



Note: Names of specific people and booths involving negative feedback have been removed from this public compilation. An unedited version will be shared with the Board, Officers, BUMs, management, and relevant coordinators and committees.

Thank you all for your feedback.

AAAA

This second year of Pre-Post 4-A was busy but much smoother because of the pop-up and signage at registration, our coordinator interfacing with traffic, and having a larger team working.

I've heard so much happy feedback about the help the Pre-Post 4A team provided Fair Family. Thus is a valuable addition to the services 4A provides.

My sister and I have difficulty walking; I have a leg brace and she has back and hip problems. As we were leaving Fair... limping our way out... a lovely woman on a golf cart offered us a ride. I don't think we would have made it to the parking lot without her help. Thank you for providing this kind of assistance.

The wheelchairs available at AAAA could use some traction on the wheels. I couldn't propel myself across the plaza away from the booth!

The pre-post fair assistance was crucial to my ability to attend Fair. I was grateful to see a sidecar bike with electric assist, which could get my gear and me up the hill to our campsite. The cheerful man with the amazing mustache was happy to be there and happy to help. He was inventive with his packing and securing the load, and I'm impressed with Fair and 4A's mission to make Fair accessible and enjoyable to all. Thank you!

I am handicapped and want to thank you for all of the alter-abled services, especially the bicycle with the side car. This made it easy and pain-free to get into our booth from the registration area. The driver, I think his name was John, was just great!

Admissions

You guys didn't have enough 3-day passes and I had to buy individual day passes for myself and my 3 kids. What's the difference between selling 3 individual days vs a 3-day?? I'm a single mom and OCF is one of the only things my angsty teenagers look forward to the most. The extra money could have gone to us having a more enjoyable time.

I wish there were ropes to help guide people at the Will Call area. People waited in line while others cut in. I feel like if there were ropes up, then people wouldn't come in as easily. It was a lot of Frustration. We had to pick up our tickets at Will Call because there was a problem and we never got them. Sounds like that happened to a lot of people this year.

My family who were fair day trippers for the first time greatly appreciated the volunteers outside of the gate in the morning who were continually calling out the appropriate lines and places to go to enter.

Advertising

Promotion of Craft Booths was nonexistent. They had no presence in the Peach Pit (needed an article) and pointing customers to Info Booths for a directory needed to be advertised as well. There was no mention of handcrafted artisans, only two FB posts featuring artisans and

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two photos among hundreds, and a reference to "Arts" and "Arts and Crafts" (which is an unacceptable term for handcrafted goods.) This was a glaring exclusion of a large and very hard-working population who pay a lot into the system to support it.

Put out word to day trippers that you need cash.

Besides the obvious issues of the public having difficulties finding vendors, if Fair continues to advertise the event as an entertainment festival it could affect the fees that Fair is required to pay to ASCAP and BMI rights organizations. Several years ago, Charlie Ruff had to fight both organizations to prevent a 10-fold increase in our current fees.

I'm wondering if you'd like help with Instagram. I could volunteer some time here & there for it. I'd love to see vendors featured to drum up excitement for people & also to get them to bring lots of cash!

After Hours

I camp at Chela Mela and am super grateful that the amplified music at Hoarse Chorale etc. ended at 1:00am each night. That felt like a really great compromise, and it made a huge difference for me to enjoy, relax and appreciate all aspects of Fair (including the late-night amplified music).

The evening hours felt extremely overwhelming, and I (and many others I spoke to over the weekend) found myself so ready to get away from the crushing crowd, the loud electronic music almost everywhere I turned that I almost considered going home early. It didn't feel possible to have a nice evening stroll without being crashed into by dozens of people that seemed to have no awareness of anyone around them.

The piano lounge on Abbey Rd is lovely. However, when folks play in the wee hours, it totally disrupts our much-needed sleep. Please have a policy of "QUIET HOURS" for the piano. Say, 1AM-6AM.

Overall, I am grateful and applaud the great job of sound mitigation the fair has accomplished. Main Stage volume allows us to converse and play our own acoustic music at our end of the eight. What a great relief and good idea to move the 'big sound' venues out of the eight. Really seems like the best of both worlds. Terrific 2023 Fair.

Having a schedule of the nighttime stages was really cool, too, though it would have been nice to have it more accessible. I had some concern that it would alter the mystery of wandering around to see what was happening, but it didn't. It added just the right amount of information.

Loved the Fleetwood Mac cover band, especially seeing a row of pre-teen kids in front of me belting out songs that were written before their parents were born.

Yet another pretty terrible Midnight Show. Didn't stay. They used to be much better - have we lost some expertise somewhere?

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The Midnight show opened decently with the Marching Instruments of Karma and the Singer Songwriters, but went downhill with many acts that weren't very good, were too hard to see like Bubble Magic, or relied on poorly lit printed words (don't shine stage lights on the projection!) with a not tuneful banjo and voice for a sing along. We left at 10:30. It makes sense to not always feature the old guard or even the most popular, but we've not been picking good acts for the show. I didn't get to see any act at Fair as I work various and long hours daily at Fair. My partner says this is the 3rd meh Midnight Show in a row. I think it needs fixing, but I'll probably do something else next time.

Night Music. I was surprised post Fair to see a post from someone with a list of venues and bands for nighttime. Wish I'd had that info pre-Fair or even found it during Fair. There were some great bands at Spoken Word, Dragon and Xavanadu. -

Why was loud amplified music scheduled on every stage on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights? Where was the space and opportunity to enjoy and play acoustic music?

Several of us in the neighborhood brought this up last year. We are a quiet neighborhood at the bottom of Strawberry Lane /Jill's Crossing. The hum of people passing in the night lulls us to sleep. Years ago, we were pleased with the addition of the Elder/History area. During the past few fairs, the "Love Connection" was added. They have been permitted to hold Raves which interrupts our peace with over the decibal limit loud electronic thumping bass music. The permit this year was for Thursday night until 1AM. I left my booth until then hoping to return to get some sleep and get up opening morning to work and open my booth. The noise, drinking and party whooped, thumped and stomped until 2:20AM. These people left beer cans all over my booth. Monday before Fair, I caught one lady peeing in a neighboring booth. Talking to my neighbors, the booth adjacent was pummeled with dust on their lovely crafts and sleeping area. The Cleveland Chicken people were outraged because they could not hold their quiet Thursday night gathering. There were children in the area trying to sleep. The rest of Fair the Love Connection was quiet with nice acoustical music. I implore the Board, Manager and Fair family to please find a more appropriate area for Raves with electronic music. Those of us who have been bringing wonderful joy, friends and family to Fair would like to enjoy our nights, visit each other and go dancing where music is joyful, not a disturbance. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Ambiance

Loved the Lounge installation at the top of Shady Lane and feel terrible that it was sabotaged. I went by there every night, often quite late. The light was lovely and ambient, and people were chill.

I was really bummed out about the dragon parade this year; it just wasn't the same vibe.

This was my very first fair. I brought my 19-year-old daughter and my 4-year-old niece. I was able to buy tickets for Friday and Saturday and we camped at Sol Creek Farms. For the most part, we had a decent time.

But the incident that ruined things for me was from a fair staff member. On Friday the 7th at about 3:05pm, my daughter saw the Lime Parade (I think that's what it was called, people in

bright neon green) and we only caught the tail end of it, so she wanted to follow it to the open space they gathered in. I'm unsure what the area was called, might have been the dragon area?

There was a purple dragon that had like 10 people inside of it, moving around, and a guy guiding the head of it. That guy decided to turn the dragon straight into the crowd instead of the other way where there were no people. He shoved me out of the way rather hard and made me stumble and wrench my back. I am alter-abled and dealing with a back issue that causes me a lot of pain. His shoving me caused me a great deal of pain, so much that I went to the medic area to be seen. And not only causing me harm, but my niece also had to be drug across the ground by my daughter to keep her from being trampled by the dragon! Thankfully she was OK, but she was scared and confused why she got her arm twisted and drug along the ground! No 4-year-old should have to deal with that! What should have been a fun experience turned into a painful visit. Since I was in so much pain, walking was excruciating. But I bit my tongue, so I didn't ruin the rest of the day for my daughter and niece. I cried myself to sleep that evening due to my pain.

If this is how staff members treat fair goers, I'm not sure I ever wish to return. My camping neighbors and the medical team were all appalled at the treatment I received. I know that I will never bring my niece back until she's older, if I ever attend again.

I have a picture of the man who was with the dragon, if you choose to reach out to me. If not, then I guess I'll have to weigh the pros and cons of attending again. I realize I'm just a small drop in a big bucket, but I hope this will reach someone who cares about the safety and well-being of those who make Fair possible. Fair goers. Thank you.

The Board, Committees, and Management

Good to have Fair back. How about mentorship of younger Fair Family for leadership and Board of Director roles? Why is the BOD filled with older people?

