

# Family Album



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APRIL 2008

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*Calling All Fools —  
Git yer party gear ready!*



## Fair Family Calendar

### April

- 24 Elders Committee Meeting, OCF office, 6:30 pm
- 26 Booth Registration at Eugene Saturday Market, 10 am to 5 pm
- 30 All new craft booth applicants notified of approval status

### May

- 1 Admission tickets go on sale
- 3 SPRING FLING, 7 pm, WOW Hall, 8th and Lincoln, Eugene
- 5 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Training Center, Eugene
- 5 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 13 Land Use Management Planning Committee meeting, 7 pm, OCF office
- 18 Vision Quest Summit (see announcement)
- 22 Elders Committee Meeting, OCF office, 6:30 pm

### June

- 1 NO DOGS ALLOWED ON SITE
- 2 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, EWEB Training Center, Eugene
- 2 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 7 Main Camp opens
- 14 Charter member booth claim begins
- 15 Returning booth claim begins
- 17 Mandatory food vendors' meeting, 7pm, Harris Hall, 125 E. 8th, Eugene
- 22 One-year-only booth claim day
- 28 Last day to submit plans for major booth work
- 28 Significant Other pass fee increases to \$80
- 29 Board of Directors Meeting (July meeting - don't ask), 4 pm, OCF site

### July

- 10 Annual meeting of booth participants, 7 - 9 pm, Shady Grove
- 11, 12, 13 THE BIG PEACH WEEKEND

### August

- 8-16 Culture Jam
- 23 Teddy Bear's Picnic, 3 pm
- 24 OCF Evaluation
- 31 Deadline to submit Board candidate statements for publication in the Fair Family News and the Voters Pamphlet

## Happy Birthday to Our Fair Family Taurus

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



## Help Wanted

Groundskeeper, Oregon Country Fair. Seasonal part-time landscape maintenance in Veneta/Elmira area. Maintain/operate equipment, vegetation ID skills desirable. Job description available [oregoncountryfair.org](http://oregoncountryfair.org) or at Fair's Eugene office. Pay commensurate with experience up to \$10/hour. EOE, preference given to OCF participants. Resume and cover letter deadline 5 pm, May 16, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene 97401. 541.343.4298

## Senior Soirees

The Old Timers Picnic will be held on Saturday, June 28th between 4 and 8 pm at the Main Camp Kitchen.

The Elders Meet & Greet will be held on Thursday, July 10th from 7 to 9 pm around the fire pit at Alice's.

The Elders Bell Ringing Ceremony will take place on Friday, July 11th at 8:30 pm at Shady Grove.

## You Say it's Your Birthday

Wondering why you don't see your birthday on the list? It may be because you haven't told us about it yet. Please let us know your name, Fair affiliation and astrological sign so we can join the well-wishers and you can see your name in print!



## Make the Vision Real

You are invited to participate in a Vision Quest Summit to begin the implementation phase of realizing the goals and strategies we've envisioned over the last three and a half years of the Vision Quest process. Look at the list published in the March FFN (or check out our website or call the office to get a copy).

Do you see one or more of these strategies that you would like to work on, that you have experience with, or that is meaningful and important to you? Then come to the VQ Summit on May 18 at the Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High St., and meet other Fairies who want to work on the same projects. This is the time and place to get those dreams out of the clouds and on the ground. Please carpool or ride a bike.

We'll start at 11 am and go to 4 pm with a potluck lunch scheduled in. Please call (541-343-4298) or e-mail the OCF office at [office@oregoncountryfair.org](mailto:office@oregoncountryfair.org) to let us know you plan to attend.



## FFN April Showers

- Michael "Gullywasher" Ottenhausen
- Suzi "Pitter-Patter" Prozanski
- Joseph "Downpour" Newton
- Emily "Sunshower" Semple
- Dan "Thunderstorm" Cohn
- Cynde "Rainbow" Leathers
- Dominic "Deluge" DeFazio
- Brad "Steady Rain" Lerch
- Mary "Misting" Shuler
- norma "sprinkle" sax



.....

**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 information about display underwriting Email bradlerch@aol.com or call Brad @ 541-485-8265 (Un-Classifieds not paid for by paste-up won't run)

**JOHN TRUDELL**-The most inspiring speaker you'll ever hear. A.I.M. leader, poet, musician, "threat to the U.S.A.," Trudell will speak at LCC May 3 at 7:30, focusing on health care for women and children. Native hip-hop poet Ché Finch opens. Info 687-1023.

**RED LODGE** transition services presents a Native Art show benefit to "Help Imprisoned Women Back to Their Communities." New Zone Gallery, May 3, noon to 5. [www.redlodgetransition.org](http://www.redlodgetransition.org) for info.

**The Singing Soul: Improvisational A Capella** led by David Hatfield. May 10th, share conventional & non-conventional uses of the voice. For more information contact Shari @ 541-343-2834.

Equipment needed for newly acquired Village Restaurant @ OCF. Large pots, stoves, iceboxes, etc. Tell us what you have, we'll tell you what we need. Park St. Café. Sakti 343-6667.

Housing needed: 1 big room or 2 small (1 to live, one to sew). Outdoor space for 8x8 booth to make candles. 1 dog, 2 cats. Prefer River Rd. or Whiteaker - near bus route. Sue Theolass 688-6679. Thanks!

One Bedroom apartment in private home on 70 acres 15 minutes to downtown Eugene. Private entrance, large windows, jucuzzi tub, washer/dryer, landscaped yard w/patio, garden spot. No smokers, no cats. Good dog welcomed. \$750 includes utilities. 935-6064

Have carpentry skills & imagination? Looking for someone to help me build a funky clubhouse for kid. I have some lumber, logs & natural materials. Interested? Call Christina @ 342-3639.

An informal, impromptu Puget Sound Fairies Potluck Picnic is in the works for May 10th or 11th! If you'd like to join us, please email Amanda: lulyani@yahoo.com, include names and email addresses of anyone else you'd like included.

Please, please... Can you help? I am an approved henna artist and longtime OCF participant. I am seeking a booth space this year and for the future. Call Shakaia 541-484-6880 or shakaia@omnivine.com

Help. Booth space needed. Amaroq ceremonial rawhide rattles. Flexible, compact. Vendor since '90. Dedicated, hard working Fair-y, also creating and wearing giant puppets since 1988. Jill Talise, 541-592-4695 or 541-592-2408, amaroq@cavenet.com

Local authors, musicians and game makers interested in consigning books, CD's and games at the Imagine Gallery in 5th Street Market, please contact Tym Mazet at mazet\_mail@yahoo.com

Imagine, the Eugene Artisans Collective in 5th Street Public Market seeks artists to join us now! As a member you have the opportunity to sell your work 7 days a week while you focus on your business elsewhere. Responsibilities include a one year renewable lease, rent and time working in the store etc. Please call Kathryn @ 541-343-0337 Thanks!

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

4/25 Lafa Taylor with DV8 and Nanda  
4/26 Cherry Poppin' Daddies  
4/27 Dezarie CD Release Party  
4/30 Stephen Malkmus & the Jicks  
5/1 Patty Larkin & Peter Mulvey  
5/2 Mac Lethal, Grieves, Approach  
5/3 OCF Spring Fling - Accordion-Okie!  
5/9 Vagabond Opera / Los Mex Pistols  
5/11 Efterklang with Slaraffenland  
5/12 Tapes N Tapes with White Denim  
5/15 An Evening with Makana

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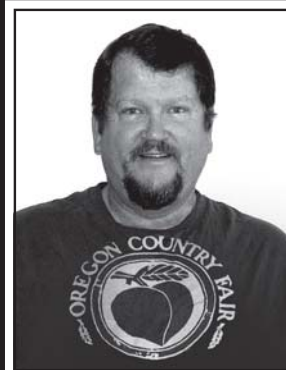
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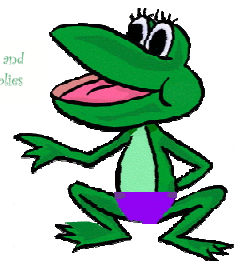
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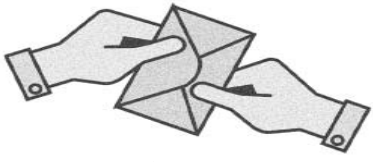
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## Family Letters

*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).*

## OCF: Evolve Toward Love

Dear Fair Family,

I awoke this morning with distressing thoughts about our Oregon Country Fair community and our future.

