

Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors' Meeting
August 1, 2016, 7 pm, NW Youth Corps, Columbia room

Board members present: Diane Albino, Chewie Burgess (alternate,) Casey Marks-Fife, Justin Honea, Lucy Kingsley, Jack Makarchek (president), Kirk Shultz, Jon Silvermoon, Lawrence Taylor (alternate), Sue Theolass, Bear Wilner-Nugent. **Peach Gallery present:** Staff (Tom, Crystaly, Shane, Stephanie and Robin), Officers (Hilary, Eric and Randy), and 47 members and guests.

New Business

Partnership with Whole Earth Nature's school for a 'tween camp (Indigo)
November Board meeting date (Bear)

Announcements

Lucy: Altered Space made a \$1,061.07 donation to Culture Jam based on donations received at Altered Space during the Fair.

Jain: For the Teddy Bear's Picnic, let's try to remember to bring our potluck in containers that we are going to take home with us after the Picnic.

Chris: Last Saturday night, Steel Wool, who's in Community Village, did a benefit concert for Whitebird. Tim Mueller bought the permits and arranged to do this benefit.

Bear: The last day to submit a candidate statement to run for Board is August 26, 2016. Half the Board is elected every year and six of this group is up for re-election. Candidate statements and photos are due then.

Justin: The deadline for refunds on inventory refundable, wristbands, and vehicle passes was July 31. They will be processed in the next two weeks.

Sue: On behalf of Craft and Food Committees, please be aware that the last day to remove all temporary booths, structures, personal property and ground covers is August 31, 2016. Please clean up after yourselves.

Staff Reports

Tom: Wow. What a wild ride that was! The 2016 Oregon Country Fair has come and gone and I as well as many, many others, am exhausted. My own experience was amazing and I certainly found many opportunities for personal and professional growth. I laughed, I cried, I sat in stunned silence and even more often, thankfully, felt to be bursting with joy and gratitude.

Zak's HI training resonated with me especially strongly this year. One of the things I always need to hear and do need to remind myself is that each one of us is the hero of our own story. Part and parcel with that is that while you may be the hero in your own story, you may also be the villain in someone else's. In realizing such it is well to remember that someone else's own inner narrative is none of your business.

I did think much on what the function of the Fair really is in our modern world. I think, ultimately, we are in the Myth Making business. I do not mean "Myth" as in Hellenistic or Norse mythology though it is related. I mean "Myth" in the way we collectively decide that certain subjective ideals and values have an intrinsic truth to them that we all, to some degree, agree on and so bond ourselves together as part of our unique human collective.

A tree itself is a powerful thing. The idea of a tree is far more powerful. A river is a tangible and powerful thing. The idea of a river is intangible and far more powerful. The idea of a river and the idea of a tree are both myths and are given power by virtue of the impact they can have on our human psyche and the actions that we humans make because of those impacts.

I love and am immensely proud of the kinds of myths our Fair promotes and gives sustenance to. And as we approach what promises to be the most anxiety-inducing election season of my entire life I think those myths are as important now as they have ever been. It is forward of me but I would spell out some of these myths that I glean from our Fair. There is the myth that each and every one of us has a psychic/spiritual need to contribute to a greater good and reap the joy that is the harvest. That creativity knows no limits and boundaries are only necessary so that we always have something to overcome and look beyond. That people of goodwill can unite and change the world, sometimes for just a day or three and sometimes forever. That the human mind, when given the opportunity, will trend toward bliss, that justice is a human right, that peace is far more powerful than war, and that love always trumps hate. For 47 years the Fair has been a champion of these values, and I feel so lucky to be able to play a small part in all that, especially since those myths, those values are needed now more than ever.

