

Family Album



2007 Sarah Herbold

Who Will You Be This July?



Happy Birthday! Fair Family News is Sweet 16!



Fair Family Calendar

May

22 Elders Committee Meeting, OCF office, 6:30 pm

June

- 1 NO DOGS ALLOWED ON SITE
- 2 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Training Center, Eugene
- 2 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 7 Main Camp opens
- 14 Charter member booth claim begins
- 15 Returning booth claim begins
- 15 Path Planning Meeting, Hub Yurt
- 17 Mandatory food vendors' meeting, 7pm, Harris Hall, 125 E. 8th, Eugene
- 22 One-year-only booth claim day
- 26 Elders Committee Meeting, OCF office, 6:30 pm
- 28 Last day to submit plans for major booth work
- 28 Significant Other pass fee increases to \$80
- 28 Old Timers Picnic, 4-8 pm, Main Camp Kitchen
- 29 Board of Directors Meeting (for July), 4 pm, OCF site

July

- FAIR FAMILY NEWS GONE FESTIN' No News Is Good News
- 10 Annual meeting of booth participants, 7 - 9 pm, Shady Grove
- 10 Elders Meet & Greet, 7 - 9 pm, fire pit at Alice's
- 11 Elders Bell Ringing Ceremony, 8:30 pm, Shady Grove
- 11, 12, 13 THE BIG PEACH WEEKEND
- 24 Elders Committee Meeting, OCF office, 6:30 pm
- 27 Litter pickup, 10 am, meet at the Warebarn on site

August

- 4 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Training Center, Eugene
- 4 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 8-16 Culture Jam
- 23 Teddy Bears' Picnic, 3 pm
- 24 OCF Evaluation
- 31 Deadline to submit Board candidate statements for publication in the Fair Family News and the Voters Pamphlet

Happy Birthday to Our Fair Family Geminis

- Aaron Reekie.....Recycling
- Ali Gross.....Lot Crew
- Barney Lindsley.....Vaudeville
- Barney Sullivan.....Ambiance
- Bob Clarke.....Far Side
- Bob Jones.....Registration
- Bubba Breach.....Security
- Carmie Spellman.....Traffic
- Charlie Zennache.....Back-up Manager
- Danya Ariel.....Recycling
- Dawn Meckelson.....Registration
- Donna Blaser.....Former Kitchen
- Drew Miles.....Fire
- Ducky Alsdorf.....Chela Mela Meadow
- Forrest Elliott-Farren...Community Village
- Gary Haniuk.....Lot Crew
- Grateful.....Water
- Howard Galvin.....Security
- Ian Stoy.....Registration
- Jacqui Lichtenstein.....Booth member
- Jain Elliott.....Community Village
- Janet Tarver.....Community Village
- Jared Finkle.....Lot Crew
- Jim Sahr.....Electrician
- John Baumann.....Peach Pit
- Lana Dishner.....Registration
- Martha Evans.....Former NRT
- Mary Barton.....Elder
- Maureen Harryman....Registration
- Melissa Willmeth.....Booth 951
- Michael Head.....Electrician
- Michele Sharpy.....Fair Central
- Mike Percilick.....Crew Services
- Mike Snyder.....Traffic
- Penny Peek.....Crafter
- Rian Farquar.....Security
- River Kennedy.....Herbalist
- RT Eury.....Registration
- Ruth Joy.....Crafter
- Shalini Pagliaro.....Crafter
- Skeeter Duke.....Community Village
- Steve Elliott.....Stage Crew
- Steve Gorham.....Back-up Manager
- Steve Wisnovsky.....Site Manager
- Suzi Prozanski.....Fair Family News
- Tim Wolden.....Water



Keep In Touch

MAIL

Fair Family NEWS

Oregon Country Fair
442 Lawrence St.
Eugene, OR. 97401
(541) 343-4298, fax: 343-6554
ffn@oregoncountryfair.org
office@oregoncountryfair.org
www.oregoncountryfair.org
www.oregoncountryfair.net

Fair Family Memorials

The OCF Elders Committee is spearheading the effort to memorialize Fair Family members who have passed beyond our earthly plane. Please share names, dates, Fair affiliation, stories, a picture, and anything else you think is relevant. Look for the remembrance site at this year's Fair! Please send information to: shawnf@wildblue.net.

Looking for Litter Luggers

Our group of intrepid litter luggers has dwindled to 5 or 6 regulars. Surely there are 20 or more of our thousands of volunteers who can join us four days per year for some rewarding service to the Earth! We also need 20-25 extra folks for the July pick-up so we can clean up Suttle Road after our summer celebration.

These are the dates for this year's service to our larger community: July 27, 2008, October 26, 2008, January 18, 2009, and April 19, 2009.

As always, if you participate in 3 out of 4 pick-ups you earn a T-shirt and a gift certificate from Dana's Cheesecake! The cheesecake alone does it, how can you refuse such a deal? Smiles Upon Ya'!

Fair Central: Soul Search

Fair Central is looking for ONE good soul. Someone who doesn't sleep well at night & needs only coffee to keep them up till 6 am. Someone who works well with others and can be a reliable member of a team, someone who has had leadership experience on our crews, can handle pressure and emergencies — someone who is familiar with many of the players on our playground & what their roles are.

If you are that person and think you have what it takes to be a member of Fair Central, please e-mail msJuly@poetworld.net.

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.

Correction

In a letter last month, Ducky's Fair affiliation was listed incorrectly. Ducky should have been listed as the **Camp Host** for Chela Mela.

Geezer Get-together

The Old Timers Picnic will be held on Saturday, June 28th between 4 and 8 pm at the Main Camp Kitchen.

The Elders Meet & Greet will be held on Thursday, July 10th from 7 to 9 pm around the fire pit at Alice's.

The Elders Bell Ringing Ceremony will take place on Friday, July 11th at 8:30 pm at Shady Grove.



Fair Family Rag Weeds



- Brad "Hemp Nettle" Lerch
- Cynde "Liverwort" Leathers
- Dominic "Dock" DeFazio
- Dan "delion" Cohn
- Emily "Horsetail" Semple
- Joseph "Jimson Weed" Newton
- Mary "Milkweed" Shuler
- Michael "Stinging Nettle" Ottenhausen
- norma "chickweed" sax
- Suzi "Pokeweed" Prozanski



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 information about display underwriting Email bradlerch@aol.com or call Brad @ 541-485-8265 (Un-Classifieds not paid for by paste-up won't run)

Wanted; Portland - Full Time Demo Company for food, bodycare and supplements. Person needs good email and detail skills and be able to schedule events. Call Laura Stuart @ 541-913-2521.

For Sale, classic old '56 Chevy flat bed truck (16,000 lbs) \$1000 OBO. This truck has taken Gypsy Caravan stage to & from OCF for last 12 years. Still runs and has been a faithful truck for a long time. Needs some engine work and lots of TLC to continue down the road. Comes with four extra tires. Call or email Penny 541-688-0255 pennybjl@hotmail.com

For Sale: '05 Sprinter van, 43K 140 W.B. - High Roof - Cargo Diesel/B5 Winter/B20 Summer 20-26 MPG. Bulkhead, roof rack, & venting windows. Local small business use in Eugene. 541-686-1079 Richard.

Foreclosure: Local fair family investors want to help people who are losing their homes. Save your credit! We buy before auction, and can give some cash too. Call Marlene & Richard 683-5018 or 520-4215.

Housing needed for crafter & critters. Need one large or two small rooms & outside space. Prefer River Rd. or Whiteaker neighborhoods. After fair is fine. Thanks! Sue Theolass 541-688-6679.

Hard working woman experienced in sales, food production, teaching, and nonprofit mgmt. Looking for position at the fair this year. Call or email Sarah Adkison 541-687-8711 sarahvoyager@yahoo.com

Potter looking for boothshare space...am size/space/flexible, fun and have great references. Please call Ali Clark @ 503.234.0460. Many thanks!

Soaptopia is looking to split a vendor booth. We are 100% Junk Free, Eco-Friendly, Hands on soap makers. Please check us out at www.soaptopia.com & contact jolie@soaptopia.com.

Tuli Fisher, maker of fine hand forged garden tools with hardwood handles is looking for someone to share booth space with. Please e-mail tuliestlin@hotmail.com or call 406-522-9443.

Artisan searching for booth space, I'm a leather crafter specializing in nature and mythical inspired masks, crowns, barrettes and various adornments. My pieces can be seen at wingandtalonleatherworks.com and wingandtalon@etsy.com Thanks Donovan 607 539 3237

Fun, enthusiastic people looking to share booth space @ the fair. Selling glass bead jewelry, glasses & much more. 14 years experience. Please call Katie @ 541-419-4615. Thanks!

I am seeking booth space at the '08 OCF. I am a glass artist that makes clocks, bowls, and some jewelry. Please contact me if you would like to share your space. Kelly 360-263-2787

Please, please... Can you help? I am an approved henna artist and longtime OCF participant. I am seeking a booth space this year and for the future. Call Shakaia 541-484-6880 or shakaia@omnivine.com

Help. Booth space needed. Amaroq ceremonial rawhide rattles. Flexible, compact. Vendor since '90. Dedicated, hard working Fair-y, also creating and wearing giant puppets since 1988. Jill Talise, 541-592-4695 or 541-592-2408, amaroq@cavenet.com

Equipment needed for newly acquired Village Restaurant @ OCF. Large pots, stoves, iceboxes, etc. Tell us what you have, we'll tell you what we need. Park St. Café. Sakti 343-6667.