With the leadership and vision of Leslie Scott we have turned a 3 day event/party into a world contributor on how life should be in our crazy universe. Bringing such programs as Spoken Word and Culture Jam to the OCF honors parts of our community that are bringing diversity and peace to people across the globe. By creating Vision Quest, we have had the discussions and generated much thought about where we are going. The philanthropic work

has enriched our neighborhoods and brought some relief to those in need.

Giving and receiving are a vital part of who we are. This is the type of community I want to be a part of. I want to be life giving and think of more than just myself and the self-centered pleasure-seeking behavior that has gotten our world into the mess we are in today. I am tired of the fear and greed that permeate our society and there are times I see it manifesting in our OCF community. This has to stop.

We need to be a beacon of light for the world. Honoring our elders and our youth. Loving and respecting each other. Caring for

and being good stewards of our Earth, which means not leaving your campsite trashed! Exploring the Arts in its many-faceted and yet-to-be discovered dynamics.

We have the opportunity to grow and help change the direction that our nation and World are spinning towards. This is one of the reasons I dedicate my time and energy to the Oregon Country Fair. I believe in us.

It is about evolving, not just existing!

I urge you to get involved in the discussions about our future.

Peace~

Sara Rich

Backup Manager



## Time to Talk

It's hard to believe that it has been 12 years of the "line in the sand."

I remember the hoards of drunken frat boys, the super stoned hippies, the freak-outs and the fights. Sometimes the Fair was this exciting mix of danger and beauty, but in the end some of it was just a big bummer.

There was some hilarity that first year of policy enforcement. I still think about Kesey and Babs going around the Fair with these trash cans on wheels, doing their prankster thing and saying, "Everybody put your drugs and alcohol in here for proper disposal," and there was a drug crazed cookie-monster inside the trash cans. Or the guys that dressed up like DEA agents in suits and ties and dark glasses.

I think the up-side to the line in the sand has been that the Fair has matured in a way that we should all be proud of.

Here's the crux of the biscuit though; many of our teens and young adults were really little when the change began. They don't have any memory of why the policy is policy. I'm not kidding

when I say that every policy violation I personally responded to in '07 involved our wrist banded teens, without exception. And as we talked about the policy and its history I was surprised at how many kids told me that they just didn't know. Some of them may have been stretching the truth a little, but I think a majority of our young teens were truly surprised. In some cases I suspect that the parents have not a clue what their kids do at the Fair.

It might be past time to step it up a notch, and talk to our kids about the policy. It might be a hard conversation to have, but I like the way the Fair has changed, and I'd hate to go back to the early days of rigid policy enforcement and the hot, hot heat that permeated our event back in the mid-nineties, wouldn't you? Go ahead and empower our young people to make sound decisions and to represent the Fair. After all, sometime in the not too distant future, they will be the Fair's leaders.

See you on the playground,  
Greggory Alsdorf, aka Ducky  
Coordinator for Chela Mela Meadow

## Special Thanks to Pre-Fair Staff

Dear Fair Family,

This letter is written to all of you who are of the pre-Fair staff. This is a big and appreciative Thank You. Thank you for building it so they will come. However, for me in '07, the Thank You is louder and the gratitude heartfelt and personal.

On June 5, I was rear-ended in a three-car accident. I was seriously whiplashed and broke my foot.

Not letting the accident steal my joy, I pushed myself and greeted those that came for Main Camp opening from June 9 on, as best I could anyway. Which is why I want to say – print – Thank You.

Special thanks to Steve Wiz, Katie Cousins, TJ, Dan, Animal, Jack Ward, Barney, Carl, Cloud, FCC Sundown, the whole Kitchen Crew, QM, the doctors, Julie, Liz, Steve and Zak, as well as the many who did random acts of kindness

that allowed me to see the sensual, senseless beauties and truly feel the love.

It certainly allowed me to be humble and see that there were a lot of us hurt and yet so many stepped up to care, give extra and hug gently. Sweetly, I cry joyfully in gratitude.

Ya'll are so awesome.

The '07 Fair will not blend in with others. It stands out not because I was hurt, but because I not only felt the love but sat back and watched you all do it for the all and not just the one. I'm sure Beth was looking down and smiling and thanks you also.

The "007" Fair – mission accomplished – can't wait to do it again with/in love.

Blessings to all

Auntie Em

Main Camp Security



## Vision Fund 2008 Giving Season

by Kathryn Madden, Jill Heiman Vision Fund



Since its inception in 1996, the Jill Heiman Vision Fund has gained a reputation among Fair Family and the public as a powerful, effective tool for donating to nonprofit agencies in our community. Relying entirely on volunteers (we are not a "crew"), the Vision Fund Committee collects food vouchers, cash, and checks from crews, artists, food booths, entertainers, and the public. The Fair matches those donations and the money is funneled to community organizations that serve our more needy brothers and sisters.

We've given away more than \$165,000 since 1996! Considering the money comes to us one dollar or one food voucher at a time, this is an impressive accomplishment. As those of us who work on this effort can attest, it's truly a 'feel-good' endeavor. It's a grassroots effort that honors the spirit of community that Jill Heiman so firmly believed in.

In October, the OCF Board of Directors approved a proposal from the Jill Heiman Vision Fund Committee to increase to \$20,000 the amount it gives to the Vision Fund annually. Although the Fair in-

creased its matching ratio (from 1:1 to 2:1) in 2005, the maximum annual dollar amount from the Fair has remained \$10,000 since the inception of the Vision Fund in 1996. With the \$20,000 cap your contribution to the Vision Fund will now go further!

The category chosen by the Fair Family for the 2008 giving season is "basic needs." The Allocations Committee is currently reviewing the 13 proposals it received and will announce this year's recipients in 2008. Stay tuned, and thanks again for all your support!

# OCF Recycling: We Must Do Better

## Where Do We Go From Here?: Part IV of IV

article & photos by Joel E. (Jeep) Pagel

Driving a recycling truck or working with fellow recyclers to pick up 55 gallon barrels of glass or compost is an amazing experience. Due to our boisterous nature, we often elicit smiles from sleepy people walking back to their camps, or those early risers on their way to coffee or a shower. Through our efforts we develop aches and pains, cuts and bruises as we work our bodies to near exhaustion hefting large barrels, yet each morning we come back with an unfettered enthusiasm for moving compost and recyclables from source to solution. We love the wide-eyed grins from small children looking at our trucks, and the clang of an empty barrel as it hits the ground. We revel in the sore muscles, splurge and camaraderie of our long-time friends on the crew. We also greatly appreciate the generosity of the booths that give us coffee, a small snack, or simple accolades and pleasant conversation. All we meet are our family.

### Recycling apathy

Yet attitudes toward recycling at the OCF are changing. Recently, some members of the Fair Family have begun referring to our efforts as garbage collection. Waste removal. Trash pickup. These comments are all striking, especially when uttered by Fair Family, but they reflect elements of truth.

We daily meet Fair Family who may be better at recycling than our crew. There are booth members along East 13th who have their material packaged so that even the smallest member of our crew can lift the boxes or cans. Some booth members and campers adopt a kiosk, and work to keep it clean helping the public and Fair Family to recycle, and use this encouraging mechanism to alter attitudes about purchases and waste.

We regularly are engaged in discussion with Family who ask about particular items and how and where it may be recycled, or if they can help us lift a barrel. As pointed out earlier in this series, our concern with the lack of recycling is not with the public. For the most part, they really try hard to do the right thing and recycle. Where we have seen the key barrier to recycling at the Fair is with some Fair Family. Some Fair Family have ceased recycling efforts, or have shown apathy or disdain when recycling is not "easy."

### Too much waste

Without the fervent and sustained help of the Fair Family, the recycling crew is rapidly becoming the janitorial staff for the Fair. We don't like to be the garbage police of our event. We are not comfortable guarding recycling kiosks on Monday mornings as an occupying force, or diving into barrels of splurge to retrieve a discarded diaper or water bottle. We have watched some Fair Family sneak or abandon prohibited and/or unsorted trash into unorganized piles near kiosks. Every year we have areas where Fair Family will wait for recyclers to temporarily leave a kiosk for a pee break; upon return, crew members find large waste (carpets, chairs, etc.) and unsorted bags of trash near the kiosks. We believe those Fair Family selfishly know that someone else will clean up their mess.

