



# FAIR FAMILY NEWS

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR ☉ ONE CREATIVE FAMILY

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 10

MARCH 2020

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Photo © 2019 Quentin Furrow







## FAIR FAMILY CALENDAR

**PLEASE NOTE: All meetings are subject to change based on the latest information about health safety protocols needed to fight the new corona virus. Please check the Oregon Country Fair volunteer website for the latest meeting updates: [www.oregoncountryfair.net](http://www.oregoncountryfair.net)**

### MARCH

- 23 Diversity Committee, 6 pm, OCF Office
- 25 Food Committee, 5:30 pm, OCF Office
- 26 Elders Committee, 7 pm, Growers Market, 454 Willamette St., Eugene
- 27 Deadline for Jill Heiman Vision Fund grant applications from environmental agencies
- 28-29 Elders Spring Retreat, 10 am-dinner. Elders Camp Cleanup is also included as part of this Retreat.
- 30 Registration packets mailed to booth reps

### APRIL

- 1 Deadline for craft jury application submissions, including logo items
- 1 Registration, Craft and Food Packets mailed to booth reps
- 4 Booth Registration, 10 am-5 pm, Eugene Saturday Market
- 6 Board of Directors meeting, 7 pm, will be held virtually. Check the [oregoncountryfair.net](http://oregoncountryfair.net) web site for more information.
- 7 Peach Power, 6 pm, OCF Office
- 8 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 8 Food Committee, 5:30pm, OCF Office
- 9 Community Village General Meeting, 7 pm, United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St., Eugene
- 9 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 11 Booth Registration, 10am - 5pm, Eugene Saturday Market
- 11 Craft Committee, 5:30 pm, OCF Office
- 12 Community Village General Meeting, 7 pm, United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St., Eugene
- 14 LUMP, 6 pm, OCF Office
- 14 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 15 Deadline for Teen Crew applications
- 16 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 18 Booth Registration, 10am - 5pm, Eugene Saturday Market
- 18 Elders Camp Cleanup, 10 am-2 pm, meet at the Hub onsite
- 19 Path Planning, noon, Alice's onsite
- 19 Outer Limits Winery Property Idea and Information Exchange Potluck, 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm, please see announcement in this issue of FFN, on this page
- 20 BoD Work Session, 7 pm, Northwest Youth Corps, Columbia Room. Topic: Winery
- 20 Board of Directors Work Session, 7 pm, Northwest Youth Corps, 2621 Augusta St., Eugene
- 21 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 22 Craft Committee, 5:15 pm, OCF Office
- 23 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 23 Elders Committee, 7 pm, Growers Market, 454 Willamette St., Eugene
- 25 Booth Registration, 10 am - 5 pm, Eugene Saturday Market
- 27 Diversity Committee, 6 pm, OCF Office
- 28 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 30 Booth Registration, 10 am-8 pm, OCF Office
- 30 New craft applicants notified of approval of status

### MAY

- 1 Deadline to return booth registration packet
- 1 Booth Registration, 10 am- 8 pm, OCF Office
- 2 Spring Fling!, 7 pm, Whirled Pies, 199 W. Eighth Ave., Eugene
- 4 Board of Directors meeting, 7 pm, Northwest Youth Corps, 2621 Augusta St., Eugene
- 5 Peach Power, 6 pm, OCF Office

**KEEP  
IN  
TOUCH**



**WASH HANDS IN  
SOAP AND WATER!**

Oregon Country Fair  
442 Lawrence St.  
Eugene, OR. 97401  
(541) 343-4298  
FFN@OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.ORG  
OFFICE@OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.ORG  
OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.ORG (EVENT INFO)  
OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.NET (BUSINESS SITE)

## COVID-19 and the OCF

by Wally Bomgaars, Executive Director, Oregon Country Fair

The OCF Board, staff, and management are aware of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) concerns in the community and are closely monitoring the situation. We are meeting regularly to consider how it impacts our event and community and to discuss contingency plans. We are getting information from and engaging in communications with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), Lane County, the Oregon Health Authority, as well as other health professionals and organizations. At this time we are planning on holding the 2020 Fair as scheduled. The health and safety of our Fair Family is our priority. We will continue to keep you updated with any new developments.

### Pre-Sale Tickets Kick-Off Postponed

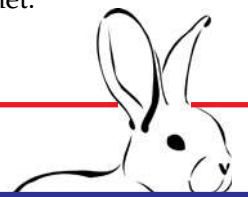
OCF has postponed the kick off for ticket sales to this year's event. The online pre-sale of tickets were scheduled to begin on Friday, March 13, 2020. We intend to have this year's Fair as scheduled, but for now, we believe it is important to continue to monitor the COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation. Board members, management and staff are gathering and considering regularly updated information about the virus from world, federal, state, and local health authorities and other credible health care professionals and organizations. We expect to have a decision some time soon about when we will begin selling tickets to this year's event. In the meantime preparation for the Oregon Country Fair will continue.

### Office And Site Closures

Due to concerns about COVID-19, the novel coronavirus, we have decided to close the Fair office as well as the Fair site until further notice. However, preparation for the 2020 event continues. During this closure, OCF employees will be working and meeting remotely. We will continue to monitor and return emails and phone messages. We recommend that Crew and Committee meetings be held remotely or postponed. Please check [www.oregoncountryfair.net](http://www.oregoncountryfair.net) for meeting info updates. If you would like access to and/or assistance with go-to-meeting (the remote meeting program we primarily use), please reach out to us at [office@oregoncountryfair.org](mailto:office@oregoncountryfair.org) and we will help in any way we can. We are taking these precautionary actions to help keep the Fair Family safe and healthy during this time.

Regarding the April Board meeting scheduled for April 6th at 7:00pm: The details of the Board meeting are still being worked out, however we do know for sure that there will not be an in person meeting. For updates, please check [www.oregoncountryfair.net](http://www.oregoncountryfair.net).

*Thank you for your patience and understanding.*



- 5 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 6 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 7 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 7 Community Village General Meeting, 7 pm, United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St., Eugene
- 12 LUMP, 6 pm, OCF Office
- 12 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 13 Craft Committee, 5:30 pm, OCF Office
- 14 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 16 Elders Camp Cleanup, 10 am-2 pm, meet at the Hub onsite
- 17 Path Planning, noon, Alice's onsite
- 18 Board of Directors Work Session 7 pm, Northwest Youth Corps, 2621 Augusta St., Eugene, Topic: Creating a Safe & Inclusive Fair
- 19 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 21 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 23 Elders Committee, 7 pm, Growers Market, 454 Willamette St., Eugene
- 25 Diversity Committee, 6 pm, OCF Office
- 26 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office
- 27 Food Committee, 5:30 pm, OCF Office
- 28 Booth Registration, 6-8:30 pm, OCF Office

### JUNE

- 1 Board of Directors meeting, 7 pm, Northwest Youth Corps, 2621 Augusta St., Eugene
- 2 Peach Power, 6 pm, OCF Office
- 3 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE
- 6 Main Camp Opens
- 9 Mandatory Food Booth Meeting, 6 pm - 9 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 W 13th Ave., Eugene

### JULY

- 10-12 Fair oh Fair oh Fair!!

### AUGUST

- July 31-August 7 Culture Jam
- 16 Teddy Bear Picnic!



## Outer Limits Winery Idea and Info Exchange

April 19, 2020, 1:30 - 5:30 pm

Bring your enthusiasm and ideas to brainstorm together and develop a vision of the future for this wonderful part of our property! There will be presentations regarding allowable land uses for the zoning, soil types and potentials, composting, solar power generation potential and other subjects.

Self-guided tour from 1:30 until 3:30 pm.

Presentations and discussion from 3:30 pm. Potluck is finger food and snacks. Bring your own plates and utensils. 100% pack-in, pack-out gathering!

Access is on Winery Road, off of Suttle Road. Go west on Suttle, past Ridiculous Rd., then left on Winery Rd.

## FFN THILLY WABBITS

- Kim "White Rabbit" Griggs
- Brad "Snowshoe" Lerch
- Mary "Mopsy" Doyon
- Niki "Harvey" Harris
- Mary "Energizer" Callaghan
- norma "playboy bunny" sax
- Suzi "No Bunny" Prozanski
- Daniel "Bugs" Cohn
- Michael "That's No Ordinary Rabbit" Ottenhausen





**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. For questions, information about display underwriting and to submit listings, Email bradlerch@aol.com

**Midnight Show Request**

*A call out to all hippy folk  
To summon your muse to invoke  
A limerick to go  
In the Midnight Show  
Between acts to keep us all woke.*  
Please send your best limericks to rhys@jugglemania.com

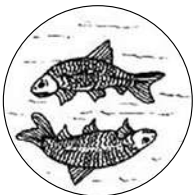
SWEET SPOT !! Country living yet close to everything! Sandy, OR, 15 acres, 10 forest. 2 cabins, OCF landlady in one. Loads of garden room, greenhouse, rototiller, small tractor. \$1600/mo, 1yr. contract. Septic, shared well, so 3 folks max, plz, no high water using crafts.... 2 BR, 1BA 1100sf, WOOD & WINDOWS galore, open floor plan K-LR, clawfoot tub, woodstove & electric baseboards, W/D, dishwasher. Small stage & amphitheater! Tenant mows, mower provided! Chickens, goats, dogs ok! Call/text 503-668-4927 NOW !