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Chela Mela Meadow - M 53

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Miracle Us!

Tor@musicalfurnishings.com
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We make our living building musical furniture (OCF since 2002) and we love it - the furniture is so fun and successful that we need a permanent space. Help make 2008 the year we set our roots. Open to anything. We'd love to hear from you! Tor & Ariel



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Booth #2 across from
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Lincoln

All Ages
687-2746

- 5/23 Greenlander & Volofonix
- 5/24 Medium Troy - Free Show!
- 5/30 Athiarchists C D Release Party
- 5/31 Animal Farm C D Release Party
- 6/1 Donna Jean & the Tricksters
- 6/3 Los Campesinos!
- 6/7 The Mutaytor & Solovox
- 6/9 Citizen Fish & Intro5pect
- 6/13 The Blow & Point Juncture WA
- 6/20 The Tunnel Kings
- 6/21 KRVM's Bump Skool Live!@WOW

The Hiding Place

Michele Sharpy
hairstylist

686-1998

337 East 11th Alley
(near high street)
Eugene, OR 97401
msharpy@comcast.net



Pam Basilius
Bookkeeping Services

203 Deadmond Ferry Rd.
Springfield, OR 97477

(541) 747-5955
mcriverwoman@gmail.com

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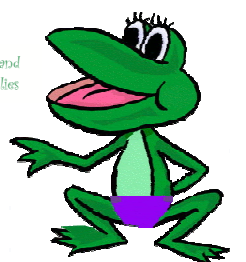
Louise Luper
Mom-in-Chief

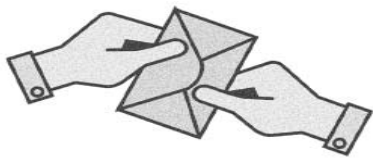
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Family Letters

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

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

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

Chez Ray Needs Our Help

Dear Fair Family,

We are writing to tell you that our friend Chez Ray Sewell is fighting a bad case of MRSA (a drug resistant form of a staph infection). He also has an abscess between the vertebrae on his back which is extremely painful and has impaired his ability to move around. This is a vascular product of dialysis and is not unusual in long term dialysis patients. He was in Sacred Heart Hospital for two weeks and is now convalescing in a nursing home until the infections are brought under control. He is improving every day and his outlook is great.

Ray needs our help. He needs to move back to Eugene to be with family and friends who mean so much to him. In Oregon he also moves up the transplant list and could be eligible in a year. There

is a place for him to live but it needs work to accommodate his physical limitations. He also needs a computer with a large screen and voice recognition software since the diabetes has robbed much of his sight. He needs some help until he can beat the infections and until he can get the transplant. He is struggling and needs us to help for awhile so he can concentrate on his health.

We are asking for donations for Ray. Ron Chase has agreed to manage the funds. If you can help, send checks to Ron Chase 924 Sunnyside Dr. Eugene, OR. 97404. There is going to be a benefit sometime in June as well so stay tuned. Many thanks for all that you can do to help our friend.

Sincerely yours,
Sandra Bauer, Elder
Joannie Murayama, Entertainment

Cop to your Attitude

Dear OCF,

I am happy to read of upcoming changes and of the new thrust towards diversity. I would love to see more Latino and people of color at the Fair. I also want to advocate for looking at class and gender issues. Does the OCF have a privileged class? Do some people get to mistreat others because of their status?

How do queers feel at the Fair? As a bisexual woman I can say it was a lot different being a long-haired woman kissing other long-haired women at the Fair than it was being a shorthaired dykey woman with a likewise partner. The latter got me some resentment and negative comments from straight white men at the Fair. How do other queers feel?

I know, talking about sexism makes men feel defensive and talking about class makes the privileged feel defensive. Can we get past that and see that we all have racist sexist classist bones in our body and that it's no shame to have them, only to refuse to face them?

When I write letters like this I get a lot of personal response from women who don't dare to speak up themselves. I wish this were not true, that everyone felt free to speak out.

Regards,
Ruby "the resourceress" Colette
Energy Park



Amplify Dialogue with Our Children

Dear Fair Family,

Page eight of the 2008 Guidelines says: "Youth... found to be under-supervised and in unsafe situations will result in a one-year suspension for the responsible adult..." This is a new policy but it's just good 'ol universal wisdom to care for the children in our family.

One of the things I love best about the Fair is that we celebrate our values. We have an amazing collection of values in Community Village and Energy Park. Our entertainers are singing and laughing ethics, morals and principles.

Please, as volunteers, as a tribe,

a clan, and as Fair family, let us amplify the dialogue with our children. Let us be certain to talk with each other and our children about what is appropriate behavior. If we do a good job at the Fair, while our children's hearts are all wide open, they will take these values back into the world with them.

As a family we have a collective consciousness. When we reach the point of "the 100th monkey" there is a shift in the universe. As each child does well — or not — they influence each other. Let us collectively raise the standards!

We have an enormous number

of youth at the Fair. It is very important that we have safe and intelligent behavior among the throngs of youth. Let us be certain the children within our sphere of influence are growing strong and smart. This includes how they party. Don't allow them to make mistakes that will hurt themselves, their friends, family or the Fair. Talk to your children, then talk some more. Be precise and specific about the rules.

Laura Stuart
parent & grandparent,
Spoken Word

Minding your P's

Dear Fair Family:

I have too many ideas and visions to sit in the closet minding my P's and Q's. Sew in fewer than 300 words, I present my P's: Passion, Please, Politics, Party and Peace.

Passion, first. Pleased am I to be there to greet you back to the Fair site. The Fair-port Car-go Crew (FCC) is here for you. Yes; you're welcome to come and take care of business in our world. Yes, we have information/choices for you. Yes, you may turn around and find a sitter for your dog and come back. However, that does not mean tied up to a tree outside our neighbors' property. PLEASE. This is one of those things that makes us equal. I

feel your pain, and theirs, too!

Politics; good policy good. Years ago I coined a phrase to the point where I sounded like a Dr. Seuss book. It goes, "It is the what, not who." Candidate statement in August. Party 1st, party; I celebrate the OCF like I do Christmas. All year round. Spirit, celebration, family. It's all about the peace! You know ... look both ways and say with me, peace starts with me! See we're already having' fun and the place will look great, right? Right!

Blessings,
Etienne M. Smith (aka Auntie Em)
Main Camp Security
Hospitality Greeter

John's Footprint on my Life

Dear Family,

Among the many things he did in his life, John Stamp took the time to be my friend. Once he counseled me and said, "Joe, sometimes the warriors' path becomes a very narrow one." Indeed! Some time later I learned that the path of a man of peace held this same thing in common.

John Stamp left a footprint upon my life from how he shared his experience with me. He stood for what he believed. As with his Archaeological background and respect for those who walked here long before us, he enabled us to see how our walk could perhaps be more harmonious with theirs. His

stand and vision enabled the Fair as a family to utilize these viewpoints to gain a better foothold upon the site where we gather.

Because of how he assisted us in bringing these walks and paths and stands together — I propose we name the junction after him.

Thereafter, every so often as we pass through Stamp Junction, we might remember to place our footprint once more with his! And I would hope that as many feet come together there that it will raise a mighty Stomp that will echo for many generations to come.

Thank you, Brother John.
Joe Travis Sr.
Craftsperson

Love Stamp

Dear Oregon Country Fair,

Our family would like to thank the OCF for its love and concern during the loss of John Stamp. Thank you so much for providing "Alice's House" for us to stay in and the use of the grounds for his memorial.

A special thanks to Steve and Cathy Tracer, Sheila who diligently kept the kitchen cleaned

and running (you're awesome!) and Nancy for coordinating in the background even with her own difficulties happening. We love you all. You're the best!

With warm regards,
Susan Wickman
McKenzie Stamp
Andrea Hodges
Plus the whole Stamp Family

For the TENTH year, participating booths are thanking staff for their hard work with special meal deals. Thank them in return!

Fair Family Open Mic

Just because your name isn't in the entertainment lineup doesn't mean you can't perform at this year's Oregon Country Fair! On Friday and Saturday nights the Eugene Poetry Slambassadors will host a Fair family spoken word open mic at the Front Porch. Sign up will begin at 8:30 pm and the show will start after the sweep is complete.

This is a great opportunity for those folks who usually work behind the scenes to come out and shine. Staff, crew, vendors, and friends, are warmly invited to share their favorite poem, story, a capella song, or speech. The folks at Spoken Word Camp want everyone who has something their heart desires to say, to delight in the power of their voice and take advantage of this opportunity to further contribute to the magic of the OCF.

Jobs for Kids

From Mary Moffat, just one of the many friendly folks involved with Youth Power:

Hey Fair Families! Do you have responsible young folks who are too young for Teen Crew but want to contribute to the Fair? Then Youth Power in Community Village has a place for them! Youth Power has jobs all three days of the Fair, kids sign up for one hour shifts and get paid in cash or food vouchers.

