



Volume 15, Issue 9

February 2008

Family Album

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*Ruffled Up in Love —
Happy Sweetheart Month OCF!*



Fair Family Calendar

February

28 Elders Committee Meeting, 7 pm, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene

March

2 Facilities Upland Meeting, 6 pm, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene
 3 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Training Center, Eugene
 3 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
 25 BOOTH REGISTRATION PACKETS ARE MAILED TO BOOTH REPS
 27 Elders Committee Meeting, 7 pm, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene

April

1 Deadline to submit applications to sell new craft or food item or perform at the 2008 OCF
 5 Booth Registration at Eugene Saturday Market, 10 am to 5 pm
 7 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Community Room, Eugene
 7 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
 12 Booth Registration at Eugene Saturday Market, 10 am to 5 pm
 19 Booth Registration at Eugene Saturday Market, 10 am to 5 pm
 20 Highway pickup, 10 am, meet at the WareBarn on site
 26 Booth Registration at Eugene Saturday Market, 10 am to 5 pm
 30 All new craft booth applicants notified of approval status

May

1 Admission tickets go on sale
 3 SPRING FLING, 7 pm, WOW Hall, 8th and Lincoln, Eugene

June

7 Main Camp opens

July

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

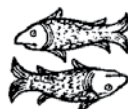
Attention Booth Reps

The Booth Registration crew will mail your registration packets in late March. Please let us know if you've changed your address since last year.



Happy Birthday to Our Fair Family Pisces

- Ashley DemalineRegistration
- Bo FulginPre-Fair Kitchen
- Butch RussSecurity
- Carole DillerBooth member
- Chelsea LandmanCrew Services
- Dan HeinzkillPre-Post Security
- Darin McNallyQuartermaster
- Darren EmmonsCommunications
- David HarrisonWater
- David PeekCrafter
- Deepraj DrakeTeen Crew
- Denise FradinCrafter
- Don DoolinMain Camp Security
- Emily SempleFair Family News
- Gabe SanadaLot Crew
- Gary NolanCraft Inventory
- Gayle MartinezTraffic
- Glenn MillstoneLot Crew
- Jamison GrinsellTraffic
- Jeffrey FalkensteinCrafter
- Julie AveryAmbiance Entertainment
- Justin ScottCrew Services
- Karen BreidenbachRegistration
- Kelly HumphriesRecycling
- Leslie ScottGeneral Manager
- Marilyn Kay Kintzley ..Elder
- Marlene MonetteAlice's Camp Host
- Michael GibbonsFire
- Mike CozadRecycling
- Mike Smith-LonegromRegistration
- Nicole RensenbrinkLot Crew
- Norah RobertsInformation
- Pam BasiliusRecycling Crew
- Paul ConnellLot Crew
- Ray HesselPre-Fair Kitchen
- Richard GrimaldiChildcare
- Rob MontgomeryConstruction
- Robert JacobsTraffic
- Robin WellsPre-Post Security
- Rufus PetersonTraffic
- Santos Narvaezmystery man
- Sara RichBack Up Manager
- Sarah GrimmRecycling
- Sarah HelmsRegistration
- Sonja WeberFire
- Todd KelleyLot Crew
- Vicki ScottVegManECs



1 FFN Per Household

Does your household receive more than one Fair Family News? Please share and let us know who we can delete from our mailing list. Write to the office at office@oregoncountryfair.org. (This will not take you off the membership list — just the FFN mailing list.)

Even better — get off the FFN print list and read us on-line at www.oregoncountryfair.net. Color pictures, faster delivery.

Recovery Camp?

Anyone who would be interested in participating in a "Clean & Sober" camping area at OCF 2008 please send a contact e-mail to am@oregoncountryfair.org. We are currently exploring this possibility and need to gauge the potential interest in and impact of such an area. Anonymity will be strictly maintained and all responses will be confidential.

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.

Front Page Remodel

In order to accommodate new postal rules, we are making some changes to the appearance of the front page of Fair Family News. The new rules require us to change the placement of the mailing-label box. That in turn requires us to move other elements on the page. We will use this opportunity to try out some different formats for the cover, so we can figure out what works best. Thanks for bearing with us as we "remodel" the front page.



FFN Cool Sweets



Mary "Sorbet" Shuler
 Dan "Ice Cream" Cohn
 Brad "Banana Split" Lerch
 Cynde "Bonbon" Leathers
 norma "cherry garcia" sax
 Suzi "Mud Pie" Prozanski
 Joseph "Popsicle" Newton
 Emily "Baked Alaska" Semple
 Dominic "Rice Dream" DeFazio
 Michael "Tin Roof Sundae" Ottenhausen



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)

Come to Carnaval Brasil at the WOW Hall on March 1st, a fundraiser for SHSKI, Students Helping Street Kids, Int'l. Featuring Samba Ja & Calango. Doors open at 7, music starts at 8.

VENETA HOME FOR RENT I'm leaving town this summer for a year! and want to rent my sweet Veneta home to Fair Family. Quiet neighborhood, organic garden 3BRs, 1 1/2 bath, fenced yard, electric and wood heat. Call 541-935-2577 or 2.galen.carpenter@gmail.com

Need Lawyer & a Surveyor. Tomas longtime recycling crew and community activist having problems since 1974 with timber co. and big land-owner, wrongfully changing surveys to take my property. Thomas C. Brandt 37056 Boiler Cr. Rd. Springfield, OR 97478 933-3302

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

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



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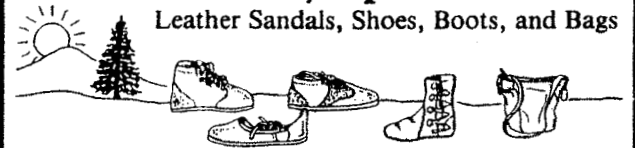
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Deane Morrow Ceiling Tile

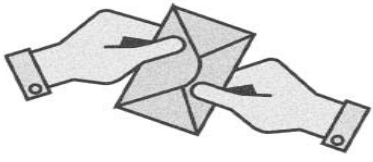
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All Ages
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2/27 The Mountain Goats / Jeffrey Lewis
 2/28 Live from the WOW Hall, it's Midnite
 2/29 An Evening with Johnny Winter
 3/1 Carnaval Brasil! feat. Samba Ja
 3/2 Sole & the Skyrider Band
 3/7 Kris Delmhorst / Winterpills
 3/8 Casey Neill & the Norway Rats
 3/11 WOW Past, Present, Future Auction
 3/22 Circus Contraption Band
 3/22 at the McDonald Theatre CCPA hosts
 Buckethead with That 1 Guy





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).

