

Family Album



He's Our Band Leader

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Fair Family Calendar

August

- 20 Wally Slocum Memorial Teddy Bear Picnic, 3 pm, Main Stage meadow
- 21 Evaluation Meeting, Fair Site, 1 pm
- 21 Deadline to submit Board candidate statements for publication in the Fair Family News and the Voters Pamphlet
- 27 Eugene Celebration parade – we'll be there! Call office for details.
- 29 Peach Power meeting, 6 pm, Eugene office

September

- 12 Board Meeting, 7 pm, Fair Site
- 12 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 14 Candidates Forum. See article p. 5
- 15 Last day to register as OCF member to be able to vote in Board election
- 22 Elders Committee, 7 pm, OCF Eugene office

October

- 3 Board Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Community Room
- 3 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 15 Annual Meeting and Election of Board of Directors, 6:30 pm, 420 W. 12th, Eugene
- 16 Highway Pickup, 10 am, Meet at the Ware Barn

Happy Birthday to Our Fair Family Virgos

- Aaron Nine-Gelman Water Crew
- Anne Morris..... Chela Mela
- Anthony Stoppiello..... Energy Park
- Barbara Lee Lot Crew
- Bob Demaline..... Far Side
- Bud Chase Vaudeville
- Candace Reed Traffic
- Catherine Clark Pre-post
- Cathy Lindberg..... Fire
- Charles Corp Lot Crew
- D. Keigh Smiley..... Traffic
- Dan Cohn Fair Family News
- Dan Corp Lot Crew
- Daniel Dillon..... Blintz Booth
- Danielle Thomas..... Green Thumb Flowers
- Dave Crockett Boothperson
- Denny Guehler Main Stage
- Diana Gardener Crafter
- Don St.Clair..... Crafter
- Doug Green..... Backup Manager
- Erik Dedijer-Small..... Fire Crew
- Faith Petric Entertainment (retired)
- Francine Six..... Crafter
- Gary Ausmus..... Traffic
- George Utterback Fire
- Greg Rikhoff..... Admissions
- J.A.R. Smith..... Construction
- James Ince..... Security
- Jessica Rose Tucker Registration
- Jim Richards..... Traffic
- Kathryn Madden..... Fair Central
- Ken Ely..... Water Crew
- Kenneth Howe..... Recycling
- Keri Stutesman Entertainment
- Kristen Mozuch Community Village
- LaRheta Gale Main Camp Security
- Lynn Watson Recycling
- Mary Doyon..... Fair Family News
- Melisa Largent..... Lot Crew
- Melissa Evans Pre-Post Security
- Mike Swett Lot Crew
- Nancy Bright..... Crafter
- Neil Friedman..... Crafter
- Phillip Guyette..... Camping Crew
- Raven Parker-Hartog... Pre-Post Security
- Reggie Soto..... Traffic
- Rivka Gross Security
- Rob Farquhar Security
- Robert Ray..... Water
- Sallie Edmunds..... Back-up Manager
- Seraf Moses Registration
- Sheridan Richardson... Lot Crew
- Starcloud Koepf..... Sauna
- Steve Bouton Recycling
- Steve Robertson..... Internal Security
- Susan Johnson..... Recycling
- Tesia Dow Crafter
- Thomas Smith..... Lot Crew
- Tim Beyer..... Lot Crew
- Vicki Lynn Wootten..... Security
- Victoria Stoppiello..... Energy Park
- Vince LaRoche..... Crafter
- Virginia Sands..... Security
- Willy Gibboney..... Crafter



Keep In Touch

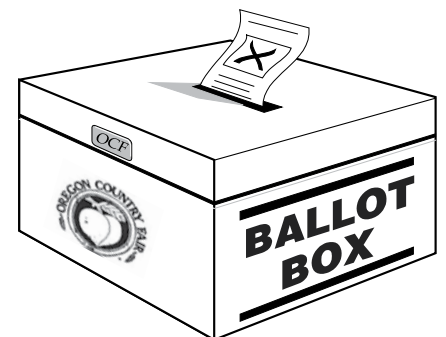
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www.oregoncountryfair.net

Candidate Statements Due

August 21 is the deadline for Board Candidates to submit candidate statements and photos to the Election Committee for the Voters Pamphlet. For more information, go send an email to to elections@oregoncountryFair.org. Also, the Fair's Get Out The Vote (GOTV) Team will again sponsor a candidates forum online. For more information on events planned for the upcoming OCF Board Elections, turn to page 5.



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):

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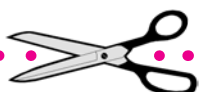
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FFN Teddy Bears



norma "bear hug" sax
Dan "Bearfooted" Cohn
Niki "Honey Bear" Harris
Suzi "Bear Facts" Prozanski
Brad "Bear Essentials" Lerch
Cynde "Bear Naked" Leathers
Mary "Grin and Bear It" Doyon
Michael "Bearly There" Ottenhausen

How can the Fair Meet its Goals?

The Vision Action Committee (VAC) is preparing their report for the Annual Meeting. Got a vision?

Send it to the VAC at:

vac@oregoncountryfair.org

Also looking for project managers & engineers



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 (UnClassifieds not paid for by layout won't run)

LOST SOMETHING AT THE FAIR? Please email lostandfound@oregoncountryfair.org. Give a detailed description of your lost item as well as your contact information. if we have it, we will be sure to return it to you.

Fairly Used Batteries! The Energy Park Electric Company is selling off the batteries we used to power up the Solar Stages again this year. These are BRAND NEW Surrrette S-460 L16 6V Deep Cycle Batteries. Top of the line with a 7 year pro-rated warranty. Faerie dust included-no extra charge. \$275.00 each to Fair Family only. 530.475.3402 or bob-o@electronconnection.com

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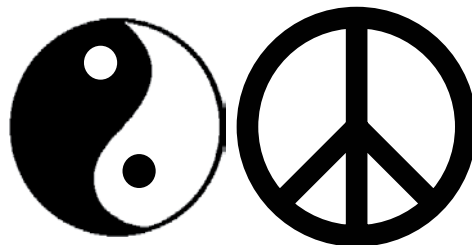
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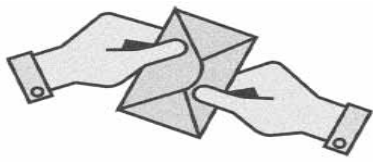
9/7 Rev. Horton Heat / Nashville Pussy
9/10 The Slackers
9/15 Ronnie Montrose and Michael Lee Firkins
9/20 Blue Scholars with Bambu
9/24 We Have Guns with I Am Ruin
9/26 Blind Pilot with Dan Mangan
9/27 We Came As Romans
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Family Letters

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).

Sidecar Bike Saves the Day

Dear Fair Family News,

I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the services White Bird Clinic and Gene of sidecar-bikes gave me today (July 9) at the Fair.

I overestimated my stamina and wound up exhausted and in a lot of pain after too much walking. I stopped in at White Bird clinic asking if there was any service that could help me and my niece back to my car. Within ten minutes they had me wheeled out to Gene who then proceeded to bike us back to the car in one of the most unusual bikes I have ever seen.

What could have been a disaster for me turned into a wonderful experience. When I tried to pay Gene for his service, he refused and just asked that I write the Fair to let you know how much it meant

to me. Without his help I would probably still be trying to crawl back to my car. Thanks to him my overall experience was great and

I hope to return (better prepared) next year.
Barbara Rio
Eugene Fairgoer



Ed. Note: This is not Gene's bike.

Fair Thee Well: Joe Carioti



Joe Carioti of Admissions Crew passed away in Eugene on June 3, 2011, at age 42. A memorial service was held in his former hometown of Phoenix, N.Y., in June. West Coast friends and family gathered for a celebration of life in Eugene in early July.

Joe was born in Fulton, N.Y., to his mother Virginia I. (Firenze), and his late father Fortunato "Butch" Carioti on Sept. 5, 1968. He graduated from J.C. Birdlebough High School in 1984. Joe was a cook and a grocery manager in Eugene. He played guitar and had his own band.

