

FAIR FAMILY NEWS

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR  ONE CREATIVE FAMILY

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 5

OCTOBER 2021



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FAIR FAMILY CALENDAR

Editor's Note: Because of the physical distancing required at this time during this COVID-19 pandemic, many OCF meetings have been canceled, and those that will go forward are being held virtually. For the latest information on Fair meetings and how to join them online, please check the [calendar of events on the OregonCountryFair.net site](#).

Below are the dates of the Board meetings and Fair Family News deadlines.

NOVEMBER

- 1 Board of Directors Meeting
- 3 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE

DECEMBER

- 6 Board of Directors Meeting
- 8 FAIR FAMILY NEWS DEADLINE

For additional events see:

<https://oregoncountryfair.net/events/>

THE FFN FRIGHTS

Michael "Murderous" Ottenhausen
 Mary "Creepy" Callaghan
 Niki "Hair-Raising" Harris
 Suzi "Spooky" Prozanski
 Mary "Dungeon" Doyon
 Daniel "Coffin" Cohn
 Kim "Killer" Griggs
 Brad "Body Bag" Lerch
 norma "nightshade" sax



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OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.ORG (EVENT INFO)

OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.NET (BUSINESS SITE)



*Happy
 Birthday
 Scorpios!*



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!

Fair Office Open Hours to Begin Slowly

Starting November 1, the Fair Office will be open noon to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. If you come by, masks are required.

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: info@oregoncountryfair.org



Fair Thee Well: Reggie Soto

We are sad to report that Reggie Soto, Fair Elder and founder of the OCF Horse Crew, passed away on Aug. 17, 2021, at age 74.

Reggie Roland Soto was born on August 28, 1946, and grew up in Southern California. Reggie became a Hot Shot firefighter after high school, serving in the first integrated Hot Shot regiment. He joined the Army and served in Vietnam. For the rest of his life, Reggie suffered from the effects of toxic Agent Orange sprayed by the U.S. to defoliate the jungles of Vietnam during the war.

After returning from Vietnam, Reggie became a peace activist. He participated in the very first Fairs, and 1970 was a big year. He helped direct traffic at the May 1970 Renaissance Faire. In August 1970 he participated in the Vortex Festival of Life as one of the original members of the Rainbow Family. And at the October 1970 Faire, the first at the current location, Reggie rounded up a stray horse on the property and started directing traffic from horseback. That was the beginning of the OCF Horse Crew.

Beyond the Fair, Reggie worked again as a Hot Shot firefighter for many years, and also served as crew boss.

Reggie married Lil after they met at the Oregon Country Fair.

Lil had grown up in Alabama, and had traveled to Oregon looking for a good place



to live with her first husband in the early 1990s. Oregon was "it" for Lil, and it wasn't long before she discovered the Oregon Country Fair. Her marriage was ending when she was on Traffic Crew parking cars in Trotter's Field one Fair day in 1994.

Lil saw a good looking cowboy riding up on his big horse, and never looked back. She and Reggie started talking, and over crew objections, they just kept on talking. In three weeks they were engaged. They were married twice, first at the Carousel Ballroom's Halloween Howl in Portland, (Lil's choice) and again at the Fair site, where Reggie officiated at a

blanket ceremony.

Lil got a degree in environmental science at LCC, with water pollution as her focus. She loved studying water, and worked at a water treatment plant in Springfield. She said her life was with water and Reggie's life was with trees and fire.

Reggie and Horse Crew taught Lil to ride, and she worked Horse Crew for many years.

Reggie is survived by his sisters Donna Navas (Joe) and Marti Fitzwater, his nieces Joey Shawn and Launa Dasquez, and Launa's daughter Skylr. He is also survived by his nearly lifelong brother of the heart, Butch Russ of OCF's Big Boys.



Remembering Reggie Soto

by Mary Drew, Working Elder, Site Office

On a golden Monday afternoon in July 1987, Lucy Kingsley sat at a picnic table in Main Camp, waiting for Reggie Soto. Sleepy vendors pushed jam-packed carts along the path, raggedy kids racing around them. Taller people hugged and called out goodbyes at the closing of another "best Fair ever."

It had been Lucy's first Fair since a rough breakup and the end of her marriage the year before, and during pre-Fair she was feeling fragile. Reggie asked if he could help. Lucy paused, then said she would most love a ride on a horse. So they made a plan, and now her fantasy was about to come true.