Dear Fair Family,

I believe the time has come for the OCF to use durable plates, cups, bowls and silverware. Paper food service has serious drawbacks. Bleaching paper food service generates dioxins that are not good for the environment and may contaminate compost. Many paper products have a thin plastic coating that interferes with the mechanical sifting of finished compost. Lastly, these items are single-use throw-away products so common in our culture, yet alien to what I believe to be the ideals of this Significant Event.



Let's Use Real Plates

Food booths generate clean food scraps suitable for producing useful compost. The public eats most of the food they purchase. The volume of food scraps generated by the public is miniscule. Let us eliminate the compost sort from the public entirely and create compost the local community can use from what the food booths produce. The effluent from cleaning durable food service is compostable and I believe we can create an effluent management system the Lane County Health Department can approve. Innovation is the key to

sustainability.

The OCF donates thousands of dollars to many worthy causes and pays for a lot of very groovy entertainment while generating mountains of waste. We can afford to manifest durable tableware. We can arrange for our great-grandchildren to eat from the same plates our parents used. Please encourage our leaders to make durable tableware a priority.

Lost in Hope,
Randy Waugh,
Recycling Crew since 1987
P.S. Good luck, Jeep.

Fair Thee Well: Berk Snow

Long time Fair family member Berk Snow died June 14, 2007, when his small Cessna plane crashed near Yellow Pine, Idaho. His wife of 30 years, Suzanne Beers, survived the crash and was rescued four days later.

Berk was born Dec. 18, 1951, in Portland, Oregon. When asked where he grew up, he usually answered truthfully: "I didn't!" As a young man he evaded the draft during the Vietnam conflict and was part of the back-to-the-land movement, homesteading on land he loved in Northern California, where he is buried. His attachment to the land led to a lifetime of environmental activism. His other passions were music and flying.

He did a monthly radio show, specializing in folk music, for KMUD Community Radio and was the treasurer on their Board of Directors. He was a regular at Kerryville Folk Festival, Burning Man and the OCF's entertainment camp. He flew hundreds of people at Burning Man, and was an active pilot for the environmental movement, transporting activists and



overflying clearcuts and forests. He loved to fly to wild and inaccessible places.

Berk was fortunate to share his love of the OCF with many family members and is survived by the following Fair family: Suzanne Beers, Jade and

Garnett Empyrion, Goddess Tie Dye Booth W13; Leila Snow, Office Fairy; Bridget Snow, Hospitality; Loren Snow, Office SO; Roy Lisi, Elder; Sally Adelman, Brian's Tye Dye Booth #559; Tamara Crafts, Jeff Lake, Minta Crafts and Ari Lake-Steinburg of Ambiance; and a host of close friends developed over more than 20 years at the Fair. Berk was looking forward to becoming an Elder next year.

Known for his twinkling blue eyes, sense of playfulness, generosity and the ability to listen deeply to others, Berk will be missed by all. A small sign in his office read: What will you do with your one wild and precious life? Berk used his time among us here well, and

Renaissance Roots Corrections

Dear Readers,

Many of you have told me how much you enjoy the Renaissance Roots column. Thank you very much for your encouragement and comments on the series!

Reliable sources tell me that there were a few errors in timing in last month's column about the Circus Stage. Several of the events that I had pinned to happening in 1976 actually happened in other years. The Attempted Naked Parade, for example, probably happened in 1975 instead of 1976. Also, people agree that there were most certainly other Naked Parades and Nearly Naked Parades by the marching band and others (can anybody say "Mud People"?) in later years.

There also was a mistake in January's story. The name of Sheri Lundell's booth is Café 26.

These corrections and others to the series will show up in the book that I'm writing about the history of the Oregon Country Fair. Thank you for sharing this interesting journey with me, as I explore Fair mysteries and piece together stories that reflect something close to what "really" happened. Thank you again for your support!

Suzi Prozanski

Fair Family News crew

suzipro@efn.org

*Happy
Valentine's
Day!
Peace,
peach
and love
to all
Fair
Family!*



Fair Thee Well: Coyote

After reading about our long-time friend, Kal Kalamas' passing last month, I realized I need to let you all know of my husband, Coyote Otto's passing on Nov. 21, 2007. I doubt if any of you even know his last name. During the late '60s in Haight Asbury he was known as Coyote Jones.

Coyote was diagnosed with HIV in '86, AIDS in '94. It's been a long, hard struggle to keep him alive, and he had 13 years he wouldn't have had without the love and support of friends and family, and, of course, his own sheer determination to stay alive.

We were part of the OCF family for 20 years, from '84-'04, when the drive from Sonoma County, Calif., just became too much for him. He seemed to have a medical breakdown right before the Fair two years in a row. The last time he came, he got very sick and we had

to go straight home after the Fair instead of staying with friends, partying it up some more. We both loved the OCF, not only to visit friends we only see during Fair time or on the trip up and back, but we were also rejuvenated by the energy of the OCF.

Coyote died suddenly of a heart attack. I miss him terribly and know my life will never be the same. I'm forever thankful we had our 29 years together and wouldn't trade any part of it for anything.

I love you Coyote.

Denise Otto

Booth 195 - Beadwork By Denise

Note: Denise has been hit hard financially by Coyote's long illness and, at last, his sudden death. Any financial support would be greatly appreciated. Write: Denise Otto, 231 Robin Way, Santa Rosa, CA 95407. Calls are also appreciated: (707) 579-8174.

OCF Recycling: We Must Do Better

Compost Happens: Part II of IV

article & photos by Joel E. "Jeep" Pagel

Imagine getting up at 5 a.m. every Fair morning, sleepily eating breakfast, and then walking to a large open shed, while all around you the Fair wakes up. You might drink a cup of coffee or hot chocolate to take the chill off the July morning in the southern Willamette Valley; don your gloves, still soaked from yesterday's work; and turn on the morning's first CD loud enough for your fellow crew while you wait for the morning's load of compost to be dumped from the bobcat's scoop onto the sorting dock.

During our work, the Recycling Crew manually sorts through plates of leftover Tofu-tias and gets splattered by errant smoothies. We search through this entire mess for non-compostable material such as plastic diapers, plastic straws, coffee lids, plastic bottle caps, and small batteries of all kinds. For emphasis, I repeat: every item you or the public places in the compost barrel is later individually sorted by our crew of dedicated recyclers. By hand.

Over the loud noise of thumping music, our large trucks and trailers come and go from their routes within the Fair and outlying areas; each time returning with full trucks and trailers containing barrels of odiferous compost. After dumping, we wash each barrel with water and a brush, and return these "clean" barrels back into the Fair for another day of our Event's fun and frivolity.

