



# Fair Family NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 11

ONE CREATIVE FAMILY

April 2007

## Family Album



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## April Foolin'



*Check out the text in red for links to websites and e-mail addresses.*

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## Fair Family Calendar

### April

- 18 Craft Committee Meeting, 6 pm, OCF office
- 21 Booth Registration Crew at Eugene Saturday Market, 10 am to 5 pm
- 22 Spring wildflowers walk (see **March FFN** for more info)
- 22 Highway Pickup, Meet at 10 am at the Ware Barn (details below)
- 26 Elders Committee meeting, 7 pm, OCF office
- 28 Booth Registration Crew at **Eugene Saturday Market**, 10 am to 5 pm
- 30 Vision Quest Work Session, 7 pm  
See announcement this page.

### May

- 1 Deadline for craft and food vendor registration
- 5 **SPRING FLING, 7:30 pm, WOW Hall, Eugene**
- 7 Admission tickets go on sale
- 7 Board of Directors meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Community Room, 4th and High, Eugene
- 7 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 15 Land Use Management Planning Committee meeting, 7 pm, OCF office
- 16 Craft Committee Meeting, 6 pm, OCF office
- 20 Archeological walkaround on site, 1 pm, meet at the Hub
- 21 Work Session on Archaeology issues, 7 pm, Central Presb Church, 15th and Ferry, Eugene
- 24 Elders Committee meeting, 7 pm, OCF office
- 30 Peach Power meeting, 5:30 pm, OCF office

### June

- 1 NO DOGS ON OCF SITE
- 4 One year only vendors claim day
- 9 Main Camp opens
- 16 Charter member booth claim begins
- 17 Returning booth claim begins
- 24 Human Intervention training at Fair site
- 30 Overnight credential fee increases to \$75

### July

- 13, 14, 15 Hippie heaven in 2007

### August

- 5 Highway Pickup, Meet at 10 am at the Ware Barn (details below)
- 12-17 **Culture Jam**

## Highway Pickups

The next highway pickups are April 22, and August 5. Meet at 10 a.m. at the Ware Barn. We sure would love to have a few more of Our Caring Family come out and join us for a very satisfying way to show our larger family who we are.

## Happy Birthday to Our Fair Family Tauruses

- Tom Alexander ..... Nearly Normal Booth
- Brian Alexander..... Limbo Graphics Booth
- Arrow Anders..... Traffic
- Thomas Bruvold..... Fire
- Susan Bryan ..... VegManECs
- Michael Burke..... Lot Crew
- Chris Cassidy ..... Fire Crew
- Michael Castagnola. Fire
- Linda Clark ..... Lot Crew
- Michael Clark..... Water
- Stephen Cole ..... OCF Navy
- Nancy Courtright.... Green Thumb
- Robert DeSpain..... Spoken Word Coordinator
- Abigail DeYoung..... Recycling
- Meadow Dornes..... Lot Crew
- Harris Dubin..... Lot Crew
- Barbara Edmonds.... Board Secretary
- Robert Gillespie..... Registration
- Jeremiah Guske..... Recycling
- Kirk Harris ..... Registration
- Jeff Harrison..... Craft Inventory
- Morgan Harryman.. Registration
- Judy Horner ..... Fire
- Mike Jarschke..... Lot Crew
- Amanda LeBlan..... Registration
- Merrill Levine ..... Wristbands
- Rich Locus..... Registration
- Diane McWhorter.... Crafter
- Jesse Palmer ..... Pre-Post Security
- Sean Patten..... Lot Crew
- Genevieve Paull..... Sno-cone Cart
- Jon Pincus..... Elder
- Russell Poppe ..... Main Camp
- Melanie Pratt..... Lot Crew
- Jasmine Rich..... Lot Crew
- Nick Rossoff ..... Registration
- Susan Schafer..... Registration
- Mannie Soto ..... Traffic
- Eben Sprinsock ..... Vaudeville
- Tammy Stone ..... Quartermaster
- Jan Tritten ..... Lemonade Booth
- Amy Unthank ..... Fire
- Jacquie Warren..... Main Camp Security
- Beth Wilson ..... Registration



FFN didn't have a photo of Betty the Site Cat to run with her obit when she died last September. Thanks go to Water Crew Tami, who sent us this photo of Betty being held by a Water Crew girl, taken at the Water Crew Easter Egg hunt in 2001.

## FFN April Fools



- Joseph "Weapons of Mass Destruction" Newton
- Dominic "Donut Hole Drug Plan" DeFazio
- Cynde "Mission Accomplished" Leathers
- Michael "Heckofa Job" Ottenhausen
- Suzi "Prosecutor-gate" Prozanski
- norma "recess appointment" sax
- Emily "Yellow Cake" Semple
- Brad "Hanging Chad" Lerch
- Mary "Katrina" Shuler
- Dan "Wiretap" Cohn



## Keep In Touch

Oregon  
Country Fair  
442 Lawrence St.  
Eugene, OR. 97401  
(541) 343-4298, fax: 343-6554  
[ffn@oregoncountryfair.org](mailto:ffn@oregoncountryfair.org)  
[office@oregoncountryfair.org](mailto:office@oregoncountryfair.org)  
[www.oregoncountryfair.org](http://www.oregoncountryfair.org)  
[www.oregoncountryfair.net](http://www.oregoncountryfair.net)



## Fair Thee Well

Mike Martin, long time Fair participant, wants Fair family to know that his partner, Ruby Darcy, also a long-time Fair participant and friend, lost her battle with cancer 2½ weeks from diagnosis to passing. Mike asks everyone to wish Ruby a safe and light-filled journey.

## Vision Quest Work Session

There will be a work session for the Vision Quest on Monday, April 30 at 7 p.m. Interested Fair Family are encouraged to attend to discuss implementing projects. The location is still under discussion, so please check in at <http://www.oregoncountryfair.net> for updates.

## Final pre-Fair deadlines loom!

Get your articles into **Fair Family News** before the Fair! The final two pre-Fair deadlines are May 7 and June 4. Send your articles to the Fair Family News before then if you want to share information with the Fair Family. Thank you!

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

Some of you may still not be on the lists of your choice, namely, the mailing list that will get you this newsletter every month and/or the membership list so you can vote!!!! So, check some of the following and mail to: OCF, Membership/Mailing, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene, 97401.

[ ] I am not receiving the Fair Family News. Please put me on the mailing list.

[ ] I do not know if I am on the membership list. Please verify my name and send me a membership application if I am NOT on the list.

I am with (Crew or Booth):

Crew/Booth #:  
Crew Leader/Booth Rep:

Who can verify my participation:

My name:

E-mail address:  
Mailing address:

[ ] This is a new mailing address.



## 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. Questions, or for info. about display underwriting Email [bradlerch@aol.com](mailto:bradlerch@aol.com) or call Brad @ 541- 485-8265 (UnClassifieds not paid for by paste-up won't run.)

Heard the buzz about **XanGo**? Fight inflammation and free radical damage with mangosteen juice. I'm bonkers about this stuff so I'm an independent distributor. More info? Barbara Edmonds, [farouthippie@msn.com](mailto:farouthippie@msn.com) 541-345-4491.

The Goblin Bonnet Boutique is seeking booth space. To view my creations please go to <http://www.goblinbonnets.com> I do not need a camping space. Call Shanna Trumbly @ 541-890-3213

I have been going to the Fair off and on for 20 years, helping others, now I have been juried in, but do not have a permanent booth. I am looking for a home. I make Native American hoop drums and my son paints them. If you have room and are looking for someone easy going and fun please call Matthew (Oregon City) 503-650-7382

I have several primitive "Country Fair" type campsites near the coast, Yachats area. I need help pulling ivy in the woods, trail cutting & help with the garden fence. Not set up for kid or pets. If interested in working out a trade email me at [charlie-t@rocketmail.com](mailto:charlie-t@rocketmail.com)



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**The Hiding Place**

**Michele Sharpy**  
hairstylist

686-1998

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(near high street)  
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[msharpy@comcast.net](mailto:msharpy@comcast.net)

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**WOW HALL**  
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687-2746

- 4/20 Will Bernard and Eleven Eyes
- 4/21 Rhymefest 2007 w/ Mackdub
- 4/25 HORSE the band / Light This City
- 4/27 Albino! and MarchFourth
- 4/28 Kidz Rock
- 5/1 Bobby Lee Rodgers' Codetalkers
- 5/3 Explosions in the Sky
- 5/4 Rock 'n' Roll Soldiers / Kenzie
- 5/10 High on Fire / Sevrein
- 5/11 Justin King 5/13 The Rocketz
- 5/14 Le Serpent Rouge (bellydance)

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## Family Letters

*This newsletter is directed to 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).*

## Crafts Lot Scramble

Dear Fair Family,

I am filled with gratitude, love and awe at all the wonderousness of the Fair. I feel so blessed to be there all these many years that I hesitate to bring up a negative aspect, but there is an area where we can creatively problem-solve. That is, the weirdness around getting a spot in the craft lot.