Surviving are his wife, Michele Coluzzi of Eugene; his daughters, Julia Coluzzi-Carioti and Annabelle Coluzzi-Carioti both of Eugene; his mother, Virginia I. Carioti of Phoenix, N.Y.; two brothers James R. "Chip" Carioti and wife Laura of Phoenix, John V. Carioti and wife Maureen

Barnes of Warners, N.Y.; several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews; and Fair friends.

The Joseph Carioti Family Memorial Fund (account 49113) has been set up for his family at the SELCO Community Credit Union, P.O. Box 7487, Eugene, OR 97401.

Fair Thee Well: Anna Barnard



Ann Carol Barnard, a.k.a. Anna Banana, longtime Fair family passed away on Thursday, June 23, after a prolonged illness. She was born in Memphis, Tenn., on July 4, 1941. She graduated from David Lipscombe University with a degree in physiology and worked as a social worker in Phoenix, Ariz.

Anna, as she liked to be called, was preceded in death by her parents, Mac and Edith Hogan of Nashville, Tenn., and her beloved Sam Parker of Ketchum, Idaho. She is survived by her sister, Patricia Jones of Nashville, and her nephew, Jonathan Jones, of Nashville.

There was a double rainbow in the sky the day Anna moved to Ketchum and she said she had found the place she wanted to live. Next to a morning of fresh powder on the mountain, her favorite time of year was morel mushroom season, where she could be seen, every day, tramping the woods from south

to north following the morels. She loved water skiing, hiking and playing softball.

Plans are pending for a memorial service. In lieu of flowers or donations, helping someone with a kind word and a helping hand when needed would please her very much.

Coming Home:

A Long Lost Son's First Experience At The Oregon Country Fair

by John Lyle, First Time Fairgoer

When some people speak about their home they describe an actual physical place, a landscape or perhaps a structure. For others, home is bit more intangible, perhaps a sense or emotion that lives in one's mind or heart. For me it's very much the latter, as I realized this past summer at the Oregon Country Fair. It was there that I was moved by waves of happiness and gratitude as if returning home after an extended absence. I had finally returned home – for the first time.

Though my experiences and reflections at the OCF were certainly not unique, they were profound to me and came at a significant time in my life. For the past several years I'd been growing cynical, disappointed, even angry when reflecting on what humanity does to each other and this incredible planet which gives us life. I was also feeling increasingly sad and guilty knowing our generation had essentially been given everything on a silver platter. We had so much potential, so many opportunities to change the world for the better. Indeed, our generation sought to change the world, yet it seemed that much of what we did was to buy into the corporate, consumer world and focus on money and things rather than on loving, sharing and networking. This negative image was soon to be shattered by a separate reality.

Watching the Fair unfold slowly from the start and gradually gain intensity was like the tide rising higher and higher on the shore of my heart. Blissful blurs of beautiful bodies of all sizes, colors and shapes accompanied sensuous, soulful smiles as amazing art, music and dance embraced me like I've never been embraced before. Once in the safe confines of the front gate, it seemed time was indefinitely suspended and the outside world, as I'd previously known it, simply did not exist.

Wandering up and down the winding trails and paths, I often had no idea where I was in a sense. Yet in a larger sense, it didn't matter. No matter where I wandered, I was precisely where I needed to be. Traversing the same little loops 40 times, each time was the first time. It was the ultimate love story: sensuous, safe, comfortingly familiar and excitingly new.

Until that time all the large events I'd ever attended were tainted by people who were moderately to seriously impaired. But not only were these people not impaired, they were the polar opposite. From what I could see, the drug of choice was bliss, produced by the united physical and spiritual force of thousands of hearts, minds and spirits connecting and re-connecting; affirming and re-affirming; creating and re-creating on a very high plane.

continued on page 8

2011 Get Out the Vote Report

Submitted by Team GOTV

The OCF Get Out The Vote (GOTV) Team is excited to report that we registered 679 voters and 473 Fair Family voters at this year's Oregon Country Fair. The GOTV Team has been working since 2004 to register state and national voters, and more recently, Fair Family voters, at the Fair.

Every fall, our registration efforts are followed up with a nonpartisan turnout effort, reminding Fairgoers to vote in their state and national elections. This year's effort brings the grand total of voters registered at Fair since the GOTV

Team's creation to just over 5,500 state and national voters, and more than 2,600 Fair Family voters.

As always, we had a great time this year registering voters during pre-Fair and during the actual Fair. We always appreciate Fair family's enthusiastic response to our efforts, thank you! It's always nice to hear your encouraging and supportive words as GOTV Team members work the lines and heave multiple clipboards.

Get to Know your OCF Board Candidates

Submitted by Team GOTV

After last year's rousing success, the Fair's GOTV (Get Out The Vote) Team will again host a live Board Candidate Forum next month. As last year, the forum will be videotaped a month in advance of the OCF Annual Meeting and Board Elections. The Forum then will be rebroadcast online for out-of-towners and those unable to attend the Annual Meeting. We hope you'll join us in person or online!

The OCF Board Candidate Forum will be held 6 pm to 8:30 pm on Wednesday, Sept. 14, at the Garden Room upstairs at the Vets Club, 1626 Willamette Street, Eugene, OR 97401.

We plan to use largely the same format and style as last year. In addition to the live forum, candidates will be invited to create short, free-form individual statements that will be posted online for viewing alongside the full forum. We invite all of you to come to the forum in person to ask your questions of candidates — or to simply watch the forum online to assist in your decision-making! The forum will be posted on the same website as last year: www.oregoncountryFairforum.org. If you have any questions about the forum, or would like to suggest a question to ask of our candidates, feel free to contact Kate Newhall at kate.d.newhall@gmail.com.

But wait, there's more! If you are a registered Fair family member and are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, you can request an absentee ballot. If you want to register absentee you must: 1) be a registered Fair family member; and 2) request an absentee ballot by Sept. 30. Absentee requests can be made by via email to elections@oregoncountryFair.org.

Important OCF Election Dates to Remember

Aug. 21, 2011	Deadline for Board Candidates to submit candidate statements to the Election Committee for the Voters Pamphlet (elections@oregoncountryFair.org)
Sept. 14, 2011	GOTV Candidate Forum, 6 pm – 8:30 pm, Garden Room (upstairs), Vets Club, 1626 Willamette St., Eugene, OR 97401 www.oregoncountryFairforum.org
Sept. 15, 2011	Deadline to register to vote in the 2011 OCF Annual Meeting and participate in OCF Board elections. (elections@oregoncountryFair.org)
Sept. 30, 2011	Date by which people should have their absentee ballot requests in to the Elections Committee. (elections@oregoncountryFair.org)
Oct. 15, 2011	Annual Meeting, 6:30pm, Knights of Pythias Hall, 420 W. 12th St., Eugene, OR 97401

Good Works Film Festival Coming in October



© by Suzan Beraza

This fall, Good Works Film Festival will present seven movies covering social justice issues followed by dynamic group discussions. One film in the lineup will be "Bag It," directed by Suzan Beraza (photo at left), a movie about plastics. The festival will kick off Oct. 6 in Portland, followed by a full weekend of screenings and group discussions in Eugene Oct. 7-10. The Oregon Country Fair is the festival's Founding Sponsor. Tickets go on sale online after Aug. 26 at: www.goodworksfilmfestival.org. Look for the schedule in September's Fair Family News.

The Baton is Passed: The Band Marches On

by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News
© 2011 Suzi Prozanski

The Bandleader of the Fighting Instruments of Karma Marching Chamber Band/Orchestra, Eben Sprinsock, stepped down this year after almost 30 years at the helm. The band, which parades around the Fair's pathways twice a day, is the only act that nearly everyone at the Fair gets to enjoy, even when too busy to leave a booth.

In a ceremony at the 2011 Midnight Show (after the band marched on stage to the tune of "Teddy Bears' Picnic"), Eben handed the bandleader's whistle back to Howard Patterson (aka Ivan Karamazov of the Flying Karamazov Brothers) after ably mustering the band for nearly three decades.

Eben first came to play in the band at the Fair in 1978, invited by the Flying Karamazov Brothers. Eben has known two of the then-Flying Karamazov Brothers since high school — Paul Magid (aka Dmitri Karamazov) and Randy Nelson (aka Alyosha Karamazov). Eben and Randy also both had day jobs as computer programmers.