Mistakes may lead to serious injuries; often, our crew emits strident calls for assistance when lifting 400-pound barrels onto and then off the trucks and trailers. Each crew knows what to do, honed by years of working in unison as a close team. No matter their physical size or time on the crew, each person melds into this closely integrated team to haul, dump and sort compost from waste. All crew members watch out for the others, working to avoid strained backs, crushed legs, cuts, slipping and broken ankles. To date, we have not had a serious injury on our crew.

However, despite crew unity, we are too few, and the Fair's compost barrels contain too much errant waste. While we try to be done by 11-11:30 a.m., some crews frequently do not complete their tasks until well after noon, having labored for over seven to eight hours wrestling barrels, sorting compost and avoiding splooge. After our shifts, we are all ready for a shower and much-needed rest, having risen between 4:30 and 5 a.m.

This year, we sorted more than 140 cubic yards of compost, enough to fill at least 600 55-gallon drums. This compostable material became a mound



Waste pulled from compost piles.



50 feet in diameter and over 15 feet high. Our recycling crew manually pulled out more than 15 cubic yards of trash from the compost bins. This waste included nefarious items, including more than 100 lead-acid, nickel cadmium, and lithium (very toxic) batteries, and two damaged cell phones.

Our composting effort is still in its infancy, and we are learning and researching as we progress. For the previous six years, we tried to turn compostables into soil at a location on Fair property. This effort could be viewed as a failure because we have since discovered that despite our raking and pawing through dumped barrels, there was too much waste (such as batteries, coffee cup lids, bottle caps, bottles, plastic straws and plastic forks) in the compost, even though our crew tried to hand-pick through the barrels to remove waste material. It is ironic that the most toxic item

(batteries) is also the most likely item to slip through our system.

Our compost piles from 2002-2006 cannot be sifted, and will be trucked to landfills and discarded at the Fair's expense because of these toxic and dangerous items. To learn from our mistakes, we have moved our compost recycling operation to a different location to have more control over sun exposure and moisture of the pile, and hope by pre-sorting the compost before piling we will address the waste issue before the material begins to decompose.

Is our Fair a sustainable event? Is the cost of recycling our compost cost-effective? To make that claim, would you count staff hours involved with sorting each barrel of compost produced by our Event? Would sustainability be measured by the pounds of compost that are recycled back into dirt? Or the amount of waste diverted from the landfill?

By any metric, we have realized that for recycling to be successful at the Oregon Country Fair, every single one of us must work to improve and aid the effort of the public, our vendors, and most importantly, each person in our Fair Family. At the Oregon Country Fair, our waste is not out of sight, out of mind; we see what is thrown away, and what is recycled. Please reduce, reuse, and recycle; take that extra moment to sort your waste and place your material in the correct barrels.



Sow Seeds of Peace: March 15 & 16

by Michael Carrigan, Peace & Justice Booth, Community Village; Take Back America Coalition



On Sunday, March 16, the Take Back Our America Coalition, a Lane County coalition of peace, justice, environmental, student and community groups, will commemorate the fifth anniversary of the invasion of Iraq, by joining together in a community-wide call to end to the war and occupation of Iraq, and in support of peace and justice. The theme of the day is "On The Fifth Anniversary of the Invasion of Iraq: Sow Seeds Of Peace."

The day's events in Eugene include a peace parade, rallies preceding and following the parade, a community celebration and an evening candlelight vigil. Join us as we come together to plant seeds of peace by exploring what can be done to end this war and prevent the next one.

The Eugene event is just one of many "Five Years Too Many" events that will be happening throughout the country in March. For example, Portland is planning a major mobilization March 15, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the South Park Blocks, with action tents, a march and a rally with speakers and music. For more information go to www.pdxpeace.org. There's a full day of events planned in Eugene:

- **12:30-1:30 pm:** Rally at the University of Oregon's EMU amphitheater organized by UO students.
- **1:30-2:30 pm:** Community peace parade in the streets to the old Federal Building, 7th and Pearl.
- **2:30-4:00 pm:** Rally for peace and justice with speakers and music.
- **4:30-7:00 pm:** Community celebration at Cosmic Pizza, 8th and Charnelton, with entertainment by the Skinner City String Band and Urgent Carnival Political Theater.

- **7:30-8:30 pm:** Silent candlelight vigil honoring those who've died in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

The theme of the parade is "Look! The Empire has no Clothes" It will be energetic and colorful with a wide variety of signs, banners and puppets, **including three 12-foot puppets from the Oregon Country Fair.** The parade will be led into the Federal plaza by the mobile percussion ensemble Samba Ja, which plays wild, funky, infectious and incredibly danceable street music from all over Brazil and the Americas.

Help us make the fifth anniversary the final one of the Iraq war. Join our efforts to create the strongest possible actions in March — actions that will not only mark the war anniversary but will help build a more powerful and inclusive peace movement that will finally bring the Iraq war to an end.

To get involved contact the Take Back America Coalition, c/o Community Alliance of Lane County (CALC), at 485-1755, x-204 or calcdev@efn.org. For more information go to www.calclane.org.



Leslie Scott: The Early Years

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

Editor's Note:

Leslie Scott, General Manager of the Oregon Country Fair for the last 16 years, announced at this month's Board of Directors meeting that she will step down from her position after this year's Fair. Leslie's letter to the Board is reprinted on page 7.

Leslie's future plans include more time for family and herself. She also plans to continue managing the Oregon Truffle Festival, a successful event held in Eugene that she and her partner, Charlie LeFevre, founded three years ago.

The Board, staff and management team will meet in March to work on a transition plan.

This article summarizes the Fair's last such transition when Leslie Scott was first hired. This article is based on research of Fair minutes and numerous interviews with fabulous Fair folks.



Leslie Scott and Charlie LeFevre enjoy time together at the 2007 Fair..

© 2007 Geoffrey Squier Silver

Leslie first came to the Fair 30 years ago when her then-husband, Tom Scott, was asked to help design the Integral House in Community Village. Tom shared his expertise in solar energy, earning them day passes in 1978. The next year, Tom helped build Integral House and Leslie helped staff the Politics Booth in the Village.

"I'll never forget my first night sleeping in a loft in Community Village," Leslie says, "... going to sleep to all the sounds. Especially, there was a piano in Shady Grove ... listening to the sound of that piano, ... we had this magical, magical sleep in that loft under the stars. It almost feels like my whole life changed as a result of that one-night's sleep. Feeling like we had found home: This is it, these are our people, this is our place."

Leslie and Tom eventually split up amicably. Tom moved on to the new Energy Park enclave, while Leslie continued her involvement with the Fair by volunteering at the Midwifery Booth for six or seven years.

After earning her master's degree at the University of Oregon in 1991, Leslie came across an ad in "What's Happening" seeking applications for the General Manager of the Oregon Country Fair. "I had all of these people calling me, saying I should apply," she says. "... That summer (of 1991), I had had a great experience at the Fair. So I applied."

