen) \$22



Tank top \$17



Bumper sticker \$1.50

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE # _____ E-MAIL _____

T-SHIRT (\$20 each) X:L _____ L _____ M _____ S _____ \$ _____

FRENCH CUT (\$20 each) X:L _____ L _____ M _____ S _____ \$ _____

TANK TOP (\$18 each) X:L _____ L _____ M _____ S _____ \$ _____

PATCH (\$6 each) \$ _____

BUMPER STICKER (\$1 EACH) \$ _____

SARONG (\$30 each) \$ _____

POSTER (print \$12 each) _____ (silkscreened \$22 each) _____ \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING



NOVEMBER 5,
2007

Present: Diane Albino, Danya Ariel, Katie Cousins, Paxton Hoag, Lara Howe, Jack Makarchek, Deane Morrow, Joseph Newton and Palmer Parker (alternates), Greg Rikhoff, Anna Scott, Carl Taylor, Lawrence Taylor, Bear Wilner-Nugent.

(During Agenda Review, Lawrence moved and Anna seconded that 'Consider Donation to Whiteaker Thanksgiving' be moved from new to old business. Also, Bear moved and Carl seconded that 'Property Acquisition' be moved from new to old business. Both motions passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.)

Announcements

Deane announced he is recording tonight's meeting.

Several announcements were made concerning upcoming OCF meetings that are open to anyone interested: Path Planning meeting at the Hub Yurt at noon on Sun. Nov. 18; Board / Vision Quest work session at Lamb Cottage in Skinner Butte Park on Nov. 19 at 7pm; annual wreath-making party onsite at Alice's Wonderland on Sun. Dec. 2 from 11am-3pm; the annual Board/Budget meeting on Jan. 28; the next upland kitchen meeting on Tues. Jan. 29 at 6pm at the town office. Lara said the first upland kitchen meeting was well-attended; they discussed legal issues among other things and came up with "lots of great ideas."

Lawrence congratulated Fair Family BUM Charlie Zennache on his appointment as a circuit court judge.

Jen-lin Hodgden (Feedback Coordinator) said a photo appeared in a recent Eugene Weekly (Oct. 25 edition, top of page 14) of three jack-o-lanterns carved at the Board retreat by Lara Howe and Danya Ariel. The first pumpkin has the letters IM carved into it; the second has a carving of a peach; the third is carved with the letter W. (*Get it?*)

Monthly IPRS meetings (Interfaith Prayer and Reflection Services) are held on the eleventh of each month at 7pm (prelude at 6:45) at the First Christian Church, 1166 Oak Street. (*Joseph mentioned these services during an agenda discussion and asked that meeting details be included in the minutes.*)

Approval of Minutes

Lawrence moved and Deane seconded to approve the minutes of the October 2007 Board meeting. The motion passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed. (*Deane requested it be added that he announced at the beginning of the October meeting his intention to record that meeting.*)

Member Input

Grumpy asked why Deane was recording the meetings, saying he objected to having any recording other than the one made by the Recording Secretary. He said he thought the Board had made a policy about that in the past and wondered why the Board wasn't following their own policy.

Peggy Fitzgerald of the Internet Committee said Deane was not acting alone, that the recording was for the Internet Committee. Jack's recollection was that electronic recordings were allowed but that the restriction was made that all recordings be kept by the Secretary. Hilary said there had been discussions about "broadcasting difficulties" due to legal issues. Bear asked that "we move along" and suggested the topic could be discussed more at a later time. Jack suggested Deane give the tape to Barb. Palmer said perhaps there would be "less harm if we just stop the recording" until a decision is made. Lara moved and Katie seconded that Deane turn off the recorder "until we have time to discuss it." Bear asked if Deane would just voluntarily turn it off. Deane said "of course", so the motion became moot and was withdrawn.

Marlene Monette (Main Camp Crew) thanked Leslie for all her work. She talked to some grant people who were very enthusiastic, saying they "raved about Culture Jam."