We are the booth with the castle top, right next to the Fruit Booth in Community Village. And to those young 'uns who worked with us last year, we're looking forward to seeing you again this year. We've made some improvements and we'd like to know what you think of them.

Blast from the Past!

This is a gentle reminder from your Archaeology Crew to read your new Guidelines. As always, no digging or other ground breaking activity is allowed on site without first seeking approval from Archaeology and Construction, including replacing old posts or refurbishing gray-water wells. The new Guidelines establish sanctions for any violations to this policy. The Fair site is truly a gem and has been for thousands of years — let's all work to keep it that way! Peaches!



2008 Oregon Country Fair Wait/Share List



Do you have booth space to share? If you do, these fine fair family artists would love to hear from you! If you need extra passes for a crafter on the wait/share list, the "booth rep." may request them from Registration. The wait/share list is comprised of juried crafters who have participated in the fair within the last two years. If you are an active juried crafter who wants to be on this list or to be removed from this list, contact Justin or June at Registration by calling (541) 343-4298 or by email at boothreg@oregoncountryfair.org.

| | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|
| Michele Allen Lee | Chmielewski Frost | painting, photography & collage silver smithing, jewelry & gemstones | (208) 659-3403 (510) 672-1108 | lovelighthelalingarts@yahoo.com |
| John David | Hardin Weitzer | tin can lanterns & chandeliers wood altars & traditional Thai massage | none (503) 703-1345 | tincanluminary@yahoo.com dweitzer@verizon.net |
| Matt Matthew | Rode Cartwright | hand forged ironwork(native American hoop style drums | 503) 263-6317 (503) 650-7382 | ksekc@earthlink.net zekestands@comcast.net |
| Jef Jane | Murphy Clugston | wooden instruments & "zeke stands" lacquered fair wear | (503) 284-1160 (503) 234-0359 | belfrymasks@yahoo.com carl@deanwoodworking.com |
| Carl Alissa | Dean Clark | marimbas & meditation benches functional ceramics | (503) 233-8058 (503) 234-0460 | |
| Raychel Tash | Norberg Wesp | braided hair with dried flowers felt garments | (541) 272-2333 (541) 265-3647 | exquisitelydonebyraychel@yahoo.com mildred@newportnet.com |
| Cynthia James | King Nason | wildcrafted herbal salves & powders large woodworks & furniture | (503) 874-9423 (541) 688-8834 | j.nason@juno.com chainmaillebybim@yahoo.com |
| Bim Nicholas | Ditson Crump | chain maille jewelry & accessories dyed & embroidered kids clothes | (541) 485-4129 (541) 686-4871 | junebug@teleport.com amandalee66@mac.com |
| Amanda Shanna | Finegold Trumbly | hand spun yarn & silver jewelry leather goblin bonnets | (541) 484-9436 (541) 890-3213 | info@goblinbonnets.com ocfrecycler@comcast.net |
| Lara Tesse | Howe Crocker | sewn cloth bags and hair wraps quilted corsets with applique | (541) 747-2068 (206) 463-7245 | tesse_crocker@hotmail.com intertwineddesigns@hotmail.com |
| Betsy Mary | Cassell Sly | hand quilted wall hangings hand painted silk kimonos | (360) 319-0342 (360) 378-7110 | sjsilk@centurytel.net jimbocurtis@olypen.com |
| Rev. James Daniel | Curtis Wilson | hand made wooden instruments finished boxes of recycled wood | (360) 379-1408 (360) 385-5238 | dpgraphis@olympus.net dnawomanray@cs.com |
| Deena Willow | Manis Whitton | hand twisted bees wax candles natural bedding, pillows & towels | (360) 866-1127 (360) 402-5781 | willow@holylamborganics.com sedlakford@mac.com |
| Randy Jolie | Sedlak-Ford Chitwood | kinetic sculpture hand crafted soap | (360) 834-9366 (310) 823-8333 | f1@soaptopia.com oceana@humboldt1.com |
| Oceana Janice | Madrone Weitzer | beadwork traditional Thai massage | (707) 677-0431 (503) 970-4250 | jmweitzer@yahoo.com kylecartwright@aol.com |
| Kyle Maeve | Cartwright Callahan | hand painted native American drums fairy figures | (503) 650-7382 (503) 621-6408 | mfcallahan@aigc.net j@exlibrisanonymus.com |
| Jasmine Hosanna | Deatherage Broderick | recycled books & journals wool clothing & cards of original art | (503) 236-8695 (541) 929-9996 | |
| Jason Shakaia | Harris Myers | hot glass sculpture henna body art | (541) 514-9079 (541) 484-6880 | jason@dichroic.us shakaia@omnivine.com |
| Sunny Timothy | Nine Taber | paintings & hand made artq embroidered hemp clothing | (541) 485-0584 (541) 242-0612 | nines@efn.org ttaber@gladstone.uoregon.edu |
| Gaelyn Bryan | Larrick McGriff | lost wax handcrafted jewelry hand thrown high-fire functional porcelain pottery | (541) 840-0080 (206) 387-5741 | gaelyn@gaelynbram.com bryanmcgriff@aol.com |
| Tor Barbara | Clausen Weiganot | musical wood furniture wooden boxes with hidden drawers | (360) 349-2827 (509) 773-3681 | tor@musicalfurnishings.com bb@personalityboxes.com |
| Brenda Jill | Henderson Palise | lotus pads & rose garlands rattle | (541) 231-2498 (541) 592-4695 | brenda@lotuspads.com |

Thoughts on The OCF in Transition

by Cynthia Wooten, early Faire organizer; Sandra Bauer, Elder / Main Camp; Jim Goettler, Solutions/Troubleshooting; Joannie Murayama, Entertainment; Tim Furst, Entertainment; Mary Cay Liebig, Elder/ Main Camp; "Chez Ray" Sewell, Spoken Word host

The time is right to take a good look at the Fair, evaluate governance and organizational structure and to assemble a road map for bold and imaginative changes. We are individuals who have been associated with the Fair in many roles, some from the very beginning. We are writing to the Fair Family, to our Board, our current management team, our crews, our singers and dancers, artisans and poets and to our family of guests and volunteers who make the Fair unfold beautifully, year after year – to offer suggestions and encouragement as we continue our journey.

There is homework to be done for the next leg of our communal journey. We need for the entire membership to sign on to the changes that are coming and work together to determine just how we want those changes to happen. Therefore, we propose that the Board of Directors commit to a larger vision and planning process by doing the following:

1. Delay an immediate hiring process, which only reinforces top down management, while the work is done to determine the organizational structure that best fits the goals of the Fair as defined by broad based feedback from the Oregon Country Fair membership. As the fair has become bigger and more complex, the management structure has become more vertically integrated. It allows people to lay claim to large swaths of territory and limits the access to newcomers with innovative ideas.

2. Establish a Future's committee that begins the work of a multi-year plan that details where we want to go and how we could best

get there. This would include a study of the management structure that identifies what works and what does not work as is traditionally done by significant non-profit, public entity and private corporations as they analyze and brainstorm to become better, stronger and more responsive. Committee members should be appointed from different backgrounds to include vendors, entertainers, staff, management and the BOD.

3. Hire a professional impartial facilitator with a limited time line that would help the Futures Committee to establish the process for developing a five year plan and be part of the hiring process once organizational policy has been evaluated, developed and approved.

4. Consistently pursue a policy of openness and transparency and pledge to no closed board meetings except for real estate transactions, employment issues and legal matters. It is disturbing that the board of directors has restricted access to important meetings during this important transitional period. The membership should not be locked out of meetings where they have a legitimate and important interest that does not compromise sensitive transactions.

5. Appoint a broad based search committee to recruit applicants to the GM position. This group should be guided by the goals determined by the Futures Committee.

We all share a great love and appreciation for the Fair and we want the very best future for this exciting and important event. This is a time of change and we should carefully think about how we want that change to take place. We need to lead and embrace this transition. The opportunity is before us to make the Fair even better and to build on what has been done before. We have a rich tradition of progressive values and openness and transparency. We still have much to do to make the world a better place. Let's make it happen.

Need Help?

Teen Crew Grads Seek Work



Then: Sierra Thompson, Sage Freeman-Sibbet, Kyla Thompson.

Do you have a crew or booth opening? Then remember the graduates of the Fair Teen Crew! This year, 80 teens who graduate from Teen Crew must become regular Fair volunteers or else move on. Many of them would very much like to continue to volunteer for the Fair. Some have been coming to the Oregon Country Fair their whole lives. At least five of this year's teen crew grads have come since they were born.

Probably one of the best-known grads this year from Teen Crew is Danya Ariel, who ran and was elected to the Fair's

Board of Directors last October. Danya attended his first Fair when he was 6 weeks old, brought by his mom, Jen-Lin Hodgden (Community Village), in 1989. He missed the next Fair, but he didn't have much of a say in the matter at age 1. He hasn't missed a Fair since. He volunteered with the Community Village



Now: (back) Shannon, Amanda LeBlanc, Sierra Thompson, Sage Freeman-Sibbet, Kyla Thompson, Garrett. (Front) Julian Moulds, Tony.

