



# Fair Family

# NEWS



Volume 15, Issue 5

ONE CREATIVE FAMILY

October 2007

## Family Album



Randy Andrews 2007

## Spooky Spork Hangs Out at the Fair



**What's Inside**  
Guts 'n stuff . . . . . go ahead, look!







## Fair Family Calendar

### October

- 25 Elders Committee meeting, 7 pm, 442 Lawrence Street
- 30 Meeting to discuss relocation of Main Camp kitchen, 6 pm, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene

### November

- 5 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Community Room, 4th and High, Eugene
- 5 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 13 Land Use Management Planning, 7 pm, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene
- 21 Craft Committee Meeting, 6:00, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene

### December

- 3 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Community Room, 4th and High, Eugene
- 3 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE

## Fair Family Website

Don't forget that we have an OCF website especially for Fair family business. Check out [oregoncountryfair.net](http://oregoncountryfair.net) for Board minutes, election candidate statements, a copy of the guidelines, our by-laws, a color version of the Fair Family News and much, much more. Enjoy!!!!

## Election Results

As the FFN goes to press, the election has not been held yet, but it will have been when you receive this issue. Please check the staff website — [oregoncountryfair.net](http://oregoncountryfair.net) or call the office at 541-343-4298 for election results.

## Election Pamphlets Out Of Order

The Election Committee apologizes that some of the candidate statement pamphlets were mailed improperly collated. All the information is there, just slightly out of order.

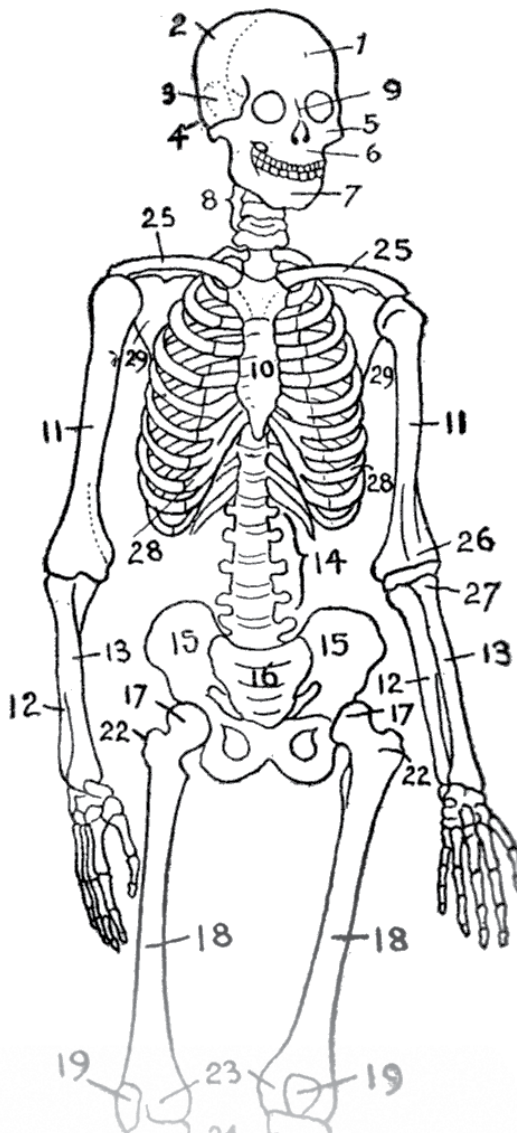
## Late Fair Souvenir Shopping

An OCF commemorative item is just the thing for early or late shoppers alike. If you thought you were too late to buy a Fair souvenir at the Fair or if you think it's a bit early to do your holiday shopping, you're in luck. We have t-shirts, camisoles, sarongs, patches, bumper stickers, posters signed by the artist — all featuring that very special peach logo that fills our hearts and dreams.

Please check out the OCF websites — [oregoncountryfair.net](http://oregoncountryfair.net) and [oregoncountryfair.org](http://oregoncountryfair.org) — or call the office at 541-343-4298 to get an order form and start your holiday (or personal) shopping trip.

## Happy Birthday to Our Fair Family Scorpios

- Alice Stroud ..... Pre-Post Security
- Amy Fehrenbacher..... 4A
- Beverly Sheets..... Pre-Post Security
- Brent Reindel ..... Recycling
- Charlie LeFevre ..... Green Thumb Crew
- Cindy K. Chambers..... Community Village
- Claudia Swan..... Office-Site
- Colleen Paull..... Sno-cone cart
- Don Kerr ..... Lot Crew
- Edna Peach Michelson . Registration
- Eric Flocchini ..... Lot Crew
- Frank Head ..... Lot Crew
- Gunther Mueller..... Security
- Heather Baker ..... Pre-Post Security
- Heather Bouher ..... Registration
- Jeanne Sharpy ..... Poster Committee
- Jen-Lin Hodgden..... Community Village
- Jennifer Rason..... Pre-Post Security
- Jerome Garger ..... Security
- John Doscher..... Far Side Security
- Justin Honea..... Registration
- Kathy Broom..... Registration
- Katie Cousins..... Security, Board Member
- Kristen Brandt..... Security
- Lowell Epstein..... White Bird
- Lynda Nelson..... Main Camp Security
- Lynne Bernhardt..... Lot Crew
- Matti Tabor..... Registration
- Nicholas Loiacono..... Traffic
- Noah Woodward..... Pizza Company Booth
- Sandy Gonzalez..... Energy Park
- Stephanie Vincent..... Crafter
- Stephen Bailey ..... Recycling
- Susan Brown ..... Admissions
- Susie Goldsmith ..... Far Side
- Valeria Mainwald ..... Registration