Leslie said the Fair and Culture Jam are eligible for matching funds through the Oregon Cultural Trust. If you itemize and are interested in state of Oregon tax credits, "please remember the Fair in this way at the end of the year." Individuals may divert up to \$500, families \$1,000.

Jen-lin passed around some homemade berry tarts (Danya made the crusts) as a fundraiser for Culture Jam scholarships. She said, "You know the drill. Food goes in the mouth, money goes in the envelope, and we send a kid to camp."

Staff and Officer Reports

General Manager: Leslie said, "Speaking of Culture Jam, I want to thank Kirk of Rising Moon Ravioli for making a donation to Culture Jam scholarships." She explained that he was to get reimbursed for paying for six passes to be used for the Bubble Project (*cutlery washing*) but instead of accepting the reimbursement he asked that the money be used for CJ scholarships. She mentioned the recent collaboration with the City of Eugene Youth Recreation Services and Lane County Youth Services to bring former CJ lead facilitator David Hatfield who presented the recent workshop on "Peace and Power: Working with Male Youth" and praised the "community conversation" it started. Another grant was submitted to the Lovell Foundation for the 2008 Culture Jam. She thanked the Lovell family, and also thanked Robin and Carolyn Sykora for grant writing support. She "hopes the grant application will be successful again." She said the property tax bills arrived and they are "slightly down from last year." She thanked the Personnel Committee for their work on employee evaluations, and the Board for all their hard work at the Retreat and for including staff in that weekend. She also thanked norma for organizing the Retreat. She attended a PC meeting, the upland kitchen meeting, the Path Planning Committee meeting, as well as Budget Committee and VQ meetings. She reminded everyone it's time to think about guidelines revisions again. She thanked Greg and Anna for their

work on the Board.

(*At this point, Barbara unintentionally got a laugh when she interrupted, said her recorder was acting up, and asked the Board if they would allow Deane to record the meeting as a 'back up'. He did so. Thanks, Deane.*)

Administrative Assistant: norma congratulated new Board members Danya and Joseph, and also thanked Greg and Anna. She thanked the Election Committee and especially Membership Secretary Heidi Doscher for "umpteen years of service and for being so diligent about running a clean election." She said the recent Board retreat was "great, productive, and congenial." The town office got painted. She and Charlie continue work on techie stuff involved in changing the ISP and domain host. She said the new website will be more user-friendly. One reason they are changing the ISP is because they had trouble getting and sending e-mail to and from various addresses. Some e-mails were lost so she hopes anyone who has been expecting a reply from the office will send their e-mail again after the new system is in place, "which should be soon". She's working on a new contact sheet for Board, Officers, and Coordinators. The office will be closed on Wed-Fri of Thanksgiving week and again for the last week and a half of December. She suggested folks do some holiday shopping at the OCF website and said, "Tis the season to buy a commemorative shirt."

Office Assistant: Robin said she only had one word to add about what's been going on in the office lately - "filing"; then she added four more words, "and lots of it."

Site Manager: Steve W. thanked the VegManEcs "who were out last weekend doing some heavy lifting of straw bales, putting in erosion control dams." He said all of the paths and meadows in the floodplain are now "cleaned up, closed off, and flood ready." He talked about the work party held the weekend of the Annual Meeting and said, "Attendance was less than we hoped for but the people who came worked really hard. I think we'll try to make that a tradition to have a work party the same weekend as the Annual Meeting." He also thanked the volunteers who came out for the highway pick-up that same weekend. He thanked Andy, Charlie, and Jeff "who covered for me while I visited with family for part of October." Elmira High School held their annual onsite cross-country meet, the Country Fair Invitational, on Oct. 17. He said there was "an amazing turnout, 17 schools and over 600 runners, and everyone had a great time." He said it was a muddy run because it took place the day after there was an inch and a half of rainfall. He said normal rainfall for October is about 2 and a half inches "but we had over 4 and a half inches and all of it was in the first two weeks of the month." That was followed by "some nice, blue-sky days and an impressive flush of mushrooms everywhere." He thanked everyone who contributed to the benevolent fund for Jeff Johnson's eye surgery and said they exceeded their target amount. The excess funds will go to other medical and dental needs for Jeff who "heard from lots of old friends and was truly overwhelmed."

