

# FAIR FAMILY NEWS

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR  ONE CREATIVE FAMILY

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 7 DECEMBER 2016

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*Wishing you light, love  
and all the joys of the season!*



Photo © 2016 Mickey Stellavato

## The Oregon Country Fair Staff

shelly      crystalyn      shane  
Robin      stephanie      norma      jeff

The Oregon Country Fair staff: Robin Bernardi, Culture Jam and Office Assistant; Shelly Devine, Caretaker; Stephanie Talbott, Administrative Assistant; Crystalyn Autuchovich, Assistant Manager; norma sax, Bookkeeper; Shane Harvey, Site Manager; Jeff Johnson, Groundskeeper





## FAIR FAMILY CALENDAR

### December

- 19 Community Center Committee, 6 pm, OCF Office
- 19-31 OCF Office Closed
- 30 Guideline Change Requests due to: office@oregoncountryfair.org

### January 2017

- 9 Board of Directors meeting, 7 pm, 2621 Augusta St., Eugene
- 10 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 11 Craft Committee, OCF Office, 5:30 pm
- 15 Craft applications available
- 15 Path Planning, Noon-3 pm, Alice's Wonderland
- 17 LUMP, OCF Office, 7 pm
- 21 Coordinator Potluck, LCC Longhouse, 5 pm
- 23 Deadline for Food Vendor Applications
- 30 Board of Directors meeting to approve Budgets, 7 pm, 2621 Augusta St., Eugene
- 31 Capital Project Requests due to OCF Office

### February 2017

- 1 Crew requests for Teen Crew workers open
- 6 Board of Directors meeting, 7 pm, 2621 Augusta St., Eugene
- 7 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 14 LUMP, OCF Office, 7 pm
- 15 Deadline for Entertainer applications
- 19 Path Planning, Noon-3 pm, Alice's Wonderland

### March 2017

- 1 Teen Crew applications available
- 6 Board of Directors meeting, 7 pm, 2621 Augusta St., Eugene
- 7 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 14 LUMP, OCF Office, 7 pm
- 15 Deadline for Crew requests for Teen Crew workers
- 18 Coordinator Potluck, LCC Longhouse, 5 pm
- 19 Path Planning, Noon-3 pm, Alice's Wonderland
- 30 Booth Registration packets mailed

### April 2017

- 11 LUMP, OCF Office, 7 pm
- 15 Deadline for Teen Crew applications
- 16 Path Planning, Noon-3 pm, Alice's Wonderland

### May 2017

- 9 LUMP, OCF Office, 7 pm
- 21 Path Planning, Noon-3 pm, Alice's Wonderland



## Happy Birthday to Our Fair Family Capricorns

- Aleta Miller .....Security
- Anna Scott .....Energy Park
- Basha Ladovsky.....Booth #934
- Bear .....Security
- Brad Lerch .....Backup Manager/FFN
- Brandon Poirot .....Lot Crew
- Brian Foley .....Security
- Carol DeFazio .....Crafter
- Charise Prouty .....Fair Central
- Christie Hess .....Water Crew
- David Hoffman.....Community Village
- David Roth .....Information
- David Sommerville .....Edible Improv
- David Richey .....Registration
- Dennis Todd .....Path Planning
- Dottie Simmons .....Crafter
- Eve Pagliaro .....Crafter
- Hilary Anthony .....Treasurer/Chela Mela
- Jesse Creighton .....Pre-Post Security
- Judy Scott .....Water
- Katie Gomez.....Crafter
- Kehn (Mambo) Gibson.....Security
- Kelsey Polk.....Registration
- Kiffen Rentel .....Pre-Post Security
- Lance Tanner .....Recycling
- Lori Bennett.....Traffic
- Marcy Middleton.....NRT
- Michelle Thorn-Parsons ...Photo ID
- Mike Largent.....Lot Crew
- Mike Warshafsky.....Lot Crew
- Nolan Chase.....Vaudeville
- Owl Jester .....Pre-Post security
- Paul Eddy .....Lot Crew
- Penny James-Long .....Elder
- Randy Gates.....Refer Crew
- Sandi Herb .....Traffic
- Shane Harvey.....Site Manager
- Steve Harter .....Construction
- Sunny Nine .....Booth #487
- Taylor Rutledge .....Booth Registration
- Travis Honea .....Registration
- Virgil Courtright.....Archaeology



## KEEP IN TOUCH

Oregon Country Fair  
 442 Lawrence St.  
 Eugene, OR. 97401  
 (541) 343-4298, fax: 343-6554  
 FFN@OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.ORG  
 OFFICE@OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.ORG  
 OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.ORG (EVENT INFO)  
 OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.NET (BUSINESS SITE)



## Food Committee

The Food Committee is accepting applications for Food Booths and Food Carts. The application can be found on the oregoncountryfair.net site. Deadline to submit an application is 5 pm Monday, January 23, 2017. Please make sure your application is legible. Thank you!

## Teen Crew

Time to start thinking about Teen Crew requests and applications!

Crew requests will be open February 1st. Security crews will make their requests as normal. Non-Security Crews, look for an email from Ruth with the request form. This year we will also send you a copy of your 2016 assignment to help you know if your request is the same or different than last year.

Teen Applications go live on March 1, Crew requests close March 15, Teen Applications close on April 15.

## FFN BEST WISHES

Mary "Amity" Doyon  
 Kim "Kindness" Griggs  
 norma "community" sax  
 Brad "Joy" Lerch  
 Dan "Unity" Cohn  
 Niki "Harmony" Harris  
 Suzi "Om Circle" Prozanski  
 Stephanie "Love" Talbott  
 Michael "Peace" Ottenhausen

## Get on the FFN and/or Voting Membership List

Tell us your name; your email address to be notified of the online version of the newsletter; your crew or booth number; name of your leader or booth rep; name of person who can verify your participation, and your mailing address if applying for membership.

Mail to: OCF, Membership/Mailing, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene, 97401.

Or Email to: office@oregoncountryfair.org



## 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. For questions, information about display underwriting and to submit listings, Email bradlerch@aol.com or call Brad @ 541-485-8265 (UnClassifieds not paid for by layout won't run)

Have a soft spot for woo-woo? Quantum physics? Space to share with a happily married couple plus massage table? Need a carpenter for booth construction? "YES"? Email Amy & Tait: exquisitehealing@gmail.com

There's nothing like getting an early search on this one. I'm seeking a small space to share. I make felted bead necklaces and animal scarf boas. I have been a Vendor since 2006 Wow! Please email me at janicespeck@hotmail.com

Needed: Booth space for 2017. I've successfully sold my hats for 20+ years, have a great following. Will help with booth building/repair, year-round storage, etc. Please contact coronahats@gmail.com