The long stability the Fair has enjoyed during Leslie's tenure stands in marked contrast to the state of the organization when she was first hired. When she began her Fair career as GM in February 1992, Leslie walked into one of the most tumultuous situations the Fair organization has ever experienced.

The minutes show that in 1991, a divided Board could not agree on how the Fair should be run. The shift to a paid GM in 1989 proved difficult for the Fair organization after many years of volunteer GMs and volunteer Board Presidents acting as GMs. This volunteer structure blurred the boundaries between who decided policy and who decided operations. That issue would prove to be pivotally problematic for the Board and its first paid GM, Arna Shaw. Defining who was responsible for different duties nearly tore the organization apart, resulting in a recall election of the Board in November 1991.

In the end, all but two members of the standing Board were re-

called, and 10 new faces were voted in. Many on the new Board had campaigned on the pledge of a "new start."

"It was a classic phoenix moment for the Fair," Leslie says.

Several months later, the reconstituted board held a meeting to vote on the next General Manager. Five candidates had been interviewed by the hiring committee, and three finalists were asked to come to the Board meeting where the decision would be made.

"There was so much tension in the room, people could hardly breathe," Leslie says. "The room was packed to the walls." Leslie sat next to Andrew Harvey, a friend she had worked with on the Council for Human Rights in Latin America. "He said,

"What are you doing here?" Leslie remembers. "I said, 'I'm one of the candidates.' And he said 'YOU?!' and he started laughing. I didn't know what that meant."

The Board first reconsidered Arna Shaw, but the vote was split, 5-5. Then Board member Margo Schaefer, who knew Leslie from volunteering with her at WomenSpace, nominated her for GM.

"I was completely unknown," Leslie says. During the discussion, "someone on the Board commented, 'How can I vote for her, she's not part of Main Camp,'" she recalls. "I turned to Andrew Harvey and said, 'What's Main Camp?' and Andrew burst out laughing again."

After much discussion, the Board unanimously voted to hire Leslie.

Putting the tumult behind, Leslie forged a working relationship with the new Board and held open houses to meet Fair members. She says her education in peace studies and community cultural development have helped her find ways to bridge the differences between people. That background also helped her as she took on the task of building bridges to the Fair's neighboring communities. Leslie

says she relies on a collaborative approach to consensus-building, working to help people feel empowered.

For the 1992 Fair, Leslie lined up an experienced BUM (Back Up Manager) team:

- Andrew Harvey, who had worked as Quartermaster in Main Camp;
- Sallie Edmunds, who helped start Energy Park, was a volunteer GM from 1987-88 and is a BUM still; and
- Robert DeSpain, who was Board president (and essentially a volunteer GM) from 1983-85, and who now co-coordinates the Spoken Word program.

Leslie's collaborative approach has been key to her success in working with others, says Zak Schwartz, current BUM and longtime White Bird staffer. "It's funny to see people put Leslie in the position of General Manager, so they start thinking about her as someone who would power trip or somebody who would be authoritarian. And that is so not-Leslie," he says. "She is the most beautiful, loving person. And everything she has to deal with, she'll come by and ask (the Back Up Managers), 'So what'll we do with this one?' We're always debating it from those values and working that love with everybody and not stepping on toes, giving everybody a say. We pump up something that seems to be the consensus of the people involved. That's always our motivation."

"I'll never forget my first night sleeping in a loft in Community Village. ... It almost feels like my whole life changed as a result of that one-night's sleep."

— Leslie Scott



Ready to Move On

Dear OCF Board, Officers, Staff and Personnel Committee,

There is a great peace that comes in knowing when in one's life it is time to make a change, even when that change brings with it a sense of enormous loss and uncertainty.

There is a place in one's heart and soul that speaks only when we are still enough to hear, a place of great wisdom and authenticity. It is rare that I quiet myself enough to listen to that voice, but it has been whispering to me ceaselessly for some months now though I have managed to silence its counsel. Events of recent weeks, both outrageously affirming and deeply painful, have turned that voice from a whisper to a roar.

I am ready to move on and away from what has been the greatest joy, the greatest challenge, and ultimately the greatest teacher of my life, the community known as the Oregon Country Fair. I am moving toward a life that prioritizes family and friends long neglected, a life that is calling to me to reclaim its self, to laugh and sing, and dance and swim, to care for my health and to feed my spirit; to a life that explores a different kind of work with a different group of colleagues, and in support of a shared vision with my life partner Charlie.

I am committed to being fully present during this time of change, to facilitating as smooth a transition as possible, and am genuinely excited by the opportunities it presents in both my life and the Fair's. It has been the deepest honor and privilege to serve you, to work along side you, to walk the talk with you, and to help fling a few new doors open along the way. May we always and forever say YES! YES! YES! to one another and to this achingly beautiful world.

I love you, no matter where this life takes us, Across the Universe.

Leslie



D. Karnes

Sandahbeth and Thaddeus Spae first met in 1977.

RENAISSANCE ROOTS

Amber Tide: A musical love story

by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News; © 2008 Suzi Prozanski
photos from the Spae family archives

Editor's Note: Thaddeus and Sandahbeth Spae met when they were both wandering minstrels in the 1970s. They have been performing together for more than 30 years in a dynamic musical duo called Amber Tide, that combines "Sandahbeth's soaring vocals and sassy harmonica with Thaddeus' quick wit and multi-instrumental prowess" (www.ambertide.com). Thaddeus and Sandahbeth have been together so long that they often tell their stories in tandem. They now live in a modest, alter-abled access home in Seattle. Their living room is packed with instruments and a recording studio is set up in the next room. This is an excerpt from an interview at their home in 2005.

Marching into the Fair

Thaddeus Spae (a.k.a. Carl Spaeth) first came to the Fair in 1975, when he was asked by Michael Mielnik (a.k.a. The Flaming Zucchini a.k.a. Reverend Chumleigh) to write a march for the band to perform at the Circus Stage at the Oregon Country Renaissance Faire. At the time, Thaddeus was a voluntary apprentice for Michael, helping him with his gigs by carrying equipment and playing trombone in the streets to attract crowds before the shows. He'd closely watch Michael perform in order to soak up all he could about the art of being a successful street performer.



D. Spaeth

1978: The Blockbuster, here performed with two cinderblocks.

said, "This is cool. I want to learn how this works."

So in 1975 at Michael's request, Thaddeus wrote the music that would become "The Chumleighland March" with parts for violin, clarinet, trombone, sousaphone and drums. He also became the nominal leader for the marching band. Over the next few years, the band grew from six members to a full band and changed its name from the Alligator Ragtime Band to the Fighting Instruments of Karma Marching Chamber Band (eventually /Orchestra). The band's parades quickly became a popular Fair institution.

