



Volume 15, Issue 9

January 2008

## Family Album



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## Dragon Reflects on a New Year

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# Fair Family Calendar

## January 2008

- 20 Highway pickup, 10 am, meet at the Warebarn on site
- 24 Elders Committee Meeting, 7 pm, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene
- 28 Board of Directors Meeting to approve 2008 budgets, 7 pm, Central Presbyterian Church, 15th and Ferry, Eugene
- 29 Meeting to discuss upland kitchen, 6 pm, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene

## February

- 4 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Community Room, Eugene
- 4 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 28 Elders Committee Meeting, 7 pm, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene

## March

- 3 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Training Center, Eugene
- 3 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE

## April

- 20 Highway pickup, 10 am, meet at the Warebarn on site

## July

- 11, 12, 13 The Peach will be great in 2008

## Happy Birthday to Our Fair Family Aquarians

- Anne Henry ..... Crafter
- Anne Marie Schultz ..... Hospitality
- Barry Sullivan ..... White Bird
- Bear Wilner ..... Camping
- Bill Pirruccello ..... White Bird
- Bill Verner ..... Far Side
- Bob Grek ..... Water
- Cami Pray ..... Registration
- Chela Guyette ..... Vegmanecs
- Cory Sullivan ..... Ambiance
- Daiv Merrill ..... Registration
- Deb Hardwick ..... Bus Crew
- Dennis Burrage ..... Lot Crew
- Derek Dahlen ..... Lot Crew
- Diane Albino ..... Community Village
- Frank Sharpy ..... Fire Marshal
- Glenn Millstone ..... Lot Crew
- Heather Darrow ..... Path Rove
- Heather Farquhar ..... Security
- Ian Metler ..... Recycling
- Isabella Barnswallow ..... Construction
- Jan Lipski ..... Registration
- Jason Kelly ..... Fire
- Joe Gale ..... Main Camp Security
- Julia Mooney ..... Crew Services
- Ken Birkes ..... Traffic
- Kevin Dougherty ..... Advertising
- Kimmo Howard ..... Traffic
- Laura M. Ohanian ..... Admissions
- Margi Willowmoon ..... Crafter
- Melian Kiyak Boughton ... Registration
- Mick Westrick ..... Fair Central
- Mike Sheffield ..... Pre-Post Security
- Nancy Farquhar ..... Security
- Ramona Laumbach ..... Pre-Post Security
- Randy Nowell ..... VegManECs
- Robyn Weir ..... Registration
- Roger Absten ..... Lot Crew
- Stuart Larsen ..... Pre-Post Security
- Tamara Campbell ..... Registration
- Todd Williams ..... Pre-Post Security
- Tom Schueneman ..... Lot Crew
- Wendy Major ..... Registration

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## Fair Thee Well: Chris Thompson

### Registration Crew Loses a Beloved Husband

On Christmas Eve, December 24, 2007, Chris Thompson, husband of long-time Registration Crew member Brooke Thompson, died of cardiac disease at age 32. He is survived by his two sons, River, age 6, and Leif, age 4.



Chris Thompson, Brooke Thompson, and two sons, River and Leif

Chris enjoyed life every day, always filling it up with laughter and love. More than anything, he loved his family — his wife and best friend Brooke, and his little boys River and Leif. His boys were so special to him, and he loved being the best big daddy bear in the world. He was a genuinely loving spirit, a generous soul, and inspired joy in all of us.

Chris was a huge supporter of sustainability and organic practices. He worked at Organically Grown Company for over 6 years, and loved all that the company taught him and cherished his friends at OGC. The Organically Grown Company family has provided us with so much love and support at this heartbreaking time.

Chris leaves behind a loving circle of Fair Family Friends, including his father-in-law, Rich Locus, a Fair Elder; Alicia Locus, White Bird; Tyson and Rachel Peltzer and Patty White from their tie-dye booth; Morning and David Owens and all the family's children.

Chris's light will always shine within the hearts of his family and friends.

Donations for the support of Chris's two young sons may be made to the "Christopher Thompson Benefit Memorial Fund" at any Wells Fargo Bank.

### Fair Thee Well: Kal Kalamas

Kal Kalamas, member of security crew, died in his sleep on Christmas Day.

## 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.

[ ] Please put me on the list to receive the FFN online.

[ ] 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:

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## FFN Workout



- Dominic "Deep Knee Bends" DeFazio
- Michael "Bench Press" Ottenhausen
- Cynde "Arm Circles" Leathers
- Joseph "Barrel Lifts" Newton
- norma "run-run-run" sax
- Suzi "Push-ups" Prozanski
- Mary "Toe Touch" Shuler
- Emily "Sit-ups" Semple
- Brad "Leg Lifts" Lerch
- Dan "Chin-ups" Cohn

## Letters to FFN: Spirit of the Fair Continues to Inspire

Dear Fair Folk,

I have been attending the OCF since the early '80s and my husband and I had a booth for many years as well. I am not one to be content with only having that kind of joy, magic and music in my life once a year at the OCF; I must bring some of it home to my community. I just wanted to share my own story of how the spirit of the Fair continues to inspire long after I have left the event.