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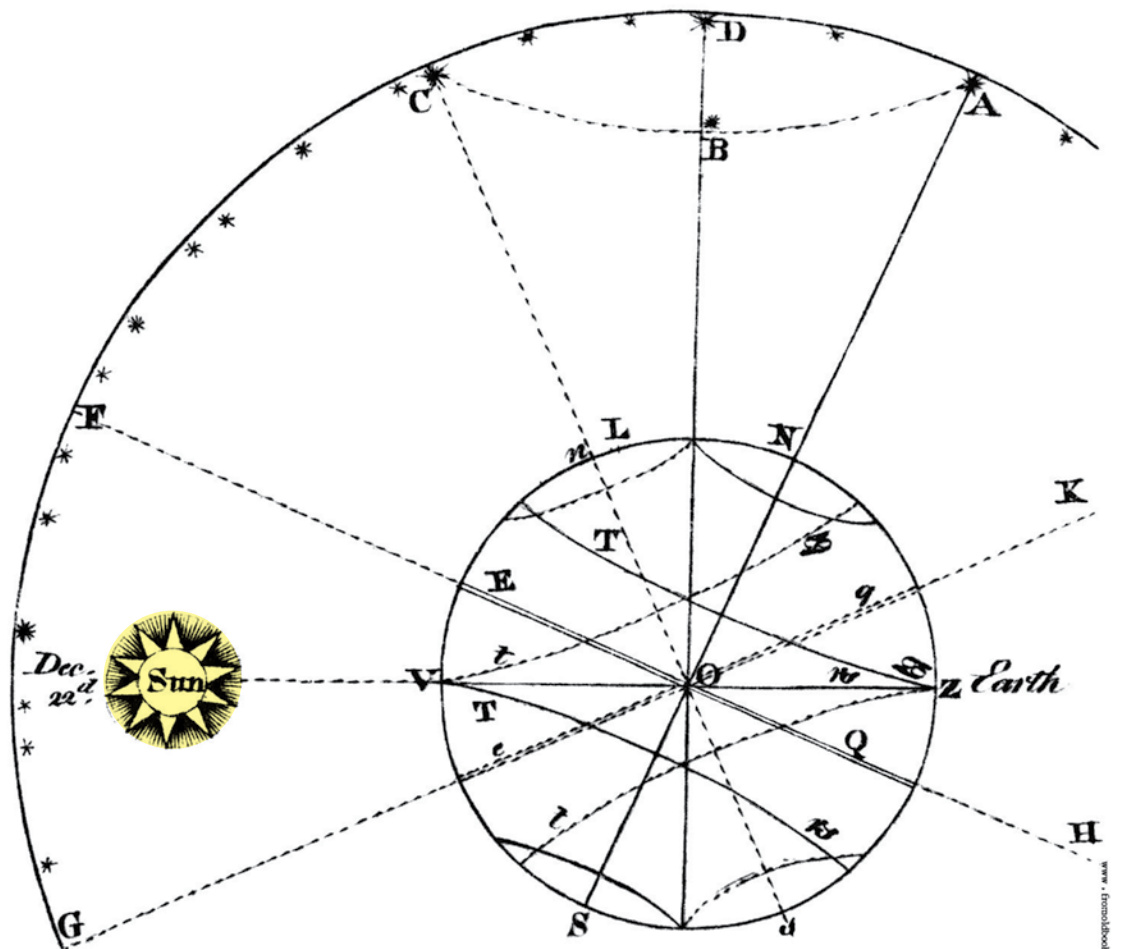
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- 12/31 Psychedelic Ball: The Shivas  
 Psychomagic / Snow White  
 The Blimp / Egotones & 6 more
- 1/5 The Last Waltz 40th Anniversary
- 1/13 RA The Rugged Man
- 1/14 Summer Canibals / Gazebos
- 1/27 Ladysmith Black Mambazo
- 1/19 Keller Williams KWahtro
- 1/20 Robert Earl Keen
- 1/31 Tribal Seeds / Raging Fyah
- 2/12 Elephant Revival / Dead Horses



## FAMILY LETTERS



*This newsletter is for 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).*

## Come Together

Greetings Friends and Fair Family,

As we are sure you all have noticed, both our beloved Fair and our country are going through some major transitions.

We would like to express that during this time of change, it is more important than ever that we continue to honor each other, work closely with one another, and be a safe place for everyone. These are some of the cornerstones of our organization; now more than ever we are an essential event.

During this holiday season, please take a few moments to reflect upon your family, friends, community, and Fair and ask what you may be able to do to help during this time. When we work together we can overcome any obstacle, conquer any problem, and grow to become an even stronger, loving community.

The entire Oregon Country Fair staff wishes you the happiest of holidays and a New Year filled with hope.

*Crystalyn Autuchovich, Shane Harvey, Stephanie Talbot, Robin Bernardi, norma sax, Jeff Johnson, Shelly Devine*

## FAIR PHILANTHROPY: Earn Tax Credit with Donations

Donate to the Oregon Country Fair's philanthropy programs (Culture Jam, Jill Heiman Vision Fund or the Bill Wooten Endowment Fund) then give an equal amount to the Oregon Cultural Trust before Dec. 31, 2016, and you can earn a cultural tax credit in Oregon.

The first Fair in November 1969 was a fundraiser for an alternative school. With the generous support of Oregon Country Fair volunteers and Fairgoers, and through our tax-exempt designation, the Fair continues to carry out our original philanthropic intention: building community and helping others.

**Culture Jam** provides 50 youths with an eight-day, sleep-away summer camp at the Fair's Alice's Wonderland site. The youth camp is based on the inspired Power of Hope teen camp and the Creative Community Model created by Charlie Murphy and Peggy

Taylor. Culture Jam provides a dynamic program where youth ages 14-18 discover their own sense of purpose and creative potential through high-energy, experiential, arts-centered programs. Young people have the unique opportunity to learn from and create meaningful relationships with adult social change activists, artists and nature educators who come to spend the week and share their expertise.

**The Jill Heiman Vision Fund** makes grants to Lane County nonprofits active in an annually selected focus area such as environmental protection or basic human needs. The fund honors the late attorney Jill Heiman, who was instrumental in establishing the Fair. Her work led to the purchase of the OCF land and she helped obtain our nonprofit tax-exempt status. Jill's vision for Fair philanthropy lives on through the Vision Fund.

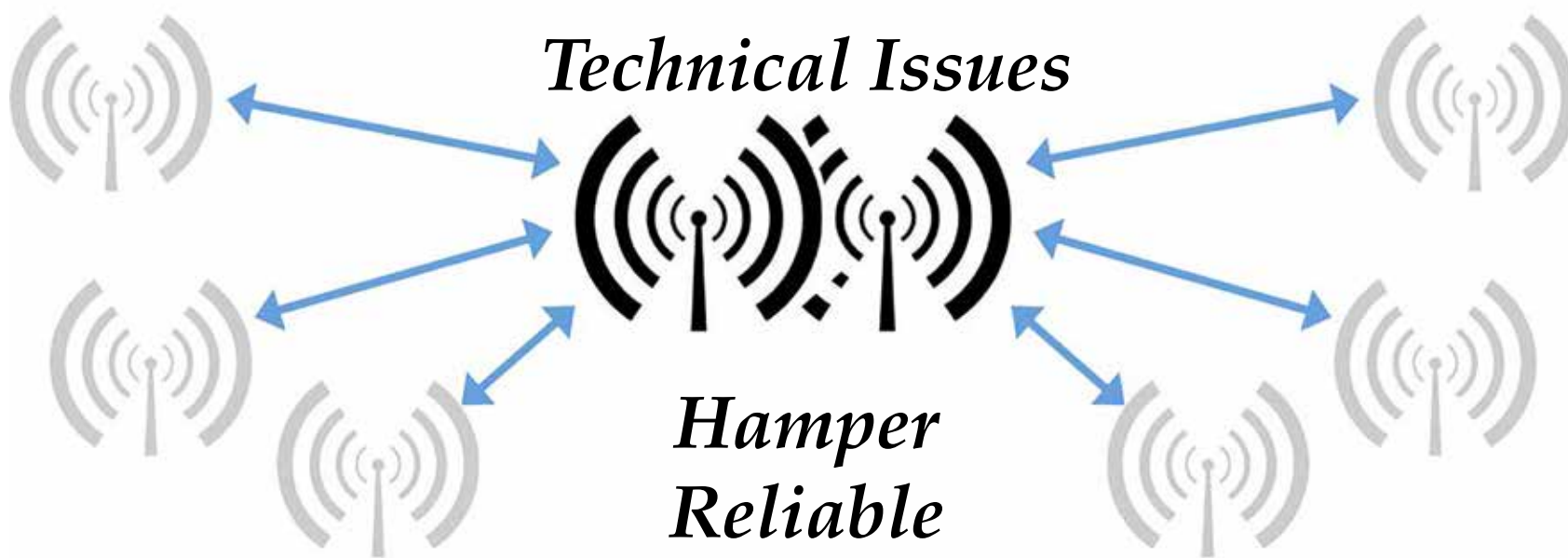
**The Bill Wooten Endowment Fund**, named for a late founder of the Fair, supports youth-centered arts, environmental and social justice projects in West Lane County. Endowment grants tangibly represent the Fair's gratitude to our neighboring communities and celebrate Bill Wooten's commitment to collaboration and community-building.

Philanthropy was the catalyst that began the Oregon Country Fair, has been essential to developing its long-lived success, and will provide opportunities that further its mission into the future.

To donate to the Oregon Country Fair philanthropy programs: <http://www.oregon-countryfair.org/about-ocf/philanthropy/donate/>

For more information on the Oregon Cultural Trust program and tax deduction: <http://culturaltrust.org/resources/faq/>





# Technical Issues Hamper Reliable Vendor Transactions at Fair

by Jay Hennigan and Clif Cox, Information Technology Team

We want to address some of the technical issues regarding providing wireless access to vendors during the Fair as well as the obstacles that need to be overcome in order to make this work.