Our effort to recycle does remove significant quantities from the waste stream, yet as a "sustainable" event, we are still producing too much waste. For example, in 2007, we collected 44,800 lbs of waste; whereas in 2006 we had retrieved 35,840 lbs of waste; i.e. material that we hauled to the landfill for permanent storage. We remain astounded at the amount of waste, as well as bewildered by the increasing amount per year, disproportionate to the number of Fair Family.

So what are the short and long-term solutions? Certainly, pack it in, pack it out is important; for example if you bring a carpet, or a tent, plastic sheeting, or a futon or double bed box-spring and mattress, you need to take it home. We hope in the short term (no later than 2009) durables (glasses, plates and bowls) for every food serving at the Fair will have

been implemented. Considerable work by Fair Family and booth members will be necessary in the next year to create and maintain an infrastructure to clean and sanitize flatware, plates, and cups and move these items to the booths safely and efficiently.

We also think the Fair may benefit by shifting a portion of the Recycling Crew effort to concentrate on education at the kiosks, potentially creating a separate dedicated crew who staff kiosks during the entirety of our event. Through an on-site educational focus to develop consistent communication on what can be recycled and where, we believe we might help the public and Fair Family get our effort back on track.

Sadly, our event will need to re-examine the use of the large trucks that many of us have grown to love. Our trucks Godzilla and Blueberry Princess are amazing vehicles; older than many of our elders, we love them for all their beauty and power. However they guzzle gas, seem to break down at the worst possible time, make many of us ill due to their fumes, and for their whole lives have spewed literally tons of hydrocarbons to contribute to the warming of our planet. Investing in Fair

infrastructure for several budget cycles instead of land purchase might be considered. Some of us hope the Fair will, during this next budget cycle, work to divert available cash to re-engineer our existing vehicles, as well as invest in alternative forms of transportation, including additional bike carts, fuel efficient trucks, and/or electric-powered vehicles and solar arrays to charge them.

Much of our concern has to do with the source of the material we use at the Fair. We believe booth members and Fair Family need to purchase and use items that have been recycled, and can be recycled again. Certain items such as plastic straws, plastic cups, plastic cup tops, one-use plastic water bottles, and non-recyclable batteries should be banned from the Fair site at future events.

### Enforcement

Finally, there are many of us on the Recycling Crew who believe self-policing is not working. While we maintain a list of booths and camping areas who have failed to follow the Fair Guidelines, our event lacks an enforcement initiative in an attempt to be friendly. Nobody wants to be overbearing, and we have always hoped carrots work better than sticks. However, it may be time to discuss the contribution of those Fair Family and booth members whose conscience has annually been spotty. It may be appropriate to consider annual publication in this periodical of pictures of the dirty dozen offenders, a series of escalating fines, probation, and even expulsion for repeat egregious offenders (there are several) including camping areas and booth vendors who choose not to embrace recycling at our event.

If we are going to claim the Oregon Country Fair is sustainable and promote that it has minimal impact to the land and the Earth's resources, we will need to walk our talk. Currently, our event may be healthy for our spirits, and as a philanthropic event to our community, but is our event healthy for the Earth? Anyone who looks at the debris strewn about the Fair site after our event, or peers into the dumpsters before they are swiftly removed from the Fair property will surmise our event leaves a large footprint on our land, and a permanent blight at the landfill.

My fellow recyclers puzzle over the sustainability quandary each year before, during and after our event. We try to conceive of solutions to the enigma of creating a sustainable Oregon Country Fair, some wacky and some pragmatic. Regardless of our perspective, we all agree Fair Family must increase their efforts to recycle, and consequently decrease their consumption of "stuff." We hypothesize future archeologists studying layers of detritus from our collective midden will puzzle over the 152 tons of material we sent to the landfill since 2000. Will you?

#### Amount of waste from OCF trucked to landfill:

2000.....	33 tons
2001.....	27 tons
<b>(Fairwide composting begins)</b>	
2002.....	14 tons
2003.....	13 tons
2004.....	17 tons
2005.....	11 tons
2006.....	17 tons
2007.....	20 tons





Family Homesteader Lemonade Stand 2004.

## RENAISSANCE ROOTS

### Family Homesteader: More than a Lemonade Stand

By Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News; © 2008 Suzi Prozanski  
Photos from Family Homesteader archives.

Jan Tritten founded Family Homesteader in 1974, with booths at the Saturday Market and the Renaissance Faire (as the Oregon Country Fair was known then). She also is a midwife and has helped usher dozens of Fair children into this world as she attended their mothers during birth.

#### “I never liked lemonade”

Jan Tritten first heard about the Oregon Renaissance Faire at Saturday Market in Eugene, where she had a booth selling tie-dye clothing and lemonade.

“I started tie-dyeing when Nicole, our first daughter, was 6 months old, when she was a little tiny baby,” Jan says. She tie-dyed a lot of baby shirts until she got good at it. When Nicole was almost 2, Jan decided to sell tie-dyed baby clothes at the Saturday Market, which was then held atop a parking structure known as the “butterfly lot.” Jan arranged her booth so that she could hang tie-dye clothing for sale on one side in the crafts section, while she ran a lemonade stand on the other side of the booth.

“I decided I didn’t want to go to work in a real job with a small baby. So my husband (Al) would take care of our child while I did the Market, and that would bring in a little extra income,” Jan says “... And it just ended up to be, actually, the most solid part of our income — a little old lemonade stand. People laugh, ‘Oh you do a lemonade stand? It’s the little kid still in ya!’

But Jan confesses, “I never liked lemonade” while growing up because they always had canned lemonade at home. “Canned lemonade is so awful compared to fresh.”

A friend from Saturday Market asked Jan to share a drink booth at the Renaissance Faire in 1974. Jan says her first experience at the Faire was not very magical, that the ambiance was ruined by “heavy energy at night with the bikers ... just some really scary-looking characters. ... It was really very frightening.” She remembers going home at night and coming back each day to tend the booth.

But the next year she got a booth site near Main Stage, and had the opposite experience — it was almost too mellow. “We were in back at that loop for a couple years, and it was kind of a dead loop as far as food is concerned,” she says.

She took 1976 off from the Fair because she was pregnant with her second daughter. “And when I had her, I had a home birth.” It was such a wonderful experience that she decided to become a midwife.

#### Love your neighbor

In 1977, Jan’s friend Larry Rakestraw invited her to move in next to his Fair food booth. “He was directly across from Community Village, where we are now,” Jan says. “At first, I think probably for three or four years, we were considered one booth space even though we had two different physical booths. He had done it with strawberry shortcake people, and those people stopped doing it when I started. ... He had Cactus Patch, which was Mexican food.”

They split the booth fee and the passes for about four years, until the Fair decided they should be considered two booths instead of one. Larry sold Mexican food and Jan sold lemonade and other food items. “We did strawberry shortcake a couple of years,” Jan remembers. “We did caramel apples, we did coffee before there was a coffee booth

across the way, but then when Susan (Perreault) started doing coffee (at Liberty Coffee), it was her only thing, so we stopped. There’s always been (at the Fair) ... the same Saturday Market ethic that we have of trying to work things out like that. We look at competitors more as colleagues. ... I think the Saturday Market is gentle about that kind of thing. ... There’s enough for everybody. ... It’s much better to love your neighbor and it

makes for great relationships all the way around.”

Jan says one of their favorite aspects of their booth is a maple tree. “We probably have the most beautiful tree on the Fairgrounds,” she says. “It’s a maple that got hit by lightning, so it’s hollowed out. I put the cups that we’re using right in the hollow of the tree. ... To me it’s the most stunning tree in the



Adam has a maple tree-top view.

Fair. It’s just such a beautiful

thing, all the moss. ... When I first went out there, Larry had built a tree house up there. First he had a couple of steps up through the hollow of the tree, and then there was a platform and then another platform. And we slept up there for years.”

Then in the mid-1980s, Lane County asked the Fair to tighten up the enforcement of codes for lofts and tree houses. “My dad was rebuilding the booth,” Jan says, “and (the Fair) said, ‘Well, you have to do something to shore up the tree house.’ And he said, ‘We’re not using it.’ And so we lost it. ... They just came and took everything down. I’m sure they were worried that the tree would actually fall over. They thought maybe some of the wood was keeping it up, because it had kind of grown in. But they took it all down and the tree survived.

“Several of the guys in our booth play music,” Jan says, “and they love to get up there and play music. Even though there’s no tree house up there anymore, they’ll get up in the tree and sit in the crooks of it and play music up there.”