Over the years, I have incorporated, song, dance, parade, costume, and acrobatic ideas (gleaned from magical Fair experiences) into our many community festivities throughout the year. For example, we had our first-ever Torch Light Parade near the winter solstice time this year. The surreal procession included fire jugglers, dozens of fire-lit lanterns carried by

70 or so white-costumed marchers, and a band of accordions, tubas and violins playing wild gypsy-style music. The seeds of the dream to manifest this parade came wholly as a result of experiencing it at the OCF! So I am not only writing this to thank all those responsible for providing this magical venue of VISION and INSPIRATION but also to encourage all who have known it, felt it, heard it — don't leave it behind! Bring it home to your community! It's important to share this joy, this beauty, these off-beat performance spectacles with our mainstream family. We can all do our part to spice up the overly homogenized American lifestyle. We have the OCF reminding us how every year!

Lovingly,  
Irene Skyriver  
Fairgoer



## 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](mailto:bradlerch@aol.com) or call Brad @ 541- 485-8265 (UnClassifieds not paid for by paste-up won't run)

Mercedes 300TD 1987 wagon – rebuilt transmission – 174k 6 cylinder – runs great. Needs turbo. Runs on biodiesel. \$7300 (obo) very well maintained. 541-342-1160

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](http://www.mkartcenter.org)

### OCF Elders Info

**OCF Elders Committee Web Page:**  
[www.ocfelderscouncil.org/ocfeccommittee/ocfec.html](http://www.ocfelderscouncil.org/ocfeccommittee/ocfec.html)  
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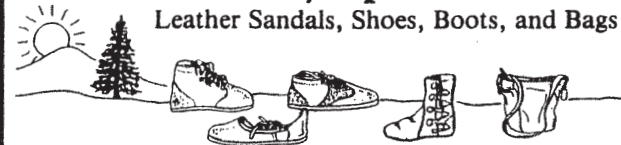
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# RENAISSANCE ROOTS

## Spirit of '76 at the Circus (a.k.a. Chumleighland)

By Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News; © 2008 Suzi Prozanski

**Editor's Note:** This installment of Renaissance Roots tells about events at the Circus Stage in 1976, the second year for that stage at the Oregon Country Fair. (The story about the stage's first year ran in this column in April 2007.) It must be noted that the people interviewed do not agree on all of the details in this story, so this account may be only partly true. While the date of the Naked Parade is unclear, 1976 is the most likely year, given the band members who remember participating. This story circle is compiled from interviews with dozens of fascinating Fair folks. Many thanks to all!

### The Circus troupe grows

The "new vaudeville" shows at the Circus Stage (a.k.a. Chumleighland, where W.C. Fields Stage is now) went so well in 1975 that Michael Mielnik (a.k.a. Reverend Chumleigh and formerly the Flaming Zucchini) came back in 1976 to put on shows again with many of his friends, including the Flying Karamazov Brothers. By that summer, the Karamazovs had expanded from a juggling duo to a juggling quartet, after founding members Howard Patterson (a.k.a. Ivan Karamazov) and Paul Magid (a.k.a. Dmitri Karamazov) brought Tim Furst (a.k.a. Fyodor Karamazov) and Randy Nelson (a.k.a. Alyosha Karamazov) on board.

"All four of us came up to the Fair in '76," Tim Furst says. "It was the celebration of the bicentennial and ...we had the American flag as the backdrop" at Chumleighland.

"Chumleigh was the figurehead" of the stage troupe, says Thaddeus Spae (Amber Tide), who again that year was nominal leader of the Fighting Instruments of Karma Marching Chamber Band (not yet/Orchestra). "Chumleigh himself didn't want to have to make all the decisions. He was happy to be a figurehead, but he was also happy to let other people do what they did without a lot of supervision. And because there were few of us and because we were all friends and we were all talking to one another — democracy works well in tribes ... small groups of people. Twenty is pretty much the top end."

In fact, the Circus/Chumleighland troupe grew to about 20 members in 1976, and tensions indeed took root that year as the group struggled to reach consensus on some decisions.

"I started bringing friends and hangers-on and those entertainers started bringing friends and hangers-on," Michael says. "The Karamazovs, in fact, took advantage of the way we ran art by consensus in those days — God, I was a fool! — and started packing the Country Fair band with Santa Cruz musicians who came up to be in the Marching Band, solely. And within a year or two, I was in these huge, horrendous, hair-pulling meetings, arguing points of my show with a clarinet player from Santa Cruz, 'cause everybody got to speak."

Howard Patterson acknowledges that he and Paul brought musician friends from UC-Santa Cruz to join the Evergreen College students in the band, doubling the band's size from six members to about a dozen. "People just sort of started accumulating," Howard remembers. "We brought in some of our college friends, most notably Doug Wieselmann, who wrote a lot of the marches that we do today and who is a tremendous multi-instrumental person. He was at the '76 Fair, I think, maybe '77."

Howard also agrees that '76 got off to a rough start. "Originally Chumleigh was in charge and that was fine with everybody who was there," Howard says. "Then when Paul (Magid) came, Paul didn't think that was necessarily right. He wanted also to be in charge. The second year, they wrestled, he and Chumleigh, for who would close the show. It was very physical. It sounds funnier that it turned out to be. Watching the two of them just physically going at it was not really fun. I loved Chumleigh from the first time I met him and I always thought that we would have this lifelong connection," Howard says, adding that Paul did not feel the same way.

### "A great gig"



photo by Diana Dorset

But the troupe put their differences behind them, put on some great shows that year, and even had some fun along the way. The Fighting Instruments of Karma Marching Chamber Band paraded four times a day, leading audiences to variety shows at Chumleighland that featured performances by Reverend Chumleigh, Chumleigh's partner Spike Wilder (a.k.a. Peggy Wendel), the four fabulous Flying Karamazov Brothers and others.