Reggie rode bareback into Main Camp, his big smile

spreading the love. He jumped down from the brown mare to introduce her to Lucy, then climbed back on and Lucy jumped up behind him, her arms around his waist. They rode at a gentle pace down East 13th to Main Stage, across to Upper River Loop, past Shady Grove and the Drum Tower, and along Strawberry Lane back to Main Camp. Warm sunlight shone through the trees and cast bewitching shadow patterns on the path.



Reggie riding Mika at the OCF parking lot

Lucy said it was magical, exactly what she needed for her bruised heart. Looking forward to this moment had made the weekend bearable, and now she'd made it past the hardest part with Reggie's help.

Reggie had a way of inspiring magic at Fair, with his lovely horses, always pausing for the little kids who raced up to them, enthralled. He was watchful and welcoming. In the early days of the Fair he took his horses into the 8 and gave rides to kids. "Sometimes I'd have five kids on a horse," he said. His special mare, Mika, often gave those rides. Later when Fair got more crowded, he walked the horses around the circle in horse camp with the camp kids riding them.

Reggie loved talking about his horses more than himself. He asked me to write about them for the FFN; first Mika, when she retired in 2000, then a Fair Thee Well for Najie in 2015. He was so proud and totally in love with them. He knew them intimately and could describe their unique personalities and quirks.

Reggie told me how Horse Crew got started. In the summer of 1970 when the Fair moved onto the property, someone had left a horse, three cows, and some goats behind. Reggie borrowed some tack, got the horse, and rounded up the cows and goats and took them to the back. He set up a rope fence to corral them, and then used the horse to do traffic. He recruited the bikers to help. He said he sat down with the Free Souls and made a deal. They helped out and they got to stay, camping behind Fried Rice. (Later the bikers moved to the old Security Tower.) Reggie said the Hoedads and the Free Souls were the first se-

curity crew, and the Free Souls operated like the Big Boys.

Reggie believed the horses were indispensable to the Fair, so it seems fitting to include two of his favorites as we say farewell.

Lucy doesn't remember the name of the horse they rode that day, but from her description, it could have been Mika. Mika was Reggie's main ride on Horse Crew from 1979 until she retired in 2000 at

age 31, and Reggie said she was none too pleased to be left behind in camp the first time they went out on Traffic Crew without her. Reggie's wife, Lil, ended up taking Mika out on Saturday, but Reggie said, "It's interesting about a horse. She would hurt herself to do a good job. She's too old to be acting that way ... it's not good for her." So they left her in her stall on Sunday, and she was finally retired.

Years after honoring Mika on her retirement, Reggie asked me to write about another favorite, Najie, as a memorial. Najie was an Arabian, and Reggie described him as having the beauty and pride of his breed. "Najie was Prince Charming reincarnated in a horse," Reggie declared. "The guy was such a show off. ... He wouldn't walk. He was always prancing. Mr. Fancy. He always carried himself that way. He was energetic, always running around, but if there were kids nearby he wouldn't budge. He was mindful. He always knew who was on his back, and adjusted."

The routine Reggie established for the horses at Fair was consistent. In Reggie's words: "At opening, the horses escort lines of cars into the parking lot. We work at Suttle Road and Maplegate as the gates open. From Highway 126, we park the back of Potter's Field. We patrol all the lots. At one time it was just one horse crew with as many riders as we could get. Now we have two horse crews, which makes it easier for everybody."

The two horse crews were Traffic, with Reggie as head, and Security, led by Harris Dubin. Harris and Reggie were both Vietnam vets and both horse people. And they've both suffered from the lasting

effects of Agent Orange.

Harris met Reggie in the late 1970s, and told me Reggie deserves serious recognition after contributing so much to the Fair. Reggie was a strong Fair supporter and believed in the Fair with his whole heart. Harris said he never met a man who could handle so much pain with a smile, telling me about being out in the field on a horse, and here comes Reggie on two canes, all smiles, greeting him with total joy. So many people at Fair knew and loved Reggie and his good heart, Harris added.

Reggie believed in Horse Crew as an essential part of Fair Traffic and Security. "Emergency and security situations really benefit from having horses there," he told me. "Horses aren't just an oddity out there, not just a public relations gimmick. They can do things that can't be done any other way, especially on the land. On horseback I can get to any part of the property in a matter of minutes. I can get places faster than a gator, or a car, or a motorcycle, especially out in the fields. And they're unmatched for crowd control. Getting through a crowd, to get to an emergency situation, one person on horseback can do what it would take 10 humans on the ground to do. ... On a horse, the traction is better. In violent situations, with a horse I can more effectively move a situation out. Someone drinking will argue with a person on foot, but won't argue with a horse. In the old days the parking lot was pretty wild, and we worked hard. Just visually, what we create with the horses is such positive publicity for the Fair. They're worth their weight in gold."