## FFN "Hip" Bones

- Michael "Ribs" Ottenhausen
- Emily "Funny Bone" Semple
- Joseph "Calcaneus" Newton
- Cynde "Wishbone" Leathers
- Dominic "Femur" DeFazio
- Suzi "Sacrum" Prozanski
- Mary "Mandible" Shuler
- Brad "Lumbar" Lerch
- Dan "Cranium" Cohn
- norma "maxilla" sax



## Jill Heiman Vision Fund Volunteers Needed

The Jill Heiman Vision Fund Committee is seeking new young members to help allocate funds this year. We want to diversify our committee with a few people who are in their teens or twenties. If you are interested in learning about pressing community needs and then deciding which to fund, this is a great opportunity. Please contact Richie Weinman at [rweinman@comcast.net](mailto:rweinman@comcast.net) and let him know why you are interested.

Note: this is not a "crew." Committee members only get to feel good. We don't get passes, t-shirts or food vouchers.



## 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:

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 or call Brad @ 541- 485-8265 (UnClassifieds not paid for by paste-up won't run)

I need help to build a straw bale chicken hut, I know this family has some knowledge I could benefit from, please forward your ideas and offers of help to billlakey@comcast.net, or call bill at 503-849-874, thanks in advance, bill.

Malachai: After Friday night VitaGirls, and Saturday's tamale tango, I missed my big chance to say hi when I saw you at the Ritz Sunday night. Try again? Maya 360-468-4628. (sorry Maya I had the wrong ph# last month!)

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541-740-4533

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Brownsville, Or. 97327

**WOW HALL**  
8th & Lincoln  
All Ages  
687-2746

9/28 EOTO (Michael Travis & Jason Hann)  
10/3 RAQ (Widespread Panic After Party)  
10/4 Cirkus Pandemonium  
10/5 Black Francis, Ahimsa Theory  
10/7 Martin Sexton & Martyn Joseph  
10/9 Upright Citizens Brigade Tour Co.  
10/10 Shout Out Louds, Nico Vega  
10/12 Electric 6 10/16 Critical Bill  
10/17 Melt Banana 10/18 Lotus  
10/19 Heavyweight Dub Champion  
10/20 Witches Ball 10/21 Rehab



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# RENAISSANCE ROOTS

## Buying the Land, Part II

Story by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News; © 2007, Suzi Prozanski

Photos from Sandra Bauer's archives (Fair Elder, Main Camp)



### Part II:

### Fighting for rights & hosting a Field Trip

Twenty-five years ago, the Oregon Country Fair agreed to buy the land where our event is held each year. Last month in this Renaissance Roots column, Part 1 told how Jill Heiman helped the Fair become a legally recognized nonprofit organization. Part 2 continues the story of how the Fair arranged to buy the land. It concentrates on that one main theme, leaving many good stories from those days for another time. This article was compiled from newspaper reports, Fair records and dozens of interviews with fascinating Fair folks. Many thanks to all who contributed to this story circle!

### County hassles add up

At the same time that attorney Jill Heiman was helping the Oregon Country Fair establish its status as a nonprofit organization, she also defended the Fair from an increasing number of hassles by Lane County officials.

In 1974, Lane County commissioners passed an ordinance that required the Fair to post \$30,000 bond. Jill successfully argued in court that the ordinance was narrowly written in an unconstitutional way to apply only to the Fair. The county required the Fair to post a bond in 1974, and "three friends with resources signed a bond for us" to cover that year, says Sandra Bauer (Elder - Main Camp). The next four years, the commissioners voted to waive the requirement. But 1979 brought a close vote, resulting in a split 3-2 vote in favor of the waiver.

When Commissioners Archie Weinstein and Harold Rutherford cast their dissenting votes to the waiver that year, they said they objected to the Fair because they did not share the values, ideas and lifestyles presented at the event. Also in 1979, commissioners added a condition to the event permit that required the Fair to hire county sheriff's officers to handle traffic in the area.

"The sheriff's department had the brilliant idea to make us hire off-duty sheriffs, at considerable expense, to monitor the traffic on all the roads," Sandra says. "They wouldn't let us do it ourselves. That was a very expensive part of our budget. But we had to do it. So then ... these guys who we have hired and are spending good money on are ticketing



Jill Heiman and son, Brendan.

every minor traffic infraction that came in, you know, broken taillights, didn't use your blinker ... until they had backed traffic up to Eugene. It was just a disaster. On the radio they were saying, 'Don't drive out to the Fair, the traffic's up to Eugene, you'll never get there.' It was just a mess. But they created this mess."

With only one main road through the area, the traffic stops made a difficult traffic problem almost impossible to navigate. Neighbors to the Fair became upset about not being able to come and go from their homes all weekend long because of the bumper-to-bumper traffic. They complained to the commissioners about the Fair's impact, adding to the pressure to do something.