Randy Nelson says his first Fair "was truly amazing, but it wasn't because it was particularly financially remunerative. ... There were lots of mouths to feed from the hat in this community, and a lot of supporting players and a band, and you immediately realize that what you're gonna take home from this show, you're gonna take home in your head. It wasn't going to be about making money, it wasn't a great gig in that respect; it was a great gig in every other possible way. ...

"I'd been around a lot of political alternative community for most of my life," Randy adds, " ... (and) it was an amazing thing to suddenly be in an entire village, if you will, of completely diverse, like-minded



photo by Ross Daniels

### The Flying Karamazov Brothers juggle at Chumleighland in 1978.

people. That was the thing that was most tangible, was that there was a bunch of us here who were as different as any bunch of people you could assemble, and you had a core similarity — or at least it felt that way — that I'd never experienced before at that level."

The community vibes felt so good that one morning, the band decided to march naked.

### "Let's go parade naked!"

"Another interesting moment — a unique moment — was doing the Midnight Parade naked one year," Tim remembers. "Cindy was very upset."

"We were pretty scantily dressed in loincloths and stuff like that" on a Sunday morning Chumleigh remembers. "And we decide, God this is so hippie, and we're all such hippies and we're all comradely and taken with the spirit and the ambience. We're gonna have a nude parade!"

"It was maybe Saturday, a beautiful day," Howard remembers. "I think we were all hanging around naked anyway and we said, 'Well, OK, let's go parade naked!' We put on hats and stuff, and we were all getting ready to do it. We were warming up and marching in place and Cindy (Wooten) came running in through the front gate of Chumleighland, saying 'Put your pants on! Everybody put your pants on!'

"She comes running," Chumleigh says, "puffing out of breath going, 'You can't ... march naked ... the press is here! You're going to ruin the Fair!' Now, I've been accused of this every year, that somehow I'm going to ruin the Fair."

### "Moments of Desperation"

"You know," Cynthia Wooten says, "these boys and their genitals love to literally parade around. And the sensibility and spirit of liberation at the Fair went over the top, sometimes. And we had to (consider) the impact on the public. People weren't going to bring their kids if they were going to see a bunch of naked men hanging around. It wasn't good for the Fair economically, it wasn't good for our reputation, even though I really understood, of course, that sense of abandonment and freedom, and it was pretty funny. ... (But) it sort of gave license to everyone else to take their clothes off, and we just, you just couldn't" encourage that.

"Well, we were so taken, we said, 'We're going to march anyway.'" Chumleigh says. "And we started to march and she said, 'You can't!' and stuck her ample frame in front of us. We said, 'We're going to!' She looked at me and in the kind of discernment you'll never get from a board, she said, 'Chumleigh, how much?' And I said, 'Now we're talking!' And I immediately yelled, 'Huddle!' And we went into a huge naked huddle that appeared to be a meeting, but I just said, 'OK, this is going to appear to be a meeting, but what I'm going to say is, give me the power to negotiate and we'll do a cash settlement here and get money and wear our loincloths. Break! And we all break. And I go, 'Ten bucks apiece.' She goes, 'Two bucks apiece!' And we settled on four bucks apiece. She goes, 'OK, put on your loincloths!' I said, 'Get the cash.' And she literally ran ... back down to Main Camp, ran back with one of those legendary shopping bags full of money. ... As we went by, she counted four bucks into everybody's hand. And there's a brief problem at the end when she ran out of ones and people had to make change for fives and stuff. But everybody got their four bucks and then we put on our loincloths. We got four bucks apiece to not march naked. Oh, those were the days."

"Chumleigh, Chumleigh, Chumleigh!" Cynthia says, laughing. "I do remember the incident. I don't recall having to bribe him to act in the best interest of the Fair — but, who knows — because of timing and urgency, I could have done something like what he describes. There were moments of desperation in those early days."

Then for the last parade on Sunday that year, the band made a special stop.

"I was at the Odyssey Booth," Cynthia says, "and they all came and

they ended the parade in that space next to the Odyssey, that open area. They were sort of serenading, and I'm thinking, 'ahhh, ahhh!'"

"What I do remember vividly," Howard says, "is that we came to where she was and we saw her. We stopped the band. I got a drum roll from one of the snare drummers and Michael said, 'Present arms!' And we all dropped our pants. ... It was not exactly the moon. It was a different celestial body."

"They all turned around and dropped their drawers," Cynthia says. "It was just hilarious. It was one of the biggest 'gotchas.'"

## Freaky Fire

The Spirit of '76 also got an extra-warm welcome during the Midnight Show at Chumleighland. For the second year, the Chumleighland performers made a gift of sharing their show with the crews and crafters of the Fair. They held a torchlight parade at midnight on Saturday, leading the crowd to Chumleighland, where they pumped up their daytime acts with fiery finales for the night-time audience.

"We had a lot of torches for the parade and show," Howard says, "juggling torches and fire-eating torches."

"Basically," Thaddeus says, "a torch would burn for a while and then it would go out. And ... so you'd pass it to somebody and they would dip it in a can of white gas and pass it back to you, torch it up and you were back in business. ... But apparently somebody was holding a lighted torch. They stepped wrong and kicked over a can of white gas and then dropped the lighted torch into it. And a wall of fire jumped up on the stage!"

Artis (the Spoonman), who was standing next to the stage, says he felt a sense of panic from the audience as the fire flared. He quickly took off the blanket poncho he was wearing and dropped it on the fire, smothering the fire immediately.

