

# **OAAS** Gazette



Volume 16 December 2007

## A Cool & Frosty Message from the OAAS Presidents

Summer weather and fall colours are all but a memory in Northern Ontario, as the cool winter air has set in and the first snow fall arrived over a month ago.

Even though the temperatures are cool in District 12 &14, we have been keeping ourselves busy putting the last minute touches on the upcoming 2008 OAAS Convention, taking place February 21–23, at the Royal York hotel

The planning committees have worked very hard to accommodate our convention delegates needs and recommendations, with a few slight room changes & a one-day tradeshow everything seems to be coming together.

We have a few special guests and surprises all lined up, but you will have to come to convention to see what we mean.

All the best of luck to Janette Mulholland and Harry Emmott, the 2008 Convention Co-Chairs.

Happy Holidays and all the best in 2008.

OAAS Presidents - Percy McNabb & Pat Marcotte

## Rainy Day Books Are Still Available!!!

Learn new games, brainteasers, recipes, crafts, puzzles etc. \$5.00, contact your District Director or OAAS Great prizes and give always for your fair and district.

REGISTER FOR THE CONVENTION ONLINE: <a href="https://www.ontariofairs.com">www.ontariofairs.com</a>, Convention, Registration

#### DEADLINES

December 31 – Update fair info. for annual directory to OAAS December 31 – Update fair contact info to OAAS January 21, 2008 – Registration deadline for Convention Feb 1, 2008 – Annual Return and grant form to OMAFRA

Item	Deliver	View	Pick Up
Live Auction Items	Thurs. 2- 4:30pm (Salon A) Fri. 7:30-9am (Salon A)	President's Reception (Fri. evening 7 pm)	Live Auction begins at 8pm
Silent Auction Items (Salon A)	Thursday 2:00-4:30pm Fri. 7:30-9am	Friday 10am –4:30pm	Friday 5:30 - 7pm
Choc. Chip Cookies (Ont. Room)	Friday 7:30-8:30am	Friday 11am-5:00pm	Friday 5:00-6:00pm
60% Whole Wheat Bread (Ont. Room)	Friday 7:30-8:30am	Friday 11am-5:00pm	Friday 5:00-6:00pm
Machine Quilts (Ont. Room)	Friday 7:30 – 8:30am	Friday 11:00-5:00pm	Friday 5:00-6:00pm
Hand Quilts (Toronto Room)	Friday 7:30 – 8:30am	Friday 12 – 6:30pm	Friday 7:00 - 7:30pm
Posters/Displays (Ont. Room)	Friday 7:30-8:30am	Friday 11am-5:00pm	Friday 5:00-6:00pm
Crafts (Ont. Room)	Thurs. 2-6pm Friday 7:30-8:30am	Friday 11:00-5:00pm	Friday 5:00 -6:00pm

#### **OAAS CONVENTION**

February 21 – 23, 2008 Royal York Hotel, Toronto

## Sneak Preview, What's Inside ....

- UPDATED Service Diploma & Ag. Accomplishment Awards
- MORE 2007 Convention Round Table summaries
- Heritage Grant Information
- Convention program (tentative)
- Economical Study application for your fair
- Deadlines
- Consumer Protection, Ecoli Workshop, Winter/Spring 2008

<u>OAAS Service Diploma</u> - Each member Society of the OAAS can present one Service Diploma per year to a person who has given longtime and meritous service to the Society. The award can be given to a husband and wife jointly. Service Diplomas <u>should not</u> be awarded routinely to members of the Executive – i.e. at the end of a President's term but instead to well deserving individuals without whom our societies would be lost. The recipient of a Service Diploma will receive a certificate and lapel pin from OAAS. Each diploma is \$10.00.



Don't forget to support your local food bank or toy drive, this holiday season.

OAAS CONVENTION 2008 February 21 –23, Royal York Hotel

Thursday February 21 - Early Bird Sessions, Registration,

Convention Showcase

Friday February 22 – Annual Meeting, Seminars,

Tradeshow, Family Entertainment

Showcase, President Reception

Saturday February 23 - Round Table Discussion

Early bird registration fee for 2008 is \$65 includes admission to all events. (early bird *deadline* is January 21, 2008)

<u>Ag. Accomplishment Award</u> - The OAAS recognizes volunteers who contribute consecutive years of time and energy to an Agricultural Society and whose work meets any or all of the following requirements.