Larry stopped vending at the Fair for a while, but recently came back. He now sells roasted nuts from a cart. Meanwhile, Jan stayed in the same booth for more than 30 years, selling lemonade and limeade (plain or with berries mixed in), and a special peach lemonade made just for the Fair.

#### Multi-generational lemonade barristas

“I named the booth Family Homesteader because we wanted to start a magazine about homesteading” in 1972, Jan says. “Then we got cold feet

and decided not to start a magazine, but I like the name. We were homesteading. We were growing our own food. When I first started Market, I had goats and chickens and rabbits and the whole thing, so: Family Homesteader. It’s a weird name for a lemonade stand ... but I didn’t realize that the name would end up to be so accurate, because now my children (work) the booth with me.”

The booth is powered by lemonade barristas, who shake up the lemonade with fruit to order. Jan hires family members and friends to help.



Lemon barrista Jared with Jan 1999.

“For a number of years, my parents and my sister helped me in the booth” at the Fair and the Saturday Market, Jan says. But her parents passed away 10 years ago and her sister now lives in California. Her midwifery partners have helped in the booth at various times, as have their kids. Jan’s kids and their friends also have helped. “I’ve given probably 50 kids their first job, a lot of them have either been midwife’s kids or children I helped birth,” Jan says, “So there’s been this history of lemonade and midwifery.”

#### Fair ferrying with the first cart

One booth tradition is using garden carts to ferry supplies. Jan says she brought the first garden cart to the Fair. “We have a homestead, so I’d just take the garden cart. We’d bring our supplies in and we’d go get ice in it. The next year, everybody borrowed it. And then the next year, somebody else got a cart, so pretty soon there were three or four. And then the Fair got carts. But when my daughter was a baby ... it was used as a playpen place when we weren’t getting ice. So that’s (been) a long time. She’ll be (32 in 2008) and she’s been doing the Fair since she was born. I was pregnant with Loren out there, so it’s his (28th in ‘08) off-and-on Fair. I took them out there as babies and then a little bit as kids. ...

“I can remember, I put a sign on my daughter (when she was little): ‘Bring me back to Booth 193 if I get lost.’ I think she was 3 (at the time). And she still tells this story: ‘I was going down to so-and-so’s booth and they brought me back because of that sign! ... Somebody brought me back! I knew where I was going, and they brought me back!’”

Julia Herson, one of Jan’s midwifery partners who worked in the booth, remembers using the garden cart to haul water when the water ran out in the booth. “So you’d go up first thing in the morning, 5, 6 in the morning,” Julia says. “... I liked doing it because it was fun and we always had to have two of us because the cart (was so heavy). Can you imagine how heavy the cart would be with four 55 gallons of water?”

## Smudge and honey for thirsty bees

Another booth tradition involves celebrating Julia's son's birthday with Dana's Cheesecake. Oren Herson has a birthday "one Saturday out of seven" at the Fair, Jan says. "So we've had a birthday party Saturday night for the last 20-some years" with Dana's Cheesecake.

Oren says he started working at the booth 19 years ago, when he was 12. "I was shaking lemonade at the front counter, screamin' or yellin' 'Lemonade!' having a good time, serving it," he says. He particularly remembers the year the bees attacked, when he was in high school. "One year there were so many bees that they swarmed, worse than the mosquitoes, thousands of them," Oren says, "and we had to shake them off. We had this sweet syrup (for the lemonade) and bees everywhere."

Jan says that the bees came from Community Village, when a beekeeping demonstration apparently went awry and the bees made a bee-line for the sweet syrup at the lemonade booth across the path.

"That was unbelievable," Julia agrees. "It was so funny. That was intense. ... They didn't sting. They weren't aggressive. They just wanted the food. It was intense. It was really hot; we were selling a lot of lemonade."

Julia says to ward off the bees, they smudged the booth continuously with sage. "for hours! We had two people with sage around the (lemon and lime) cutters and we had three people with sage around the (drink) shakers," she says.

"It got worse when I had an idea, and my idea was wrong," admits Rick Herson, Oren's dad. "My idea was to go spill some honey and attract them over, beyond, behind the booth, and they would go over there. And what happened was, I put enough out there that, instead of the bees coming from a mile, they came from 18 miles away."

"And let me add, he was not in the booth, cutting or shaking," Julia says.

"No, I'm just the idea guy," Rick says. "I snuck in and I had an idea." Finally on Sunday morning, "Jan hired a guy to come in and smoke 'em out," he adds.

## Babies of the Fair and Market

Jan says her family looks forward to the Fair every year. "It's funny because we'll be talking about the Fair all year," she says. "It's like a huge family reunion. The Fair plays much more of a role in their life than almost anything. They're talking about it, planning who's gonna come, what they're gonna do, if they're gonna see a show, and it's talked about in our family, of an evening, probably more than anything except politics and football."

Jan says she gets a real sense of community by participating in the Country Fair and the Saturday Market.

"The first time I did Market, I walked out of there with friends," Jan says, "these solid friends that you have over the years (that) you check in with. And they come down and see what you're doing. The midwifery community and the Market community have all been kind of related in that there's a place where I could be found. They didn't have to make a phone call. They go, 'Oh, it's Saturday, I'll go down and see Jan and show her my baby.' So they'd come down for Saturday Market and I'd watch babies grow in this way, which I thought was a really sweet way — like Country Fair is once a year. I see some of 'my babies' at each Fair. Now I'm meeting their babies!"

## Boom, boom, boom

She remembers one Fair year as being especially fun for her as a midwife. "There was an eclipse right before the Fair, maybe it was a couple days before the Fair," Jan says. "I was working in two midwifery practices at the time, and we probably had eight babies due. And do you know, in that eclipse time, in that 36-hour period of time, eight babies came. So I was running from one birth to the other, and it was really exciting. And then, after the eclipse, like the next day, was Country Fair. And the last ... in that little string was Neddy Luna, who is up at the El Burrito booth at Main Stage. I watched her son, Tommy, grow up and do the booth, and now he's taking tremendous responsibility for the booth. And I helped birth him. He was the last in that string of eclipse births."

"You couldn't pull us off the clouds," Jan says. "To get calls that fast — just boom, boom, boom, boom — and watch the eclipse happening as these births were happening! I'm sure that Country Fair was the highest. All those wonderful babies! It was so much fun!"

"A lot of the people that we serve doing home births are Fair people or people who come out to the Fair," Jan says, adding that she also was the midwife at the birth of Louise Lumen, who now runs the Fair's Ice Crew. "So for me, part of the Fair is that the mamas will come by and give me a report on how their kids are doing, or the kids will come by, and so it adds an extra dimension of the Fair. ... The Fair definitely has an energy. And most nights are just, you know, the sweet energy that we've had for a number of years. It really feels like a family."



Family Homesteader Lemonade crew 2004.

## Sweet nighttime gives a break

People who work in food booths don't get to see much of the daytime entertainment, Jan says. But she still gets to enjoy things at night.

"One of the best parts of entertainment is walking around at night," she says. "There aren't many campfires any more because of fire danger, but just the little impromptu bands and entertainments that go on around the Fair, to me that's one of the most special parts. As a food booth, because we're open 'til midnight, it's hard to get up to the Midnight Show. It's hard when you're doing a food booth to concentrate, even when I have time ... it's like this homing instinct, go back to the booth in an hour. ... I don't have the patience to really sit and watch (a show) because you need to concentrate on that. ... And so in the evening, after the last shift working with lemonade, I walk around and partake and it's very sweet."

Running a food booth at the Country Fair, even "just" a drink booth, requires logistics and planning, Jan confirms. She orders 20 or 30 cases of fresh fruit for the Fair, in addition to bringing in a truckload of nonperishable supplies and another truckload of frozen fruit. "The Country Fair's massive," Jan says. "I mean I can't imagine what the others do because it's massive enough for me. But it's just planning and I like to plan things." The Fair brings in enough income to help make a weekly lemonade stand into a viable business model. "It helps us make it, it's a solid part, it really is," she says, adding that the other solid piece is the Holiday Market.

## Evolving fun, back-and-forth love grows

Jan says she has seen lots of changes at the Country Fair, but the biggest change is how many of the booths have evolved into multi-generational enterprises.

"I think it's really changed," she says. "It's gotten easier; it's gotten more fun. I think for a lot of booths, it's the generations. I know the Blintz booth has three generations coming in and for them, looking for enough passes to get all the generations in. ... So it is really different."