"One of the main things I was doing," says Howard, "was going, 'This is no problem! Everything's fine! No need to be afraid! It's all under control!' And I probably said that. I know I certainly thought it very loudly ... Everything is fine."

Thaddeus says that a lot of people had leapt to their feet, ready to flee. "At that point, I did one of the very, very few ... evenly remotely leadership-oriented things I've ever done in my life," Thaddeus says. "I jumped up on top of a hay bale and I shouted, 'It's all right! Everything is under



*The Flying Karamazov Brothers play music circa 1978.*

control, folks! Let's all chant OM!' And the entire crowd went, 'OOOOOOOMMMMMMMMMMM!!' Which cooled things down completely."

"It was absolutely clear," Randy says, "to everybody sitting there, locked knee to knee with everyone else sitting there at midnight, no place to run, no way to get away, and the stage was on fire. And what did the fine people of the Fair do? They sat quietly. We put the fire out, we went on with the show."

"The Karamazovs were so impressed by the whole effect," says Thaddeus, "they were talking about doing it intentionally the next year. The rest of the show was amazing."

"But everybody had the image," says Tom Noddy (the Bubble Guy), "of what it would be like if fire happened with all these people shoved that close together. ... It was a terrifying thing."

## Midnight @ Main Stage

The next year, 1977,

Tim was leading the Torchlight Parade to the Midnight Show when there was a sudden change of course. "We got halfway around the Eight," Tim says, "and we're met by someone saying, 'Chumleighland is already over-full with people. The show has been moved to the Main Stage and some people are going to carry all of your props from Chumleighland to Main Stage.'"

"So we changed the route of the parade and ended up on Main Stage and did the Midnight Show" there, Tim says. They got "people to bring their lanterns up and put them across the front of the stage and around the stage and the show was all done by candle and lantern light."

So that's how the Midnight Show first moved to Main Stage.

"The early Midnight Shows were spectacular for a number of reasons," says Ben Farrell (Fighting Instruments of Karma Marching Chamber Band/Orchestra). "A lot of fire. Not a lot of bright lights — one or two can lights. Juggling fire, breathing fire, all kinds of wacky stuff. It was a lot more intimate. It wasn't like a big large stage like it is now."

At that time, the Midnight Show still featured the acts from Chumleighland. Later on, other acts from around the Fair would be added, as well as electric lights and sound, but that's another story. ...

# OCF Recycling: We Must Do Better

## Recycling Reality: Part I of IV

By Joel E. (Jeep) Pagel

For much of the history of the Oregon Country Fair (OCF), our recycling effort has been award-winning and notable. Those elders who started the Fair and the requisite recycling crew should be lauded. Hundreds of tons of recyclables, including glass, plastic, and compost, have been sold, donated, or reused and thus diverted from the waste stream. Other outdoor alternative events all over North America have looked to us to gain from our experience. Because of the wandering nature of OCF staff, our crew alumni have shared their expertise with many people and organizations throughout our bio-region and the world.

We have been successful in recycling because of the ethos of the Fair Family. This shared concern for the land and for those around us has become emblematic of our annual philanthropy to other non-profit groups, and our shared stewardship and reverence for the Event's landscape. However, the OCF's recycling efforts are now in a state of flux. The Fair's efforts are no longer viewed as cutting edge, and each year our crew earnestly discusses our Event's recycling trajectory. One only needs to look into one of the many semi-sized trailers of waste trucked to the landfill to see our event is very far from being environmentally friendly.

Observing the shift in consciousness away from recycling has been painful to the 97 volunteers who spend a minimum of seven days on site; about 1/3 of us spend an additional two weeks (at least) pre-fair, and one week post-fair working 10-12 hours each day. We love our positions on the Recycling Crew, as demonstrated by the sleepy smiles or wry puns we might present to you as we load three to four

hundred pound-barrels of glass or compost onto our dilapidated trucks. You can hear our mirth through the tinkling of glass in the sort line, or the music we play as we sort compost and make due with our makeshift recycled equipment, held together with baling wire, sheet rock screws and duct tape. Through our experience on the Recycling Crew, and looking at events in the world around us, we have realized the Fair Family must minimize the collective footprint of our Event and dramatically reduce the amount of waste we produce.

Quite simply and bluntly, the reason why recycling at the Oregon Country Fair has succeeded in the past, and why it is currently falling short is because of the Fair Family. This year for example, after the rest of the Fair Family went home, the Recycling Crew picked up a queen size mattress and frame from someone who left it in Crafts Lot. For the second year running, the folks at Zen Acres left us a truck-size mound of unsorted bags strewn near their kiosk, and the campers near Alice's Wonderland and Woodworks deserted three mounded Peach carts worth of unsorted trash, nowhere near a kiosk. We also recovered abandoned tents, several wet carpets (some rolled up, but two not), and countless bags of unsorted trash. These are but a few examples; we could go on with details...crafts lot, Far Side, Pooh Corner, individual booths, etc. Even Steve W., the OCF Site manager, has been flummoxed. At the December 3, 2007 Board of Directors meeting, he indicated "This is my tenth Fair in this job and I continue to be dismayed and saddened at what 'reverence for the land' means to some people," as he was surprised to find new clean-up issues as late as November. Steve further



said "leaving piles of junk behind is just not right." In short, the extent to which some of the Fair Family disregard the "pack it in, pack it out" mantra and

our shared ethic to protect the land of the Fair is disheartening.

