



# OAAS Gazette

Volume 24

August 2010

## ~ 2010 – 2011 OAAS President's Message ~ - Carl DeSchutter -

Hello everyone. The fairs are in full swing and I have been to more than a handful already, with lots of interesting times.

In Schomberg, the OAAS Ad Hoc Business Plan Committee met and began to look into the feasibility of hiring a full time staff person.

In Leamington, the Agricultural Society dedicated one of their buildings in memory of Janette Mulholland (LDAS Past President & 2008 OAAS Homecraft President) for all of the work that she did for their fair.

Dresden set a new world record for the largest tractor parade. The old record was 601 and they had 1232 – what a parade it was.

By the time you read this, I will have made my trip east to visit some fairs there.

Each of our fairs are different in its own way, no matter how big or how small, we all work to promote agriculture in some way. I have taken in many of the Homecraft displays at the fairs that I have attended from jams to red ribbon winning quilts. I have walked the midways and seen happy smiles on the faces of children of all ages. I have sat in the bleachers to watch truck and tractor pulls, and demo derbies, cattle, horse, sheep and goat shows. I have walked the barns to see the rabbits, ducks, chickens and geese. I think I have tried almost every kind of fair food that there is. What a good time for all.

My message to you is to get out there and enjoy your fair, but also travel to some fairs around you. Enjoy all the hard work and dedication everyone puts in all year round. Walk the entire grounds and enjoy all there is to take in. Fairs in Ontario are alive and doing well so be sure to get out there to enjoy them.

I hope to see you at Convention time and remember that this year our President's Reception theme is the 50's and 60's. So dress up and have fun, meet some new people and have a good time.

Have a safe and happy fair season.

OAAS President – Carl De Schutter

### **2011 Affiliation fees**

Please note that the 2011 Affiliation fees will include HST and will be due to the OAAS by December 31, 2010.

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

- OAAS Cookbooks, only a few left
- Online Discussion Forum for Fairs
- Len Patterson Memorial Award
- Preview into Convention 2011
- 2010 CAFE Convention in Calgary !!!
- WANTED: 2011 Convention Showcase Acts
- OAAS Past President Summer Reunion Report

## **WORLD RECORD AT DRESDEN FAIR !**

The Guinness Book of World Records is being updated, thanks to hundreds of Southwestern Ontario farmers.

The record of 601 tractors on parade was shattered Saturday when 1,231 tractors took part in an event called the Greatest Tractor Parade — Driving Out Cancer.

It was witnessed by thousands of spectators.

A whopping \$100,200 was raised for the Canadian Cancer Society

*Printed in London Free Press, July 26.*



## **LATEST OMAFRA FACTSHEETS**

Developing Policies and Procedures for Volunteer Organizations  
Record Keeping for Non Profit Organizations  
Effective Committees

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the OAAS Cookbook is still available. Over 400+ delicious recipes from across the province. Contact the OAAS to order your copy today. \$10.00, includes HST (shipping may be extra)

## **PROVINCIAL FAIR PASSPORT**

Do you enjoy visiting several different fairs and exhibitions throughout the year ?

OAAS is offering a fair pass (that admits two people) into fairs and exhibitions in the province for only \$56.50. (includes HST)

Fair passes are available only from the OAAS office.  
Please forward cheques payable to OAAS.

Looking for a commodity contact or a specialist to answer your questions? Check out the “Contacts” on the OAAS website. Education tab.ur

## **OAAS WEBSITE ~ A NEW FEATURE ... FAIR DISCUSSION BOARD**

The OAAS has established a discussion board on our new website for fairs to post or discuss any issues, comments, concerns, announcements etc.

OAAS would like to provide this service to all our members to help increase communication between fairs in Ontario.

This discussion board will be monitored to reassure appropriate content is being posted.

***Directions/instructions to login to the fair discussion board are as follows:***

1. [www.ontariofairs.com](http://www.ontariofairs.com)
2. Click on Fairs
3. Drop down menu, Discussion Board
4. Click on Enter Discussion Board
5. Username: fair
6. Password: discussion

## **LEN PATTERSON MEMORIAL AWARD**

Presented by Nothers Awards, London

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Leonard Patterson Memorial Award will be presented at the 2011 Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies Annual Meeting.

Agricultural Societies wishing to nominate their Secretary, Treasurer or Secretary/Treasurer , who has served their organization for *at least 15 years*, may do by sending their nomination to the OAAS Past President Association, c/o Betty Lester, 84 Albert St. N., Lindsay, ON K9V 4K3, by December 1, 2010.

There is no special nomination or application form, please submit in writing, explaining in detail why you feel nominee is deserving of this honour. Previous nominees must re-apply with an updated profile.

For inquiries please phone Betty Lester, 705-324-5644.

Visit [www.ofac.org](http://www.ofac.org) for a great Ag Aware Toolkit and resources dealing with farm tours, displays, Ag. activities, petting zoo guidelines etc.

