



OAAS GAZETTE



VOLUME 33

MAY 2014

OAAS PRESIDENT - SYLVIA PARR, ANCASTER

At the end of May, our 2014 Agricultural Fair Season starts and until the end of October our many volunteers throughout Ontario will be working hard to create...

"Fabulous Family Fun".

Fabulous Family Fun comes in many forms. From horse and cattle shows to children's colouring contests; from quilting to smash up derbies; fairs are unique to the needs of its community. Some of our fairs run for just a few hours and others for days, but each is essential to the promotion of agriculture. I urge all fairs to keep agriculture as its main focus either by large educational displays or small hands on areas where children can interact with animals.

At the first of April, your OAAS Board met not only to plan for next year's convention but to take a long hard look at our organization. We came up with three major areas of concentration: financial, communication and youth. We all know that financial sustainability is and has to be our first priority. To that end the board made some internal and external cutbacks and plans are being made for a sustainable future. I thank the board members for their hard work and their commitment to the OAAS and its future.

Communication between the OAAS board and your Agricultural Society is very important. Please, if you have any questions or concerns contact your District Directors. Remember, we are always here to listen. Don't hesitate to call or email or stop me when I visit your fair, I am always ready to talk about fairs!

We all know that young people are the future of our fairs. Your OAAS Board is working relentlessly to strengthen our Ambassador program. We are also initiating a partnership with OAFE to promote agriculturally based careers. Watch for information on the OAAS website.

I am looking forward to traveling around our great province and visiting as many fairs as possible. I can hardly wait to sit on a bench with a hamburger in my hand, feeling the sun on my face while watching a cattle show. In the background will be the sounds and smells of an agricultural fair, come and join me...it's the best feeling ever.

ONTARIO FAIRS - *Fabulous Family Fun*".

Effective February 2014, Stevenson & Hunt Insurance Brokers has been awarded the title of the "Official Insurance Provider for Ontario Fairs".



WHAT'S INSIDE ???

- Convention results
- Meet the OAAS Board of Directors
- Local Fair News
- Convention 2015 Preview
- Len Patterson Award Announcement
- Recognizing our Partners
- Ontario Agri Food Award of Excellence
- Treasurer Tidbits

..... and more



PLUS

- Homecraft Judging Standards - \$5.65
- Agricultural Judging Standards - \$5.65
- OAAS Cookbook - \$10
- OAAS Pictorial Book - \$10
- 2014 Fair Passport - \$56.50

Provincial Results are in ...

AND THE WINNERS ARE

Posters

Junior: (11 entries)

- 1st Keir Pelyk, District 4, Port Perry
- 2nd Cate Thompson, District 8, Bayfield
- 3rd Keagan Thompson, Dist #7, Harriston-Minto

Intermediate: (11 entries)

- 1st Emily Chaput, District #9, Comber
- 2nd Irene Wadsworth, District #7, Fergus
- 3rd Hanna McLeod, District #2, Maberly

Senior: (10 entries)

- 1st Samuel Bradbury, District #11, Bracebridge
- 2nd Hannah Wadsworth, District #7, Fergus
- 3rd Rebecca Dawson, District #12, Providence Bay

Professional: (8 entries)

- 1st Woodbridge 2nd Ancaster 3rd Drumbo

Handmade: (5 entries)

- 1st Wallacetown 2nd Caledonia 3rd Six Nations.

Photography*

- Grand Champion - Williamstown (St. Lawrence)
- Junior Champion - Dundalk

Hand Quilts

- 1st Jill Thorpe, District 8, Stratford
- 2nd Myra Tallman, District 12, Providence Bay

People's Choice: Isola Dougherty, District # 10 ,
Beaver Valley

Machine Quilts

- 1st Mary Gunson, District #10, Arran-Tara
- 2nd Patricia Ryckman , District #7, Paris

People's Choice: Marion Meyers, District #4
Sunderland

Bread

- 1st Jackie Hayes, District 6, West Niagara
- 2nd Sanda Lintein, District #9, Highgate
- 3rd Perry Burke, District #2, Delta.

Cookies

- 1st Shannon Wolkowkes, District #2 Renfrew
- 2nd Kate Tuck, District #4, Port Perry
- 3rd Tyson Coulter, District #8, Milverton



THANK YOU TO THE 175 PEOPLE WHO COMPLETED THE 2014 CONVENTION SURVEY Watch the August Gazette for feedback

Looking for a specific seminar topic, or a round table topic ?? Please let the OAAS know.