The Information Technology Team has about 15 volunteers. The team provides data communications to the Fair. This includes Internet access for staff needs; local area network (LAN) needs such as networked office computers, printers, etc.; and wireless Internet including payment processing for vendors as well as the Virtual Sticker Booth (VSB). We don't deal with voice or analog communications such as telephones, two-way-radios, etc. That's a different group.

The following is a summary of the technical issues that need to be overcome in order to provide payment processing for vendors during the Fair.

## Cellular

First, let's address cellular data. Cellular carriers are for-profit businesses licensed by the Federal Communications Commission. Each licensed cellular carrier allocates its resources based on an evaluation of the business case. We as OCF can't legally construct cell towers or provide cellular service. Virtually all mobile payment terminals are capable of using one of the cellular networks and some of them are only capable of cellular. There are multiple cellular carriers on different radio frequencies using different modulation schemes. A customer device is in almost all cases limited to communicating only with the single carrier with which the customer has subscribed.

There isn't much of a business case for cellular companies to beef up their networks to support the Fair. For 362 days out of the year, they have plenty of capacity to serve all of their customers in the area. The incremental revenue for voice minutes and data bytes used over three days is unlikely to warrant the costs of providing what would likely be several times the infrastructure they have now in the area, even on a temporary basis. Think of the population of Veneta and Elmira and the amount of usage these customers generate when mobile and not tethered to their home or business wi-fi vs. the infrastructure needed to support tens of thousands of people at the Fair, all mobile, many sending video and pictures, etc.

Also consider that there are multiple competing cellular carriers, each with its own network, towers, frequencies, etc. Even if we could convince one carrier that there was a business case for providing the infrastructure to support the Fair's needs, anyone using other carriers would be out of luck.

Essentially, during Fair hours, the existing cellular infrastructure is now and likely in the future will be completely overwhelmed. Texts may get through after half an hour, voice calls may complete a small percentage of the time, and interactive cellular data will be more or less

unusable. Fixing this is a business case issue to be made with the various cellular carriers. It isn't a technical problem that we can fix ourselves.

## Internet Bandwidth to the Fair

Additional bandwidth to the Fair site would certainly be a very nice thing to have, and delivery by fiber-optic cable or point-to-point wireless are in our opinion the two most viable options. Fiber involves a combination of drilling and digging along with the associated archaeological concerns, and it is extremely expensive. It also needs to be well documented and marked to prevent its being damaged by later work. Point-to-point wireless may be less expensive, but trees absorb wireless signals like a sponge. A direct visual line of sight path to a location with large amounts of bandwidth would be needed.

Partnering with the school district is very much worth pursuing both because commercial ISPs will want an annual commitment and the school district likely has excess bandwidth during the summer.

However, even if we had virtually unlimited bandwidth to the Fair site, it wouldn't have made a bit of difference in regard to the ability of vendors to process credit cards. In fact, this year our limited Internet bandwidth of far less than 50 megabits wasn't even saturated. Payment processing needs very little bandwidth.

## Getting That Bandwidth to the Vendors

\*This is the main problem that we need to solve.\*

The current Fair wireless infrastructure consists of fewer than 10 wireless access points throughout the Fair property that are backhauled to two feed points and then out to the Internet. People needing access connect to one of these access points.

During the Fair, these approximately 10 access points have to deal with many thousands of mobile devices all attempting to associate. In addition, a large number of "ad-hoc" wi-fi nodes pop up during Fair hours. These are misconfigured phones and tablets, cellular tethering devices, individuals or groups trying to set up their own wireless LANs, and lots of other noise. Bluetooth devices share the same frequency spectrum, which adds to this noise.

In addition, there's what we call the "hidden node" problem. Wireless devices have an interference control mechanism where they try not to transmit over each other. An access point with its antenna high in a tree covers a lot of territory. In our case each is likely illuminating well over 1,000 active mobile devices and receiving transmissions

from them, but only one signal can get through at a time. The customer devices, however, are at ground level and have small antennas. They will hear the access point but not hear most of their neighbors. So they transmit over each other. This adds to the overall noise level as the access point is essentially being jammed. When communications fail due to this interference, the devices retry, increasing the noise. This is why you often see a strong signal on your device but can't connect.

This interference is very bad. Even in an environment where the access points are password-protected and specially configured to eliminate broadcast and multicast noise, devices can't even authenticate to the access point, let alone obtain an IP address or send data to the network. The communication between a vendor payment terminal and the access point often doesn't even get to the point of the access point accepting the wi-fi protected access password.

## The Solution

The only practical way to solve the problem is to limit the coverage area of each access point to a very small area so that it is exposed to much less interference and fewer customer radios. Instead of the traditional design of putting the antenna high and in the clear to cover a lot of territory, we need to put the antenna low, close to the ground and below the tree canopy in order to greatly limit its coverage. This is what is done in wireless deployments in stadiums and other venues with a dense concentration of nodes in a small space. Each access point has a directional antenna focused on a very small section of seats in a stadium.

This means that we need a lot more radios. It also means that these radios need to be located in a lot more places much closer to the users. In addition, they should be capable of operating in the less crowded and less noisy 5 GHz spectrum instead of or in addition to 2.4 GHz. Likely 50 radios or more would be needed as opposed to the eight or 10 that we now have.

These radios need power. At present, our 10 or so access points are located in trees and each is powered by a large lead-acid storage battery (about double the size of a car battery) at the base of the tree. These batteries last a little over a day before needing to be recharged. They need to be changed out several times pre-Fair, during Fair, and post-Fair. The depleted batteries are taken by cart to a central place for recharging. Increasing the number of radios

means increasing the power needs. There isn't any grid power in most of the area we need to cover. This means lots more batteries and more frequent swap-out or we come up with alternative power solutions. Solar isn't a practical option due to the likelihood of bad weather and the need to get the

**During Fair hours, cellular will be completely overwhelmed, not a problem that we can fix ourselves.**

**Getting bandwidth to the vendors is the main problem we need to solve.**

**Devices transmit over each other. This interference is very bad.**

Continued on page 6

## Continued from page 5

panels up and in the clear.

It also means more locations where the radios will be located, each requiring a power source and ancillary equipment such as Ethernet switches, etc.

The radios also need to have a backhaul connection to reach the Internet. This could potentially be wireless, our own fiber (with trenching and its archaeological concerns) or wired (same concerns). Stringing wire or fiber through the trees is another possibility.

To sum up, the problem can be solved but it requires time, money, and coordination. We can do it ourselves or hire it out, but the basic needs are the same and if we hire it out the vendor will need to solve the same problems of power and backhaul with the same physical and infrastructure limitations.

### Pilot Project & Power Issues

For this year, we did acquire three 5 GHz access points to be deployed as a pilot project to determine feasibility in real-world conditions. Unfortunately there were some unforeseen network reconfiguration issues that we needed to address.

We were only able to get one radio deployed and that wasn't until Saturday night. It performed reasonably well, but we weren't able to really put it through its paces.

The next big resource we need is power in the Eight. If we multiply the number of radios, we will have to change the batteries that many times faster, and who wants to change batteries in the middle of the night? It's impractical to have that many people schlepping batteries around at all hours of the day. If we want those services, we need to come to terms with placing the infrastructure there needed to support them.

Of course, the very idea of providing electricity in the Eight and other parts of the Fair has long been a political landmine. Who knows what the right answer is?

However, let's look at some history. Water used to be trucked in early in the morning each day, now it's pumped in using buried piping. Main Camp and Main Stage used to run on batteries. Yes the Midnight Show ran on giant tractor batteries—but not for very long!—now they have

AC service. The larger the event, the more infrastructure is needed.

We need power to run our network. It doesn't have to be AC. It could be high voltage DC identical to what strings of solar arrays produce, and the Fair is talking about building a much larger solar array. It could be tractor batteries in the woods, only movable by forklifts, or it might be high tech (and expensive) lithium ions. Lastly we could use high voltage AC with transformers around the Eight.

Yes most of these solutions might not be very attractive, and we would all want whatever we choose to be neat, tidy, and unobtrusive.

The purpose of this article is to explain in layman's terms some of the technical hurdles involved and our efforts to date, NOT to get into a political discussion of priorities. Yes there is an IT Team, and yes we very much understand the importance of providing the ability for vendors to handle electronic transactions. This will become more critical as time goes on and the public relies more and more on electronic payments, even for small dollar amounts.