She says the Fair has also gotten better organized over the years. "They get more efficient at getting us in, getting us out. ... Each year has progressively gotten easier ... and better as far as the organization. ... Once we get in and get the truck parked, everything goes really pretty smoothly."

Jan says she's gratified and even a little amazed that her once-a-week lemonade stand has been so successful. She also used to run a booth at the Street Fair and Folk Festival at the University of Oregon, and the Scandinavian Festival in Junction City. But since she became a midwife, she only participates in the Saturday Market and the Country Fair.

She comes back to the Fair because, "it's a spiritual high," she says. "There's high enough love that goes back and forth, and deep family roots. ... I'm an odd one because I'm a Christian, but I do the Fair and love the Fair. We have a meadow out there, and we have a service in the morning, which is kinda neat. ... It's an interesting aspect because I guess we're some pretty rare birds."

Jan says the values that make the Fair special for her include, "cooperation, caring, love your neighbor as yourself, the Golden Rule. The same ethic as we have at Saturday Market, where you're not a competitor, but a colleague who might need to borrow some cups. You're open to sharing if you have enough. ... And also a spirit of adventure! We always like to bring someone out there that's never been before. ... Open-mindedness is really important, I think. Non-judgmental is important in every aspect of life, and no less so at the Fair."

(Special thanks go to Hal Hartzel (Elder, History Booth), who contributed to this story by interviewing the Herson family at the Fair.)



Jan Tritten with kids Loren (left) and Renee.



# Endowment Fund Recipients



The Bill Wooten Memorial Endowment Fund of the Oregon Country Fair has awarded a total of \$10,650 to support youth-oriented nonprofit organizations in the communities of Veneta, Elmira and Fern Ridge. This year's grants continue the OCF's support of art and environmental education in the Fair's home community. OCF grants join with other funding sources in making these projects possible. The 2008 Endowment Fund recipients are:

• **Veneta Elementary School, \$2,500**

Project will explore community service through the medium of fabric art. An experienced fabric artist will work with students to construct quilted banners that will honor community services and be displayed at community sites relying on volunteer participation.

• **Elmira Elementary School, \$2,500**

Project will be conducted by a children's book author who will help students produce a pop-up book about an animal of their choice. They will participate in brainstorming, character development, storyboarding, writing, illustration and editing processes.

• **Applegate Art Guild, \$2,500**

Project will support the Explorers Club's 12-week summer program for Fern Ridge area youth. Local artists, assisted by paid high school students, will provide more than 100 elementary-age children with performing, literary and visual arts courses.

• **Camp Wilani, \$750**

Project will provide support for the summer camp's HOHI (Hold Onto Health Initiative), which addresses childhood obesity. Campers will grow

herbs and vegetables to be used in meals, measure steps with pedometers, and create a cookbook of the recipes used during their week of camp, all in order to foster an appreciation of what a healthy lifestyle can mean to their family's health.

• **OCF Culture Jam Scholarships, \$2,400**

Project will sponsor the participation of six low-income youth from the Fair's home community in Culture Jam, an eight-day summer camp providing young people with an opportunity to participate in collaborative arts from diverse cultures, and explore leadership, social issues, and the natural world.

The Oregon Country Fair Endowment Fund annually makes grants to organizations in Veneta, Elmira and Fern Ridge with a nonprofit, tax-exempt IRS status. The grants tangibly represent the Fair's deep appreciation of its home community and presents opportunities to further develop the Fair's relationship with its neighbors.

Since the endowment fund was started 15 years ago, the Fair has awarded approximately \$150,000 from the fund to nonprofits in the Fern Ridge area to promote the arts, education, cultural diversity, and a peaceful, just and environmentally sound society.

In addition to the endowment and other projects, the Fair provides archeology students and educators access to its property to study archeological sites along the Long Tom River. The Fair also makes grants to social service agencies and nonprofit organizations in Oregon through both the Jill Heiman Vision Fund and the Board of Directors' Donations Fund. To date, Fair philanthropic donations total more than \$250,000.

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[www.ocfelderscouncil.org/ocfeccommittee/ocfec.html](http://www.ocfelderscouncil.org/ocfeccommittee/ocfec.html)

**Council of Elders Web Site:**  
<http://www.ocfelderscouncil.org/index.html>

**To join the Elder listserve:**  
[WonderfulOCFElders-owner@yahoo.com](mailto:WonderfulOCFElders-owner@yahoo.com)

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**OCF Fair Family Wiki:**  
<http://wholecountryfair.pbwiki.com/FrontPage>

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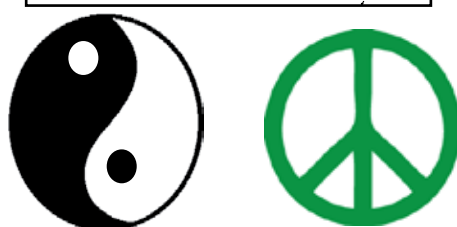
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# Fair Members Discuss Options for Future Leadership

by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News

About 50 people met for a work session in March to discuss options for filling the General Manager position when current GM Leslie Scott leaves after this year's Fair.

"I was on the Board when it made the last GM hire, and that was a watershed moment for the Fair," said Steve Wisnovsky (Site Manager). "Now we're at a watershed moment for the Fair again. ... We need to examine where we are and where we want to be." He urged everyone to look at the Vision Quest document printed in March's Fair Family News because it outlines important goals for the Fair's future.

A diverse group met in the Hub Yurt at the Fair site to share ideas in an open discussion circle. Here's what people said:

- Take a step back and look at the Fair's structure and process.
- Become less top-down directed and institute a matrixed, cross-communication structure.
- Consider the applicant's personality in addition to work skills. "Leslie's been effective because of her warmth and enthusiasm."
- Seek candidates who have skills working in an inclusive environment.
- Seek people of color to apply for the job to help increase our diversity.
- Seek someone with fiscal experience. (Co-Treasurer Hilary Anthony pointed out that when Leslie started, the Fair budget was \$300,000; Leslie was paid \$18,000 without benefits; and there was one caretaker position. Now, the Fair has a \$1 million budget, an endowment, six people on the payroll, plus contractors and temporary workers.)
- Do a better job at marketing the event. Aim for sellout crowds all three days to keep new people coming through the gates.
- Hire someone "with acute political skills, a real visionary who at the same time can channel the visions of others."
- We need someone who can say "no" in a "yes, yes, yes!" world. Tact is important.
- The next GM should come from our volunteers "so that the person has a profound sense of what it means to volunteer at the Fair."
- Consider hiring more than one person for the job, which has grown considerably since

Leslie started.

• The Fair "is no longer just about the event." Changing the job title to Executive Director might attract more qualified applicants, even if the pay is the same.

• Hire an executive director as well as someone who does event management to handle the event itself.

• Look for an executive director to do outreach fundraising, help coordinate volunteers and be a resource for the employees

• The Fair's our main event and whoever is in charge should still be in charge of the event because that's where the Fair brings in all its money.

• Write a job description that better distributes the load that Leslie has carried. "Leslie has done such a great job that she's created almost a myth. But we need someone to take on a job, not a myth."

• Hire someone in-house and divide the job up.

• Hire someone "at least tentatively before this year's Fair to give that person a chance to shadow Leslie during the Fair."

• There's not enough time to hire someone before this year's Fair. The process takes a while. This organization moves glacially. The Board still needs to approve a new job description, which hasn't been written.

• Leslie's not falling off the face of the planet, she could come back as a consultant.

• "We have a management team that's competent and volunteer crew coordinators who have a long history in their jobs at the Fair. Whoever is coming won't be walking into a vacuum."

• The remaining staff will be a bridge to the new person when Leslie walks away. "We work collaboratively and how we integrate a person or how they integrate with us will be key."

• Realistically, whoever steps into Leslie's job will take quite some time to get to understand the nuts and bolts. It's not going to happen in a year.

Steve Wisnovsky and Charlie Ruff (Assistant General Manager) both spoke in favor of contacting TACS (Technical Assistance for Community Services), an Oregon nonprofit dedicated to the success of nonprofit organizations. TACS

offers "an interim executive director who can come in for a limited time and help us make assessments of where management is and where we want to go," Steve said. "They craft their recommendations on what tools we need to get us to our goals."

"It's a meaningful opportunity to assess who we are as an organization," Charlie added. "The interim director can give us an unbiased view — a different look at what we need to do with that position. They can shadow the person and help capture essential job data."

Other comments:

• Can a mainstream organization like TACS help the Fair, with our collaborative, non-standard approach to solving issues?