THANK YOU TO DOUG VAN WOLDE, MARKHAM, FOR SOME OF THESE GREAT PHOTOS
~ douvan.com photography ~



Congratulations Celebrating 150 Years in 2014

Uxbridge-Scott Agricultural Society
Hanover, Bentinck & Brant Agricultural Society
Zurich Agricultural Society
Minden Agricultural Society
Lansdowne Agricultural Society

WELCOME

New OAAS District Directors

Beth Meszaros, District #4, Agriculture
Emily Campbell, District #5, Homecraft
Brian Slaughter, District #13, Agriculture

WELCOME Elaine Rennie as the new 2nd Vice President

THANK YOU

Retired OAAS District Directors

Bill Tomlinson, District #4
Wayne Ramsay, District #13

THANK YOU

Phil Hernandez, Past President

THANK YOU

Robert Hargrave, 2013 President



Treasurer Tidbits

From the desk of OAAS Treasurer, Kerry McDonald

This information applies to **ALL** Ag Societies:

- All Agricultural Societies are either a not-for-profit organization (NPO) **OR** a registered charity.
- It is a requirement that every not-for-profit organization **AND** every registered charity, file a tax return within 6 months of their fiscal year end, to Revenue Canada.
- All non-profit fairs (those that are not a charity) should file a T-2 short along with the forms Schedule 100, Schedule 125 and Schedule 141.
- All registered charity fairs should file a tax return such as a T3010 (other forms may apply).
- All forms can be found on the Canada Revenue Agency website www.cra.gc.ca

Check out Emily Flack's Showcase Performance from the OAAS Convention on YouTube:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FwT697af1Ek>

Engaging a High School Audience At Local Fairs



At the April 5th meeting of the OAAS executive, Ontario Agri-Food Education Inc. (OAFE) Executive Director, Colleen Smith, made a presentation that outlined a collaborative funding proposal to work with agricultural societies that looks beyond the traditional market of elementary students and provides opportunities to engage high school students with their events and the community. Working more closely with high school students will help ag societies meet current challenges of economic viability, relevance to student learning, and volunteer recruitment and retention.

OAFE has successfully partnered with OAAS members for many years, providing educational resources and materials to support the student learning taking place at fairs as well as curriculum linking the education programs to make them relevant to elementary teachers and students.

OAFE is both pleased and excited at the prospect of partnering with OAAS in a funding application that will encourage long-term viability of agricultural fairs and events, greater understanding of the agri-food sector and career opportunities for high school students, while at the same time build long-term community and volunteer involvement.

To learn more about OAFE programs and resources, visit www.oafe.org and www.growingcareers.ca. And why not stay up to date with all the latest OAFE news by signing up for our bi-monthly newsletter!

OAAS Convention 2015 ~ February 19 - 21

(this is NOT Family Day weekend)

Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Toronto, ON

Upcoming Judging Schools

District	Date	Location	Topics
2	May 10, 2014	Perth	Handicrafts, Hobby crafts, Antiques, Photography and Woodworking
3	June 21, 2014	Mount Pleasant	Baking, Crafts
4	May 3, 2014	Port Perry	Baking, Caning, Junior Fair
5	May 10, 2014	Collingwood	Quilts, Baking, Photography
10	May 3, 2014	Walkerton	Arts/Craft, Needlecraft, Junior/School Work,
12	May 10, 2014	Iron Bridge	Canning
13	May 24, 2014	Brigden	All About Quilts
	May 31, 2014	Wyoming	Culinary Crafts
	June 28, 2014	Glencoe	Fruit, Vegetables, Art, Photography

~ Please contact the District Director to confirm the above information. ~

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport Announces the 2014 Celebrate Ontario Recipients.

Congratulations to the following Agricultural Societies:

Navan (\$6,375); South Mountain (\$36,996); Paris (\$85,000);

Hymers Horse Show (\$39,621); Russell (\$59,500).

Celebrate Ontario is a provincial grant opportunity for new and existing festivals can appl for. Through Celebrate Ontario, the Government of Ontario is hoping to develop and increase the economic impact of major tourism drivers across the province.

Gertrude Anderson, Porcupine, Accepts the Len Patterson Memorial Award

Gertrude Anderson, Porcupine Agricultural Society was recognized for her 52 years of service with her agricultural society as the Secretary-Treasurer.



Gertudie received the award from OAAS Past President William Morris and Paul Nothers.

CALEDONIA FAIR Receives the Award of Excellence in Agri-Food Education

for their outstanding school agricultural education program. For more details on how your fair can enter this competition, please contact OAFE..



Vickie Peart from Caledonia accepts the award.