**We need power to run our network.**



## 4A Turns 30

by Ken Alvis, 4A Crew

The 4A crew turned 30 years old this Fair. That's right, Altered – Abled – Access – Advocacy gains adulthood status.

The creation of 4A Crew's mission was orchestrated and implemented by a myriad of bright, forward-thinking Fair family members years before Federal ADA guidelines. This further illustrates OCF's loving compassion and social maturity.

Notable advocates include past board member Micheal Goldhammer, "Uncle" Bob Hielman, Midge Campbell, co-crew leaders and Gwenith VanFrank, Community Village liaison. These folks have been the gardeners of crew growth and effectiveness for the nearly 20 years I have been a crew member. Clever, self-effacing humor rarely fails to de-escalate those many "crisis" situations in a Fairish manner, its energy a joyous reminder of strength within altered abilities.

I have witnessed many positive changes in the years I have worked on crew, changes adopted to help streamline and harmonize our Fair experience. Do you remember when public consumption of alcohol was banned? How about the year pre-sale tickets became mandatory? At the Dragon's Head, those changes introduced a fresh ocean breeze of calm and civility. Those measures help to remind us of our commitment to the land, the planet and how we must continue to act with compassion and mindfulness. The grand party is secondary.

Imagine OCF as a human-like entity. OK, then 4A and Traffic Crews are the first public-Fair interface. We are just the Fair's face connected by phone and radio to Fair Central, the brain of this imagined entity. Inside a cadre of magicians analyze, delegate and dispense qualified, highly skilled personnel to solve issues. They address each problem with blinding speed, from first contact to peaceful resolution. Much love and respect to said cadre. They rock.

My role as morning shift 4A crew leader at the Dragon's Head gives a front seat show to the planning that enables Fair magic to happen smoothly these many years. My own "ah ha" moment involved a trinity of events: a middling young lady with a bee sting, who was feeling faint; a child, very unhappy with his lost parents; and an adorable octogenarian couple, a bit shellshocked and pretty sure they were not at the county fair. Terrified as I

was by these events, I dialed up Fair Central. Wham, White Bird staff managed the bee sting. Boom, Child Care staff calmed down and re-united the child and parents. I drew on my own humanistic training from Zak to help reset the couple's view of the possibilities offered at our beloved event. This was successful, though, I believe Pan and a pod of fairies dancing past had more impact than my babble.

Four-A also includes interpreters for the hearing altered. The "terps" and crew coordinator Rebeca Gourgey qualify as those Fair family folks who bring a level of kindness and beauty that captures the essence of Fair. Hands flowing, forming and transforming the spoken word. Jests, jokes and double entendre. The mystical and the profane from mouth sounds into hand dances of meaning and wit.

To me, "terps" have their own orbit. They are a blast to converse with, though, I thought they would be a quieter group. They can talk, if they deem it worth the effort.

Our clan of inventive, stalwart side-car bicyclists make the yearly pilgrimage from down south to OCF, only to spend many grueling hours in the baking sun to provide transportation from the parking lot to Dragon's Head. The weird part is they love biking, they love Fair and they transfer that energy to each passenger. They are as sweet

as peaches inside, with a physical exterior worn hard as a pit.

If we unpack the meaning of the crew's 4A designation, a curious notion comes to light.

ALTER—To make different in some respect without changing into something different.

ABLE—Having more power or skill than others have, or means to do.

ACCESS—Way or means to approach.

ADVOCACY—Speaking in favor, supportive.

These four definitions are easily worn by each Fair family member. To be human does lightly touch on all four tenets expressed. To be a kind, evolving human would involve a much closer observation of self and compassionate interaction with others. With that in mind and using these precepts, we are all 4A members.





## *The Marvelous Mosaic: Skills for Building Community A Conflict Resolution Retreat for Fair Family*

*by the Center for Dialogue and Resolution (CeDaR)*

The ninth OCF Conflict Response Skill-Building Retreat will be offered on the weekend of February 4 and 5 and will be held on site in the house at Alice's Wonderland. The retreat is free and open to all Fair family members as well as volunteers and supporters of the Center for Dialogue and Resolution. The retreat is hosted by CeDaR, one of several OCF crews and teams providing conflict resolution services at the Fair. To register, please go to: <http://lanecdr.org/pg1003.cfm>

Last year's retreat, "Change Through Empathy," focused on various changes that were happening at the Fair and how working through the changes together may bring up conflict, disagreements, or other difficult emotions and conversations as well as giving an opportunity for Fair family to practice skills for when those conflicts comes up.

This year's retreat continues to address change; yet, these changes are of a broader scope. Changes in our socio-political structure are of a national — if not global — concern. Our country continues to splinter and recent events seem to have created more divisiveness, greater intolerance, deeper fear and pervasive anxiety and concern.

Like a mosaic made up of all its various parts, it seems now, more than ever, we need to address these various differences and find the tools and practical skills that allow us to move forward in a healthy and respectful manner through open communication, collaboration and responding productively to conflict. Some of this year's themes at the retreat will include:

- How to act as allies for others
- De-escalation and crisis intervention skills
- Mindfulness and grounding ourselves in the moment
- How to have productive conversations across a divide by focusing on the values behind the words

Register online now at the Center for Dialogue and Resolution's website: <http://lanecdr.org/pg1003.cfm>

Did we mention the retreat offers an (optional) sleepover? We will have food (potluck for sides and snacks), and evening games. So we hope to see you on Saturday, February 4 & Sunday, February 5. These retreats have consistently been inspiring, educational and a great place to meet other wonderful people from all around Fair. We hope to see you there!



## *Sound Bites*

*by Dean Middleton, Station Manager of KOCF-LPFM*



As reported in the last writing of Sound Bites, KOCF worked with the Veneta Chamber of Commerce to create a contest to get input on what songs the station will play during the upcoming Thirteenth Annual Veneta Chamber of Commerce Light Parade. We selected a winner at the Elmira High School Falcon Radio Studio live on the air. The winner is Laura Blankenship and her song choice

is "Dominick the Donkey." Laura also won a KOCF T-shirt and gets to introduce her song at the start of the Light Parade this year.

We tried our first ever "no ask on-air" pledge drive — a very soft on-air campaign. Did not get a single pledge! Not sure if we'll be doing that again. As the station manager, seeing only outflow on our balance sheets makes me a bit nervous. So far our efforts to produce a successful on-air fundraiser has underperformed our budget projections. I have spoken with long time KLCC Program Manager Don Hein about this and he says the only way they have a successful on-air fund drive is to make a big deal out of it. Now all we have to do is figure out what that means for KOCF. Until we have studio to broadcast out of, doing live pledge drives are very difficult to produce. Baby steps.

At our last Advisory Group meeting, we talked about how the radio station can provide more services for the Fair. We feel like we haven't done enough to keep the Fair alive in the hearts of the Family. To this goal, Dr.

Yeti of the Dr. Yeti show (Saturday and Sunday at 10 pm), has made a commitment to begin the process of building a show that will run music from the Fair each week. Our current library is from the music performed at the Hoarse Chorale. Starting in January 2017, time and day yet to be announced, we will bring a bit of the Fair back on the air each week. I really hope you enjoy this.

Attention Fair Artists: We will be holding our second annual auction in early March. We need to start collecting auction donations now. If you are considering donating to the KOCF major fundraiser of the year, please contact Andy Goldfinger at [asg@flyingeye.com](mailto:asg@flyingeye.com) or myself, Dean Middleton, at [deanmiddleton10@gmail.com](mailto:deanmiddleton10@gmail.com). It is through your generosity and gifts that made our first auction the incredible success it was. Help us make the second even better! As a reminder, your donations are tax deductible.

Finally, I've received feedback from some of you regarding the Standing Rock message that we played on the air last month and mentioned in this feature. Thank you for your support! I have been thinking a lot about the idea that one of the ways we protect ourselves from experiencing the incredible guilt we should feel is we have convinced ourselves that all the crimes carried out against the First People were carried out a very long time ago, i.e., "ancient history." During a recent evening of dominoes, my dear friend Wilma Crow shared that she was born in Cannon Ball, North Dakota. She is Standing Rock Sioux, and that her dad was born in the 1880s. Wilma was born in 1919. Not so ancient!



# Fair Thee Well: Sam Williams, aka "Samwise," aka "Smerdyakov Karamazov"

by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News

Sam Williams, who performed for 20 years with the Flying Karamazov Brothers, died on Nov. 17, 2016, as he drove his bus route for King County Metro Transit in Seattle. Even as he faced death, Sam thought first of others.