Room available in our fair friendly house in W. Eugene near Petersen Barn. Large yard and amazing people. Rent \$525 Deposit \$525. month to month Robert 718-864-7178



**Happy Birthday  
Pisces!**

Here's a shout out to all our great Fair family members! Every one of you deserves recognition for your hard work for the Fair!



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

3/25	Full Moonalice: THC Review
3/28	Leilani Wolfgramm
3/29	Special Membership Meeting
4/1	Elohim / Bahari
4/2	of Montreal / Locate S, 1
4/4	Super City / Laundry / Spiller
4/10-11	The Experience
4/12	Kolohe Kai
4/14	Leftover Crack / The Casualties
4/16	Psyrupe / Salo Panto / Bluphoria
4/17	Itchy Fest: The Athiarchists

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OCF Booth #630 & Readings Since 1979

**Scribe Tribe**

**The Fair is seeking volunteers to take meeting notes and assist meeting conveners.**

Duties include attending meetings year-round, approximately once a month, and recording minutes, transcribing and distributing minutes, making edits, and possibly helping with reminders, notices, and calendars.

These positions earn a wristband either for the Scribe or an SO (if you already get wristband from elsewhere). Need to have computer skills.

Join the Scribe Tribe!  
Contact peachy.cynthia@gmail.com for more info.

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- vegetarian
- art collective
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- OCF Art Barn support

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## FAMILY LETTERS



*This newsletter is for 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).*

## Years Behind

Dear Fair Family,

At the March board meeting there was a motion to limit smoking in public places during public hours at the Fair. Only two board members, George and Sue, voted to approve the motion. The OCF, which used to be a leader in social change and justice, is now years behind state parks, universities, the Oregon Jamboree and every other business, festival and gathering place in Oregon.

The number of smoking areas at the Oregon Country Fair equals the number of rest areas, but there are far more non-smokers than smokers. And, the smoking areas are in the most shaded and pleasant areas of the Fair. Allowing smoking near food booths, stages, ATMs, the potties and anywhere people and children have to stand in line is just wrong.

More complaints are received about smoking than even about the dust and the potties. And yet we continue to allow it. I am not against a total ban on smoking, just limiting it to smoking areas that are placed outside the pedestrian entry gates to our event.

Looks like we will have to endure another Fair searching for a nice place to enjoy our food while smokers take up the shady areas at the Junction and everywhere else, and continue to pollute the crowds at Main Stage. Stay healthy!

*Diane Albino*

*Community Village (smoke free since 1977)*

## The Family Will Fix

Dear Fair Family Booth members,

Recent guidelines submitted to the Board of Directors and passed at the February meeting may affect you. I think guideline proposals should always be vetted to the greater membership, especially when there are significant policy changes.

The Craft Committee should be working for the crafter membership, not staff or crew policies. Including crafting folks in the decision and policy-making process should be a priority goal. This committee should be working to create ways to help crafters through the process rather than creating stumbling blocks, by including them in discussions.

It is the Board's charge to ensure that its committees are working toward this goal of being inclusive and sharing information. When this doesn't happen, the process is broken and the greater membership has no representation, and no support from the committee or the Board.

I am saddened that the process was broken. It will take the family to fix it.

I am not speaking for anyone on the committee other than myself.

*Kim Allen*

*Craft Committee member; Crafter, booth 907  
mudfairy@outlook.com*

## Denial is Palpable

Dear Family,

I just watched the March BoD meeting online. I'm so disappointed that only two BoD members voted for a smoking ban at the Fair. It's shocking that we're still in this place, despite so many letters to FFN in favor of a ban, and so many fervent requests at Board meetings.

The denial is palpable, and the justifications are weak. Path Planning has worked hard to accommodate BoD directives and provide areas comfortable for smokers and not too intrusive for the rest of us. Several BoD members used that as a justification for waiting. That's unFair. Compliance isn't always consent.

Smoking is a dirty business. It makes people sick. It kills people. It pollutes our land. It endangers children and all of us who want to breathe. How can we persist in supporting that behavior, placating some of us, but not for the greater good?

My father, my uncle, my ex, and two of my

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

*Tell us your name; your email address to be notified of the online version of the newsletter; your crew or booth number; name of your leader or booth rep; name of person who can verify your participation, and your mailing address if applying for membership.*

*Mail to: OCF, Membership/Mailing,  
442 Lawrence Street, Eugene, 97401.*

*Or Email to: [office@oregoncountryfair.org](mailto:office@oregoncountryfair.org)*



## The OCF Bio-Bliss

*by Ron Constable and Glenn Johnson, Steward Ship*

This spring the OCF will host a Bio-Bliss on the site, when biologists and others will survey the site over a couple of days in order to document different species using the area.

The Bio-Bliss is inspired by the more conventionally named "Bio Blitz" trend, which is typically a short, intensive effort hosted by a park or agency to document the diversity of flora and fauna using an area — however, at the Fair not even biologists need to be conventional (and there is certainly no blitzing)!

The Bio-Bliss will bring together those with expertise in a wide variety of fields, from botany to birds, to survey the many varieties of life that call the OCF site home. While there has been field biology survey work done on the Fair site in the past, the Bio-Bliss will attempt to coordinate these efforts through some standard survey approaches, a centralized database, and interactive GIS-based mapping.

This should inform OCF management decisions that could impact wildlife and the

ongoing habitat restoration efforts at the Fair. We hope to continue this effort in future years, both to help the Fair to track trends in many of the wildlife and other species that inhabit the site, and also to develop educational opportunities in conjunction with a weekend event.

Beyond being better caretakers of the Fair site, better understanding of the different species at the Fair and their ecology enhances the Fair experience for guests — and all members of the Fair community. There are many wonderful surprises in the woods, meadows, rivers, and

streams on the Fair site. These can broaden our worldview and deepen our sense of place.

The Bio-Bliss can make this information readily available to the Fair family and public. You can see and hear what the Bio-Bliss has learned at the Steward Ship this year and in a planned FFN article, and if you would like more information, or if you are a biologist or other person with expertise who would like to participate, please contact Ron Constable and Glenn Johnson at [ocf.biobliss@gmail.com](mailto:ocf.biobliss@gmail.com).





# Get to Know Community Village

## KindTree – Autism Rocks

by Tim Mueller, Community Village / KindTree

(Editors' Note: In this new monthly feature in Fair Family New, groups from Community Village will share information about their mission.)

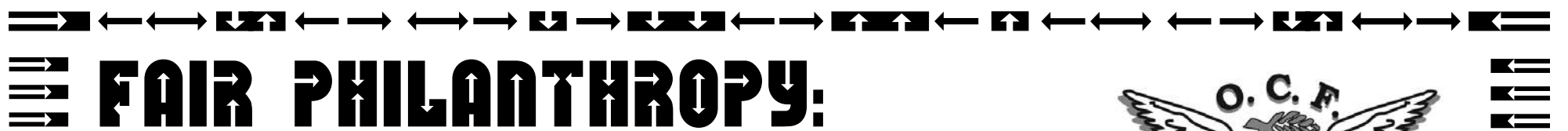
KindTree is one of the nonprofits of Community Village. This grassroots, almost all-volunteer nonprofit was founded 22 years ago by longtime Community Village member Steve Brown, along with Michelle Jones and Tim Mueller.

Beginning with a 12 -person retreat in the Deadwood forest, this group now produces an annual 265 person Friends and Family Camp; social, peer support and advocacy groups in Eugene and Cottage Grove; an Artist Guild with more than 75 members; and a Skill Training for an Independent Living Experience (STiLE) program that serves 50 to 70 people every term. Their working Board of Directors includes

individuals on the autism spectrum.

With inclusiveness and diversity as their core values, the Board is organized on Fair principles of love, respect and equality. Projects being developed include a Parent Support Group and a "Festival of Art for All" on May 2, as well as an expanding list of classes in the STiLE Program. More info at [www.kindtree.org](http://www.kindtree.org). You are welcomed.

KindTree joins other activists serving people with different perspectives in Community Village's Doors of Expression booth, including Mind Freedom International, Oregon Consumer Survivor Coalition, Portland Indymedia, Eugene Linux User Group, Electronic Frontier Foundation and more. Stop by and talk with us during Fair and feel at home in our Village of activists working to make the world a better place all year.



## Healthy Food for Families

Submitted by the Assistance League of Eugene



The Assistance League of Eugene (ALE) is grateful to the Jill Heiman Vision Fund of the Oregon Country Fair for their generous grant to help fund our Weekend Food Pantry (WFP) program. ALE is a nonprofit organization that is a local chapter of the National Assistance League. It is run entirely by volunteers and its mission is to transform the lives of children and adults through community programs. Currently, there are 237 members in our local chapter. ALE has seven philanthropic programs staffed by our members in cooperation with our community partners.