Aside from his work with the horses, Reggie had so much more to contribute. He was a Hot Shot firefighter and crew boss for years, familiar with working rough terrain and with supervising crews, including National Guard troops who were brought in to help with firefighting. He had commendations from battalion leaders, state officials and his

own supervisors. Reggie did public presentations to schools and groups of teachers, educating them about fire prevention and the work of forest firefighters. He trained Head Start teachers to use fire extinguishers.

Reggie had CPR and First Aid training, and carried his First Aid kit on Horse Traffic crew. He was also trained in waste-water collection, and had many firefighting and forestry skills. Such a treasure for the Fair.

Robert Jacobs was another Horse Crew member who worked with Reggie for years. Robert started out on Security, and then worked with Harris on Horse Security. Reggie recruited him over to Traffic around 1990, and Robert worked there until 2007. He remembers outrageous mosquitos back in Traffic Camp, as big as the horses, they used to say.

Robert said he and Harris carried radios, but Reggie didn't like using a radio, didn't want to be tracked or managed so closely. He said Reggie was the first voice people would hear when they came onto site at Maplegate. He had a big voice, and would yell at the cars to slow down as the horses led them through the parking lots. Steve "Grumpy" Gorham remembered Reggie being the first person he saw coming into Fair.

Out in the lots, Robert said finding dogs in hot cars was a big part of the job. Being able to see in the car windows from horseback was useful. And the fastest way to get a message across the field before radios was on horseback. Later, the Horse Traffic Crew work was a lot of parking cars, but also visual management. People respect a horse.

Working with Reggie, Robert learned how he managed his pain and PTSD with breaks in the woods. A mental health break was necessary sometimes. People see the Horse Crew job as romantic and cool, Robert said, and a lot of the young Fairgoers long to do it. But they don't realize all the work that goes into it behind the scenes; caring for the horses is a big job, and riding out there is strenuous work, as well as dangerous. Horses and crowds don't always mix well. Accidents



At Reggie Soto's memorial, Horse Crew members Misty and Tanya brought Cassiopeia to appear as a riderless horse, adorned with Reggie's riding tack.

can happen, and ability to handle a horse and manage crowds at the same time takes talent and some boldness. Reggie was able to do it all, and do it well.

My husband Charles found it difficult to be a Black man at the Fair back in the 1990s. He had a couple of safe places where he liked to spend time, especially when the microaggressions got him down. The Blintz Booth, full of friendly Family, was a haven for him, and at night he would make his way to Horse Camp, where Reggie and his crew made Charles feel comfortable and welcome. The bonfire was warm and the conversation, often about fighting fires, was lively. Reggie had a way of making people feel valued and important.

Reggie was committed to inclusiveness. He was proud of having belonged to the first interracial Hot Shot crew in El Cariso, California, in 1965. He was proud of his Native (Apache and Yaqui/ Mexican) heritage, and when the 2020 fires were ravaging Oregon, he recalled to mind the first American smoke jumpers, who were active during the Korean war, the Triple Nickles. He wanted to tell everyone about them.

The Triple Nickles was a military organization of paratroopers selected to become "Airborne Firefighters." They were military parachute jumpers who trained both to recover Japanese-planted bombs and to fight fires in the Pacific Northwest. The Triple Nickles were not only the first military firefighting unit in the world, but pioneered methods of combating forest fires that are still in use today. What excited Reggie about their achievements the most was that they were an all-Black regiment.

Reggie was thrilled by such history, studied it and worked to educate everyone around him about the contributions of people of color that were under reported and not taught. He was an educator at heart.

And Reggie was a poet as well. At his memorial, his handwritten poems nestled among family and OCF photographs, creating a record of his dreams and desires shared with all of us. Reggie's legacy, as voiced by so many, is one of love, deep appreciation for life and all the earth's creatures, courage and smiling past the pain. He reached out to everyone, and left oceans of love behind.



May We Never Forget

*The Feelings
We Shared
The Reality We Created*

*By Love
We Brought
Peace
Back to Earth*

*By Being
We Showed
Our Soul*

*By Doing
We Prove
Our Truth*

*Keep Your Faith
Stay High
Be Happy*

—Reggie Soto



Reggie's hat

Educating Ourselves: A DEI Library for OCF

by Mary Drew, Diversity Committee

Are you interested in learning about diversity, multiculturalism, cultural appropriation, anti-racism? Do you want to know more about the history of intolerance and bigotry in our country? Are you curious about the lives and writing of people of color? Do you wish you had books that could teach you about these things?