Clarinet as an excuse

"Howard was the bandleader when I first started coming to the Fair," Eben recalls. "At the time, my excuse for coming to the Fair was I played clarinet and they said I could play in the band. But I was just a friend of performers at the time. I wasn't performing myself, I was just sort of a normal guy. It was really cool to get an entry into this world, and I got to meet a lot of interesting people. ...

"Right away, I loved the Fair and I loved the band!" Eben adds. "I really thought the band was great for a number of reasons. I saw the effect it had on people. I loved that, but also I got to play with some great musicians. And I'm not a great musician ... but I got to play with some great musicians! ... So for me, that was incredibly exciting, to hang with those folks!"

He has fond memories of shows at Chumleighland (now W.C. Fields stage). "The first couple of years I was there, we were just doing vaudeville variety shows led by Reverend Chumleigh. It wasn't until I think the third year I was there that the Karamazovs actually put on a scripted show with a plot."

When Reverend Chumleigh decided to skip the Fair in 1981, the Flying Karamazov Brothers stepped in to run the show at Chumleighland. "Initially the themes were just really thin little stories that connected basically in a variety show," Eben says. "But over the years, the themes got more and more ambitious." The cast staged several pirate-themed shows featuring the pirates' catchphrase "ARRRGH!" The popular shows led to spontaneous outbursts of "ARRRGH!" along the pathways of the Fair. Other favorite shows riffed on the themes of "heaven," "Little Nemo" and "It's a Wonderful Life."

Shows got better... or more elaborate

As the shows became more complicated, Eben stepped up to help Howard, who was juggling (pun intended) leading the band with playing lead parts in the shows.

"I was gung-ho about the band at the Fair, and so I quickly became Howard's assistant or concert-master," Eben says. "I volunteered to help Howard and I got to know how the band worked."

For one thing, the bandleader doesn't just sit in the bandstand, waving his hand to keep the beat. Before the Fair, the bandleader sends out music charts so band members can practice, runs band rehearsals, and chooses the marching music. During Fair marches, the bandleader doesn't lead the parade from the front; he signals songs by blowing a whistle, wherever he is in the lineup. When the band plays for stage performances, the bandleader becomes a key part of the stage management crew.

"There's a stage manager and an MC that make sure things work correctly backstage and that cues happen," Eben says. "But the bandleader, for our shows, sort of paces the show, making sure the show runs smoothly. Mostly that's in managing the transitions between acts. The band covers the transitions and makes the transitions seamless. Or if they don't do it right, they don't. And it can affect the pace and the length of the show."

In the early 1980s, Howard decided he was juggling too many duties. He handed over the bandleader's whistle when Eben volunteered.



© 2011 by Michelle Bates



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© 1978 by Ann Goddard

At the Midnight Show 2011 (top left); parading the path (top right); and on stage in 1978, Eben's first year at the fair, arm raised in song with (left to right) Reverend Chumleigh, Peggy Wendel, Mary Ramsey, Doug Wieselmann and Raye Santos.

On-the-job training

"It was a scary thing," Eben recalls, "because here are all these great musicians that I really admire and I know I'm not nearly as good as, and I'm going to lead them? But everybody was so gracious. Everybody cooperated. ... They all acknowledged that someone had to be the leader and no one else wanted to do it. ... I got to develop my skills as a band leader and an on-stage presence, totally through doing it. And professional performers let me do it, let me screw up, just because I was a friend of theirs. I got to learn by doing."

Whatever the show, the biggest constant over the years for Eben and the Fighting Instruments of Karma band remains marching the paths twice daily while playing rousing music. The parades originally started as a way to lure an audience to the stage, which is set back from the path. But soon the shows gained so much acclaim, audiences would gather early to get good seats. Even after the parades outlived their original purpose, they continued because the parade became so popular with Fair folks — it's the one show nearly everyone sees as it passes by. And back at the stage, when the band marches in through the audience, it sets an exciting tone. "Having the band march in is a great way to start the show," Eben says. "It just starts the show with a lot of energy."

Chautauqua origins

Eben's bandleading skills have taken him into that role beyond the Fair. "I played in my high school marching band and symphonic band, so the Fair was not my first experience with being in a band," Eben says. "But it was through the Fair that I learned how to lead a band, and grew to love doing it. I eventually led the (new Old Time) Chautauqua band, and up here in Seattle I created and still lead the house band for the SANCA circus school. That band is called Doc Sprinsock and the SANCApators." (SANCA is the School of Acrobatics and New Circus Arts, located in

Seattle, where Eben lives.)

Eben also learned to play a different instrument, alto sax. "I wanted to try another reed instrument," Eben says, "and I thought alto sax would be a good instrument to lead the band with, since it is loud and has the same range as the trumpet."

Eben cherishes his experiences with the New Old Time Chautauqua. "Chautauqua started from the Fair," he says. "The whole idea of Chautauqua originally was, we put together this great show and we only do it for three days. Maybe we should go on the road with it. That was the original germ of an idea behind Chautauqua. Of course, Chautauqua expanded from that into a service organization, a nonprofit (organization) taking entertainment to small towns and all that stuff, but the original impetus was extending the life of the Fair show."

Chautauqua shows also traditionally start out with the band marching in. "We're not coming from anywhere, we just go out the back door and march in the front door, but it's a great way to start the show," Eben says with a laugh.

Some of Eben's favorite Fair memories involve sharing the Fair with his kids. "They literally grew up at the Fair," he says. "I remember both kids, in turn, I would carry them in a baby backpack in the parade. And what was amazing was, they would fall asleep in the middle of all these blaring instruments! It never failed to put them right to sleep, the rhythm of it. We'd come back with a sleeping baby."

It's fun to pretend

Another favorite memory involves his daughter's participation in the "Little Nemo" stage show. Eben and his then-wife had a daughter, Betsy, and were sharing a house in San Francisco with Howard Patterson and his wife Seiza, and their son Jasper. "So Betsy and Jasper grew up going to the Fair together," Eben says. As it happened, the kids found themselves cast in the "Little Nemo" show.

"The way the ('Little Nemo') show was constructed, during Awake Time it was Jasper who was on stage," Eben says. "But during sleep, during Dream Time, an adult actor took his place. But Jasper was this kid star of the show. And of course in 'Little Nemo' he meets a princess in his dreams. At the end of the show, the princess comes into his real, waking life, and he wakes up in bed with the princess. And Betsy, at the end of the show, played the princess. So the last scene of the show had Jasper waking up in bed and Betsy popping up underneath the covers — there's the princess! And she's a little girl! That was a lot of fun.

"After that summer, Betsy went back to school, and she must've been in third grade," Eben continues. "The teacher gave them the prototypical assignment, 'What did you do on your summer vacation?' Betsy wrote this little essay about how she went to a fair in the woods where her father led the marching band and she was the princess in the show. Well, she got the paper back with a big star on it, and the teacher had written on it, 'It's fun to pretend, isn't it?' She told the literal truth and her teacher thought she was making it up, which just shows you what a magical experience the Fair is. We never bothered to set the teacher straight."

The Midnight Show is another favorite. "The very first time I marched with the band to the Midnight Show on Main Stage, I'll never forget that," Eben says. "Marching through thousands of screaming hippies is an amazing experience. I've had that experience every year ever since then, and it never fails to be incredible. That's a moment, an experience I'll never have anywhere else. And just doing the parade and watching the people light up as we go by, and interacting with them as we march past. That's why I go to the Fair still. That's it. ... I love the band and I love the show. It's a magical experience."

For now, Eben plans to take a year or so off from the Fair. Howard will muster the marching band with his whistle-blowing prowess, and the show and the parade will go on. But next year as the parade passes by, many of us will miss seeing that smiling guy, in his trademark white suit and red fez, playing the alto sax.

(Suzi Prozanski, author of "Fruit of the Sixties: The Founding of the Oregon Country Fair," volunteers for Fair Family News. www.suzipro.com)



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Main Stage MC Takes a Bow

by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News
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Denny Guehler, the Main Stage MC staple with a deeply resonate voice, stepped down this year for health reasons after almost 25 years as the Voice of the Oregon Country Fair. Since 1987, Denny has greeted the Fair from Main Stage every morning with his cheerful shout-out, "Good Morning, Oregon Country Fair!"