I sleep in my van, and need it to be as secure and close as possible. Each year I come a little bit earlier to try to get a parking space, and so do a lot of other people. There's a long line of vehicles waiting in the middle of a hot field for days trying to get a spot to park. While we wait in line, (because the gate doesn't officially open until Wed. 9 a.m.) other people do get in there and park. I asked around and was told they were either "staff" or its "who you know." We all watched from our sunny field as big buses were waved on in.

I wouldn't care if we were assured to get a spot in the craft lot,

Dear Fair Family Members,

This letter is to inform you of the importance of the archaeological sites on our land and Fair Family's duty to protect them. Our land holds the oldest dated site west of the Cascade Mountains, dated at 11,500 years B.P. (that's 9,500 B.C.). Our research over the last 20 years has produced very important information about human occupation in the Willamette Valley and along the west coast. The knowledge we have shared with the world is great, so "Congratulations!" And "Thank You!" — we should all feel very good about that! But with greatness comes responsibility.

Even though we are private landowners, these sites are regulated by state and federal law. Disregarding the laws disrespects both the Fair and the native peoples of Oregon. It can only harm the Fair and make it harder for all

## All Holes Barred

of us. You must follow the Guidelines and contact the Site manager and/or Archaeology before you do any ground disturbing. In this regard, there is no such thing as "an old hole" or being "grandfathered-in."

It is vital to our land's magic to respect this non-renewable resource — once it's gone, it's gone! Our projects should not require digging. There are many creative ways to get around the need to dig a hole, and many ways to preserve an existing hole for the next year.

Pre-Fair, please make the Archaeology Info Booth in Main Camp one of your first stops. We have a notebook with info on your spot in the Fair. During Fair, come by Arch Park to learn more about the Kalapuya people and the history of this land.

Thanks,  
The Archaeology Crew

## Yahoo 'P2'

SECOND Women's Urinal: Main Stage!!! (In addition to unit at Shady Grove)



"\$500 for construction of a women's urinal" — OCF BoD, March FFN, Page 9, "Budget Issues - Capital Projects" <http://www.oregoncountryfair.net/BOARD/BOARDMINUTES/2007/March07min.pdf>

Confirmed verbally at CoOrdinators Potluck today: POLITICS PARK / MAIN STAGE!!!

Unconfirmed, verbally, Phoenix Rising donated the money... again.

YEA TEAM!!! For getting the word out!!!

We still need one at the south end...

Happy Humus,  
David Hoffman  
Community Village

## Late Night Noise Annoys

Faire Family,

After reading all the controversy about the loud music at night I have to add my 1 1/2 cents. Being involved with the Faire for 34 years as spectator, booth person, charter member, elder and teen coordinator, I have witnessed the Faire from conception to maturation. Originally the Fair was a rendezvous for country and city dwelling folk to gather and express a peaceful alternative vision of co-existence contrary to the loud noise, confusion and sprawl of cities and society in general. We walked barefoot on the Earth and played music from our hearts in the evenings in a natural atmosphere. There was very little alcohol in this experience. Over the years as psychotropic suppression has increased and new generations are born into this oppression, things have changed. Yes we are a dry and alcohol-free fair, but at night the beast bursts forth. Is it a peaceful loving beast or an alcohol-crazed party dude?

As an example, one night at the Faire we were awakened at 3 a.m. by a loud, boisterous, shouting crowd of drunks passing by our camp. When we asked them to please be quiet, we were told to get fudged and that no one should be asleep and everyone should be partying. My family are three generations of Faire people. We work during the Faire and we have young children. We have responsibilities and are unable to party till dawn.

The issue is really about respect. We need to respect each other's perspectives. An area should be allowed for the wild party animals to rage on incoherently and in the same respect there should be consideration for the mellow folk, especially in camping areas. Or, create two events, one called New City Rage Faire and the other the Oregon Country Faire. Love to all.

Namaste,  
Michael Sanada  
Charter Member, Elder

## Scott Huckabay Needs Our Help

Dear David Paul,

After my mother died recently, I brought her ashes to Hawaii on Dec. 30 to spread them where the lava and the ocean meet, because she always wanted to go to Hawaii and now part of her is. While I was there, my place in Ashland, Oregon was flooded. I lost nearly everything, including five of my precious guitars, sound equipment, expensive personal belongings, Apple laptop computer, stereo, infra-red sauna, all new carpets, bed, futons, curtains, master tape recordings, pictures, on and on, too sad to mention, in every room.

A main pipe from the water heater burst and flooded everything with constant hot water. I found out when my gas bill was over \$600 (usually \$38). My phone line was down so I called for a phone repairman to come out and fix it when I found out about my gas bill. He called me from my backyard and said he could not fix the phone because there was water gushing out of my bedroom door and

all around the place at the seams and flowing over the outside telephone box.

He walked around while I was on the phone and looked at every window. There was water running down and thick black mold covering everything. The gas water heater had constantly been on trying to keep the water hot while it was gushing out at the top and overflowing, shooting up to the ceiling and causing the ceiling to cave in and eventually filing up the floors about a foot or more in every room, causing black mold to grow on everything. A friend went inside and almost suffocated because of the huge amounts of mold. There are strands of mold growing off the ceiling to the floor, like huge cobwebs. This is very emotional for me right now knowing I lost everything including all my guitars. My friend said all the guitars were covered in hot water and mold.

The main water valve outside is now shut off so the flow has stopped but everything is

drenched and ruined. This is very frustrating because I did not have any kind of insurance to cover this situation. I don't know what to do at this point.

Any donations will be accepted and appreciated through:

- my PAYPAL account: scotthuckabay@yahoo.com
- Wells Fargo Bank: SCOTT HUCKABAY DONATION FUND #949 983 4415 or
- send check to: Scott Huckabay 2253 HWY 99 North #54 Ashland, OR 97520

This will help me get my living situation back on track. It's going to cost over \$15,000 to make my place liveable at this point. I know when one door closes, another door of opportunity will open. I am keeping a positive light on this situation.

Love to you,  
Scott Huckabay  
Entertainment



Barbara Lifschutz Rose Lifschutz with her father and brother

## Glimpse of True Freedom

For the Fair Family Newsletter:

My dad suggested I send a note to the Newsletter about our family and the Fair. My grandmother, Barbara Lifschutz has had a booth selling quilts, potholders, handspun yarn, and woven textiles for the last 25 years. My brother Andy and I, 25 and 23 respectively, have been attending the Fair our whole lives, we are children of the Fair. Over the past few years, I have been delighted to find many other folks who have also grown up at the Fair, our lives bearing that common mark left by those few days when we drop our guards, bare our souls, learn, laugh, cry, and grow immensely. My grandmother, my father, my brother and I cherish our days at the Fair as an extraordinary and exotic family reunion. I look forward to the day when I can bring my children to the Fair.

There are times when it is difficult for me to see the Fair Family expanding so rapidly, because I worry that the Fair traditions and values that I have grown up with will be lost in that expansion. Most of all I am so grateful for the glimpse of true freedom the Fair provides, the intertwining of spirit and community. On behalf of my grandmother, my father, my brother and myself: our home, our sanctuary, our holy land, our family.

Truly,  
Rose Lifschutz  
Booth 932



# Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at the



May 5, 7 pm - 11 pm, WOW Hall, Eugene  
Music by bluegrass band

## CONJUGAL VISITORS

RAFFLE! (Maybe this is the year you'll win that cheesecake!)

CULTURE JAM/HIP HOP HOPE (OCF teen talent)



<http://www.myspace.com/conjugalvisitors>

2007 POSTER-UNVEILING (a bigger secret than Cheney's bunker)

VIDEOS AND SLIDE SHOWS! (Bring the popcorn)

Make a weekend of it:

Join the First Friday Art Walk for a display of OCF posters through the decades (5th Street Market)

Come out to the site on Sunday for a wildflower extravaganza!



## Grant Moves HIV Alliance Clients



by Michael Connelly, Jill Heiman Vision Fund

One of the Grants provided by Fair Family members through contributions to the 2006 Jill Heiman Vision Fund was awarded to **HIV Alliance** to provide transportation assistance for patients living with HIV/AIDS. The following is a letter from HIV Alliance, detailing services that the \$4,463 contribution has helped provide for clients and patients of this agency during these past six months.

Last year the Jill Heiman Vision Fund was able to provide in excess of \$22,300 to local non-profit service agencies to help address unmet basic needs within our community. This year we have received over \$252,000 in requests for financial assistance. Once again, our challenge to raise money to help offset suffering and hardships is great.