In his last few moments of semi-consciousness, Sam was able to slow down the bus and signal to his riders that he was having a heart attack. Acting quickly, riders took the wheel, depressed the brake and brought the bus to a halt a mere six inches from the railing of the Alaskan Way Viaduct, a Metro spokesman said.

"Sam was a hero right up until the end," said Paul Magid, co-founder of the Flying Karamazov Brothers. "I'm proud of him. It just makes me love him more."

Sam joined the Flying Karamazov Brothers in 1981, adopting the stage name Smerdyakov Karamazov. "He was the funny one," Magid said. "People just loved him, when he came on stage people loved it right away."

Sam began his career as a street-juggling comedian in 1973 in his hometown of Seattle, calling himself "Samwise: Master of Balls, Juggler Intraordinaire and Comparatively Funny Person for an Irish-American." In 1975, he attended his first Oregon Country Fair, juggling and singing parodies alongside the path. He didn't bring a hat, so he put out his juggling bag to collect coins. In the late 1970s he regularly performed at Reverend Chumleigh's Alligator Palace in La Conner, Wash., and in 1979 joined with Bliss Kolb to form Laughing Moon Theater, performing comedy, magic and juggling in the Seattle area.

Sam's first year with the Flying Karamazov Brothers coincided with the very first New Old Time Chautauqua tour that caravanned from the



Oregon Country Fair in 1981. Sam relished performing in the Chautauqua shows every chance he got, up to and including recent years. In his two decades touring with the Flying Karamazov Brothers, Sam performed everywhere from Grateful Dead shows to "Mr. Rogers Neighborhood," and from Broadway to the Oregon Country Fair.

He left the Karamazovs to tend to his ailing wife, Barbara Warren, who died of a rare cancer in 1999. After she passed, he took care of his twin sons, Joshua and Zachary, and performed only on occasion.

A popular performer at the Oregon Country Fair, Sam savored his moments at the Fair's Midnight Show. "Many Midnight Shows had magical moments," Sam recalled in a 2005 interview. "Just being up there with the guys (Karamazovs), goofing off. For our shows we generally have a song that leads into the intermission and we did one that was to the tune of 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow.' One time we just sang 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow' straight at the Midnight Show and I really enjoyed that."

He also cherished his time at the Ritz Sauna, singing songs with everyone there late into the night.

Sam had experience driving the Karamazov tour bus, and took a job driving buses with Seattle Metro in 2010. He often joked with his riders and wore a Santa hat near the holidays to complement his fluffy white beard and twinkling eyes.

Sam, who was 63, is survived by his parents, Halsey and Barbara Williams; his sons, Joshua and Zachary Williams; and by thousands of friends and fans who will miss him dearly.

## Magic

by Sam Williams



*I believe in magic. I believe that life itself is magic.*

*I believe in mind-reading. I have read minds. I believe in out-of-body experiences, in prognostication and telekinesis. I believe in some sort of afterlife. I believe it when people say they've heard from spirits, aliens, Jesus or God.*

*I believe it when Houdini makes an elephant disappear and I believe it when [Bill] Clinton says he can fix the economy. That's how much I believe in magic.*

*I believe in the magic of movies. I believe it is amazing to the point of magical that humans can build roads across chasms, self-propelled carriages and multi-ton machines that can fly.*

*Love and sex delve deeply into magic. They travel the realm of magic into reaches where we can no longer follow. We follow far, but not as far as they go.*

## Fair-Thee-Well: Ong Kar (Kenneth Eric) Walen

A memorial service was held in September for Kudana founder and longtime Fair Security Crew coordinator Ong Kar Walen, who passed away on Aug. 16, 2016.

Ong Kar created the marimba band Kudana, a musical favorite throughout the Northwest. Ong Kar built Kudana's marimbas by hand, became a master marimba teacher and wrote many of their songs. His school bus, painted like an idyllic forest, became an icon of the Eugene community. Kudana played often at the Oregon Country Fair, as well as at Zimfest, Seattle's Folklife Festival and many other venues.

When Ong Kar attended his first Fair in 1979, he had been living in a Sikh ashram for eight years, wearing a turban and teaching kundalini yoga. He was invited to the Fair by a crafter with a booth. That first Fair "shocked" him, Ong Kar later recalled, because the vast freedom he witnessed contrasted vividly with the discipline he lived with at the ashram.

The next year he volunteered with Security Crew, working Watergate. He said Security Crew made a natural fit for him, having trained in martial arts as a Sikh, where "you can't ever hurt anybody out of rage. You can only defend yourself."

The Fair changed Ong Kar's life. He got a divorce and rented a house away from the ashram. He took off his turban, but he never cut his hair or his beard, and stayed true to his Sikh vows to help in community whenever possible.

Ong Kar earned his living as a tree surgeon. He earned his fearless



reputation by living life full-on: hitchhiking, living in a tree house, having run-ins with bears while camping, taking weekly fishing trips, and even trying out for minor league baseball. What he didn't have to earn was the love of all who knew him. Grounded in his deep love for his mom, a gifted artist and collector, he found beauty in nature, in found treasures, with his daughters, and in his music. He sought God through meditation, nature and reflection.

Kenneth Eric Walen was born on Sept. 1, 1950, in Salem, Oregon, to Betty and Norris Walen. He grew up on the family farm in West Salem. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and visiting his grandma Ruth in Camp Sherman, Oregon. His

lifelong love of music started in the choir at Peace Lutheran Church. He attended South Salem High, where he excelled in gymnastics.

Ong Kar was preceded in death by grandmother Ruth Bye, father Norris Walen, mother Evelyn "Betty" Walen Friesen, and half-brother Steve Walen. Survivors include daughters Erica (Erik) Garver-Schoute of Rotterdam, Netherlands; Heather Emery-Walen (Oceah Clark-Kasperyzk) of Portland; Holly Emery-Walen (Andrew Muckerman) of Eugene and Ona Sage Winfree of Eugene; grandson Liam Winfree-Warden of Eugene; brother Robert (Linda) Walen; sisters Mary (Bob) Chesley, Diane (Jerry) Munson, Nina (Ralph) Rowland; stepfather Hal Friesen; stepmother Florence Walen; stepbrothers John and Ken King; half-sister Carol Ober; and numerous nieces and nephews and extended family.

Donations to honor Ong Kar can be made to Tariro Foundation, Health and Hope for Zimbabwe's Orphans. Tariro.org.





**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING  
DECEMBER 5, 2016**

**Board members present:** Diane Albino, Ann Bennett-Rogers, Chewie Burgess (alternate,) Lucy Kingsley, Kenya Luvert, Jack Makarchek (president), Jon Silvermoon, Sue Theolass, Staff (Crystalyn, Shane, Stephanie, Shelly and Robin), Officers (Lynda and Randy) and 40 members in the Peach Gallery.

**New Business**

Appoint Heidi Doscher to the Bylaws committee (Sue)

KEPW donation request (Jon)

Donate Change line item to Egan Warming Center (Jon)

**Jon moved and Sue seconded to move Egan Warming Center donation from New to Old Business.**

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

**Announcements**

Joseph: There was a Standing Rock benefit last weekend that brought in over \$9,300.

norma: Today is Chewie's birthday!

Sue: The Holiday Market is open from now until December 24, check <http://holidaymarket.org/> for hours.

**Staff Reports**

**Crystalyn:** First off I want to give everyone an SUP update: Shane and I reached out to Thom Lanfear today and we are sad to say that we still do not have a decision.

November has been a busy month and I am happy to say that the Budget Committee is almost done with the 2017 budgets. I would like to thank Hilary, Jon, and Jen-Lin for helping with the health insurance process and we met with our insurance consultant a few weeks ago. I know that this is outside of the normal process but I would like to ask the BoD to approve the health insurance line item of the GM budget for the amount of \$67,000 for 2017 so that I can finalize employee insurance as soon as possible.

The Diversity Task force met last Saturday and I am happy to say they are planning another learning opportunity for this coming March. The last one was very collaborative and informative and I am looking forward to the next one.

Shane and I have been organizing the upstairs part of the town office so that we can easily find all needed documents. It has been very educational going through years' worth of files and I am looking forward to having a central location for reference.