• McKenzie River Gathering had a positive experience working with TACS. "Their skill is helping groups come up with their own agenda. They're not top-down."

• TACS has a rule that whoever helps an organization can't accept the job they're helping with.

Leslie spoke at the end, saying: "I came here to listen. There's a sense of excitement and opportunity to hear what people say. ... The job description captures about half of what I spend my time on. My failure is conveying to people what the job entails on a year-round basis. ... The event is just a large tip of the iceberg. ... What happens at the event is already documented. We don't need to hire or bring someone on who already knows what happens at the event. ... But the rest of the year is a piece I'm grappling with now. ... We have time to sort out how we want it to work in September. I'll be available, if needed, to work on a contract basis in the future. No matter what happens, I'm planning on coming back as a volunteer next year. This new group of folks will be doing just fine and won't need me hanging around."

Jack facilitated a big group hug to end the open session, which was followed by a tasty potluck lunch. Later, the Board continued the discussion in closed session.

Next, the Personnel Committee will revise the job description for the person to be hired after Leslie leaves and submit it to the Board for approval.

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## Craft Jury Process Faces Change: Slides or Something Else?

by Jeff Harrison, Craft Inventory

The Country Fair is a beast. Sometimes a soaring winged horse, sometimes a smiling dragon that promises transformation with a wink, sometimes a singing golden bird, sometimes a plodding behemoth. Many beasts. Some beasts are ready for the 21st century more than others.

Is the craft application process (that beast) ready for the 21st century? Ah, well, um, let's see. As many of you know, craft applicants have been required, forever, to include three slides of their craft with their applications. On jury day, six jurors sit and look at those slides for hours and mark their evaluations. It's a fair system, and one that has worked for us and other such fairs around the world. But it seems, increasingly, an antiquated system. At least that's what I've been hearing over the past several weeks from frustrated applicants who were having trouble getting slides made.

I've heard there's this new thing called—well, I don't know what it's called, but I guess it allows you to send pictures on a disc, or

through the internet, and then project them. Has something to do with digital cameras, which apparently a lot of people have these days. Anybody know anything about all this? Wanna come convert our process over to this seemingly magical new format?

I'm not a Luddite—just an old fart with a couple of 35-mm cameras and thousands of pictures of kids and grandkids and dogs and beaches—all piled up in envelopes or tucked away in slide trays. They say this new thing would help me with those tumbling piles and lost carousels. Maybe. I do know that when the grandkids started asking to see the picture, in the camera, right after I took it, I began to wonder what universe I was in!

Well, you know, "let me not to the progress of true whatevers admit impediments," as someone once said. If this is something y'all want, something the Fair needs to do, I'll get some help and get it done. But what if there are lots of silent old farts out there who won't know how to apply if we change the system?

(Um, is that silly? I don't know.)

I've already asked Craft Inventory crew what they think. One member coordinates an arts magazine whose submissions come in this new form. She said she can help. I imagine some folks in Fair administration know a thing or two about it, as well. We'll start talking.

Before we proceed, either tentatively or whole-hog, we'd really like to get some feedback from Fair family and the arts community generally. If you have ideas, or would just like to cast your vote one way or the other on this, please contact me. Really.

E-mail: [craftinventory@oregoncountryfair.org](mailto:craftinventory@oregoncountryfair.org), subject: Fair slides

Phone: 343-4298, Craft Inventory

Mail: Fair office, Attn. Jeff

If it's time for this rough beast to stop slouching toward (um, where were we going?) and transform itself into a miracle bird singing on a golden bough, well, okey dokey. Let us know.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING



APRIL 7, 2008

Present: Diane Albino, Danya Ariel, Katie Cousins, Paxton Hoag, Jack Makarchek, Deane Morrow, Joseph Newton and Palmer Parker (alternates), Carl Taylor, Lawrence Taylor.

Not: Lara Howe, Bear Wilner-Nugent. (Both Joseph and Palmer voted all evening; and Bear usually facilitates the meeting, but tonight Lawrence did.)

### Agenda Review

During agenda review, Jack moved and Katie seconded that the Board move two items from new to old business so they could be discussed tonight: the Groundskeeper Job Description and Green Tickets. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

### Announcements

Jen-lin Hodgden (Feedback Coordinator) passed around cookies to raise money for Culture Jam scholarships. At the end of the evening she had \$68.

Barbara urged people to think about applying for the job of Recording Secretary; it's a wonderful opportunity for the right person. Is that you? (Send a letter of interest to the Board; Barbara retires in July.)

Katie said the Personnel Committee incorrectly announced at the March 30 meeting that they were soliciting letters of interest from people interested in being on the GM hiring committee. But the PC must first develop a job description and publish ads for the position before it solicits such letters. She apologized on behalf of the PC for this error and explained that those people who have already submitted a letter of interest will not have to re-submit it when the time comes to ask for more letters and form a hiring committee.

norma said the Spring Fling is May 3 at 7pm at Wow Hall. She also announced the retirement of Energy Park Coordinator, Nancy BeBout, and thanked her for "her many years of dedicated service."

Percy Hilo (Entertainer) was down from Seattle and asked the Board members to introduce themselves so he could put faces to the names he reads/hears about.

Jeff Harrison (Craft Inventory) pointed out the table in the middle of the room with 26 items submitted for approval by the Board, who later rated the items and approved 24 of them. Jeff said regular craft jurying (not with logos) is scheduled for April 12 with results known by the end of the month.

Palmer commented that it was nice to see so many faces in the Peach Gallery.

Steve W. announced a tour of the (almost) new property acquisition (the OutaSite Lot, plus more acreage). Meet between 4-5pm on Sunday May 4 (the day after the Spring Fling), at the Highway 126 Maple Gate ramp. There are cows in the field so it's not appropriate to bring dogs.

Joseph said people can have a full day at the Fair on April 20. There's a Highway Pick-Up at 10am, a Path Planning meeting at noon at the Yurt, and a Wildflower Walk at 2pm.

Etienne Smith aka Auntie Em (Security Crew) announced she plans to run for the Board in October.

Joseph planned on making a motion but decided to make an announcement instead congratulating "the parents, students and communities of the Eugene District 4J schools on their advocacy for their respective schools, and in particular the demonstration of deep community involvement by the people of Coburg in advocating for Coburg Elementary School."

### Approval of Minutes

Jack moved and Carl seconded to approve the minutes of the March 2008 Board meeting. Steve got a laugh when he made a correction to the March Site Manager's report; it was 6-8 inches of snow onsite rather than 6-8 feet! (silly oops, my fault not his) The motion passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

### Member Input

Jen-lin said the Park Street Café is the new Village restaurant. She thanked the Food Committee "for helping us with this process."

### Staff and Officer Reports

**General Manager:** Tickets go on sale May 1. Leslie just returned from speaking in Portland (at the Governor's Conference on Tourism) about sustainable practices at events. She talked about the Green ticket

option as "one way we can educate and inform people" about how the Fair is working to become more climate neutral. The Fair will again advertise on LTD's biodiesel buses with wonderful artwork by Dan Hitchcock. She renewed all the Fair's insurance policies which renew this month; met with Entertainment Coordinators and the Fair's attorney about contract language; and continued to negotiate with LTD but also expanded her talks to private carriers as mandated by recent federal legislation. She encouraged Coordinators to come to the monthly potlucks. She explained that the Mauldin property sale has not yet been finalized. It is "successfully in escrow but the deal may not close until August or September" because the owner needs to file some paperwork with the county to secure the partition. She thanked everyone who came to the last Coordinators' potluck, and reminded people that the potlucks are a primary means for communicating and sharing information. And one last thing, a German journalist who visited the Fair last year and was very impressed wrote an article about the Fair. She asked if there's anyone out there who reads German who would translate the article for her.

**Administrative Assistant:** norma brought copies of the new Guidelines, thanked Craft Inventory and Entertainment Crews for "a smooth application process," and asked for donations of crafts and services to the Spring Fling. Some new Coordinators are being appointed tonight and she asked them to give her their contact information.