Assistant Manager: Charlie said the work party was "a good weekend with lots going on." He said goodbye to the old Board members and welcomed the new. He talked about Anna's work on the peach power project and said, "EPUD likes us, they really like us." EPUD has a photograph of the Fair's photo voltaic array in the alternative energy display in their office lobby. He hopes no e-mail will be lost during the ISP transition and said the website will be down only for a short while during the changing of the domain host. He thanked Kathee from Holy Cow for loaning the Fair some equipment for the October work party and Board retreat. He encouraged everyone to sign up for the "announce list" to stay in touch with Fair news. You can sign up at the following link: <http://www.ocfsite.org/Lists/>

Treasurers: Hilary said they have been working on crew budgets and hope to get to the operating budgets by mid-December.

President: Jack thanked Greg and Anna and walked over to give them both a big hug.

Committee Reports

Elders Committee

Chris Browne read the report from their Oct. 25 meeting attended by 10 Elders in person and 2 online. They approved 14 new applications for Elder status bringing the total to 286. They sent letters of appreciation to various people who helped provide the midnight show presentation of "An Inconvenient Truth." They reviewed the 2008 budget proposal and submitted the budget on Oct. 29. They reviewed possible transition jobs and will present a detailed list to the Board in early 2008. Their next meeting will be Nov. 29.

Election Committee

Membership Secretary Heidi Doscher submitted a written report detailing the results of the recent Board election. Elected to two-year terms were Paxton Hoag (273 votes), Lawrence Taylor (271), Katie Cousins (261), Deane Morrow (230), Danya Ariel (216), and alternate Joseph Newton (202). The other candidates were Ellen Singer (177), Rivka Gross (175), Marlene Monette (167), Steve Tracer (165), and Deb Hardwick (139). A total of 450 votes were cast (361 by absentee ballot and 89 ballots at the Annual Meeting). Ten ballots arrived by mail after the meeting and were therefore not opened or tallied. The Election Committee welcomes additional committee members as well as suggestions for increasing voter turnout. (*See elsewhere in this FFN issue for complete report.*)

Internet Committee

Joseph said the committee has had a couple of experimental online meetings, with "mixed results." They are experimenting with translating the audio recorded last month into "standard MPG format." They would like to continue the experiments and would like "guidance and parameters from the Board on

what we can and cannot do.”

LUMP Committee

Steve W. said they met on Oct. 9 and “lined out work ahead of us this winter” which includes further definition and delineation of green zones, and updating the LUMP Manual. They also hope to recruit more camp hosts and booth folk who want to get involved in the Ecosystem Restoration and Recovery Project. Their next meetings are Nov. 13 and Dec. 11 at 7pm at the town office.

Old Business

Approve Election Results

Anna moved and Greg seconded that the Board approve the election results as reported by the Election Committee.

Peach Gallery: Thumbs up. Joseph thanked the other five candidates who ran but were not elected, saying it was really nice for voters to have a choice this time.

Board: Bear said he was sad to see Greg and Anna go and praised them as “productive, thoughtful, and happy-spirited.” He welcomed Joseph back to the Board, and also said he enjoyed time he spent talking with Danya and looked forward to working with him. Bear said even though he appreciated the work of the Election Committee, he was disappointed with the turnout of voters and said by the 2008 election he would love to see voting carried out on a secure website and “the end of paper ballots and hand counting.” Lara dittoed that and asked how many others did as well. (*Many hands went up around the room.*) Many more spoke praises of Greg and Anna, including Lawrence, Paxton, Deane, Palmer, and Katie who said she would miss Anna’s “passion and intelligence” and Greg’s “big heart and calming voice.” She also welcomed Joseph back and, referring to Danya, said “I am so stoked to have an 18-year-old on the Board.” Lawrence got a laugh when he said, “To the two members who voted for Paxton but not for me, contact me and tell me what I can do for you.” Palmer got a laugh too when he said, “I’d also like to thank Greg and Anna and say thank you to your parents for having you.”