8 Sandahbeth first came to the Fair in 1977 when some friends invited her, saying "You're really gonna love this!" Sandahbeth

remembers that "there was a big crowd of people (waiting) out at the front gate (to buy tickets). So we started playing. And the Fair people came out and said, 'Here's camping passes and tickets to get in. We're having some entry problems and if you guys would continue to do this, we'd appreciate it very much.' And it was another 45 minutes, but nobody was bored because we had everybody partying."

Cover the triangle

When she got inside the Fair, Sandahbeth was delighted to discover that she felt right at home.

"I got in," Sandahbeth says, "and they said, 'Well, you don't have to wear clothes. You have to cover the little triangle, but you don't have to wear clothes.' ... I said, 'Where's this been? Why's it taken me so long to find it?' ... There were all these people like me. There were these booths of people with wonderful arts and crafts and they were generous. If they liked your music, they gave you things."

"And that's almost better than money," Thaddeus says. "It's an entirely different experience to receive stuff."

"They appreciated you." Sandahbeth says. "It was like, 'Welcome home.' Sometimes I wish I could have that first time again. I didn't even know it existed. ... So I found a place along the path and I was street performing, or path performing, and then the marching band came by. It was the icing on top of the cake. It was the most wonderful experience that I have had to date."

"If there was a movie made about us," Thaddeus says, "that would be a significant scene in it because, you know..."

"In the marching band," she says, "there was this man wearing an American flag jockstrap."

"And playing a preposterously large instrument," he says, "obviously trying to compensate!"

"Well, I didn't have anything on except a loincloth," she says.

"I'm marching by," he says, "and there's a lady under a tree at Shady Grove with one tittie fetchingly flapped over the top of her guitar. And she's sitting there going, 'Aaaahhhhh!!!' at the marching band. And so we were sort of giving each other..."

"Checking each other out," she agrees.

"That wasn't the first time we'd met. We had met on a couple of other occasions. And it hadn't always been as nice," he says. "Sandahbeth and I first encountered each other at the Saturday Market in Portland. I was waiting for the rest of the Dixieland band to come and play in this space. She set up (nearby) and started playing and I got all ..."

"Territorial," she suggests.

"Territorial," he agrees, "... and there's nothing that pisses territory so good as the trombone. Another important reason to play it, yes, cause it's LOUD! Loud, loud, LOUD and proud! Proud and loud! ... I started playing and she thought I was the rudest man who ever lived. She was probably right. I was a pretty rude guy. I still am. I can be as rude as an angry fart in church if I want to."

Wandering minstrels attract

"It took us three or four (times) bouncing off one another" before they fell in love, Thaddeus says. "It's like one of those things where the two people, you know, Hepburn and Tracy hated each other's guts and then suddenly they found themselves locked in a passionate embrace and they go, 'Gee! How'd that happen?'"

Somehow they got together again later in 1977 after ogling each other at the Oregon Country Fair, and they've been together ever since.

"I've always claimed that I achieved my life goals at the age of 30," Thaddeus says. "I was a wandering minstrel and I'd met and married my one and true love."

"Who was also a wandering minstrel," Sandahbeth adds.

"Well, what did you expect? Yes," he says. "That was what I wanted, that was what I got."

"It's difficult being a wandering minstrel in America," Thaddeus adds. "They keep asking you where you live! You can't get a driver's license. You can't get a job without a driver's license and you can't get a driver's



Going on the road in 1977.

license without an address. There's a very funny songwriter named Steve Clark. ... Steve Clark's song was something about you can't get a license unless you've got a door that's connected to a wall that's connected to a floor that's connected to an address that's connected to a landlord that's keeping you poor, or something like that. ... Wandering minstrels, per se, work indoors, whereas street performers, as the name would imply, work outdoors. The original purpose of the wandering minstrel is lost in America."

"And 'Busker' includes both," Sandahbeth adds.

"Right," he agrees. "'Busker' is the ancient sacred term for street performer and/or wandering performer."

"The other sacred term is 'bard,'" she says. "I always thought of myself as being a bard because I felt that it was a religious calling."

"One of the factors for Sandahbeth and I that attracted us to each other, amongst other things, was that we were both basically spiritual philosophers," he says.

"I consider the Fair to be a wizard fair, to be a magical fair. A lot of that has fallen out. But wizards and magicians and magical people and pagans used to be at the Fair," Sandahbeth says.

They next came to the Fair together, booked as Amber Tide on Main Stage in 1982. They were joined by fiddle player Paul Susen on a stage so small that it barely gave the trio room for Thaddeus to play his trombone.

"That's a lot of instruments!"

"We came back as a musical act, as Amber Tide, and we didn't really do the Circus at all," Thaddeus says. "But since I had been there at the very beginning, I've got a kind of a motley grandfather status: One of the grandpappies of the Circus. ...

"Our experience as Amber Tide is entirely different from my experience" earlier, he says. "It was almost like I was a different person doing Amber Tide than I was when I was doing the Circus as an individual. ... There are more elements to an Amber Tide show than there is to my part in a circus. I was just a trombone player in the Circus and I wrote music and occasionally I would do a song. ... I did a couple of solo trombone and voice things — St. James Infirmary and Ball and Chain. They were very manic, but they were also very simple, because all I was doing was playing trombone.

"With Amber Tide, I played guitar and trombone and mandolin and all these other instruments," he says. " ... They were describing us for Bumbershoot Busker Stage. ... They list all the instruments we play and they say: 'Boy, that's a lot of instruments! That's beyond eclectic! That's scary!' ... I've got a short attention span, that's what it really comes down to. ... I'm interested in a lot of things, so I have to carry a lot of instruments or I get bored real quick. But Amber Tide was kind of combining the side-show carnie, vaudeville patter stuff that I had cut my teeth on in show biz" with the music.



Amber Tide at a recent performance.

"Loud, fast, funny and short"

"As a busker you have to have something that will grab your audience by the throat and drag them over to your guitar case or you won't last long," Thaddeus says. " ... It was the theory of loud, fast and funny as the principal purposes of the street. Loud, fast, funny and short worked the best for Sandahbeth and me ... because people have short attention spans. You've pretty much got the span of a commercial, you know, a 30-second spot on TV. ... If you can get their attention in that 30-second spot period, you may be able to get them to hold still for something that takes longer."

"For a while we lived entirely on the road in a succession of crummy old vans and trailers, just two crazy kids and their three cats out cruising America for kicks," Thaddeus writes on the Amber Tide web site.