### "We have the right to assembly."

The next year, Archie Weinstein again spearheaded the opposition to granting the Fair a waiver to the \$30,000 bond, and in June 1980, the commissioners voted 2-3 against waiving the bond. During the hearing, Commissioners Weinstein and Rutherford again made comments disparaging the Fair's alternative values. (Ironically, this happened just two months after the federal government granted the Fair tax-exempt status for showcasing alternative cultural art and values.) The two commissioners indicated that they did not care if the bond provision was unconstitutional or if it deprived Fair-goers of their constitutional rights.

"They tried to impose laws that applied only to the Fair," says Ron Chase (Fair treasurer at the time). "And when somebody said something about it, (Archie Weinstein) said, 'I don't give a damn about the Fair.' I forget what else he said. And Jill's eyes lit up like a Christmas tree — she knew she had him."

Sandra also remembers Jill's response to the hearing. "She says, 'You know, I don't think they can do that.' Famous words! What do you think they can't do, Jill?" Sandra asked. "She says, 'I don't think they can stand in our way. We have the right to assembly.'"

The next week, Jill filed a federal lawsuit against Lane County, the Lane County sheriff and County Commissioners Weinstein and Rutherford, citing Fair-goers' constitutional right to assemble. The lawsuit said the bond represented unacceptable prior restraint on public assemblies. It sought an injunction on the bond so the

Fair could go on that year and asked for monetary damages.

A judge upheld the injunction on the bond while the case made its way through the court system, which took a couple of years.

"And of course the irony was that Archie was the commissioner who every year called and he wanted his passes," Ron says. "He was there every year. He never missed."

### The dynamo takes 'em

With the filing of the lawsuit, Sandra Bauer became the Fair's first president, "because we had to have a president to do the suit," Sandra says. Up to that time, the Fair's only officers were those required by state law: treasurer and secretary.

Sandra says she and Ron "were in court with Jill and helping her with the suit, although she did it all, of course. But we got the information together. Jill was just a little dynamo. She was really small, but very tough. ... She took it to court, to federal court, and sued the county. And they fought it, too. ... She was one single lawyer against this whole battery of lawyers on the other side. And she took them to court and she won."

In February 1982, the case was settled in the Fair's favor and the Fair was awarded \$19,000 in monetary damages.

Longtime OCF volunteer John Stamp (Shenanigans booth, Archaeology crew, Tree crew) characterizes the payment as a "slap on the wrist to Lane County. It really wasn't much, not in the whole world scheme of things," he says. "But it was wondrous in the pressure it took off us. It allowed us to act as our community, which has always been our goal anyhow. ... to be a village that represents an alternative to the way life is lived ordinarily."

### Gathering the down payment

With the lawsuit settlement check in hand, Ron Chase saw the possibilities for making a down payment on the land. Sandra says that Ron deserves a lot of credit for pulling everything together. "Ron was responsible for initiating the action to buy the property," Sandra says. "Lots of other people worked on the project, but he got everyone moving



"Dexter," our first truck in what is now Dragon Admissions. Horses grazed the property.



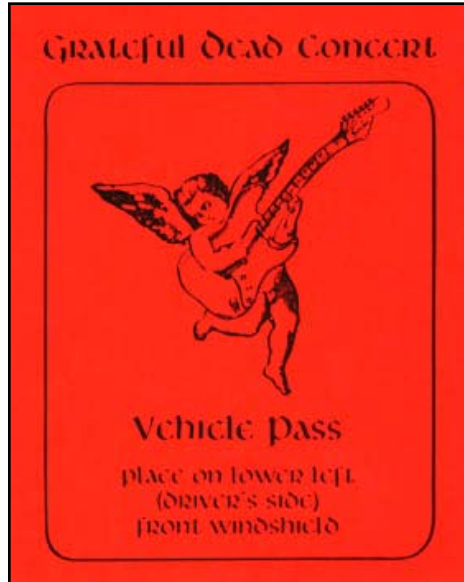


in that direction. He was the treasurer at the time and put together the basic plan to make it happen.”

### Another strange trip

For example, Ron was instrumental in helping plan the 1982 Grateful Dead Field Trip, another unusual source of down-payment funds.

“We had been talking about this concert all along,” Ron says. The Springfield Creamery agreed to co-host the concert at the Fair site in August 1982, 10 years after the first Dead Field Trip to the site in 1972. While the 1972 Field Trip raised funds for the Springfield Creamery, this time the concert would help the Oregon Country Fair make a down-payment on the land.



1982 Field Trip vehicle pass.

“Originally when we went into the concert, it was our idea that we would go into it as partners with whatever part the Kesseys were doing and share the risk and share the profits,” Ron says. “But right away we started hassling. There were two distinctly different groups of alpha people and we just didn’t get along as partners. As people we liked and respected each other, but ... it was just very hard for all of us. So finally Sue and Chuck (Kesey) and I sat down, and Sandra might’ve been there. We said, ‘This isn’t working. Why don’t you just rent the land?’

And we very quickly came to an agreement on what the price was and they gave, I think it was \$25,000 they gave us for the rental.