Inspired by the Robin Williams movie "Good Morning Viet Nam," the Country Fair version of the greeting quickly became a tradition. One year, stage manager David Paul told Denny he'd heard a complaint that the "good morning" greeting was too over the top.

"So we just started without it," Denny recalls. "And then people started coming backstage asking 'Where is your Good Morning?' So many people came backstage, David got inundated with it." One woman from a food booth near Main Stage said they had their own tradition tied to the morning shout-out. "When Denny says, 'Gooooood morning! the Fair is officially on!,'" she said. "We drink a champagne toast at our booth because we know it's just moments before the first customers are going to be showing up. That's our tradition and we're lost without it."

Of course, the "Good Morning" greetings resumed.



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Denny Guehler

Denny remembers being "blown away" by his first Fair in 1975, dancing to some great music at Main Stage. Will Hobbs brought in a group of musicians that would soon be known as Wheatfield, and the dancing crowds couldn't get enough. From then on, Denny attended the Fair faithfully; he especially loved dancing to music at Main Stage. In Eugene, he ran a landscaping business and worked as a radio DJ for years. So when Main Stage coordinator David Paul offered several local radio announcers a chance to audition for Main Stage MC in 1986, Denny jumped at it.

But there was a technical difficulty. Denny had a shift at radio station KPNW in Eugene that didn't end until noon Sunday, and he was supposed to be on Main Stage at 1 p.m. for the tryout. David Paul assured him it could be done. And thanks to the "In and Out Crew," Fair magic happened. Denny arrived at the parking entrance at 12:45, "and by God, they found me!" he recalls. "They parked my car somewhere and one of the guys from the crew swooped me up on his motorcycle. They whisked me off and I made it with minutes to spare."

The first act Denny introduced on Main Stage turned out to be Ken Kesey and the Thunder Machine, performing "Little Tricker the Squirrel Meets Big Double Bear." As luck would have it a DJ from KZEL, who was supposed to audition after Denny, failed to show up. Denny

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stayed to MC the rest of the afternoon and got to show his considerable skills. He aced the audition and got the job.

The next year, Denny was too busy working to get to the Fair early, so he showed up Friday morning for his Main Stage job. As the last on the crew to show up, there were no staff T-shirts left. Marshall Landman came by and “flipped out” when he learned that the new Official Fair Spokesperson didn’t even have a staff T-shirt. He insisted Denny needed one. “Cool!” Denny replied. “I’ve always wanted a staff t-shirt.” Then Denny added “Remember, Marshall, I’ll need three ‘cause they get pretty funky after one day.” Nowadays, Denny chuckles as he remembers the look Marshall gave him as he shook his head and walked off. “And I never did get three,” Denny adds. “I was so new to being in the Fair Family.”

In 1989 during the Fair’s 20th anniversary ceremony on Main Stage, Denny got a memorable chance to again introduce Ken Kesey. Cindy Wooten, Sandra Bauer and Bill Wooten had each gotten up to talk in turn. Then Ken Kesey wanted to speak. Denny introduced him as “Oregon’s poet laureate.” But he soon regretted giving Kesey the microphone. The famed author began to berate the Fair for being elitist by forcing the public to leave in the evenings, arguing that everyone should be able to stay to enjoy the Midnight Show, or at least the Midnight Show should be put on in the parking lot.

“I was so thankful we weren’t broadcasting,” Denny says. “It was just the people there (at the stage) that heard it. ... I was standing there on the ramp and Kesey looked at me and he says, ‘You! You big emcee! You think you can pull me off this stage? I used to be a wrestler at the U of O!’” But “that was the furthest thing from my mind,” Denny says. “When he got done, I just walked over to the microphone and I said, ‘Ken Kesey, Oregon’s poet laureate.’ And a lot of people laughed.” Afterward, David Paul said, “Oh man, you handled that perfectly.”

Another memorable incident occurred when the Daddies played Main Stage in the early 1990s. A large band with eclectic style whose full name is the Cherry Poppin’ Daddies, the group would become famous in 1998 for its mega-hit swing song “Zoot Suit Riot.” But in 1991 the band, calling themselves the Country Fair Daddies, closed down Main Stage on Saturday evening.

“We were real excited about having them there,” Denny says. “I hadn’t

heard them before. David Paul had already gotten some feedback from Fair people that we needed to get something to attract younger people to the Fair. There were lots of teens — kids from the Fair and their friends, but then the 20s and 30s crowd, which we’d all grown out of, were not coming out there. And the Daddies were a hot group for that age group, so David booked them. This is before they got real big-time. ...

“I talk to every group before I introduce them. ... I ask them: ‘In one line, describe your music.’ With the Daddies, every guy had a different line. I wrote every single one of them down. One of them that stuck out to me was ‘New Age Cab Calloway.’ Sure as shit, they had their own version of ‘Minnie the Moocher.’ Everything they said was true. I managed to work it all into the intro. When I got them introduced, I went over to my camp to mix a drink and an old friend of mine, a lady friend of mine, happened to be there visiting. I hadn’t seen her in a long time. We were in the middle of a kiss and I hear a voice yelling, ‘Denny! Denny! We need you!’”

A lot of young folks turned out to hear the Daddies and had started vigorously slam dancing, penning in others close to the picket fence near the stage. Worried that somebody might get hurt, Big Boys from Security lined up in front of the picket fence to keep dancers from getting impaled.

“Just as I got there, the Daddies ended the song they were playing,” Denny recalls. “I bounded up on stage and grabbed the microphone and I remember thinking, ‘Oh Goddess, please back me up. If these guys are rebellious, I’m done.’ And I remember the words flashed in my head, ‘Firm but mellow.’ And I just said, ‘I’m sorry, we cannot have any slam dancing. Just look around you. People are going to get hurt, if they haven’t already been. We’ve got all our biggest security guys here to keep the crowd back. If this continues, the Fair’s going to insist that we take the band off the stage and we don’t want to do that. They’re wonderful. You’re loving it, we’re loving it. And we’re glad you’re all here, but you gotta understand.’ And the lead singer jumped on the mike — Steve Perry — and he backed me up totally. Several other band members chimed in. You could just feel this relaxation in the crowd. I said, ‘Will you cooperate?’ Yes!!! ‘OK, ladies and gentlemen, the Daddies!’”

And the show went on.

So thank you, Denny, for all the years of keeping the show running smoothly.



First Experience At The Oregon Country Fair

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I’ve been blessed with being able to travel and live in many wild, remote places in the world and have met many amazing people, yet I’d never experienced anything quite like this before. Such a profoundly sacred psychic vibe of so many people grooving on the same wavelength was something I didn’t know existed, much less where and how to tap into it. It became increasingly clear that here were friends and family I never knew existed. Everyone had a place and played an integral part. I found the freedom, the safety to discover a musical part of me. For the first time I found my voice and it was beautiful.

People looked at each other with eyes wide open; eyes filled with respect, acceptance and wisdom. At several points I was so overwhelmed with the whole scene that I found a place off the path to weep healing tears of gratitude. At one point I broke down and began sobbing. I felt a hand on my shoulder. It was a man many years my senior. Like me, he also had tears in his eyes, and he said to me, “It’s ok brother. You’re home now.”

“For me there is only traveling on paths that have a heart, on any path that may have a heart. And there I travel, and the only worthwhile challenge is to

traverse its full length. And there I travel, looking, looking breathlessly.” (Carlos Castaneda from “The Teachings of Don Juan; A Yaqui Way of Knowledge”)

I remember reading Carlos Castaneda’s first book while living and traveling in remote parts of the Amazon Basin in 1973. One of the many things that stuck with me all these years is Castaneda’s contention that the world is truly incomprehensible. We won’t ever completely understand it; we won’t ever unravel all its secrets. Thus we must treat it as it is: a sheer mystery. This is how I regard my experience at the Oregon Country Fair. When I ask myself the rhetorical question, “How could the OCF possibly be?” I think to myself, “because it was meant to be.”

So to all you organizers and dreamers, planners and helpers, musicians and vendors, crews and more crews: thank you for being there. Not so much for my benefit but for your own; for the benefit of your children and grandchildren and all the young people who will carry on in this crazy, uncertain world. Thank you for creating and keeping alive an environment of the spirit which reflects the very best in humanity. Thank you for adopting me into your family. I will try my best to be a worthy son. I love you.