Maybe the Recycling crew is at fault. Our gathering increases in size and intensity and each year there are more and more Fair Family members. For multiple years, we have realized that our small crew, without substantial additional volunteer effort and only by overworking ourselves in ostensibly unsafe conditions, has been barely able to keep up with the burgeoning population of the Fair Family and the capped public attendance. Maybe we should have alerted the Fair Family of the situation and the problems on the horizon. During the 2007 Fair, in addition to the recyclables and compost reclaimed, our Event produced over 44,800 pounds of waste that was trucked to the landfill at a significant cost to the Fair.

We encourage you to peruse our collective story of recycling as a special series in the Fair Family News. We write to pique your interest, garner your assistance, and remind you of your recycling duties to the Fair, Fair Faeries, and the Earth. Without a dramatic shift in consciousness for 2008 and beyond, the efforts of the recycling crew will become increasingly arduous, dangerous, and, sadly, futile.

We can do better — we must.



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

#### Announcements

Barbara said there's a great opportunity for someone else to be the next Recording Secretary as she is retiring from the post after the Fair. She said it's a wonderful way to serve the Board and the membership. Send a letter of interest to the Board if you want to apply.

Bear said the annual meeting to approve the budget is Monday, January 28 at 7pm at Central Presbyterian Church.

Lara said the next upland kitchen meeting is at 6pm on Tues. Jan. 29 at the town office.

Palmer encouraged volunteerism at Project Homeless Connect to be held at the Lane County Fairgrounds on Thursday, Feb. 7 from 9am-3pm. Info, donation, and volunteer signup at [www.homelessconnect.org](http://www.homelessconnect.org).

Joseph and Paxton felt they should disclose that they have participated in tallying VQ survey results and have been paid by the Fair for their work. (*The Fair paid an established piece rate to all who worked on that project.*)

#### Approval of Minutes

Lara moved and Carl seconded to approve the minutes of the December 2007 Board meeting. The motion passed: 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions (Lawrence and Paxton).

#### Member Input

Chris Browne (Elder) read a letter he wrote after talking with folks concerned about the status of their Vision Quest proposals. They hope project selections will be made "as soon as possible so that the projects chosen can begin positive planning."

Madge Hutchinson introduced herself as "new to the Family" since marrying her husband, Ethan (Pre-Post Security). She requested the Fair consider setting aside space for a "clean and sober campsite." She has been in recovery for 16 years and knows people who won't come to the Fair for fear of jeopardizing their recovery. She knows "something like this could take some time but the first step is to ask." Ethan said this is "an issue near and dear to my heart." His campground used to be "out in the boonies" but now feels like "a booming metropolis." He said he has "come to know a lot of people who would appreciate the option."

#### Staff and Officer Reports

**General Manager:** Leslie thanked Hilary for "pulling the VQ requests together." She said "we're closer than we were on putting projects in context" and told Chris they "don't mean to be ignoring" the proposals. She thanked Andyman for installing an energy-efficient dishwasher in the town kitchen and doing other kitchen repairs. She thanked Robin, Charlie Zennache and his daughter Katie Rose for organizing the upstairs office space so "we can now hold small meetings upstairs." She met with Lara Howe and Sue Kesey to "work through the Community Village food booth selection process to everyone's satisfaction." She said the "pass through partnership with Springfield Creamery on our Peach Power project" was completed and she deposited a check for \$6847 in December. She said there was a delay on the installation of the OCF posters at Fifth Street Public Market but they should finally be in place by the end of January.

**Administrative Assistant:** norma started by wishing a happy birthday to Hilary on Jan. 11 and said Holiday Market was "great fun. We made \$940 selling shirts, sarongs, and other Fair commemorative items." She thanked Robin, Leslie, Charlie, Chelsea, Katie Rose, and Katie Cousins who all helped staff the table. She worked on putting the endowment applications on the website. Grants are available for schools and non-profits in the Fern Ridge area. The Jill Heiman Vision Fund applications are also online and "by the time you read this, the craft applications will be online too." She has been working on editing the Guidelines. Soon she'll work on the databases for craft and food booth links. She also thanked Andyman for all his work on the kitchen and thanked Robin for helping put the kitchen back together.

**Office Assistant:** Robin said the phones are "ringing a lot more already. It's a new year and the Fair is coming!"

**Site Manager:** Steve W. talked about the rain, saying "it's raining now, it's been raining a lot, and the site is flooded." The Long Tom River gage on Tuesday Dec. 4 after the last Board meeting and "after several very stormy days, topped out at over 16 feet and site flooding occurs at 10 feet." He said the flood that day was as high as he's ever seen it, and that means "if you left anything in your booth or camp that could float, it's now somewhere downstream." He reported that Jeff Johnson aka Animal had his second eye operation and it was very successful. He thanked everyone who contributed. You can check the river gage at <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/or/nwis/uv?14166500>.

**Assistant Manager:** Charlie said he "went out at year's end and took readings on the new solar array. In the last six months with 1826 hours of daylight operation we have generated 971 kw hours of electricity, roughly equating to 1893 pounds of carbon offset." (*applause and whistles*)

**Treasurers:** Hilary said budgets will be presented at the Jan. 19 Coordinators' Potluck. The Board meeting to approve the budget will be Jan. 28 (7pm, Central Presbyterian Church). That meeting will start with questions and comments then proceed to a vote on the operating budgets. The Treasurers will present capital projects requests at the March Board meeting.