CONGRATULATIONS to the WESTERN FAIR DISTRICT



Re-launching the quilt, crochet, embroidery, knitting & weaving competitions

http://www.westernfairdistrict.com/the_fair/things_to_do/community_showcase

PREVIEW

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- Pick up time for quilts and craft room items is **EXTENDED**
- Tradeshow is **GROWING** and **RELOCATING**
- Family Entertainment Showcase is **RELOCATING**
- **A ONE DAY Registration will now be available !**

	EARLY BIRD RATE	AFTER JANUARY 23	AT CONVENTION
ONE DAY	\$100	\$125	\$150
THREE DAY	\$125	\$150	\$175

All prices include HST

Support a brand new Service Member

TICKETPRO Inc. – Ann Barker
 35 Grand Place, Barrie, Ontario L4N 4T3
 Phone: 705-791-5189 Email: ann@ticketpro.ca
 Website: <http://ticketprocanada.ca> www.ticketpro.ca

GRAND CHAMPION 60% WHOLE WHEAT BREAD RECIPE

Baked by: Jackie Hayes, District 6, West Niagara

- 4 1/4 cup whole wheat bread flour
- 2 3/4 cup white bread flour
- 2 pkg yeast
- 3/4 cup water
- 2 cups milk
- 3 tbsps sugar
- 1 tbsps sugar
- 3 tbsps shortening
- Lots of love ♥

Bake 375°, 30 - 35 minutes



Workplace Safety Insurance Board Legislation

As of January 1st, 2013, the Ontario Government made it mandatory for most workers in the construction industry to have coverage with the WSIB.

What do Fairs who hire Construction Contractors have to do?

- Before any construction work starts, get a **clearance number** from your contractor(s).

What is a clearance number?

1. A business/contractor will provide a certificate with a clearance number to the hiring company (the fair) to prove they are registered with the WSIB and that their account is in good standing. Certificates with clearance numbers are provided free by WSIB to contractors in good standing. The certificate is valid for up to 90 days from the date of issue.
2. The hiring company (the fair) must ensure that each separate contractor provides a clearance number that is valid for the full length of the job. If the job lasts longer than the certificate expiry date, then a new certificate should be requested.
3. Go online at www.wsib.on.ca to verify the clearance number.
4. If the clearance number is not valid, do not allow the contractor to start work.

What are the consequences of non-compliance to this new legislation?

If construction work goes ahead without a valid clearance number, both the hiring company and the contractor are committing an offence and will face fines and serious penalties. The maximum fine for a conviction of an offence is \$100,000.

Strategic Planning Pilot Project for Agricultural Societies

The OAAS is partnering with the Ministry of Agriculture & Food and the Ministry of Rural Affairs on a “Strategic Planning Pilot Project” to build organizational capacity of individual agricultural societies and the OAAS.

Why are we doing this project? Many agricultural societies are doing a great job at putting on their annual fair event, but are not thinking beyond this annual activity. Some societies have completed a strategic plan, but are not actively using the plan to move their organizations forward. Many societies have considered this process, but don't have the financial resources to hire a professional consultant.

A strategic plan process helps organizations:

- To clarify vision and mission
- To identify issues and potential concerns
- To focus on goals that will make a difference to their organization
- To develop realistic action plans
- To build skills and leadership of volunteers to maintain the process

There was a great response to participate in the pilot project, and three groups have been organized:

Group 1 (Paris, Rockton, Ancaster & Dunnville), started on March 22

Group 2 (Collingwood, Erin, and Caledon), will start on April 26

Group 3 by webex (Moore, Dryden, Hymers, and Oliver), at planning stage with start date still to be determined.

Each society has committed to having five volunteers participate in the training sessions. The volunteers will attend the training sessions (Groups 1 and 2 will have three in-person training sessions) and then work through the strategic planning process with their own society's larger strategic planning group. We will be evaluating the process and the resources at each step of the pilot.

Content for the three sessions is based on the Strategic Planning Framework:

- Preparation for Strategic Planning
- Mission and Vision
- Analysis of data including Environmental Scan
- Setting Goals
- Action planning and Performance measures
- Implementation
- Track and Review



Anticipated Results of the Pilot Project:

Each participating agricultural society will have:

- experienced a strategic planning process
- a completed strategic plan
- volunteers trained to maintain the strategic plan process

Anticipated Outcomes of the Pilot Project:

Agricultural societies will build their organization's capacity by:

- Increasing the number of volunteers trained to do strategic planning
- Increasing the leadership skills of their volunteers
- Increasing collaboration between agricultural societies
- Developing a network for support for continued organizational development

We anticipate that all three groups will be finished by late August. For more information, please contact Helen Scutt at the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Rural Affairs at Helen.scutt@ontario.ca or 1-888-466-2372 x63115.



OAAS HAS 2 WEBSITES



Why 2 ?? Well depending who is looking for what information determines where they should look. Both websites are interconnected and are easily linked between the two. Here are some differences:

Advertise Your Fair & Events on the OAAS website.