“Sue Kesey is dependable and generous and honest and a hell of a lot of fun to be around, as was Chuck,” Ron says. “I really really enjoyed the experience of working with both of them. After we decided that we weren’t cut out to be partners and we established this formal relationship, things went a lot easier then cause then they could deal with all of the backstage stuff or the Grateful Dead stuff and all of Ken’s stuff and we never got involved with any of that. All we basically did was provide the crews and the infrastructure that was there from the Fair. And in retrospect, that was a much more sensible division of labor than trying to go into this as partners.”

Sue Kesey says that the concert was fun, but a financial disappointment. It did not make money and “the Grateful Dead basically took less money in order for it all to come out.”

In a concert report to Fair members in August 1982, Ron Chase wrote: “The Fair was extremely lucky and fortunate to have as ‘partners’ in this venture a group as responsible as the Creamery folks. While the concert was a financial success for the Fair, the Creamery did little better than break even. ... Despite this ... the Creamery responded to every one of our concerns



Early path view — smaller crowd, smaller booths.

regarding health, safety and security, without regard to costs. ... It is my opinion that the Fair owes the Creamery folks a lot ... for their responsible and generous approach to the concert.”

### Charter Members sign on

The rest of the \$100,000 down-payment for the land came from relatively conventional sources: \$20,000 in revenues from past Fairs and \$36,000 from Charter Membership donations and other fund-raisers, like T-shirt and bake sales.

Ron also was the person who conceived of the Charter Membership drive, says Robert DeSpain (who was Fair secretary at the time). While it was Ron’s idea, Robert credits Community Village with helping to get that ball rolling.

The minutes confirm that the Village and the Board held a joint meeting on September 1981 to discuss fund-raising options for buying the land. Out of that, a fund-raising committee was created. The committee, with Ron as the point person, presented the Charter Membership idea in October 1981 at a special Fair-wide membership meeting called to discuss buying the property.

Under the plan, a Fair member could become a Charter Member for a contribution or loan of \$300. The loans would be paid back once the land was paid off and the Fair had the money. By the Fair’s annual meeting in March 1982, Ron reported that “67 booths are Charter Members so far.” By December 1982, 143 had signed on as Charter Members. The Fair gave each Charter Member a printed certificate of membership, the only tangible benefit allowed by law. But many Charter Members say they have felt the intangible benefits of personal satisfaction and a sense of “ownership” in the Fair.

For the Fair as an organization, land ownership officially started 25 years ago – on July 8, 1982 – when Fair Treasurer Ron Chase signed the promissory note to buy 240 acres of land along the Long Tom River for \$250,000, and made the first \$50,000 down payment. The note called for second \$50,000 down payment by Dec. 31, 1982, and 10 annual payments of \$26,370, due each Sept. 1. Revenues from the Grateful Dead concert and Charter Memberships helped the Fair meet the second down payment.

Over the years, the Fair made a few early payments on the land with profits earned from the event. In August 1990, the Oregon Country Fair made its final payment and owned the land outright.

Many people have noted that buying the land brought about a huge number of changes at the Oregon Country Fair — in philosophy, overall organization and infrastructure ... but that’s another story!

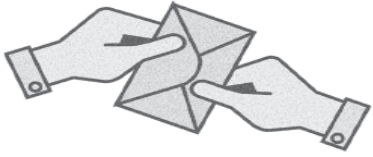


Sandra Bauer plants flowers for booths, circa mid-70s.



Mid-70s, Ron Chase counts the money.





## 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).*

## Chez Ray Seeks Eugene Abode

Dear Fair Family,

I urgently need a miracle. I'm Chez Ray, a long-time Eugene/Country Fair character who is now on dialysis. I am moving back to Eugene in order to move up on the kidney transplant list. I am on \$600 total monthly disability and can only pay \$200 or less for housing.

I am looking for a small, quiet, independent abode — preferably a detached, small, mother-in-law house or cottage on a bus line with

a small kitchen, bath and laundry. I love my privacy and need to feel my independence for my health and well-being. I am working on several projects that are promising, but first and foremost is the positioning for transplant and navigating the survival techniques.

If you can help, please call Tamara at 541-520-5776. Thank you for your help.

All My Love,  
Ray Sewell  
Food booth



## Have a Heart, Buy a Cart

by David Laborde, Carts Crew Coordinator



Greetings from Carts crew!

I wanted to reach out to OCF members and provide some information about what we do and how we can help each other in the future. The Peach carts provide an important role in making our event happen and are a symbol of our ideals as OCF members.

First, a little history: Since the early days at the Fair, we've enjoyed and utilized carts. In the early '80s, we all decided to take vehicle congestion at the Fair more seriously. I remember many joyous years in my youth riding the bumpers of trucks through the 8, striking fear in the eyes of our loving elders. I'm sure many of you remember the exhaust and traffic jams of those days well. For many good reasons, those days are "mostly" gone. Carts crew was born out of our sound decision to save our paths and remove as much vehicle traffic from the 8 as possible. The growing abuse of golf carts and other personal vehicles pre-Fair is another letter.

Speed ahead to year 2007, and we've proved it was a sound decision. We have two carts crews,

a herd of give or take 60 carts, and sustainable paths. We do our best to make carts available at all times. Wednesday and Thursday can be difficult, but we do our best. Friday, Saturday and Sunday are frustrating for everyone involved. Monday is back to difficult.