Board members present: Diane Albino, John "Chewie" Burgess, Katie Cousins, Paxton Hoag, Lara Howe, Jack Makarchek, Deane Morrow, Jon Pincus (alternate), Indigo Ronlov (facilitator), Anna Scott (alternate), Jon Silvermoon, Lawrence "LT" Taylor. 31 Peach gallery, staff and officers were present.

Agenda Review

Old business: Budget update; Gratitude (Lara); Member Input. **New Business:** Office Assistant Sabbatical (Diane); September meeting date change. **Indigo moved, LT seconded, to move the September meeting agenda item from new to old business. The motion passed 10-0.**

Announcements

Fair management (BOD/Officers/BUMs) and volunteers will prepare and serve breakfast the morning of July 5th for pre-Fair volunteers. The Main Camp Kitchen crew will get a well deserved morning off. (Hilary Anthony)

The Teddy Bear picnic will be held on Aug 20th on the Fair site. (norma sax)

The Evaluation Meeting will be held on Aug 21st on the Fair site. (Charlie Ruff)

There are a few openings remaining for 17-18 year old boys on the Culture Jam registration list. (Robin Bernardi)

The Board of Directors election candidate forum will be held on Sept 14th, 6-8:30pm, at the Vet's Club in Eugene. A video will be available for on-line viewing following the event. (Kate "K8" Newhall)

The Fair will be represented at the Gay Pride event on Aug 13th in Alton Baker Park. Contact me for information or to help out. (Jain Elliott)

Donations

Recording Secretary's Report: There are no new donation requests since the last meeting. The consent calendar donation process will resume at the August meeting.

Staff Reports

Operations Manager: Charlie Ruff, noting that we are here on the Fair site preparing for another Fair, said thank you to each and every one of us who are helping to make this amazing thing happen. There is nothing like our Fair in the world. He reported on his recent half hour Q&A interview with Jefferson Public Radio and how the experience clarified his perspective on the Fair and made him realize how special our event really is and how proud and grateful he feels to be a part of making it happen. This family, this organism, comes together and our creation is manifest. We are on the eve of it happening, we are just going down the rabbit hole, soon we'll be there and then in a few days more we'll be on the back side of it. Enjoy all the moments, today, tomorrow and each second. We are seeing a growing trend, due to recent wetter spring weather that slows the beginning of pre-fair work and then ratchets up the intensity in the final days. The lots are in better shape than last year and some hay is already down. The 4th of July is shaping up in a joyous and positive sense with the way we are prepared this year. Crew coordinators are well informed and there will be security, parking controls and a managed, permitted show limited to our Fair Family members only as an expression of appreciation. Media day will be Wednesday before the Fair from 10-2pm. The end product of our sign project has turned into a pretty and really nice piece of art that lets people in the community know we are here and when we hold the event. The registration process is wrapping up and went really well this year. This year's Peach Pit is out now and looks awesome and the Peach Pit crew did a wonderful job. The Front of the Fair stakeholders meeting went well yesterday, the views are getting heard, and it is a great start to our discussion and process as we rethink that part of the Fair. One more time, thank you all, and enjoy every minute.

Site Manager: Steve Wisnovsky reported we still have a lot of work to do in a short period of time. These wet springs make preparations a little more difficult and we may be bucking our last bale of hay in the last hours before the event. A whole lot of gratitude is due to all the people working to get ready and to all those who will be arriving soon to add their piece to the puzzle. There are just too many to name and thank; there is a whole lot of good creative work and care going on. A medical emergency response effort earlier today went very well with good communication and decisions on the part of our volunteers and the community professionals. Thank you, thank you, thank you, it will be another great Fair.

Administrative Assistant: norma sax offered a debt of gratitude to everyone, those working now and those who work year around. She thanked the Kitchen crew for doing a great job. She expressed her appreciation to her staff colleagues for their help and support and collaborative efforts. The office is running smoothly and has been crisis free.

Office Assistant: Robin Bernardi expressed her gratitude, saying it is a privilege to work for this organization. Helping people with questions about the Fair and preparation for Culture Jam is ongoing at the town office.

We have 30 staffers getting organized and its coming along well for Culture Jam.

Assistant Manager: Tony Clementi expressed his gratitude for the volunteers who interrupted their projects and immediately jumped in to help with the medical emergency earlier today. Tony pointed out that Charlie's "thousand spinning plates" analogy is kicking in now.

Charlie spoke up and he thanked Tony for his response earlier today and remarked on how lucky we are to have Tony's professional skill set with us.

Committee Reports

Jill Heiman Vision Fund: Members are reminded that food vouchers can be donated to the fund during and immediately after the Fair. (norma s)

Peach Power: Meetings are held each last Monday of the month at 6pm. On-line participation is expected to start soon and conference calling and in-person attendance still works. Donations of cash or physical things to the fund are gladly accepted for specific projects. Responding to a query, Anna introduced Haydin Tyger Scott, who is doing very well in his first days on the Fair site and is accompanying his mother through a second day of meetings. Anna said thanks very much to the rest of the Board for their gift. (Anna Scott)

Community Center Committee: The next meeting is August 15th, 6pm at the town office. (Lara Howe)

Craft Committee: The next meeting is the second Wednesday in August at 6pm at the town office. (Lara Howe)

Officer Reports

Treasurer: Hilary noted that money is coming in, money is going out and when the dust settles there will be more to report. That's all.

Approval of minutes

Indigo moved, Jon S seconded, to adopt the June 6, 2011 minutes. The motion passed 10-0.

Old Business

Indigo moved, Paxton seconded, to hold the monthly OCF Board meeting for September on Monday the 12th on site. The motion passed 10-0.

Lara spoke on the subject of gratitude, several Board members seconded her statements, and the Board and all those present in the meeting circle expressed their approval by voting unanimously in favor. "It's been one hell of a year, with some rough times, for many friends too, and finding my gratitude has been a difficult thing. We see the way the world is and the way humans treat each other, treat the world, and treat the flora and the fauna. Then, thinking about all of you and the smiles and hugs and laughter - that's when hope starts bubbling to the top again. The time we share together is incredibly precious. There is something about this event that brings out the best in each and every one of us. I have learned so much about myself from being here. I beg you to bring your best, bring that thing that makes people laugh, be that person who brings us all hope. It's our times together that brings my strength back and when I find my smile again. There is so much I appreciate that I can't begin to name who or identify what you brought to me. This is what I mean by "be excellent to each other." This world has been a real bitch to a lot of our family, we said good bye to about 25 of our family members this year. We need each other more than ever and we need to feel and help what happens to each other out there in the outside world. So be excellent, be that moment that brightens someone's day."

Chewie commented on the theme "be excellent to each other." People's responses to each other differ, good and bad, but the fact is we are all here, all 13,000 plus volunteers and all 45,000 who attend, and every single one of us, no matter what, are all part of the big "WE" who are "US" and it's our little corner of a world where a lot is not so nice. When we are here, enjoying the time and the people and the activities, think about it and be aware of those who are gone. It's about appreciation for all the people, embracing those we have known for a long time, who we sort of know, and who we will get to know, and those we remember. The words "be excellent to each other" are printed on the back of this year's VegManEcs tee shirts and this is a matter of pride. My friend and co-coordinator dahinda exemplifies this spirit of appreciation - we can all see how he lights up when he is with us. This theme is an important part of the adventure that is the Oregon Country Fair.

Member Input

Joseph Newton: Listen to the little bird up there; be grateful for our history and the span of life here. When you doubt, notice in your next breath, the incredible chemistry of nature.

Diane Albino: I am grateful for the way our staff and volunteers care for this place, for the generations of families and for all the multi-cultural aspects of our family.

Jain Elliott: I am grateful for the new kids at Community Village.

Chris Browne: For me it's about the place and the people here who can

take a difficult task and make it work. Somehow we all pull together. I'm part of a wonderful family.

Jessica M: Everything I learn at the Fair I can take to the wider world and they are good and positive experiences.

Kyle: Recalling the recent passing of a crew member Richard, Kyle said he was very observant and often used the phrase "copy that" to underscore his understanding. It's a good phrase and we could make it part of our way to affirm our understanding with each other when we talk. He was well known in Portland and was a big part of the Fair. Copy that.