**Site Manager:** Steve W. said spring is here but some March days have still felt like winter. The trilliums are out but some "got a little frosted by a couple of 25 degree F mornings." Even though the process on the new property acquisition isn't yet final, he has permission to do walkabouts on the Mauldin's property. He thanked VegManEcs and Site staff who helped get "lots of trees planted" for erosion control and shade. He thanked "the fine folks at Balance Restoration Nursery in Lorane for another large donation of native plant material." The Fair "got a deal that was too good to turn down" on a one-ton, 4-wheel drive fire truck that "is very well suited to our needs," and added, a "big thank you to Chief Marty Nelson of Lane Fire District #1 for thinking of the Fair." He said the OCF Wildflower Walk (April 20) and the Wings and Wine Festival (May 10) "are both coming up so come on out to the Fair and enjoy but please tread lightly, the Fair site is green, wet and soft. Please keep the vehicles on gravel roads and parking areas, no bikes or vehicles on the paths and meadows." (More info at [www.wingsandwinefestival.com](http://www.wingsandwinefestival.com))

**Assistant Manager:** Charlie asked Coordinators to make an appointment to learn the new computer system and to get a password for their Crew, and also asked Fair Family to "help your Coordinators get their registration information as quickly as possible."

**Office Assistant:** Robin said applications are open for Culture Jam, the one-week summer youth camp which is going into its seventh year and which Robin described as providing "positive, dynamic, life-changing experiences."

**President:** Jack said both the workshop on April 30 and the executive session before tonight's meeting resulted in good discussions about the transition strategy for the GM position. There will be a series of executive sessions to further develop the job description. He thanked Leslie not only for her long and dedicated service but also "for giving us this time to transition." He also started promoting the Fair and urging us to tell our friends to buy a ticket and come to the Fair. He also suggested we all make a commitment this year to "buy less, use less." He said we all buy stuff we think we need for the Fair but he asked us to consciously reduce our consumption and "buy a little less, use a little less."

### Committee Reports

**Elders Committee:** Chris Browne read the report from their March 27 meeting where they approved 14 new applications for Elder status bringing the total to 318. They heard a report from the subcommittee on 'transition jobs'. They are compiling "a detailed package that outlines jobs identified and requirements for said jobs" which they will present to the Board upon completion. Upcoming events include the Old Timers Picnic on Saturday June 28 from 4-8 at Main Camp Kitchen; the Elders Meet and Greet on Thursday July 10 from 7-9pm at Alice's firepit; the Elders Bell Ringing Ceremony on Friday July 11 at 8:30pm at Shady Grove; and of course the next Elders Committee meeting at the town office at 6:30 on April 24. Chris also reported on the Elders Retreat which was held April 5-6 at Alice's and attended by 26 people who discussed several topics: they met with people

from Crafts Committee to learn their function and work together to develop transition possibilities; worked out some operational kinks and confusion between the Elders Council and Elders Committee; set work parties for April 26, May 18 and June 8 (all at 11am) to clean up the camping area, remove poison oak, and level tent sites by adding fill dirt. They also enjoyed wonderful meals and live entertainment and thanked "the onsite team for providing a very neat, clean and comfortable location for the Elders to hold this retreat."

**Path Planning Committee:** Chris Browne read the report from the March 16 meeting where Site staff gave an update on path planning website lists which can be accessed at [ocfsite.org/list](http://ocfsite.org/list) and presented information and a map of the (almost) newly-acquired property that includes the OutaSite lot. They discussed ways to keep the Fair Family better informed as to what is happening within Path Planning and asked for feedback concerning future development of the Fair site. To study the existing paths, they divided the layout into six segments: Entrances, East 13th, Main Stage, Sesame Street, The River Side and The Left Bank. They plan to analyze possibilities and problems one segment at a time and, weather permitting, will do a walkabout at their next meeting April 20 at noon at the Yurt.

**Endowment Committee:** Troy Broadnax said four organizations received an endowment grant of \$2500 each: Applegate Art Guild and Gallery; Veneta Elementary; Elmira Elementary; and Culture Jam scholarships for Fern Ridge youth.

## Old Business

### *Craft Logo Jurying*

*Palmer moved and Joseph seconded that the Board approve selected items to use the OCF logo as determined by the Craft Inventory tally.*

**Background:** Each year crafters submit sample items and the Board votes for which ones to approve for using the OCF logo. This year they approved 26 craft items.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

### *Consider Donation to Earth Day*

*Diane moved and Jack seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to the 2008 Earth Day Committee.*

**Background:** Steve Remington spoke on behalf of the steering committee and said this would be the tenth anniversary of OCF's support for Earth Day, scheduled this year for April 19.

**Peach Gallery:** Bill Ganser said KRVM has been a long-time supporter of Earth Day. Leslie said it's a great community partnership. She said Steve does a great job of connecting people all through the community and the Fair should "help launch sustainability for Eugene '08 at Earth Day."

**Board:** Joseph said supporting Earth Day is a good tradition.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

### *Consider Donation to Emerald Valley Earth Seekers Spiral Scouts*

*Joseph moved and Palmer seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to the Emerald Valley Earth Seekers Spiral Scouts.*

**Board:** Paxton supports this as an alternative to regular scouting and Lawrence said the organization "reflects our Earth-based and non-militaristic values."

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

### *Consider Donation to Edison Elementary School Garden*

*Joseph moved and Palmer seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to the Edison Elementary School Garden.*

**Background:** Susan Daniell, a parent volunteer on the school's garden committee, spoke on behalf of the donation request which would be used to buy some very necessary garden tools.

**Peach Gallery:** Barbara said she "hates to see anyone turned away with nothing" and suggested donating \$100 to Edison and saving the larger amount of \$500 for a donation request on next month's agenda for the School Garden Project, which includes not only Edison but many other school gardens as well.

**Board:** Someone said it takes extra money to set up a garden. Jack likes the parent contact and involvement. Lawrence said having their own tools onsite makes sense. Danya liked the garden at his old school.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

### *Consider Donation to Tariro*

*Joseph moved and Palmer seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to Tariro.*

**Background:** Maggie Donahue, local director, spoke for Tariro, a

non-profit organization founded in 2003 by Eugene's Jennifer Kyker to prevent the spread of HIV by educating young women in Zimbabwe. They currently assist 50 girls to stay in school by paying for school fees, uniforms and textbooks. The money will be used to print and mount photographs, artwork, and poetry by the girls for an exhibit which "will be a powerful accessory to presentations we make to schools and community groups in an effort to bring awareness and community support to this project." The organization grew out of Jennifer's involvement with part of the Fair's Zimbabwe drumming community. Maggie sent a message from the girls who said, "Tell our donors we are so grateful and we won't let them down." Visit [www.tariro.org](http://www.tariro.org) for more information.

**Peach Gallery:** Barbara said this is an example of her "favorite kind of donation, the kind where a local person takes the Fair's values and does something to help people in another part of the world." Leslie said organizations such as this one "know how to make a dollar go a long way and the Fair's money could not be better spent."

**Board:** Joseph said music is not just entertainment, but also elicits a deep connection between people. He is "honored we have an opportunity to help." Jack asked the meaning of the word 'tariro' and Maggie said 'hope'. Danya suggested pen pal exchanges between Tariro youth and Culture Jam youth.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

### *Appoint Co-Coordinator to Registration, Construction, Peach Pit, and Child Care Crews*

*Deane moved and Carl seconded that Justin Honea be appointed Registration Crew Co-Coordinator. Jack moved and Katie seconded that Joe Newhall be appointed Construction Crew Co-Coordinator. Carl moved and Danya seconded that Anne Nelson be appointed Peach Pit Coordinator. Palmer moved and Paxton seconded that John Aarons be appointed Child Care Co-Coordinator.*

**Peach Gallery and Board:** Many nice things were said about these people and thanks were given to the retiring Coordinators. JuneBug and several others from Registration all stood up together to introduce and support Justin Honea and to honor retiring David Helton. Lawrence said Joe Newhall is "an outstanding second generation Fair Family" and Leslie said the appointment "would mean so much to our Beth." Current Peach Pit Coordinator Amy Wolfsen stated in a letter to the Board that Anne Nelson "has been my right-hand help on our crew for over 5 years and has unlimited talents and energy." Current Child Care Coordinator Jill Liberty thanked retiring coordinator JC Chalupa for all her years of service and introduced John Aarons who she described in her letter as having "impeccable credentials and has been working with troubled youth for years, works closely with OCF BUMS, and has conducted crisis intervention workshops with Teens and Child Care".