You can help. Each year pre-Fair, I'm contacted by coordinators and booth people interested in either buying or reserving carts for the upcoming event. Here's my advice. BUY A CART. Especially people who need carts during the event. The bang you'll get for your buck will be well worth it. You will have a cart to call your own, I will not have to stress about having too few carts to check out, and other Fair folks will not have to endure the wait. Though the party won't be so big at Cart Central, I can deal with that.

During the event we sometimes are down to 20 or 30 carts in actual circulation. Craig Patterson can probably argue that it's fewer than that.

Listed below are three great places to get your own carts. They are all great for different reasons.

Homestead Carts is in Washington and has been our main supplier for the past few years now. Carts Vermont makes the toughest carts, for sure. Coastal Farm in Eugene sells a decent cart, too, and you can go pick one up there today.

[www.homesteadcarts.com](http://www.homesteadcarts.com)  
888-326-8634

[www.cartsvermont.com](http://www.cartsvermont.com)  
802-626-4178

[www.coastalfarm.com/storelocate.html](http://www.coastalfarm.com/storelocate.html)  
541-687-5810

If you do buy a cart, we will be there for you! We will happily assemble, fix flats and do repairs; and if you're the gambling type, you can leave it in our hands during the off-season.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Charlie Ruff, Steve "Grumpy" Gorham and Craig Patterson for making the cart purchase happen last year. Thank you so much!

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING



OCTOBER 1, 20067

**Present:** Diane Albino, Katie Cousins, Paxton Hoag, Lara Howe, Jack Makarchek, Deane Morrow (alternate), Greg Rikhoff (*arrived at 7:50 after Human Rights meeting*), Anna Scott, Lawrence Taylor, Bear Wilner-Nugent.

**Not:** Palmer Parker, Carl Taylor. (*Deane voted all evening.*)

#### Announcements

Randy Nowell (VegManEc) invited everyone to the highway pick-up day on Oct. 14. Meet at 10am at the Warebarn. Dana's Cheesecake is donating cheesecake to workers.

Bear encouraged attendance at the Annual Meeting on Sat. Oct. 13 at 6:30 at Knights of Pythias Hall (420 W. 12th, Eugene) and also at the Volunteer Work Party that same weekend, Oct. 13/14. Steve W. suggested people from out-of-town might like to "make a whole weekend of it" by helping with the work party during the days, attending the Saturday night meeting, and camping onsite.

Lara reminded folks that the meeting to discuss the feasibility of an upland kitchen will be at the town office on Oct. 30 at 6pm.

Barbara said people interested in donating goods or services to Veneta's toy drive SANTA (Sharing Among Neighbors Toy Appeal) may contact Caren Conger at careairmom@epud.net or 541-337-9673 or P.O. Box 1354 Veneta OR 97487.

Hilary got a laugh when she talked about imagining far away locations for a group called the Adventurers, and while looking at their pictures she saw a photo of the Monkey Palace tent in Chela Mela.

Paxton said the first meeting of the new Path Planning

Committee will be on Sunday, Oct. 14 at 1pm at the Hub Yurt.

Lara thanked Jeya Aerenon of Inventory Crew for taking minutes at the September Board meeting. She also thanked Kirk from Rising Moon for "the bubble project". He took charge of the washing of all the silverware from Left Bank and Chela Mela and "washed extra utensils for us so we could fill cutlery orders." Leslie added, "The fact that Kirk and John and all the Rising Moon folks approached the Fair with this offer of help made an enormous difference in our ability to use durables successfully throughout the Fair. It's this kind of initiative and willingness to dive in and made something happen that is earning the Fair a reputation as a leader in the efforts to learn what it takes to be more green and sustainable."

#### Approval of Minutes

Lara moved and Deane seconded to approve the minutes of the September 2007 Board meeting. The motion passed: 9 in favor; 0 opposed. (*Thank you, Jeya, for your hard work and generous spirit.*)

#### Staff and Officer Reports

**General Manager:** Leslie said she's going to "lots of meetings, working on budget wrap-up to prepare for the Annual Meeting and the filing of our 990, beginning the new budget cycle, collecting BUM reports, finalizing the incident summary, and juggling CDs and checking accounts." She thanked Anna for "working so hard assembling receipts for the Peach Power project so the folks at the Dept. of Energy, who are excited about

the Peach Power tax credits that have been established, can process this one quickly." She said Springfield Creamery has agreed "to be our tax credit pass through partner, which means they will give the Fair a check for about \$6,000 and will receive an alternative energy tax credit of about \$7,000. Huge thanks to Sue and everyone at the Creamery for helping the Fair take advantage of this opportunity to earn a tax credit for our solar tie-in to the EPUD grid." She said the JHVF set another record and they have \$3,000 over what was requested by the recipients to now figure out how to disperse. "What a fun dilemma!" She said we had good Employee Evaluation and Path Planning work sessions in September and she appreciated everyone who attended. She talked about the ongoing development for more year-round collaboration with the City of Eugene and Lane County Youth Services for programs for youth. She said David Hatfield will be presenting a workshop called "Peace and Power: Working with Male Youth" in early November.