**[www.ontariofairs.com](http://www.ontariofairs.com)**

# PREVIEW OF THE 2011 OAAS CONVENTION

Welcome to the Future - February 17 - 19

- New format to the Live Auction on Thursday night
- Ambassador Group Photo & Introductions are on Thursday Night (*new for 2011*)
- 50's Theme at President's Reception, on Friday night (prizes for best costumes)
- Lunch served to Tradeshow Vendors



## SHOWCASE PERFORMERS WANTED

If you know any unique entertainment, the OAAS would love to hear from you. OAAS is currently seeking Entertainment for the 2011 Convention Evening Showcase & Family Entertainment Showcase. *Convention Surveys are asking for more variety, well we need your help to find it. Contact the OAAS Office for more information.*

A poster for the 84th Annual C.A.F.E. Convention. The top half features a silhouette of a person on a horse against a sunset sky. The bottom half shows a city skyline at night with a bridge. A large, ornate gold coin with '2010 C.A.F.E. CALGARY' is in the center. Text includes dates, location, and contact info.

THE 84TH ANNUAL C.A.F.E. CONVENTION

NOVEMBER 17 - 20, 2010  
CALGARY, ALBERTA

Register January 1, 2010 at [www.canadian-fairs.ca](http://www.canadian-fairs.ca)

Hotel Info: Hyatt Regency Calgary  
1-403-717-1234

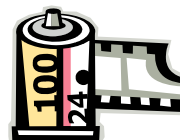
Best of Show!

## 2011 OAAS Convention Tentative Seminar Topics

- New Secretaries, New Treasurers & New Delegates
- How to Celebrate Fair Anniversaries
- Involving Youth Including Junior Farmers & 4-H Ontario
- Becoming Involved with the OAAS
  - Organizing Horse Shows
  - Working with AGCO
  - Ontarians with Disabilities
  - Celebrate Ontario
  - Media Partnership
  - Working with Your Midways
- Homecraft (Judging Concerns, Setting Up Displays, Homecraft of the Future)  
HST and Your Fair

LET US KNOW WHAT ELSE YOU WANT TO LEARN ABOUT

**WANTED:** Pictures of unique craft items from your fair. Send your pictures to the OAAS office. Help create a collection of ideas to be viewed at the 2011 OAAS Convention in the Craft Room.



**The OAAS Past Presidents' Association** held its Annual Social on June 27<sup>th</sup> at the Hastings County Museum of Agricultural Heritage at the Stirling Fairgrounds. Thirty - two Past Presidents and guests enjoyed an Old Fashioned Strawberry Social and a time of fellowship. The group was pleasantly surprised with the various buildings and amazed by the streetscape building where the musical entertainment was provided.

Elvin & Joy Petherick, Campbellford, hosted the group, at their home, for a short business meeting, more social time and a delicious dinner following the Museum tour. Special thanks to El Petherick, Norman Thompson and Beatrice Timlin, the committee in charge for organizing this years Social.

Past Presidents attending were: Eileen Brown, Mary Fisher, Bev Fry, Joanne Gregson, Janet Hamilton, Lois Hunter, Don Heath, Betty Lester, Laurie McCulloch, Joanne Miller, William Morris, Iva Nagy, Irene Palmer, Elvin Petherick, David Simser, Murray Spence, Harold Thompson, Beatrice Timlin.



[www.ontariofairs.com](http://www.ontariofairs.com)

### Great Turn Out at District 6 Spring Meeting



Left: Liz Whetham (Rockton), Joe Chechalk (Rockton), Fred Walter (Niagara Regional Exhibition), Larry Farnsworth (Niagara Regional Exhibition) Right: Ruth Gunby (Rockton), Ruth Lee (Rockton), Robert Campbell (Rockton), Pat Logan (Dunnville), Cyndy Farnsworth (Niagara Regional Exhibition), Darlene C.-Durham (Niagara Regional Exhibition)

### Ancaster Fair Celebrates 160 Years

Wow! 160 years is a long time for the Ancaster Fair to exist. The length of Agricultural Fairs in Ontario and Ancaster Fair is proof of how important farming has been, and still is. A fair is basically a contest between farmers to find out who has the best crops, the most productive animals, and even the best household products, including baking and needle work. This year's fair has hundred of entries in several different categories.

The result of the contests over the past centuries has resulted in the improvement in the quality of the products produced by rural businesses. We have better crops, better vegetables, better fruit, better meat products and better baking as a result of the Agricultural Fairs.

Visitors to the Fair will be able to see hundreds of judged items on display and view the cattle, horses, sheep, rabbits and goats in competition. As an example of the numbers of species involved, there are 65 species of potted plants, 49 species of Garden Vegetables, 28 varieties of Grain and Seed and scores of other varieties to view.

Enjoy and admire.

Art Bowes, Life Member

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