Much of the work done at Fair before and after each event is handled by Board committees and work groups. Since the Diversity Committee went rogue, a spotlight has been cast on all the committees and work groups. It's become very apparent to me that there is a group of BoD members that are trying to reshape how committees do business. They are trying to change the Committee Best Practices manual from a set of recommendations to a set of required processes. When a committee of a Board of Directors is not functioning then by definition the board is not functioning. This has to change.

It would also be cool if folks would play more nicely in the Board world, but you already either know that or are in denial that we have a problem.

During Fair, I saw only two employees, one who asked where a certain crafter was, the other who had info to share. Most years, I see employees walk through Fair, soak in the vibe, the beauty, the reactions of people to the wonder created.

I was told that during post-fair there was an incident. Security needed someone from management to help them handle the situation. No one from management was on site.

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Pre and Post Fair, there was not always a person with authority on site at night to handle issues where somebody should have been booted or the sheriff called. This happened last year, 2022, also Pre-Fair.

Having a qualified ED also seemed to make a big difference. We have been lacking leadership since Leslie left, and it finally seemed the void in leadership was filled, and organizational collaboration and affinity were once again on the rise. Big relief!

Budget

It would also be nice to see some tickets at a lower cost to make it more affordable for lower-income families. \$50 tickets are in the range where people on tight budgets will not be able to attend, particularly if they are purchasing more than one.

Carbon Neutrality

Just filled out your carbon survey and now I'm irritated. My husband is 78 and I am 73. We live in Seal Rock, a good 100 miles from your fair, over lovely curvy roads, fits Fair atmosphere. We appreciate what Fair is doing re the environment, but this carbon thing is crazy. No, I'm not riding with someone else and depending on them to get me there alive with the speed demons out there and Cape Perpetua, Nope! There is no train, and not riding a bus with a bunch of talkity people. We will be driving. No, I'm not buying the carbon thing; it's carrying it TOO FAR. We have a newer car, and you could do more for the environment just as you already do. Other people can ride bikes or whatever but, don't guilt me into something that really won't make all that difference, just sounds good on paper. This whole carbon thing is not really a solution to our problem. Thanks for listening.

Lowering our carbon footprint: Water bottles: I was so sad to see lots of plastic water bottles given out to people on various crews. I thought we were trying to lower our carbon footprint. Why can't people bring their own water bottle with them when they come on shift and Fair gives out non-plastic 2nd-hand bottles that are collected over the year to those who forget their bottles? Potable water can be delivered regularly for people to refill their bottles. I knew this was happening before. Please work on this happening next year.

Traveling - Fair has determined the biggest part of our carbon footprint is travel. I know we are working on more carpooling, let's continue to do that. How about having LTD come out at 10, noon and 4 to take people to and from Fair for work parties and more often the week of Fair and after Fair so people do not need to bring their cars to Fair.

Cartography

Maps. What is the deal with printing Maps for Fair crews? We were only able to get a handful by Saturday which impacted crews and the people they interacted with.

Carts

The peach cart location on Thursday, closer to registration, was really useful. And moving it to the fair entrance later in Fair was great too. Everything worked smoothly with the FART and carts to load in and out.

My only real complaint is I did not like where Carts was moved to (over closer to Reg). It felt isolating and difficult to get back and forth from camp or Main Camp. I am alter-abled so probably more so for myself than others. I understand that it's closer for people to get a cart once they're on site but then again it's farther to return the cart once they're done. It was much better where it used to be.

Cigarette Smoking

Smoking continues to be an issue at Fair for me and family members. The smoking areas are hard to spot and there is absolutely zero enforcement.

Enjoyed coming back to Fair after 30 years away! My tween kid fell in love with the drum tower and danced and danced. However, he ended up asking to leave after the smokers in the very-nearby smoking area really lit up. The smoke drifted right into the dancing, huffing, puffing, singing drum circle crowd. It would be great to keep those things separated from each other. Thanks!

Only downside - I saw lots of smokers wandering around outside of smoking areas. Perhaps a Pranksterish Nic Patrol with squirt bottles? :)

People were smoking (tobacco and other substances) frequently in plain sight and among crowds (rather than in the smoking areas). This was unfortunately a bummer trying to enjoy performances next to people who were doing this.

Please make the majority of Fair non-smoking. People with lung issues can't participate without ending up in the E/R.

Smoking: There seemed to be less smoking on the paths this year, but still too much, particularly in the evenings. Please make this a smoke free event!!

I'd still like to see us go tobacco free, but I'd settle for a more consistent culture of reminding cigarette smokers who walk the paths smoking to go to the smoking areas, pre-Fair, during Fair day and night, and post-Fair. I'd especially like to be able to listen to music or join a conversation in the clamshell by the Ritz without breathing smoke.

The smoking area (at Main Stage) is somewhat smaller, a good thing, but still near where people line up for the ATMs and toilets. Lots of kids at Main Stage meadow get the blowback of smoke.

My other complaint is the same as every year. The lack of attention to the amount of smoking and incense on the path at night. I am extremely sensitive and can only venture out for short periods of time in less crowded places. If there were adequately lit smoking sections

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throughout Fair, I believe it would mitigate that. Incense is just a fire hazard, but more and more people are burning it in booths and camps. That's my two cents, thank you for what you do.

I'm just hopping on this feedback form because there is a discussion going on about cigarette smoking at Fair, and people being bothered by it by the drum tower. I fear that a lot of people are going to get on here and demand a smoke-free fair. As a smoker (and hopefully soon to be nonsmoker), I think going full smoke free would be a mistake- people need a break, and while smokers wish they didn't need their nicotine breaks, they really do for a day-long event. I really appreciate the smoking sections as a way to dip out of the crush of the crowd and reset my patience levels. That being said- they are not well advertised, so some people may be smoking where they shouldn't. Also, a lot of them are placed in either very air-stagnant areas, or in areas/ways that might be problematic for others. A lot of people are complaining about there being a big one by the drum tower (which has always been a location for that but used to be a little better covered with trees and back a bit more). Maybe that one can move up Strawberry Lane a bit, now that Shady Grove is gone, and that path is pretty empty. Regardless- I understand a lot of people are probably going to hop on here to say, "ban it!"; Fair should be comfortable for everyone- smokers and no smokers alike. Please don't further isolate the locals from wanting to come, please make better signage, and please don't ban it entirely or it's going to be a bad day for a lot of people. I will also add that, even after I quit, I would still hang out in the smoking areas, because that's where I've always met the best people, had the best conversations with people, and had some real fair magic moments. Just be fair about this.

Commemorative Sales

Please start making OCF kids t-shirts again.

Please add more selection and better quality of merchandise. I miss stickers, and would love a variety of tanks, t-shirts and hoodies particularly for women. Use modern fabrics rather than cheap heavy jersey and cotton. Cups, water bottles, throws to sit on; think bigger and broader.

Community Village

The sanctuary of the 12th house in Community Village was lovely and paired well with the forgiveness bowl and decks of cards. Thank you to those who worked to create that space.

Construction

The backstage experience at Main Stage has been a special treat for some volunteers. It has been a place to catch bits of shows and socialize. In particular, the midnight show has been like a reunion for staff and the wider vaudeville community. There was great sadness this year to find that the view from backstage was entirely blocked by a huge stack of equipment boxes. Additionally, the orchestra pit, where the Stage Left band would normally be able to watch the show, was reconfigured and no longer useable. The space they were offered was a mud pit, also un-useable. I hope that in planning for ongoing upgrades to Main Stage, that all the users--especially the vaudevillians of the midnight show--are considered stakeholders and included in reconfigurations.

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Provide some seating at all stages to encourage grandparents and disabled who can't stand that long or sit on the ground. Might this not be an ADA issue?

Another part of my feedback concerns the handicap stalls in Politics Park. Neither stall had bars that are necessary for alter-abled accessibility. Another member of our booth with Parkinson's fell in one of these stalls, due to the lack of anything to grab onto when getting up. He is okay. Please consider adding bars to these stalls.

Infrastructure surrounding nonpublic areas in need of maintenance, i.e., gates need repair, fences falling, need more obscurity for tents so not seen by public.

Please, please, have more benches in shady spots to enjoy the food and drink and people-watch. We're all getting older, yes, even you, and a big part of Fair for me is visiting with friends and enjoying the music. Need to sit down after a while.

Really need some bleachers or other seating at WC Fields. People can't see shows if they can't get in. And it seems like Peach Pits are used for ground cover there because there's no grass.

Thanks for bringing back the benches in front of the KLCC booth and near Wild Berry Punch.

Crafts/ Craft Inventory

I noticed several examples of booths selling items that were obviously imported and/or not hand-crafted by the booth vendor. I would love to see a concerted effort to refocus booth culture on craft first, commerce second. Better and more descriptive promotion of crafters in Fair publications (website, peach pit, etc.) could help in this regard.

Where's broom guy? I've bought a 'broom every fair for like 20 years; bummed to see such a craftsman excluded.

Would like a crafts listing in the Peach Pit.