#### Who is Eligible?

- 1. An individual who has made a significant contribution as a leader, volunteer **or** as a committee member.
- 2. Has been active in the Society through longtime involvement.
- 3. Promotes the community betterment by the Agricultural Society.
- 4. Promotes and develops activities to encourage our youth to participate in the Agricultural Society.

**Youth** – up to 20 years of age may be recognized for five or more years of volunteer service.

*Adults* – may be honoured for 10/15/20/25/30/40/ or more dedicated years of continued service.

**Application Process:** Complete application form,, complete the form and return to OAAS. Each certificate costs \$5.00, with a limit of 10 certificates per order per year per association. Each order also requires an additional \$10 to cover postage.

*Award:* Each applicant will receive a certificate and OAAS lapel pin.



# 2008 CONVENTION TRADESHOW FRIDAY FEBRUARY 22<sup>nd</sup> ONLY!!



## **Consumer Protection Program Workshop**

The Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (C.A.F.E.), the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies (OAAS) and the Norfolk County Fair and Horse Show invite you to attend a 1-day Consumer Protection Workshop to learn how to minimize the risk of E-coli contamination at events that bring people and animals together.

When: Saturday, January 12, 2008
Where: Junior Farmers Bldg., Norfolk County Fairgrounds, 172 South Drive, Simcoe, ON
Time: Registration: 8:00 a.m. Workshop: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**The workshop** will bring together fairs, exhibitions, petting zoo operators, organizers of agri-education and agri-tourism, and others with an interest in minimizing the risk of E-coli contamination. You will have the opportunity to participate in interactive discussions; learn how to develop site-specific tools to evaluate facilities; develop action plans to minimize the risks associated with E-coli; and leave with a "starter kit" for enhancing consumer protection.

UPCOMING DATE: APRIL 26, 2008, NORTH BAY

## FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT SHOWCASE

Make sure you visit the FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT SHOWCASE at the Convention, in the Library !!!!



DON'T MISS IT .....

BIG SURPRISES, YOU WON'T EVEN BELIEVE YOUR EYES!!!



## WHAT TO PACK IN YOUR SUITCASE FOR THE OAAS CONVENTION ???

- Hotel confirmation number
- Auction items (for live & silent auction)
- Homecraft entries (posters, cookies, bread, crafts, quilts)
- Spending money for auctions
- 5. Loose change for Share the Wealth 50/50
- 6. Shopping list for your tradeshow ventures
- 7. Fun, adventurous, casual attitude
- All your fair friends !!!



#### SEMINAR SCHEDULE FOR 2008 CONVENTION

(subject to change without notice)

#### THURSDAY EARLY-BIRD SEMINARS

- 1. Delegate Orientation Homecraft - Instructing the Judging Instructors
- 2. Constitutions A working seminar... Bring yours to review and update
- 3. My responsibilities as an Ambassador & Ambassador Chaperone.

#### FRIDAY SEMINARS

- 1. Fair Entertainment
- 2. What is CAFE and what does it do for your Fair?
- 3. New and creative ideas for educating at the fair
- 4. Alcohol/Special Occasion Permit Rule Changes 2008
- 5. Establishing and Enhancing your Fair Ambassador Program
- 6. Smart Serve and Your Fair
- 7. What OAAS and OMAFRA expect from Your Fair
- 8. Hot Topics for Ag. Societies /Sticky Situations
- 9. Policies & Procedures How to Develop them for your Fair
- 10. Animal Rights & Your Fair
- 11. 4-H at the Fair
- 12. Charities Directorate Roadshow
- 13. TSSA Putting Public Safety First

Our thoughts go out to the families of Don Carlin and Maxine Gray, Past Presidents of the OAAS who have recently passed away and to the family of Murray McKerrall.



Merry Christmas to all friends far and wide,

Argentine - Feliz Navidad Y Un Prospero Ano Nuevo Brazilian - Feliz Natal e Prospero Ano Novo

China - Cantonese - Gun Tso Sun Tan'Gung Haw Sun

Croatian - Sretan Bozic Eestit Boiæ i sretna Nova godina Czech - Prejeme Vam Vesele Vanoce a stastny Novy Rok

Danish - Gledlig jul og godt Nytt Aar

Dutch - Vrolijk Kerstfeest en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar

**Dutch Netherlands - Prettig Kerstfeest** 

French - Joyeux Noël et heureuse année

German - Frohe Weihnachten und ein glückliches neues Jahr Hawaiian - Mele Kalikimake me ka Hauloi Makahiki hou