Contact the OAAS for more details.

www.ontariofairs.com

- Fair search by date
- Fair search by district
- Fair search alphabetically
- Photo Gallery of Ontario Fairs
- About the OAAS

www.ontarioagsocieties.com

Same info as ontariofairs.com PLUS

- Convention Information
- Service Member information
- OAAS Merchandise
- Policy/Procedures, Constitution
- Ontario Ag and Hort Act
- Judging Schools
- Judges List *NEW*
- Funding Opportunities
- Gazettes
- News & News Releases
- Educational Tips
- Board & Executive contact info



West Niagara Agricultural Society (WNAS) Breaks Ground to Raise The Barn. Grow the Community!

West Lincoln, Ontario - The corner of Mud St and Mountain Road in Grassie is changing daily. It will be the home of the new West Niagara Agricultural Centre. The \$5 million dollar project has an expected completion date of September 2014, just in time for the West Niagara Fair to be held at the grounds September 4th through the 7th.

Congratulations to Western Fair District, CNE & the International Plowing Match for receiving the 2014 Level of Distinction Festivals & Events in Ontario award.

Message from Past President Robert Hargrave - I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support in 2013 and to those who attended the convention in February at the Royal York.

The feedback from delegates attending this year's convention has been very positive and here are the top 4 items I would like to share ...

1. OAAS General Manager is doing an excellent job promoting and increasing the profile of the OAAS.
2. Insurance announcement naming Stevenson and Hunt Insurance Brokers Ltd as insurance provider of the OAAS was highlight of AGM.
3. Speakers and seminars at 2014 convention were well attended.

4. Entertainment Showcase had a wide variety of family acts for delegates to view and book for their fair.

I wish you a great fair season in 2014 and by having an innovative mind great changes can happen to your Agricultural Society and your fair.

Sincerely, Robert Hargrave - Past President
Ontario Fairs - "Re-energize your mind-then your fair"

THANK YOU

TO THE 2014 OAAS CONVENTION PARTNERS

GOLD SHEAF - \$2500 - \$4999

Canadian National Exhibition
Dominion Regalia
FaveQuest
Stevenson & Hunt Insurance Brokers Limited
The Co-Operators Insurance

SILVER SHEAF - \$1000 - \$2499

Case IH
Country Fair Baking
Craig Douglas, Comic Juggler
Dodge Ram
Fairmont Royal York Hotel
Foodland Ontario
Grand River Agricultural Society
International Plowing Match
Laird Signs
Limestone Productions
Lorna Wilson
Milverton Agricultural Society
Minuteman Press, London
OAAS District 8
OMAF & MRA
Operation Organize
Ross Millar
Robertson Amusements Ltd.
Rural Ontario Institute
Scotiabank
The Reklaws
VIA Rail
Western Fair District

BRONZE SHEAF - \$100 - \$999

4-H Ontario
Advanced Ag Leadership Program
Alberta Premium
Albion Amusements Ltd.
Aline Hicks
Ambush
Ancaster Agricultural Society
Arnie De Vaan
Bayfield Agricultural Society
Bobcaygeon Agricultural Society
Brittany Graul
Carleigh McInnes
Carrie Fraleigh-DeSchutter
Canadian Agri-Services Inc.
Carp Agricultural Society
Celebrate Ontario
Comber Agricultural Society
Dairy Farmers of Ontario
Egg Farmers of Ontario
Emergency Rescue EMS
Encore Promotional Products
Erin Agricultural Society
Farm and Food Care Ontario
Farmers Feed Cities
Flos Agricultural Society
Foundation for Rural Living
Glencoe Agricultural Society
Grain Farmers of Ontario
Grand River Raceway
Howick Agricultural Society
Jim Warrington
Jim Wright
John Drummond
Judy Drummond
Kerry McDonald
Kidomo
Lone Star Restaurants Bar and Grill
Mary Maxim
Michaels Craft Store
Milverton Agricultural Society
Molsons
Moore Agricultural Society
Niagara Regional Agricultural Society
Northern Ontario Agri-Food Education & Marketing Inc.
OAAS District #1
OAAS District #3
OAAS Past Presidents' Association
OAAS, District 12
Ontario Agri-Food Education (OAFE)
Ontario Equestrian Federation
Ontario Sheep Marketing Association
Ontario Visited
Port Hope Agricultural Society
Robin Hood & Fleischmann's Yeast
Rockton's World Fair
Roseneath Agricultural Society
Russell Agricultural Society
Shannonville Agricultural Society
Stratford Agricultural Society
Sylvia Parr, Vice President OAAS
Thrill Show Productions
Toronto Restaurants
Tourism Toronto
Wellesley Agricultural Society
Workplace Safety & Prevention Services



And to anyone else we may have missed. We appreciate your support.