Fair was great but I just wanted to say that it is disappointing to see pieces that are not hand-made by the vendor and are obviously from places like Indonesia and China where commercial factory laws are not the same and it's likely they were made in sweatshops. Fair is an amazing, wonderful place but one of the major draws for me and my loved ones is that it is a more localized and human event, where you can buy from small businesses that arduously hone their crafts rather than businesses who are buying things cheap and selling them for more.

Saw the FB post regarding vendors not selling handmade items. Agree, but of course don't remember the vendor booth numbers. Fair shouldn't have to micromanage, and I don't have a solution unfortunately.

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We need to develop a legacy status for long time crafters and their families that allows elder crafters to pass along the craft without jurying or in a parallel process that accounts for historical context and relation to Fair history.

Both my husband and I commented on how, though always fun, it seems to be a lot of the same vendors every year with the same products. This can be nice, but I wonder how you can have more variety every year.

As a local I was disappointed with the vendors who are also local internationally price gouging the consumer. I went to Mystic Fables, for example, and was excited to make a purchase from them and found the price of the product was marked up drastically. I mean it's even cheaper on the website that I had pulled up on my phone. Needless to say, I walked away without purchasing anything. To add to this, I wanted to purchase something from another vendor and asked for a price and was told one thing then later came back to make the purchase and she asked for double the price. Out of principle, I didn't purchase anything from the vendors. Very un-cool man:(greedy capitalism.

Thank you for such a lovely time! I'm so happy to be a part of this incredible experience. I'd love to request that vendors are all allowed at least 1 helper, so given an extra ticket for them. I'm in a booth where there are 4 vendors total & my rep's family gets the extras. This is great & I want that for them! I also would love 1 to get some help. It's hard to do it alone! I'm a little curious about how the craft jury is working, and whether it couldn't be improved. I found that almost everything I looked at was extremely high-end expensive, so it was very hard to pick up a few reasonably affordable gifts- there was almost nothing in the low-to-mid range in pricing. I understand artisans deserve their worth (I'm an artist, too, and understand the pinch), but it was really unbalanced. As well, there were so many repeats of the same stuff- the same purses, dozens of potters selling dishware, same or similar stuff over and over again. I would be very happy to support fair vendors, but I couldn't afford most things, and then there was so little actual variety that I just gave up looking.

The petition and complaints at the Board meeting showed that crafters do not know how to navigate the system to articulate their needs. More efforts need to be made to inform them and change the culture, so crafters participate more in organizational tasks and business and feel more of a valued part of the event. More Town Halls!

Crew Services

It was nice to finally have hospitality carts delivering warmth and hydration in the chilly wee hours of the morning. Especially for posts with no fire or heat lamps, a well-stocked hospitality cart is a godsend! It was sadly sparse on Friday morning (one time at the end of our shift and very little was available), but Saturday and Sunday were lovely (frequent visits [2-3 x per shift] and well-stocked).

Diversity

Hey all, thank you for a lovely Fair!! I wanted to take time to express this concern: As the world moves forward to recognize the oppression of & communication from Romani/o people, it feels

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incredibly unfortunate to continue using the ""G"" word for the belly dancing stage. I could be wrong & perhaps Romani/o folx are running the space & choosing to use a slur in the name for their own reasons?

We all benefit when we hear and respect each other, and that accepting, nurturing energy is strong at Fair. Could there be a way to bring the name of this stage space in line with what seems to be the ideals & culture of the event?

There are lots of words that could be less rude & more accurate to describe the wonderful performances that happen in that space: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/thesaurus/nomadic>. Thank you for your time, and all my respect and appreciation for the many wonderful folx it takes to put together Country Fair each year. My best regards.

Once again, I don't like the "we are an affinity space ONLY for LGBTQIA+ folx" and "Take a break from heterosexual and cisgender culture" wording for the Rainbow Connection in the Peach Pit. While I understand the intent, I just don't think that the exclusive wording is in concert with being inclusive. Please come up with less offensive language in the future.

I noticed a much larger BIPOC presence at Fair this year, both on crews and general public. Good work on continuing to think about how we develop as an organization to be more inclusive.

Just wanted to urge more photos of people of color in the Peach Pit. Of the 92 images of people in last July's guide there seemed to be 22 images that might have been folks of color. I'm glad to see each fair bring more faces which are more diverse, both in person and in print. 1:1 parity isn't necessary, but more diversity in how we present and image ourselves and our fair is very important. Thanks for year after year of wonderful Peach Pits and beautiful artwork. Wonderful!

I am proud to be affiliated with the Native American community and have over the last decade have been provided VIP passes from the Diversity Committee to hand out the Native American community. I was told that the Budget committee cut the VIP budget in half. It may have escaped some members of Fair Family, but we have had some negative issues and talk from our communities of color. These passes make Fair accessible to the Bi-POC community. Please reconsider this decision.

The DEI online training was not effective. It did not trickle down. In fact, each of the 3 "trainings" had less people than the previous one. Trickle down does not work in economics and definitely not in DEI awareness building.

My only concern was about a flyer that was distributed about the lack of racial equity at Fair. It had a link to a podcast where some members of the board-appointed diversity committee were discussing the lack of racial equality and disparaging the OCF. Was this flyer sanctioned by Fair? I wish that the diversity committee would focus on ways that we might find common ground and solutions rather than continuing to divide.

The lone downside was the hateful flier/handbill which appeared in various places Sunday morning, before the Gates opened. I was aware that there was dissension among the Diversity Committee and certain aspects of our Fair. However, I was sickened to discover that

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this horrible virulence was covertly brought onto the Land our membership has purchased and vowed to protect and keep safe by cowardly individuals who have only self-serving /destructive motives. I listened to the terrible (and personal!) things current and former representatives of the Board Appointed Diversity Committee had to say about our Membership organization and especially about AJ Jackson, an elected Board Member. I don't understand how some of the people who had such awful things to say about an individual who was elected by the membership to serve, and also had such hateful things about our organization, and therefore about our membership, are allowed to continue to (a) be on the Diversity Committee and (b) even be allowed to come onto the Land which we have promised to nurture and protect. To make all those appalling accusations in a private Podcast is one thing; however, to bring this hate-filled rubbish onto Fair site during Fair is reprehensible. I hope that those associated with this cowardly act are made accountable and experience consequences appropriate to their act. Thank you for allowing me to vent. I didn't realize I had all that negativity built up inside of me about the flier and its contents.

I witnessed a young 20 something BIPOC come to fair as a new attendee without connection, find her way to a safe and positive Fair experience completely dispelling the idea that Fair is not a safe place for B family.

The Bi-POC space was amazing. What wasn't amazing were the fliers put out Saturday night on booths and spread all over pointing people to a member's website and slander of the Dysfunctional current diversity committee. They ought to be disbanded due to these continued antagonistic actions that do not reflect the rest of fair family experience.

I also really appreciated the incredible diversity in our population. Two first-time BIPOC attendees told me that they have never felt safer or more welcome at any event they have been to. That was a relief after hearing some musings about the lack of safety for our diverse communities over the last year.

BIPOC Oasis, allyship, and Rainbow Village are fabulous.

And please continue the work to be inclusive of black people and native people, way, way more.

Dogs

I was dismayed at how many dogs that were not certified companion dogs were given passes. Some very bad accidents happened on the paths. Whomever gave those passes out should lose their job.

There were people walking their dogs on Fair property in June before Main Camp opened. The guidelines state June 1. An employee told me it was only before Main Camp. Don't our employees know the guidelines? Dogs were also present on the day of the picnic. A couple walked their large dog past me in the morning on the 8. There were also 2 dogs present under the disguise of service dogs. Employees need to follow the guidelines.

Drug & Alcohol Free

My only concern was that there was a lot of smoking and marijuana use outside of the smoking areas. While I'm not concerned with these things in general, it made the event less family friendly for us (no contact highs for kids, please).

Durables

What happened with the Durables Crew? Two months post-Fair and there are many, many buckets of unwashed utensils at the winery. There are some buckets of clean utensils also, but considering they are uncovered, they will need to be re-washed. I also heard that utensils were not being washed during Fair despite installing the newly purchased dishwasher. This is unacceptable. If we need to resurrect callouts to get the job done, count me in. I am willing to put in a weekend's labor. Management must ensure this does not happen again in '24.

Dust

Too much dust. Path watering and meadow watering should have begun in May. Even if it rains, it is not sufficient rain, especially with heat domes.

Too dusty! My car, clothes and respiratory system have never suffered like this. We need the paths and roads around Fair sprayed more often.

I did wish there was more path wetting, as the dust rose.

Dust suppression seemed a bit lacking/underpowered this year (particularly for such a dry year).

Dust was extra bad, especially on Wednesday and Thursday. Any way to mitigate it?

Real dust before Fair opening on Thursday as there was no water truck doing any watering.

Living in that dusty environment for a week (or longer, for many volunteers) will have a lasting negative impact on their lung health. Land stewardship is a core value of Fair's mission. Please make a change to how we care for our paths and roads.

Fair site paths and roads were not well taken care of during the year between fairs. The haze of dust was visible in the air everywhere one looked, and there were not enough dust abatement efforts during Fair. The amount of dust that the paying fairgoers were subjected to is a reason for many of them to never come again. It was terrible for everyone, but especially anyone with respiratory issues of any kind, and for young children.