Shane and I also met with the Fair Family News crew last week to learn about their process. As an FYI they are continuously looking for articles about what various crews and committees are up to. Even if you just have a story about last year's Fair that you would like to share with the whole family, please write up a draft and email it to [ffn@oregoncountryfair.org](mailto:ffn@oregoncountryfair.org).

A giant thank you to Shane, Shelly, Jeff, and Stephanie for working on a rainy and cold Sunday decorating the FART shuttle for the upcoming Veneta Light Parade. I am excited to see what it looks like all lit up in the dark.

On a personal note I would like to say that I am honored to work for an organization that helps fund the Free Whitaker Thanksgiving Dinner. I volunteered there this year and it was one of the best Thanksgivings I have ever had. I love being part of such an amazing community.

**Shane:** Much of November has been spent working on the crew and staff budgets with the Budget Committee. One primary focus for Crystalyn and me has been collecting data from vendors to project the GM budget proposal for 2017. Early in the month we met with Honey Buckets to forecast costs as well as logistics regarding Main Camp, the early Fourth of July date, and how to best mitigate any negative effects for the event. We also met with LTD and their team of planners who help put together the ridership and advertising program. The Fair has a team of five folks from LTD, whose focus is making the Fair as successful and enjoyable for all those who take advantage of this service. It was wonderful to learn about this amazing partnership, the history, and how it benefits all of our community.

We continue to participate with all the committees that meet throughout the month to help, support, and offer staff perspective. It is very interesting to see how all the committees serve the organization, the booth vendors and volunteers throughout the year. Some of these committees are currently working on new or improved guidelines for 2017.

I would also like to thank Dean Middleton and his KOCF advisory board for their continued support of the Veneta Elmira Community. They have been backing the Elmira School and providing a learning opportunity to students, allowing them to participate and learn about low-power FM radio. Besides broadcasting live sporting events, they have been allowing the students to create station spots and programs. I applaud them for their forward thinking and public outreach.

I would like to thank Stephanie, Shelly, Jeff, and Crystalyn for coming out to site on Sunday and helping to decorate our entry into the Veneta Light Parade. I appreciate the sacrifice of a few hours of weekend time to help prepare for our participation in Veneta's parade. We all had a fun time and are very excited to spread some holiday cheer within the local community.

The site was underwater for the first time this fall during the week of Thanksgiving. The river gauge never climbed above 11 feet, so the few folks who came to enjoy the waters were limited to the lots. Shelly and Jeff have completed preparing the site for the winter season and it appears none too soon as the temperatures are expected to drop significantly. We continue to reorganize the Warebarn, Hub shop and storage with the hopes of freeing up additional storage, and useable workspace.

The final project that is ongoing is the tremendous pile of dimensional at Wood World. We still continue to sort, reuse, recycle all the lumber that has been brought out of the event area. This is one of the lengthiest winter projects onsite and if anyone would like to come and participate, please email Shelly or me so we can coordinate efforts.

**Shelly:** We have space heaters protecting all the plumbing, so nothing is going to freeze. It is cold and wet. It is still nice to cruise around the Fair in rubber boots. My heart going out to Anna Ken, from construction crew. One of her four daughters is at River Bend and they could really use our love and prayers.

**Stephanie:** Many folks commented on the budget requests that have been made with the response that we need to be looking for ways

to save money. Having been through my first budget season, I know that staff and the Budget Committee are continually looking for ways to do this, such as implementing the motor pool model for gators and golf carts during pre-Fair.

Staff members don't verbally ask for budget reductions, so I am letting the Fair Family know about some of the ways we are trying to be careful with the Fair's assets. We got a cheaper phone and internet provider for about a \$50 per month savings or \$600 per year. We eliminated two phone lines at \$29.95 per month \$718.80 per year savings. We reduced the number of times per year our HVAC gets serviced from four to two, for a \$100 per year savings. We halved our holiday card list and will be sending email greetings to coordinators and booth reps. We will continue to look for cost savings, but not at the cost of running efficiently.

As Indigo said last month, crew coordinators can impact the overall Fair budget tremendously by making prudent expenditures and right sizing their own crews. We all need to be stewards of all the Fair's assets, from the land, to human capital to actual dollars. The staff can't do it alone.

**Robin:** The *Creative Facilitation* training with Peggy Taylor on Nov. 18-19 was a huge hit. It's so good to be able to share this innovative approach to facilitating groups with organizations and institutions throughout the county. I got a fantastic email from the Chairman of the Fern Ridge School District saying, "Rarely, if ever, have I heard such praise from two highly qualified and creative professionals such as I heard about your workshop. One of them went so far as to tell me she felt it was life changing." That was so incredible to receive! I have also been working on the Culture Jam Reunion being held Dec. 10 at Andy's Art Barn. It's the first time we've done this, crossing Culture Jam with Andy's new nonprofit the Dodeca Art Farm. We already have 40 youth, staff and graduates from past years registered and the deadline for registrations hasn't even arrived. This should be a great adventure out there in Veneta!

**Committee Reports**

**Elders:** Peggy reported that the Elder minutes have not yet been published, but important dates to remember are: December 15, 7-9 pm, WOW Hall, for the Elder Holiday potluck; and March 11-12, 2017, for the Elder Spring Retreat. The newsletter is in process with all-important Elder dates for 2017. Next meeting will be held at Grower's Market, Thursday, January 26, 2017, 7 p.m.

**Radio Station:** Peggy reported for Dean that at the last KOCF Advisory Group meeting, we talked about how the radio station can provide more services for the Fair. We feel like we haven't done enough to keep the Fair alive in the hearts of the family. To this goal Dr. Yeti of the Dr. Yeti show (Saturday and Sunday at 10 p.m.), has made a commitment to begin the process of building a show that will run music from the Fair each week. Our current library is from the music performed at the Hoarse Choral. Starting in January 2017, time and day yet to be announced, we will bring a bit of the Fair back on the air each week. I really hope you enjoy this.

We also began talks with Elmira High School to create a Memorandum of Understanding. We spoke with Jon Guldeger, instructor at Elmira High School. He's going to set up a meeting some time before Christmas so we can work with Gary Carpenter, principal at Elmira High School and interim superintendent for the Fern

Ridge School District. We hope to create a living document that will give us each a set of expectations for the two organizations. We hope to address topics such as finances, publicity, air time, programming and training.

We heard that the regular October Board Meeting for the group we are hoping to get a grant from was delayed until December 5, 2016. We are still crossing our fingers. We want to thank Crystalyn and Shane for coming to our last Advisory Group Meeting. We began to talk about how the station can better interface with the Fair. We tried a no-ask on-air pledge drive. This was a very soft pledge drive. It did not work; we did not get a single donation during that period of time. Until we have a studio, a pledge drive is difficult to produce. But with any luck we hope this changes this coming year.

We would like to encourage anyone planning to go to the thirteenth annual Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce Light parade to bring a portable radio and tune in the station. We will be providing holiday music during the parade.

### Member Input

Joseph: Staff is taking on an unprecedented burden with a lot of change so I urge the Board to please give them your support.

### Donations/Secretary Report

Singing Creek Educational Center \$500 (Lucy)

Karen Rainsong: Our nature and history programs for children and families include school field trips, classes, spring break and summer camps, and special events. Join us for our Living History Festival in spring, and use your pioneer passport to try out all the different hands-on activities at a multitude of booths, or go on the hayride along the creek to the pioneer homestead. We also offer homeschool pioneer "school" for your group on a one-time or regular basis. Some of our favorite activities include butter churning, grain grinding, sewing, making puppets, learning pioneer games and songs, collecting eggs from the henhouse, washing clothes, gardening, herbal walks and trading with the trapper. Summer camps include visits from costumed interpreters like the medicine woman, the trapper, "grandma" and the post-mistress.

**Lucy moved and Chewie seconded to fund the Consent calendar.**

Jon: I would like to offer as a friendly amendment to move \$500 from the Board expense line item to the Board donation line item, so that we are not going over budget.

Lucy: I approve the friendly amendment.

Chewie: I approve the friendly amendment.

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

**Sue moved Lucy and seconded to donate the remainder of the Change line item to the Egan Warming Center.**

Jain: Egan Warming Center needs volunteers as much as they do money.

Jon: The actual amount is \$2593.39. I would like to ask the maker of the motion for a friendly amendment to move \$406.61 from the Board expense line item to fund Egan Warming Center with \$3,000.

Sue: I approve the friendly amendment.

Lucy: I approve the friendly amendment.