**Administrative Assistant:** norma said she's been working on the website and securing a new internet provider. She posted the candidate statements to the .net website. She had fun going to UO twice: once to speak to new students about the Fair; and again to encourage practicum students in Arts and Administration to consider fulfilling program requirements with projects for the Fair. She said to give her a call if you'd like to buy Fair commemorative items and "remember the holidays are coming up." She's been working on the evaluation meeting report and on organizing the retreat for Board, Staff, and Officers.

**Office Assistant:** Robin said the office has been "busy busy." She's been working on the David Hatfield event that Leslie mentioned and it's "all very interesting." She said she enjoys working with Lane County and the City of Eugene. She's getting lots of calls from people wanting to become Elders. She said the Culture Jam staff went rafting on the McKenzie and "it was a thrill for a Manhattan girl to be on the river."

**Site Manager:** Steve W. said "speaking of the McKenzie River, last Saturday on the banks of the McKenzie Rebecca LaMarche and our own Shane Harvey (Site Crew Co-Coordinator) got married...congratulations to them both, and welcome to the Fair Family, Rebecca." Steve said the focus of the Oct. 13/14 Weekend Work Party will be cleaning up and closing up Main Camp. Remember, come for the Work Party and the Annual Meeting and camp at the Fair. It rained a lot last weekend and the site is saturated so all the paths and meadows are closed to vehicles. The site staff has been busy core-plugging and re-seeding the paths, and they try to floodproof ("have all the event-caused stuff in the floodplain either picked up or tied up") by Nov. 1. He talked about the work that the Tree Crew and VegManEcs have been doing and said, "My thanks and appreciation to the volunteers who worked in the rain last weekend." He will send probation letters to a few booths this winter because they are "repeat offenders" who leave behind a mess. Deane asked if the booth numbers should be made public but Steve just said, "If you walk along E.13th it's very apparent who they are." He talked about how much fun the Elmira High School Cross-Country Invitational Meet is and he's looking forward to it happening again on Wed. Oct. 17 on the Fair site. Spectators are welcome, the start and finish are in Miss Piggy's Lot. The event has grown to over 17 schools and 300 runners from as far away as LaPine.

**Assistant Manager:** Charlie said his "hat goes off to the guys who showed up for lunch at 3:30 yesterday after working in a downpour" and said there will be "expanded hospitality" at the Oct. 13/14 Work Party to include lunch on Saturday, and breakfast and lunch on Sunday, "and there will be a few other tricks up our sleeves as well." He's hoping for a large attendance at the work party. He's working on switching ISP and phone service. He suggested everyone sign up for the announce list. An announcement will be sent out soon about the work party and about the date for the phone/ISP switch. He said "if the phones or e-mail are a little goofy for a day or two, that's why." Charlie was at EPUD and saw a display of photos of solar arrays and said the most recent photo is of the OCF project.

**Treasurers:** Hilary thanked Anna for the "amount of dedication and perseverance" she put into the Peach Power project. She said, "We are in the second year of a 2-year budget cycle so we're working with what's already been submitted." There are a couple of crews who are "struggling a bit with their budget so we're working with them on that."

**President:** Jack said, "There's a Board election pretty soon so read the statements and please vote." He's been going to lots of meetings lately and he thanked Anna for taking notes at the Employee Evaluation meeting. He said the Path Planning meeting was interesting. He reminisced about hearing Arna Shaw talk about path planning meetings in the early 80's and said there's been "some expansion since then" and he guesses "we'll be talking about the river for a long time." He said there are changing demographics in Oregon which will cause some events to cater to an aging population, but he said youth will be attracted to the Fair because "of all the outreach we're doing through the city and county." He again urged people to vote and said, "Voting is an important part of our process so we need to take it seriously. Vote, and tell your friends to vote. Not a member? Then fill out a membership form so you can vote next year."

## Committee Reports

### Tree Crew

John Stamp thanked everyone who helped with "critically important" tree and safety work last weekend. Their group (*which is under the umbrella of Site Crew*) does not have access to the budget process so he asked the Board to "be sure when we do budget that we have enough money to rent the big equipment we need for post-Fair clean up." He said Fall work parties are very important and "it would be great to not schedule them on home game days." He said much of the Tree Crew is aging and they would like to "bring on a couple of graduating teens each year for the next few years." Lara asked the cost of the equipment they use. Steve pays for a 60 foot manlift from the Site equipment rental budget and said it's about \$500 for a weekend.

### Elders Committee

Chris Browne read a report from the Sept. 27 meeting that involved setting the agenda and meal plans for the Elders Retreat. "Everyone present agreed that when we eat well we interact well. So with the agenda set and the meals planned, we adjourned for the night." The report gave some information about the Retreat that convened on a Saturday morning with 25 people in attendance. "Everyone had ample opportunity to speak their minds and did so very well." On Sunday an open mike visionary time was provided with "lively comments made. The meals were wonderful and we even had live entertainment on Saturday night. There is a lot of hidden talent among us!" The next meeting will be held on Oct. 25 at 7pm at the town office.

### By-Laws Committee

Lawrence said they are working on a draft of a financial conflict of interest policy for Fair employees and others.