I guess climate change spells the end of the Mud People who will be succeeded by the Dust People.

The loss of the a path watering coordinator had a huge effect on the dust situation the first few days, and I appreciate that people stepped up and helped water.

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There was no water truck on Shady Lane. The water crew tried to help by spraying the path Saturday morning - but that was only one day. The paths need water every day in the morning. We water throughout the day with the path water barrel water, but that is not enough. It was a very dry, dusty year. Please water the path every day.

DUST- this was the worst Fair ever for dust, (I am including the days from the last Sunday pre-fair onward. The combination of the path in the 8 not getting its usual early morning spray down, and the increased number of golf carts and gators in the 8 made for a very unhealthy situation. When the topic was brought up at the Sunday coordinator meeting, we were told 'the 8 never gets sprayed pre-fair' which is not true. The speed of the vehicles in the 8 created dust plumes also. Having to walk multiple times between the middle of the 8 and the front of Fair led to many people experiencing respiratory problems such as persistent coughs, which lasted for many days after Fair was over.

The dust this year was out of control and unhealthy. I realize the water truck (the one who sprays the roads) position is honorary and there's only one person who drives the truck. But I think this year illustrates the absolute need for a backup driver for said truck. Not having the truck to wet down the roads this year caused asthma attacks, laryngitis and coughs just in my small crew. Multiply that the entirety of Fair and its health and wellbeing effects are HUGE. Not to mention the extra time, effort and money it cost to CLEAN all my gear after Fair. I'm used to cleaning after Fair, but this was excessive, and quite frankly, gross. Please consider appointing a backup driver in case of emergency in the future. It is vital to the health and enjoyment of everyone's Fair.

The DUST!!! Where was the path water? Dust was terrible. Some people are really suffering. Also, shortage of path watering water barrels So, we couldn't even water the paths! ourselves without walking far and they were too often EMPTY. Not good ugh.

Never in my lifetime of attending OCF in any capacity (child, Teen crew, Traffic Crew, Hospitality Showers), have I ever endured such health impacting dust. As the coordinator of Shower Crew, I camp for 10 days on Dahinda's Acres near our Shower Central Showers, which is our crew's headquarters. I endured lungs full of dust and the stench of endless gasoline motors driving 24 hours a day, the volunteers in our (rather industrial) camping area, have always had Palmer and the Peach Truck watering our road multiple times a day. There was not one single watering of the path in our volunteer camping area, some of us have chronic health conditions that are adversely affected by the dust. I, for one, am in a high-risk category and could barely breathe or do my volunteer job, by Monday tear-down I felt terrible with black boogers, hacking dust, vomiting dust, one of my main Crew leads had a full-blown asthma attack Monday morning and several Crew members reported respiratory ailments post Fair. This is an unacceptable work condition, especially for volunteers who give their heart, soul, money and precious time to make our event successful. I am considering moving my camp, as I cannot in good health endure another year of eating, drinking, and breathing dust. Management needs to do a better job of ensuring this very basic health need is taken care of. Thanks for listening.

The dust at this year's fair was unbearable, the worst I've experienced in my 48 years. I understand this is due to Palmer retiring and his replacement injuring himself just before Fair.

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Not having the roads periodically watered caused a great deal of discomfort and distress to everyone I encountered. From asthma attacks to skin irritation and having absolutely everything running black when washed afterwards (had to wash everything, tents, chairs, bedding, everything). The health of the people is one of the most important things, along with land stewardship. Keeping the dust down is essential to the health and safety of volunteers, booth people, and the public.

Dust. It was the worst ever. The lack of rain in the months before Fair left the ground ready to crumble. Our normal efforts at dust control were not enough. The dust made me uncomfortable, and I wore a mask much of the time. We need to be prepared for dry years and do more and do it sooner to keep the land where it should be, underfoot.

Dust control was impressive.

Elders

Elder services were great. Rides to and from Out of Site were essential and their late-night service was great. Thanks to the Elders for helping out in so many ways.

I waited on the Elders registration line for an hour and a quarter to get my Elders wristband this year, in fairly oppressive Wednesday heat, with very little cover. There were a lot of people on the line using canes, walkers, in scooters, etc., i.e., a somewhat vulnerable population to be waiting out in the midday sun all that time. Since I arrived on Weds from California, I could not enter the site until I had the wristband. I've been told it's easier on Tuesday at the HUB but was also told very specifically that I would not be allowed on site on Tuesday. Conflicting info at Fair - who would believe it?

Elders' registration was divided into two lines, A - L, and M - Z. The former had about 4/5 of the people waiting, the latter just a handful. The M - Z line often had no one waiting, and also therefore a staffer with nothing to do, while the A - L line was inundated, and also fairly slow and, to our observance, kind of inept. Lots of walking trips back and forth between the desk and the counter at the back, slow to put on wristbands, etc.. Many people during this process asked / begged the M - Z counter people to help out at A-L to speed things up, but they said they could not because the reg books were divided up that way, and only one person could work on a book at the same time.

Who handles this stuff, who decides to divide the alphabet that way, who may be appealed to in future to create a better system? It just seemed unconscionable. Could the alphabet be divided up in a more functional way, i.e., total the numbers of Elders, divide by 50%, and designate the two halves of the alphabet that way? Or even better, divide it into 3 or more chunks?

In contrast, I got my parking pass through a different crew right after, and the process was completed in 4 minutes. I timed it. Is there a big shortage of helpers to work the reg counters? Although I come from far away, I could probably do a shift at the reg counter to help speed things up. I guess this is pretty small potatoes given the enormity of the job of putting on Fair, but it feels bad to start off this way. Thanks for receiving feedback!

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I think it's TOTALLY not right to move elder status to 60 years old. Moving it up 5 years right when ALL of Gen X is so close is a complete burn!! Maybe consider 55 AND disabled eligible for elder status? I LOVE working Carts and my Crew is accommodating so I'll continue as long as I can. Peace out!

Raising the age to be an Elder is a very Boomer thing to do.

Emerald Ash Borer

Emerald ash borer education and action needs to start now. This is going to have a major and costly impact on the site. We all need to do serious work. Speaking of the ash borer, did the sauna have all their firewood inspected?

Entertainment

Great fair! Loved the shows at Main Stage.

I absolutely loved the focus on women performers, and the evolution into new genres like EDM. Huge kudos to Dan Blaker and the rest of the booking staff for working hard to field a diverse and incredibly entertaining slate of performers. More of this, please.

I heard Katrina Zavalny emcee on the Front Porch stage. She has presence - I think she wants to keep emceeing there next year, but she is interested in emceeing more around Fair and would be interested in emceeing part of the Saturday night show.

This year I took a year off from my volunteering in QM and luckily I still got to attend as a performer for the day. My band performed at 6pm on Friday night. My suggestion is to give performers a different wristband. Maybe one until midnight? I had no intention of camping this year as my schedule wouldn't allow it...but after years of volunteering and then performing until 7pm I was frustrated by the sweep. I still had to break down my gear, load my children, eat, thank the many people who were there to give positive feedback about the music etc.. Having a personal security detail did not feel good. Music is the main draw of Fair. Performers should be able to stay past the sweep. Not necessarily camp but stay a bit after. Thanks for the opportunity to give feedback.

We need to improve the sound at Main Stage.

What happened to Bollywood? It was, if I recall correctly, only on the schedule once this year. In the past there have been more time slots and it was full every time. This is just a selfish question, because I enjoy it so much. :)

Fair was wonderful as always! My one feedback would be the band that played a religious/god song in the middle of the day on Saturday at Main Stage. It felt a little out of place and I could see it made some people uncomfortable. Not saying you need to blacklist that band or anything, just that it seemed like the general feeling of the crowd was that they didn't enjoy it much. They played other songs that the crowd enjoyed a lot so I'm not sure what the deal was there. Thank you for a great fair :)

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Reggie Watts should've had a stage-Main Stage!! What a treat to see him there.

The sound at Main Stage was muddy, could not hear what was said or distinguish lyrics. Lighting at Main Stage could use a little work. Other festivals I attend have lighting platforms over the soundboard so that there can be spotlights on performers' faces. We could learn from that.

Main Stage sound was weak, vocals were barely audible. Not good sound needs to be better.

Many people were very disappointed to learn that March Fourth did not get a formal performance spot at Fair. While I do understand wanting to mix up some of the artist, March Fourth is beloved by many members of Fair family, and I hope they are able to return next year.

I loved the parades, but I missed John Cloud.

Also loved that Main Stage was led by female musicians this year. It was a wonderful line-up and past time for that to happen.

In my opinion, the Main Stage Saturday closer was awful, and I've heard similar comments from many others. In addition, it attracted a much ruder crowd of people who pushed others around, trampled people's blankets and so on. If this is the best we can do for the headliner we might lose our paying public.

MUSIC-this Fair was a great year for music diversity! Am looking forward to this trend increasing!