Teen Crew in 2003 and 2004; worked 4A in the Village in 2005 and Main Camp Security in 2006. This year, he plans to volunteer for Recycling Crew. "Even though I already had a huge family at the Fair, (Teen Crew) got me accustomed to parts of the Fair that I wouldn't otherwise know," Danya says.

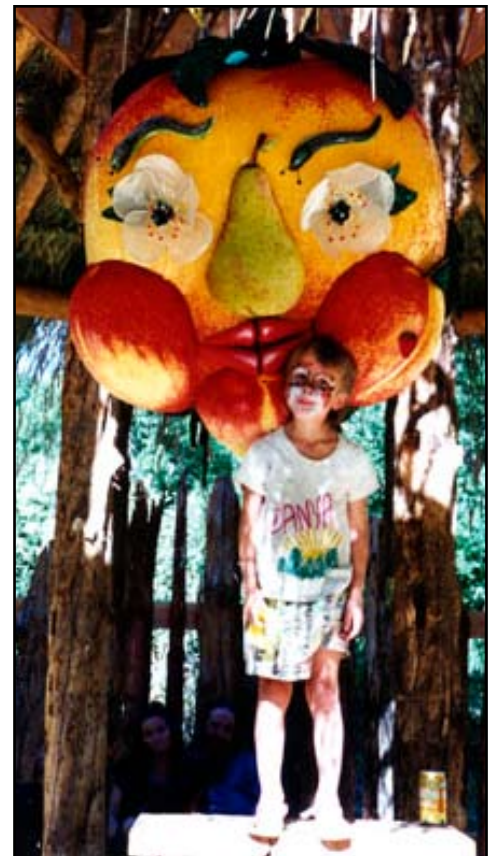
Another graduate this year of the Teen Crew who first attended the Fair as a baby is Kyla Thompson, daughter of Patti Lomont (Booth 941) and Robert Thompson (Security). "My first crew position was when I was 3 months old, visiting OCF neighbors with my mom" Kyla says. "I am looking forward to my 20th year at OCF!" She will volunteer with Commemorative Sales this year.

Teen Crew grad Bryce Phillips has been coming to the Fair "19 years, since I was inside my mother's womb. I have never missed a year yet." His mom is Barbara "Bobbie" Phillips (Booth M48). His favorite crew was Recycling. "Who doesn't love to recycle early in the morning for hours with amazingly cool people," he says.

"OCF rocks my socks off!" says Teen Crew grad Audrey Butler. She sells Audrey's Amazing Tops at Fair Booth P20 with her mom, Dina Harmon, and during Teen Crew volunteered for Child Care, W.C. Fields, Rabbit Hole, Stage Left and as a Camp Host. This will be Audrey's 20th year at the Fair.

"Teen Crew is great to put on your job resume," says another Teen Crew grad and lifetime Fair-goer, Isaac Cram. Son of Stan Cram (Raccoon Cabin Booth 596), Isaac has attended the Fair 19 years. During his five years on Teen Crew, he worked at Daredevil Stage, Security, The Void and Traffic. At press time, he was still actively seeking a crew to volunteer on for this year's Fair.

Since Teen Crew started 19 years ago, hundreds of Fair family teen-agers have had the opportunity to gain work experience in different volunteer jobs around the Fair. At the same time, the Fair has gained from the good work of this solid cadre of enthusiastic volunteers. Many of the young adult graduates listed below are still actively seeking volunteer positions. **If you'd like to hire a Teen Crew graduate, contact teen grad coordinator Lisa Spitzmiller at 935-2942.**



Then: Danya Ariel and the Peach.



Now: Danya Ariel, BOD.

2008 Teen Grads

| Name | Fair Parents' | Parents' Fair Affiliation | Hired/Searching |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Brendan Albano | Robert Albano | Office | |
| Danya Ariel | Jen-Lin Hodgden | Community Village | OCF BOD, Recycling Crew |
| Schuyler Ashton | Jane Robin & Mike Ashton | Teen Crew & Water Crew | Hired – Water Crew |
| Zack Baslington | Dee Baslington | Traffic Crew | |
| Maggie Bildsprecher | John Holtzapple | White Bird | Actively searching |
| Saga Blakely | Anne Johnstine-Diaz | Prefair Kitchen | Hired – Kitchen Crew |
| Aretta Boggs | Shari Boggs | Recycling Crew | Hired – Recycling Crew |
| Petra Borhini-Bakker | Maya Borhani | Security Dragon & Booth 952 | Actively searching |
| Larissa Boughton | Tanya & Rick Boughton | Community Village Life Long Learning | Hired – Registration |
| Michael Bowles | George Atiyeh | Traffic Crew | Hired – Bus Crew |
| Alison Brown | Leslie Brown | Internal Security | Actively searching |
| Maya Brown | Lolly Rogers | Security Watergate | |
| Audrey Butler | Dina Harmon | Booth P20 | |
| Robin Clemen | Taylor Rutledge | Community Village | |
| Keegan Clements-Hausser | Jane Robin | Teen Crew | Hired – Teen Crew |
| Shelly Cole | Jan and Dan Cole | Security Neighbors | |
| Amy Connor | Scott Rinan | Recycling | Hired – Recycling Crew |
| Isaac Cram | Stan Cramm | Booth 596 | Actively searching |
| Nathan Curry | Al Levine | Whitebird | |
| Dylan Dahl | Brian Dahl | Booth 256 | |
| Noah Davidson | Keith Sheldon | Community Village Little People | |
| Rhianna Dean | Bronwyn Manois | Teen Crew | |
| Van Dellenback-Ouellet | Charli Pricem | Booth 540 | |
| Fenn Dwyer | Ryan Dwyer | Bangkok Grill | |
| Cedar Edell | Miriam Edell | Backstage Security | Actively searching |
| Max Epstein | Ra Wollenger | Booth 41 | |
| Solamon Estin | Luciene Cruz | Booth 902 Hand and Heart | |
| Armanda Falleur | Tina Falluer | Cable Gate Security | Hired – Cable Gate Security |
| Sophie Fielding | Tracy Powell | Construction | |
| Hannah Finley | Nancy Woodruff | Booth 234 Color Burst Studio | Actively searching |
| Tommy Frey | Eliza Frey | Security Dragon Communication | |
| Skyler Gardner | Kristin Brandt | Security Admissions | Actively searching |
| Heidi Goddard-Trenholm | Ann Goddard | Photo ID | |
| Alex Goodman | Charlotte Silverstein | Miss Piggy Lot Crew | |
| Nathan Guy | Penny Whisman | 4-A | |
| Alex Hall | Allen Hall and Judy Stickney | Energy Park | |
| Ericka Hicks | Rich Hicks | Booth L14 | |
| Max Hobbs | Sue Kenney | Booth 583 | |
| Sam Holman | Jesse Kocher | India House | |
| John Hoobyar | Charlie Zennache | Backup Manager | |
| Dylan Howe | Kenny and Lara Howe | Recycling | Hired – Recycling Crew |
| Sangye Ince-Johannsen | Jim Ince | Path Rove Security | |
| Serena Inda | Liza Frey | Security Communications | |
| Reveille Isgrig | Kelly Crane | Teen Crew | Hired – Teen Crew |
| Joslyn Krahel | Kyle Krahel | Traffic Crew | Actively searching |
| Lily Kurtz | Jim Ince | Security | |
| Daniel Lewis | Pamela & Murray Lewis. | Community Village Life Long Learning | Hired – Teen Crew |
| Kalinda Little | Beth Little | Booth 2 | |
| Eric Lynch | Monica Dostel | Whitebird | Actively searching |
| Alissa Marshall | Pam and Steve Marshall | Traffic Crew | Hired – Teen Crew |
| Lennon Messmer | Louis Messmer | Commemorative Sales | |
| Nathan Miller-O'Higgins | Aleta Miller | Pathrove Security | |
| Jahciel Morton | Dale Kegley | Community Village Little People Booth | |
| Bethany Mullins | Kathy Bureson | Craft Inventory | |
| Conor O'Connell | Margo O'Connell | Childcare | |
| Bryce Phillips | Barbara Phillips | Booth M58 | |
| Cerin Ponce | Sandra Brown | Craft Inventory Kid's Craft Booth | |
| Will Prull | Galen Carpenter | NRT | Actively searching |
| Steven Rabitoy | Tina Falleur | Cable Gate Security | Actively searching |
| Jessica Reed-Schank | Kim Davis and Ashanti Li | Far Side Showers | |
| Alek Reffstrup | Charley Price | Booth 540 | |
| Natasha Reidel | Tatjana Riedel | Neighbors Security | Actively searching |
| Joseph Romero | Lisa Gonzales | Security | Hired – Bus Crew |
| Luke Sanders | Patti Lamont | Booth 941 | |
| Meredith Schmich | Tina Schmich | Lot Crew | |
| Katie Sheehan | Michael Sheehan | Bus Crew | |
| Casey Shove | Mia Driscoll | Construction and Pre-fair Kitchen | |
| Sage Sibbet | Jame Sibbet & Carol Freeman | Admissions Security | |
| Molly Simons-Kimball | Mark Kimball | Sweep Security | Hired – Sweep Security |
| Mannie Soto | Reggie Soto | Traffic Crew | |
| Jami Spears | Diane Churchill | Traffic Crew | |
| Lidia Stefanovska | Pete Barron | Horse Security Crew | |
| Kai Tamulonis | Pam Whitley | Sumo Sushi | Actively searching |
| Brittany Therion | Anthony Koverman | Security | |
| Genevieve Thompson | Linda Ginenthaz | Energy Park | |
| Kyla Thompson | Patti Lomont & Robert Thompson | Booth 941 & Security | Hired – Comm. Sales |
| Eric Welch | Al Joseph | Main Camp Security | |
| Joe Wheeler | Tim Whitley | Sumo Sushi | |
| Roze Young | Jim and Carole Young | Booth 238 The Hat people | |

RENAISSANCE ROOTS

Chez Ray on the Joy of Cooking at the Faire

by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News
© 2008 Suzi Prozanski
photos by Michelle Bates, Sandra
Bauer and Dominic DeFazio

This installation of Renaissance Roots features an interview two years ago with Ray Sewell (a.k.a. Chez Ray).