Hebrew - Mo'adim Lesimkha

Irish - Nollaig Shona Duit

Italian - Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo

Portuguese - Boas Festas e Feliz Ano Novo

Spanish - Feliz Navidad y prospero Año Nuevo

Swedish - God Jul Och Gott Nytt År

Ukrainian - Srozhdestvom Kristovym

Vietnamese - Mung Le Giang Sinh. Cung Chuc Tan Nien

Welsh - Nadolig Llawen a Blwvddvn Newvdd Dda

Christmas Trivia Answers: (p.6): 1. B 2. B 3. C



NOTE TO ALL SECRETARIES: Please be sure to update the actual 2008 fairs dates on the annual OAAS directory form. Many fairs forget to change these dates which causes misprinted information. Thank you.

REGISTER ONLINE FOR THE OAAS CONVENTION www.ontariofairs.com, Convention, Registration It's Quick, It's Simple, It's Easy

#### CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS !!! ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (C.A.F.E) has secured new federal funding through the Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food Program (ACAAF) to work with Enigma Research Corporation in compelling an *Economic, Education, and Social Benefits Study*.

C.A.F.É Economic, Educational, and Social Benefits study will take place in 2008.

#### CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The ACAAF funding requires that 20 fairs and exhibitions across Canada be surveyed. Specifically, the study must survey 8 large fairs, 6 medium-sized fairs, and 6 small fairs across Canada. Events interested in participating in the research are invited to submit an application. This opportunity will assist fairs and exhibitions to obtain additional funding and all members are encouraged to apply.

#### BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING

C.A.F.E. has secured Canada's leading event research firm to undertake the study.

Crews from Toronto-based Enigma Research Corporation will travel to each participating events to survey attendees. Participating fairs and exhibitions will receive individual final reports, designed to assist in securing additional private and public sector support for their event. Final reports will include the following:

- Estimates of the economic impact, employment supported and taxes generated by the event.
- Estimates of other economic benefits of the event, including spending by the local population.
- Measures of education-related benefits of the event, including fairgoers' interest in learning about agriculture, agri-food, and food safety.
- Measures of the social benefits of the event, including pride in the community, activities for families and youth, and other measurements.
- Identification of opportunities which could enhance fairs' corporate sponsorship and exhibit programs. Reports will include sponsor recall, attitudes towards sponsors, product use, and other measurements.
- Measures of the importance of agriculture and agri-food programming to fair attendees, participants, and the agricultural sector.
- Report on demographics of attendees.

#### NON-PARTICIPANT BENEFITS

An important mandate of the study is to make aggregate results accessible for all fairs and exhibitions across Canada. Events which are unable to participate or are not selected to be surveyed will receive access to general reports which can be applied to any fair of their size or type. The aggregate reports will demonstrate the economic, social, and educational benefits of Canadian fairs and exhibitions. These tools will be designed to assist all fairs and exhibitions in obtaining additional public and private sector funding.

#### DEADLINE AND SELECTION

The ACAAF funding allows for only 20 fairs and exhibitions to be surveyed in this program. It is anticipated that more than 20 events will apply to participate. To ensure consideration, applications must be received before January 30, 2008.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: http://www.canadian-fairs.ca/



CONGRATULATIONS TO GARY MCRAE, WESTERN FAIR, FOR RECEIVING THE AWARD OF MERIT, AT THE 2007 C.A.F.E. CONVENTION.

## **Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage – Canadian Heritage GRANTS**

The Building Communities through Arts and Heritage program will provide support for both local arts and heritage festivals that feature <u>local</u> artists and artisans or <u>local</u> heritage, as well as major historical anniversaries of local importance Applications are now available for local arts and heritage festivals and community historical anniversaries occurring in winter 2008. DEADLINE JANUARY 14, 2008 For more information: www.pch.gc.ca/communities/

OAAS CONVENTION FEB. 21 – 23, 2008 ROYAL YORK HOTEL REGISTER ONLINE: www.ontariofairs.com

#### 2008 Provincial Fair Passport NOW AVAILABLE

\$50, admits you and a friend to many Ontario fairs.

Contact OAAS to buy yours today.

