



OAAS Gazette

Volume 23

May 2010

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



Spring has finally sprung here in Ontario, The robins are back and the geese are flying back up North, and Kathryn has emailed me for my President's message – now those are real signs of Spring. I hope you all wintered well and when you were at the Convention, you picked up something new to use at your fair this year. What a great convention we had – many thanks to Meredith, Joanne, Executive, Directors, and all of the Volunteers and Partners that helped out. We are already planning for 2011. I hope to see you all there, and keep watching the Gazette for more details.

We have some work to do with the motion that came off the floor at the Annual Meeting at the Convention, to establish a business plan to determine the economic feasibility of hiring full time staff. We are setting up an ad hoc committee with 4 Board of Directors, 4 people from the member Fairs and 2 Stakeholders. We are also looking into a writing letter regarding a Volunteer Tax Credit Proposal and the OAAS Board of Directors has set up a new committee for looking after the Homecraft Meeting at the Convention. Congratulations to all participants in the OAAS competitions and especially to the winners and runners up.

I am sure that these new thoughts coming out of Convention are just the first of many new things that we are going to deal with this year, during this time of change and growth. Now, more than ever it is important that we all work together to ensure that our fair industry continues to stay current and relative in this ever changing market. Team work, the constant exchange of ideas and information and continuing to look forward will be the keys to future success for all of us.



We all know that it takes many hours of dedicated volunteers to put on a fair of any size, and to show what we do best, to the Fair goer coming through the gate. We should be proud of what we do because we are the oldest organization in the province that brings rural and urban together for a common event.

I hope to visit as many fairs as possible this year, but it is a big province. Hope you all have great spring, summer and fall fairs.

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

The OAAS Directors would like to thank
EVERYONE
who donated to and/or purchased articles at
the 2010 Convention auctions.
Your generosity made these events
a great success. **Thank you**

Sneak Preview, What's Inside

- OAAS Cookbooks, only a few left
- Convention Results Are In
- Online Discussion Forum for Fairs
- Celebrating 150 Years in 2010
- To Old Friends & New on the OAAS Board of Directors
- Len Patterson Memorial Award
- Convention Round Table Results
- OAFE Award of Excellence in Agri-Food Education
- Preview into Convention 2011
- OAAS Education Survey
- How Will HST Affect Your Fair ?
- AGM Motion Update

Award of Excellence in Agri-Food Education

Lorna Wilson, Volunteer and Membership Coordinator, presented the Moore Agricultural Society (Brigden Fair) with the Award of Excellence in Agri-Food Education for their outstanding school agricultural education program. This is the second time Moore Ag Society has been honoured with the award for their program and they faced strong competition from Binbrook, Markham and Port Hope Ag Societies. For more details on how your fair can enter this competition, please contact OAFE.



UPCOMING JUDGING SCHOOLS

- District 2, May 15, Lombardy School - Crafts & Quilts
- District 5, May 1, Orillia - Quilts, Needlecraft, Baking, Canning
- District 7, April 30, Elora - Canning, Baking, Junior Work
- District 8, May 1, Seaforth – Director’s Workshop
- District 10, June 5, Teeswater - Knitting, Crocheting, Fancywork
- District 11, June 12, Bracebridge - Vegetables, Junior Work
- District 12, May 15, Copper Cliff - Quilts, Handcrafts
- District 14, April 24, Charleton - Baking, Canning
- District 15, TBD Hymers

**** Please contact your District Director for more information ****



The above picture was taken at an Appreciation Night for Meredith Brophy. The above are Past Presidents of O.A.A.S at the event.

Celebrating 150th Anniversary in 2010



Caledon Agricultural Society
Chatsworth Agricultural Society
Flos (Elmvale) Agricultural Society
Wallacetown Agricultural Society



CASINO ??? BEER GARDENS ??? - Please email Orangeville Agricultural Societies with your thoughts/ experiences etc. regarding these possible fund raising ideas. <mailto:fair@orangevillefairgrounds.ca>

Left to right - Lois Hunter (Lombardy) - Homecraft 1981; William Morris (Delta) - Agriculture 2000; Gail Argue (Carp) - Homecraft 1999; Joanne Miller (Arran-Tara) - Homecraft 2009; Meredith Brophy (Metcalf) - Agriculture 2009; Bruce Munro (Carp) - Agriculture 2001; Mary Fisher (Metcalf) - Homecraft 2004.