We sipped coffee as we visited on a sunny summer morning at a patio table at Sweet Life Patisserie. It was a week after the Fair and Ray had a lot of great stories to share about the early years.

"Chez Ray" Sewell first heard about the Oregon Renaissance Faire when he moved up to Eugene from San Francisco in 1972. He had just completed his apprenticeship in classic French cuisine to become a journeyman.

"I came up to visit a friend and that first weekend I ended up doing the Saturday Market," Ray says. "I just thought, 'I could do this. This is a great little thing.'"

Ray created a fruit omelet that proved highly popular with the Saturday Market crowd. Ray cooked an egg-custard omelet in butter, filled it with blueberry cream sauce, then topped it with raspberry sauce and almonds.

"It just went wild," Ray says. "It just took off. In fact, it's funny because I wasn't sure how to even do this whole 'booth' thing. I found this army field kitchen at a surplus store. It was a very primitive and odd-looking thing, but it had a nice flame to it, so I could really crank out these omelets. The first Saturday Market I did, I got this huge response, which made every Saturday Market from then on — I call it the faucet effect — the line never stopped. It went on and the only time it stopped was when I had to take some kind of break and then as soon as my break was done, the line was there, from open to close."

An element of magic

He heard about the Renaissance Faire at the Saturday Market. That July, he set up a food booth in the woods near a bend in the Long Tom River.

"You know, the times were pretty wild then. We all had a lot of reasons to do everything. I was this classically trained, young chef, wanting to do my thing. And I thought: 'What a great opportunity to do it out in the woods.'" He chose his booth location, at the top of Upper River Loop (where the Library is now), "to be as far in the back as possible so I could have my own little scene and not be gobbled up by the masses. I wanted this little magical area that people would stumble upon. ... and really pause and enjoy some of the more psychedelic efforts."

"For instance, we spent a great deal of time rummaging through the Long Tom River and finding choice pieces of driftwood that had faces on them and different characters that we could spot within the curves and shapes. So my entire fence and surrounding booth was just bursting with magical characters. The whole point was that when people would come upon it, they'd pause and take time and get drawn into it. And it worked." In the middle of the woods in a magically rustic booth, people would find Chez Ray cooking up a storm, wearing chef's whites and a chef's hat.

Chez Ray transformed his omelet recipe into a fabulous French toast that he introduced at the 1972 Renaissance Faire. It had "the same construction of sauces," he says. "And I topped the French toast with this English custard, which is a whole other element added to this architecturally gourmet delight." The menu also featured salmon burgers, Caesar salad and roasted corn on the cob.

Ray says there is an element of magic to pulling off a nice dining experience out in the woods. "It's complicated," he says. "Like being part of a migratory tribe and setting up your scene on a temporary basis, but having it together enough so that you can really produce product. It's not easy, no matter what your cuisine is."

He says he felt right at home at the Faire because the community was similar to what he grew up with in San Francisco in the '60s. "My mom was a bohemian from North Beach. ... So when I got to the Faire, it was just a natural progression of everything else that I had been doing," Ray says. The Faire "really was created out of the culture of free-thinkers who had come up through the '50s and '60s, out of the Beat Generation. And here was this community in practice ... established and producing this festival. When I came into that, I was just so overwhelmed. ... I'd left the Bay Area

8 discouraged that things had changed so radically to the wrong

direction. The Faire was like an oasis. ... In gratitude, I did everything I possibly could to make it better."

While everyone was setting up booths, Ray went to Main Camp and offered to help the chef, Jesse Bolton.

Jesse "was an incredible character," Ray says. "He was formerly the chef for John Wayne. I went up and offered to help Jesse out. For about a five-year span there, I was doing that, as well as my booth."

In 1972, Ray started what would become a 30-year tradition of serving a fancy Friday night dinner. He'd cook a special evening meal and invite a variety of entertainers to perform.

Ray also showed his appreciation for Faire volunteers by orchestrating a meal for everybody at the end of the weekend. "We would take all of the different food items and we would make this grand feast for all the volunteers. And my intent was to get everybody to come and eat together. ... So we could all really have a feeling of who we are and thank you and I love you."

"A collage of communities"

Ray says his first Faire was delightful. "There was no amplified music," he remembers. "You could stroll around the Faire at night from fire to fire. You could hear the flutes and guitars and banjos and clarinets in the distance and that would draw you to the next scene, the little pockets of activities spread out around the Faire. It was much more of a collage of communities that you could become part of. It was very magical. ... You could tap into these different resources. And none of it was overwhelming and none of it consumed anything more than the space that a flute would cover. The sound of the flute — that was your turf. ..."

"What impressed me (about the Faire), is that I found myself surrounded by really talented people with their craft," Ray says. "They were very, very good at their craft. They had studied it, they had practiced it, they had put it to work. I felt that I was in good company there."

He also was impressed with the Faire's organization.

"Cindy and Bill were amazing people," Ray says. "There's an old saying that the berry must come willingly. When the berry comes willingly, then everything's perfect. The berry's perfect. Bill and Cindy were like that. They had the kind of character that you really wanted to do your best for them. So they were very good at, not just organizing, but motivating and drawing people in so that they really wanted to produce for them, the best possible effort. And what they were pulling off, it couldn't get any taller. They also had the Fair roots and hipness to draw you in and draw the best out of you and put it to work with

them. Not for them, but with them. And you really felt that we were all doing this. There's really no hierarchy. Somebody had to direct because we all wanted them to direct. We looked to them to direct. And that was a terrific feature in the early days, the formative years, was this group of people that, in every part of it really wanted to do what they were doing. And they would produce their best and go out of their way."

Ray says he's seen the Faire expose people to new ideas and experiences. He appreciates "the whole magic of conversion of a person's perception as their heart grows with us. It's the most impressive

process, and it's also the essence of the Fair. People have come to the Fair with great suspicion over the years. ... I remember there were these guys that were very redneck-ish — very trimmed hair — hanging out on the fence in front of my booth. And all they were really there for was looking at the chicks that were sort of naked. That's why they were there and that was their whole gig. Well, each year that started to go by, I noticed when they came by the next time, their hair got a little bit longer. And then two, three years later I noticed that they were actually starting a booth. And that's sort of what happens at the Fair. You come to it in whatever state of mind you have and you become one of us, because we're just everybody. We're just mammals who want to play."

"Actions of the heart"

Sometimes the playing also serves a purpose. For example, Ray remembers being rescued one day when he was stranded in the crowd with a wheelbarrow full of fish. At the time, Chez Ray's booth was in the opposite end of the Faire from the refrigeration truck at the front entrance. "So I had to haul my food in a wheelbarrow many times all the way back to the back," Ray says. "One time I had a big load of salmon on ice and I had my wheelbarrow full of it." The paths were clogged with thousands of fair-goers, and he wasn't going anywhere very fast. "It was so hot," he says. "It was one of those 100-degree days. The ice was starting to melt and the salmon was beginning to melt. I was just terrified I was going to lose the salmon. I was so frustrated; I had reached the end. That's it! I completely surrendered."

"And I'm standing there and all of a sudden this little puppet on a string that looked like a court jester was dangled in front of my face. ... Then I looked in front of me and here's this guy, dressed up like a court jester,



Ray & Dawn with daughter, Shine.



Shine and Ray.

like the puppet on the string. He started to march and break the crowd up in front of me," Ray says, laughing. "So I'm following him, and he's cutting a path through all these thousands of people who had no clue of my frustration and how difficult this was. He just started this happening and did what he could do. He took me all the way back to my booth and then disappeared.

"An incredible moment that was. But very much in the spirit and example of magic. You know, that's what magic is. It's actions of the heart that you may not even know have taken place."

Om Omelets

Another lighthearted moment happened when the Sunday morning Om Circle at the Fair connected in front of Chez Ray's booth at the top of Upper River Loop. That morning, he and a friend, Tom Mitchell (who also helped Jesse in Main Camp kitchen) were cooking up omelets for hungry customers.