**President:** Jack wished everyone a Happy New Year and "great '08." He thanked the Board and said the Vision Quest effort was "a great platform to work off of." He thinks a lot will be accomplished this year for "the benefit of the Fair and the community at large." He talked about people "evolving to a higher quality state of mind" and how that can translate to "a change in regime." He talked about the importance of the "get out the vote" effort and is proud the Fair is part of that. He was pleased to report that Monty's recovery is going well. At Fair time "bring your friends and buy a ticket; sneaking in is not acceptable."

#### Committee Reports

**Elders Committee:** Chris Browne read a report from the Dec. 20 meeting where they approved another application and briefly reviewed their budget request before devoting the rest of the evening to having a good time and enjoying a potluck.

**Path Planning Committee:** Chris Browne read a report from the Dec. 16 meeting that included reports on several current projects; they are learning available options for posting information on the OCF websites and plan to work with Site Management to accomplish this; they are gathering more recent maps of the grounds and latest information concerning zoning uses and restrictions; they took a walkabout on the Fair site; and they reviewed the LUMP manual and decided that "to accomplish any meaningful goals the Committee needs to work in concert with the LUMP Committee and any and all affected persons that future plans and changes will affect." They worked with Site Management to identify four areas of immediate concern due to flooding erosion. They elected Dennis Todd and Colleen Bauman to serve as co-chairs of the Committee. Anyone wishing more detailed accounts of their meetings may contact committee secretary Lara Howe. Their next meeting is at noon on January 20 at the Hub Yurt.

**Peach Power Committee:** Anna Scott said the Committee reviewed their proposed budget and draft plans for water conservation and energy efficiency projects. She talked about a concern from LUMP for planetary health. She said it's time "to be present, to have your feet on the ground." She said the toughest ideas to sell are efficiency and conservation and "it's not over, we've just begun." Their next meeting is Jan. 28 at 5pm at the town office.

#### Old Business

##### Consider Donation to Bringing Back the Bow

Deane moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board donate \$1000 from the Board donation budget to Bringing Back the Bow.

*Background:* Jack Holthaus, president of the organization, said Dewey County in North Dakota is "one of the poorest in the US" and that he and a group of other volunteers do this work because "languages and skills are being lost." He talked about the importance of the pride that is attached to "producing something lost in

your culture." He showed pictures of the land where they teach others to make their own bows and said it's a "good opportunity to bring people together." Other skills taught are horseback riding and archery.

*Peach Gallery:* Hilary asked if they are a 501c3 (yes) and commented that the usual donation amount used to be \$500 and she noticed it's been increasing. She said, "If \$1000 is to be the new norm you can only give to half as many organizations." Anna Scott asked the Board to consider four questions: would this donation benefit cultural trusts in Oregon; what donations have already been made to local tribes; do native cultures in our area use this technology; and how does this relate to the OCF mission statement?

*Board:* Lawrence said it's "important not to be too parochial in our vision." He spoke of zen archery and the importance of language preservation and said "we have to start thinking of things differently." Deane voiced support and Joseph said, "Historic moments only come now and then, we have a chance to celebrate the Lakota Nation's declaration on December 20 of a complete break with the United States." Bear said he'd vote for it "by the barest of margins" but that he is also concerned about the donation size. **Lara suggested a friendly amendment to change the amount to \$500 and Bear seconded. The motion failed: 6 in favor (it takes 7) and 4 opposed (Deane, Diane, Jack, Lawrence).** Paxton said part of our mission statement is to help create magical events but "\$1000 is too much, especially for out of the area." Diane remarked that we gave money for the Chataugua trip to New Orleans and she supports the motion because it's about preserving arts and culture. Palmer asked Mr. Holthaus how he thought of asking the Fair for a donation and he talked about going to the Fair and meeting some people who suggested it. Carl said he'd be more comfortable with \$500 but it "seems like a good thing to do for the youth." Danya doesn't "mind the distance or the amount, just the two combined," better that the larger amounts go to local groups.

The motion passed: 9 in favor, 1 opposed (Katie).

#### **Appoint Main Stage Co-Coordinator**

Bear moved and Carl seconded that the Board appoint Brian Keogh as Main Stage Co-Coordinator.

*Background:* Tia Christiansen resigned to take a full-time job as a general manager for a California arts festival.

*Peach Gallery:* Leslie thanked current Co-Coordinator David Paul and said, "We are so lucky and so excited to have Brian join him."

*Board:* Lara thanked retiring Co-Coordinator Tia Christiansen. Palmer got a laugh when he told David, "You better not train Brian as well as you trained Tia."

**The motion passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed.**

#### **Appointments to Personnel and Peach Power Committees**

Paxton moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board appoint Anna Scott to the Personnel Committee. Lara moved and Palmer seconded that the Board appoint Anna Scott to the Peach Power Committee. *Background:* Anna was on both Committees when she was on the Board but needed to be re-appointed since her term ended.

Both motions passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

#### **Men's Retreat**

Katie moved and Jack seconded that the Board allocate \$3500 from the change line item in the 2007 budget for a Men's Retreat to be held onsite May 17-18 for a maximum of 30 adult males and to be conducted by David Hatfield. *Background:* This discussion began at last month's meeting and was tabled. Tonight Katie reworded the motion to include more details.