www.ontariofairs.com

DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS/UPDATES

Captain Cook de Fries, c/o Natasha or James Hallett
2322 Burnside Line, R.R. #4 Orillia, ON L3V 6H4
Ph: 705-325-4996 Fax: 705-326-2871
Email: captaincookdefries@hotmail.com

The Booking House Inc., 4652 James Austin Drive,
Mississauga, Ontario L4Z 4H1
Ph: 905-755-1927 Fax: 905-755-1928

Medda R Burnett, District 4 Homecraft
medda@priorityhs.com (new email address)

Arnprior Fair - August 5 - 8
arnpriorfair@yahoo.ca, 613-622-0079

Iron Bridge Fair - September 4

Laird (North Shore) Fair - August 20 - 22

Peterborough Ex - August 12* - 15 (*midway only)

Stirling Fair - August 12 - 15

Leamington & District Fair - ldasfair@gmail.com

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
2. Click on Fairs
3. Drop down menu, Discussion Board
4. Click on Enter Discussion Board
5. Username: fair
6. Password: discussion



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.

Is your fair celebrating a special anniversary this year? OAFE has a limited supply of historic laminated prints to enhance your anniversary display. Contact Lorna Wilson volunteer@oafe.org, 905-878-1510 x26

Visit 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

WELCOME



New OAAS District Directors

Helen Rice, District #1 Homecraft
Susan Cook, District #3, Homecraft
Medda Burnett, District #4, Homecraft
Barbara Weese, District #4, Agriculture
Karen Milne, District #5, Homecraft
Sylvia Parr, District #6, Homecraft
Jean Tucker, District #7, Agriculture
Beth Howell-Vervaecke, District #7, Homecraft
Brad Wardell, District #9, Agriculture
Marie Hall, District #7, Homecraft
Dorothy Grasett, District #10, Homecraft

WELCOME Phil Hernandez as the new 2nd Vice President

THANK YOU

Retired OAAS District Directors

Barbara Ann Glaude
Sheila McLaughlin
Orlee Wells
Neil Guthrie
Ruth Wiggins
Sharon Petheram
Joanne Holt
Mary Lichty
Bev Pillon
Ruth Ann Hellyer



THANK YOU Meredith Brophy, Agricultural President and Joanne Miller, Homecraft President.

LEN PATTERSON MEMORIAL AWARD

Presented by Nothers Awards, London

The Second 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 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.

**PROVINCIAL COMPETITION RESULTS ...
AND THE WINNER IS...**



Machine Quilt

- 1st Ruth Burkitt, District #3
- 2nd Barbara Burling, District #5



Hand Quilt

- 1st Drika Foster, District #7
- 2nd Gladys Elliott, District #13

Cookies

- 1st - ShaeLynn Jones, District #10
- 2nd - Brandon Henry, District #9
- 3rd - Karlene Zurbrigg, District #8



Bread

- 1st - Lisa Sills, District #6
- 2nd - Lil Smiley, District #1
- 3rd - Danielle Jongkind, District #5



Posters

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth A: 1st - Christine Reid 2nd - Caitlyn Noddin 3rd - Emily Schade | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth B: 1st - Brenda Reid 2nd - Gayle Buzzi 3rd - Jade Armstrong |
|--|--|

- Printed:** 1st - Harriston-Minto
2nd - Petrolia-Enniskillen
3rd - Six Nations



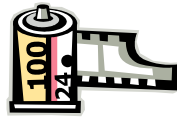
Displays

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-D: 1st - Kinmount 2nd - Port Hope 3rd - Feversham | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-D Handmade: 1st - Caledonia 2nd - Wallacetown 3rd - Glencoe |
|--|--|

- 2-D Professional: 1st - Drumbo 2nd - Caledonia 3rd - Port Hope

Photography

- Grand Champion: Markham
- Junior Champion: Schomberg



WHO WAS LEONARD PATTERSON – “*Len gave much to his community. He grew up on a farm & attended the Mount Forest Fair as a boy. Leonard was a local 4-H Leader and Director of Mount Forest Agricultural. Leonard was the President of Mount Forest Ag Society in 1975 and helped out as Secretary and Treasurer for six years in the 1980’s. After 3 years as President of Mount Forest Fair, he was elected as a OAAS District Director & held this position for 5 years, until serving as President of the OAAS in 1986.*” (Presented by Jim Nothers, Feb. 2010)

Len lived in Harriston Ontario. He had 6 children and was married to his loving wife, Ida, for 58 years.