They had no fixed address between 1986 and 1993, and the siren call of the road is well-documented in songs on their CD "Under a Secret Sky" that was recorded during that time. In the chorus to "Rusty Buses," they sing:

*"Rusty buses, antiquated cars
In between the headlights, underneath the stars
Swaying to the rhythm of that heavy heavy load
Singing This is the Life, The Life of the Road."*

Between 1988 & 1996, Amber Tide performed at the Fair about every other year. "Then things got too medically weird for us for a while," Thaddeus says. "(We) came back in 2002 and 2005. But in that period in the early '90s we were there often enough, and we were also hanging around in other street performing locations often enough, that people got used to having us around and felt that we were an important part of the Country Fair culture."



Amber Tide plays at OCF Main Stage in 1982.

"... hippies around us"

"I remember one night," Sandahbeth says, "we were jamming up by ... (Hilltop Bakery), the ones that have the desserts and the coffee. Bob Shoemaker was jamming with us and I think Artis was there and Thaddeus and I. We were just cooking away. Thaddeus' chair broke and landed him on the ground. He didn't even miss a beat. ..."

"The crowd went crazy," Thaddeus adds.

"There was another time when we stopped by to get a cup of coffee on our way out to our rig," Sandahbeth says. " ... And they said, 'Oh! Play us just one song!' So obligingly we played one song. By the time we finished that one song, we had attracted three other musicians and the hippies around us were like six deep. We were in the middle of a ring of six-deep hippies, all boogying and partying to the music. And we looked at each other and went, 'Yeah, right. One song!'"

In 2005, 30 years after he helped start the first marching band at the Fair, Thaddeus came full circle and marched in the band once again, this time with Sandahbeth by his side, rolling along in her wheelchair.

"We came back and we were marching in the parade," Thaddeus says. "People were really glad to see us. They were glad to see Sandahbeth trucking along in the parade. Not an easy thing, that all-terrain marching band kind of thing."

They spent the nights off-site that year because of Sandahbeth's circumstances. "Sandahbeth in a chair makes it real hard to camp," Thaddeus says. "So we stayed off site, but we were given lots and lots of perks because we were performing. They bent over backwards and walked on their hands to make sure that our experience was as comfortable as possible. One of the things about Fair, you know, that progressive thing can get obnoxious when it gets too politically correct. But, by god, they really do their best to treat people in wheelchairs a whole lot better than the regular public does. Sandahbeth and I have been joking for a long time about it: 'Amber Tide! Testing alter-access to destruction since 2001!' It's a very bitter joke, but it's true. Adequate access is always an issue, always."

"One thing that's different is White Bird," Sandahbeth says. "White Bird used to be a little small emergency first aid tent, but they're a full-fledge hospital now. They can do surgery in there. I happened to go in to get my blood pressure checked cause I keep a watch on it and I was totally amazed. It was just fabulous. Right on, right on! I've gotta say, right on, White Bird!"

Even though they don't come every year, they both love the Fair. They come back for "psychospiritual rejuvenation," Thaddeus says, as if it should be obvious.

Since the Enlightenment

"I think that the old Fair is still there encapsulated within the larger Fair," he says. " ... And I think that the principals and the ideals are still there. But I think that they're kind of buried.... We've still got the young hippie couples with toddlers. What's so funny about peace, love and understanding? It's still a good idea! It's still being discussed and embraced, abandoned with regret; the same basic flux that has gone on in Western civilization since the Enlightenment."



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.

Agenda Review

Tonight's meeting was a little different in structure so the minutes will be too. The annual Board meeting to approve the budget was scheduled for Jan. 28 but was canceled due to snow. So the budget discussion was folded into tonight's meeting and most of the regular agenda was tabled until March. We didn't have the usual reports from committees, staff, and officers. Other than one donation request and member input, the agenda was limited to approving the budget and considering the Guidelines revisions.

And, dear readers, in case you missed it in last month's minutes, let me repeat one of January's announcements for you: 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.

Approval of Minutes

Joseph moved and Lawrence seconded to approve the minutes of the January 2008 Board meeting. The motion passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

Member Input

Reggie Soto (Traffic Crew) suggested a plan to eliminate the "space problem" by having "our side" of the river be for Fair Family only and have buses and the public enter and park on the Far Side. He suggested building bridges across the river. Joseph invited him to attend a LUMP meeting.

John Flanery (Community Village) said he initiated the food ballot measure on last October's ballot. He wants the Board to act on the issue. He said there is a process for the Board to get input from the membership and that "if there's a process you should listen to it." He suggested a good place to start would be to gather information by asking food booths to figure out how much money they spend on organic/non-organic, local/non-local foods.

Leslie Read a Letter

General Manager: *(Leslie read a letter she delivered to the Board earlier in the day. As soon as she started reading, the room got real quiet.)* She said, "There is a great peace that comes in knowing when in one's life it is time to make a change, even when that change brings with it a sense of enormous loss and uncertainty. There is a place in one's heart and soul that speaks only when we are still enough to hear, a place of great wisdom and authenticity. It is rare that I quiet myself enough to listen to that voice, but it has been whispering to me ceaselessly for some months now though I have managed to silence its counsel. Events of recent weeks, both outrageously affirming and deeply painful, have turned that voice from a whisper to a roar. I am ready to move on and away from what has been the greatest joy, the greatest challenge, and ultimately the greatest teacher of my life, the community known as the Oregon Country Fair. I am moving toward a life that prioritizes family and friends long neglected, a life that is calling to me to reclaim its self, to laugh and sing, and dance and swim, to care for my health and to feed my spirit; to a life that explores a different kind of work with a different group of colleagues, and in support of a shared vision with my life partner Charlie. I am committed to being fully present during this time of change, to facilitating as smooth a transition as possible, and am genuinely excited by the opportunities it presents in both my life and the Fair's. It has been the deepest honor and privilege to serve you, to work along side you, to walk the talk with you, and to help fling a few new doors open along the way. May we always and forever say YES! YES! YES! to one another and to this achingly beautiful world. I love you, no matter where this life takes us, Across the Universe.

(As you can imagine, Leslie got hugs and a standing ovation. This is not an immediate departure. She will stay with us through the 2008 Fair and help to transition in her replacement.)

Site and Committee Reports

Although no other reports were on the agenda, Chris Browne turned in two written reports from the Elders Committee and Path Planning, and Steve turned in a written site report so here's a summary of those. Steve reported, "January was an active weather month on the Fair site. We experienced several more floods, a week-long cold snap with nighttime temps into the teens, then several snowy days (estimated total 6-8"). Thanks to the efforts of AndyMan, Jeff Johnson and "Parrot" Mike, we saved the roof tarp structures over the screenhouse at Alice's and over Jill's Crossing from collapse under the snowload. Thanks also to the dedicated Fair volunteers who came out for the Highway Pickup on Jan. 20. We welcome visitors: the floodplain is closed to vehicles, park at the Hub or the Warehouse, kneeboots recommended, canoes are available if the site is flooded, call 541-935-7846 for info."