The Weekend Food Pantry, in its sixth year of operation, was created to improve access to healthy food for families in need, which in turn improves student attendance, achievement, health, and self-confidence. The program provides

weekend food assistance during the school year to underprivileged students and their families. Each week during the school year, families select their food from our food pantry at their own school, or their children bring home a bag of food staples and fresh produce. ALE purchases healthy, nutritious foods for these families from Fred Meyer. All grant monies from the Jill Heiman Vision Fund are applied to food purchases. This school year, we are serving more than 100 children and their families per week at our food pantries.

In addition, we also offer a weekend Backpack Program whereby Assistance League volunteers fill backpacks or grocery bags with easy-to-prepare meals. These eligible students attend one of the following programs: Pearl Buck Preschool for children with a parent with development disabilities; Madison and Danebo Early Education Promise Programs serving preschoolers with special needs; and a new site this year, Danebo Head Start. Last year we added the Chifin Center for Native Youth as a WFP recipient. This facility provides support to Alaska Native and American Indian youth in the Springfield School District, many of whom are unhoused. Chifin receives

grocery bags of foods weekly. Because of increased demand in the community, we have added more sites this winter term for students at Awbrey Park and Gilham Elementary Schools. We currently fill more than 100 backpacks/grocery bags weekly.

In one of our newer programs, we partner with Fred Meyer to provide monthly dinners for Native families who attend the Read and Feed program at the Chifin Center. Each event also includes the reading of a "culturally relevant" book followed by a discussion and related activity.

As the Assistance League of Eugene responds to a growing need in our community for our Weekend Food Pantry program, we are very thankful for the supportive funding provided by the Jill Heiman Vision Fund.



A volunteer sets up bags for the Weekend Food Pantry



ALE Weekend Food Pantry staples ready for pickup



Children signing in at Weekend Food Pantry



Maureen and Donna, Co-Chairs of Weekend Food Pantry







## Sound Bites

by Dean Middleton, Station Manager, KOCF-FM

KOCF 92.7 FM, the community radio station started by the Oregon Country Fair, is a part of a wave of new radio stations. Since the 2014 FCC window opened for LPFM, 750 new stations were created. That nearly doubled the number of Low Power station around the United States to 1,536. Of those stations like KOCF, 476 are a variety format, 585 are religious stations and the balance are formatted stations such as oldies, alternative, country, etc.

Because of this wave of interest in community stations, the FCC is in the process of making changes to the rules that govern LPFMs. These proposed changes called RECNET are intended to allow stations greater access to the public airwaves. Rules would allow LPCF owners to have up to two translators and the new maximum output power would change from 100 watts to a maximum of 250 watts. These changes would increase the coverage area.

Why should the Fair Family care about this? With the changes happening with the OCF organization and a focusing on the Vision the Fair has established, the organization is becoming more than a three-day event. The Fair is evolving. It is a year-round organization with its various programs, the Bill Wooten Endowment Fund, the Jill Heiman Vision Fund, the Board of Directors Donation Grants, Cul-

ture Jam, and now KOCF. The 60-, 70- and 80-somethings that first created the Fair are turning over the reins to younger folks. With the new rules for LPFM stations, KOCF will likely become a real player on the dial for listeners in the Southern Willamette Valley. Will the new younger folks that are guiding this 365-days-a-year organization realize just how to utilize the resource of radio? I hope so.

Radio won't go away. In the 1970s and '80s they predicted the demise of broadcast TV because of cable and eventually digital delivery, yet TV is stronger than ever. Why? It's free, it's easy and it tells us what's going on in our community. Sooner or later we all realize that our community is important to us and when that happens we start to pay closer attention to ways of finding out about that community.

KOCF is a resource for having access to our community. I recently have started a search to find a News Director for KOCF. I believe it is through news that we can access and share our community with KOCF listeners. In the next few days I will have the new job description for the News Director position up on our website. If interested, I encourage you to look at it and apply to: sean.kocf@gmail.com, Sean Cummings is our new volunteer coordinator and will be working with me and our leadership team to find the best person for this position. That's a wrap.

## Oregon Country Fair/Burning Man Exchange Program

by Jessica "Cotterpin" Metteer, B.U.M.— Management Team

Have you ever thought about going to Burning Man? Do you want to go as part of the Oregon Country Fair/Burning Man Exchange?

The purpose of the Oregon Country Fair/Burning Man Exchange is to nurture the sharing of skills and knowledge about ways to create amazing event experiences. This application process is designed to make the exchange more intentional. It requires a commitment to meaningfully contribute at Burning Man, and then explicitly share your new-found knowledge with the Oregon Country Fair.

Each year a few people will be provided with a ticket to Burning Man and introduced to people or activities that will (hopefully) enrich your experience and benefit both events. If



2019 Exchange participants & staff: Wally Bomgaars, John Chambers, Lisa Parker, Crystalyn Frank, Corry Cliff, Wendy Friedman, Lisa Marcus and Elijah Rhoads. Not pictured: Jenny Newtonson and Sallie Edmunds.

Photo © 2019 Sallie Edmunds

you are selected to take part in the exchange program, you will be asked to complete a survey after the event about what you learned and how you will use that knowledge and experience to benefit the Oregon Country Fair.

Burning Man is a week-long immersive event which will take place this year from Sunday, Aug. 30, to Monday, Sept. 7. Exchange participants must be on site for at least most of the week.

If you would like to apply to be part of the exchange, please fill out the Exchange Program Application at <http://bit.ly/OCFBRC2020> The application deadline is March 24. The results

of your application will be sent by April 1. If you have any questions you can send them to [exchange@oregoncountryfair.org](mailto:exchange@oregoncountryfair.org)

## Positively Neutral

What Is Carbon Neutrality?

by Wayne "Demon" Overlin, Energy Park Electric Company / Peach Power Committee

Essentially, carbon neutrality is a closed system whose carbon intake is equal to its output. If we are pumping X amount of carbon into the atmosphere and we are removing Y amount of carbon from the atmosphere, these two values must be equal in order to have a net or overall zero amount of carbon flowing into the atmosphere (X-Y=0). This gives us two variables to manipulate in order to make our equation true. We can either decrease the amount of carbon that we are putting in or we can increase the amount that we are taking out.

The Seduction of Reduction vs. The Frustration of Sequestration

Let's start with the reduction of our emissions. The less carbon that we put in, the less we need to take out again to reach a net of zero. The carbon that we put into the air comes from many sources. It can be traced back to the electrical power that we use, the food that we eat, the products that we buy or make, the waste that we produce, the transportation used to move these products before and after we consume them, etc.

Let us look into our other variable, sequestration, or the removal of carbon from the air. The one tried-and-true means of pulling carbon from the air is by planting and growing more trees, plants, and foliage. There are also more technical means but most are still in the experimental or prototypical stages and not ready for large-scale use,

some being highly expensive and we would be unwise to rely on their being developed in time. Planting more trees is always a good thing but, here at the Fair, we are limited by the space that we occupy.

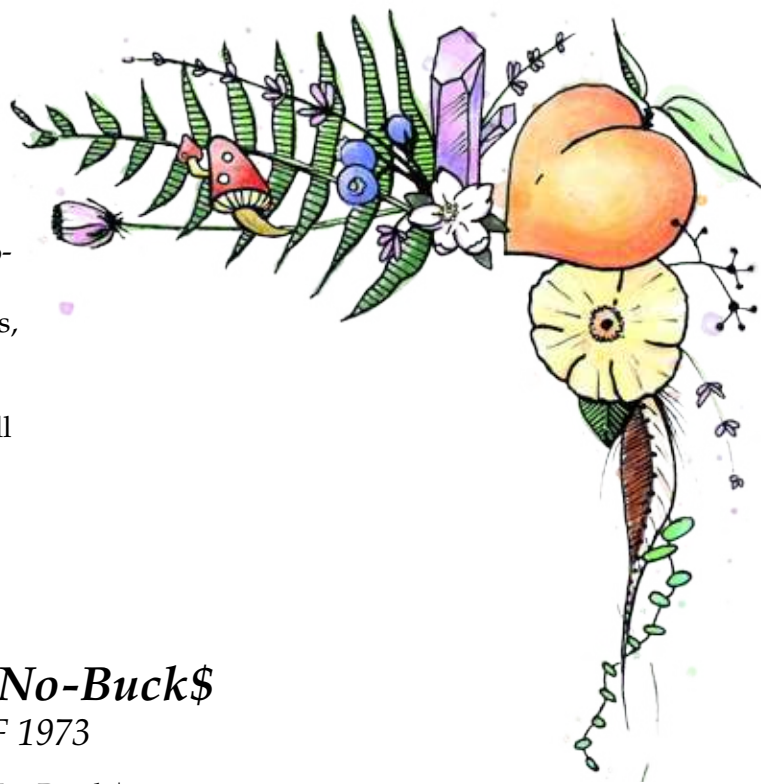
Having our own special talents and our own expertise in various fields, each month Positively Neutral will delve a little deeper and explore further into each specific topic. Net zero is a lofty goal, and to accomplish it will take everyone's contribution. We need all of you to be aware of the amount of electricity you use, what is necessary, what is frivolous, and what is wasted. We need you to be aware of what products you are purchasing; what can be reused or recycled, what can be composted. Where your food comes from and where it ends up. How everything we use is transported to and fro, and what distances it travels both coming and going.