LEN PATTERSON MEMORIAL AWARD

Marlene Tinney was appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the Flos Agricultural Society in 1957, a position she most capably held for 47 years, until she decided to retire in January of 2004. As a working mother, and devoted wife, she always made time to help in her Community. During her tenure, she worked with 19 different Presidents, and countless volunteers to help make the Elmvalle Fall Fair the tremendous success that it enjoys today. As many of her co-workers will attest, she was the crutch that many needed when stumbling with a problem. She always had the right answer, always made the time to help solve a situation, whether large or small. During those 47 years, she and the Society worked through two fires, as well as a retrofit of the arena, which deemed it unusable for the Fair, each of which could have seen the Elmvalle Fair dissolve, but failure was never an option. As times change, our Fair has had to adapt.

Her love of all things “Fair” spilled over into her children, as both of her sons have been valuable members of the Flos Ag Society as Directors, with one of them serving a two year term as President, under the watchful eye of his Secretary/Mother. The next generation, her one granddaughter Lindsay, was our Fair Ambassador for 2008, another was a Runner-Up in the past, and yet another was known for many exhibits in the Fair over the years, earning the trophy for “Most Points” in the Junior School Fair one year and in the running for other years. Marlene has certainly made a “Fair” impression on her family.



The exhibitors and fair-goers always looked for the friendly face “behind the counter” in the Fair Office. She made sure that the Prize Lists and exhibitor tags were available, to the extent that she opened the lobby of her home, leaving a table with all of the necessary items available for people to stop by and pick-up, prior to the Fair.

Marlene attended many District and Provincial functions over her years as Secretary/Treasurer, and acted as Ambassador Chaperone for a number of those years as well. Each time, she would bring back new ideas that she felt would help make our Fair an even greater success.

Upon her retirement, everyone knew that a successor would be hard to find. Those shoes would be enormous to fill, but even though she has “officially” retired, each year she can still be found helping out in some sort of fashion; this past 2 years she has donned a vest and helped with the parking of vehicles !

It is dedication, such as Marlene’s, that makes Ontario Fairs the wonderful experience that they are.

Special thanks to Nothers Awards for supporting this award.

Picture above: Marlene Tinney, Eileen Brown (OAAS Past President), Jim Nothers

MOTION FROM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: *To strike an ad hoc committee of OAAS members and stakeholders to draw up a business plan to determine the economic feasibility of hiring a full-time staff member to represent OAAS interests. The findings are to be presented at the Fall 2010 OAAS Board of Directors' Meeting.*

UPDATE: The OAAS Executive and Board of Directors came to the decision to establish an Ad Hoc Business Plan Committee, involving 4 Board of Directors (Meredith Brophy, Gerry Fuchs, Dorothy Grasett & Phil Hernandez), 4 Members from Ontario Fairs representing four different revenue levels voted by the Board of Directors (Kathy Smith, Lisa Marie Steenhoek, Carrie Fraleigh-DeSchutter & Kate Russell) and 2 Stakeholders, decided by the Ad Hoc Business Committee.

The OAAS received 12 nominees from 13 Agricultural Societies, to be considered for the Business Plan Ad Hoc Committee.

THANK YOU TO THE CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION (CNE) FOR THEIR \$2000 CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE OAAS VISIONING SESSION, THAT TOOK PLACE AT THE 2009 OAAS BOARD OF DIRECTOR FALL BOARD MEETING.

NOTES FROM OAFE A big thank you goes to the many fairs who visited the OAFE tradeshow exhibit to pick up their complimentary resource package. This is the fifth year OAFE has provided packages to the fairs. If your fair did not receive a package at convention, contact your district director.

The OAFE Challenge to OAAS members to place a resource catalogue into the hands of a teacher was very successful with 160 catalogues being distributed. Anyone wishing to participate in this challenge is encouraged to contact the OAFE office for more information and catalogues.

Back by request, the Zoomer Boomer Volunteer workshop was updated and presented during the seminars section at the Convention. If you would like a copy of the presentation, or if you have any suggestions for future OAFE workshops, please let us know.

OAFE values its partnership with the OAAS and welcomes your suggestions and questions at any time. For any comments or responses to the above articles, please contact Lorna Wilson at volunteer@oafe.org or by telephone 905-878-1510 x26

HELP !!! The OAAS Education Committee is asking for your help. Please send us your responses from the following questions to the OAAS.

1) Would you consider attending an Educational Seminar or Workshop a) Outside of Convention and/or b) At Convention ?