Dear OCF,

During the course of this grant, HIV Alliance has provided transportation assistance to clients living with HIV/AIDS. We began expenditure of the grant funds in January 2007. Since that time we have used \$1,600 to provide 77 bus passes. The cost of passes varies, and the agency has continued to take advantage of Lane Transit District's generous Non-Profit Program which allows us to purchase seven full-fare and three re-

duced-fare passes each month at a 50 percent discount.

Throughout the year, our case managers assess each client annually. During this assessment, the case manager and client review the client's budget. The case manager and client identify areas where clients could benefit from assistance. These are then incorporated into the client's care plan. Transportation continues to be an expense that so many clients struggle to meet. For this reason we see that assisting clients with access to transportation is often a part of their care plan.

In the past we have been limited by the federal regulations for the funds we receive from the Federal Ryan White Care Act. These funds were only to be used to help clients get to medical appointments. The regulations did not acknowledge the holistic approach to health, which is a philosophy of this program. Our case managers could see the effects of isolation and depression in clients who had no means to get out of the house, and the loss of confidence in clients who could not independently move around our community. We see how this affects a client's ability to access their medical care. We know that feelings of hopelessness can cause a lapse in medication adherence.

When we began to once again offer transportation assistance that not only allowed access to medical appointments but also increased access to support systems, complementary care, community events and job and volunteer opportunities, to name a few, we heard positive feedback from clients. A client with no income and who has been in the Social Security Disability process for over two years told us that when we began to issue bus passes in January she was once again able to visit her children across town. She told us this is what keeps her going, and having to ask them to pick her up each time left her feeling that she was a burden to them. Now she tells us that when she is well enough, she can go on her own and her outlook has greatly improved. Stories like this abound for HIV Alliance clients.

We remain committed to providing clients with the assistance they need to access medical care and live healthy and full lives. We are pleased to be able to continue to provide transportation assistance with the Jill Heiman Vision Fund grant. We have begun to explore grant options for the future and will apply to other local foundations with the goal of continuing this important service.

Renee Yandel  
HIV Alliance



# RENAISSANCE ROOTS

## The Circus (a.k.a. Chumleighland) Begins

© 2007 by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News

**Editor's note:** In a tribute to April Fools' Day, this installment of Renaissance Roots tells how the Circus Stage began at the Oregon Country Renaissance Fair (as the Fair was known in 1975). Separate interviews have been woven together into one story, creating a de facto story circle. This Circus Stage story circle features conversations with:

- **Thaddeus Spae (a.k.a. Carl Spaeth)**, composer of the Chumleighland March who currently performs in the musical duo Amber Tide as well as with Snake Suspenderz and the Klez Katz;
- **Michael Mielnik (a.k.a. Major Chumleigh, a.k.a. the Flaming Zucchini, a.k.a. Reverend Chumleigh);**
- **Peg Wendell (a.k.a. Spike Wilder)** Michael's partner in the mid '70s;
- **Howard Patterson (a.k.a. Ivan Karamazov)**, one of the two original Flying Karamazov Brothers;
- **Tim Furst (a.k.a. Fyodor Karamazov)**, now a retired juggler; and
- **Toes Tiranoff, (a.k.a. Toes)** a tap dancer.



Howard Patterson's photo archives

*The original six members of The Fighting Instruments of Karma (a.k.a. Alligator's Ragtime Band a.k.a. the Fighting Instruments of Karma Marching Chamber Band/Orchestra) perform in front of Chumleighland (a.k.a. The Circus) in 1975.*

Bill and Cindy Wooten, who had become influential leaders in the Oregon Renaissance Faire, saw the Flaming Zucchini at the Saturday Market and invited him to come back in September to perform on Main Stage at the Faire.

When Michael came to the Faire in 1974, he found there weren't many vaudeville acts other than a few casual jugglers along the path and a couple of mime acts. Other scheduled entertainment included craft demonstrations; a speakers' Forum in the Forest; plays and street theater. The music ranged from bluegrass to folk to rock. Michael — billed as "Major Chumleigh, fire-eater and magician" — performed at 1 p.m. Friday on the Main Stage. After that he took his performance to the paths.

"I kicked ass as a fire eater. I mean, I had huge crowds of people all the time," says Michael (a.k.a. Chumleigh, etc.). Women thronged around him, he says. "These women took me under their wings. But I'm not saying that to boast. I'm trying to give you an idea of a kid who goes from ... being a high school science fiction nerd to being thrust into the Country Fair and being a star. ... It was quite interesting."

He remembers meeting Ken Kesey late on Sunday at the 1974 Faire. Kesey said he enjoyed Major Chumleigh's act, and maybe they could work together some time. "That was, for me, the best part of the entire Faire ... not only meeting my cultural hero, but having him treat me as a colleague, was really cool," Michael says.

### Circus comes to Town

The next year, 1975, Michael gained approval from Bill and Cindy Wooten to bring an entire show to the Oregon Country Renaissance Fair (a.k.a. Oregon Renaissance Faire a.k.a. Oregon Country Fair). So Michael (yep, that's Chumleigh) started lining people up, including two friends he had met earlier that year.

Thaddeus Spae (a.k.a. Carl Spaeth at the time) and Toes Tiranoff met Michael on Feb. 4 (a.k.a. Thaddeus' and Toes' birthday), "at KAOS Radio at Evergreen State College on an all-night radio program titled 'The Midnight Munchies Show'," Toes says. "I would traditionally open 'The Midnight Munchies Show' with a tap dance; that time to a recording of 'Tea for Two' played by Art Tatum."

"Chumleigh was actually still the Flaming Zucchini at that time," Thaddeus says. "He was eating fire and I was impressed. This was my wandering minstrel fantasy come to life. This guy was making bank on the street and this was a good thing. ... I also

wanted to travel around a little bit. I was itchy-footed and wanted to see the other side of the hill. Chumleigh was able to take his profession wherever he wanted and make money just about anywhere he wanted. I said, 'This is cool. I want to learn how this works.' So I essentially became a voluntary apprentice for a little while, and followed Chumleigh around." Thaddeus played trombone to help attract crowds to Chumleigh's street shows.

"Along about the early summer," Thaddeus says, "Chumleigh started talking about this Fair down in Eugene that he was going to do a Circus for. ... He said, 'We need a march, you know, incidental music. Can you write one up? We've got to have a march.' His image of the Circus was very, very strongly formed at the point. He knew he wanted a marching band. He knew he wanted it to be a Circus. He wanted a stage with a trap door in it. He wanted specific kinds of acts. He had done a traveling circus under canvas before this, when he was even younger and cuter."

### Consecration of the Reverend

"I'd been Major Chumleigh when I'd started Major Chumleigh's Amazing Traveling Circus in 1971," Michael says. "But after the circus dissolved, I began eating fire, calling myself the Flaming Zucchini as I had in the circus. Then I was in Berkeley one day and showed up to eat fire and pass the hat and there were 50,000 different religious proselytizers there ahead of me that day working the crowds. ... And there I was, just a fire eater with a need to compete religiously. So I told people that my guru and avatar, the Reverend Chumleigh, had sent me to bring the truth to the masses and prepare the way for him when he finally made his appearance. And then I'd eat fire as proof of our true religion."

"I'd get huge crowds of students," Michael says. "I'd even get Holy Hubert, a little evangelist who looked like the mummy of Tut. He'd yell at women, 'You're the whore of Babylon!' I mean, he was really old-style and we'd get into these huge theological discussions. I was really mean to discuss theology with, because I was in a pre-seminary program and I know the Bible really well. But at the end of our discussion I could always blow out a 40-foot ball of flame, which was the last word, theologically speaking, as far as students at Berkeley were concerned."

### Assembling the Cast

By the summer of 1975, Thaddeus and Michael had been "hanging out at a semi-communal farm in Olympia called Calliope — pronounced 'kally-ope' after the Vachel Lindsey poem," Thaddeus says. "Chumleigh was on the phone quite a lot in the weeks before the Country Fair trying to get in touch with some people in California, saying: 'I hope I can get them, I hope I can get them. They're really good.' He had known them through Renaissance Fairs ... He mentioned they were called the Karamazov Brothers and that they juggled really well. He thought that they'd be a real good addition to the Circus."

Howard Patterson (a.k.a. Ivan Karamazov) says that when Michael invited them to the Fair, he made a point that this Fair was different from the other Renaissance Faires where they had met each other. The Oregon Country Renaissance Fair wasn't about the olden days, it was about the renaissance of an emerging culture. Michael managed to persuade Howard and Paul Magid (a.k.a. Dmitri Karamazov) to bring their juggling act to the Fair, even though there wasn't much money involved.

Michael (still Chumleigh, but a.k.a. the Flaming Zucchini in 1975) put together the show with a budget of \$500. "For that, I created and provided the first marching band, made up of mostly Evergreen State College students; the young Flying Karamazov Brothers of whom there were only two, and glad to get \$10 a day; Mazuba the Magician, who would later to evolve into Chairboy; and a few others," he says.