It will take all of us. We cannot rely on government officials, though we do need to vote. We cannot rely on activism alone, though we do need to petition and protest. We need to demand change and we need to do it loudly and often, as if our world depends upon it. The politicians won't do it on their own. The corporations won't do it on their own. It's going to take a band of fearless Fairies to change the world, so what are we waiting for?



# HISTORICAL MARKERS

The OCF 50th Anniversary Task Force provided 23 historical markers to food and craft booths that have been at the Fair for 40 or more years. Thanks to Sallie Edmunds for a fabulous idea and for recruiting the very talented Krista Gust, who graphically designed and produced beautiful plaques for the booths. Sallie and norma sax solicited information from the booths, including when and how they started. These were the stories featured on the plaques, along with photos sent by the booth reps. Jay Hogan was also a rock star, making the frames for the plaques. Dick Stewart and norma helped Jay frame the plaques. Jay, Susie Goldsmith and norma delivered them to the various booths on Wednesday, July 10. They were very well received and many of them were displayed during the Fair. We hope to continue this project on an ongoing basis, adding booths each year as they “come of age.”



## Ritta's Burritos

Started OCF 1978



I was 22 years old in 1978. Eugene was my unquestionable destination after finishing college in Iowa. My sister-in-law, Roberta, advised me to open a food booth at the Eugene Saturday Market, and also not to miss my opportunity to sell at the Oregon County Fair. That is what I did. The rest, as they say, is history.

I chose a booth location at the Junction right across from the Drum Tower. In 1991 I was asked to consider relocating to the newly opened Left Side. An “anchor booth” was needed. I said “yes, please.”



Over the years, my husband, Rockey built, then improved upon, my booths. My two grown children consider the second weekend of July a national holiday. Many loyal crew members have worked decades beside me, and generations of customers come by each year for their Ritta's Burrito fix. This is a legacy of which I am most proud.

Country Fair represents accomplishment. It is a huge effort and responsibility to serve food to hundreds of people year after year. It takes all the ingenuity, strength and organizational skills I can muster to be successful. The Fair allows me to use my strengths in an atmosphere which showcases quality, creativity and individually. I am excited to honor the 50th anniversary of the Oregon County Fair. As I prepare for my 42nd Fair I am thankful for all the opportunity it has given me and for the way it has profoundly shaped my life.

Ritta Dreier

## Organic Orange Juice

Started OCF 1969

Awaking around 5:00 a.m., Elaine and I exit our sleeping bags in the organic orange orchard, soon busily filling our picking bags. Heat rising, we quit by 10:00 a.m., returning at 5:00 p.m. to pick until dark. The second evening, our one-ton truck heavily laden, we drive north until tiredness overtakes us; then after a few hours we begin again, in the cool night air, our journey to the Fair site. Once again the oranges have arrived!

This is one remembrance among hundreds, for indeed 2019 was the Organic Orange Juice Booth's 50th Fair!

Our first Fair as followers of Jesus the Messiah came in 1980. A few Fairs later, walking the Eight with Pastor Dan carrying the 8-foot wooden cross symbolizing God's solution for our broken lives, God's Loving Gift directing our futures. There were some “outside” who could not believe we were continuing to go to the Fair, some “inside” who found our presence very distasteful.



We love serving the delicious fresh organic juice to everyone; we love giving smiles, hugs, words of care; we love giving all profits to help the poorest on the planet; above all, we love our Fair folks.

Jesse Pattinson

## Sears & No-Buck\$

Started OCF 1973

Sears & No-Buck\$ — originally a collaboration between Will Sears and his then partner Chris “No Bucks” Vorster — first appeared at the Fair in 1973 and has been here every year since, becoming one of the oldest originally staffed booths at the Fair. It is also a Charter Member, joining many others in putting up the money for the Fair property's down payment.



In a backward Zen sort of way, Will's woodworking has slowly progressed over the decades from mostly elaborate and finely made musical instruments to ever-more-simple, but even-more-soulful products such as wooden bowls and kitchenware. Similarly, the materials he uses have slowly evolved from rare exotic hardwoods to species that grow naturally on the family's home place.

Over those same ensuing decades, Will's immediate family has grown. His seven kids and stepkids now have partners and kids of their own. Some have attended the Fair every year of their lives and this has become an annual family reunion. Will's grandchildren are even beginning to need adult camping passes.

Will's twin sons Kavi and Teja now join him in the booth as juried craftspeople in their own rights.

## Big Elk

Started OCF 1970



The Big ELK Family lived communally in the coastal mountain range between Newport and Corvallis. In 1970 we packed up and decorated (of course) our vehicles and headed to our first Fair. We sold veggie burgers, then the next couple of Fairs we made halvah and mostly gave them away.

Those first few Fairs our booth was near Main Stage, but we soon moved to the site we're still at on Shady Lane. The Big ELK booth evolved over the last 49 years with craft contributions from different family members and eventually a variety of our children's art. We hope to see our grandchildren's art on display someday.

Early on we sold antler pipes and knives and hand-woven belts. We soon included Donna's jewelry and Arna's weavings. In the 1980s Joseph brought his fine silver jewelry. Tash's felting was added in 2004 and Julie's jewelry more recently.



Early fond memories include laughing around our campfire at night and listening to the drum tower till the wee hours of the morning. Many may remember Larry entertaining crowds in front of the booth, playing guitar and singing off-key but knowing all the words to every song.

Now three generations later, we're not all at the Fair each year, but the Fair is in each of our hearts.





**BOARD OF DIRECTORS'  
MEETING  
MARCH 2, 2020**

**7 pm, Northwest Youth Corps, Columbia Room**

*(subject to approval by the Board at the April 6, 2020, meeting)*

**Board Directors present:** Aaron Kenton, Cynthia "Peaches" Peachey, George Braddock (Vice President 1), Jack Makarchek (President, alternate), Lily Harmon-Gross, (Vice President 2), Lisa Cooley, Lisa Parker, Palmer Parker (alternate) Paxton Hoag, Sandra Bauer, Spirit Leatherwood and Sue Theolass. **Board Officers present:** Hilary Anthony, Kimberly "Kimmo" Howard, and Lynda Gingerich. **Staff present:** Crystalyn Frank, Shane Harvey and Wally Bomgaars; plus 30 members and guests. Sam Rutledge facilitated the meeting.

This Board of Directors meeting is being videotaped and will be available to the Fair family on the OCF YouTube channel for those wanting to watch the proceedings here tonight. To get links for this and all Board meetings, go to the Board section of oregoncountryfair.net and click on "Sign up to receive videos of monthly Board meetings." Please note, Board meetings held at the OCF site are not live-streamed due to intermittent access to the internet. Thank you, Sean Bonsell, for recording the meeting.

The following items were removed from old business:

Allow grievance item to proceed — Sue  
Sandra would like to refer the grievance item to an attorney for review. Jack said he could help facilitate this.

OCF membership database — Aaron said the Membership Secretary and Membership Database IT group are working together to update the OCF voting member list by August 31, 2020.

*The Oregon Country Fair Bylaws on membership requirements changed a few years ago. In order to stay on the Member List, one has to vote at least once every three years. One does not have to be a voting member to retain their role during the Fair. We have many people who have signed up but who do not vote in the annual elections. If we have a current address, we will send a postcard to those being removed from the voting member list. If we don't have a current address, nonvoters will still be removed, but we won't be able to notify them.*

*If someone is removed from the voting list, they can still vote for Board members if they fill out and return a new voting member registration form 30 (or more) days before the Annual Meeting in October. Member registration forms are available during the Fair at the quartermaster desk in Main Camp, at most Info booths, and from the Get Out the Vote team. Year round they can be found at the Fair office, downloaded to print from [www.oregoncountryfair.net](http://www.oregoncountryfair.net) or email [elections@oregoncountryfair.com](mailto:elections@oregoncountryfair.com) to have one sent to you. If you have any questions about your voting member status or need to update your address, please contact [elections@oregoncountryfair.org](mailto:elections@oregoncountryfair.org).*

The following items were tabled from old business:

Safety requirements for OCF vehicles — George  
Restructuring Board giving and philanthropy — Lily  
Canvas the membership regarding voting age — Aaron

**Consent Calendar / Donations (video 5:40)**

The Board approved the following donation requests:

\$1,000 - Elmira HS Grad Night  
\$1,500 - Housing Our Veterans  
\$900 - Community Supported Shelters  
\$500 - Charleston Fishing Families

Peaches said the Board just approved \$3,900, and the total donation budget for the year is \$25,000. She noted Lily has a motion about restructuring Board giving and philanthropy, and looks forward to the Board discussing it further.