2) If yes, please rank the following topics in order priority. (#1 being most important)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| - Social Networking | - Creating Policies & By-Laws |
| - Increasing Homecraft Exhibits | - Establishing/Improving Ambassador Program |
| - Greening Your Fair | - Strategic Planning |
| - Funding Ideas | - Ag Awareness |
| - Emergency Planning | - Other |

3) What other educational opportunities would you like OAAS to inform you of ? i.e. webinars (SmartServe), food handling, workshops provided by OMAFRA, OAFE, OFAC, CAFE ETC.

Please email responses to oaas@bellnet.ca OR complete the survey online, www.ontariofairs.com OR mail responses to the OAAS office OR fax responses OR leave a message, by June 1st.

GST / HST & Your Fair

Prepared by OAAS Treasurer

The following information is meant as a VERY loose outline to the rules regarding GST/HST registration. Actual Revenue Canada publications should be consulted for complete information.

There are no special rules with regards to Agricultural Societies – they are treated as every non-profit organization.

If the Ag Society is **NOT** a charity and the gross taxable revenue of the Ag society is over \$50,000, the Ag society must be GST registered and charge GST on eligible revenues such as gate admissions (unless *all* admissions are under \$1.00), vendor space, advertising space in the Fair book, etc.

Some revenues remain exempt from GST/HST such as donations and sponsorships and some memberships, even if the Ag society is GST registered.

See Revenue Canada Guide RC4081

If the Ag Society **IS** a registered charity and they provide taxable goods such as admission **AND** their gross revenue is less than \$250,000/year **OR** their taxable goods (admission) are less than \$50,000, the Ag society does **NOT** need to be GST registered.

See Revenue Canada Guide RC4082.

Even if the charity is GST registered most goods and services provided by a charity are exempt from tax with the exception of admission, items purchased to resell at more than their cost or the sale of real property such as buildings or land.

A charity is usually **ALSO** entitled to a rebate from Revenue Canada called a Public Service Body Rebate whereby Revenue Canada rebates 50% of the GST/HST paid to your suppliers.

See Revenue Canada Guide RC4034

All GST registered companies charge GST/HST on taxable revenues and pay GST/HST to their registered suppliers. Their payment to Revenue Canada (usually annually) is a sum of the GST/HST they charged **LESS** the GST/HST they paid to their suppliers.

Revenue Canada website with regards to GST/HST: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/bsnss/tpcs/gst-tps/menu-eng.html>

For more information please contact Kerry McDonald, OAAS Treasurer (kerry@eagle.ca)

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 \$52.50. (includes GST)

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

The 2nd 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 GST
(shipping may be extra)



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



WANTED: Pictures of unique crafts items and articles 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.

LOST & FOUND: Two pairs of reading glasses were found at the OAAS Convention. Please contact the OAAS to claim your glasses.

THANK YOU TO 2010 OAAS CONVENTION PARTNERS

GOLD SHEAF - \$2500.

Dominion Regalia
Metcalf Agricultural Society
Ontario Agri-Food Education (OAFE)

SILVER SHEAF - \$1000.- \$2499.

Arran-Tara Agricultural Society
Barrie Agricultural Society
Canadian National Exhibition
City of Ottawa (Councillor Doug Thompson, Osgoode Ward)
District 1, OAAS
Eagle-Com Inc
Grand River Agricultural Society
Hanover Raceway
International Assoc. of Fairs & Expositions
JED Express
Nothers
Pfaff
Robertson Amusements Ltd.
The Fairmont Royal York
Western Fair Association

BRONZE SHEAF - \$100.-\$999.

4-H Ontario
AJ's Catering, Metcalfe
Ancaster Agricultural Society
Canadian Association of Fairs & Exhibitions
Caledonia Agricultural Society
Carrie Fraleigh DeSchutter
Crisco & Robin Hood
District 1, OAAS
District 10, OAAS
District 11, OAAS
District 8, OAAS
Eleanor Wood
Gay Lea Foods Co-operative Limited
Husqvarna Viking
Judi Myers
Kincardine & District Secondary School
Laird Signs
Larry Myny Investment Group, London
Law Insurance
Lombardy Agricultural Society
Markham Fair
Neustadt Brewery
Northern Ontario Agri-Food Ed & Marketing

BRONZE SHEAF - \$100.-\$999.