All four motions passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

### *Appoint Members to Budget and Personnel Committees*

*Deane moved and Katie seconded that the Board appoint Chris Browne to the Budget Committee. Katie moved and Paxton seconded that the Board appoint Jen-lin Hodgden to the Personnel Committee.*

**Peach Gallery and Board:** Hilary said Chris Browne has been coming to the Budget meetings for over a year and has been very helpful. Danya wondered if it would be a conflict of interest for him to vote for his mom, Jen-lin, but Lawrence said not, since there was no money involved. Daniel River Pagliaro and Lucy Kingsley submitted letters to the Board expressing interest in joining the Personnel Committee when there are more openings.

Both motions passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

### *Budget Issues - Fire Dancers*

*Joseph moved and Palmer seconded to approve \$1020 for the fire dancing budget as proposed by the Treasurers and Budget Committee.*

**Background:** Hilary said the fire dancing expense used to be covered in the Chela Mela budget but in moving to the Ambiance budget it got inadvertently omitted this year. The fire safety passes got moved to the Fire Crew. She said most of the dancers get their passes in other ways but the budget includes 3 crew passes for organizers and 12 trade passes for dancers as well as some food vouchers.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

### *Set Dates for November Board Meeting and Vision Implementation Summit*

The Board decided to leave the November 2008 meeting date stand as usual on the first Monday (there had originally been some concern about that date in relation to the Board retreat). They set a date for

the Vision Implementation Summit: Sunday May 18 at the Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High Street, from 11 am to 4 pm.

#### ***Direct LUMP to Develop a Land Use Management Plan for the Mauldin Property***

Jack moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board direct the Land Use Management and Planning Committee to develop a land use management plan for the Mauldin property and include the property plan in the next edition of the LUMP manual (contingent on the sale).

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

#### ***Adopt Vision Quest Report***

*In Bear's absence, Joseph moved and Jack seconded that the Board of Directors adopt the resolution of the VQ statement of goals read by Bear at the March 2008 meeting (see last month's minutes or online) as revised with Steve G aka Grumpy's editing changes.*

**Background:** The editing changes amounted to things like dropping all the "whereas's" and "now therefore's" and a bit of tinkering with word structure and spelling, but no changes of substantive value. Six amendments were proposed to the original motion that did address more substantive changes and they were voted on separately before a vote was taken on the above motion to adopt the report.

**Peach Gallery:** Leslie called it an "extraordinary document" and she and Grumpy felt lots of diverse groups were responsible for the document and they thanked all the people who worked on it.

**Board:** Here are the six amendments that were proposed to the above motion (see below for the specific passages). 1) Joseph moved and someone seconded to omit section 1D. I think it was Leslie and Grumpy who voiced the consensus that the Fair wants to increase diversity in many areas but didn't want to single out just two groups of people. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. 2) Joseph moved and Paxton seconded to amend the statement by adding a preamble. The motion failed: 3 in favor and 7 opposed (Carl, Danya, Diane, Jack, Katie, Lawrence, Palmer). 3) Katie moved and Palmer seconded to delete the fourth paragraph. Jack said it wasn't appropriate to single out individuals in this type of document and Katie said she didn't think Beth would want to be singled out. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. 4) Joseph moved and Jack seconded to add section 5E. Leslie said the omission of Culture Jam was an oversight which should be corrected. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. 5) Joseph moved and someone seconded to add sections 9F and 9G but pretty quickly Palmer called the question and the discussion turned to ending debate. There was a vote about calling the question but I got lost in the discussion which basically got resolved when Joseph tabled amendments 9F and 9G until the May meeting. 6) Paxton moved and Deane seconded that the word 'potential' be added to each subheading on the document, changing each subheading from "ways to reach this goal" to "potential ways to reach this goal". norma said 'potential' "takes the strength away" and Jack said, "You commit or you don't." Hilary said these are goals but they won't be set with strategy until the Summit where even more ideas will be proposed. She also said the document calls for a yearly review by the Board. Paxton thinks it sounds limiting this way and feels the word 'potential' makes it clear the 'ways' are not limited to those proposed in the document. Lawrence disagreed saying there was nothing limiting in the current wording. Paxton said he will vote against the final document if the word 'potential' isn't included because he feels it will require the Fair to do too many projects. Deane said, "Me too." The motion failed: 2 in favor and 8 opposed (Carl, Joseph, Katie, Diane, Jack, Danya, Lawrence, Palmer)

The amended motion passed: 8 in favor and 2 opposed (Deane, Paxton).

Proposed amendments: 1) section 1D The Fair will, at a minimum, double the number of African-American and Latino/a participants in the three-day event. 2) (as a preamble) The Oregon Country Fair has roots in many movements that arose during the 1960's including the quest for peace, social justice, civil liberties, environmental responsibility, creative expression, intentional community and diverse lifestyles. Through the evolution of our event in its first 38 years, these quests have matured and evolved while our participants have become a multi-generational community spanning the cycle of life from birth through death. We will continue to evolve in our pursuit of these goals, and this document represents our best effort to project the shape of that evolution in the next decade. 3) 4th paragraph - Many hard-working Fair volunteers and employees, including our beloved friend Beth Grafe, gave generously of their time to think through the realities of long-range planning for the Fair; 4) Continue to support youth initiatives in the arts, cultural literacy and understanding, peace-building, and leadership that spring from our Culture Jam, Teen Crew, and

other teen involvement programs. 5) 9F The Oregon Country Fair will develop systems of cross-training, information sharing, and documentation of critical function throughout our organization in order to ensure continuity through personal transitions. 9G The Oregon Country Fair will develop a code of Rights and Responsibilities for all persons who mediate the access of others to our events and programs.

#### ***Reactivate Survey Committee***

*Paxton moved and Katie seconded that the Board reactivate the Survey Committee to provide for oversight and support for the survey efforts of the Oregon Country Fair. The Committee will solicit and develop survey questions, supervise the surveyors and publish the results in a timely manner for use in Fair planning. This does not affect or change the original charge of supporting the membership survey during the general election. Since this Committee has been inactive the Board declares the membership void and calls for new letters of interest in becoming a member of the newly re-formed Survey Committee.*

**Background:** Paxton submitted written information for the Board packet that included previous motions passed by earlier Boards who established a Survey Committee and explained his reasons for wanting to get that Committee active again. He sees this Committee "adding continuity to the successful work and effort by the Vision Quest surveyors the last three years." After a bit of discussion, Paxton decided and Katie agreed to table further discussion until the May meeting.

#### ***Groundskeeper***

*Palmer moved and Katie seconded that the Board adopt the amendments to the Groundskeeper job description as set by the Personnel Committee.*

**Background:** Last month the Board approved the job description but there were a couple details that weren't final at that time. The Committee set the salary at \$10/hour and also included language requiring a background check. The Personnel Committee is still soliciting letters of interest from people who'd like to be on the Groundskeeper hiring committee.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

#### ***Green Tickets***

*Lawrence moved and Carl seconded that the Board continue the Green Ticket program as described by Leslie.*

**Peach Gallery:** Leslie said last year's program brought in about \$1000 for sustainability projects such as Peach Power, zero waste, public transportation, and local biofuels. The program allows ticket buyers to voluntarily add \$1 to their ticket price. Leslie said this is "an educational effort by the Fair to let the public know how they can support the Fair's sustainability projects." The option is only available to online ticket buyers but not available through TicketsWest because ticket outlets are not able to collect the money. Bryon Hummel suggested making green tickets available for crews and SOP purchases.

**Board:** Diane asked if the biofuels are food-based and Leslie said Sequential uses recycled vegetable oil as well as Oregon-grown canola.

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, May 5, 2008 at 7pm at the EWEB Training Room. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled items: Budget Issues; Reactivate Survey Committee (Paxton); Consider Two Amendments to the VQ Goals Document (Joseph); as well as the following new business: Appoint External Security and Ambiance Co-Coordinator; Appoint Check Signers; Consider Donation to the School Garden Project (Lara); PPP Manual; Consider Making Office Assistant Full Time; and Sustainable Commitment (Danya). Three items were removed from the agenda: instead of a motion on Transition Strategy, Jack will give updates on the GM transition process in his President's reports; Joseph's resolution of congratulations became an announcement rather than a motion; Appoint Members to VQ Committee is removed because I think it was only added to the agenda by mistake anyway, as that Committee will sunset soon.

Minutes by Barbara Edmonds who thanks Philip Pullman ("The Golden Compass") for the following quote: "Lyra could tell that the atmosphere had changed. Outside, the children had been energetic and eager for play; then when they had seen Mrs. Coulter they were bubbling with a suppressed hysterical fear; but now there was a control and purpose to their talkativeness. Lyra marveled at the effect hope could have."