Meanwhile, Thaddeus worked on the music that would come to be known as "The Chumleighland March." He composed parts for violin, clarinet, trombone, sousaphone and drums. He started writing it in a room he rented at a student house called Rainbow Alley, and finished writing the different instrumental parts on the way to the Fair, while sleeping in the back of his Volkswagen Beetle. "I wasn't a Volkswagen bus person. I was a Volkswagen Beetle person. I had refitted a Volkswagen with a bunk instead of a passenger seat," Thaddeus says with evident nostalgia. " ... 30 mpg's, baby; 40 mpg's on the high plains. Four

hundred miles on a 10-gallon tank that cost me five bucks to fill up."

### Building the Stage

Thaddeus, Michael and the Evergreen State College students came to the Fair site a week early to start setting up the performance area. Bill Wooten at first pointed to a small clearing along the Long Tom River, but Michael objected.

"I said, 'You're out of your mind!'" Michael says (remember — he's Chumleigh). "Number one, it's next to the outhouses and number two, there's no room for anybody. We're going to be drawing really big crowds with this show.' So I scouted it out" and found a suitable space in the area that's now called W.C. Fields stage. Bill handed over money to buy machetes, and the troupe started clearing out blackberries and poison oak.

About midweek, Paul and Howard (a.k.a. the Flying Karamazov Brothers) and Tim Furst (who was not yet a.k.a. Fyodor Karamazov) "came roaring into camp on a motorcycle with a side car, dressed in these kind of weird custom leathers," Thaddeus says. "They made a great entry."

Tim remembers Paul and Howard had asked him to drive them up to the Fair on his motorcycle. "They told me about this Fair and suggested I come up there with them," Tim says. "So with all of our camping equipment and the juggling equipment strapped on everywhere, we drove up straight from Santa Cruz to Eugene." One Karamazov Brother sat behind Tim on the bike, and the other in the sidecar.

"We spent the next few days camping out and building a stage," Tim says. "We were using the juggling sickles to clear back the blackberries and other vegetation in order to make a place for the audience to sit. We scrounged around for wood to build a stage."

"The first stage," Michael says, "was built by Bill Knowles, an Evergreen student then, who is now a prominent labor attorney in Seattle, and a Wobbly still. He hand-pegged it together, not a nail in the stage. The whole thing was log construction, pegged together, and built out of the Country Fair scrap pile." They hung a trapeze and a high-wire rope for Major Chumleigh's acts above the stage.

"Chumleigh wanted it to be as old-fashioned as possible," Thaddeus remembers. "He was really in love with the woodsyness of the Fair. There was a lot of the back-to-the-woods kind of feeling at the time. You know, the end of the world is near, so let's all go live in the woods ... just become self-sufficient. Live in the 19th century."

### Let's Call it Chumleighland!

"I think Michael's chief function in the Circus, more even than as a director, was to be a solar object around which the entire giddy arrangement could gracefully revolve," Thaddeus says. "We were talking about what we could call this place, and I said, 'Let's call it Chumleighland!' And everybody laughed and Chumleigh goes, 'No, no, no, no, no. No, we don't want to do that.'" But later on he agreed to call the stage "Chumleighland." (While the vaudevillians called it Chumleighland, the Fair continued to call it the Circus Stage).

"That Thursday night it rained," Tim says. "This is in late June, back in the days when the Fair happened in June. The Fair was not looking anything like the picture that Paul and Howard had painted of it. Meanwhile, there was a large family reunion happening in Northern California, so I opted to head down there for this family get-together, rather than hang out in the rain and mud."

So Tim missed an exciting time: A number of cherished Fair traditions started in 1975.

"Between the two Flying Karamazov Brothers and the Evergreen students, we had a full brass band," Michael says. "That was the first marching band at the



*The Torchlight Parade leads the crowd through the Fair in 2005, 30 years after the first one ever.*

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Howard Patterson's photo archives

*The original two Flying Karamazov Brothers — Howard Patterson (a.k.a. Ivan Karamazov) and Paul Magid (a.k.a. Dmitri Karamazov) — juggle flaming torches at Chumleighland in 1975.*



Howard Patterson's photo archives

*Reverend Chumleigh (a.k.a. Michael Mielnik a.k.a. the Flaming Zucchini) performs by torchlight at the first Midnight Show at the Fair.*

Fair and the first Circus. And for the purpose of entertaining craftspeople and other workers at the Fair who didn't get to see anything all day, we started the first Midnight Show."

Michael (a.k.a. Chumleigh) says the troupe performed five parades and five shows a day. Each show lasted about 35 minutes. They'd pass the hat and then go out and parade again.

All of that running around didn't make for smooth shows, Thaddeus says. "The audiences were uniformly delighted," he says, "but we were young and inexperienced. ... Chumleigh was good at some things and not so good at others. ... Heck, the band needed a band leader and it wasn't me. And it wasn't any of the other people who were there either. ... The organizing principle of basically hypnotic anarchy seemed to be pretty rampant all over the Fair, so we weren't any different from anybody else."

### The First Parades and Shows

The shows featured Michael as Major Chumleigh performing on trapeze and tightrope and also doing tricks with his dog Birdalone. Michael's partner at the time, Peg Wendell (a.k.a. Spike Wilder on stage) sang a special song to the tune of "Meet Me in St. Louis":

*"Take me to Eugene, Eugene; take me to the Fair. Don't tell me there's a new scene anywhere but there. We can sit and take it easy; we might even meet Ken Kesey. If you will meet me in Eugene, Eugene. Meet me at the Fair; I'll be there. Meet me at the Fair."*

The two Karamazov Brothers performed a series of increasingly difficult juggling acts: from hats to sickles to flaming torches. "They were, in fact, quite young and cute and pretty darn good," Thaddeus remembers. "The sickles are visually beautiful. They may not be quite as dangerous as they look, but they're certainly not safe. In 1975 there weren't that many jugglers around and there were very, very few good ones outside of the standard circus world. So they were an enormous hit."

The first marching band had only six members: Thaddeus, the nominal leader who wrote the band's main March, played trombone; Paul played clarinet; Howard played baritone horn (a.k.a. euphonium); Teasy played fiddle; Mitch played snare drum (plus saxophone, according to a photo); and Bill Knowles played tuba.

Small as the band was compared to today, the parade was a big hit. "The purpose of the parades, initially, was to let people know that we were going to do a show," Howard says. "And we'd go around some portion of the loop and stop three or four times and announce that there was a show ... follow the parade back to Chumleighland. And it was very effective."

"I'd been in marching bands before," Thaddeus says, "and the idea of an irregular marching band wasn't new to me, because I'd done the marching band in college, which was exceedingly irregular. But the Country Fair marching band was a little bit different because we were almost immediately an institutional hit. ... Most of the booth people and others just loved having the marching band come through. So we were doing this big celebratory ambient feast, you know, marching all the way around the Fair, whooping and whooping. This was really fun and really new."

## CIRCUS continued from page 7

### Midnight and Torchlight

Howard remembers fondly the magic of his first Friday night at the Fair. "After we were done performing, Paul, Carl Spaeth — who's now Thad — and I wandered around the Fair from campsite to campsite," Howard says. There were campfires in nearly every booth. "We'd go to somebody's campfire and start a story and see if we could get them to invite us to sit with them. We'd sit and eat whatever they were eating or smoke whatever they were smoking and hang out for a while. We would take turns coming up with a story. ... Thad told one about us being aliens, that we'd just landed on their planet. ... People gave us gifts and ... we'd go on to the next campfire. It was just such a wonderful thing. I felt so supported by the community in the way that performers and artists traditionally are supposed to be."

But Saturday night was extra-special, featuring the Fair's very first Torchlight Parade and Midnight Show.

"The most exciting thing at my first Country Fair really was the Midnight Show," Thaddeus says. "It beat all for excitement. Chumleigh had had that idea too. He came to the Fair saying, 'OK, we're going to do a Midnight Show. We're going to do a midnight, torchlight parade to a Midnight Show.' ... So at 11:30 at night we started cranking ourselves up to go. Some of the people who were hanging out had torches. A number of volunteer stage hands and friends" participated in the Midnight Parade.

Chumleigh led the parade, Thaddeus says. "Basically, he was doing the shout-out. ... We formed up, torches blazing. Chumleigh said, 'All right, let's go get that Baron Frankenstein!' And we set out, started through the darkness. The torches would light up the immediate neighborhood, but there were trees and shadows all the way around everything else. It was like we were traveling through this great dark space that we could see only small portions of, and people there going, 'Yeaaaahhh!' as we marched along. At one point when we weren't actually playing, I stopped and I jumped up on a hay bale beside the path and looked back. As far back as I could see, there was this long tail of people following us. ... It was like we had started something and we didn't know where it was going. And all we could do was hang on for dear life.