"The Om Circle joined, just by coincidence, it appeared, directly in front of my booth where I was making these omelets," Chez Ray says, "I had this long line of people and everybody joined in the Om Circle. People were so serious about this Om Circle and it was just so sacred in a sense. As soon as the hands joined, they went right away into OOOO MMM. And then Mitch and I looked at each other and went, LLLLLLETT. And so every time they chanted OM, we chanted LET. It became so hysterical, but of course in some ways we felt we may be violating the spirit of the moment. But I've always thought God is as funny as we are. And so it was really a wonderfully silly moment in a serious setting. One of my more enjoyable combinations, I might add. So this became notorious, you might say, and it spread like wildfire. Some people were very outraged and others were in hysterics over it."

Chez Ray met Ken Kesey at the Faire, and they were also neighbors for a while in Pleasant Hill.

"We became very, very close," Ray says. "I was just always so in awe that he would call me up on a regular basis and that I was his friend. For me, he was more of a mentor and an amazing human."

Kesey often invited him over to cook, and soon introduced him to the Grateful Dead. Thereafter, the Dead also asked Chez Ray to cook for them from time to time.

"Chefs of the past, like in the Renaissance period, were inspired to cook for the king. That was the goal," Chez Ray says. "If you could cook for the king, then you had arrived. This was the whole point of being a chef. And I realized that I had extraordinary teachers who gave me an incredible level of skill that I could put to work. So I chose to cook for the kings of my time and that became my passion, to cook for people like Ken Kesey or the Grateful Dead or Tim Leary or the Oregon Country Fair family or whoever I felt were the kings of my time, the most important people on the planet to me. It's not about the most beautiful group or the richest person or any of that. It's people that so impress you by their actions. Those are the kings of my time. I feel a level of success through that mostly, that I've accomplished, if nothing else, that in my life, I've cooked for and helped people's ideas along through feeding them and making sure that their surroundings are comfortable and whatever I could do. Nourishing them. It's a Jewish mom thing. My mom was like a classic Jewish mom."

Silly theater stuff

Chez Ray also struck up friendships with new vaudeville performers at the Fair. After the Daredevil Palace stage was built next to his booth in the mid-'80s, he'd watch the Royal Famille du Caniveaux rehearse. Every year while Chez Ray was getting his booth ready, the troupe was getting its act together for the Fair.

"I would look over my fence and watch them rehearse and get ready for their show and really want to be involved with that group," Ray says. "I love that kind of silly theater stuff." Members of the du Caniveaux troupe became regular fans of Chez Ray's food, and Ray became a regular fan of their shows. Eventually, they asked Ray to join them on stage.

"It was a dream come true in many ways. I think that group in particular, without question, is the brightest group I've ever seen as far as variety of silly ideas that they can pull off," Ray says. He adds that Ron Bailey in particular facilitated his appearance on stage by "creating bits where my



Chez Ray Sewell talks to Sandra Bauer (left) and Nancy Albro about passes for his booth in the mid-1970s.

unusual look and character can be fully exploited" and took into account "my limitations, my inability to maintain lines in my head."

"We did a bit called 'One, Two,'" Ray says, "He's the Ali Babba, Huey, the Master of One and I'm the Master of Numerology One Two. So the whole bit is written so that all I have to say is 'I am one too.' The beast that I am, I can handle that. But no more than that. So we played that bit all over the place and people really love it. It's really funny." Chez Ray has often toured with the New Old Time Chautauqua, a troupe created by Oregon Country Fair entertainers to take their shows on the road.

"And then (Ron Bailey) inserted me into the 'Fearless Kundalinis.' At the time I was twice as big as I am now, so I had this very large stomach that played well to this bit," Ray says. In the act, he stood on the end of a teeter-totter, and the audience got the impression that a Fearless Kundalini "would jump off this platform onto this teeter and catapult me up onto the shoulders of the people standing behind me," he says. "That was the impression of what was going to happen. Obviously so ridiculous; there's no way that this could happen. And of course, the way the bit goes is that he jumps off and at first the plank breaks in half. Then the fulcrum collapses," Ray says, laughing. "It was so effective. Ron Bailey, in particular, is a master of comedy and showmanship — him and Paul Magid. They are so extraordinary. I am so grateful to be part of it and to have them drag me in my shyness and my insecurities up onto the stage. It's really been such a great joy."

New booth location

After nearly 20 years at the same booth space, Chez Ray had to move his booth to a new location to accommodate river erosion and path changes.

Mother Nature also created an interesting coincidence that year. Ray says a carpenter friend, David Jennings, was responsible for designing his first booth; and he helped maintain it each year. The winter before the booth had to move, David passed away unexpectedly. "The spring after the winter floods (on site) was our first opportunity to go out and look at my new space. Sitting right where my stage sits now was a door that David had built. I think it was actually the last thing that he built in the old booth," Ray says. "It was a very special door" that had a built-in platform so Ray could more easily greet customers.

When they built the new booth, they also made a point to incorporate the first counter from the old booth into the design. "When we built the first counter, we went into the Long Tom River to pull wood out. And here was this incredible plank that had been milled years and years ago, because they don't mill them so thick and so broad" anymore, Ray says. "It was such a fine piece. It was about 15 feet long. It must've taken 20 of us, because it had been in the river forever and was completely waterlogged. It must've weighed hundreds of pounds. And we spent all day hauling that thing out of the river. ... It moved with the new booth to the new space and it's still sitting protected under another counter in my present booth. So it's lasted the entire 34 years. I think that's pretty cool too."

The year the booth moved, they held an OM-let ceremony to mark the special occasion. "The Du Carniveaux gathered around and I think the Karamazovs (a.k.a. the Flying Karamazov Brothers) were there," Ray says. "I think everybody was there. Artis and Tom Noddy with his bubbles and the whole gang. We gathered in my old booth space. ... We made up the OM-let and then ceremoniously carried it to this sacred spot where a hole was dug. Everyone gathered around and we buried the OM-let."

Nowadays, more than 35 years after he first starting cooking at the Faire, Chez Ray has health problems that prevent him from running a booth. For the last few years, friends have run the booth as a fund-raiser for the New Old Time Chautauqua traveling troupe. The booth still sells salmon burgers; and Chez Ray hosts a Spoken Word stage in the dining area.

Ray says he loves the Fair. "I keep coming back to pass the torch," he says.

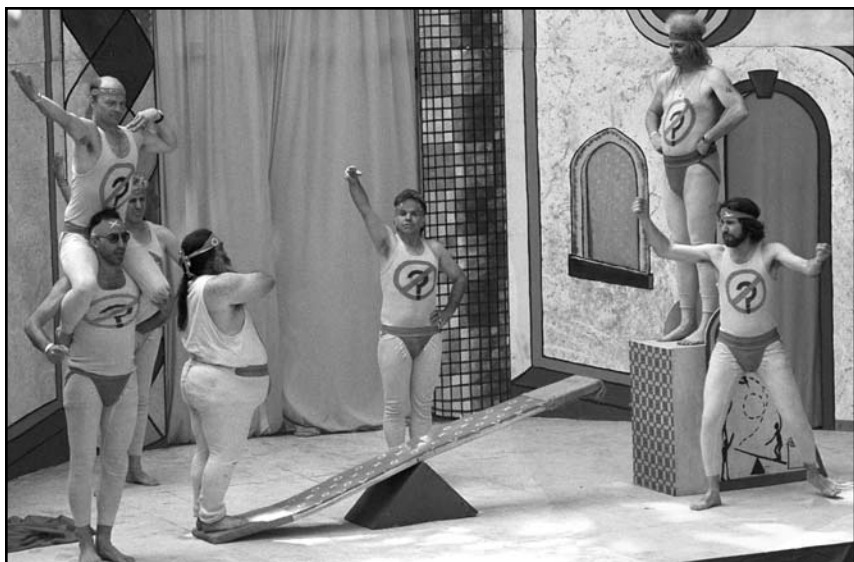
"Over the years it's become even more than a reunion party. ... What is the reason that we're doing all of this? It's not just to demonstrate that we can do it. In my opinion, it's much more to fortify the audience that comes to the Fair," Ray says. "When

people come to the Fair, they become impacted by this production and they absorb all these different moments of love and happiness and pure joy and all these expressions. They take all this in and absorb all of this and then take it back home to their communities and share this with others. ...

"So there's a huge responsibility for the Fair participants to produce in a way that's going to fully nourish the audience that comes. That's why we're there," he says. "It really is about how we can impact the community at large. You get people high. Get people off. Get them so they go back inspired to their community and do something for their community and their people. That's such an important part of the process. Maybe the most important part of the process."



Ray catches a smooch on Chautauqua.



The Fearless Kundalinis perform.

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OCF Elders Info

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www.ocfelderscouncil.org/ocfeccommittee/ocfec.html

Council of Elders Web Site:
<http://www.ocfelderscouncil.org/index.html>

To join the Elder listserv:
WonderfulOCFelders-owner@yahoo.com

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

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MAY 5, 2008

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

Not: Carl Taylor (Palmer voted in his place.)