Chris reported: When the Elders met in January they discussed "the process for Elders to phase out of their current work locations" while remaining active in the Fair. They are compiling a list of "possible interim jobs that should address the needs of Elders in the future." Their next meeting is at the town office on Feb. 28 at 7pm. At the January meeting of Path Planning several topics were discussed including the need to work with Booth Registration "to help address the problems with booths lost due to flooding and the need to develop more one-year-only booths." They looked at scale models of "light weight movable structures to allow more juried crafters a chance to display their crafts." They learned about land use restrictions and said all Fair property bought before 1989 falls under a non-conforming land use permit and is broken down into five operational zones: operations, camping, open spaces, activity, and parking. Their next meeting is at the Hub Yurt on Feb. 17 at noon.

Approve the 2008 Budget

Jack moved and Palmer seconded that the Board accept the 2008 Crew budgets of \$567,432 as proposed by the Treasurers and Budget Committee.

Jack moved and Carl seconded that the Board accept the 2008 Board of Directors budget of \$85,050 as proposed by the Treasurers and Budget Committee.

Jack moved and Bear seconded that the Board accept the 2008 General Manager budget of \$539,930 as proposed by the Treasurers and Budget Committee.

Jack moved and Paxton seconded that the Board accept the 2008 Site Manager budget of \$71,500 as proposed by the Treasurers and Budget Committee.

Jack moved and Palmer seconded that the Board accept the 2008 Administrative Assistant budget of \$31,450 as proposed by the Treasurers and Budget Committee.

Jack moved and Carl seconded that the Board accept the 2008 Culture Jam budget of \$37,650 as proposed by the Treasurers and Budget Committee.

Bear moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board accept the 2008 miscellaneous property expenses budget of \$5,000 as proposed by the Treasurers and Budget Committee.

Background: The total 2008 budget proposed was \$1,388,012 but the Board added \$3,000 so the final total budget approved by the Board was \$1,391,012. It includes 14 pages of line items detailing the vast array of expenditures from Admissions to Zenn Acres, from property taxes and postage, to toilets and tree equipment, to food vouchers and first aid. The additional \$3,000 added during discussion is for the 'toilets' line item #37 in the GM budget, changing it from the proposed \$60,000 to the approved \$63,000.

Board and Peach Gallery: *(There was discussion between each motion, but for the minutes I'm consolidating, so here's just a sampling of the comments.)* Palmer thanked the Treasurers and Budget Committee for all their work and said he wouldn't have the patience for that kind of detail. Steve suggested that the Board and Budget Committee consider basing the cost of vehicle stickers on the size of the vehicle, charging more for the RVs that "more and more Fair folk are using, and that are creating parking space problems in Crafts Lot and the Far Side." He also said the mystery of why toilet paper disappeared last year and why some porta-potties were overloaded, is that campers (*that means us, folks*) are pooping in buckets in their camps and booths, then transporting those buckets and dumping the contents in porta-potties, making "the norovirus implications staggering." He said there are appropriate

devices at REI but he would accept people using them only on a pack it in pack it out basis, and "leaving those buckets behind after the Fair for Recycling and Site Staff to find and deal with is totally unacceptable." Paxton said our surveys indicate the public wait longer for toilets than anything else. Palmer suggested more signs encouraging people to knock on doors, many long lines can speed up that way. Leslie said Culture Jam goes to eight days this year, "true to the Power of Hope model" on which CJ is based. Joseph asked how we could "expand the capacity of CJ because it's so valuable." Bear drew applause when he nodded to Danya and said now we have a Culture Jam alumnus on the Board. Grumpy said the budget is 'in the red' but that could change next month if the Board approves less than the proposed \$50,000 in capital projects expenditures which is on the agenda for the March meeting.

All the motions passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed (*in the case of the GM budget, it was the amended motion with the additional \$3,000 that passed.*)

Consider Donation to Yachats Community Health Clinic

Joseph moved and Lara seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to the Yachats Community Health Clinic.

Background: Caroline Baumann made the trek from Yachats to speak to the Board about the work of the "non-profit independent health clinic." She talked about the connection between Yachats and the Fair, the fact that many craftspeople live there and the Board often holds its yearly retreat there. The clinic's letter to the Board described the work they do, "providing medical care and health education to residents of all ages in the medically underserved rural area of Yachats and nearby communities.... We strive to provide the most comprehensive health care possible to all of our patients so they do not have to travel great distances to obtain basic medical services. A growing segment of our population is elderly. The difficult winter months can result in road closures on Highway 101, which is our lifeline." Donations to the clinic can be sent to P.O. Box 271, Yachats OR 97498.

Peach Gallery: Leslie said the clinic is "an amazing resource that serves a wide area of the coast." Barbara said it's "a wonderful thing that the clinic accepts new patients regardless of insurance status or ability to pay."

Board: Joseph said it's important that the clinic serves the poor, and Deane thanked Caroline for the clinic's work.

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

Consider Guidelines Amendments

These ten proposed Guidelines amendments were announced last month and scheduled for discussion and voting tonight:

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. Bear moved and Lara seconded to approve guideline amendment #1. Joseph and Lara both spoke of the importance of impressing upon people the need to always get permission before digging. Grumpy suggested adding *and Quartermaster* after the word Archaeology; this was accepted as a friendly amendment. The amended motion passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed

2. (*addition in italics* to section 6 page 3) Most essential systems of this operation, including Booth Registration, VegManECs (vegetation management), Quartermaster, *Archaeology* and Construction, are located in Main Camp. Lara moved and Joseph seconded to approve guideline amendment #2. The motion passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed

3. (*addition in italics* to section 44 page 16) No brush cutting or digging is allowed. Lawrence moved and Lara seconded to approve guideline amendment #3. The motion passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed

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). Lara moved and Carl seconded to approve guideline amendment #4. Grumpy didn't see a reason to replace what's already in the Guidelines, saying the one that's there "says it better and shorter." Steve said this gives an "explanation of the archaeological reasons for our 'no digging' rules." Jack said we need "enforcement language, something like multiple violations warrant probation." Carl said it's necessary to give the Archaeology Crew "the teeth they need to do their job." Diane suggested "kicking this back" to DJ and Virgil and tabling until March. Lara and Danya agreed. The motion was tabled.