Jack: When we go over, we go over and adjust it in our next year's budget. Otherwise, we are just thinking we can spend the whole budget any way we want.

Jon: We have made amendments to the budget.

Jack: But not taking from other line items.

Jon: I am proposing we supplement the donation with money from the Board expense line item.

Motion as amended:

**Sue moved Lucy seconded to donate the remainder of the Change line item and to move \$406.61 from the Board expense line item to fund Egan Warming Center with \$3,000.**

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

### Treasurers' Report/Budget Items

Lynda: The budget committee is tying up loose ends on the crew budgets. The coordinators will get a copy as soon as we're done. We'll review these at the coordinators potluck on January 21. The staff budgets are mostly done. Once we have the personnel costs we'll be able to finish up the GM budget. The Board budget meeting to cover the operating budgets will be January 30.

The last day to submit your Capital project is January 31. We will present our recommendations on the capital project proposal budgets at the March Board meeting. There are budget items from Shane, Crystalyn and Jon.

I have one request for the Board. Last month the Board approved to increase SO late fees to \$140. To finish the revenue projections, we need to understand the intention from the Board as to whether this late fee increase includes booth passes or is just for SOs and Elder companions.

Lucy: In the past it has been across the board to be clear and equitable. So, it would be for booth passes as well.

Jon: My question would be for our Crafts representative on the Board, Sue. Given that there was nothing in the original proposal to raise the price for the booths, whether interpreting the Board's intent would be seen negatively by the crafts booth people.

Sue: In the past, our deadline to get passes is right about the end of June. I would support this, but I can hear the screaming and ill will already. If we could avoid the increase for this year and move this to the 2018 Fair, I would more readily support it.

Diane: My understanding is one year we sock it to the booths and another year we sock it to the public and another year we sock it to the volunteers.

Jon: It was my understanding when we took that vote we were talking about the volunteer side and not the crafts booth side. I can't say what the intent of the Board was. I can see for equity reasons why it makes sense to do both.

Crystalyn: "...passes move to \$140, vehicle stickers remain at \$10, and late vehicle stickers move to \$40." was what passed in November.

Jon: Do we need a motion that states the Board's intent?

Lynda: Can you just tell me?

Sue: I'd like to point out that booths do not have SOs.

Chewie: Booth vehicle stickers are \$20.00 and they were \$15 last year. I sniveled and whined about equity and we are all part of the same family. What happened last time was to go to the staff, not the booths. I'd like to take a pause this year on the booths and make it equitable.

Jon: In Hilary's report it says, "The other two price increases are to raise the vehicle stickers for staff from \$10 to \$15, the late vehicle stickers from \$20 to \$25 and the oversized vehicle stickers for staff and booths from \$50 to \$60." So, the discussion about the vehicle stickers was exclusively for the staff, except for the oversized vehicle stickers.

Randy: The motion is at the very bottom and

reads, "Amended revenue projection as is with exception of the SO passes remaining at \$80, SO late passes move to \$140, vehicle stickers remain at \$10, and late vehicle stickers move to \$40."

Jon: When Hilary proposed it, late vehicle stickers just referred to staff and I would interpret this to mean that this is just referring to staff.

Randy: I concur as your secretary.

Sam: So, this is staff only?

Lucy: No, it should be across the board.

Jack: There had to be a motion that started this whole hoopla.

Crystalyn: The budget projections were to increase the cost of SOs in 2017 to \$90 and in 2018 to increase it to \$100/ And to increase the cost of staff onsite parking stickers.

Randy: The initial motion was, "Casey moved and Sue seconded to approve the revenue projection for 2017" as a blanket statement.

Chewie: I want to repeat; we did this about staff. I want to make it equitable.

Jon: I guess my question for the Treasurer is, do you have clarification that you need?

Lynda: I'd say your interpretation of the motion is the raise in late fees needs to stay with staff only.

Crystalyn: I would like to ask the Board to approve \$67,000 for the 2017 health insurance line item.

**Chewie and Jack seconded to approve \$67,000 for the 2017 health insurance line item.**

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

### Old Business

**Jon moved and Sue seconded to confirm the minutes from November 7, 2016 Board meeting.**

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

**Jack moved and Diane seconded to create a Fiftieth Oregon Country Fair Anniversary task force comprised of Cynthia Wooten, Sandra Bauer, Leslie Scott, Jerry Joffe, Sallie Edmunds and norma sax.**

Amy: There has been discussion with Path Planning about the fiftieth celebration. I would encourage the task force to include Path Planning committee members who are interested in being involved in that planning.

norma: I am part of the task force and we have been meeting. We are getting started and brainstorming on how we celebrate that momentous occasion. We envision a gathering of old timers on Thursday. Our group wants to be the central clearinghouse for ideas and a central hub, so that there are not a lot of different things going on and people are not talking to each other and duplicating efforts. We think a task force is best to facilitate the activities. We'll solicit input from everyone. We want to use the FFN, involve Path Planning and we'd love to have a Board member and a staff member with us. We think 10 members is enough and then break out into smaller groups.

Jerry: This is just the beginning and we want to be inclusive. We just want the go-ahead to start doing our work. We plan to meet in February.

Charlie Z: I'd point out that the Fiftieth Anniversary is a big deal for the organization and I'm glad to see the Board is talking about planning this early. I mean no disrespect to the people who are planning this event, but they are all Elders. The Fiftieth Anniversary shouldn't just be a look back, but a look forward for the next 50 years. There should be some younger people who will be leaders in the future involved in the planning, not just a bunch of folks looking back

at the glorious thing it has been. If we are going to be successful, it will be a lot of the younger people that will be running the Fair.

norma: This is the reason that I approached Kenya at the retreat to be our Board liaison.

Charlie: I respect the names on the list. I would hope they can garner and get the kind of budget it deserves, get the outreach it could create, and define our culture for the next 50 years and let the youth know what the future can bring.

Mambo: One of my concerns is duplication of effort. I'd like a clear statement of mission and to know the budgetary impact.

Keith: We have a huge piece of land out there, we have musicians who can play and throw an epic show and raise money so we don't have to jack up anybody's prices on anyone's SO passes.

Andrew: I believe those mentioned will include forward-thinking people for the anniversary celebration.

Jon: I see this as just a start and I'd expect the task force to develop the budget. I see six names here and I'd anticipate adding new people. I think if Kenya wanted to be a Board liaison that would be great. I'd also suggest checking with Casey to see if he wants to be a Board liaison to address the forward thinking concerns that Charlie Z raised here. I trust them to be inclusive and be forward looking and involving all generations of the Fair.

Jack: I envisioned a task force as developing a mission and a budget. I was not thinking of the task force as planning what it is going to be. A task force is, like Jon said, very preliminary and not the end result. I would think that somewhere there would be a motion presented by the task force as to what the budget is and to create a committee to implement. The task force, to me, is to answer those questions. The task force is not to decide what the Fiftieth Anniversary is going to look like.

**Motion passed: 7-0-1; Lucy abstained.**

**Jon moved and Kenya seconded to direct the Budget Committee not to fund the Fourth of July line item in the 2017 budget.**

Laurel: I want to encourage the Board to not approve this motion. Defunding the line item closes a lot of doors. I do not think that the motion addresses the key issue, which is the fireworks.

Charlie Z: I will encourage the Board to vote no on this motion as well. We got to where we were on the fireworks because for many years the Fair did not have fireworks. That is despite the fact that hundreds of people came and set off fireworks. In those times there was tacit understanding of the organization that our equipment would be used to wet the fields down and provide a perimeter. None of this was sanctioned, licensed or insured. A few years ago the management team recommended we get a permit and a licensed fireworks shooter to do the show. It is an event that the volunteers enjoy.

Defunding the line item results in directing management to shut down fireworks at the site. By doing this we will again be exposing the organization to risk. We are aware of the closeness of the Fourth of July and the event, but we can work together in a more constructive way to address that issue.

Crystalyn: From a management perspective, we are addressing how close this volunteer appreciation event falls to the Fair.

Grumpy (given by Crystalyn): As you know, I am on the Budget Committee as well as being a BUM (back up manager). The Fourth of July party, is in fact a volunteer appreciation event. The fact that it coincides with the celebration of the founding of America is a convenience

and appropriate. We should not cancel this volunteer appreciation event because some in the Fair family object to fireworks, for in my opinion, non-scientific reasons. As others have pointed out, fireworks can be done in an environmentally correct way. If we are stopping the fireworks part of this event for that reason, it is not scientifically based. It is really just the opinion of the few trying to control the many. While a majority of the 900 voters in the non-binding election did not want fireworks, an overwhelming number, more than 2,000 people attend and enjoy our volunteer appreciation event that includes fireworks.