Our new ED Kirsten Bolton and the Diversity Committee have partnered up to create a DEI library for the use of Fair Family so we can educate ourselves on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

The library will live in the town office, and office staff will facilitate the checking out and return of books that Fair Family hopefully will donate to the cause of



education.

The first step is gathering the books. Do you have a book you can donate to the Fair so others can learn? If your bookshelf needs purging for a good cause, please consider giving books on DEI topics to the Fair to help others learn.

After the donations pour in from our generous family, and the shelves are organized, we'll publish an invitation in the FFN to let people know it's time to come and check out books.

If you have questions, or books to donate, please write to office@oregoncountryfair.org, and someone will contact you to arrange to receive them. I envision book talks and reviews in our future. Let's learn together!



Do You Want to be an Elder Someday?

by Jain Elliott, Community Village Little People, Elder



Fair Family: Do you want to be an Elder someday? Information on becoming an Elder is available at oregoncountryfair.net, under General Info, Applications & Forms, OCF Elders Website, or (more directly) at ocfelders.weebly.com.

Among all the useful advice you can find here, I want to stress:

"Fair family wishing to become Elders must fill out an application. It is recommended that a record is kept of crew leaders or booth reps and their contact information throughout the years since this information is required in the application."

This means, if you write on the application, "I think I was part of a booth near the Junction for most of the 1980s, and the booth rep's name was Rainbow Crystal, and she lived near Deadwood, and I was on one of the Security crews in the 1990s, and my crew coordinator

had long hair and was really cool," we will send your application back marked "could not verify participation."

Where it says "List years with positions, coordinators, booth reps or others who can verify your participation and volunteerism for the Oregon Country Fair, including their name, email, phone, or address if available," that's what it means. Where will you get all this data? From the records you kept!

For extra credit: If you ARE a booth rep or crew coordinator and you want to make life easier for your booth or crew members, YOU could also write down who had passes through you, so when we call to verify what folks tell us, you can do so easily. And if you retire, or move to another Fair position, and you pass this information on to your successor, everything will be easier for everybody. Thanks!





Recently Unclassified Material

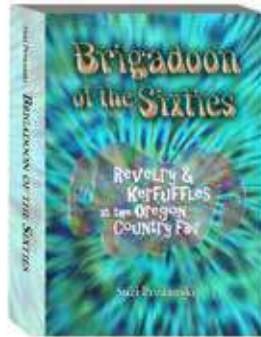
We accept UnClassifieds up to 30 words for \$5 each, per issue. Send listing with \$5 to O.C.F.-F.F.N. 442 Lawrence St. Eugene, OR 97401. For questions, information about display underwriting and to submit listings, Email bradlerch@aol.com



8-acre biodynamic pollinator sanctuary in Sierra foothills seeks partner/housemate: 10x20 MBR own bathroom, entrance. Sacramento 1 hour, SF 2.5. Long Mediterranean growing season; isolation for seed saving; excellent well. Sierra-Light@gmail.com

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Volunteers needed this winter!

Orientations Oct 21, Nov 2, 6:30pm (Zoom)
Register/info: eganwarmingcenter@svdp.us



Hello OCF friends, Eugene/Springfield's emergency winter shelter program needs your help! Bring your trauma-informed compassion and OCF-trained de-escalation skills to the Egan volunteer family. Our unsheltered neighbors need you on those dangerously cold nights. More orientations will be scheduled throughout winter, posted at eganwarmingcenter.com



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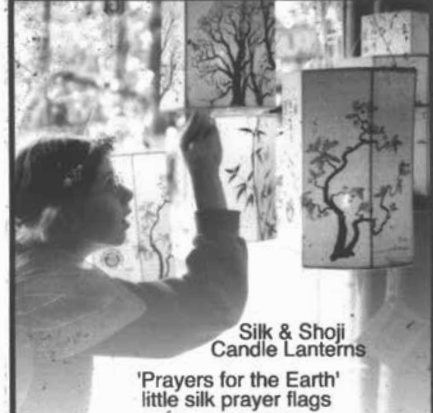
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10/23	NOVACANE / LOS GONDOS / SPOON BENDERS / THE MACKS/ CANDY PICNIC
10/28	INDUBIOUS / ONE DOLLAR CHECK
10/30	WOW-LOWEEN: LAUNDRY / [glazier] / BLUPHORIA / FASHION PICNIC
11/4	HOT BUTTERED RUM / MUDDY SOULS
11/6	TERRAPIN FLYER
11/12	LEVITATION ROOM / GROWING PAINS
11/13	JERRY'S MIDDLE FINGER
11/14	LELANI WOLFGRAMM
11/19	JD SIMO / GA-20





Sound Bites

by Sean Cummins, Station Manager 92.7 FM KOCF

Howdy folks!