So happy to see Family Mystic playing this year! They are so incredibly sweet and positive, exactly the energy that I appreciate about Fair.

On a positive note, I was very excited about the Main Stage lineup and hope there's more diversity like that in the future.

Missing "the regulars" when it comes to music. March Fourth? High Step Society? With that being said... Also appreciate the "change up" having all women headliners. Cool. But it sure would be nice to have not gutted the local favorites when it comes to who plays at Fair.

I believe there should never be a DJ on Main Stage. There were no bands that we could rock and boogie to. Very disappointing lineup.

What a terrific Main Stage line up line up. Wonderful to hear so many women.

Fair Central

FAIR CENTRAL rocked it this year! They were so very positive, welcoming and helpful. I think it's my best year working with FC. I nominate Bear to continue coordinating FC.

FarSide

Fair was great this year. However, the Far Side still seems to be on our own when it comes to many support services the main side takes for granted. For instance, we called bee crew at least 20 times for ground nests. Pre-fair, we asked for Tree crew help, but did not get it, we asked for Site crew help in restoring a portion of the Far Side trail. These issues will be worked through, and we will create a solution crew wise to deal with this.

My second issue is Farside camping on Tuesday night. There are many booth reg campers in FarSide, but it remains a mystery if we can drive in on Tuesday to set up our camp. We have to be at booth reg at 7:30am on Wednesday and we all work double shifts on Wednesday and Thursday in order to get everyone banded. Why is it such a mystery every year whether there are gate hours for us on Tuesday? Why can't we know in advance our gate hours so we can plan our week. It doesn't need to be public to everyone at FarSide, just let us know at booth registration (and anyone else this affects such as White Bird).

FARTs (Fair Area Rapid Transit)

I think it would be nice if the shuttle service could start on Tuesday as a lot of crews are posting that day. And continue later on Monday. I know people are supposed to be offsite by six, so the shuttles should run at least that late, but I think 6:30 would be better. As you know some crews have a lot of work to do on Monday and they could get out faster if they didn't have to stop to figure out how to all go get their cars and where to park them in the middle of their work.

I'd like to share my experience performing at Fair this year and last year. As the guitarist in the group, I have 5 items of luggage to transport from my car to the stage and back again. They consist of a guitar, an amplifier, a suitcase with accessories, a music stand, and a backpack. The routine was to park in one of the public lots temporarily, go get a hand cart, bring it to my car, load it up, schlep it to the staging area, go back, get my car, drive it 3/4 of a mile to the overnight lot, find parking, then walk all the way back to the staging area.... (Unless I timed it just right for the patron shuttle). It all seems to me like more effort than it's worth. I would like to propose that a shuttle service be provided for such a situation whereby someone like me could drive to the overnight lot and have their gear and themselves taken from there to the staging area and back again when they're ready to leave. If a small fee to cover the petrol had to be imposed, it would be well worth it. I think this service would be widely used by staff members with such needs. I hope you'll consider it! Thank you.

Fire Crew

Fire Crew did an amazing job of both outreaching to staff to support fire safety, as well as keeping us safe, including a pretty scary pre-fair fire. Kudos!

A fire pit would have also been very nice at Hub Gate.

Food

We had my B Heavenly food booth at Sol Creek camp this year and have had so many people ask why we didn't vend inside the fair. My name is Heaven and I own B Heavenly Vegetarian foods. I have a cart downtown Eugene in Kesey square. I would love to chat with someone about possibly getting a tasting with the committee to see how much you would also like my food in fair. Please take a look at my business and what I offer at bheavenly.com. I will reach out to you again on other platforms. Thank you for a wonderful event and I look forward to speaking with you all!

Another issue was the recognition of silver star staff specials. Most food booths did not know their silver star staff specials and after pulling up the list on my phone and explaining their special to them, most booths treated me like a lower class of citizen for spending food vouchers instead of cash, despite vouchers carrying the same value. One booth first claimed not to have a special, then when I showed them what their special was the woman in the booth said to the man handing me a slice of watermelon "Just give her a small one". The piece I received was so disappointing, not only small but also inferior in quality. I decided to let them know kindly that I felt sad they thought because I was using food vouchers that I didn't deserve a beautiful melon slice, and hearing the woman say "just give her a small one" felt disrespectful. The woman flat out denied saying it, and they then offered to give me a free apricot which it turns out is their silver star staff special that I was not offered in the first place. Another booth tried to refuse giving the change due for a food voucher purchase. Most booths just didn't know they had specials. The pizza booth near Main Stage had one deal one visit, and it would change the next visit, very inconsistent. Booths that did honor the silver star staff special consistently were The Burrito Shop and Northwest Empanadas.

Silver Star -- Most booths offer nothing. Those that do usually offer a free drink (I don't want to see another hibiscus item for a long time!) or discount their most expensive item, so it's of limited value. We liked booths that discounted \$1-2 off the bill.

There were a few food booth issues that I observed. Many food booth workers denied they had Silver Star specials even when their booths specials were on the list. Some food booths refused to give change for food vouchers without an argument.

Makeda's is an excellent addition to the food selections! They offered vegan and beef options that were both delicious and reasonable priced.

Vendors need to have their ingredients list readily available for folks who have sensitivities. I asked two separate vendors if their tortillas had a specific ingredient, and they had no idea.

Would it be possible for vendors to only offer foods with natural food coloring and not artificial? My kid is allergic to artificial food dyes. They are banned in many countries for being toxic but not in the states unfortunately.

The other upset was the people who told Genesis Juice they could not sell their juice in their bottles they were to pour it into a plastic cup - doubling the plastic waste of what was an efficient single use reuse bottle. I think they were spoofed, and they lost a lot of business.

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On the upside, a lot of food vendors had great portion sizes and affordable food options.

I think that we need more food booths, as in real food and not just snacks. The lines were extremely long. Doesn't seem like the best public experience is to have people arrive just to spend an hour in line. Remember, we open the gates close to lunchtime, people are hungry and descend on the food booths. The lines are even bad after hours. Really hard to get a meal if one has limited time, like before going on shift. This translates to more and more car space going to personal food and cooking gear instead of carpooling. And, because there's more of us than there are of the public, the lines are long with staff trying to get food when the gates open.

Coming back from the Ritz I was hungry. It was nearly midnight, but the food booths had long lines! I'd never seen that before either in my 30 years of being Fair Family.

Thank you for some new food at Fair. The grilled cheese and soup booth was genius. Delicious AND AFFORDABLE. Let me say that louder... AFFORDABLE. One more time for those in the back - AFFORDABLE. There was so much crappy food at Fair... \$20 for food I couldn't even give away, it was so...dry, bland, overdone, underdone, not palatable, tasted like cardboard...or worse. Again - not here to bash the food but more to celebrate what worked. Cheezie Weezie's worked and would like to see more of that (tasty, affordable product made from NW supplies, like (Tillamook Cheese and Franz Bakery).

I was very happy to learn how much folks liked the new food booths, made the booths happy too!

Food Vouchers

We've had more than a few comments that the meal voucher values have not kept up with gradually inflating food booth prices. Obviously this involves cost but rethinking "shift meals" could be in order.

Food vouchers are an issue. let's increase them and then redemption by a food booth could be 80% instead of 100%. Food booths could decline to accept them. Also, food booths need to advertise their staff specials.

Vouchers. \$3 voucher per hour doesn't even buy a meal when it used to cover most of a day's meals. It's been decades since it changed. The result is more staff are cutting into their non-volunteer time to cook in camp because they can't afford the food and skimpier portions. This is an equity issue. It also requires people to bring more stuff and therefore more vehicles on site, need for clean water, dishwater disposal and more trash which all impact Fair. We also bought fewer crafts this year because we spent so much on food. Food and labor costs have/are going up, so I know some booths are also struggling too.

FOOD VOUCHERS- Something has to be done about the value of food vouchers. Hospitality is not the whole solution. (Only eating at Hospitality is like only getting to go to one stage at Fair. Plus, the lines are very long, and it is a long way away for many working crews.) The value of the food voucher must be raised. Good ideas have come up over the years including

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one in which the food booths receive maybe 80% of the value on turned in vouchers, and all food booths offer a staff special, and not just a drink. Food booths are guaranteed thousands of dollars in business by taking food vouchers. What message are we sending our Teens who receive four food vouchers for their four-hour shifts, and yet can't buy a meal and a drink for their \$12. And the younger kids who receive one voucher for their one-hour shift? What could you buy to eat for \$3 at this Fair? Why does the price of admission, the cost of an SO pass, the cost for a vehicle sticker go up, but not the value if a food voucher?

Food Vouchers need to be increased in value - it just does not work anymore.

Food prices-- Either increase the value of food vouchers or require food booths to offer a staff special. Use the money saved by fewer gators to fund this.

Could we please give pre-fair crews more food vouchers? Pre-fair crews put in way more hours than many crews and it has not gone unnoticed that food vouchers seem to have slipped away too.