*Peach Gallery:* Hilary said "it's 2008 and a new budget year" then repeated her concerns from last month about gender equity. She also asked, "Why are we paying? Why not ask participants to pay?" She said, "I'm not trying to say this isn't valuable but I want it developed alongside a reciprocal female program." Both Steve W. and Andy supported the workshop idea in theory but Steve said there would be operational expenses and asked where that money would come from if the amount suggested only covers the cost of the facilitator. Andy said he "could see things like this in the future but I'd rather see that amount of money put into bricks and mortar" for a space that could be rented out. He said, "We shouldn't get in the habit of paying for people to hold events onsite." Leslie supports the idea and remembered feminist consciousness-raising groups in the sixties and said the impact "is hard to grasp if you haven't benefited from these types of groups." She said it's important to remember "it is the intention to repeat this for women and girls." She talked about the benefit

of bringing David in "to be a part of our community" and she described his workshops by saying "this is his art." Anna "feels good about this" and said the membership asked for other events but she asked to hear from males on the Board. Charlie said it's important "to keep having discussion and find ways to make this sort of thing happen. It addresses a cultural need that has been overlooked."

*Board:* Carl said he's not ready to spend \$3500 and May is "probably not a great time because the Fair is in clean-up mode." Lawrence said men need more help than women (he paraphrased Margaret Mead who talked about the "cultural difficulty in figuring out what to do with the young men,") but he agreed with "the practical concerns that have been raised." Joseph said with "all the contemplative ability within our organization we should create a program out of our own structure." Danya asked if this would be David's program on our land or our program facilitated by David. He'd like participants to pay and suggested scholarships, noting "even Culture Jam pays." He said it would be nice to have a men's workshop followed by one for women, then something that brings the two groups together. Diane said, "If we're trying to raise consciousness we need at least 300 participants to make a dent" and added that "we women used to sit around and talk and we didn't need a facilitator." Palmer said change happens "one person at a time." Lara said these retreats can be "life-changing" but suggested Katie take into account what people said and "come back with a fuller proposal." Jack said the "message in my mind about being male is very confused. Most of my youth wasn't pretty. It would be a struggle for me to go to one of these, but a start is a start. It just happens that a woman Board member is making the proposal, one who is fiscally conservative, and somehow in my deep conflicted state I think that means something. It will take a leap of faith but I'm willing to take it." Katie said her intent was to "utilize the excess from the 2007 budget" and she wanted to make this retreat affordable for Fair family although a "nominal registration fee could be assessed to cover costs over and above the allocated amount." She also suggested that having an event for men "doesn't preclude similar events for women." She noted that it is "not the norm for men to come together and talk about what it means to be a man in our society." She thinks workshops like this could ultimately "make it more difficult to recruit men to kill each other. Nothing needs to be changed more profoundly than that."

The motion failed: 3 in favor, 7 opposed (Bear, Carl, Danya, Diane, Lara, Lawrence, Paxton).

#### **Allow Internet Committee to Record Board Meetings**

Joseph moved and Deane seconded that the Board authorize the Internet Committee to make audio tapes of the Board meetings and to experiment with those recordings towards the end of making such recordings available to the membership.

*Peach Gallery:* Steve W. said recording is one thing but it should be "a conscious decision when to go to broadcasting."

*Board:* Palmer asked if the Committee would consider putting a time limit on the experimentation and report back to the Board at the end of that time. Joseph said he'd consider anything. Carl asked for an explanation of "experimenting." Joseph said it involves figuring out how to make the recordings available, downloadable, and eventually how people could participate. Danya asked to have the motion read again and wanted to clarify that this motion only allows the Committee to record the meetings but that they would need to approach the Board again to actually broadcast them. Joseph and Deane said yes. Bear asked if they would incorporate that as a friendly amendment (yes) and said "the new motion would include the requirement that the Board vote to authorize any publishing or website distribution of such recordings." Joseph and Deane said they don't see this motion as approval to broadcast but to "experiment and play" with the eventual goal being able to make the meetings more accessible to the membership. Deane said it's his goal to make it "so that folks can sit at home and listen to the meeting. Sure you can read the minutes, but it's not the same thing." Paxton said you have to "practice under real live conditions and see what works and what doesn't" and he figured the process could take 6-12 months. Bear said "the potential audience is probably low but transparency is important." Jack said the recordings "are entrusted to the Secretary and are available for the public to hear." He said the motion is unnecessary because "everything is in place" if the Internet Committee works with the Secretary. He said at Board meetings of some other organizations every board member has a microphone and an on/off switch, and added, "I would want the right to not be broadcast if I felt like it." Lara asked why they couldn't just practice and experiment with a recording of anything. Paxton said the "current recorder saves files in a proprietary format" and

that they need to try several different formats and are “not ready to specify what equipment yet.” Danya said since the Committee uses different technology than the Recording Secretary he doesn’t see a problem with letting them experiment.

The motion passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

### Implementing Food Ballot Measure

Joseph moved and Deane seconded that the Board request feedback and input from the Food Committee, food vendors, and our crew kitchens on what we can do to move toward greater use of local and organic foods.

*Peach Gallery:* Anna said since the motion is “about something the membership already voted on, it seems redundant.” Leslie said the motion voted on by the membership stated food “sold at the Fair” as opposed to “served at the Fair” and wondered why this motion included the Fair’s own kitchens. Steve W. said a motion was passed years ago when Jim Sahr was a Board member that said all the Fair, not just food booths, should “think local first when making purchasing decisions. So we have a policy already.”