"We finally got back to Chumleighland, and Chumleighland was already full! We had a big, big crowd, the biggest crowd we had had all weekend," Thaddeus says. "We came in with a whole 'nother audience. If there were fire regulations, we busted them. Lit by torches, sitting on hay bales!"

Michael (still Chumleigh) remembers that Main Camp had a negative response to the first Midnight Show. "Management freaked! They totally hated the idea. They didn't want it. They said they were gonna ban it," he says. "But everybody showed up anyway. In the lights of a billion flashlights, we ran this show."

"We did the same show that we would do during the day, with maybe a little more freakiness," Thaddeus says.

"That first Midnight Show must've been when we first juggled torches in the nude," Howard says. "I don't know exactly what the inspiration was besides just this'll-be-really-scary-and-we-get-to-take-our-clothes-off thing. I don't know whose idea it was, probably Paul's. It's always Paul's idea. It was very cold. ... And the thing that's great about juggling three torches is that it's like having a campfire hovering in the air in front of you. It's just



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*In 1996, the Torchlight Parade marches to the Midnight Show.*

warm enough. So between when you take your clothes off and when you light the torches is cold. But once they're lit, it's kinda great."

In the grand finale to the Midnight Show, the band played "I don't Want to Set the World on Fire" while the Flying Karamazov Brothers juggled fire torches and Toes Tiranoff tap-danced, dodging balls of fire from the Flaming Zucchini's final flameout.

### Death and Rebirth

"Michael's getting rid of a perfectly successful act is one of the more impressive things I've ever seen a human being do," Thaddeus says. "He wanted to stop being a fire eater because it burned him and because he was eating lighter fluid. He knew it would get him in the liver. He knew he had to stop doing that because it wasn't good for him. ... He had been living on fire eating for years, literally. So he actually quit just about cold turkey. One day he was a fire eater and the next day he wasn't."

"Yes, the Flaming Zucchini ate it for the final time," Michael says. "He had been claiming that he was going to do his final performance. No one believed it. ... But the Flaming Zucchini did his famed routine: the flaming single, the flaming double, the flaming double backwards, ending with a flaming ball. But instead of its usual 20 or 30 feet, this time the ball grew in size and intensity and hit the propane tanks and sheet metal offstage. I disappeared in a huge ball of flame and smoke with accompanying thunder, never to be seen again. Needless to say, many people gave up drugs that night, at least temporarily. That's when I stopped being the Flaming Zucchini and took on the mantle of the Reverend Chumleigh. ... That was the first Midnight Show. And the whole thing blew everybody away."

## How Do We Honor and Respect the Land?

Elder, schmelder, I'm writing this to our family as a Country Fair geezer and yes, as Willie has said, "this is my billionth Fair!" In all honesty I no longer remember my first Fair, '71 or '72. What I have is memories, senses and experiences that have profoundly touched, embraced, and impacted my soul, my being.

These moments in time, Karras, are in part who I am. A nexus. We all remember urban legends of the Fair. Do you recall Bill Wooten's pop in the nose? Buck Stemmer huggin' a gallon of Boone's Farm apple wine in the middle of Strawberry Lane? A cowboy buckaroo rodeo in the crafts parking lot? (check with Reggie Soto). Families really bringing the family cow so they could attend our annual gathering? A second event filled with apple cider and yellow jackets? Of course, the motorcycle gang security force?

My son, now 32, a father, an artist and a brother attended his first Fair as a 2-week-old infant in the arms of the proudest hippie mom and dad in the universe. It was a rainy and drizzly event with quiet campfires at nearly every booth, broken straw bales lining the paths, incredible tunes at every turn. I can still smell the smoke and feel that rich earth mud oozin' between my toes.

We all remember or want to think we do, the flaming torch midnight nude Karamazov extravaganza. The Reverend Chumleigh buried alive, returning to walk on broken glass. How'd he do that?? So, the point of my rant. We all have memories of this incredible annual event. We've evolved, been reborn, lived and more often than before, now died with the spirit of love and community in us, as part of our essence. I read the FFN letters (most of us luv you, Artis!) and I know that along with my extended family there are hundreds of extended families that overlap and weave together with such beauty and synergy.

Try something new. Step aside and invite a new vendor into your booth for the season. Take a year off. Think of all those beautiful people coming together out in Veneta breathing fire with the dragon.

Break new ground, be a part of our family from a mountain top, a river bank, some desert solitude, or the back of a tractor. This also is a great dance and will be a sensual and enlightening (the Fair without you, you without the Fair) experience. 10,000 of your best friends won't disappear if you experience the Fair from another perspective.

I truly love the correspondence from Fair family suggesting (oh my) new rules. The Fair is too crowded, the Fair is too noisy, no smokin', no drinkin', there are too many of us. Electric tunes, acoustic tunes. No tunes after midnight. Hey, bring yer ear plugs, sleep on the ground close to the Mother. Yer tent is pitched one foot into my sacred camp site. How do we honor and respect the land we use??

I have watched each and every year as we take away more than we replace. It is inevitable; we smother the site, it cannot and does not recover completely even with an entire year of loving stewardship. Our family represents a microcosm and reflection of many of the greatest aspirations and goals of enlightened communities and even civilizations. We are a village community physically gathering together once a year, being together throughout the year spiritually, politically, and in smaller social circles working locally towards global change and peace. I encourage all Fair family to donate to the Jill Heiman Vision Fund. (Jill, she was a friend of mine.)

A final note, I advocate that the Oregon Country Fair in its great wisdom allow no one in a place of authority over the age of 21 ... or maybe 22.

Aho Metaquiiasi.....to all our relations.

Respectfully submitted with love and peace,

"J.J." Jalof

Best Friends Farm

Fair Family Crafter, retired (I'm still listed)

Wool n Wood booth # 2

Quality Custom Footwear

currently serving fruit salad at Devine Balance

# Reduce Reuse Recycle Adds to Nighttime Din

By Iksna Zorpizus, FFN Fool

The Cutlery Crew Jam Band first got its start late one Fair night when Artis the Spoonman walked by the Fair's new utensil-reuse wash station and decided to volunteer for a shift.

Now, Artis really wanted to show his support for the Fair's ideals of reuse and recycle. So he plunged in, right then and there, and grabbed some soapy spoons and forks and started swishing them through the soap-water cycle. And with Artis being the Spoonman, he started noticing how good those particular spoons and forks sounded as he knocked them together. And he couldn't help himself. Before he knew it, the Spoonman had those utensils out of the water and was playing them fast and furiously.

The other volunteers working the shift with Artis had to notice. As they watched and listened, they became infused with Artis' funky, fantastic rhythms. And they couldn't help themselves. Before they knew it, they had the cutlery out of the water and were playing them as fast and furiously as Artis. Well, that all made for quite a clamor of cutlery tappin' together, louder and louder and louder. It got so loud, it started waking up the people sleeping nearby!

One grumpy sleepyhead came stumbling out of his tent and let the crew know his displeasure. He threatened to fill out Fair Feedback Forms

and write letters of complaint to the Fair Family News! And if that didn't work, he said he'd start a petition "In Support of Plastic Cutlery to Keep the Peace!"

Well, that did it. Everybody on the Cutlery Crew had made a strong commitment to reducing plastics at the Fair. In order to promote their ideals, they decided to cool it.

Chastened but still infused with rhythms, the volunteers went back to washing cutlery. When one volunteer noticed that if she played the utensils underwater, the cutlery made a quiet rhythm and cleaned up in much less time! So the volunteers and Artis couldn't help themselves. They started playing cutlery together to an underwater beat. The soapy water softened the beat so the campers nearby could sleep, and the cutlery got clean quicker than ever before.

Over time, crew members learned to play many different funky rhythms as they cleaned the cutlery. Artis enjoyed the experience so much that he invited a few ringers to join him as a backup band on tour. And that's when the Cutlery Crew Jam Band first began.

*(APRIL FOOLS! With all due respect & much love to Artis the Spoonman and all of the OCF volunteers who wash our utensils.)*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING



APRIL 2, 2007

Present: Diane Albino, Katie Cousins, Lara Howe, Paxton Hoag, Jack Makarchek, Deane Morrow (alternate), Palmer Parker (alternate), Anna Scott, Carl Taylor, Lawrence Taylor, Bear Wilner-Nugent.

Not: Greg Rikhoff. (Deane voted in his place.)

During Agenda Review, Bear moved and Lawrence seconded to move Amend Donation to HIV Alliance from new to old business. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. Lara moved and Bear seconded to move Donation to DisOrient Asian Film Festival from new to old business. The motion passed: 8 in favor and 2 opposed (Anna, Paxton). Both issues were time-sensitive.

### Announcements

Bear was sad to report the passing of Steve Purkey who was a former lead cook for Pre-Fair Kitchen. Bear spoke fondly of the "memory of the man who taught me how to make a good lasagna."