But, let me tell you, myth-making is hard work! Once again I was blown away by the amount of sweat equity our incredible volunteers, entertainers and vendors are willing to spend to ensure that our message and our missions stay vital. The Site Crew's work is incredible. Shelly did a remarkable job in her first year as caretaker. Construction has once again stepped up and made the impossible look easy. Bennet Rogers was recognized by the Management Team being one of our rising stars and I think of no one more worthy, All the Kitchen Crews performed magnificently and we recognized the wonderful Emma Raven, the new Main Camp Kitchen coordinator as another rookie of the year. Recycling once again rocked it and the Board can expect a report on our partnership with the Bubbles Project shortly. The Main Camp Quartermaster Crew took on some very difficult initiatives and the Fair is better through their efforts. Camping Crew once again rose to the challenge of situating all our family. Michael Connelly, aka Coyote, has stepped down as a member of the Camping Crew mediation team and I would like to thank him for all his many years of service in many capacities throughout the Fair. I would also like to send a special thank you out to Kelly Dunn of Fair Central who filled some mighty big shoes when she took over this year and did so with a grace that I truly appreciated. I would also like to thank all of our employees who worked so very hard to ensure another successful year for our Fair, and to also thank Charlie Ruff, who took on the lion's share of the media relations duties.

There were certainly some challenges to this year's Fair. The weather kept some people from the Fair and there was another little event called the Olympic Track & Field trials that made getting a hotel room nigh impossible more than six months before the Fair even started. Despite that, our box office did well and we came very near to realizing our very nearly unprecedentedly ambitious budget projections. Some of that shortfall was made up for by really great year for commemorative sales, which were largely driven by what I think was fabulous poster art for this year. I think we ran out of shirts on Friday! I've worn my shirt in town three times since Fair, and each time I was told I was one of the lucky ones that managed to purchase a shirt.

The final gate numbers are still a bit squishy at the moment but will change but a few here and there.

| Day | Single-day tickets sold | totals per day (includes three-day, below) |
|-----------|-------------------------|--|
| Friday | 9,364 | 14,727 |
| Saturday | 12,902 | 18,265 |
| Sunday | 6,739 | 12,102 |
| Three day | 5,363 | |

For a total of 45,094 through the gate in a wet, competitive year. Not bad at all.

Some more updates before I pass the baton: Our approved SUP is being appealed and the hearing is tentatively scheduled for September 15 at 9:30 am in the Goodson Room, 3040 N. Delta Highway in Eugene. It is a public hearing and the public is welcome. There are some neighbors who are unhappy with our proposal and they will have an opportunity to state their case. If we win this appeal, I expect that decision will itself be appealed to the County Commissioners. If we lose, I expect we would appeal that decision to the Commissioners as well. Naturally, I will keep the BoD abreast of any

developments. I will be meeting with Bill Kloos and Thom Lanfear as well as others in the weeks leading up to the hearing to discuss what we can expect. I can say that the only complaint that was forwarded directly to me from the Commissioner office had to do with our impact on Verizon's 4G network. Internet connectivity is a complicated problem at the Fair that does impact the surrounding community and one that we will continue to work on.

I had a long talk with a Daniel Wiltse of the state DEQ. It is clear that the Ritz's greywater management will need to be looked at over the next coming months as the current system of managing the flow falls short of what the state would like to see. Some different scenarios were presented and I will be working with the usual suspects so we may address the state's concerns. I would like to apologize to the wonderful Elders that put on the "Old Timers' Picnic." Something went south this year and I didn't hear about it until it was too late to do anything helpful. Too late for this past year, anyway. But not too late to commit to ensuring that next year Management will take on some role in coordination of the event in partnership with the Elders Committee to ensure that the event once again becomes a natural a part of the Main Camp experience and anything else. While I have not seen it myself, I understand the Story Pole building permit has been secured. I do not yet know what the schedule is for beginning work on the installation but will be briefed in the next few weeks.

Finally, I would like to encourage everyone to go to oregoncountryfair.net and look for the feedback form! I really do read all the feedback that is forwarded to me. It's a critical part of the Fair planning process and a chance for people's voices to be heard! Also, don't forget to register to vote! Not just for the coming national election, but also for our upcoming Fair elections! Info on that is also at oregoncountryfair.org.

Of course, we have the Teddy Bear Picnic and Culture Jam on the horizon, but others are in a much better position to brief you on those items.

That is my report for August and thanks for doing all you do to make the Oregon Country Fair the world-class event and dynamic institution it has become.

Crystalyn: What an adventure!