Deane Morrow: Humans have been convening here for thousands of years and we are not here by accident.

Elizabeth: Come share a cup of hot tea or coffee in our space at L86, or a bologna sandwich. I love all of you and am learning so much and hope to be involved here a very long time.

Kate Newhall: I appreciate the various projects, working with all the skilled and talented people who are here from all walks of life, how we meet up and the way we are compassionate about the things we do. It seems endless, and it's fun.

DUG: I feel an opening in my heart for this place. It's an honor to participate and the welcomes are warm.

Lois: I'm an Elder and the most important thing to me is the sense of family and continuity over all the years, families with new members and growing children, and the generations.

Mark Pankratz: I'm grateful for the time I can spend out here. I try to live the ideals of this community and appreciate how we practice being positive to become better people and take our ways out to the rest of the world.

Starla: I am grateful for the smiles and hugs we share here.

Timothy: I appreciate the community of family here, we're not just volunteers or neighbors, and now with second and third generations who are with me, this family thing is more than a cliché, it's real.

Dick Stewart: I am very grateful for the countless years and how we walk the talk, such as micro-cleaning and recycling. It's been an incredible adventure and the times here are my high points.

Mckean: I'm Lois' grandchild and this is my 18th year here at the Fair, and I'm just turning 19 in a few days. This is my family and I know this neighborhood better than my neighborhood in Portland. I love coming here.

Rebecca: I'm loving all the babies out here; there is a bumper crop this year.

Kay: The gratitude at the Fair just goes out in spirals, we have heaven on earth for a few days, it's more than an event, it's a lifestyle.

norma: I'm grateful for how we are all so grateful.

Anna: I am grateful for humanity and the earth, and for the energy focus we embody.

Steve: I'm grateful that a few of us can live a life of service to this community. It is rightful living and it carries me every day of the year. We are showing the dominate culture out there how to do it right, how to build community, how to appreciate each other and help each other. It's what we are about.

Lara: In this season, I will be so filled up with OCF lovin'. I'm going to take it back to my neighbors in town. Let's all be like a virus and spread these feelings all around.

Jack Makarchek: (without speaking, he circled and embraced and thanked each and every one) Thank you all for what I have heard this year about "herding cats". But you are not cats, ok, and I would never do that to a cat.

Hilary Anthony: I'm grateful for all the ways we are able to come to agreement.

Chewie Burgess: (also, nothing to say, he embraced each and every one)

Charlie Ruff: I'm grateful for arriving here 18 years ago and finding my home in life.

Bill Ganser: For me it's how this place is so real, so authentic. That is being shown to me, again, in what we are doing, here, right now. Thanks, everybody, for just being, in such a good way.

Indigo Ronlov: I'm grateful for how we do things differently. I'm grateful when this place has water on it and my four-year-old can come out here with me and walk through the puddles with tadpoles and dragonflies. I'm grateful this property and river are protected. This place feeds my spirit.

The event makes it all possible. I'm grateful for the waters and the life they give. The world's waters are being affected in hard ways and it matters when we walk this land in gratitude.

Tony Clementi: I'm grateful for life, not just my own, all of yours. Loss is difficult and every second is a blessing and a gift. I'm grateful to be able to serve this family year around.

Robin Bernardi: I'm grateful for the love we generate and all the energy given to make this happen. Thanks for the water ritual that will open our event this year. It's been beautiful to see Charlie hit his stride in his role. He really cares about the whole, about all of us.

Katie Cousins: I have received so much from this family over the years and I'm grateful for the opportunity to give some of it back.

Jon Pincus: I am grateful for the incredible evolution of 40 years of this place and the family that has grown here. I am grateful for the new energy coming in. This place is a beacon for the whole world.

Dean Middleton: Twenty-four years ago my daughter was on my back in a pack and now this year she has a baby with her. I am really grateful for the generations of the Fair and the process of turnover and renewal.

Amelia: About 31 years ago I was a kid here. This is home to me, and I am grateful for the creative energy here. It's part of my family and we come together here. It's really special.

Ben: I'm grateful to have a place to come and enjoy. I represent Nearly Normal and have a letter for the Board. We are a food vendor and have an unresolved issue with the Food Committee. We are organic, we participate and we support the Fair. The Food Committee does not support our desire to sell sunburgers and has directed us to sell falafels. Their rationale was not sound or clear. Some of their comments (e.g. we are not creative) were unkind and misguided. Please review this decision, and the transparency and process of this committee.

Sasha: I'm grateful for all the firsts I experience at the Fair and how I feel like I've grown each year.

Fancisco: I'm grateful for the opportunity for us to all be here together.

Brad: I'm grateful to the people that started this Fair, and the idea we spend three days each year with each other being the way we should be to each other. Einstein said we can look at the world like nothing is a miracle and it's all science, or we can look at the world like each and every thing is a miracle. Of all the miracles in the universe we are particularly blessed to be here to share this one.

Paxton Hoag: I'm grateful for the land and the thousands of years of native American history on this site and for our 42 years here and for our family.

Anne: I camp at Alice's and I shake everybody's hand on security when I come in and thank them for what they do. I really enjoy doing that.

Lawrence Taylor: I work to help clean your six-packs and so I am really grateful for all of your digestive systems. I am most grateful for the ground that holds us and provides for us. The world is not that tough and the good, kind, decent parts of the world don't make the news so don't despair. Put your feet on the ground. Take your shoes off and get out on the path and feel the heart of being here.

Jon Silvermoon: I agree with all these sentiments, and more, so "copy that!"

David: Thanks to all you guys for making this happen, all your time and volunteering. I'm here to volunteer some time.

President's Peace

Notice this light breeze, it reminds me of the intimacy of what we are expressing, how we are sharing our breath and how we enter each other. The breeze is a beautiful reminder of who we are. (Jack)

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35pm. After adjournment, Board and members gathered to share some food provided by the Kitchen Crew and talk together. The next Board meeting is Aug. 1st, 7pm at EWEB.

Consent Calendar donation requests for August: Sexual Assault Support Services (Chewie). **Tentative agenda for the August Board meeting:** Staff and committee reports; Office Assistant Sabbatical (Diane)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING



August 1, 2011

Board members present: Diane Albino, John "Chewie" Burgess, Katie Cousins, Paxton Hoag, Lara Howe, Jack Makarchek, Deane Morrow, Jon Pincus (alternate), Indigo Ronlov (facilitator), Anna Scott (alternate), Jon Silvermoon, Lawrence "LT" Taylor. Seventeen members, guests, staff and officers were present.

Agenda review

Old business: Donations Consent Calendar (Sexual Assault Support Services); Budget report; Office Assistant sabbatical (Diane)

New business: Health Booth for staff and volunteers (Chewie); Policy on manufactured music (LT); Form a task force to review current practices and develop recommendations concerning accommodating the needs of public and Fair Family alter-abled individuals (Jon S); Donation Request for Helios Resource Network's Action Plan Eugene (Diane)

Announcements

The annual Evaluation Meeting will be held August 21st, 1-4pm at Alice's Wonderland (the day after the Teddy Bear Picnic). -norma sax

Get Out the Vote (GOTV) registered 679 voters for state and national elections and 473 members for the OCF Board election. (K8 Newhall)

GOTV will hold a Board election candidate forum on September 14th, 6-8:30pm at the Vets Club in Eugene. The forum video can be viewed after the event at the "oregoncountryfairforum.org" website. (K8)

An OCF table will be staffed at the August 13th Gay Pride event in Alton Baker Park. (Jain Elliott)

The next highway pick-up date is August 14th; meet at the warebarn. (Steve Wisnovsky)

The OCF will be in the Eugene Celebration parade on August 27th. Contact norma to participate. There will be specific roles and we need commitments. (Charlie Ruff)

The Board of Directors candidate statement deadline is August 21st. (Jen-Lin Hodgden)

The recent Junction City / Harrisburg Habitat for Humanity fundraiser raised over \$5000. OCF provided security radios for the event. (Jon Silvermoon)

Thanks to every single person who participated, the Fair was excellent! (Chewie Burgess)

Staff Reports

Operations Manager (Charlie Ruff): Many expressions of thanks need to be said- for being US and for this year's fantastic Fair. Paid attendance was about 45,879 and comments from many people on the path indicate this was one of the smoothest and sweetest Fairs ever. We must thank the planet for the excellent weather. The site enjoyed three beautiful days. Main Camp got off to a slow start due to a lingering rain season but we had an incredible preparation effort during the last two weeks. Thank you Board members, staff, all our coordinators, every single volunteer and all of our guests, and all those out in the world who touched a heart or who were touched by a heart at the event.