Robert DeSpain (Spoken Word Co-Coordinator) announced another passing, that of 93-year-old Norman Lee (aka Sylver Lee) and described him as "a soul who was totally inclusive and unconditionally loving." A celebration of his life is planned for August.

Lara reported that the long-awaited Board work session with Archaeology has been scheduled for May 21 at 7pm at Central Presbyterian Church. All Fair Family are invited and encouraged to attend. She rejoiced at the opening of Saturday Market on April 7 and thanked the Budget Committee and Treasurers for the new truck for Recycling Crew. She also apologized for "mis-speaking last month when I spoke about Craft Committee's opinion on sales by non-profits. It appears there is not consensus on Craft Committee either." She plans to have "a meeting of the minds" to discuss building a new kitchen above the flood plain. She suggested folks talk about it during the Fair and she'll announce a meeting to discuss it later in the summer.

David Helton (Registration Crew Co-Coordinator) said registration packets will be mailed on Wed. April 4.

Steve W. said the annual Wildflower Walk will be led by Bob Nisbet and Charlene Simpson of the Native Plant Society. Meet at the Warehouse at 10am on Sunday, April 22.

Palmer expressed thanks for the "really neat thank you card that put a smile on my face." The card came in the Board packet as a result of last month's donation to the NATIVES program and was full of delightful messages from the children.

Leslie said a "Wings and Wine" event to celebrate bird migratory patterns will be held on Saturday, May 12. The 'wine' part of the event will be held at Secret House; and a segment of the 'wings' part of the event will be a bird walk on the Fair site. Palmer asked how they're going to get the birds to walk. (groans and chuckles)

Lawrence pointed across the room and said, "For those of you who haven't noticed yet...Andyman's back!" (cheers and applause)

### Approval of Minutes

Lara moved and Katie seconded to approve the minutes of

the March 5, 2007 Board meeting. The motion to approve the minutes passed: 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions (Diane and Lawrence). Jack wanted to clarify his remarks in last month's President's Report and said "the intent of my statement was to thank the significant others who are integral to our volunteers."

### Member Input

Jen-lin Hodgden (Feedback Coordinator) passed around chocolate chip cookies and low-fat fudge for sale for \$1 to support scholarships for Culture Jam. (After the meeting she reported raising \$30 and said the secret to the low-fat fudge was using pinto beans. She said everyone told her the fudge was delicious, but she didn't want anyone to know the secret before trying the fudge.)

Deane wondered why a path was cleared for a recent walkabout because he "thought we were trying to save green space."

### Staff and Officer Reports

General Manager: Leslie pointed out some copies of the new Guidelines on the table and thanked norma and all who worked on them. She said, "Please read and follow them." She announced that the Fair got an award from the community of Fern Ridge "who recognized us with a special Community Stakeholders Award for all our contributions to the community over the last 15 years." She's been busy with marketing, advertising, contract negotiations with LTD and Honey Buckets, insurance renewals, durables at the Fair, and also with lots of Budget and VQ meetings. She said there was a good turnout for the Youth Program Development Committee meeting (more on that under Committee Reports.) She said, "Hip Hop Hope was just fantastic again; thanks to Robin and the City of Eugene and all who helped make it happen again this year." She urged the Fair and individuals to support Lane Arts Council, which is in dire need of financing. (item on May agenda) She said the walkabout and Coordinator potluck on March 17 were both well-attended. "It felt great, it was so beautiful and green and it was fabulous to see everybody out there." She added, "It's wonderful to have Andyman back with us."

Administrative Assistant: norma was not at the meeting so Robin read norma's report which started with, "Welcome back, Andyman!" She thanked Craft Inventory, Teen Crew, Entertainment Coordinators, and Elders Committee for "helping smooth the application process." She said there are "tons" of applications. The Guidelines are ready; they are online at the .net site or available from the office. Each section of the Guidelines on the website has a link in the table of contents and index "so you can look at and print out what you need. Many thanks to Lynn Marx who worked many hours formatting the Guidelines book." The Spring Fling will be May 5 at Wow Hall with music by The Conjugal Visitors. Other activities are planned for that weekend including participation in the First Friday Artwalk and a walkaround at the Fair on Sunday, May 6. She hopes everyone is "checking out the online version of the FFN with color photos and links to websites and e-mails. Please let me know if you would like to be a regular online



subscriber and have your name removed from the snail mail list.”

**Site Manager:** Steve W. said, “Andyman walked in Friday evening March 30, said he was ready to get back to work so on Saturday he, Jeff and I were out tree planting in the rain. There was a big VegManEc work party on Sunday April 1 to remove the bale dams and sandbags; thanks for the big turnout. We had a path planning group gathering on March 17 with folks from Upper River Loop and Operations. After discussing the bank erosion and plans to perhaps build another boardwalk as a solution, the Murdock family of booth 510, Lizard Designs, the booth most affected, volunteered a willingness to relocate. So we have a likely solution at hand for Upper River Loop this year, and a big thank you to the Murdocks! The bigger, long-term problem remains: we need to engage everyone in discussions for future plans for a possible move of Daredevil Palace, Shady Grove, and booths along the riverbank.” Steve and Recycling Crew are looking for someone interested in taking away the waste cooking oil from OCF food booths after the Fair for recycling into biofuel. He said Far Side Coordinator Bill Verner reported that the area is closed to any new campers because it has reached carrying capacity for vehicles, water, and porta-potties. Steve said, “If your crew needs more camping room, contact me or the Main Camp Quartermaster or the other camphosts.” The next Highway 126 pickup will be Sunday, April 22. Gather at 10am at the Warehouse. Work is proceeding on the bathroom remodel at Alice’s; they could use help with finish carpentry, tilework and painting.

**Assistant Manager:** Charlie said Robin left out one part of norma’s report and that was the part about Happy Birthday to Robin! (cheers) He said he was glad to have Andy back. He said the wildflowers onsite are beautiful and “you don’t even need to wait for the walk to come on out and see them. There’s Oregon iris and calypso lilies” and more.

**Caretaker:** Andy thanked Steve, Charlie, and Animal who “all had to step up in a big way while I was gone. I was glad to be gone, but I’m also glad to be back.”

**Office Assistant:** Robin said “Happy Birthday to Andy last week” and then talked about the “really talented, incredible kids” involved in Hip Hop Hope. She said the program is “really powerful stuff” with caring staff who emphasize “the positive message of hip hop.”

**Treasurers:** Hilary and Steve G. (aka Grumpy) said they would wait to talk until the discussion of capital projects requests. Leslie added, “It’s nice to have Grumpy back.” (He wasn’t gone as long as Andy but was in Hawaii briefly then had a big legal case to work on.)

**President:** Jack called across the room, “Andy, how ya doing?”...then settled into his mellow speech pattern and began with “Free speech is delightful; I’ve been speaking freely in front of you for a long time.” He addressed the group of young people in the *Peach Gallery* from the Wayne Morse Free Speech Project and talked about how glad he was to have them in attendance. He said, “I’ve been wanting to see more diversity, more participation. Whatever you’re asking for from us, I’m sure it’s appropriate. What I’m asking for from you is participation in our event.”

## Committee Reports

### Archaeology Committee

Virgil Courtright said there will be an archaeological walkaround on Sunday, May 20 at 1pm at the Hub and a Board work session with Archaeology the following day, Monday May 21 at 7pm at Central Presbyterian Church.

### Elders Committee

Chris Browne read a report from their March 22 meeting where they reviewed and approved 14 new applications, and are awaiting verification of information on another application. The committee now has a voice mailbox at the town office and will check it twice a week. Call 343-4298, #, #, 393, then follow the prompts and leave a message. (That’s not a typo, you really push the pound sign twice.) They finalized details for the April 14-15 Elders Retreat. Chris said “interested guests are invited but advised to notify the committee of their intentions so adequate arrangements can be made for food, etc.” On March 1 all approved Elders were sent a letter concerning passes for this year’s Fair. So far, 23 have requested to obtain their passes through the Elders group. Their next meeting will be held at the town office on April 26 at 7pm. A subcommittee meeting will be held to review Elder applications on the same date and location at 6pm.

### By-Laws Committee

Lawrence said they met in late March to discuss changes in a section of the By-Laws to bring it into conformance with changes in the IRS conflict of interest policies. They will continue the discussion at their next meeting. They also discussed an issue referred to them by the Board concerning expanding the definition of Fair membership to ascertain whether membership should require active participation in the event. The committee felt this issue needed to be discussed and considered by the membership as a whole, possibly through the VQ

process or referred to the next Annual Meeting advisory vote. The committee will “publicize pros and cons of the recommendation to the Fair community as a whole so they are fully cognizant of its implications.”