Historically the Fair started its own celebration of the Fourth of July, including fireworks, because the use of illegal fireworks at the Fair became an increasing problem. To combat this problem, we decided to do an approved, permitted firework show as part of a larger volunteer appreciation day celebrating the Fourth of July. This year we would like to continue this now traditional event with or without fireworks on the Saturday before the Fair. To do otherwise will encourage a dangerous situation at the Fair. While we will try to control it, will be our own faults if we can't. Doing our own controlled safe event, takes a dangerous situation and makes it safe.

While our guidelines state that we are an "association of equals," this does not mean that we are all the same. We strive to recognize diversity as well as equality. **This takes balance**, especially when we look at financing different parts and programs of the Fair. We should not let one part of the Fair control all the other parts of the Fair by demanding that certain things be either done or not done. For example it would not be "fair" for the Kitchen Crew to only serve meat and ignore those who are vegetarians. We need to keep the balance, especially when it comes to how we spend our resources.

Thus to allow the few who do not like fireworks to eliminate the volunteer appreciation event is not fair and you should not agree to this motion as stated.

Peggy: This motion sounds to me like there is a pause for 2017 being proposed so the issues can be discussed more fully. There have been pauses for other events like the Barter Fair. I don't have an opinion on the fireworks, but this is merely for 2017.

Amy: I wanted to talk a little about what Charlie Z was saying on security versus enforcement. We have set up a sanctioned event with the resources in place to keep people and our land safe. In this year where the volunteer appreciation and the event are so close, throwing enforcement into the mix is a waste of volunteer resources. This motion lacks backbone and is a way to put it off, like the Barter Fair motions in the past. As far as advisory ballots go, it is interesting we're looking at this one and not looking at those that passed last year. We have a lot better things to worry about than defunding of the volunteer appreciation event.

Charlie: Currently we have 17 committees, six meeting regularly, but if I had a July Fourth issue there is no place to go with an idea. My idea is to triple the funding for the Fourth of July party to honor and respect the volunteers.

Joseph: The motion passed with a large majority. There are thousands of pieces of plastic from the fireworks that end up in the Long Tom.

Mambo: The fireworks are a direct violation of our guidelines. Most of our volunteers are not supposed to be onsite when this volunteer appreciation event is going on. Calling it volunteer appreciation is somewhat disingenuous.

Jen-Lin: The motion as it reads is to defund the Fourth of July party. I'd rather see the money kept and determine what we could do that

would be fun prior to Fair. It doesn't have to be fireworks, but I'm not willing to say let's not do anything.

Andrew: It is frustrating to me to see the fireworks targeted that are celebrating our freedoms, those that the generations before me came to where they wanted to have a countercultural fair to celebrate how we were not like everyone else. The wording for the proposal is to take it away next year, opens the door to just take it away.

Shelley: Speaking as a member and not a staff member, there is a plethora of reasons to vote no on the motion and I urge you to do so.

Chewie: I am not voting for the motion because it defunds the Fourth of July party. I agree with what Jen-Lin said. Fireworks are not the issue. Doing a volunteer appreciation during the time around the Fourth of July is a great idea. There is a lot we can do short of blowing things up. We need to think about the downstream effects of fireworks, but defunding the volunteer appreciation is not a good idea.

Jon: The motion is on the agenda because we had an advisory vote that passed. People may not like that the advisory vote passed. I hear a silent majority argument that we should ignore the advisory vote. I wish I could ignore election results. There is an election result lately that I very much wish I could ignore, but it was the result. If it was not on the agenda and not up for a vote, I could see on the Facebook pages how the Board was ignoring the people's advisory votes once again. I put it on the agenda to address the critics who assume that the Board never discussed last year's advisory votes and to make it explicit that the discussion would occur in the public about this advisory vote. On last year's advisory vote, there was Board discussion, but it was not done in a public forum. I wanted to make sure we discussed this in public.

The motion mentions the line item and the 2017 Fair. Passage of this motion does not mean there could not be a volunteer appreciation event. If in the General Manager budget we want to propose a volunteer appreciation event, it can go into the budget. This decouples the volunteer appreciation from the Fourth of July party. When the volunteer appreciation event occurs could change in years to come. This just directs the Budget Committee to not include this line item in the budget. The history of this issue is interesting. If we want to have fireworks, we need to change the guideline. Guidelines changes come up in March. I see the Barter Fair and the fireworks as similar issues. I find it ironic that some of the proponents of the fireworks, are the same people who said we should not do the Barter Fair. The Board did vote to put the Fourth of July event in the budget, partially because the Fair was unable to enforce or unwilling to enforce the ban on fireworks because some of the people that were primary to doing fireworks in violation to the guidelines held major high positions in the Fair management or in the Fair governance structure. Those people were never held accountable for violating the guidelines. The only reason that I can think of was because they were too important to be held accountable, like we would hold an individual craft person accountable. This is the history of how the fireworks got into the budget. I've always had a problem with that. I will vote for the motion but I'm not opposed to a volunteer appreciation event pre-Fair. If the motion passes, I'd hope those who are so ably handling the transition we are going through would put in a budget item and call it volunteer appreciation and decouple it from the Fourth of July. If someone wants fireworks, put in a guidelines change and we'll debate the pros and cons of fireworks.

Sue: Fireworks put me on edge, but I under-

stand there are a lot of people who do like fireworks and enjoy them. I also know that if we don't have fireworks, there are a lot of people who will set them off anyway. So, yes I think we should hold people accountable to the guidelines, but I don't want to see the party go away for the volunteers. It is important and it is community building. I cannot support this motion.

Ann: This is a guidelines issue, but I am concerned about the environmental impacts even if they are little pieces of plastic. Dilution is not the solution. This year, probably the hardest thing is celebrating the Fourth of July because I don't feel that our country is doing and being responsible in looking out for the things that the Declaration of Independence was written for and we can begin with sovereignty for the native peoples and treaty rights. There are times when our government is not doing the right thing and I don't see a reason to celebrate. Volunteer appreciation is different. Someone should tell Grumpy he can learn about the toxicity of fireworks in the book *Chemistry of Explosions*.

Kenya: With the Fair being anti-establishment, I think the Fourth of July is a celebration of the establishment. The Fourth of July means something different to every one of you, but as a person of color, it does not represent the same independence and freedom for me. So, I think it is great we are celebrating freedom, But freedom

is different for each person and especially black folks here in America. Anti-establishment is not necessarily having a volunteer appreciation for Independence Day for some, but not all. We should separate the two and volunteers should be appreciated.

Diane: I don't want to take volunteer appreciation out of the budget. It falls in the GM budget, which means Shane and Crystalyne will have to decide what to do. I hope we still have freedoms by July Fourth. I think we ought to have something more along the lines of the Boston Tea party. If it doesn't pass we'll get to talk about it in budget discussions. I would like to see the volunteer appreciation date never be closer to the Fair than the Saturday before the Fair. As far as the ecological effects, I can't say much until I stop driving my car.

Lucy: I think it is important that we have a way to appreciate the volunteers. I think everyone should have an opportunity to play. I don't particularly like fireworks, but that is just me. I do know they make a mess.

**Motion failed: 3-5; Jack, Diane, Sue, Chewie and Lucy opposed.**

### President's Peace

Jack: It happens to be coming to the time of the year when we talk a lot about peace on Earth. We

really don't have it. It is an interesting perspective that we are dealing with the notion of the Fourth of July in such an insular way. I've always looked at the Fair's celebrating it as more of a mockery, not necessarily a showing of support. We've just had a president of eight years who has indiscriminately used drones, we are involved in three or four different wars and we have friends and relatives dying over there. It is important that we center on peace and understand how we are connected to that. I don't think fireworks is why we are connected to that; there are a lot of other reasons why we are connected to peace. The fact that the United States is probably one of the most warlike nations is where we are right now. Since it is that time of the year, my message is peace.

### Draft of Agenda for January 2017 Board Meeting

Approve minutes for the December 5, 2016, Board meeting

Appoint Heidi Doscher to the Bylaws committee (Sue)

KEPW donation request (Jon)



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