OAAS Past Presidents' Association
Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services
Ontario Ministry of Finance
Ontario Plowman's' Association
Ontario Wheat Producers' Marketing Board
Oro Agricultural Society
Port Hope Agricultural Society
Renfrew Agricultural Society
Richmond Agricultural Society
Robin Hood & Fleischmann's Yeast Showmen's League of America, - Cdn.
Spencerville Agricultural Society
Thrill Show Productions
Technical Safety Standards Authority
Vankleek Hill Agricultural Society
VIA Rail
World's Finest Shows

“Special Thanks to all those participating and donating their time to the seminars/program.”

2010 OAAS SERVICE MEMBERS

A CLASSIC COUNTRY REVUE
ADMITEC
ALBION AMUSEMENTS LTD.
AMY CHURM
BAM ! BAIRD ARTISTS MANAGEMENT
BEEBO MUSIC
BORDER CITY WRESTLING
BOWMANVILLE ZOOLOGICAL PARK
BRETT BAKER "STEALIN' THE COVERS"
CDN ASSOC.OF FAIRS AND EX (CAFE)
CANADIAN RAPTOR CONSERVANCY
CAPTAIN COOK DE FRIES
CARTER SHOWS LTD
CATHY KORPI
CENTRAL ONT TRACTOR PULLERS' ASSOC.
CHECKERS FUN FACTORY INC.
CHRIS MCKHOO/SULTANS OF STRINGS
CINDY COOK FROM POLKA DOT DOOR
CLASSIC AMUSEMENTS CO LTD.
COMEDY HYPNTOSIT ROBERT MAXWELL
COPE AMUSEMENT
COSMO NOVELTIES
COVERALL BUILDING SYSTEMS OF ONTARIO
COWAN INSURANCE BROKERS LIMITED
CROWN AMUSEMENTS
D.A. CAMPBELL AMUSEMENTS LIMITED
DADDY MIKE'S FUN FOODS
DIRTY DISHES
DOMINION REGALIA
EDGE MOTOR SPORTS
EXECUTIONER SLED TEAM
FARCO ENTERTAINMENT
F.F. PRODUCTION
FOUR SEASONS PONY RIDES & PETTING FARM
FRIDGE FULL OF EMPTIES
FRONT ROW INSURANCE BROCKERS INC.
FRONTLINE ATTRACTIONS INC.
GASTONI ATTRACTIONS
GRAIN INSURANCE & GUARANTEE COMPANY
HOMENIUK RIDES INC.
IMPACT MOTORSPORTS
JUMBO RECORDS
K&K INSURANCE GROUP CANADA

KENJEN PETTING ZOO & CELEBITY PIG RACES
LAIRD SIGNS
LAURIE-ANN ENTERTAINMENT AGENCY
LAW INSURANCE BROKERS
LITTLE RAY'S REPTILE ZOO INC.
MADISON KOZAK SHOW
MARK LEWIS MAGIC SHOW
MARY LAMBERT PRODUCTIONS
MCFARLAN ROWLANDS INSURANCE BROKERS
MEDTECH WRISTBANDS
METCALFE MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT
MILORD ENTERTAINMENT
MUSIC ANYONE ? INC.
MY SWEET PATOOTIE
NAOMI BRISTOW
NEVAEH
NORTH STREET RECORDS
NOTHERS
ONTARIO CHUCKWAGON ASSOCIATION
ONTARIO DEMOLITION DERBY
ONTARIO FAMILY EVENTS
ONTARIO MINI ROD PULLERS ASSOCIATION
OPEN AIR PROJECTIONS
PAPA'S TRAINS
PAQUIN ENTERTAINMENT
PAUL BEHNKE'S AWARD WINNING CHILDREN'S MUSIC
PINE RIDGE RENTAL
PLATESPINNING.COM
PONY EXPRESS PONY RIDES & PETTING ZOO
PORTABLE GRANSTAND RENTALS
R.E. WILLS SOUND SYSTEMS
RAYMOND DELARGE ENTERTAINMENT INC.
REPTILIA INC.
RICK DAVIS PROMOTIONS
ROBERTSON AMUSEMENTS LTD.
ROCK THE ARTS
RONCELL MARKETING
RON GUTTMAN - THE PARTY MAGICIAN
SETTLERS CREEK
SHOWMEN'S LEAGUE OF AMERICA - Canadian Chapter
SONSHINE AND BROCCOLI
THE BARRYO KIDSHOW
THE BEN SHOW
THE BOOKING HOUSE

THE ESSENTIALS
THE MANE ATTRACTION
THE PILOT AGENCY
THE SINGING FARMER
THE SMUDGE FUNDAES
THE WRESTLING GUILD
THRILL SHOW PRODUCTIONS
TIANNA WOODS
TITAN CREATIVE ENTERTAINMENT
NETWORK INC.,
TOM BISHOP WILD WEST SHOWS
TOWNSENDS AMUSEMENTS
WM B. MATHER INSURANCE LTD.
WMS GROUP INC.
WEST COAST LUMBERJACK SHOWS
WONDERLAND FOOD & EQUIPMENT
WORLD'S FINEST SHOWS
XTREME PRODUCTIONS
ZODIAC EVENTS INC.