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. (*At this point, Greg and Anna retired from the Board while Joseph and Danya emerged from the Peach Gallery to take their places.*)

Appoint Officers

Bear moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board appoint the following officers: Heidi Doscher as Membership Secretary; Barbara Edmonds as Recording Secretary; Hilary Anthony and Steve Gorham as Co-Treasurers; Jack Makarchek as President.

Peach Gallery: Leslie said, “We should stand up and give them a round of applause.”

Board: Lara said, “We are so blessed; these officers are incredible.” Lawrence dittoed.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Appoint Board Committee Liaisons

Bear moved and someone seconded that the Board appoint Katie Cousins as Board liaison to Personnel Committee and Danya Ariel as Board liaison to the Budget Committee and Youth Services Committee.

Background: Anna will remain a member of Personnel and Greg will remain a member of Budget, but they will no longer be Board liaisons.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Consider Donation to Whiteaker Thanksgiving

Lara moved and Joseph seconded that the Board donate \$1000 from the Board donation budget to the Whiteaker Thanksgiving.

Background: The money will be used to buy 1,000 pairs of socks to give to the attendees as they enter the hall. Beverly Farfan thanked the Fair for past support and said it “means a lot to us.”

Peach Gallery: norma said she and her husband Dick have a tradition of volunteering at the event and they “always see lots of other Fair folk volunteering.”

Board: Lawrence told Beverly the donation “means a lot to us, too.” Bear said there is \$3500 left in the Board donation budget so “if this motion passes, \$2500 will remain.”

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Consider Donation to Skipping Stones Magazine

Bear moved and Lara seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to Skipping Stones Magazine.

Background: Arun Toke, editor, was unable to attend the meeting because he just returned from Baltimore where he accepted an award. Skipping Stones received the 2007 Children’s Publication Award from the National Association for Multicultural Education. In his acceptance speech he mentioned OCF Board members reading poems from the magazine. His letter to the Board said the money will provide gift subscriptions to schools in Lane County. To learn more about the magazine, go to www.skippingstones.org.

Peach Gallery: Anna said the Board should consider streamlining its donation process, especially to accommodate organizations that we support on a yearly basis.

Board: Joseph had hoped to thank Arun in person tonight for being one of the organizers of the monthly interfaith services. Lawrence dittoed Anna’s comments on donation reform.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Budget Issues

Board Expenses

Jack moved and Paxton seconded that the Board approve an increase of \$1500 to the 2007 Board expenses line item budget as recommended by Treasurer Hilary Anthony.

Peach Gallery: Hilary said more money is needed so norma may continue to reimburse Board members for expenses relating to their service, usually gas money for those who travel to Eugene from out of town for the monthly meetings.

Board: Since Deane lives close by he doesn’t use the reimbursement plan but he suggested it might be time to increase the allowance for those who come from far away. Hilary disagreed saying she felt the 30 cents per mile coverage was adequate. She said paid staff gets reimbursed at the same rate as volunteers and Board members even though by law they are eligible for the federal maximum. Bear will vote against the motion because he said the Board should set an example and live within its budget. Bear said he won’t take gas reimbursements for Nov. and Dec. Board meetings. Joseph doesn’t use the fund but said it’s important to adequately fund it because the Fair benefits from having Board members from outside of Eugene. Paxton travels the furthest, 450 miles round trip each meeting, and said he’s a “low-budget person who counts on the reimbursement.” Diane also wants geographical diversity on the Board and urged passing the motion so she doesn’t have to pass the hat. Jack doesn’t want to see anyone “locked out.”