**New Business (video 10:10)**

Appoint Dave Wagenheim, Dan Mix and Caitlin Roberts to Food Committee — Sue

Appoint Thom Barr and Wayne Overlin to Peach Power Committee — Peaches

Approve and implement the Committee Best Practices Manual as presented by the Committee Best Practices Work Group. Work Group to follow up and assess progress in 6 months and yearly thereafter — Peaches

Expand Committee Reports segment of Board of Directors monthly meetings to include "Committee Reports, Requests and Recommendations" during which time dialogue may occur between committees and the Board — Peaches

Board authorizes Operations to schedule pertinent workshops / meetings at the Outer Limits of the OCF property (also known as the winery) for purposes at the discretion of the Executive Director — Aaron

Deadline for new business agenda items (on agenda for two months to allow adequate time for member input) — Spirit

Recommendations of Bylaws and Elections Committees — Paxton

T-shirt contract — Spirit

**Spirit moved and Sue seconded to move the motion about meetings at the winery from new to old business.**

George thinks this is premature and should be part of the strategic planning process.

Sandra agreed with George, but said nothing prevents us from discussing it now so we can get more knowledge. This motion will allow us to access the property to investigate it more.

Spirit supports this since the winery topic has been talked about being discussed with members for a year-and-a-half.

Aaron feels we can trust Operations and the ED to determine use of the winery property.

Peaches said it has already been agreed to have a Board Work Assembly about the winery in April, and supports this motion.

**Motion passed: 9-1; George opposed.**

**Announcements (video 18:30)**

Jon P. said there will be a special CCPA membership meeting regarding substantial deviations to the budget on Sunday, March 29, at 3 pm, at the WOW Hall in Eugene.

Jon S. announced a benefit for Grrrlz Rock, Eugene Women in the Blues, that was held on March 8, (International Women's Day) at Whirled Pies in Eugene.

Lily said the first Board Work Assembly about the NAO reports was successful and productive. She is working on the minutes from this session and making plans to move forward with some of the NAO recommendations. Time is made for member input at these work sessions.

Jen-Lin said the next Board Work Assembly was set for March 16, to focus on Fair elections and bylaws. Topics would include Board composition and term length, signatures required for advisory measures and Board member recalls, and voting age. If you were not able to attend, send comments to [elections@oregoncountryfair.org](mailto:elections@oregoncountryfair.org)

[countryfair.org](http://countryfair.org) by March 22.

Jen-Lin confirmed with Spirit that the election and bylaws recommendations will be vetted by legal counsel.

Dean said the Third Annual Spring KOCF fundraiser is Tuesday, March 17, at the Broadway Grill, 24992 West Broadway in Veneta. KOCF will be out there from 5-8 pm, and a portion of all proceeds from dinner sales will go to KOCF.

Also, KOCF will be at the Eugene Saturday Market's opening day on Saturday, April 4, from 10 am to 2 pm. Dean is working on an underwriting package for market vendors to advertise their booth.

Sue said the Art Bingo fund-raiser for the Kareng Fund was great and they want to especially thank Amy Hand at Gratitude Brewing for ensuring their success at the venue.

Sue announced the 50th Eugene Saturday Market kicks off on April 4.

Ann said Alice Smith of Traffic Crew in the 1980s and '90s passed away on February 20.

Spirit said today is the anniversary of her best friend Peter Nunn's death. She thanked the Board for their work at the past two Board meetings when she was absent. If she does not feel well-informed about a motion presented at this meeting, she will recuse and allow Jack to vote.

**Staff Reports (video 30:08)**

**Wally:** Change is afoot for staff. We are saying goodbye to one staff member while welcoming another. I want to say a giant THANK YOU to Stephanie for all she has done in the last four years as Assistant Manager. The Fair will be missing a highly dedicated and effective staff member, and we will miss having her in the office. We are also finalizing the Caretaker hire and will announce it as soon as it is confirmed.

I attended the Collaborative Facilitation Workshop produced by Robin and hosted at the Dodeca Center. It was inspiring, informative, and energizing. I believe having leadership regularly engaging in work like this is helpful and healthy for our family and our organization.

I met with Matt Michel, the new Veneta City Administrator who took over for Ric Ingham. We met at the Veneta City Hall and had some inspiring conversations around the Fair and the city working together. I learned a lot about Veneta, its history, and future plans. We are going to be meeting at the Fair office in a couple weeks to continue the conversation, and I'll be sharing more about the Fair with him.

The Behavioral Standards Work Group is mostly solidified, and we will be scheduling our first meeting. More info coming soon.

We have signed a contract with Marc Smiley for the Cultural Compact and the Strategic Plan, and are working on scheduling our work together.

The Board work session on the NAO went well. I look forward to the next session in the next few months.

Personal note: I've been getting back into my loving kindness meditation practice. Sugar and I bought a house here in Eugene. We have great neighbors.

**Crystalyn:** The last Coordinator meeting focused on safety and was a huge success. She apologized that remote participation was not set up, but it will be available for future Coordinator meetings.

Staff and QM having been working to update the meal ticket process, and hope to have it more streamlined.

Staff also met with Fair Central and work is rolling along, with feelings that the event is right around the corner.

The past month was spent reviewing capital project requests. Crystalyn is excited about the compost barn project and gave thanks to Recycling Crew, Shane, Tom Lanfear, and Brad for



their work on it.

Online pre-sale tickets for the event began March 13 with TicketsWest, offering a discount on the three-day ticket.

Water Crew Coordinators Judy, Tim and Christie have resigned. Crystallyn thanked them for everything they have done for OCF. She also gave a huge thank you to Stephanie who will be missed as Assistant Manager.

**Shane:** Event season is ramping up, and we have been meeting with several operational crews regarding the 2020 event. Thank you to Recycling Crew for their work on the compost facility.

The road vacation has been approved by the Lane County Commissioners; we now own the property associated with Chickadee and Aero roads. We will be meeting with our land use attorney and Thom Lanfear to finalize the requirements for the SUP, submitting the final documents and calling for inspections.

The Far Side Road is still under way, we just finished decking trees to be milled and are currently waiting for one section to dry out enough to support the heavy equipment. I am confident the project will be completed long before the event.

We are very close to submitting building plans for booth X-26 to Lane County for consideration. Engineers have finished all the calculations from the data and drawings collected by our permitting team, which has been an enormous undertaking. If all goes well, we will be following up with the remaining booth in Xavanadu for permitting.

The LTD contract has been completed and anyone riding the system to the Fair will once again be able to ride for free. LTD is great to work with; both organizations are proud of the long-standing partnership. We will be encouraging folks to park in the garages near the downtown station for free on Saturday and Sunday. We all think that will help alleviate long lines at Valley River Center that were reported last year. The OCF will be adding additional buses from First Student on Friday to help reduce wait times at VRC.

The site has only had a small flood this year and currently damage relating to storms and floods has been light. We have removed the bales from the paths in order to continue to re-seed with the hopes of establishing a hearty grass path before we begin to impact the site.

**Stephanie** (Kimmo read a statement on behalf of Stephanie, who was not able to attend the meeting due to family matters):

"I want to let you know that I have resigned from my position at the Fair. I've been honored to work with some really fabulous people during my time here, both paid and volunteer. I really do know how much work coordinators put in and I respect and value your time and dedication!

"Your continued support of Wally, Crystallyn, Shane, and really the whole staff and BUM team is what I hope for going forward. In this time of transition, we need to look out for each other and be especially patient and kind. I wish everyone nothing but the best.

"The organization and the event mean a lot to me and I will remain connected to the Fair. I look forward to seeing you on the path and getting a hug!

"I want to thank the Board for hiring me and the opportunity to work for this organization and work with some wonderful people. But I also wish to inform the people of this organization of a real problem affecting the Fair — employee overwork. It affects health, well-being, motivation, job satisfaction, performance, temperament, and relationships with family, partners and friends. Saying 'but you're paid for it' or 'come in late in the morning' does not go far enough.

"My husband works mornings and I can go days without seeing him, and no more than a kiss goodnight. Being 'on call/radio' overnight

during Main Camp means I'm technically being paid less than minimum wage per hour. I urge the Board to make more funds available for staffing. The meetings are not going away, but to have sufficient staff to cover the needs without working 50-plus hours a week is imperative. I prioritized me and my family over being a martyr for the Fair.

"Our people, both paid and volunteer are our greatest asset. I hope everyone will find ways to not only show them appreciation, but truly value them."

### Committee and Working Group Reports (video 42:07)

**Committee Best Practices Work Group:** Peaches said there was a successful open house on March 1, with approximately 35 people attending. The work group will meet again on March 17 to compile the feedback and refine the best practices manual they have been working on for six months. The proposed manual will be posted on the .net site.

**Endowment Committee:** Sue said the Bill Wooten Endowment Fund awarded a total of \$16,000 in grants. The recipients are Culture Jam, Elmira Elementary School, Fern Ridge Middle School, Lane Arts Council, Rural Art Center, Veneta Elementary School, and Wordcrafters. Wordcrafters was recognized with the annual Leslie Scott Imagine Grant Award.