WHAT IS A SERVICE MEMBER?

OAAS Service Members provide valuable products and services to Ontario Fairs and exhibitions.

Service Members can apply for space in the Trade Show, in the Evening Showcase or Family Entertainment Showcase at the Annual Convention in February.

All service members are automatically included on an OAAS mailing list and the OAAS website including contact information.

Please remember to support the 2010 OAAS Service Members.

2010 CONVENTION ROUND TABLE TOPIC SUMMARIES

Topic 1: Combining Ag Education with Junior Exhibits

- Use cd's, DVD's and posters from OMAFRA
- Use Maple the Cow
- Stage Farmers' Olympics
- Promote fair in the area schools
- Ambassador to visit schools
- Copy Junior Division section and send it home with the June report cards
- Use school curriculum to revamp junior section
- Use bicycles for prizes
- Have Junior Farmers do demonstrations
- Use celebrity judges
- Ask juniors for suggestions
- Include junior categories for students with special needs
- Have schools design prize list cover / thank you cards
- Have classes for the entire family-build a scarecrow
- Have a community garden on the fair grounds

Topic 2: Using Displays to Promote Livestock, Roots and Vegetables

- Each building named on a map given to patrons at the gate
- Permanent directional posts
- Give each child \$15 to enter calves which will promote entries
- Question and answer sessions in the barn setting
- Have a sheet telling how the show is judged
- Increase prize money to encourage entries
- Farm safety displays
- Display different seeds
- Zucchini races
- Junior gardens on site
- Make animals out of thistles
- Make life size board paintings of vegetables with holes cut in them for people to put their head through for photos
- Have judging schools for livestock
- Make colourful displays

Topic 3: How to keep Fairs informed about the OAAS

- Fair Secretary MUST distribute and inform members of all correspondence
- Most information on the website is password protected and some boards do not share the password with their members
- Make website user friendly
- District Directors need to be able to be contacted by telephone and email
- Boards need to invite OAAS directors to their Annual Meetings
- Fairs need to send people to the District meetings

Topic 3: cont'd

- Send an email to all fairs when the Gazette is posted to the site
- Send out Ambassador information earlier
- Promote job descriptions for District Directors

Topic 4: What can OAAS do to promote your fair

- Regular informative letters to the fairs from the District Directors
- Promote the Ambassador program
- Set up a question and answer section on the website
- Promote the fairs in the farm related papers
- Promote the home craft division
- More visibility of District Directors
- More promotion from OAAS about the organization
- Prepare list of frequently asked questions
- Would like to see District Directors involved at the fairs
- Provide more brochures and prize books

Topic 5: Educate and Encouraging Hand Washing

- Demonstrations using germ simulations and black light for children
- Show DVD's on proper hand washing
- Hand out samples of sanitizers
- Set up stations near food vendors, gates and barns
- Signage
- Target your audience-promote washing with funny songs for children
- Promote in your fair advertising
- Get sponsorships for washing stations

Topic 7: How to Respond to Animal Rights Groups

- Educate public- don't force opinions on visitors
- Make sure visitors see that animals are cared for properly
- Education is the key to proper attitude
- Use OFAC to educate boards / directors on how to handle rights groups
- Prepare an emergency kit for animal displacement
- Don't confront activities
- Have them removed if they create a scene
- Spray paint over their graffiti
- Meet with activists to explain show rules
- Research activist groups ahead of time
- Watch for paid protestors
- Educate volunteers / staff
- Have one person designated to speak to media
- More urban problems than rural

Topic 7 Cont'd

- Document all activities, take pictures for defense support
- Prepare notice of trespass letters
- Video record the protest
- Ensure local vet and animal owners are on-site
- Exercise "Do Diligence"
- Have two way radios available
- Include protests in the fair emergency plan