The Fair will participate in the Eugene Celebration parade this year and will be showing off some new artwork (the dazzling new purple F.A.R.T. shuttle) from this year's Fair. We intend to participate annually and plan to debut our latest new art works as a feature of our parade entry. We're told our presence in the parade has been missed the past couple of years.

Culture Jam is coming up and will be a special activity again this year thanks to Robin and everyone else involved. The Beaver folks came and helped out with preparations.

Our financial review and 990 filing (a 35 page document) is ahead of schedule thanks to Hilary. The picnic and Evaluation Meeting are coming up in a few weeks and it should be noted our 2012 pre-Fair efforts are now considered started. The dust from this year is getting tidied up as we prepare for next year and everyone has my gratitude, from the deepest recesses of my heart. Thanks, Family.

Administrative Assistant (norma sax): Thank you, thank you everybody; so let's do it again! The picnic is on August 20th, come join in and participate. Help is needed for the potluck tables, grilling and greeting. A lot of financial work has been underway- this little shindig takes a lot of money - and we are paying bills, updating reports, making adjustments and checking statements. The overall picture will be more complete next month. With Robin working at Culture Jam and with the financial workload, norma will be working upstairs in the mornings so the downstairs office hours are being cut back to just afternoons on Monday, Wednesday and Friday as well as all day on Tuesday and Thursday. It's always best to call ahead.

Site Manager (Steve Wisnovsky): Yes, yes, yes! Ditto to all the thanks and appreciations expressed by my colleagues. I started my list of 2012 preparations on July 11th. We had 3 beautiful days for the Fair, then a nice, welcome rain on Tuesday to refresh the site and then some more rain the following weekend. The paths have been core-plugged and, with the moisture, the grass and foliage is greening up and the dust is down. The site is still very accessible for getting out any remaining stuff and there are lots of folks, booths and crews who have left things behind. Remember, please, if you packed it in, you get to pack it out.

A special thank-you goes to the people who created the new artful purple shuttle van and did the wood work, the metal work and the decoration - Little Michael, Welder Mike, Abe, Chris, Randy and construction crew for the woodcraft, site crew, and Andyman are some of those who helped. My transcendent post-Fair moment occurred just last night after a long busy day. Near the Warehouse, about 9pm there was a deer grazing on the foliage above the garbage dumpster and then I knew all the species were returning to enjoy our wildlife refuge.

Available free, on the Fair site: waste cooking oil in front of the recycling dock and hay, loose and baled out in the parking lots.

Office Assistant (Robin): A special thanks goes to the crews and coordinators that rely on pre-fair office support for how well organized and smoothly things went this year - Registration (Justin), Elders, Lost and Found (Jesse and Jared) and others. Also, thanks to Andyman, Charlie, Jeff and Tony for the work they are doing to get things ready for Culture Jam, and to John Duran for his work with kitchen preparation. Culture Jam starts this Saturday, there are many details and the roster is full. Board members are invited to attend the Thursday evening open mic night.

Assistant Manager (Tony): Thanks and WOW! My first year on staff was amazing. Thanks to all for the survival rules and the help and advice - I was nervous about how to fit in but it just comes together and happens. I'm really glad there have been 42 years before I came on staff to kind of get all that together, it really takes the load off! This re-defines, for me, our "intentional community" on a stellar level. Now, it's back to the office and doing that piece, debriefing, assessments, the budget cycle and the web project.

Staff Reports double-dips: Thanks for hiring Tony for us, it's wonderful to have his support, and thanks, Tony, for stepping up. (Charlie)

The new shuttle license plate, FEY, means "supernatural"- "unreal"- "enchanted". It's excellent. (LT)

Thanks again to Michael Bishop for donating the van. (Steve)

Committee Reports

Peach Power Committee (Anna): The committee will meet on August 29th, 6pm, at the town office, 442 Lawrence Street. Thanks to Sara Haimowitz for her work and support. A lot of exciting projects are ahead. The committee is now a funding mechanism for projects. On-line meeting attendance will be available using "Go to Meeting" so people can participate without the transportation impact.

Vision Action Committee (Paxton): This committee uses "Go to Meeting" to enable out-of-town participation. The committee is preparing a report for the membership that will be delivered at the annual meeting. Send e-mail to vac@oregoncountryfair.org if you have suggestions.

Election Committee (Jen-Lin): The Annual meeting and election is on October 15th at the Knights of Pythias Hall, 420 West 12th Avenue, in Eugene. Voter registration deadline is September 15th. Candidate statement deadline is August 21st as stated in the guidelines. The website calendar will be updated. An age limit on voting was discussed and it was noted that volunteering and membership is required.

Evolution Task Force (Kate): Video work from pre-Fair and the Fair has been compiled for the long-term oral history archive. Meetings are resuming and are scheduled for the 3rd Sunday of each month in Portland.

Vision Fund Committee (norma): The next meeting is August 24th.

Craft Committee (Lara): The next meeting is August 10th at 6pm at the town office.

Community Center Committee (Lara): The next meeting is August 15th, 6pm at the town office. Hilary mentioned the committee is working on the siting issue, a site survey, funding, project modeling, and financial planning. "It's a big hard project."

Land Use Management Planning Committee (Steve): The committee did not meet in June or July, will not meet in August and will try to get a meeting together in September.

Business

Donation Requests (Bill): One request, from Sexual Assault Support Services, is on tonight's calendar. One request from Helios Resource Network for their Action Plan Eugene will be on next month's calendar.

Consent Calendar: Support for the SASS request is important for our community. The Vagina Monologues project is their main fundraiser and is an amazing event (Chewie). SASS has been doing their work for a long time but the University of Oregon support was dropped last year (Joseph). This program is an important resource for people, including members of our Fair Family (norma). This kind of victimization is hard to think about but goes on all the time. Support is very important because help from governing bodies is probably very diminished (LT). Their work to counter the trauma of sexual assault is important. Our Board donation will help and individuals can help too (Indigo). Will there be any recognition of the Fair for its donation (Jon S)? We are not sure (Chewie). The donation request form suggests that donors may be verbally recognized at the event (Katie). The loss of UofO funding is a concern and since we don't know how much we should check and consider what more we might do to help (Jon P). The Consent Calendar was approved by a vote of 10-0.

Budget Report (Hilary): In the tradition of "thank you", many people are involved in the financial work of the Fair and they are an amazing and responsible group. The results of this year are not settled yet but there should be a report ready by the end of September and presented at the annual meeting.

Fair management is in a good position to consider plans for upcoming big changes such as opening up Crafts Lot, managing a larger event, building an upland kitchen, and planning for the Community Center. Some discussion should be held about our endowment distribution in CD's and the Oregon Community Foundation as well as how much funding to keep available for use on the bigger projects.

Anna suggested the Board consider two financial planning meetings this year with the extra meeting focusing on long-term plans. Jon S asked that the final 2010 budget be made available in the same format that is presented each month of the year to the Board. Hilary and norma indicated they would follow through. Chewie asked about interest in forming a land trust and the potential benefits. Hilary agreed to some discussion about the possibility. Joseph asked about the earnings rate from Oregon Community Foundation. This current year's rate is not known yet but the rates are usually higher than a CD rate.

Indigo moved, Chewie seconded, to approve the June 26, 2011 Board meeting minutes. The motion passed 10-0.

Diane moved, LT seconded, to support the request for an Office Assistant sabbatical as submitted by Robin. The motion is for a full 3 months as defined by our sabbatical program (Diane). After discussion, the motion passed 10-0.