#### **DEADLINES**

December 31 – Update fair info. for annual directory to OAAS
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#### ROUND TABLE SUMMARIES FROM 2007 OAAS CONVENTION

#### **Entertaining on a Shoestring Budget:**

- Need to look outside the box when it comes to entertaining.
- Look at local entertainment instead of the high end
- Be careful with letting the agent know your budget
- Partnerships is important
- Find large organizations to assist with the costs

#### List of ideas for entertainment follows:

- Idol contest (various options to this the fair is for the finals, so you work with other events leading up to this)
- Talent Show as main event
- Fear Factor kind of program
- Spelling Bee
- Baseball game
- Farmers Olympics
- Pie auction
- Battle of the bands
- Soccer
- Car contest
- Toilet Bowl races
- Lawn mower races
- ATV pull
- Remote control cars
- High school music incorporate into fair
- Video dances for the youth
- Demo tent i.e. blacksmith, quilting etc
- Antique display
- Fireworks
- Dog show
- "Back seat driver" blindfolded driver with a back seat driver
   lawn tractor, wheelbarrow, tricycle etc
- Look for new ideas and don't be afraid of trying new things
- High school drama productions
- Community productions
- Novelty races (outhouses, lawn mower etc)
- Contact local classes to do demos, step or square dances, karate)
- Story telling festival
- Talk to you chamber
- Shoe/boot kicking contest
- Rope making
- Sport clubs
- Don't forget the old faithful's egg tosses, sack races etc.

#### Your Fair's Responsibilities to Your Ambassador:

- Have clear guideline in place as to what you are to be looking after for the ambassador
- Money to the ambassador to cover costs related to fair business that they are doing on your behalf
- List of duties needs to be clear
- Provide transportation to various events
- One person to be the liaison with the ambassador
- Assist with organizing a link between the convention and CNE with the ambassador
- Assist financially
- Work on a schedule with the ambassador
- Chaperones for all events
- Make it a fun experience

#### Your Fair's Responsibilities to your Ambassador: cont'd

- Involve them in local activities
- Do not leave responsibilities to organize an event up to the ambassador
- Have fairboard be approachable so ambassador can express questions, concerns listen to their ideas.
- Make the most out of the year
- Be open to them

#### **Selection and Approval of Appropriate Ambassador Chaperones:**

- Need to have a good screening process in place
- Rules for chaperone (need to be clear on what is to be followed)
- Male chaperone if you have a male ambassador
- Main goal of chaperone help with life skills, personal development, encourage individuality, guidance when needed.
- Agricultural Societies must select a proper Chaperone to accompany their ambassador during their year as ambassador.
- Chaperone required to supply the Agricultural Society with a Volunteer/Applicant Screening Process.
- Consent to disclosure of Personal Information. (available at local police)
- Form to be done every two years
- Female chaperone for female ambassador
- Chaperone to be honest, reliable and dedicated to the Ambassador
- Responsible for transportation and seeing that rooms are booked and paid for at Convention.
- Make arrangements for C.N.E.
- Help ambassador with presentation for speaking functions
- Me a motivator to the ambassador
- Give ambassador a schedule of events that they are to attend
- When ambassador gets a invitation to attend another fair let the Fair secretary know if they will be able to attend
- Have invitations for ambassador sent to fair office or secretary of their fair
- Have chaperone go around fair with ambassador for photo ops for the scrapbook
- If a member of the ambassador committee is unable to do the job then it should be a member of the executive or the homecraft director.

#### Making sure to Involve Youth at your fair:

- Ask the local schools to have a volunteer fair day.
- Bring in a few new things that will encourage youth to get involved
- Junior directors use them
- Give them jobs of interest not all the jobs you do not want to do
- Be open and get someone who is young to assist with the promoting
- Use credits at schools
- Have youth categories in your various areas of competition
- Talent show for youth
- Battle of the bands
- Have meetings with the youth on a regular basis
- Have a youth committee with the chair being a youth
- Survey student councils on how we can change so they will get involved

#### MORE ROUND TABLE SUMMARIES FROM 2007 OAAS CONVENTION

#### Making sure to Involve Youth at your fair: cont'd

- 40 hours for schools
- Introduce sports events
- Introduce young ideas to the program
- Set a side one night for a youth event at the fair
- Change some activities to a more of a youth directed concept
- Recognize them.
- Youth booth at fair for ideas
- Look at limits for number of years on the board
- Advertise for youth
- They are the future.