Topic 8: Demonstrations that Add Interest to the Fair

- Sheep shearing
- Baking pies
- Sewing machines for home craft displays
- Pampered Chef
- Local history talks
- Pottery
- Milking a cow / goat
- Honey bee frames
- Maple syrup judging
- Knitting, sewing and quilting
- Wood carving / wood burning
- Master gardener
- 4-H Achievement days
- Invite schools to the fair before it opens to the public
- Blacksmithing
- Calligraphy
- Cosmetics
- Spelling bee
- Highland dancing
- Pioneer antique show
- Horticultural-how to grow flowers / how to display flowers
- Judging school for entrants-allow them to taste the winners
- Making ice cream
- Soft food demonstration / making apple cider
- Shoeing and harnessing horses
- Auto extrication displays by fire departments
- Egg display
- RCMP Musical Ride
- OPP Golden Helmets
- Model railroad
- Ontario Power Generation
- Hand made jewelry
- Loom weaving
- Rug hookers
- 100 mile diet
- Children's colouring contest
- Blindfolded musical chairs
- Scrap booking
- Potato digging-6 varieties-match to pictures

Topic 8 Cont'd

- Guitar hero
- Air bands
- Skateboard tricks
- Scavenger hunts
- Farmer's Market

Topic 9: Junior Directors-Responsibilities and Recognition

- Use them where they are interested
- Need to be encouraged and mentored, not baby sat
- Have junior achievement day
- Give them ribbons to acknowledge support
- Have 4-H club dedicated to the fair
- Under 18 years of age
- Nothing financial
- Count time for community service
- List names in prize list
- Physical labour support
- Office help
- Monitor home craft halls
- Pizza party recognition
- Awards dinner recognition
- Give them midway tickets

Topic 10: Concerns of small fairs (smaller than \$2000 gates)

- Share resources between neighbouring fairs
- Lack of midway support
- Problems drawing urban support
- Lack of support from government
- Use animal shows and local acts instead of midways
- Remind local people about the fair

Topic 10 Cont'd

- How to get exhibitors, visitors and volunteers
- Use inflatables instead of midways
- Have bed races and bike races
- Have a volleyball tournament
- Sponsor a chess contest
- Oreo cookie stacking contest
- Have a blind folded husband driving a lawn mower and his wife directing him

Topic 11: What to Do when Hiring Children's Entertainment

- Get references
- Do they have a criminal check?

Topic 12: Fair Websites-what does and does not work

- OAAS should create a 'step by step' guide sheet
- Don't make the prize list too long for PDF form
- Use links to municipality and Parks Canada
- Do not use a lot of graphics
- Get sponsors for website

Topic 12: Cont'd

- Have high school students build it
- People still use dial up so don't make it too long
- Sites must be kept current
- Keep information in sections
- Promote the web address
- Vendor applications, entry forms and surveys could be printed off earlier
- Incorporate a face book link
- Post prize list earlier (3-4 months)

Topic 13: What Makes A Successful Fair

- Organization
- Good leadership
- Clear lines of communication
- Follow through on all issues
- Openness between Ag and Home craft groups
- Motivational speaker to address the Board if the older directors are reluctant to allow younger directors to say anything
- One person speaks at a time
- Use 'Roberts Rules of Order'
- Lots of Volunteers
- Continuity
- New attractions
- Restrict length for term of office
- Print an agenda
- Limit time on meetings
- Everyone has an equal voice
- Don't let Secretary control issues
- Listen, listen, and listen some more
- Be respectful
- Don't be afraid of change
- Give new ideas time to grow
- Meet regularly
- Create a director's handbook
- Directors must be willing to become Executives
- Celebrate and thank volunteers
- Ensure that Directors who do not attend meetings do not stay on as Directors
- Advertise for new members
- Be respectful
- Don't be afraid of change
- Give new ideas time to grow
- Meet regularly
- Create a director's handbook
- Directors must be willing to become Executives
- Celebrate and thank volunteers
- Ensure that Directors who do not attend meetings do not stay on as Directors
- Advertise for new members

Topic 14: How to Embrace & Benefit from Ethnic Diversity

- Approach schools of ethnic diversity for artwork
- Schools of Dance
- Ask for parade participants
- Add classes for native displays, jewelry, crafts and baking
- Have ethnic food booths and vendors
- Use ethnic entertainers-Northern Lights Steel band from Sundridge t
- Google different ethnic ideas
- Suggestions included Korean Dragon dancers, Pilipino Marching bands, Jamaican Steel Drum bands for parades
- Google various ethnic groups for ideas
- Invite students from dancing schools to put on demonstrations
- Ask area schools to include multiculturalism in the curriculum
- Add multicultural classes to the baking, crafts, sewing, vegetable categories in your prize list
- Invite the local newspaper to write an article featuring the new ethnic classes
- Invite the Mennonites to attend the fair and set up a booth to sell their articles
- Use themes at the fair such as "Agriculture Around the World" and "International day at the Fair"
- Be sure to research an ethnic group before approaching them to clearly understand and appreciate their diversity.