Peach Gallery: The Fair is flexible and it honors and cherishes those we work with and that open mindedness is really appreciated; the Board supports our amazing staff (Sara R). Robin's proposal is good, she is an incredible asset, and honoring her request is important (Merrill). Robin does a superlative job as the point person for Culture Jam, and the program is

now in its 11th year (Andyman). We are totally lucky to have Robin and her request shows the proration that supports her request (Hilary). I support this for Robin, the proration fits within the PPPM language, and I encourage you to pass this motion (Charlie). I'll miss her but encourage support for this request, it's well earned (norma). Robin has my support, she is present, cheerful and she nurtures Culture Jam each year (Lucy). The winter absence should not be a problem; she is experienced and trustworthy (Joseph). When we all transitioned out to the site this year, Robin became the OCF in town, a single point of contact, and she held the fort down and was amazing (Tony). She will be able to do some awesome things in those three months (Kate). Thank you for thinking outside the box with me; this sabbatical will help me step back and gain perspective; I plan to build capacity within the staff for fund raising skills and to define a detailed approach for fund raisings; Linda Rymers, with the Endowment Committee, has offered her time and will be a resource as I work toward a February presentation on this subject; the time is good, opportunities will be available, and I want to try and build my skills (Robin). **Board:** We need to keep Robin bubbly and give her this opportunity (LT). She is awesome and I totally support this proposal and know this will help her become an even more integral part of our staff (Chewie). How can this help evolve your Culture Jam vision and role and how many hours do you plan to devote to the learning part of your goal. (Anna)? I have had an increasingly important role with Culture Jam these recent years and these skills will help across the board with fund raising for Culture Jam and the Fair. I plan to use a good month of this time toward the project and the remainder of the time for some rest and travel. I'll be bringing helpful things back (Robin). The notion of a sabbatical is not a 3 month vacation but is to be a time out of the usual role to develop and to bring something back of value to the organization; this proposal is very impressive regarding the benefits for the Country Fair and your self-improvement plans (Katie). This proposal is a great opportunity to develop support for projects like the kitchen and the community center in addition to Culture Jam (Paxton). Thinking of the Fair, we realize how successful it is and how each of us give to that success and each of us get from that success and how the intricacies of success are beyond any one of us; how we treat our employees and our trust relationship with them is important to our success and our relevance year after year. Sabbaticals have been a positive tool for us, along with many other things in the social arena and the spiritual arena and are an important piece. These points are not lost on the community and our support for this motion and our relationship with our employees is very important (Jack). We'll miss you when you are away (Deane). I know you have had some trepidation over this and I want you to know you are a shining star and your work for the Fair and with Culture Jam is so very important (Indigo). I'm glad you persevered in this proposal (Diane). You are the perfect person to go get and bring back the information. We are looking forward to the results and this is very well deserved (Jon P). Thanks for all the time you give to our Fair (Lara). Not to be left out here, I'll just say "have fun!" (Jon S)

Member Input

Our acceptance of amplified music was about amplifiers and instruments and was not about brick-house. Manufactured music has no place at the Fair just like manufactured goods have no place at the Fair. It's an invasion. We got a right to our territory, we liberated it, let's keep it free. (LT)

On Saturday night, strolling on 13th around and then back in, I fell in step with Charlie and Two-tone. In all the 38 years I've been playing the game, on this night our leadership was there, and they were right in step, and they were in the right place! (LT)

Ditto on all the big thanks going out tonight for the beautiful, sweet and well-played game. Thanks to the tight and beautiful Recycling Crew for the extra afternoon shift- out there decked out to the nines, some in wedding dresses, and for playing to the public with "flash freezes" and guiding the recycling choices at the kiosks. My cup was full, we were excellent, and people brand-new to the Fair were all excited and loving what we do; they were awed and many told me they are going to come back. However, regarding our equipment, we really need to fix up our trucks and they need low-speed alternators. (Lara)

Thanks for the water ceremony; the closing part was sweet and lovely with the Fairness of it all reflected in the faces and sweep and finish. (Jen-Lin)

As I transitioned from VegManEcs and into the new Camping Crew, I stepped into a cool new adventure; we are excellent to each other 90% of the time but sometimes we forget; we need to keep thinking of each other as family and hold the love even when bothered by things. I did things this year I have not done before at the Fair, like seeing the circus with five 10-year-olds; this Fair is in my top five and maybe the top one ever! There was not one part of this Fair we can't carry forward; number 42 is the answer, once we figure out the question. (Chewie)

If you saw the little "jumping beans" at the site this year, I found out they are really wasp larvae and they will last all winter and need to get back outside next summer. They are amazing. (Chewie)

Thanks to all our public guests and especially those riding with me on the buses on Friday and Sunday; and thanks to my family who took up on my challenge to attend this year without a car. We did it; we learned to minimize and we figured it out. One less car was a pinnacle for me. Thanks for the buses. (Anna)

My Dad and his wife attended for the first time this year. When we entered the eight in front of Odyssey, Dad said "Why haven't we come here

before?" They plan to come again next year. I am grateful they got to meet my other family after 20 years.

The water ceremony was absolutely amazing due to everyone who joined in and added their magic to the whole. Many thanks to Brian Keogh at Main Stage; construction's work on the alter installation; the Art Barn for creating the centerpiece for the ceremony; Ambience's Risk of Change and Diva Galactica; Community Village; Nicky Scully, Joan Borysenko, and Grandma Aggie for their prayers; the musicians, the water bearers, the bell ringers and to everyone else who participated and offered their love and gratitude to this sacred element through the weekend. The water was prayed over, blessed, and offered back into the world where it may bring a bit of healing that our world waters so need.

Next year will be an earth ceremony. Stay tuned! (Indigo)

Pre-, post- and the Fair, the whole sequence was just beautiful this year so thanks to all the Family. Working with the new people at post-fair QM was awesome in the way they got into the role, right away, and rocked like true pros! (Jon P)

I loved the kitchen, both pre- and post; the lines were quick and the food was great. (Lara)

At the Elder Still Living Room, a constant stream of people were looking at and reading the three murals of the first three decades, identifying themselves and their friends. It was very gratifying to see. (Chris)

The new bathrooms by Daredevil Palace and the Library are great (Robin). Thanks to Joe Newhall for his work on the bathroom project (LT). And thanks to Anderson Roofing for the materials (Lara).

Thanks to all who contributed to the low stress level of the Fair this year. (Paxton)

About two weeks before the Fair I received an e-mail from a woman about bringing a 98 year old gentleman who wanted to see the Fair before he died. At the event I got to meet them at Chela Mela and he was just wonderful. We were in contact again later after the event. He had such a great time he said he is coming back next year! (norma)

President's Peace

I think we all experience a particular time and place at the Fair, a uniqueness, where we become one with it. For me it's at Watergate of all places. We have this discussion going about our future and how the generations exist within each other. I went to the Youth Stage and bumped into Jeff. His son is on a pre- post- crew at Watergate at midnight. We went up to Watergate to visit his son and there, Jeff asked each person who passed by with an acoustic guitar if he could play their guitar. He would play a couple of licks and it was amazing. Then, to cap it off, these two boys, maybe 10-12 years old, came by with an old guitar, and Jeff picked it up and played it, without any tuning, and then others joined in and it was a very serendipitous moments and it started the Fair for me- the young and the old playing together.

And then to close the Fair about 5pm on Sunday, at Watergate, there is the little wooden placard that says "The Fair Ends Here" and my moment came with Benny, who is a young man on the construction crew. His parents are old friends, archaeologists at the Fair, and I just found out he is their son and that he tap dances. He ends my Fair by tap dancing on that small wooden placard, at Watergate, and it was a terrific ending. It was a spectacular performance and it happened with people I've experienced the Fair with since they were young, and with people who are young now. It was a very fulfilling experience for me and I know there are moments like that for us all.

I want everyone to know how profoundly I appreciate being afforded this awareness of our intergenerational relationship with all its richness and with the depth it brings, and with the confidence it gives to move forward knowing our relevance is absolute and is completely secure. It's not just our youth and not just our elders and not just us but it is the real connection and intimacy we develop over the years. It is so clear to me that 50 years or 100 years from now this will still go on; it brings a tear to my eye and takes my breath away; it's something that is uniquely ours.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm. The next meeting is Sept 12th at 7pm on the Fair site.

Tentative agenda: Consent Calendar - Helios Resource Network's Action Plan Eugene (Diane); Health Booth for staff and volunteers (Chewie); Policy on manufactured music (LT); Form a task force to review current practices and develop recommendations concerning accommodating the needs of public and Fair Family alter-abled individuals (Jon S)