Hope that this finds you warm and well. Fall and harvest season is one of my favorite times of the year – soups, sweaters, pumpkin patches, and a feeling like a bit of a slower pace after the frenetic energy of summer.

As usual, there's plenty going on around KOCF to talk about! First and foremost, I want to thank Andy Goldfinger for his years of work as Program Director with KOCF, and for everything he's contributed in that time. So much gratitude! Andy is retiring from his role as Program Director, but will be sticking around KOCF to continue doing his show, Music Gumbo, and a few other odds and ends around the station.

That brings us right to the next important item. I'm excited to announce that Allen Mullen has agreed to step into the role of Program Director! Allen will be working with Andy, myself and others around the station over the next several months, and will take over officially from Andy on the first of the new year.

A little more about Allen for those of you who may not have met him yet. Allen's experience with radio goes back to his grandparents' house in southern Missouri in the 1960s where the local radio station would mix music, birth and death announcements, farm reports, and even musicians playing live in the studio in the early mornings. Allen helped found a community radio station, KKFI-FM in Kansas City Missouri, serving first as Treasurer and then as Vice President for Programming on the Board of Directors over two years leading up to the radio station going on-air. He and a team of volunteers canvassed the community on library steps and at street fairs and festivals as they attracted dozens of potential programmers representing the rich African-American, Hispanic, LGBTQ, labor movement, and other communities not well represented on radio.

Allen produced various programs with KKFI, including an environmental news program, a folk show featuring local musicians playing in the studio, and a program that blended cowpunk, alternative country and roots music. After mov-

ing to Lawrence, Kansas, Allen hosted a Saturday morning folk show on the college radio station, KJHK.

Allen has always been a supporter of community radio in the many places he has lived and been involved in the music and rabble-rousing communities. He and his family have made their home in the Fern Ridge area going on two decades, where he is involved in activities at three local Grange Halls and writes and plays music at small concerts, various open mics and an ongoing campfire song session that he hosts, as well as producing his radio show, Swervin' In My Lane, and the KOCF Community Calendar alongside Laura Beebe. Allen retired a few years ago after 38 years as a librarian and library worker, a significant portion of which was spent supporting the technology needs and aspirations of rural libraries serving communities across the country.

I look forward to this next chapter for KOCF. Speaking of which, we're almost to the end of the year, but we're not done yet! We unfortunately had to make the determination to cancel our Halloween party this year, but before we close out the year, there are three events that I want to put on your collective radar.

First up – our third and final pledge drive of the year will run from November 26 through December 5. More to come on that next month, but I wanted to get that on everyone's calendars.

Shortly after the pledge drive, we have the annual Fern Ridge Light Parade! We don't have official dates for this yet, but if tradition holds, it will be the weekend of 12/11. Every year, KOCF gets together to decorate a float for the parade, and heads out to join the community for this fun and festive event. Laura Coulter-Beebe will be coordinating this event again this year, so stay tuned for more info!

As always, we could use a few more volunteers! Our most pressing areas of need right now are folks that can help with scheduling programming in RadioBoss, and folks that can help out with our underwriting process. Spread the word if you know anyone who might like to get involved! We also have an immediate need for a one-day project, moving equipment from storage

in one place (thank you Heather!) to a new storage location (thank you Crystalyn, Shane and OCF!). We have several 100-pound racks, and a handful of other heavy/unwieldy items such as media consoles. Please let me know if you'd be available to help out with this.

In other news, KOCF's first ever compilation album is here! After months of work, we finally have the albums in hand. The CD features 12 local bands from a broad variety of genres. Our own Funky James produced the artwork for the album. Andy will be working with some of the bands to

see if we can do some on-air interviewing, and to get some of their other music into our library, so keep an ear out for that. Stay tuned for more information on how to get a copy if you're interested.

OK, there's always more to say, but I think that's probably enough out of me for now. I want to thank all of you for your continued support of KOCF. As a community radio station, it really does take a village, and we couldn't do it without you. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions about these or other things, stay warm and well, and hope to see you all soon.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OCTOBER 4, 2021

7 pm, Zoom remote online and live streamed on YouTube.