Topic 15: What is 'fair' remuneration?

- Some have honorariums, contracts and stipends
- No set formula
- Many are under valued
- Depends on what the Board can afford
- Each position needs a job description which must be reviewed annually
- Ensure staff keeps up with technology
- Letters of employment should be used
- Mileage should be paid
- Some pay Home craft Judges \$10 per hour or \$50 per class plus mileage
- Some pay livestock judges \$250 per show plus mileage
- Secretary and Treasurer must be bonded
- Letters of employment should be used
- Mileage should be paid
- Some pay Home craft Judges \$10 per hour or \$50 per class plus mileage
- Some pay livestock judges \$250 per show plus mileage
- Secretary and Treasurer must be bonded

Topic 16: Free fun, Novelty Events and Special Attractions

- Demonstrations by local businesses
- Children's corn sandbox
- Bubble gum blowing
- Cake decorating
- Water melon seed spitting contest
- Haunted house
- Wheel barrow races
- Paint an old junk car
- Frog jumping contests
- Shoe scramble
- Best dressed sheep
- Pet show
- Farmers' Olympics
- Frozen t-shirts: put on a froze rolled up t-shirt
- Talent shows
- Cookie stacking
- Spaghetti eating contest
- Greased pig contest where the participant's hands are greased and not the pig
- Log sawing
- Apple peeling
- Building model airplanes
- Fireman's games
- Church services
- Wii
- Story time-reading children's stories
- Face painting
- Teddy bear picnic
- Fashion show
- Mazes and Needle in the haystack
- Mini tractor pedal pull
- Throwing hay bales
- Treasure hunt
- Pie in the face
- Egg drop-it is election year!
- Wagon rides
- Lawn bowling
- Nail driving
- Beard growing
- Scare crow building
- "Mom" calling contest
- Mutton busting contest

Topic 17: How to Start an Antique Tractor Pull

- Go to local clubs to see what kind of prizes are given out
- Make sure prizes are useful to farmers
- Go to other shows and pass out pamphlets
- Promote as any other fair event
- It will take 3-5 years to take off
- Check for insurance coverage
- Approach farm dealerships for sponsorships
- Have a tent available for tractor display area as well
- Have a modified show as well
- Go to other fairs to see what they do

Topic 18: How to Make Your Fair Environmentally Friendly

- Bio-degradable plates and cutlery
- Monitor waste
- Recycle
- Put pictures on the recycle / garbage cans-not words
- Recycle paper
- Plant trees on the grounds
- Hand out sapling trees to people at the gate as they leave the fair
- Install solar panels
- Have contest called litter bug: put your name on the garbage and have draws from the garbage can
- Use recycled paper for prize book
- Green crafts challenge for kids
- Use green composting units
- Set up sorting stations
- Use souvenir cups instead of Styrofoam
- Use water bottles that can be refilled
- Use blue boxes from the municipality
- Discourage extra wrapping on food products

Topic 19: Where Do We Find Funding?

- Fund raising events-dances, bingos, dinners, bake sales, raffles, derbies
- Fund raising events-Ladies Night, Dinner Theatre, truck & ATV pull, teen video dance, lawn mower races
- Trillium Grants
- Celebrate Ontario tourism grants
- Canadian heritage Grants for Cultural Events
- Grounds rental
- Partnerships
- Hydro plans
- Check Government websites
- Festivals Ontario
- Casino sponsorships
- A lot of paperwork needed to get grants

Topic 20: Updating Prize lists

- Collect prize books from other fairs to seek out new ideas
- Give advanced lists to other fairs
- Update prize list on-line
- Keep prize money compatible with other fairs
- Use points per section instead of 1st, 2nd and 3rd
- Kids get a prize instead of money
- Need to stay current
- Update and distribute list early
- Committee must update the list-not just the Secretary
- Pick theme two years ahead of time
- Split classes to allow for more categories