Thank you to Xag for all of their work on Xavanadu — especially Sallie, Hilary, Kirk and Justin. I walked through Xavanadu Friday night and was blown away by the music, the art, and so many people having an amazing time. Thank you again to everyone who worked tirelessly in putting that together.

During the actual event I did a lot of observing and tried to absorb as much as possible.

I went out to Maple Gate Saturday morning and watched them open it. Thank you to Tex and Grumpy, Traffic Crew, Lot Crew and LCSO. It was really neat to see everyone working together to get the public in.

I would also like to thank External Security: I spent a significant amount of time on Friday morning at Line in the Sand and then Bag Check. They make what could feel a bummer of an experience for the public into, from what I observed, as fun as possible. Thank you!

I also observed the Big Boys and Whitebird help out some folks who were having an extremely hard time. I saw these people be treated with a level of caring and compassion that was inspiring.

This was also my first Post-Fair and those crews truly work their tails off! Thank you to Post-Fair QM, Decon and Post-Fair Kitchen for everything that you do.

And now we are getting ready for Culture Jam! I have always wanted to volunteer and I am excited to help make it happen this year. I am looking forward to getting to work with Robin and help out in whatever way I can.

Shane: Good evening everyone, it is great to see all of you! I hope everyone has gotten some rest after our weekend of magic, smiles, family and fun. It appeared that all the volunteers, vendors, entertainers and public enjoyed themselves immensely. I had an opportunity to actually prepare a report for tonight's meeting, which over the last couple of months has been rare, but I promise not to take up too much time.

What a great event!! Everyone had smiles on their faces and clearly was enjoying the weekend. The weather was very comfortable, and the paths were easily navigated, it couldn't have gotten much better. I do admit I was concerned about the weather forecast as we entered the event. I worked with Crystalyn and Charlie Z on updating our rain protocols, anticipating a rain event like 2009. On Thursday we met with the crews that would be helping should the rain actually materialize. When it began to rain Sunday the extra effort working on the protocol was not only helpful, but successful as well. I would like to thank Site Crew and Quartermaster for their quick response. Power carts were covered quickly, sand was distributed to areas where slipping could be a safety hazard, slippery when wet signs posted, and a light dusting of straw to soak up some of the moisture, providing traction on the paths. They all did a great job and I thank them for being response-able.

I would like to thank every crew volunteer for putting in a great effort to provide the public with a unique family-oriented event that many folks love and enjoy. I am amazed by the dedication of our volunteers; they work very hard to make this event successful. It is truly an honor to work with so many wonderful people creating a magical weekend for the public to enjoy.

I would also like to thank the crafters and food booths that spend the weekend on site, providing the public with a unique shopping and dining experience that likely cannot be found anywhere else.

Thank you to the artists and entertainers that create the ambiance and round out the experience for the public and the family.

The Site staff has started to slowly put the event to rest for the season. There is still a lot to get done, pack up, or throw away. The process will pick up pace when we finish prepping for Culture Jam. However, the grass at Main Stage is turning green quickly as we prepare for the picnic. The other meadows are coming along great, and we have had to cut the grass at Dragon Plaza. Even the wildlife has begun to return their respective homes.

Once again, thank you to everyone who participates making this event great, it doesn't happen without all of you!

Stephanie: This was an amazing experience going through this as the Administrative Assistant for the first time with all of you. I really feel staff is the support for those that truly put the Fair on. While there were some issues, most of the feedback I've received had people gushing about the wonderful Fair they had. Teddy Bear Picnic is August 21 from 2 pm to 7 pm, and we **really** need volunteers. If you want to volunteer, either email or call me office@oregoncountryfair.org or 541-343-4298.

Robin: Post Fair people have said it was just sweet! Culture Jam is ramping up with a massive setup party with about 45 of us on Saturday. The Dam Builders were out and the Yurt and Teepee went up. In addition to the donation that Altered Space gave us, Spoken Word also gave a donation for \$500. Kids will arrive on Sunday of this week for Culture Jam 2016! Charlie Murphy, who started this model called "Power of Hope," is in hospice. We are dedicating this year's Culture Jam in his honor.