### Personnel Committee

Anna thanked everyone who participated in the employee evaluation process. They tabulated the quantitative forms and went over the notes. They are putting together a plan for the Personnel Policies and Procedures manual. Their next meeting is Oct. 11.

## Old Business

### Budget Issues / Site Support

Bear moved and Katie seconded that the Board allocate \$1500 for the Site Manager budget for site support as proposed by the Budget Committee.

*Background:* Steve said this amount covers September hours for Jeff Johnson and they "need his assistance for the final push."

*Peach Gallery:* Joseph Newton (Recycling Crew) said there is "work to do onsite year-round. It takes continuity and there are not enough volunteers to count on."

*Board:* Lara, Paxton, and Deane spoke in favor of the motion and the necessity of supporting site work. Katie said, "I understand that this is an *exception* because of Andy's sabbatical and Charlie's temporary absence. I think it's appropriate." Jack will vote for the motion but is uncomfortable with the arrangement of Jeff's working relationship with the Fair. He doesn't have benefits. Jack asked how many hours Jeff has worked this year. Hilary said it will probably be around 800 hours for the year. Jack wants to ask the Personnel Committee to develop a plan to better incorporate Jeff's work. Bear agreed.

**The motion passed: 9 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstention (Greg).** (*Greg arrived during the discussion and didn't want to vote since he missed part of the conversation.*)

### Budget Issues / Fall Capital Projects

**Bear moved and Greg seconded that the Board approve \$10,575 for Fall capital projects as recommended by the Budget Committee.**

*Background:* Hilary discussed the proposal which includes \$3,000 for replacing the Cow Palace barn roof, \$1800 for materials for rebuilding the caretaker yurt deck, \$3,000 for painting the town office exterior, \$400 for a dehumidifier for the basement, \$500 for shelf remodeling in the town office kitchen, \$500 for a dishwasher, and \$1375 for poster framing for the Fifth Street Market project.

*Peach Gallery:* Joseph supported the motion and pointed out that value can be lost by not properly caring for property.

*Board:* Deane said the dehumidifier would help save Fair records that are stored in the basement and "\$400 seems reasonable to save our records." Anna gave several bits of advice including when picking a contractor for the roof replacement make sure they have all necessary licenses; make sure the painting budget includes enough for siding, etc; the dehumidifier for the basement is "just a bandaid" because the basement is not the best place for storing records; and "please buy an energy star rated model for the dishwasher." Katie said money spent on infrastructure is "always sensible" and the Fifth Street Public Market project is "good PR." Jack added more advice saying the dishwasher needs to be ADA, and "don't go for the cheapest ones as they can be problematic."

**The motion passed: 9 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstention (Lara).** (*Lara abstained because she declared a possible conflict of interest since her husband put in a bid for the roof work.*)

### Path Planning Proposal



Jack moved and Anna seconded that the Board move to direct the Path Planning Committee to prepare options for the Board in the event that circumstances warrant the relocation of 5 or more booths, change to the existing path routing or permanent performance venues. These relocation options to be delivered to the Board for review by March 1 of any given year. If options are not provided by said date or prove unworkable, it shall become the responsibility of the Site Manager to propose options to the Board.

*Background:* This discussion was tabled at last month's meeting.

*Peach Gallery:* Joseph Newton said it "sounds great, very straightforward."

*Board:* Hoping to table the discussion again until after the Path Planning meeting on Oct. 14, Paxton moved and Lawrence seconded to table this motion until the November Board meeting.

*Peach Gallery:* Jon Pincus (Elder) said it's a good idea to table and to "get into the nitty gritty of process at the Oct. 14 meeting." Leslie appreciates Jack "bringing this forward because it's important for the Board to give Committees direction."

*Board:* Anna agreed saying, "It's important for us to be real clear in at least an initial direction." Deane and Katie both spoke in support of tabling to allow discussion of the motion at the Committee meeting. Jack said, "Committees don't direct the Board. The Board directs Committees." **The motion to table failed: 4 in favor; 6 opposed (Anna, Bear, Diane, Greg, Lara, Jack.)** Discussion continued on the original motion.

*Board:* There were some questions and discussion about what the motion actually means. Paxton said it gives "more than direction to Path Planning by saying that Staff make decisions if the process fails." Greg said the Board is not asking Staff to make decisions but asking the Site Manager to bring options to the Board, that things happen quickly in the Spring, and that the buck stops with the Board who would make the final decision, not the SM. Lawrence questioned the vague wording of phrases like "prove unworkable" and "if circumstances warrant" and said he's inclined to vote no. Diane said the Board created the Committee "so obviously direction should come from the Board." But because there seemed to be some confusion among some members about what it actually means, she would prefer further discussion later. Deane said if the Committee can't make a decision and the SM is on the Committee, then it didn't make sense to him that the SM could supply options on his own. He also felt March 1 was too early a date. Bear disagreed saying employees are hired to make decisions and that Committees "are a million times slower." Jack said he is trying to think "broadly and long-term" with this motion. He feels major re-routing or changes to performance venues are Board policy decisions but shouldn't be confused with operational decisions. Jack said he is "not trying to eviscerate Path Planning but trying to find something workable and give straightforward direction to the Committee." Anna feels the Board "can work with this. We should go forward with this. We can change direction later if we want." There was some confusion over the term "5 or more booths" and speakers kept referring to "4 booths" causing Paxton to make a friendly amendment replacing the phrase "5 or more booths" with the phrase "4 or fewer booths" but there was no second to the motion. Paxton wants neighborhood involvement and sees "real problems with this motion." Deane said he's starting to understand the motion and "if Path Planning comes up with a plan that works it will work for any number of booths."