Aside from food booths not knowing or honoring specials, my other issue with food vouchers is the value versus inflation. Food voucher value has been \$3 since 2006. Meanwhile the price of food has doubled, tripled, or more. My crew can't even get a full meal for a 5-hour shift these days.

Food voucher value needs to be increased from \$3 to something that can actually buy something. Never been raised in my 33 years but food prices have. *Actually food vouchers value increased 17 years ago in 2006.*

Guidelines

Vendors playing music: a number of vendor booths were pumping out some EDM deep bass during public hours, I know there is a lot of EDM versus acoustic etc.. back and forth over the years and this is not about that. Instead, it's just to note that if every booth blasted music into the path it would distract from the ambiance that has always been an integral part of Fair. I reviewed the guidelines and they're a little ambiguous on this point, so maybe clarify one way or the other.

It's way past time to get rid of Guideline #10 (Photography and Video Cameras). This is completely unenforceable and is not enforced. Having it makes it harder to treat the other guidelines seriously.

Hospitality

Hospitality does not visit our morning crews until they have been on shift for a few hours, they would like to have access to Main Camp kitchen when they first go on or right after for coffee/tea/water (they start at 6 am).

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Hospitality: Thanks for the wonderful hospitality! Great food. Could it be open longer so that lines might not be so long? Many volunteers can't afford to eat at the food booths, they are serving delicious but very expensive food for many folks who volunteer.

I continue to advocate for 24-hour coffee and hydration for volunteer staff.

Junk Yard Dogs

Since no one can drive on Strawberry Lane, it might be nice to prioritize gator pick up for load out making sure the artists who can't just drive up to their booths get support would be super nice.

Late Night Trips

Shout out to Late Night Trippers bus. Wonderful experience for those who can't sleep out. Very helpful and much appreciated.

Light Pollution

Fair was AWESOME as usual, but it was so bright! Loved the light show during Ween tribute in Horse Chorale at night, but there was way too much light on the path, including lit up signs. Miss the darker vibe with a few sweet lights scattered throughout. Maybe keep the lights at Xavanadu and keep the rest darker as it used to be? And no lights advertising products! kind of felt like a mall.

There were crafters with commercial neon signage highlighting obvious commercially made products, also it seemed that ambient light standards of old were gone with so many extra bright LED ugly lights placed throughout Fair environment...not very magical.

Main Camp Meals

I know this is supposed to be about the Main Event - but I wanted to draw it to whoever's attention (so we can make sure we can keep it going) - The amazing "recovery" of the kitchen at Pre-fair. You know, pre-fair where volunteers come for weeks prior to the main event, donate thousands of hours between us all, and make it happen for everyone else. Our "pay" are the meals from that kitchen. For the past several events, I felt the effort I put forth was not worth "the pay". Not this year. This year I felt lucky. Spoiled. Loved by that kitchen. I have been doing "this" for the better part of two decades and NEVER have I seen those kitchens so well run as evidenced by: CLEAN (never have I seen the big coolers and kitchen so clean, tables, too), GREAT FOOD (Wow. Just WOW. Great, tasty, different food this year), pretty much ON TIME (maybe not on the dot every day...but not 4 hours late, either) ... But the ATTITUDE change was what I really wanted to call out. Amazing when you consider the past 5 years or so. Everyone who was on that crew was having FUN. Like, so much I wanted to be on their crew (I have never said that). It was obvious. No crusty greetings, no yelling at us for getting in the way of "the gap" - everyone was NICE TO ME. Also nice to everyone else. No clicks, no playing favorites, no bullies. We all got the same portions on the slop line...which was generous. No one left hungry. I mean, the difference was like night and day. I gotta ask - what happened? Why this AMAZING POSITIVE CHANGE to the pre-fair kitchen? Whatever it

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is, however, fun got put back into the kitchen, please, for the love of all things Fair, keep it going. Pre-fair kitchen is the heart of Main Camp...that heart has been broken for some time. Glad they finally got the beat back. To upper management: please keep this good vibe going!

Endless lines for Main Camp meals Thousands of volunteer hours are lost waiting in line
What about satellite eating areas in Cheka Mela, Dragon Plaza, Alice's, Zenn Acres etc..

The "fair family feeling" that oozes from that kitchen was palatable. That crew was happy and having fun. I haven't had that vibe from the kitchen in eons. It was fantastic. So - what changed? What happened to make pre-fair kitchen "the crew" to be on? Was there a change in leadership? If there was, somebody get their playbook as I have never seen such a drastic turnaround with such positive results. If we could take that magic and spread it around so we could have some of "that" on our Board, other crews, what a fair we would have! So - shout out to Pre-Fair Kitchen, the heart of Main Camp is beating again. It was such a joy to see, feel, experience, taste the change. Good job. Thank you!

Pre-Fair Kitchen - what happened? What happened this year with the pre-fair kitchen.... And can we spread that sh*t everywhere? What a change from previous years. That crew was lit! I wanted to be part of that crew because they were having so much fun (which you could say is the *hardest working* crew at pre-fair re: long hours on your feet, 80+ crew hours to be part of that crew... No thank you). This year had something magical I would like to see spread over all the crews. Not sure what changes other than the food tasting WAY BETTER than in recent memory... Happened pretty much "on time" and rarely ran out of anything. Well, never ran out, always something tasty available. But what I am referencing is not the food, but the people. The attitude.

Motor Pool and Mystery Vehicles

I'm sure it's a long-term process, but the more we can move towards electric vehicles the better.

I love Fair, and I've been going for years and feel renewed and refreshed every time. One thing that would be really helpful: this year, it was a jarring experience to see the fossil-fuel powered carts. Why? Fair is such an inspiration for the better world that we can create. Considering our climate crisis, please ditch those in favor of electric carts, or e-bikes with a trailer, or a better option you conjure up. thank you so much.

Why were Arcimoto drivers joy riding in the 8? The one being used by construction was okay, but the others were being joy rides as they were nowhere near their booth or work area. While one vehicle may have little impact, many have a cumulative impact. The joy riders had no permits on their Arcimotos as to where they were supposed to be. This also contributes to the dust issue.

I was astonished to see non-emergency gators in the eight during public hours.

What's with the excessive use of electric scooters, electric bikes and electric wheeled conveyances speeding on the path.... not good.

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There was an insane amount of vehicle traffic, mostly gators, on Smile. Seemed to be mostly unnecessary, such as gators with a couple of people in them who had plenty of time to stop and talk so were obviously not dealing with an emergency, or gators hauling one bag of ice. The amount of dust was horrible. And the drivers were going way too fast; had someone not pulled my daughter out of the way she would have been hit. This is a bad situation getting worse. I understand the need for emergency traffic and moving performers and their gear to and from Main Stage, but that wasn't what I was seeing. This is an increasing problem. If so many people are too privileged to walk then it's time to set up a shuttle system rather than having everybody drive. Plus, this seems counter to our carbon neutrality goals.

Vehicles. The number of gators and golf carts has gone up with quite a few "personal ones" added to the mix. I was surprised to see several along the Upper River Loop before Fair opened for the day. There was pretty much non-stop traffic on Smile Snivel and Chickadee going as fast as they could around the clock. I noticed a lot of errands being done that used to use carts. One family member had to push a family member with a cane into the ditch so that they wouldn't have their foot run over. Doesn't feel like hippie magic to me to be constantly breathing diesel and dust and dodging traffic. When I was on shift, the number of 4A requests and general public requests for rides increased with 4 requested in one hour during Fair! I would like to see solar or electrically charged vehicles to at least cut down on the noise and fumes.

There were too many private golf carts and vehicles operating during Fair.

Geezer Pleaser. Every year we have had the Geezer Pleaser, a golf cart to help move Elders the long distance from registration to their camp sites, or other locations. This golf cart is specifically a PEOPLE mover. This year we were given a golf cart that could only take ONE person at a time. (And their three bags of golf clubs.) We need to have one of the golf carts that hauls three people at a time. Otherwise, what we have is a Person mover. And it takes three trips to move the same number of people as it would if we had the correct golf cart. Please let the Motor Pool know that we need a golf cart configured to carry people, not golf clubs. Thanks!

Too Many Gators!!! Diesel gators idling while someone chatted, electric gators with one adult and two kids going?? Tens of gators parked by camps at night Each trip stirs up dust, adds to the air pollution and dust problem Are they regulated or are drivers trained at all? Is timing so important that people must drive instead of walk? I arrived on Monday for crew work and walked over 40 miles. Of the hundreds who passed 79-year-old me, only twice was I offered a ride.

Internal transportation for those that need it needs work. We (*Elders*) constantly received calls to help get folks on/off-site or to internal locations. More structured transportation routes and schedules are needed so we are not just responding to individual requests, which is very time-consuming for volunteers and logistically complicated during certain traffic times. We need regular schedules and routes that get people where they need to be. from the Water Gate to the gates onto the site. This is a big lift.