**Diversity Committee:** Jon S. said they are working on a Fair family survey to get information about our demographics and diversity. The committee worked on the spring learning opportunity, with Dr. Johnny Lake and Gilda Montenegro-Fix joining the meeting remotely, and sent a budget proposal to the Board for this event. The committee is still looking for more members. Please email [diversity@oregoncountryfair.org](mailto:diversity@oregoncountryfair.org) if you are interested in becoming a committee member.

**KOCF:** Dean said he bought an aluminum cabinet in Portland, similar to what you would see at an intersection with traffic lights. It stands about 5 feet tall, 4 feet wide, and 2 feet deep. This will house our new transmitter. The company he bought if from gave us a sweetheart deal, yes it was a Fair connection. The sales guy is related to "Water Judy." It's in his shop being outfitted with racks, equipment and a massive UPS.

Our structural engineer, Arron Broderick, called Dean after visiting water tank and expressed concerns about placing an antenna there. He said he's going to do what he can to make it work, but Dean should think about Plan B. That's gotten Dean revved up. He is sure there's a solution; it's just going to take a bit more money.

Our Development Group met last week and has a line-up of live events and fund-raisers, more than a dozen between now and Halloween. Anytime you want to know what's coming up, go to KOCF.org or visit and "like" our Facebook page.

**LUMP:** Paxton said Dennis, Thom, and Aaron met at the winery to use the solar pathfinder and made charts of three sites. We are hoping to have a tour and potluck at the winery April 19.

We received four proposals to our request for grey-water recycling, and chose two. Sherwood and Biohabitats both seemed a good match for further interviews, with relevant experience on interesting similar projects.

We're hoping to write a draft work plan for the year, possibly including the winery, strategic planning, grey water, Green Zones, educational outreach, and finishing the LUMP manual map. Dennis will organize info about these, and we can rank them when we meet in March. If you want to join LUMP meetings remotely, please contact the Fair Office for a link.

**Path Planning:** Paxton said Genevieve gave a Festive Restive report on the success of the areas. The committee encouraged signage and

using it to provide information to Fair family.

For mapping, new high-resolution pictures are available through the government and we are trying to get them.

The committee supports new space for the Rainbow Connection, and is working with Registration and Construction Crews.

There were discussions about Upper River Loop and loss of the bank by the encroaching Long Tom River. Long-term and strategic planning topics were suggested.

**Bylaws/Elections:** Paxton noted that the March 16 Board Work Assembly would review results of a survey done last year about our voter demographics.

**Vision Action Committee:** Lily said the VAC printed cards with the Goals of the Oregon Country Fair, to be used as a reference when making decisions. The complete OCF Vision Quest Goals are available on the .net site under Documents. It's important to review and revise the goals as we move into our next 50 years, and use them as guidelines for our decisions.

*The Oregon Country Fair shall increase the diversity of all aspects of the Oregon Country Fair community.*

*The Oregon Country Fair shall maintain and improve our land and facilities.*

*The Oregon Country Fair shall steward our lands in accordance with ecological standards.*

*The Oregon Country Fair shall support artists and entertainers.*

*The Oregon Country Fair shall create participatory events and experiences that attract and include more youth and elders.*

*The Oregon Country Fair shall support a healthy and dynamic culture for participation by volunteers and members.*

*The Oregon Country Fair shall foster better communication and information exchange.*

*The Oregon Country Fair shall clarify its priorities and systems for community outreach and philanthropy.*

*The Oregon Country Fair shall improve its organizational effectiveness.*

**Personnel Policies:** Sandra said the committee is working hard to update the employee handbook and will report to the Board when it is completed. There are several more meetings needed for this project.

### Member Input (video 55:45)

Ann thanked staff and the volunteer videographers for recording the Board meetings and offering live viewing. She said the number of remote attendees is sometimes more, with members having "watch parties" at home.

Crafter Donna Murray expressed thanks for the opportunity to provide member input, and wanted to thank the staff, site crew and others who helped with the tree cleanup last year at her booth. She also gave kudos to Registration Crew for their organization and kindness.

Donna is concerned about how big the event has become and how to handle emergencies with such large crowds, but is always impressed with the love, energy and "Fair glow." She said she wished she had more time to learn about the proposed Guideline changes that the Board voted on last month. She does not agree that a craft booth representative must be an approved crafter with at least five years' crafting at OCF, and thinks the requirement should be fewer years. Donna wants clarification about previous experience in another booth, if different from the current craft being represented, and if that counts toward the five years.

Donna was surprised to learn of infighting with booth members, and suggested mediation as a first step. She wants to encourage better communications among crafters, artists and the committees who represent them. She hopes the Craft Committee can be more effective.

Sherry thanked Food Committee for



having a workshop with food vendors. She noted she was the only black person at the meeting, and would like to encourage the Board to support the diversity learning opportunity.

Mouseman is concerned about the membership voting age, and what was referred to as a loophole in our rules which may have swayed Board election results. He spoke about a Facebook post in advance of the 2020 Board elections, which he said included the following: 1) OCF does not have voting age restrictions, 2) adults were encouraging their kids to vote, and 3) a paid employee was commenting on bylaws and that it was known that some teens vote. Mouseman feels comments on social media may have manipulated the outcome of the elections.

Lily cautioned that member input should not include personal attacks on others.

Spirit knows there has been a lot of change and transition, and she thinks often about how to address the membership. She feels like she's in the movie Groundhog Day, where everything keeps repeating, and she does not like the fighting among Fair members. Everyone in this organization is here because we love it. Being stressed out all the time, Spirit said she is only able to give half her effort.

Spirit said we have to do something different, and change the heavy energy. She and some others do not feel valued, and communication is the crux. We are not listening to each other, and we are hearing through a filter of hurt, pain, frustration and grief. The Fair is changing, and we have to stop attacking each other and staff. We are not fulfilling our Vision Quest Goals. Spirit feels we need to get better at expressing our frustrations, so we can be better heard. We need to listen, speak more compassionately, and have more patience with each other.

Jack acknowledged that were other members who wanted to speak, but due to time constraints asked we respect each other enough to continue with the business on the agenda. He knows there is a lot of resentment, anger, and frustration, but there is no one individual to blame. It is March, and we have an event to put on. We have to ask ourselves, when is it good enough, and when does it satisfy everybody? We need to take a deep breath and think about all the hard work everybody does to put this event on.

### **Treasurer Report and Budget Items (video 1:17:00)**

Lynda reviewed capital project recommendations. Most of the projects came from coordinators of operational crews, but there are a few from staff. The Board has the list of projects in summary form and the details for all the projects that are being recommended.

Lynda advised the following changes to totals recommended:

1) In the composting project being led by Recycling, they are asking for \$100,000 overall but it will be implemented over the next five years. In year one, they will lay the concrete slab and walls. This is a total of \$67,000 and will come out of the Green Ticket Fund. The remaining \$33,000 will be over two to five years for the rest of the project. The new total for Green Ticket projects is \$77,750, but we do not currently have that much in the Green Ticket Fund. Hilary will explain how this would work.

2) The Radios project proposal for \$50,000 is still being worked on, so was subtracted out for today's motion. We will revisit this next month when we have additional information.

Hilary said we have been funding capital projects out of current operations. Our balance sheet shows we have about \$1.5 million in the bank right now. Of that amount, \$900,000 is designated to long-term projects. There is also about \$350,000 in restricted funds. We have about \$250,000 in general funds, which is enough money for the projects if we make our attendance numbers this year and we don't

get as much incoming. We might have a deficit in the Green Ticket Fund to start the compost project, but those funds will come in later and it is a long-term project. Hilary apologized for not having copies of the project proposals for members, as there was a miscommunication.

Spirit asked if the project proposal for Cart Central was a new location. Lynda confirmed it would be for a second location. Shane said there is a plan to put Cart Central at the sticker booth on Wednesday and Thursday. Also, the tent location for TicketsWest will be a satellite for carts until Sunday night. Next year we will replace the circus tent.

**Lily moved and Sue seconded to approve spending \$68,650 out of the general fund for approved capital projects. (video 1:30:00)**

Jon S. wished he had a copy of the proposals to be able to contribute to the discussion. Hilary apologized again for the lack of additional copies.

**Motion passed: 10-0; Palmer voted, as Paxton was out of room.**

**Sue moved and Palmer seconded to approve spending \$77,750 out of the Green Ticket Fund for approved projects. (video 1:31:27)**

Donna asked why the compost facility had a concrete floor. Thom, of Recycling Crew, explained the compost is turned with a front-end loader because of the large amount and needing to oxygenate it to produce the right kind of microbes. The compost also needs to be saturated with water.

Hilary noted \$67,000 is for the compost facility, \$10,000 is for the grey water project and \$750 is trees for the fiftieth.

**Motion passed: 10-0; Palmer voted, as Paxton was out of room.**

**Palmer moved and Sandra seconded to approve spending \$3,000 out of the permitting designated funds and \$8,646 out of the IT designated fund for the recommended projects. (video 1:35:27)**

**Motion passed: 9-0-1; Spirit abstained.**

Lynda said there were a lot of project requests to review, and thanked the Budget Committee for their extra work.