Committee Reports

Diversity Task Force: Diane reports that DTF brought back the program that Greg Rickoff managed some years ago. Fair day passes were distributed to under-represented populations. This action is in support of Goal One of the Oregon Country Fair to increase the diversity of all aspects of the OCF. Passes were given to NAACP, ACT-SO, the Center for Multicultural Excellence, the Farm Worker's Union, UO, OSU and LCC Longhouses, Bonny Harris Black Student Union, Caesar Chavez Center at OSU, UO International Explore Oregon program, CALC, Bethel Health Center, Bertha Holt and River Road Elementary Schools, Kelly Middle School, UO and OSU Asian Student Groups, Rainbow Village, Disability Service Advisory Council, UO Non-traditional student union, Japanese student union, Chinese student and scholars, and a few individuals from Jamaica, El Salvador and Mexico. Thanks to a host of people for helping to identify groups and individuals. Thanks to our GM Tom for helping with the passes and to Jack for advising on how to make it work even better next year.

Personnel Committee: Jon reports that PC is embarking on the evaluation process for our General Manager. The evaluation forms are on the oregoncountryfair.net site and due to

pc@oregoncountryfair.org by August 26, 2016. Forms will go to key individuals, coordinators, BUMs and others.

Feedback: Jen-Lin says feedback on the 2015 Fair can be found online at:

<http://www.oregoncountryfair.net/Pages/Feedback2015/Feedback2015.html>

Feedback forms for this year to mail in can be found at:

<http://www.oregoncountryfair.net/Pages/feedbackform.pdf> Deadline for feedback is Friday September 2, 2016.

Elections: Jen-Lin reports with OCF Elections right around the corner, the candidate statements are due August 26, 2016. The candidates' forum will be held September 11, 2016, the Hub yurt at 10 am. September 22, 2016 is the last day to register to vote in the OCF annual election. This year SOs are eligible to vote! Oct. 1, 2016 is the last day to request an absentee ballot. Oct. 22, 2016, at 5 pm is the deadline to return your absentee ballot to the Fair office or later at the Annual Meeting that evening. Absentee ballots are not offered at the Fair office. The candidate eligibility information is here:

<http://www.oregoncountryfair.net/OCF%20BOARD%20CANDIDATE%20ELIGIBILITY%202016.pdf>

Member Input

Judy: I really appreciate the Bubbles project and their washing of silverware and plates for reuse. I do have concern with the Fair buying and using hard plastic glasses at the Bubbles booth. My question is – how much plastic are we buying with 45,000 people at this year's Fair? We are willing to have, I think, 20,000 patrons each day. I think that plastic is toxic and reprocessing is unhealthy. I thought metal cups were what were presented to the Board when first approved. I spoke to someone on the path from Bubbles and she said a group was going to India to see the plastic recycling process. I feel like plastic is not helping the people or the planet.

Joseph: I'd like to give a shout out to staff and everyone who made this year work so well. It was really sweet!

Kirk: I want to deeply thank our volunteers, crews, and coordinators. We have an amazing depth of commitment from our volunteers. For the last two weeks, I've been saying "sweet" regarding this Fair. My mother got to come again and that too was sweet.

Chewie: I want to thank all of the Fair Family, booth people, staff, crafters and everybody who camps for bearing with the Camping Crew as we try to deal with an enormous task to organize the camping. There were some that weren't happy, but we are trying to help. The staff did an incredible job. I've never seen a smoother, more easy-going Fair and I think that the rain brought people together. It was just enough rain to make people appreciate Oregon and know why we live here.

Michael: This was not my first rain event. I want to thank our Elders who brought all these people here to us. We forget about those of us who were there at the beginning. All of you people represent me. We include everyone at the Fair. I to give kudos for those who had the foresight to start something like this.

Jen-Lin: This year I found myself missing seeing those who had gone before us on the path. Greeting folks with "it's so good to see you" was one of my themes. Fair is family, it is what we do together, it is good to see you all.

LT: I had pleasure of spending the Fair with a Fair veteran from the '70s who had not been to the Fair since '81. Among the pleasures I got was to take her to Reggie's camp for them to see each other for the first time in 35 years. I reflect on the question that always came up, "how does this compare to the old days?" The answer was "it's just the same, only bigger."