### Path Planning Group

Lara said that Steve covered most of her points in the Site Manager’s report but she wanted to add, “River Loop is becoming a river without a loop. Our 8 may become a backwards 3 as Lower River Loop at Shade Grove is missing a chunk of bank as well as Upper River Loop just before the McKenzie Map booth.” She encouraged Fair Family to participate in path planning and to “help come up with long-range solutions to river loop erosion issues.” She thanked all those who have “done so much work over the years trying to prevent bank erosion by volunteering their time planting banks with flora.” She asked Path Planning to announce meeting dates enough in advance to make member participation possible.

### Peach Power Ad Hoc Committee

Anna said, “We are a large step closer to having a building permit for a structure that we’ll place our PVs on. A meeting on April 9 at the Lane County Permit and Information Center will probably give us the go ahead. Construction will begin as soon as we get the permit. We are applying for tax credit information and we had someone onsite using a solar pathfinder which tells us how much solar window we have, and that all looks excellent. And that’s the short, short story from the sun people.”

### Youth Program Development Committee

Kay Kintzley said they met March 12 at the office with 9 committee members attending including Anna by telephone from Las Vegas. Audrey, a member of Teen Crew, attended the meeting and discussed the difficulty some teens have finding a crew to “graduate” to after being on Teen Crew. The committee got feedback that many teens don’t actually know what all the different crews do. They discussed ways to acquaint teens with that information including the idea of a ‘job fair’ at Spring Fling with literature or hopefully with actual crew members who would explain what their crews do. Information could also be posted on the website. Kay mentioned transitioning Elders might be interested in the same information. They also discussed what activities teens might like to see added to the weekend of the event. Leslie added, “Participants in Culture Jam and Hip Hop Hope who don’t also have a wristband to the Fair are technically not eligible for Fair membership so we talked about what to do about that too.”

## Old Business

### Wayne Morse Youth Project

**Palmer moved and Jack seconded that the Board donate \$1,250 from the Board donation budget to the Wayne Morse Youth Project.** (Actually this was discussed before the committee reports so the young people could leave the meeting before dusk. I’m just listing it here so the minutes flow better.)

**Background:** Iana Matthews-Harris (self-described “OCF family child since the womb”) and Ishi Maderas Woods (Ishi and Iana are co-managers of WMYP) and about a dozen members of the WMYP performed some verses from “The Times They Are A’Changing” and an original hip hop piece for everyone in attendance at the meeting, passing the mic and each delivering a stanza or two. They presented written information to the Board expressing thanks for last year’s donation that allowed them to buy two speakers for their free speech open mic. They have raised over \$1,000 and have another \$1,000 grant they will receive in July. This donation from the Fair will get them closer to their goal of about \$5,000 for their “solar-powered free speech mobile” which will allow them to “move beyond our regular spot at the Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza and bring open mic to schools, parks and other community events.” They propose collaboration between WMYP and OCF because “currently there is nothing at the OCF that is run by youth for positively changing the community; this is a potential that has been overlooked and is a perfect fit for the purpose of the Fair. With this peaceful powered venue for conscious collaboration we could make a small parade loop to raise awareness of the youth-empowering sustainability projects the OCF supports.” Iana said, “We need guidance to create further collaboration between WMYP and the Fair. That is how it should be – old to young.” Ishi said the Country Fair was started by “idealistic young people” and he has been attending the Fair since he was seven years old. He felt there should be more young people on the Board.

**Peach Gallery:** Barbara said in order to be on the Board “you have to run for the Board...so run for the Board!” Joseph Newton said this was the “first time I found myself dancing” at a Board meeting. Leslie said, “I just really can’t find words beyond what you’ve already spoken...thank you so much for being here.” Thumbs up all around.

**Board:** Palmer amended the motion to \$2,000 and Jack agreed. Lara said, “One four letter word springs to mind – hope. I appreciate your energy, your light, and your love.” Deane suggested they apply for further funding through the grant process next year. Anna referred to

earlier Board discussions of expanding membership eligibility and said expansion is necessary in order to include this diversity. Lara repeated the encouragement to run for the Board; Lawrence asked if they were official members of the Fair and encouraged them to join if they were not; Bear passed membership applications over to them. Katie supports the group and the art form but was concerned about the amount of money taking "too big a chunk of our donation budget" and said that if she votes against the proposal that will be the reason. Carl thanked the group for their performance and said, "This is the most entertained I've been at a Board meeting." Palmer said "we can always up the donation budget." Jack said, "There's nothing run by youth at the Fair now and I'm going to be your advocate in the next budget process." Bear disagreed and said youth are involved in Youth Stage, Spirit Tower, Community Village and more. Anna said the firedancing at the Fair was started by teenagers. Paxton said, "Wayne Morse is smiling."

The amended motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. (Palmer asked it be recorded that he wished he could vote 'yes' too.)

#### ***Donation to Earth Day Steering Committee***

**Diane moved and Lara seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to the Earth Day Steering Committee.**

*Background:* This year's theme is "Spirit of Sustainability" and will feature more than 50 groups and organizations demonstrating their efforts at Earth-friendly practices, two stages, an exhibit of alternative transportation, plus much more.

*Peach Gallery:* Leslie spoke for Steve Remington who was unable to attend tonight's meeting. She said the event is "accessible to everyone because it's completely free. EWEB has really stepped up to support this."

*Board:* Diane said it's a "great event with lots of kids' activities" and she really likes the procession of all species.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

#### ***Donation to DisOrient Asian Film Festival***

**Lara moved and Deane seconded that the Board donate \$300 from the Board donation budget to the DisOrient Asian Film Festival.**

*Background:* Jason Mak spoke about the wide range of films that will be shown during the festival which will be held April 26-29 at four locations: Bijou, LCC, UO, and the new Wildish Theatre in Springfield. The cover letter to the Board says the festival "represents an important opportunity for the recognition of Asian American history, experiences, and scholarship. It features new independent films by Asian and Asian American filmmakers, many of which are World Premiere or National Premiere releases with directors, actors, and other industry guests in attendance." More info at [www.disorientfilm.org](http://www.disorientfilm.org).

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*Board:* Lara said it involves art, education, culture, and breaking stereotypes, and "that's what the Fair is all about." Bear was glad to see a new group coming to the Fair for support. Anna hoped some of the money could be used to buy tickets "for people who couldn't otherwise afford to go. That's where my heart is for this amount of money."

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

#### ***Amend Donation to HIV Alliance***

**Palmer moved and Bear seconded that the Board re-direct last month's donation to HIV Alliance Riverwalk instead to HIV Alliance World Aids Day.**

*Background:* Sarah-Kate Sharkey spoke on behalf of the HIV Alliance. The donation approved by the Board last month was intended to be used for Riverwalk which has since been cancelled. The Alliance sought permission to use the funds for World Aids Day instead.

*Peach Gallery:* Steve G. said this was an example of "the Board going overboard on donations." He said since Riverwalk isn't happening, why not just give the money to HIV Alliance instead of specifying it for "another event which might not happen."

*Board:* Bear disagreed, saying the Board was giving the money to the Alliance but Riverwalk was specified so the Fair would be included in advertising. Deane appreciated them returning to the Board for permission because "you could have kept the money and not even told us." Anna pointed out the shrinking donation budget and voiced preference for donations to "educational missions in a more direct way rather than to an organization." Palmer said World Aids Day is "hugely educational." Katie personally supports the organization but said the donation "doesn't conform to the purpose of our organization as I understand it." Jack said the Fair will be recognized in promotions for WAD instead of Riverwalk but the important thing was to support them, not to be recognized. Palmer amended the motion and Bear agreed to simply donate the money to HIV Alliance but not to specify that it must be used for World Aids Day.

The amended motion passed: 9 in favor and 1 opposed (Katie).

#### ***Craft Logo Jurying***

**Bear moved and Lara seconded that any item receiving**

**seven or more Board votes be approved for sale at the 2007 Fair.**

*Background:* The Craft Inventory Crew set up a table with about 25 craft items vying for the privilege of displaying the OCF peach logo. Board members marked ballots before the start of the meeting. After the motion passed, Jeff Harrison announced results which saw all but two items being passed. There were a wide range of items accepted including a pottery Elders mug, silk prayer flags and banners, cotton bandannas, glass suncatchers, and hemp hats.

*Peach Gallery:* Grumpy pointed out one item that displayed a frog image as well as the OCF logo and wondered if the frog image was copyrighted. He thought that question should be checked out.

*Board:* Anna said it didn't feel appropriate to her for Board members "to do this." Palmer, Lawrence, Paxton and Deane all disagreed with her basically agreeing that the Board is responsible for how the logo is used; as Lawrence said, "We are the guardians of the peach." Paxton said he's been studying trademarks and that it's legally important that the Board authorizes the use of the trademark.

The motion passed: 8 in favor and 2 opposed (Anna and Jack).