*Board:* Bear said this motion “could use more cooking before being served.” Lara doesn’t want “to put any more on our food vendors” because of all they have already done with recycling and durable flatware. Carl said a requirement to go organic could be very expensive. Bear said he doesn’t see this as a requirement; the motion only asks for feedback. Deane said people should be able to decide whether to pay more at an organic booth. Lawrence said it’s “a motion in search of a policy” although he would like for food booths to make available “the nature and source of their ingredients.” Joseph said it’s “basically just a motion to ask for information about how this would affect them.” Jack said ‘organic’ and ‘local’ are two separate things. He said, “Does local have priority even if it’s not organic? Truth in labeling would be nice but we can’t spring that on people overnight.” Paxton thinks of this more as “an educational measure and some food booths probably don’t even know this was voted on” by the membership.

The motion failed: 2 in favor, 8 opposed (Bear, Carl, Danya, Deane, Jack, Katie, Lara, Lawrence).

### Consider Guidelines Amendments

These ten proposed Guidelines amendments will be voted on at the February meeting:

1. (replace paragraph in section 79 page 29) An approved method of wastewater disposal must be provided. Please check the condition of the dry-well in your booth. Inadequate or failed dry wells create unpleasant and unsanitary conditions. The construction desk at main camp has several designs for approved gray-water disposal and an approved methodology for renewal of disposal sumps. Approved gravel fill for sumps will be provided by the OCF. Check with Archaeology before you dig or renew a gray-water well.

2. (addition in italics to section 6 page 3) Most essential systems of this operation, including Booth Registration, VegMan-ECs (vegetation management), Quartermaster, *Archaeology* and Construction, are located in Main Camp.

3. (addition in italics to section 44 page 16) No brush cutting or digging is allowed.

4. (replace paragraph in section 37 pages 13/14) The OCF property is the home of many important archaeological sites, some of which are protected by the laws of the State of Oregon. Because archaeological sites are non-renewable resources, ground disturbance on known archeological sites is prohibited without a state issued permit. Beyond the legal restrictions and supporting our Leave No Trace policy (post-holes can be traced for 5000 years), digging is controlled across the entire Oregon Country Fair property. All ground disturbing activities must be planned with the Site Manager and Archaeology Crew before such activity is begun. Violations may result in disciplinary action that may include probation, suspension, or expulsion. Replacement of existing in-ground structures (e.g. posts and gray water wells) requires consultation with the Archaeology Crew. Such activities also require consultation with Construction (see Guidelines section 56 – General Construction Requirements and section 79-Sanitation).

5. (addition to section 3 page 2, section 5 page 3, possibly section 50 page 19) No one under the age of 18 is eligible to purchase or receive an SOP.

6. (addition to General Information between 17, Water and 18, Security) The first reads: Grid Electricity. Grid power from Emerald Peoples Utility District delivered to the Fair is for designated uses only. Connections to booths, camps and RVs will not be permitted.

7. (addition to “Camping at the Fair” section) Sound Amplification at the Fair. Because we camp so close together, amplified sound, whether live or recorded, projected beyond the intended audience creates problems for other Fair members. If you’re going to crank it up, please be sensitive to the surrounding impacts on live acoustic musicians, exhausted kids and parents trying to sleep, and fair workers with early morning shifts. Camphosts, Coordinators, booth reps and campers are encouraged to develop and negotiate neighborhood agreements before the Fair regarding sound levels and noise curfews.

8. (addition to section 22 page 7, section 50 page 19, section 5 page 3) Youth, 18 and under, found by fair leadership unsupervised or in unsafe situations will result in a 1-year suspension of the responsible adult listed with the youths pass. Further incidents involving youth and the same adult will result in a permanent suspension of the adult from the OCF.

9. (change in italics to inside front cover) The OCF depends on the work of hundreds of dedicated volunteers *whose work is supported* by six employees.

10. (addition to inside front cover, insert between paragraphs 2&3) We seek to carry out our purpose in ways that address the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. By attending to the long-term health and vitality – cultural, economic, environmental and social – of our community, we strive to sustain, celebrate and preserve, the past, present and future of our joyous event and happy family.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm. The next Board meeting is the annual meeting to approve the budget at 7pm, Monday, January 28 at Central Presbyterian Church. The next regular monthly Board meeting is Monday February 4, 2008 at 7pm at the EWEB Community Room. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled items: Budget Issues; Toilets and Handwashing (Deane, tabled from December); Consider Guidelines Amendments; Consider Donation to Yachats Community Health Center (Joseph); Clarify Second Sabbatical/PPP (Jack); Adopt Vision Quest Report (Bear); as well as the following new business: Consider Donation to Community Veterinary Center (Jack). Dropped from the agenda: Community Village Food Booth Policy.

Minutes by Barbara Edmonds who thanks her lucky stars she ran into Jen-lin at the 2003 Holiday Market and decided to apply to be the next Recording Secretary. I’ll be the Recording Secretary through the 2008 Fair but someone new will start in August. At that time, I will have had this job for four years and four months and it feels right to give someone else the opportunity. Someone out there reading, this is perfect for you. It’s a chance to be involved with the Fair year round and to work with a lot of wonderful people. It’s a chance to learn a great deal about the Fair as more than just a three-day event. Sure it takes some time, but probably not as much as most people think.. and besides, you get a rhythm to it. It helps if you’re organized, have good language skills, and have a computer/e-mail. If you’d like to apply, send a letter of interest to the Board. If you want to ask me a question, send me a letter through the office or e-mail me at farouthippie@msn.com.



photo by Erica F. Westphal