**The motion passed: 7 in favor; 3 opposed (Diane, Lawrence, Paxton).**

#### JHVF Committee Proposal

**Bear moved and Lara seconded that the Board amend from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for the matching fund contribution to the Jill Heiman Vision Fund.**

*Background:* There was confusion about whether this item was supposed to be on tonight's agenda, or next month's agenda. Both the Board and the JHVF Committee were expecting it to be on tonight's agenda, and many members of the committee came to tonight's meeting with that expectation so the proposal was discussed tonight. However, the Board forgot to tell Jeya to add this to new business in time for publication so it did not appear in last month's minutes, therefore the membership was not notified. Michael Connelly and several other committee members were present. Michael read a statement about the history and past contributions of the Jill Heiman Vision Fund which has contributed nearly \$75,000 to social service and environmental action groups in past years. Fair Family and our guests contribute money and the Fair matches the

contributions two-to-one up to a cap of \$10,000. This motion would double the cap. He reminded everyone that the late Jill Heiman helped the Fair buy our land and it's her vision for a better community and better future that we are honoring with our contributions.

*Peach Gallery:* Richie Weinman (chair of JHVF allocation) added, "Everything has gone up in price. But what hasn't increased is state and federal support for social services; in some cases it's even been cut." Jon Pincus supports the motion and said since the Fair Family has increased its contributions then the Fair should also. Joseph Newton expressed support and likes the fact that it's voted on by the Family. Randy Nowell (VegManEc) said, "Let's raise it if we can." Rivka Gross (Security Crew) said having a cap "moots the point of the 2:1 ratio." Leslie supports it but urged the Board to table it until next month so it could go through the regular budget cycle process, especially for an amount as high as \$10,000. She advised looking at all of the Fair's philanthropic categories and how best to expand our generosity. She brought up an idea that several others supported throughout the discussion and that is that many members feel discouraged that 'basic needs' is the category that has won the vote year after year. She suggested reducing the number of categories and dividing the money according to percentages. Hilary said the Fair's philanthropy is "one of the things members are most proud of" and she appreciates that the Committee understands the need for a cap because "that's so important to budgeting." Arna Shaw (Elder/Booth Rep) supports the motion and got a laugh when she reminisced about OCF's early days when people met in her living room and argued about "how to spend the surplus money after we put aside \$5,000 in seed money for the next year's Fair."

*Board:* Bear said, "We are philanthropic first and foremost." He felt it was alright to do this ahead of the budget cycle because "our values should guide our budget." Katie said she will vote no on this motion "as a protest vote" because the category "has been basic needs for so long many people have said they no longer vote or contribute and have become discouraged." She asked that the Committee consider a scale. For example, if 'basic needs' got 55% of the vote it could get 55% of the money instead of 100%. Greg said he felt it was warranted to approve this ahead of the budget process. He said the Board should have a work session on philanthropy issues. He said he sometimes disagrees with Katie but he admires her position and the fact that she sticks to arts and education as areas to fund. He said there is "legitimacy in giving 'til it hurts." Lawrence said, "I agree our principles should trump our process, but we can do both." He said the money won't be distributed until after the Fair so it would be best to let it go through process and vote next month. He likes the proportional spending idea and would "enthusiastically support this motion" after it goes through process. Diane supports the increase because she knows "the value of a dollar has decreased." She also supports the percentage idea and said she always supports the 'environment' category because "without the environment we have nothing." She likes the idea of the runner-up getting some money too. Anna said she will "of course" vote for this and asked "what are we doing with a cap" then added, "as a Board member that's not responsible I realize." Deane said he would vote for this now or later so "I decided now. Why wait?" He said he remembers back in the late 70's when the Fair budget was one sheet of paper.

**The motion passed: 8 in favor; 2 opposed (Katie, Lawrence).**

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, November 5, 2007 at 7pm at the EWEB Community Room. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled items: Budget Issues; Path Planning Process (Paxton); as well as the following new business: Approve Election Results (Bear); Consider Donation to Skipping Stones Magazine (Deane); Appoint Officers and Board Committee Liaisons (Bear); Approve Revenue Projection; Toilets and Handwashing (Deane); Pony Rides (Deane).

Minutes by Barbara Edmonds who thanks Alexander McCall Smith ("The Full Cupboard of Life") for the following quote: "But there was a great deal that people did not understand and would only learn through bitter experience. In her view, one of these things was the truth of the old African saying that it takes an entire village to raise a child. Of course it does; of course it does. Everybody in a village had a role to play in bringing up a child – and cherishing it – and in return that child would in due course feel responsible for everybody in that village. That is what makes life in society possible. We must love one another and help one another in our daily lives. That was the traditional African way and there was no substitute for it. None."



have a spooky halloween!