Parking

SCOF Lot/alter-abled parking. On Thursday night, I received a text supposedly from Fire Crew stating my truck (i have a van) was blocking a fire lane & would be towed if it wasn't moved immediately. I had been parked since Wednesday morning in an already established row. After hoofing it out there in a state of panic, I found no fire crew or lot person to help me. Finally, I found a traffic crew person who checked out my van & said there was no way I was in a fire lane. He took pictures, license # etc.. and promised to report it. Luckily, it was there when I came back to sleep. What a total waste of time for me & him. I don't even know how or whomever got my phone # except I had pre-fair slip on my dash. Was it a crank call? Kinda Creepy!! I noticed there are not lot folks anymore. I was told traffic had taken over. The lot was an absolute mess of irregular rows with cars parked parallel to rows. If someone had been parked behind me I would have been totally blocked in Monday morning. I suggest that Fair should have someone out there directing parking & establishing rows as they have in the past. This is another situation that keeps getting worse & worse.

Things went so very smoothly this year in the parking lots. We have mastered the new towing procedure and it went well. We had no major incidents!

For many years, I, along with others, have had a difficult time getting a straight answer when we ask questions to the Traffic Crew. All I can think of is that the volunteers are not being trained properly. I've found the volunteers either don't know answers or give the wrong answers--which leads to challenges-- such as getting towed or parking in a spot which is wrong then need to re-park.

Permanent parking in Outta Site being available on Tuesday morning would be ideal and avoid extra trips out to move the vehicle.

The truck belonging to a booth member was towed from the handicapped parking. She has a placard and was told initially to park there. When she couldn't find her truck, she went to QM and was told repeatedly that she had just misplaced her car. Eventually, she found the person who towed it - he claimed he towed six vehicles without reporting them to QM! Eventually, Shrek drove her around for 4-5 hours until they found her truck.

The first issue I would like resolved is the ADA parking for volunteers. The only lot was full almost the entire fair. We are not allowed to park overnight in any of the daytime ADA parking reserved for general public, but then had no other options to park. With the demographic at fair getting older, something needs to be done about the lack of ADA parking spaces for your volunteers. Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my feedback.

Hey there, I really hate to be this person, but I just feel like I have to speak about this. I camped at a booth this fair and had an absolutely wonderful time. Everything went smoothly and I opted for the bus and rides for transportation which worked out well for me. On Sunday I rode the bus back into town with my partner to get my car so that we could begin unpacking our campsite because we had to leave that night. My boyfriend was working at the booth until close and we didn't have a parking pass, so finding a place to park until he was done working (which would be past 7) would be a challenge. We drove back up to Fair right around 4 or 5pm. I talked to several people on the traffic team, and everyone was very helpful and polite.

One worker gave me an alter-abled pass because he understood I was in a sticky situation. He was incredibly kind and helpful, and went the extra mile, just like every other employee there... except for one. As I pulled past the public entrance, and drove past the public exit, up toward the alter-able lot, an older, larger, white male stopped my car. Right off the bat he looked extremely intimidating and cold. And I asked him if I was going the right way to the Alter-Abled lot. He immediately started treating me like trash. He stared at me for a very long time, and then asked me "are you loading out your camp?! If you come back with a car full of shit then there is going to be serious trouble." I was taken aback by his behavior, and because I am a younger woman, and felt overpowered by him, I began to stutter. I didn't know what to say to him because I was under the impression that the lot I was sent to could also be used for a loading zone. I said yes and then said no but couldn't really get a word out. He then interrupted me and raised his voice at me, very loudly at almost a yell, saying, "are you alter abled?!" I said, "no, I was given this pass at the front and told it was okay." I told him the truth as altered abilities are not something I would ever lie about. He then stomped his foot and yelled again, "ARE YOU ALTER ABLED!?" I just stared at him in fear and then he ordered/yelled at me saying, "no. turn around right now. right now." As I was turning around, he slapped my car and barked, "give. me. that. pass." He then ripped the alter abled pass out of my hand and left me feeling publicly shamed and humiliated. As I was driving away, I watched him physically SLAP someone's car. A kind worker who saw the interaction allowed me to park in the Kermit lot. I sat in the lot and cried because of how scared and unwelcome that man made me feel. I did not return to Fair after I brought my tent to the car because he was standing in the way of me getting in and out.

I wish I had caught his name because I am worried about that man's behavior at a place such as Fair. I know that most employees and volunteers are genuine, kind, and giving people, and I know that that man is not a good representation of what Fair is all about. It sucks that he is at the entrance and that some may have been "welcomed" by him. It makes me sad to think about people who may have tried to enter the grounds who are actually living with invisible disabilities and might have been sent away by him just because he has some sort of idea of what someone with altered abilities should "look like".

Thank you for taking the time to read this, I hope something gets done about this employee's behavior because I think it's a total misrepresentation of what the OCF stands for.

Path Planning

It would be awesome to have a space for decompressing for neurodiverse folks. I wristbanded a couple people and when I saw them inside at different points they looked like they were just too overstimulated to find a quietish corner. Maybe if there was an official place they could get to know, they could just go when it gets hard to function...

I would like to see more benches added along the sides of the walking path throughout Fair. I'm in my early 30's and have been going to Fair since I was a child. Now I have a baby of my own and found that traveling around Fair with a little one was difficult without places to rest periodically (that is not directly on the dusty ground near foot traffic). I also think this would be kind for elders who are attending Fair and who have been going longer than I have. All in all, more designated resting spots would be most welcome, thank you! :)

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I'd love to see more seating options in Xavanadu near the art installations (the wall, the fiber optic tree) similar to the seating near the aquarium art installation or like the theater chairs near the Ritz.

A lack of path seating for elders outside of smoking areas, many elder folks were really having a TERRIBLE TIME,

For fair goers that drive and walk in with little kids, infants and toddlers, I think there could be better options. It is hard to find more quiet shady spots. If you bring little kids it is hard to have a free hand to carry things and carry the babies so having to set up a blanket to sit on so far from any food vendor makes acquiring food very difficult.

Having kids' activities in the sunny spots is too hot for the very small children.

I'd love to see a couple of places around Fair where musicians can check their instruments.

I would like to see the registration booth be turned into a White Bird cooling station during public hours.

Working OCF as a performance artist is tremendously rewarding in many ways. Doing so as a representative of Energy Park is also rather fulfilling. I am however disabled and very curious about any resources OCF has in place to accommodate in the means of cooling down, a soft place to relax for a moment while tromping around, or anything of the like. Looking very much forward to next year and more after.

Another suggestion: A Far Side First Aid / White Bird Tent.

I would love to see more space for public-initiated events, encouragement of that, as at Burning Man. Less emphasis on buying and watching.

Fair needs more shaded spots with seating designated for mothers who are breast feeding!

Peach Pit

I picked up a Peach Pit at the KIVA, in Eugene, a week before Fair. Yet, when out at the site the Pit was not available until late Thursday. People are always looking for it long before then. I noticed at the end of Fair there were Many Peach Pits still in bundles, unused. I think this would be remedied if they were distributed earlier in the week.

Some of the information in the Peach Pit was not accurate. I'm assuming things change at the last minute. Some message boards to announce changes would help.

Please include the artists in the Peach Pit. Due to the Upper River Loop, our booth of 40 years had to move last year. It was very frustrating for our longtime customers. They could not look us up and see where we were located.

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The Craft demo area is very well organized and equally under-reported in the Peach Pit. Perhaps a more informative article about that section in the Peach Pit would rectify that.

The Peach Pit did such a great job letting us know what was happening on all the stages. I wish it had listed all the food and craft booths or mentioned that you could go to info booths to find out where your favorite food booth or craft booth was. Hopefully that omission can be rectified next year. I'm sure it didn't happen on purpose, but it sure hurt a lot of feelings.

We want the list of crafts/booths back! Happy to see the LGBTQIA+ info featured prominently.

It was outrageous and a slap in the face that artisans/crafters were not listed in the Peach Pit. This caused great frustration with the public trying to find craft booths. I heard repeated complaints the entire weekend. Although I support "artisan food booths" having a full-page COLOR listing, it should be EQUAL for crafts booths! OCF started as an arts/craft fair and we remain a big part of the heart in Fair family, yet we are treated as second class citizens. PLEASE BRING BACK OUR LISTING!

Please add craft vendors and booth numbers in Peach Pit.

The repeated choice to not publish visual artists' names and locations in the Peach Pit while packing it with performing artists is an outrageous, insulting disregard for the backbone of Fair. That information was there for years and is counted on by shoppers and artists alike. That it was there for years means it certainly could be now. That you take our money and then in our publications behave as if we don't count or even exist is professional malfeasance. Once- after Covid- was just barely acceptable. That you again made that choice is evidence of incompetence.

I'm extremely unhappy that the craft booths were not listed in the Peach Pit. I had a few people that needed to go out to the ATM and had a difficult time finding their way back due to not being able to find a listing of my booth to refer to. OCF is in large part about the arts/crafts and to not list booths in an easily accessible way is quite an insult. I understand that there are last-minute changes but that could be easily addressed in the Peach Pit listing with a simple statement that also tells fairgoers to visit an information booth for the most up to date information. It's a terrible excuse to say that it wasn't in the Peach Pit since there are last minute changes. There are more booths that aren't last minute changes than there are changes so those who don't change are getting less representation due to others who have to make a change. Please reinstate the booth listings in the Peach Pit in 2024.