**George moved and Lisa P. seconded approving \$8,000 for the Diversity Committee learning opportunity. (video 1:37:05)**

Jon S. said the learning opportunity proposal includes a 90-minute session on Saturday, April 25, for anybody at the Fair. It also includes an all-day session on Sunday, April 26, with priority given to those in Fair leadership positions. The goal for participants is to get tools to address how we can become more diverse. This learning opportunity will help the Board with their May Work Assembly on safety and offering a welcoming environment. Jon S. hopes the funds can come from the Board education or training line items.

Ann said this is really important, at the individual and structural levels. We have issues with privilege, and issues with some individuals' behaviors that need to be addressed. Dr. Johnny Lake has worked with us previously and has attended the Fair. Dr. Gilda Montenegro-Fix also wants to help us.

Thom said this is Vision Quest Goal No. 1. This is an intractable issue, which is why it needs to be re-visited again and again by members and Fair leaders. This is about privilege, safety at the Fair, and learning about ourselves. We need to keep addressing this until people outside of the Fair tell us we are doing a good job.

Hilary thinks this is really important work, and likes working with someone local. This work will not only make the Fair better, but the whole world.

Diane would love to see a 10-0 vote by the

Board, because this is so important.

Coyote said he has a personal and professional commitment to cultural competency, and taught 14 years at the university. He has received a nomination for the Martin Luther King award from the Department of Equity and Inclusion. He feels the Fair needs more training, and spoke to what he called unresolved historic grief within cultures where PTSD is carried on through generations.

Coyote uses a training video about white privilege from Lee Mun Wah in the Bay area who founded StirFry Seminars and Consulting, offering innovative tools for diversity training. He spoke to his friend about concerns he has about comments seen on social media directed toward others. His friend sent a proposal with how StirFry can help the Fair, which Coyote forwarded to the Diversity Committee. He is concerned about the process the committee used to choose the proposed consultants, because the committee did not send an RFP to StirFry, so he feels the process was not equitable.

Shelly questioned the number of people who can attend the learning opportunity, as the proposal stated up to 50, and who would be choosing them? She said it was not being inclusive to not allow anyone who was interested to attend. Shelly also questioned the cost.

Jon S. said the Saturday session would be open to more than 50 people. The Sunday session would be limited to 50-60, as recommended by consultants. Historically, we have never reached attendance of 50 or more at past learning opportunities.

Jon S. said the committee did receive a two-day proposal from StirFry, but wanted to ask other consultants what they would do over a two-day period. We used the StirFry proposal as parameters for a template, and contacted the NAO for a list of consultants. We also used our own connections, and asked 16 other consultants for their input. The committee focused on six proposals, and StirFry was one of them.

FireDIC suggested there was a flaw in the committee's process, by taking the suggestions in the StirFry proposal and turning it into an RFP for other competitors to bid on.

Brooks said he hopes the Board does not get sidetracked by the committee's process. We have people who have had some really traumatic experiences at Fair. This is about things that are hurting others, and some children and youth are fleeing the Fair because of some issues that are happening. For kids who are coming out as trans or gay, there needs to be a concerted effort to begin a lot of work that needs to be done.

Spirit said diversity, inclusion, cultural competency and compassion are essential. With the money being spent, are we doing the best we can and giving equal opportunity? She thinks the consultants the committee chose are great, but she has concerns with process and doesn't understand why there wasn't more consideration for StirFry. She feels we missed the mark in giving ourselves the best opportunity we could have.

Paxton reminded us there is a standing Board motion to shop locally, when we can. We have a good relationship with the proposed consultants, having used them before, and he looks forward to expanding the learning opportunities.

Peaches asked how many people would be able to attend on the first day. Jon S. said about 150-200, as it will be at the LCC Longhouse. Dean confirmed the location can hold up to 250.

Aaron said diversity and equity are critical. When the committee brought up the amount of \$12,000 at the budget meeting, it was also known that we could get similar training for \$5,500. Some of the proposals that cost less also allowed for an unlimited number of people. She is concerned that more follow-up was not done with StirFry. Aaron would like more than 50 people to be able to attend the Sunday learning opportunity, as she is not sure if limiting num-



ber of people would have an impact for the Fair.

Lisa P. said this work is really important, and will be ongoing. This learning opportunity is just a starting point. We need to keep doing the work, and it needs to start with leadership. It is important for the Board and the Coordinators to attend this.

George gives trainings on people with disabilities and inclusion in the community. He agrees the larger group should be given more general information, and the smaller groups of Fair leaders can be trained and given the tools to share with their crews and other volunteers.

Sandra wants the learning opportunities offered to more people, but also thinks it is a timeliness issue. She does not think we can afford to wait, and feels a smaller group of decision makers can extrapolate to the larger community next year.

Jack reminded the room that it was 2020, that we were on the internet, and what others will see is white people discussing doing the right thing.

Spirit said there was a lot of information in the proposals, and hard to make sense of some. She trusts the committee members chose what they felt would be best help our membership, however she is disappointed that StirFry and Lee Mun Wah were not given more consideration by having equal opportunity. Spirit is conflicted whether to support the motion since Lee Mun Wah was not sent an official RFP by the Diversity Committee. Spirit believes leaders of OCF need the training so they can pass it on.

Aaron is concerned about costs if more than 50 people want to participate in the second learning opportunity, and who will decide who gets to attend.

Paxton said we will be lucky to get 50 who want to attend.

Palmer said he appreciated the work the committee did on behalf of the Board. He supports the Board passing the motion.

Spirit asked if the \$8,000 included costs for catering the full-day event, or other costs like printing. Jon S. said they are still negotiating the contract price, and hope to work within the budgeted amount.

**Motion passed: 10-0.**

**It was confirmed that \$8,000 will be added to the overall budget, and not come out of the Board line items.**

**Sue moved and Palmer seconded approving a budget adjustment of \$7,700 for appreciation of the work done by Crystalyn, Jeff, Mary, Robin, Shane and Stephanie on behalf of our 50th Fair. (video 2:10:59)**

Donna confirmed it is a bonus for employees.

Lily said it is highly deserved.

Paxton said we had a great 50th and he really appreciates the immense amount of work to pull it off.

Spirit said there is so much work that goes into this organization, and we can think of other ways to appreciate that besides money.

**Motion passed: 10-0.**

### **Old Business (video 2:12:48)**

**Paxton moved and Peaches seconded to approve the January 27, 2020, Board Budget Meeting minutes.**

**Motion passed: 10-0; Palmer and Jack voted, as Lisa C. was out of the room and Spirit recused herself.**

**Palmer moved and Aaron seconded to approve the February 3, 2020, Board Meeting Minutes.**

**Motion passed: 10-0; Palmer and Jack voted, as Lisa C. was out of the room and Spirit recused herself.**

**Aaron moved and Sandra seconded the following motion: (video 2:14:50)**

**The Board authorizes Operations to schedule pertinent workshops/meetings at the Outer Limits of the OCF property (also known as the winery) for purposes at the discretion of the Executive Director.**

Jon S. said the motion is open-ended, and allowing the ED to decide what happens at the winery puts the cart before the horse. If the purpose of this motion is to be able to do things at the winery and deciding what should be done at the property, then the Board ought to limit the discretion to things that relate to the decisions about the winery.

Ann does not understand why we need this open-ended motion. If we are going to look at the variables and attributes of the winery property, we should be able to do so. We have already looked at solar sites and done soil testing.

Jon P. said we can trust Wally and we need to start using the property.

FireDIC said we are not talking about a large event there. What really is the barrier to using the property now? He feels we need to start using the property since we have owned it for a couple years.

Donna said it would be a good place to have craft meetings with the building and the parking available.

Lily said the motion is not about how we will use the winery, but if it can be used now for a Board Work Assembly.

Firecat Tom said we already have a lot of rules in place about how we use and take care of Fair property. He thinks Wally is perfectly capable of overseeing the use of the winery for meetings.

Dean encouraged the Board to support this. If we make this motion too limiting, we'll just have to come back again in the future with another motion.

Lisa P. said we are still developing policy around how to use this property. She thinks the motion is too broad, and wondered if we really need a motion.

Peaches said it has been stated to her and other Board members that the Board needs to approve having meetings at the winery. She feels we can trust Operations and Wally, who are familiar with the legal aspects, to authorize meetings so that a motion is not needed every time.

George is also concerned with the open-endedness of the motion. There has been a lot of research the past couple years about what zoning will allow us to do. There are varying opinions that need to be resolved. We are in a very precarious position on our properties, as there are some people who want to stop the Fair. George is worried if we expand use of the property, it will irritate the neighbors.

Lily supports having the April Board Work Assembly event at the winery where a lot of information will be disseminated. Maybe the motion is too broad, but we need to figure out what we can do. She believes we can meet there, and have further educational opportunities.

Palmer wondered if Shane has been asked about meetings at the winery, since he is the Site Manager. He asked Wally and Crystalyn if they thought a motion was needed.

Wally thinks he and staff can make prudent decisions about having meetings at the winery. He has had conversations with Tom Lanfear and other professionals, and likes the idea of a streamlined process instead of having to come back to the Board to make a motion.