#### ***Budget Issues – More Capital Project Requests***

**Deane moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board approve \$18,303 for capital projects requests as recommended by the Treasurers and the Budget Committee.**

*Background:* The smallest amounts were \$600 to Youth Stage for a battery cart and \$700 to Site for event tents. The largest expenditures were \$4500 to Vaudeville Crew for maintaining and upgrading the stage at Daredevil Palace and \$4253 to Communications for a primary radio repeater. Other projects that are included in this request are to redesign the website, a storage deck and roof for Traffic, a bamboo structure for Chela Mela, and 2 carts for Site. Other requests were made for capital projects but those were not recommended for approval by the BC and Treasurers at this time. They would like to fund a ground penetrating radar project for Archaeology Crew but "didn't feel it was prudent to do it this way at this time." The proposal had been to spend money to rent equipment and pay UO staff to perform the work and it would only cover Crafts Lot. They felt alternatives should be researched to find another way to meet Archaeology's goals.

*Peach Gallery:* Leslie said the Committee felt the issue should be discussed at the upcoming Board work session with Archaeology, and added that the current proposal would have cost \$10,000 just for Crafts Lot while "many of the most immediate concerns are in the 8."

*Board:* Deane encouraged Fair Family attendance at the meeting with Archaeology on May 21 because "their issues are important." There were a couple of questions about some other items that weren't approved for Site such as a gator and purchasing rather than continuing to rent the scaffolding bridge for Far Side but Jack strongly recommended that the Fair buy neither because "there's a reason those are usually rented rather than purchased. When you rent you get scaffolding in the best possible shape. The expense just doesn't pencil out. If we buy, we may be hindered by them in 5 years."

The motion passed: 9 in favor and 1 opposed (Anna).

#### ***Budget Issues – Recycling Crew Budget***

**Paxton moved and Carl seconded that the Board approve adding \$1660 to the Recycling Budget as recommended by the Treasurers and the Budget Committee.**

*Background:* The Recycling Crew asked for this money through the capital projects request but the Committee recommended the expense be approved but simply added to the Recycling Budget rather than as a capital request. The money will be used for the durables project and includes \$500 for outside services, \$650 for facility rental, and \$510 for food vouchers. The proposal outlines using Fern Ridge High staff and facilities to wash the cutlery.

*Peach Gallery:* Leslie encouraged support and thanked Lara and many others who have been involved in the project including Sue Kesey, Toby Alves, Anne Morris, Jim McAlister, and Kirk and John from Rising Moon.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

#### ***KRVM Blue Moon Stage Proposal***

**Jack moved and Paxton seconded that the Board appoint Leslie Scott and Linda Dievendorf to negotiate with KRVM to broadcast from the Blue Moon Stage.**

*Peach Gallery:* Leslie said the long-range goal is for the Fair to negotiate an ongoing contract with KRVM that will not require Board approval every year but simply an annual contract review. One part of the plan involves the Fair receiving publicity through KRVM in exchange for broadcast privileges. Bill Ganser spoke on behalf of KRVM which is "a local non-profit that's been around for 50 years." He said Fair folk and KRVM folk are "a lot of the same folks." Friends of KRVM has 501(c)3 status.

*Board:* Lawrence voiced support and included KRVM as part of "our community" along with such organizations as WOW Hall, White Bird, Saturday Market and others.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

#### **Vision Quest Budget**

**Bear moved and Paxton seconded that the Board dedicate \$6,207 from the Board change line item budget for VQ surveys.**

*Background:* VQ plans to survey the public, entertainers, vendors, and other Fair Family. A four-page info sheet was included in the Board packet that describes some of the goals of the survey. An example is the entertainer survey which "would be used as a baseline for preparing a fact sheet to help in assessing project proposals that fall in the 'artists and entertainers' focus area category. Goals for data collection include collecting a broad sample of opinions related to how entertainers evaluate their experience getting into and performing at the Fair, what types of services they would find most helpful, and how best to engage entertainers in being more involved with year-round Fair activities." Survey expenses were broken down into \$3685 for volunteer expenses (wristbands, t-shirts, food vouchers); \$792 for printing and materials; and \$1730 for data entry.

*Peach Gallery:* Joseph said it's good to tap into other peoples' ideas and get direction. Leslie is fully supportive and said the survey work is "very dynamic."

*Board:* Most of the lengthy Board discussion focused on a friendly amendment made early in the conversation by Jack to add at first 10 (idea rejected) and later 5 wristbands (idea eventually accepted by both Bear and Paxton) to the budget and to specify their use to help the Fair increase diversity. Someone yielded to Leslie who pointed out that the budget sheet listed 38 passes for survey takers and 2 passes for diversity outreach; the 5 additional passes would be connected to those. There was little talk about the survey issue itself except by Deane who said he is still digesting information already gathered and felt \$6,000 might be better spent on something like paying entertainers more money; by Diane who said the VQ task force will eventually be finished with their work and she'd be interested to know if it will then become a survey crew; and by Lara who said surveys "give us a good overview of different ideas about what the Fair should become in the future and the expenditure is worth it to have good information." Following are just a few of the opinions voiced about Jack's friendly amendment. There were differences of opinion about whether the best way to increase diversity was through increasing passes for surveyors. Paxton felt surveyors should be recruited from Fair Family rather than outsiders while Anna thought "we should try any way we can to increase diversity. It should be our mission to find out what we need to do to improve ourselves, to invest in diversity, and to invest in our youth." Palmer said adding camping passes to this is not the way to increase diversity and suggested a better idea would be to offer more passes to Crews dedicated to expanding diversity in their ranks. Katie said she has "heard complaints from management that everyone seems to want a camping pass in exchange for their contribution to our organization. Apparently the people who are working on the VQ process are no different, and I find it ironic that the Board is being asked to decide how many camping passes should be given for this contribution to our organization." Jack said, "Language is important," and asked, "how can you spin outreach to not be correct?" A vote was taken on whether to include Jack's amendment. The motion passed: 8 in favor and 2 opposed (Paxton and Deane). Then they voted on the amended motion to approve \$6,207 plus the cost of 5 more passes for diversity outreach. The amended motion passed: 9 in favor and 1 opposed (Deane).

#### **WOW Hall Financial Request**

**Deane moved and Katie seconded that the Board donate \$2,500 from the Board donation budget to the Community Center for the Performing Arts. (aka WOW Hall)**

*Background:* David Helton (Booth Registration Co-Coordinator and board member of WOW Hall) said this is a special request "above and beyond the annual membership. Part of what happened with Beth's passing is that we lost our GM and her fundraising ability." They have been running the hall by committee and need funds to jump-start the search for a new GM.

*Peach Gallery:* Joseph Newton (Recycling Crew) would like to support CCPA but hates to see so much money come out of the donation budget. He wondered if the donation could be restructured as a long-term loan. Grumpy said \$2500 won't go far and is not a good plan for the use of that money; he'd rather support them in a more sustainable way and suggested tabling the idea for a month.

*Board:* Bear suggested WOW Hall could help the Fair by getting the word out to attend the event. Jack asked David if there was time to consider the structure of the financial help or if speed was critical. David said they need to hire a GM but are not in immediate danger of closing their doors. Jack suggested designating someone to "negotiate how to help you get back on your feet." Palmer asked that the money be given in memory of Beth. Anna said she'd feel better if there was a plan involved and wondered how they planned to continue paying a GM. Palmer suggested a friendly amendment (which Deane and Katie agreed to) to appoint Jack and Grumpy as negotiators to work with CCPA and to guarantee \$2500 if WOW Hall hires a GM in the next month. It was left to the negotiators to determine whether the money would be a loan or a donation and to decide what part of the budget the expenditure would come from.

The amended motion passed: 9 in favor and 1 opposed (Anna). (Palmer voted for Lara who had stepped out of the room.)

#### **Permaculture Conference**

**Lawrence moved and Deane seconded that the Board authorize General Manager Leslie Scott to execute the necessary contracts to host the 2007 Permaculture Conference on the Country Fair site the weekend of August 24-26.**

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, May 7, 2007 at 7pm at the EWEB Community Room. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled items: Budget Issues; Consider Donation Request for Network for Reproductive Options (Deane); Peach Power Fund (Anna); Educational Event Development and Bioneers Youth Scholarships (Anna); as well as the following new business: Appoint Main Camp Check Signers; Appoint Dog Control Coordinator; Establish Path Planning as Board Committee (Paxton); Path Planning Process (Paxton); Support for Lane Arts Council (Jack). Consider Donation Request for Dance for a Reason was dropped from the agenda because the event already happened in February (they were asked to submit future requests earlier). Consider Donation Request for SANTA was dropped from the agenda for lack of a sponsor.

Minutes by Barbara Edmonds who thanks Jerry and Esther Hicks ("Ask and It Is Given") for the following quote: "Do you understand how beloved you are, how blessed you are, how adored you are, and what an integral part of this creative process you are?"



Yellow violets are abundant at the site right now. If you want to see the yellow - check out the FFN online edition at <http://www.oregoncountryfair.net/FAIRFAMILYNEWS/ffnintro.html>.