The motion passed: 9 in favor and 1 opposed (Bear).

Approve Revenue Projection

Bear moved and someone seconded that the Board approve the 2008 revenue projection of \$1,364,300 including the fee increases as presented by the Financial Planning/Budget Committee.

Peach Gallery: Grumpy discussed the revenue projection and fee increases prepared by the committee. The fee increases include: 3-day ticket will cost \$45 plus \$3 ticket fee, an increase of \$6; same day sales for Friday and Sunday will remain at \$20 plus \$1 ticket fee, but advance sales for Friday and Sunday will be \$17 plus a \$1 ticket fee, an increase of \$2; Saturday ticket prices remain unchanged at \$20 for advance sales plus \$1 ticket fee and \$25 for day of Fair sales plus \$1 ticket fee. (*Note that ticket fees do not go to the Fair but to the ticket service agency*). There will be an increase in the cost of Trade Passes from \$25 to \$30, affecting Teen passes, Energy Park and Community Village. Most Entertainer passes are Trade Passes with no charge, and will remain so. However the extra Trade Passes that Entertainment Crews are allowed to purchase will also increase from \$25 to \$30. Leslie said the revenue projection reflects the anticipation of increased 3-day passes as well as an increase in advance sales. Hilary said they were successful this year in having a price structure that encouraged people to buy 3-day tickets and advance sale tickets. She said, “That’s what we hoped for and encouraged this year and that’s what we got, so the budget now shifts to reflect that trend.” Grumpy advised it’s never too early to talk up the Fair and said whenever he wears an OCF tee-shirt someone asks him a question about the Fair. So wear a Fair shirt because “people will approach you and you can encourage them to come.”

Board: Diane objected to an increase in the cost of passes for Community Village.

The motion passed: 8 in favor and 2 opposed (Diane and Paxton).

Property Acquisition

Lawrence moved and Joseph seconded that the Board authorize President Jack Makarchek, General Manager Leslie Scott, and Site Manager Steve Wisnovsky to act as a property acquisition team and to negotiate and execute an agreement for the purchase of a parcel of property.

Background: The Board met in Executive Session before the meeting to discuss a possible property acquisition. Details cannot be released until negotiations are complete, but Lara said, “You’ll love it, we promise!”

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Pony Rides

Deane moved that the Board reimburse Dena the pony ride lady \$3,000 for expenses incurred, three years of her being available on hold with her pony rides at the Country Fair. The motion failed for lack of a second.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, December 3, 2007 at 7pm at the EWEB Community Room. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled items: Budget Issues; as well as the following new business: Consider Membership Renewal in CCPA (WOW Hall); Consider Appointments to Endowment Committee and Path Planning Committee; Personnel Committee Groundskeeper Job Description; Employee Bonuses (Bear); Mens’ Retreat (Katie); Revisit Policy on Recording Meetings; Include TSAs in PPP Manual; Consider Donation to Project Homeless Connect (Lara); Consider Donation to Eugene Education Fund (Lara); Consider Donation to The Backbone Campaign (Palmer). Paxton dropped his Path Planning motion from the agenda. Deane tabled his motion on Toilets and Handwashing until January.

Minutes by Barbara Edmonds who thanks Cai Emmons (“The Stylist”) for the following quote: “*My lovely anythings,*” Mother sighed. “We’re not anythings. Why do you call us anythings?” Cornelia said. “*Because who knows what you are? You must tell me when you know. Until then you will be my anythings.*” “Well, I’m going to be an international lawyer,” Cornelia said, “so I’m not an anything.” “*That’s lovely, Cornelia. What about you, Hayden?*” The heat pasted over Hayden’s brain. She wanted a pool. She wanted pistachio ice cream. The future had no shape; it might not come. “Nothing,” Hayden said.

“*Anything,*” Mother insisted.

Happy Pumpkin Pie Day!