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. Bear moved and someone seconded to approve guideline amendment #5. Bear suggested changing it to read "No one who will be under 18 during the 3-day event is eligible to purchase or receive an SOP" which was accepted. Leslie said there should be no unattached minors, that anyone under 18 should have a teen pass rather than a significant other pass, and that this is "necessary for risk management." Peggy Kay Fitzgerald (Internet Committee) asked how this would affect married minors such as an 18-year-old husband bringing his 17-year-old wife. Leslie said there is a process for talking to your Coordinator about being "the exception to the rule." The amended motion passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

6. (addition to General Information between 17, Water and 18, Security) 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. Bear moved and Lawrence seconded to approve guideline amendment #6. There was a bit of discussion and they decided to add the word 'unauthorized' before the word 'connections'. Randy Nowell (Veg-Man-Ec) asked about Alter-Able and Elder campgrounds and Steve said that's "part of designated uses." Steve talked about someone in an RV plugging into the Hub shop building and tripping all the circuit breakers, including the Main Camp Kitchen walk-in cooler, and said "We have to control this." Paxton said there are alter-abled people who need to plug into the solar wagon (Steve said that's authorized) and that one of the vision quest proposals was for "electric Fair vehicles powered by the solar array and allowing other people to plug in as well." The amended motion passed: 9 in favor, 1 opposed (Paxton).

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. Bear moved and Joseph seconded to approve guideline amendment #7. Grumpy questioned the phrase 'projected beyond the intended audience' and got a laugh when he said, "If I'm an asshole I'll argue my intended audience is the whole Fair." Bear said, "You've persuaded me" and accepted deleting that phrase. Jonathan Serphim (Pre-Fair Kitchen) said most of the Fair should be acoustic but that we need to find a place where amplified music is allowed. Andy said the phrase 'if you're going to crank it up' invites people to do so and said we need to preserve our acoustic ability. Steve said the revision relates to campers, not entertainers. Jack said he "has a hard time with this." Lawrence supports "the pastoral feel" and said we need "alternatives to the industrial world." Joseph said maybe a few words need changing but that Steve, on behalf of the Management Team, has asked for something like this for several years. Paxton said Fair acoustic musicians are sometimes drowned out by Crew parties. Diane supports omitting 'intended audience' and said she liked it better before the Spirit Tower and the Front Porch became amplified. Jonathan Seraphim said the drums used to go Thursday - Sunday non-stop and "we don't come to the Fair for a good night's sleep." The amended motion passed: 8 in favor, 2 opposed (Carl, Jack)

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. Lara moved and Danya seconded to approve guideline amendment #8. Lara authored this amendment and feels it is necessary because of re-

ports received by the Board from the BUMS. They kicked around word changes a bit and decided on the following: Youth, 17 and under, determined by Fair management to be in unsafe situations or in violations of the Guidelines will result in a 1-year suspension of the responsible adult listed with the youth's pass. Further incidents involving youth and the same adult will result in a permanent suspension of the adult from the OCF." Joseph supports the idea but thinks it's already covered in the Guidelines. Lawrence said, "Hard cases make bad law." He said different levels of supervision are necessary for different ages and it "looks like policy with operational details attached." Jack said it misses the point because underage drinking is a issue and this skirts it without actually mentioning it. Bear disagreed with Lawrence and thinks it's all policy and said we need flexibility and shouldn't have a "one penalty fits all" policy. Diane thinks people need to get the message that they are responsible for the youth they bring. Grumpy agreed. Leslie said this "is about safety and legality" and suggested "nailing this language down so it's very clear." norma said it's important to not only put this language in the Guidelines but also on the form that is signed by the adult applying for the youth pass. The amended motion was tabled.

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. (*The Board determined this is not a change that requires a vote.*)

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. Lawrence moved and Katie seconded to approve guideline amendment #10. Bear said he likes the sentiment but it "rehashes the statement of intent." Palmer said it has "too many words and sounds like the beginning of a Star Trek episode." Jack and Grumpy agreed. Katie said even she didn't particularly support the revision but seconded "to move the conversation along." Bear interpreted this as a withdrawal of her second, declared the motion failed for lack of a second, and adjourned the meeting. (Revision #16 was submitted as a rewritten and amended version of revision #10.)

Six More Revisions

Six more Guidelines revisions came in too late for last month's minutes. Here they are, to be discussed and voted on in March:

11. (section 56, third paragraph, addition in italics) Do not use *pressure treated* lumber or lumber treated with penta or creosote – both substances are highly toxic. (deletion in italics) *Copper naphthanate may be used as a preservative.*

12. (section 56, eighth paragraph, addition in italics) walls dismantled, properly stored *and tied down*; also, change 'property' to 'properly'.

13. (section 58, second paragraph, addition in italics) The OCF does not permit *visible pressure treated materials*, plywood, lattice...

14. (section 59, second paragraph, addition in italics) *Stairs are discouraged but if used must also be removable.* All ladders or stairs must be removed from the site *or fastened* to the lofts.

15. (section 59, third paragraph) Remove word 'either' so sentence reads: All posts for lofts shall be on pier pads *with straps*. Delete the words 'or pressure treated' from second sentence.

16. (inside front cover under statement of intent or new section under stewardship) Part of living authentically is to become ever more mindful of our impact on the planet. The OCF is committed to restoring and sustaining the health of our natural ecosystems, our local economies, and the well being of all the communities we are a part of. By continuing to reduce, reuse and recycle, as well as advancing new strategies to realize our vision, we can create healthy communities while exploring new paths to stepping more lightly on the earth. By working to balance our cultural, economic, environmental, and social needs, we celebrate both our incredible diversity and our most fundamental shared values.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm. The next Board meeting is Monday March 3, 2008 at 7pm at the EWEB Training Center. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled items: Budget Issues – Capital Projects Requests; Consider Donation to Community Veterinary Center (Jack); Consider Donation for Climate Impact Study (Jack); Consider Donation to Idlewild Festival (Joseph); Consider Donation to Take Back Our America (Bear); Set November 2008 meeting date; Clarify Second Sabbatical/PPP (Jack); Adopt Vision Quest Report (Bear); Groundskeeper Job Description; Elders Committee Appointments (Deane); Consider Guidelines Revisions numbers 4, 8, and 11-16. Dropped from the agenda: Deane's motion on Toilets and Handwashing because his concerns were dealt with during budget discussions.

Minutes by Barbara Edmonds who thanks Leslie Scott for the following quote (*from the 2003 Peach Pit*): "It is an incredible gift, this coming together once a year on the banks of the Long Tom, to rejuvenate the spirit, open the heart, awaken the imagination. The days of the Fair are both a respite from, and an antidote to, the pandemic social, ecological and political stresses of our communities and our planet....We don't pretend to have answers. Our job is to fling open the doors of perception and walk with you into the questions: Can we dream more, inspire the life of a child, fight for wonder and a world of creativity?.....As the poet Rumi says, 'There's a community of the spirit here, join it and feel the delight of walking in the noisy street *and being the noise*'.... Come be the change, make the noise, join us."



photo by Charlie Ruff