Agenda Review

During agenda review, Katie moved and Lara seconded that the Board move two items from new to old business so they could be discussed tonight: appointments to the Groundskeeper hiring committee (passed 10 in favor and 0 opposed); and a donation request from the Elmira HS Athletic Committee (passed 9 in favor and 1(Lawrence) opposed).

Announcements

Bear said there are 33 days until Main Camp opens and 66 days until the Fair. (cheers!)

norma urged everyone to attend the May 18 Vision Quest Summit. Paxton agreed and asked folks to "let the office know you're coming so we can get a head count for lunch."

Brad Mowreader asked people to volunteer to help provide transportation from Portland to Lincoln City for the visit of the indigenous grandmothers this August. Contact him at 541-942-9661 for more information.

Rivka Gross (Security) said, "Every vote counts. Complacency is where evil starts." (Ballots due May 20.)

Lara invited folks interested in "helping with our compost operations" to come out to the site June 1 at 10am at the recycling dock for a compost sifting work party. She said the 2007 pile is done composting and asked volunteers to come prepared with closed-toed shoes and gloves.

Deane gave a "gentle reminder" to all Board Committees that they are to make written or verbal reports to the Board twice yearly.

Joseph urged more people to participate in the highway pick-up days and said, "Fifteen thousand of us call this site our home for three days" and it would be great if everyone could help out at least

once. Steve added that highway pick-up days happen four times per year and the next one will be mid-summer.

Approval of Minutes

Katie moved and Deane seconded to approve the minutes of the April 2008 Board meeting. The motion passed: 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 2 abstentions (Bear and Lara).

Member Input

Victor Stathakis, chair of the Wayne Morse Youth Program, thanked the Board for including the WMYP in the Fair. He included a 5-page report with graphs of survey results taken at the '07 Fair by the WMYP that found the three most pressing issues on most people's minds were the war, health issues, and the environment. He said, "The democracy we represent to the outside world makes me proud."

Joseph thanked Victor for the report but asked "in the interest of sustainability" that reports be presented in electronic form when possible. He also urged people to contact Brad if they have a van or car and are able to help with transportation needs because "the indigenous grandmother movement is very important."

Lara thanked Charlie for the great job he did on the computer project and she encouraged other Coordinators to get in touch with Charlie ASAP because "the system is so user-friendly it will make your job much easier." She also encouraged Fair Family to "bring less stuff to the Fair" because "the garbage is coming from us and that's the sad truth."

norma said there was a joke that she felt was sexist and that was offensive to her posted on the ocfdiscuss list and suggested that people please not post that type of thing again on OCF lists.

Deane admitted posting the joke and said he didn't mean to offend anyone, that it was "just humor, just a joke; I'll try not to post humor again."

Hilary said she doesn't like jokes that refer to women as bitches and doesn't like thinking about Culture Jam teens reading such

postings on the list. She said because she disagrees it doesn't mean she doesn't have a sense of humor.

Kristen Gustafson represented a group called Voter Power and asked the Board who she should talk to about getting permission to register voters at the Fair. Leslie said she'll put her in touch with our GOTV group that already provides that service.

Staff and Officer Reports

General Manager: Leslie gave an update on the shuttle bus situation and said she was hoping to announce tonight that LTD will be providing shuttle service, but "we're not quite there yet." She explained the new federal regulation that requires organizations to do business with private rather than public charter services or be forced to have no charter service at all (if a private service is able to do the job and makes a bid for it). Even though the Fair had already signed a contract with LTD, the federal regulation is retroactive. This will be a consideration every year until the law is changed. She and Russell (*the Fair's lawyer*) researched the law and drafted a letter outlining the service needs of the Fair. She received a "flaming letter from the CEO of a private charter company saying we inflated our needs, that we were not acting in good faith and were breaking the law. We responded strongly. They declined to bid and wished us luck on our event." There is a second charter company that did not respond in time, so she thinks the LTD contract will soon be 'firm'. She said to "stay tuned for more details." LTD's name appears on the Fair posters because all of this happened after the posters went to print. On the brighter side, tickets are now on sale and a little more than 50% of the first day ticket sales were for 3-day green tickets. She said the Spring Fling was fun and she thanked Steve for "putting together a great slide show about the site." She thanked Laura Stewart who spoke about our responsibility to our youth, and thanked Robin for organizing the Culture Jam presentation. She encouraged participation in the May 18 VQ Summit and said Greg Rikhoff will facilitate that event. She thanked Charlie and norma for their work writing the grant for the archive project to commemorate the Fair's 40th anniversary with a special DVD in 2009.

Administrative Assistant: norma thanked Charlie for keeping the Spring Fling running smoothly in her absence (*she was at a family wedding*). She said the Spring Fling "went so well that I won two prizes!" She thanked everybody who helped including JuneBug and Leslie who sold commemorative items; Jen-lin and the other raffle ticket sellers; Andy, who decorated the Hall; Robin, who organized a Culture Jam presence; and the Fair family who donated 122 raffle prizes. She said, "It's your generosity that makes it go." She met with Shirley Walker-Combs about creating website databases for the entertainment schedules, which "we hope to have online about June 1." She thanked the Poster Committee for selecting "a gorgeous, breathtakingly beautiful poster which you'll soon see around town." She also thanked Charlie and Leslie for working with her on the grant for the archives project.

Site Manager: Steve W. said, "It was a nice day yesterday...and today...so maybe winter is over." He said that on Sunday, April 20, the day of the spring highway pickup, the wildflower walk and several other meetings, the Fair site was snow-covered at daybreak. The snow melted quickly, and the day's activities were unaffected. He thanked "the hardy few" who showed up for the highway pickup. He said the highway project is "very important for the Fair's visibility to the surrounding community. We own more highway frontage now than we ever did and we need to expand the number of volunteers who show up for those events." He thanked Bob Nisbet who organizes the walks, and also Charlene Simpson of the Native Plant Society and Gail Baker of LCC for "providing expertise and insights on what we have." He said the extended cool weather allowed for more tree planting time and he thanked David Hoffman, Digger, VegManEc Crew, Andyman, Jeff Johnson, Charlie Ruff and others for their efforts as well as Balance Nursery in Lorane "who give us a big donation of plant material every year. As a result there will be more shade at Marshall's Landing, Crafts Lot and the bus stop, as well as plantings along Indian Creek and in erosion areas on the Long Tom River banks." He said several hundred tree starts were potted up for the nursery and will be planted in the new property "once we've closed on the deal and can begin restoration work." He thanked the Tree Crew, Fire Crew, Traffic, VegManEcs, Garden and Flower Crews and others "out there working already." He said the LUMP Committee is looking for camphosts, booths and crews who want to participate in either the Ecosystem Restoration and Recovery Project or Green Zones; there are lots of trees in the nursery ready to go to good homes in these areas.

Assistant Manager: Charlie thanked Lara for the compliment (*member input*) but said he couldn't really take credit because lots of folks were involved with the computer effort, and added, "but I'm not going to thank them all tonight." The computer project is

"rolling right along;" he's met with over half the crews and the overwhelming response has been very good. He'll meet with more Coordinators in the next couple of weeks and said the system "is working well and actually better than I expected." He talked about the Wings and Wine event and birdwalk on May 10-11 and the "world-class birders" that are attracted to the event. He said he turned the compost pile and added some accelerant to it, then started thinking "about how cool our compost pile is. It's really starting to look like good brown soil." He thanked norma for all the effort she puts into the Spring Fling every year, thanked Bob Nisbet for "two really cool wildflower videos," and thanked the Video Crew for what he described as "a video that everyone was asking how they could get, but I haven't figured that out yet." He also said it was "way better than 50% of the first day ticket sales that were green tickets" and attributed this to the notion that "our early ticket buyers are always visionaries." You can buy tickets at the ticketswest page and also through the oregoncountryfair.org website with easy links for buying green tickets; and you can even buy parking tickets online.

Office Assistant: Robin said Culture Jam openings are quickly filling up. She thanked the kids and staff of CJ who came to the Spring Fling to present a great slide show and talk about their experiences. They passed the hat for CJ scholarships at Spring Fling and raised \$55. She thanked norma and said, "you do a lot behind the scenes and not only do you do a lot, but you do it with love."

President: Jack said Main Camp opens soon and it's "good to remember that sensitivity to each other is helpful. We're all important. We're all grateful for each other's efforts. Please and thank you are important." He added that the Fair is in a time of transition as staff is working on the process of hiring a new General Manager and he hopes "everybody will work for this new manifestation."

Committee Reports

Personnel Committee: Katie and Palmer said the committee has been working on the job description for the GM position as well as the revisions for the PPP Manual. They also request that the Board appoint the hiring committee for the Groundskeeper job description at tonight's meeting.

Elders Committee: Chris Browne read the report from their April 24 meeting where they reviewed Elder applications (total number of Elders now 345); set the date for the next Elders Retreat on September 27/28; formed a new subcommittee to manage the Elders ever-growing database and another subcommittee to develop a memorial setting "to remember all the Fair family members who have gone on to a better place." The first step for that project is "to gather all the names together so if you know of someone please submit their name to the Elders Committee." They removed "three huge garbage bags" of poison oak and leveled tent sites at the April work party. Two more work parties are planned for May 17 and June 8, both at 11 am in the Elders campground. Their next committee meeting will be May 22 at 7pm at the town office.