Paxton likes the motion and said it's time to turn this over to the ED.

Spirit said Wally does consult with his team.

Aaron said we are communicating with legal experts and keeping within our existing land use rules about the use of the property. She said the ED is in charge of our assets, and he reports directly to the Board.

Jack asked Wally to give a percentage of probability for approving a meeting at the winery in April. Wally said it would be very likely, based

on his research and investigations.

Aaron said she did check with the Site Manager, Shane, about the request to have a meeting at the winery.

Lisa P. is in complete support of the Board Work Assembly, but is more concerned with wording of the motion and setting a precedent.

**Motion passed: 10-0.**

**Lisa P. moved and Spirit seconded to appoint Britania Pousson-Nicastro to the Diversity Committee. (video 2:24:12)**

Thom said Britania is on Recycling Crew, and is an absolute rock star at handling sensitive complaints from the crew as part of the Recycling Care Bear group. She is also a leader in reaching out to Fair family about recycling practices.

Jon S. said Britania has been attending committee meetings remotely from San Diego, and the committee supports her appointment.

Peaches said Britania also supports White Bird during pre-Fair.

**Motion passed: 10-0.**

Regarding Aaron's motion about closed-session recording and minutes, she asked it be tabled to get legal advice about a statute that passed in May 2019. Jack agreed to help facilitate this request. (video 2:36:10)

**Sue T. moved and George seconded the use of tobacco, in any form, in public areas of the Oregon Country Fair event from noon Thursday to 1 pm Monday, is disallowed. (video 2:38:22)**

Donna said her husband, who is a smoker, was thrilled to hear about this proposed motion because of issues with smoking near the food booths.

Jon P. strongly supports the motion.

Jennifer asked if the extra burden to Security Crew had been considered, and if they had been asked for their input. She said smokers can get really upset when asked to stop smoking. She understands the health benefits, but this is America and we have freedom of choice.

Lee said there are tents that have vents that could be set up in the designated smoking areas.

Amy said there would be implications for Security, Fire and Recycling Crews. This would not help make our volunteer jobs easier, but make it harder. She thinks this motion is the wrong direction to go in.

Jen-Lin said we can all be empowered to gently and respectfully tell people where smoking areas are, and does not expect it to be a burden for Security. The motion specifies public areas during a specific timeframe.

Diane is more concerned about the burden on people who breathe, and does not like smoking areas near food booths. She assumes a smoking area would be placed at one end of the Fair or another, and if people can walk to go to the bathroom then they can walk to have their cigarette.

Hilary said most places with smoking bans do have specific smoking areas. She feels there should be 24/7 smoking areas, and acknowledged it is hard to enforce. We can't rely on Security, and we need to train ourselves and each other.

Crystalyn said one of our biggest challenges is our internal smokers, and how to get the message out about where smoking would be allowed.

Dean suggested a campaign for Fair family to let everyone know about smoking area changes. For the public, we need to make sure it becomes part of our literature and websites. It will take time to develop and refine.

George noted that allowing smoking in the public areas of our event is not in line with our goals and values. We are going through a time period of the normalization of marijuana use, and the de-normalization of cigarette smoking. The implementation of smoke free laws is



helping reduce the numbers of smokers. The leading causes of death are heart and circulatory disorders, cancer, and respiratory disorders. By allowing some smoking areas, we are setting up for failure. There have been so many letters written by Fair family, asking for the smoking guidelines to change.

George said bystanders are subject to second-hand smoke, which contributes to approximately 41,000 deaths among non-smoking adults. There is research on what is being called third-hand smoke, which are the toxic chemicals that linger in our environment. This is not about being mean to smokers. When someone stops smoking, their heart rate drops in 20 minutes and the carbon monoxide in their bloodstream returns to normal levels after 12 hours. There are additional benefits of getting back the taste and smell senses, gaining lung function, and reducing the risk of heart attack. George said we need to move beyond this, and stop sending messages that smoking is OK.

Peaches asked to clarify "public areas," noting the Fair is not open to the public on Thursday and Monday. Sue said that food booths are open on Thursday and Monday morning.

Sue offered a friendly amendment to change the wording of public areas to activity areas. George agreed.

**As amended, Sue T. moved and George seconded the use of tobacco, in any form, in activity areas of the Oregon Country Fair event from noon Thursday to 1 pm Monday, is disallowed.**

Spirit said she is a non-smoker and not a fan of cigarettes. She thinks we all know the implications of smoking, and does not want to judge smokers or shame them. Spirit said the Security Crews should have been consulted, as they have talked about this before and are not sure how to effectively implement a smoking ban. Enforcement of a smoking ban would result in a bigger budget for the need of more crew members.

Spirit said she is a fan of banning things that we can actually enforce, and wonders how this will also affect Recycling and Fire Crews. She is concerned about fire safety and cigarette butts on the ground with the locations of new smoking areas in the parking lots. Spirit feels a smoking ban will confuse the public and cause frustrations and said we need to survey our patrons about this topic. The Path Planning committee has been diligent in their work on smoking areas that cause the least impact. It will never be perfect, but every year we continue to make improvements.

Paxton said he is a former smoker, and his partner Lois passed away from smoking. However, he does feel Lois would not support passing this motion. He has been working very hard with Path Planning the past two years on the smoking areas, and they are continuing to make things better, including fabric directionals and fans. Four smoking areas have been eliminated, and he is working to make the remaining areas more effective for our Fair family, and not just the public.

Palmer asked if this motion included vaping other products or chewing tobacco. Sue said it includes all forms of tobacco, and said smoking marijuana is not allowed in public. Palmer suggested the motion should include vaping.

Sue said Fair feedback reports over the years indicate many people want the smoking ban, and believes most of the feedback comes from the public. There has been a flood of letters to the FFN asking to ban smoking. It is a much happier experience for everyone when we limit smoking areas. We need to do this.

Aaron does not advocate for a smoking ban, and likes the options Path Planning is working on.

George said the Board needs to think about what the majority of our membership wants. He disagrees that it will be difficult to enforce, and agrees with Jen-Lin that we are all empowered to educate others about smoking guidelines.

We also should not be exposing our children to smoking. We keep doing the same thing, but are expecting different results. The Fair is behind the curve, and we should have been on the cutting edge with our message about health, organic food, clean living, and care for the land. We are not listening to our members.

Lisa P. said part of approved capital projects are improvements to smoking areas. The Path Planning smoking sub-committee has been continually making efforts to make things better, and she is inclined to support their efforts.

Sandra said this is a tough vote. She is a non-smoker and does not like cigarette smoke in her face. The problem is a smoker can choose for themselves, but they don't get to choose for everyone around them. Sandra believes Path Planning has been working hard to mitigate these problems, and is inclined to give them another year to get it right.

Spirit said not supporting this motion does not mean that she doesn't support membership. On behalf of Security Crew, she would never go to another crew or others and tell them what is easy or not easy to do.

Lisa C. said she quit smoking on January 1, 2020.

**Motion failed: 2-8; Lisa P., Lily, Peaches, Aaron, Sandra, Lisa C., Spirit and Paxton opposed.**

On a positive note, Ichabod wanted to make another announcement. He said KLAC in Corvallis wants to donate 600 solar panels to OCF that are 180 watts. This is enough of a solar array to generate all of the electricity OCF will use.

#### **President's Peace (video 3:17:25)**

Jack said let's be mindful of our language with each other. Ultimately, if we are not mindful, we lose the sensitive people and don't realize we are losing them. Our language is key to keeping us together. It is important to be thankful of everyone.

#### **Draft Agenda for April 6, 2020, Board Meeting**

**7 pm, Northwest Youth Corps, Columbia Room**

Approve March 2, 2020, Board Meeting Minutes

Closed session recording and minutes — Aaron

Safety requirements for OCF vehicles — George

Restructuring Board giving and philanthropy — Lily

Canvas the membership regarding voting age — Aaron

Appoint Dave Wagenheim, Dan Mix and Caitlin Roberts to Food Committee — Sue

Appoint Thom Barr and Wayne Overlin to Peach Power Committee — Peaches

Approve and implement the Committee Best Practices Manual as presented by the Committee Best Practices Work Group. Work Group to follow up and assess progress in six months and yearly thereafter. — Peaches

Expand Committee Reports segment of Board of Directors monthly meetings to include "Committee Reports, Requests and Recommendations" during which time dialogue may occur between committees and the Board — Peaches

Deadline for new business agenda items — Spirit

Recommendations of Bylaws and Elections Committees — Paxton

T-shirt contract — Spirit

Membership and Board dialogue

#### **Concerns and Care: Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

*The OCF Board, staff, and management are aware of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) concerns in the community and are closely monitoring the situation. We are meeting regularly to consider how it impacts our event and community and to discuss contingency plans. We are getting information from and engaging in communications with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), Lane County, the Oregon Health Authority, as well as other health professionals and organizations.*

*At this time, we are planning on holding the 2020 Fair as scheduled. The health and safety of our Fair Family is our priority. We will continue to keep you updated with any new developments.*



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