YouTube recording link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=unI6Qxb8vYw>

(subject to approval by the Board at the November 1, 2021, meeting)

Board Directors present: Anthony "AJ" Jackson (VP of Membership Engagement and Services), Colleen Bauman (President), Cynthia "Peaches" Peachey, George Brad-dock, Lisa Cooley, Palmer Parker, Paxton Hoag, Sam Rutledge, Sandra Bauer, Spirit Leatherwood, and Sue Theolass. Other Board Officers present: Heidi Doscher (Membership Secretary), Hilary Anthony (Co-Treasurer), Kimberly "Kimmo" Howard (Recording Secretary), Lisa Parker (VP of Bylaw and Policy Compliance), and Lynda Gingerich

(Co-Treasurer). Staff present: Crystalyn Frank, Kirsten Bolton, Robin Bernardi, and Shane Harvey.

Board Directors absent: Lily Harmon-Gross (First VP).

Announcements (YouTube video 15:05)

Sam said the virtual OCF Annual Membership Meeting is Saturday, October 16, at 6:30 pm. The Zoom link is currently posted on the oregoncountryfair.net site, and the YouTube link will be posted on the .net site before the start time. Election ballots are due at the OCF Office no later than 8 pm, Saturday, October 23, 2021: 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene, Oregon, 97401.

Jon P. said the WOW Hall's Community Center for the Performing Arts annual meeting for members is November 14, where the budget is approved and they elect their board members. In order to run for election as a board member for the WOW Hall, the candidate needs to be a registered member at least 30 days in advance.

Lisa C. wanted to remind us to be attentive to teenagers during this time, adding that a suicide hotline is

available to offer help and someone to talk to: 1-800-923-HELP (1-800-923-4357). It is important for adults to spread the word and be responsible for open communication with our children.

Kevin said he has teenagers and agreed with Lisa C.'s message. Kevin is a write-in candidate for the OCF Board and hopes to have a fundraising event to help give back to the Fair, and will keep us posted on updates.

Membership Secretary Heidi said if a voting member has not received their ballot in the mail yet, please email elections@oregoncountryfair.org for assistance.

AJ said Eugene Saturday Market is open every Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm, with the last outdoor market on November 13. Their indoor Holiday Market at the Lane Events Center begins the weekend of November 20-21.

Minutes Review (YouTube video 19:25)

Paxton moved and Sue seconded to approve the September 13, 2021, Board meeting minutes.

Motion passed: 12-0.

Agenda Review, Amend, Approve (YouTube video 20:40)

Sam asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda.

Colleen noted the organization flow chart agenda item is tabled.

Colleen added the following New Business: Remove Wally Bomgaars from the Key Bank credit card account and add Kirsten Bolton.

Colleen moved and AJ seconded to move the Key Bank credit card account item from New to Old Business.

Palmer stressed the importance of not waiting to action this item.

Motion passed: 12-0.

Member Comments (YouTube video 24:15)

Heather K. clarified the Board facilitator's request that members limit their meeting input to a minute and half.

Staff Report (YouTube video 25:55)

Executive Director's Report from Kirsten:

Oregon Country Fair is happy to announce that we are the recipient of a Shuttered Venue Operators Grant from the Small Business Administration in the amount of \$1.279 million. The monies were received on September 16. This award will assure our continual operations as we work to bring our 2022 event to fruition. Many thanks to the members and staff who helped make this grant a reality: Spirit Leatherwood, Hilary Anthony, Crystalyn Frank, Mary Callaghan, Floyd Prozanski, Peter DeFazio, and Dan Whelan.

For the 2022 year we are required to do a "Single Audit" for expenditures over \$750,000 in a fiscal year.

We have requested a quote from Jones & Roth to accomplish this audit. We have been making progress on the check signer changes.

Weekly meetings with the Board Advisory Team continue and include planning for the Board Retreat coming up October 29 and 30. The retreat agenda will have a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion presentation by Cliff Jones. Other meetings include the budget, path planning, coordinators, fixed assets, and staff one-on-ones.

Thank you to the many volunteers who participate in committee meetings. Special thanks to Heidi Doscher and her team for their work on the upcoming Board elections.

Staff member Robin Bernardi has changed to part-time and will focus exclusively on Culture Jam. We will be seeking to hire an office assistant and assistant manager as we look forward to our 2022 event.