#### Hosting a judging School:

- Everyone should host a school every 2 years
- \$10 a day with refreshments
- Saturday as during the week young people are working
- Advertise (local newspaper) get outside the usual places
- Ask people to bring things for the day to be judged
- Directors need to be responsible for this to be happening.
- Manuals need to be available
- Judging lists complete and accurate
- Keep it fun and educational
- Feed them
- Set up by district directors
- Attend school then apprentice
- Share lists among districts
- Fees need to be flexible
- Know your target audience
- Communication is needed between all involved

## "Learn to Grow Grow to Learn"

ANNUAL RETURN AND GRANT FORMS ARE DUE TO OMAFRA FEBRUARY 1<sup>st</sup>!!!
Any questions ?? Contact OMAFRA in your area

#### **CHRISTMAS TRIVIA**

- 1. In what century was St. Nicholas first mentioned?
  - a) 12th Century b) 4th Century c) 8th Century d) 3<sup>rd</sup> Century
- 2. Santa's only female sleigh-pulling reindeer, Vixen, has antlers. True or false?
  - a) True. But they are really no bigger than slight bumps on their heads.
  - b) True. Both male and female reindeer have antlers.
  - c) False. Some females have been known to have antlers, but that is extremely rare.
  - d) False. Only the male reindeer have antlers.
- 3. What did Frosty the Snowman use for nose?
  - a) Coal b) Snow
- c) Button
- d) Carrot

#### How to encourage young people to become judges:

- Offer money
- Offer to pay costs for them i.e. fee and transportation
- Awareness
- Make it a competition
- Help start them out
- Make it social
- Make it a group effort
- Get 4-H involved
- Inform them about the ability of traveling all over the place
- Need to be able to change from the old format

#### Keeping up with the times hot and new Homecraft food entries:

- Cake made from boxed mix any variation
- Use tenderflake shell and boxed filled pie
- Make things easier for new exhibitors
- One piece seems to be the norm
- Use plastic containers
- Mini loaves
- Exotic fruit in the jam section
- Pickled garlic and quince jam
- Vegetable or fruit dips
- New class leaves longer than 1 year
- Microwave recipes
- Pie main ingredient must be Canadian
- Pie using frozen crust
- Print recipe as "class special" in prize book

#### HOLIDAY SEASON QUOTES

Why is Christmas just like a day at the office? You do all the work and the fat guy with the suit gets all the credit. *Anonymous* 

I once bought my kids a set of batteries for Christmas with a note on it saying, toys not included. *B. Manning* 

Anyone who believes that men are the equal of women has never seen a man trying to wrap a Christmas present. *Anonymous* 

I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I was six. Mother took me to see him in a department store and he asked for my autograph. *Shirley Temple* 

Never worry about the size of your Christmas tree. In the eyes of children, they are all 30 feet tall. *Larry Wilde* 

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus? Claustrophobic. *Anonymous* 

Remember, if Christmas isn't found in your heart, you won't find it under a tree." *Charlotte Carpenter*.

At Christmas, all roads lead home." Marjorie Holmes.

# nk you Service Members

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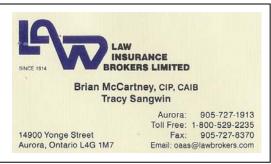














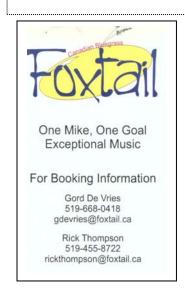


Service Member contact information is available online at:

www.ontariofairs.com

#### Service Members include:

- Food vendors
- Amusements/ Midways providers
- Insurance
- Magic/Stunt Shows
- Entertainment
- **Booking Agents**
- Rental: bleachers, audio visual
- Security
- Petting Zoo
- Tractor Pulls
- Horse Pulls
- Demo Derbies
- Awards/Ribbons
- Music Acts, for all ages





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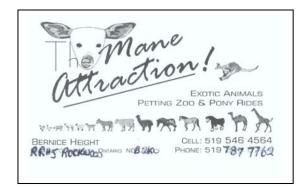
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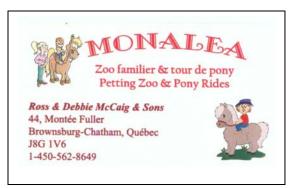
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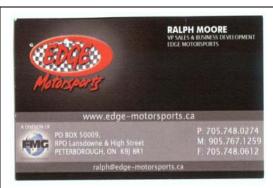
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## HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!!!!

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