Martha: Thank you to the guy that makes bacon on Friday morning at the showers.

Cathy: This was my first opportunity to have a one-on-one with the Tree Crew. A week or so before the Fair, we got word of a tree that was leaning on my neighbor's booth. Word got to Shane and I was awestruck by how within days the crew took the tree out, left only a couple of leaves on our loft and made it safe! Thank you! The stump gave me an idea to have it turned into a sculpture and I'll be coming back to you with that idea.

Chewie: I want to thank Michael Connelly, Coyote, being the mediation coordinator for Camping Crew. He's done some amazing work over the last three years. We will miss his input, but some on the mediation crew will be staying —Martha!

Sue: I'd like to give a shout out to Howard Patterson and his friends for doing the memorial at the Junction twice this year. This year it was especially sweet and I want to thank him for the moment.

Judy: I'd like to thank those who take care of the hornet's nests with a lot of guts and a big stick.

Donations/Secretary Report

Randy: Thank you to Heidi, Stephanie, Martha and norma for helping me out during the July meeting in making sure names got read out since I wasn't there. Also, Happy Birthday to Jerry Garcia!

Jon: What are the amounts requested?

Randy: Returning Veterans for \$500, City of Veneta kiddie pool for \$1,500, Oregon Supported Living Program for \$1,000.

Tonight's donation requestors:

Jamie: Returning Veterans is an award-winning nonprofit that works with mostly post-9/11 veterans. Mental health and therapeutic services are among the offerings that they provide. I lead a writing group for the veterans. The funds will go for recruiting and training more service providers in Lane County. We are also working with LCC's massage clinic program to provide help for the veterans.

Gretchen: Thank you for your support of Oregon Supported Living Program in the past. In Fair, I am one of the two wristband coordinators. OSLP supports adults with the development disabilities in residential and vocational settings. I wanted these adults to have more opportunities in arts and culture. To that end, there is a program that offers 12 rotating classes in the arts and culture in all different media. This year's money will go toward our culinary arts program.

Sandra: On behalf of the City of Veneta, I'd like to thank you for another successful Fair! Thank you also for entertaining our request for a kiddie pool. Veneta has had a swimming pool for more than 50 years. The pool was first initiated to help kids learn to swim. It is important to our community and there is a citizen initiative to raise funds to build the kiddie pool. We are appreciative for all your efforts in Veneta and the Fern Ridge community.

Consent Calendar passes: 10-0.

Treasurer's Report & Budget Items

Hilary: Many people have contributed to the record keeping and cash handling. I want to thank all of them first. As the dust settles around the Fair, norma has been in the office writing checks and reconciling the expenditures. Next month the Board will get a much better set of financials than what you have today. As usual we aim for September 30, to get all the results in from coordinators and the vendor moneys. Amidst my sweet Fair, I was really concerned looking at the rainy day. I want to give a big shout out to the almost 2,000 people who bought tickets on Sunday. We are in a good space, but it is not a really great one. The preliminary numbers show the Sunday ticket sales and the commemorative sales were our bonus. I believe that we will come in on budget on revenue. That said it is about \$40,000 less than we made last year. We are so lucky to be where we are. We'll hold tight; it was not an expansive year.

Eric: I tend to be quiet when I first start a new position. This Fair was fun and busy. The ideas that I want to bring as co-treasurer, if you make me a permanent officer, revolves around my perception that we have need for long-range financial planning. As the Fair expands, we need to look at what our expenses are going to be to hire people, add IT infrastructure, expenses on deferred maintenance, how we pay for it all and what our income streams are. After working as the pre-Fair Kitchen coordinator with Lucy and Leslie, we added a cash handling system. There is a lot more we can do there, and I want to bring in Cash Handling 2.0. I also have found a way to get all the commemorative sales online by using fulfillment centers that other people use. Maybe some of those T-shirts that no

one bought 10 years ago will suddenly be a hot item. These are the things that I look forward to working on with the Board and the staff.

Old Business

Jon moved and Bear seconded to extend the General Manager's contract to October 3, 2016.