With some funding, we may be able to bring the Database Team's project to fruition in 2022. Staff is working to establish their proposals for the November Budget Committee meeting.

For the Board of Directors, the online Board packet distribution timeline will change from seven to five days prior to a scheduled Board meeting. This will allow time for the most up-to-date information to be included in the packet.

Treasurer Report and Budget Items

(YouTube video 32:56)

Hilary spoke to the upcoming budget process and communications that have gone out to coordinators. If your crew is not heavily impacted by structural repairs or safety improvements, we will ask for prudence in 2022 spending needs and for communication to the Budget Committee about projects with the most priority. We expect a spend-

ing increase in operational crews like Construction and the Kitchen, while other crews may not have such needs. Our planning is going to be based on our 2020 proposed budget.

With the grant we just received and having an event in 2022, we do not expect financial hardship. We still need to plan for the changes we know are coming, such as needing more paid staff, along with health and safety improvements. We are planning for an attendance like we had in 2016 to 2018, where crew sizes are manageable, and also accommodating growing demographics such as Elders. Our biggest question with capital projects will be: Do we have the human power to complete the projects in time for the event? We need to assess damage and safety improvement costs and our ability to act on them.

Lynda said the Budget Committee is in full swing and reviewing revenue projections based on cumulative data as opposed to being subjective, so as to be realistic with spending expectations. The committee is hoping to recruit more members with data analysis or financial backgrounds. Please contact the Budget Committee if you are interested: On the .net site home page, click on "OCF Budget Committee Seeks Interested Volunteers" in the Latest News section.

Lynda noted the OCF Annual Budget Meeting will be January 31, 2022.

Peaches asked for more clarification on financial planning for repair work and capital projects. Hilary said the planning right now includes the 2020 capital projects and long-term projects, and we have penciled in placeholder amounts for what we anticipate. Some projects may be postponed if needed.

Lisa C. noted the low amount of interest we receive from our bank accounts, and wonders if there are other options to improve the interest rates.

Committee and Working Group Reports

(YouTube video 44:50)

Please visit oregoncountryfair.net and check the Upcoming Events schedule for committee meeting dates, times, and online links.

Committees and work groups are asked to email their minutes or reports to the Fair staff 10 days prior to the Board meetings for inclusion in Board packets and posting on the .net site.

Brief summaries are requested when a committee or work group wants to make a verbal report at Board meetings.

Fixed Assets: Thanks to the Board for last month's motion approving the winery equipment sale. Staff are working on the cleaning efforts in preparation, and we are hopeful for obtaining market price. We know we can bring in more parking revenue with the Outer Limits property, and we are continuing planning for a compost facility.

In looking at solar opportunities, Peach Power Committee member Peaches will be a collaborating liaison with the Fixed Assets Committee. The residential structures at Outer Limits and Dug's Green need extensive repairs, and we are working with staff and the Budget Committee to see if we can make the needed improvements.

The Storage Subcommittee and Shane have been doing much research, gathering ideas, and reviewing maps and will meet with Thom Lanfear to discuss building a storage facility.

In regard to the idea of a temporary campground at Outer Limits, the committee has been creating a compilation of data and will begin the work of determining the value to be included in a proposal to the Board. There will be opportunity for stakeholders to share their ideas and thoughts for consideration.

Bylaws: We bring forward as New Business some recommendations that were made to the Board in August 2020 by the combined Bylaws/Elections Committee. The proposed changes are available on the .net site in the Board of Directors Working Documents section. This document also includes a summary of how the changes relate to Oregon Revised Statutes, and the membership survey results in relation to the number of signatures needed regarding removal of a director or advisory resolutions.

At the last meeting, we reviewed the Nonprofit Association of Oregon recommendations again in relation to bylaws, and will be reviewing the suggestion of asking candidates for the Board of Directors to have attended a certain number of Board meetings. The committee next meets on Tuesday, October 19, at 6:30 pm. We will continue our comprehensive review of the bylaws, with the meeting minutes posted on the .net site.

Path Planning: The last meeting included Kirsten. Dean and Colleen were re-elected as committee co-chairs, along with Amy and Kirk, who will be taking over the duties in January. Jennifer was re-elected as scribe, and Otis as co-secretary.

Eleven committee members remain committed, and they hope to gain four additional members to help diversify representation. Letters of interest are being accepted.

We recommend that Shady Grove entertainment take a year off and be used more passively with removal of a structure close to the riverbank.