Path Planning Committee: Chris Browne read the report from the April 20 meeting. They heard a report on solar problems in Energy Park. They will work with VegManEcs to "research possible ways to resolve the problem of too much tree growth and not enough sunshine to allow for maximum solar energy generation." They formed a subcommittee to develop a display presentation to not only inform Fair family about what PP is doing but to also solicit input. They will not hold a meeting this month so that members may attend the Vision Quest Summit instead. The next meeting is June 15 at noon at the Hub Yurt.

Old Business

Consider Donation to School Garden Project

Lara moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to the School Garden Project.

Background: Jared Pruch, executive director of SGP, thanked the Board for its support of SGP since 2002. He talked about a new effort to incorporate the Community Garden idea into the school gardens by allowing community members to tend and harvest from school gardens over the summer months. (*To contribute or get more info, go to www.schoolgardenproject.org.*)

Peach Gallery: Lots of thumbs up, plus supportive words from Rivka Gross and Chris Browne who said, "The way the economy is now, we should all have our own gardens."

Board: Lara, Palmer, Danya, Bear, Lawrence, Diane, Jack and Paxton all spoke in favor of the donation. A few of the comments were "It's not just educational and experiential, it's political and essential" (Lawrence); "I hope the Fair can have community garden plots someday" (Diane); "It's important to have contact with the earth, it grounds us" (Paxton).

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Consider Donation to Elmira High School Athletic Committee

Katie moved and Joseph seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to the Elmira High School Athletic Committee.

Background: Ed Daniels who lives “just down the road from the Country Fair” is a member of the Athletic Committee. He wrote a letter to the Board and attended the meeting to speak about their request for a donation to help purchase a new scoreboard for the boys’ baseball team. He appreciates the Fair’s contributions to arts and environmental education and believes a donation to an athletic program would help to reach another segment of the Fair’s neighboring community. (For information on how to contribute to the fundraising effort, Ed said he’s happy to receive calls at 541-935-4301 or on his cell at 521-2952.)

Peach Gallery: Leslie said this request “didn’t fit the endowment criteria” but that there are “many ways for the Fair to be a good neighbor.” She said the Fair’s surrounding school district is “one of the poorest in the state.” Steve urged support and talked about how the Elmira/OCF cross-country invitational started out as a one-time favor but has grown to a regular event. He said, “The Elmira Cross-Country team now uses the site for training runs; we can be working alone out on the Fair site, then all of a sudden a crowd of runners goes by, which is kind of strange and pretty wonderful. Our site is becoming meaningful to them.” He added, “If the wind is right on Friday nights in the fall, we can hear the PA system during the Elmira HS home football games.” Rivka said, “Healthy minds come from healthy bodies.” Hilary and River said this “builds community” and Andy said he likes the idea of supporting it at the \$2500 level. (The letter to the Board explained that a \$500 donation gets an OCF banner posted for one year; \$2500 would get the OCF’s name posted for the life of the scoreboard which would likely be more than 20 years.) Etienne Smith (Security) said vandalism has lessened at the Fair because we contribute to the community. Charlie said this kind of donation “really helps to build community” and he’d really “love to see the OCF logo there.”

Board: Jack wants to help because they are our neighbors, not necessarily to get our name there. Danya is “definitely for it.” Lawrence said he once thought organized sports were “fundamentally militaristic but I’ve grown to have a different attitude.”

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Palmer then moved to add another \$2000 to the donation, making the total \$2500, but quickly apologized and withdrew the motion after Grumpy and a few others spoke against that idea. Grumpy said, “I kept quiet on this one but for it to go from a neighborly donation of \$500 to almost a quarter of the Board donation budget...really... get real.”

Appoint Co-Coordinator to External Security and Ambiance

Jack moved and Deane seconded that the Board appoint Amy Erenberger and Todd Patopea as Co-Coordinator of External Security. Deane moved and Palmer seconded that the Board appoint Ruth Pomplin as Ambiance Co-Coordinator.

Peach Gallery and Board: Lara thanked the new Coordinators for “stepping up” and also thanked retiring Coordinators Howard Galvin and Bear Sullivan. Thanks and praises were dittoed by Deane, Paxton, Palmer, Jack and Leslie. Current Co-Coordinator of External Security, Ong Kar, said both Todd and Amy are “level-headed and non-biased.” Bear Sullivan said Ruth has worked with Entertainment for over 16 years; and his letter to the Board recommended her “with my highest respect.”

Both motions passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Sustainability Commitment

Danya moved and Lara seconded that the Oregon Country Fair reaffirm its commitment to developing and implementing sustainable practices. Each year meetings will be held to discuss sustainable issues of concern and what practices or strategies we could implement to decrease or eliminate these unsustainable practices.

Peach Gallery: Leslie talked about the importance of “trying to walk the talk in everything we do,” said she supports this and thanked Danya for bringing up the issue. Charlie said it helps us as an organization to have a clear statement of our commitment to sustainability. He said the Fair applied for a grant award, and that process “gave us an opportunity to look at our commitments” including what we mean by phrases such as “reverence for the land” and how to expand that into the larger world. He said, “Events are by design difficult to think of in terms of sustainability but if we don’t think about it we’re missing a great opportunity.” Grumpy said it’s a great motion but we should have a thoughtful process to think about and understand the definition of sustainability. His fear is “what today someone says is sustainable” will be the opposite tomorrow. Hilary agreed there are issues about defining sustainabil-

ity; she also thanked Leslie for “applying visionary focus and getting us to think about sustainability and help gel some of our efforts into a unified goal.”

Board: Lara suggested the meetings required by the motion be delegated to a Sustainability Committee. The best definition she found of sustainability was in a book called *Cradle to Cradle*. She talked about how a fruit tree is both wasteful and sustainable and said “it’s not necessarily how much waste we have but how we can use it.” Deane likes the committee idea. Joseph had “a small issue with wording” and suggested a friendly amendment dropping the word ‘sustainable’ from the second sentence. Danya agreed. Bear reluctantly opposed the motion which he called “a good idea” but too vague. He also said it’s “needless action” because we can “do all that without a motion” and don’t need to create more policies “to sit on the shelf.” Diane said some of our Vision Quest goals speak to sustainability and she supports the motion because it “reaffirms what we’re about.” Katie suggested tabling the motion and bringing it back with more structure. Paxton supports one meeting a year but not two and also suggested tabling. Danya said he purposefully kept the language vague because he didn’t want to limit the motion, and said the meeting/s could be accomplished by “committee, workshop, or whatever.” Joseph said a yearly sustainability summit would be “a good way to wrap things up and come together.”

The amended motion failed: 5 in favor and 5 opposed (Bear, Deane, Katie, Lawrence, Paxton).

Groundskeeper Hiring Committee

Katie moved and Bear seconded that the Board establish a Groundskeeper hiring committee and that the committee consist of Steve Wisnovsky, Charlie Ruff, Lara Howe and River Pagliaro as well as the Personnel Committee.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Approve Revised PPP Manual

Palmer moved and Deane seconded that the Board approve the 0408.doc version of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual as approved after discussion by the Board.

Background: Palmer explained there were several issues in the 16-page document that needed to be discussed and resolved by the Board including issues about merit raises, personal time, and step tables. A couple of friendly amendments were accepted: Grumpy said the Board’s approval should be subject to Russell’s approval; Hilary suggested the word ‘consideration’ rather than ‘preference’ in the phrase “given preference for hiring.” The Board went into ‘committee mode’ and informally discussed the remaining questions before coming to consensus and voting for approval. Paxton said he’d vote no because he wanted Russell’s feedback before voting rather than afterward.

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

Make Office Assistant Full-Time

Palmer moved and Joseph seconded that the Board of Directors increase the OA job from 4 days to 5 days per week and that the extra day be devoted to tasks assigned by the GM.

Board: Deane said it’s a great idea and thanked Robin for being willing to work more hours.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Monday June 2, 2008 at 7pm at the EWEB Training Room. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled items: Budget Issues; Appoint Check Signers; Reactivate Survey Committee (Paxton); Consider Two Amendments to the VQ Goals Document (Joseph); as well as the following new business: Loan Walkie-Talkies to MEMA (Joseph); Appoint Main Camp Security Coordinator; Revised Sustainability Commitment (Danya); and Consider Four Donation Requests: Tamarack Wellness Center (Palmer), NRO (Deane), Southeast Works (Bear), and Eugene Peace Choir (Deane).

Minutes by Barbara Edmonds who thanks Eckhart Tolle (*A New Earth*) for the following quote: “All religions are equally false and equally true, depending on how you use them. You can use them in the service of the ego, or you can use them in the service of the Truth. If you believe only your religion is the Truth, you are using it in the service of the ego. Used in such a way, religion becomes ideology and creates an illusory sense of superiority as well as division and conflict between people. In the service of the Truth, religious teachings represent signposts or maps left behind by awakened humans to assist you in spiritual awakening.”