Jon: This is to complete the General Managers evaluation before we make a decision on the new contract.

Bear: Our September Board meeting is on the twelfth this year. We have a whole process to go through and the evaluation forms are not due back to the Fair office until August 26.

Motion passed: 10-0.

Bear moved, effectively immediately, the permissible date range for the Oregon Country Fair will be the three days beginning on Friday July 9 through Friday July 15 of any given year. This means the Fair would no longer be on the range of dates July 7, 8, 9 through July 13, 14, and 15. It would be the range of dates July 9, 10, 11 through July 15, 16, and 17. That means next year's Fair would not be July 7, 8 and 9; it would be July 14, 15, and 16.

Martha: Jon had a point of order.

Jon: I understand the reasons that we need to vote on this tonight. However, we are changing something people have already planned for. Entertainers and crafters have other fairs *and* schedule them well in advance. I hesitate to make a change without having an opportunity for those folks to comment on the proposal. We should wait.

Bear moved and Kirk seconded that we move this to Old Business.

Michael: I was there when we set the date and I say we wait a month to talk about it.

Joseph: I say we wait.

Sam: If the motion affects the 2017 Fair, it should be discussed tonight.

Robin: I think it should be discussed soon, because people are already calling the office about next year's dates.

Jain: For the same reason it should be discussed tonight.

Jen-Lin: Ditto, it affects the rest of the year's planning calendar.

Jon: I understand the reasons that we need to vote on this tonight. However, we are changing something people have already planned for. Entertainers and crafters who have other fairs schedule them well in advance. I hesitate to make a change without having an opportunity for those folks to comment on the proposal. We should wait.

Jack: The last time we discussed this was in 1994. There is a rather long explanation of what days that we have the Fair. The way it is written, in '94, came about to change to the second weekend of July. It went back to the first full weekend after the fourth of July. In a 10-year cycle this puts the Fair on July 8, 9 and 10.

Sue: I would rather wait a month, for those who work in booths. I'd like to get their feedback before we start changing dates.

Chewie: Here, here.

Motion to move from New business to Old business:

Motion failed: 3-6-1; Jack, Jon, Sue, Lucy, Casey and Chewie opposed; Diane abstained.

The motion will be on Old Business in the September board meeting.

Jon moved and Kirk seconded the OCF Board affirms its support for the Old Timers Picnic as a means to show appreciation to individuals who helped the Fair during its formative years and affirms the appropriateness of the involvement of Fair Operations in its planning and execution.

Sue: What does this mean? Are we handing this off to Staff to put it together?

Jon: No, not necessarily, what we are saying is that it is appropriate for Fair operations to be involved in execution. How it comes together next year will depend on whether Elders can be persuaded to

step up again or not. If not, I would suspect that operations would have to figure out how to make it happen next year.

Lucy: I understand and I am still befuddled.

Motion failed: 4-2-4; Bear and Justin opposed; Casey, Chewie, Lucy and Sue abstained.

President's Peace

It is an interesting segue. I was thinking about the good vibe of this year's Fair. In my position each year there seems to be a particular topic that comes up. There were a lot of concerns that I thought would be coming up, but this year it was what the future of the Fair will look like and who is going to be shaping this future. I felt humbled by the fact that people were still considering that I would be the person that they would be talking about that to. I really took it to heart. Really, I am hoping to hear from people on their feeling on what the Fair would look like five to 15 years from now, precisely, not ephemerally. It was wonderful. It made this Fair experience very hopeful for me. The larger point is that there is a deep respect for how we've gotten to here, and a fervor to be part of what it is going to look like in the future. I encourage everyone to vote in our election. More so, I encourage those who have talked to me to run for the open Board positions. To those folks, share with the membership what you shared with me. Thank you volunteers, vendors and entertainers for sharing your interest in what the Fair is going to look like.

Draft Agenda for September 12, 2016, Board meeting

Old Business

Change permissible date range for the Oregon Country Fair (Bear)

Partnership with Whole Earth Nature's school for a 'tween camp (Indigo)

November board meeting date (Bear)

Appoint Tye Hewitt as Recycling co-coordinator (Bear)

Consent Calendar

Upstart Crow Studios \$500