Elders: We continue to take Elders applications, and the committee takes time to confirm applicants' involvement with OCF and eligibility. The Wristband Subcommittee is working to confirm a lead to help with communications. The potential change in age going up for Elder eligibility continues to be a topic of

discussion, and whether the extended age requirements should be processed incrementally. If you would like to join the discussions, the next committee meeting is Thursday, October 28, at 7 pm.

Diversity Committee: The committee has open meetings on the fourth Monday of every month at 6 pm. The upcoming DEI Board Work Assembly will be held Monday, October 18. We are close to distributing the Fair census and working with the Survey Crew and Kirsten. In determining how to use the \$5,000 budgeted this year for education, we will continue the discussion at our next meeting. Look forward to virtual Fair recordings on diversity.

The consultants will provide us with their final deliverables soon. We hope to be able to start sharing the survey data once we work through it with them. The committee has also spent some time discussing some Facebook posts, and some email communications on the threads that are very questionable as to being racist. We hope people "think twice before," as they say.

On a personal note, Jon S. urged folks who have questions about the committee's processes to ask the committee and do not jump to conclusions.

Spirit asked 1) if the Diversity Committee meeting minutes could be updated on the .net site, and 2) if the survey data would be ready by the DEI Board Working Assembly date. Jon S. confirmed the minutes would be posted in the near future but did not know if the Survey Subcommittee work would be done.

Old Business

(YouTube video 1:03:37)

Colleen moved and Peaches seconded to remove Wally Bomgaars from the Key Bank credit card account and Kirsten Bolton be added.

Motion passed: 12-0.**New Business Items**

Board Giving Process Recommendation

Bylaws Committee: Proposed bylaws amendments. Information can be found online at: <https://or-goncountryfair.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Bylaws-Committee-Proposed-Bylaws-Amendments-with-Review-New-Business-October-2021.pdf>

Meeting Evaluation

(YouTube video 1:07:00)

Jon P. said when there are changes to the bylaws, he encourages having it as New Business for 60 days. He said if you think everybody knows about them, your view is small compared to the total Fair family.

Colleen thanked Sam for his facilitation style and a meeting well done.

AJ said we are in unique times, and we have unique personalities that all are interested in the betterment of this organization. Sometimes that means we all get passionate about our opinions and what we see. We can have robust discussions and maintain our civility during these conversations. Members are encouraged to participate and speak up in committee and other meetings. It betters us as Board members and an organization to get your input. Thank you to everyone who shows up.

Spirit thanked Sam for his role in facilitating. She agreed with Jon P. about the bylaws motion being on the agenda for 60 days, due to the delay in the Fair Family News publication.

Sam spoke to the current news about Facebook being toxic to people's mental and emotional health, specifically teenagers. The way the Facebook algorithm encourages con-

flict, even for our organization, and keeping users in conflict online is how they make their money. Sam said removing himself from Facebook was one of the best things he did for his mental health. We need to remove OCF from Facebook and have another opportunity to talk with and hear each other where we can hear tone of voice or see facial expressions, instead of making assumptions.

Paxton agreed with Sam, and encouraged having a Fair platform for online discussions with our own internal processes. He also gave a reminder the Bylaws Committee motions are on the .net site by clicking on Board of Directors, Board Working Documents, then Bylaws Committee: New Business October 2021 – Motions for Bylaws Changes.

Kimmo thanked Mary Callaghan for getting the email blast out to everyone with the Zoom and YouTube links. Thank you to Sean Bonsell, who is behind the scenes in helping with the YouTube live streaming and the pre- and post-meeting online entertainment. Thank you also to the Zoom co-hosts, Sam and Heidi.

President's Peace

(YouTube video 1:14:55)

Colleen said we are all here because we care about the Fair and each other, as just expressed in the meeting evaluation. She agreed with AJ's and Sam's sentiments. Colleen encourages members to watch the meetings, vote in the OCF elections, get vaccinated, and encourage others to get vaccinated because that is the best way to get back to our in-person event in 2022. Be kind to each other and yourselves during these challenging and trying times.

When you watch the meetings online, you are seeing a computer screen filled with volunteers who do their work around their family cel-

ebrations, their full-time jobs, their going to school and working on advanced degrees—and they find time to volunteer. There is kindness and gratitude we can share with each other; we should take the time to say thank you. We need to recognize and appreciate what each person is doing as we push through these times and find our way back to a walk on the path together at OCF 2022.

The next scheduled online Board Meeting is Monday, November 1, 2021, at 7 pm, with agenda items to include:

Bylaws Committee: Proposed Bylaws Amendments

Board Giving Process Recommendation