Crafting inventory: Why aren't the crafters in the Peach Pit? We are a craft fair. There was no listing of Logo artists or promotion of them. They pay to be juried and invest a lot in event-specific items that must be sold in a short time to recover costs.

Not listing food & craft booths in peach pit a HUGE mistake. I had easily 60 people ask me "where is _____ booth?" Everyone said the same... Returning folks were even confused 'cause 4 years for a lot of us things get vague. 700 booths with minimum of \$1,000 in fees each!!! SO LITTLE RESPECT FOR BOOTH PEOPLE, AND SCREWED THE PUBLIC WHO ARE LOOKING FOR SPECIFIC BOOTHS. DO BETTER

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Crafters need to be featured and in a directory in the Peach Pit. With spotty internet the website isn't reliable to give people information they need.

PLEASE LIST THE ARTISTS/CRAFTERS/VENDORS in the Peach Pit! We are far from the gate and not all make it our way but may be hoping to find us. We are such a huge part of what makes Fair a destination. Honor us by making us as important as entertainment and food. Thank you. A request for submission of details was made on Monday July 3, I believe. Where these directory details ended up, I do not know. But I know that I was working on my booth on site that day, had many pressing details to attend to in the following two days and although I submitted it was stressful to squeeze that in and I never saw a deadline. I also wondered if I even had to do it, since I am in the website directory.

Would like a craft listing in the Peach Pit.

Please add back a list of vendors in the Peach Pit and booth #.

I noticed the craft booth numbers were listed on the map, but the name and booth number were not listed in the paper. I wonder if this is an oversight.

I have heard numerous negative comments about the Peach Pit omitting Craft and Food vendors from this year's event program guide. I know one Native American vendor who didn't have one sale. His customers could not find him.

I would like to see a list of vendors and their craft/service in the Peach Pit. This would help me to plan my adventures better and to patronize as many as possible.

Population

Keep the attendance cap!!!

I attended on Saturday, and I feel like 15k cap is too much. I felt like it was difficult to find a way to look at vendors' items or see the menus for food because of the constant movement of the crowd.

I love it! I really love every year but the extra breathing room in 2022 was my fave. I hope the attendance cap stays on the small side.

Fair was good, and I appreciate the cap on attendance. Too crowded does not necessarily equate to more sales.

Happy we had a "full pond" as far as attendance, however, overflowing 6-packs(toilets) was an unwelcome outcome.

Faire has far outgrown the venue. The crowds made it stressful, difficult to enjoy, and I wish I could get a refund.

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Too many people. I have written about this in years past. I have been coming to Fair since it started and for a very long time I have been disgruntled by how the crowd has grown. I didn't attend last year but I did hear from a few people that the attending crowd was much better. I understand you limited the public to 10,000.

This year I was told it would be 15,000 per day. Sorry, but it is way too many. It's hard to get along on the paths in the sea of sardines crowded in a can. The left side of the figure 8 if looking from Odyssey booth is always busier than the other side but it was unthinkable of going out to do anything with the crowds moving along as the day went on. As I have stated before, and customers have said, you can't get to the other side or even see what the booths on the other side of the path have because of all the people. I watched two older people and not so steady on their feet be jostled by people passing and it was sad to see. If they had fewer people to navigate that probably wouldn't have happened.

I love both meadows which diffuses the traffic from the 8 but getting to either of the meadows is challenging. I have more to say but don't want to make this too long.

I hope you continue to consider the amount of public you allow. 15,000 is too much!

I don't know how many staff and craftspeople are part of the total but the amount you let in the gates as public is way more than it used to be.

If I didn't have a booth to hang out in and be part of, I probably wouldn't come back to Fair anymore. It's lost its celebration of art and crafts that all can see and enjoy, and I think one does that by not being constricted by a huge, pressing crowd. My memories are part of me when I first came to Fair with hippie communes and there was no public. Very precious years of banding together in love and peace. I don't like where Fair has gone by allowing so many people in. Please reconsider the amount you set for each day's attendance. In peace, love and consideration of all people.

The number of tickets available was perfect. It only felt overcrowded a couple of times Saturday. I am so delighted you continued to keep attendance lower again this year. I grew up at Fair but quit going due to crowds. I brought my kids (8, 8,, and 9) for the first time this year and it was all the magic. Well done!

Please KEEP THE ATTENDANCE CAP! It was so nice!

I was a bit bummed out that Friday was so crowded, as I appreciated less of a crowd as a feature of that day. Can't even imagine how crowded it got on Saturday!

Crowds, especially at night, were excessive!

The reduced number of attendees made this the best fair yet! I could see every booth.

Early arrivals to the property: Tuesday and Wednesday were crazy, and it seemed many people were just there to party. They weren't working on booths, or on shift. It just brings a level of chaos and risk that needs to be looked at.

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I really, really appreciate the decision to continue to cap attendance. It is creating a much better experience for everyone, with the ability to actually see vendors, shop, and talk to folks. Especially as our population ages and more people need mobility devices, the ability to actually get around on the paths helps to maintain equity. Please continue to cap attendance.

Crowds: Glad that Fair did not sell out on Friday. That seemed like about the right number of folks per day. Please lower the number of tickets sold on Saturday.

The number of public attendees this year was a doable amount for folks to still be able to explore and enjoy the paths and stop at vendors without feeling like sardines on the trail. But it was close at times to pushing back into the pre-Covid years where that was the default. Please consider keeping them at this level of public tickets, or less.

Fair was incredibly crowded after closing. Didn't really notice when the Sweep went through because it didn't change much as there are twice as many of us as paying public. We need to decide whether we're going to continue with our mission or just give up our non-profit status and become a private party.

A number of issues that I observed fall into the same category. We claim to be an intentional community and to do things thoughtfully and with intention, but such claims don't align with the reality that we've bumbled along and don't address issues until they've gotten way out of hand. The biggest of these is our years of somehow-better-than-the-outside-world uncontrolled growth. Much of what we do at Fair hasn't scaled well to our much-increased population.

Dear Fair Family Folk (including the Board of Directors),
During the past several fairs I've noticed a definite trend which concerns me greatly. It has to do with the numbers of public admitted each day. Granted, the financial books require that maximum revenue be generated in order to put on Fair, and it's never simple or easy to find the right balance. But my concerns are that with such large numbers of people at Fair, the quality is reduced considerably. The bottlenecks and gridlocks of people moving along the paths VERY slowly (or not moving at all); the choking dust. I'm just wondering if we haven't already reached a breaking point. I've heard many times from Fair families as well as from day trippers that their experiences at Fair have been diminished over the years. While there's no simple solution (cuz we have to pay the bills), I'm just wondering if day tickets could be increased by \$10-\$15 and the number of tickets sold could be reduced. I know you've considered this before, but I'm writing to ask that you consider it again, and very seriously. We don't want to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs. Love you and thanks for your consideration.

The following entry is a rumor; it is not factual. We had our highest internal population in 2019 for our 50th Anniversary. Our internal and external population was lower in 2022 due to the Board's Covid policy and Fair participants' comfort levels, willingness and abilities to attend.

I was told by our booth neighbors of a policy change making camping passes much easier to get for both crew SOs and extra booth people. I don't know if it's true. It certainly seemed like there were an extra 6000 people present! Aside from overcrowding and systems collapsing, I'm guessing this has caused morale problems with our hardworking volunteers. Why should they work so damned hard if other folks get their passes for nothing? If someone wanted to

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ruin Fair, giving passes out like candy would be a great strategy. Though I'm with a booth, I work my ass off for my pass. Always have. Just like the crews. We all have skin in the game. Now there seems to be thousands who get a free ride, so to speak. This needs to be severely reigned in! I love Fair so much and appreciate everyone's hard work. Please don't let it be ruined.

Oh, and the attendance number seemed perfect! So many clean portable potties, even on Monday! Thank you all so much!

Too many extra passes granted overall. WAAAY too many folks in the Eight after public hours and it seemed like many systems broke down because of that (not enough volunteers? weak to nonexistent shuttle service for elders and to Dead Lot, understaffed registration so looong wait with elders and folks with babies roasting fainting in hot sun, portapotties overrun i.e. Shady Grove pit toilets shut down, excessive lines at night for food and potties etc., massive overcrowding of the Ritz.

Pre-Post

The lines of cars into the 8 on Monday, with engines running and air-conditioning on are a climate crisis nightmare. I was not able to enter until 4 pm and moved my car closer twice, walking out to the lots, wasting hours of tiring time. Let's find some solutions. Timed entry perhaps.

I live on Shady Lane and the ridiculous situation with cars and load-in and out was terrible. No one knew what was going on. We were told no cars and no gators, but gators drove by consistently. Then we were told gators were "ok" because they distribute the load, hogwash. There were no carts or gators available AT the place where cars were unloading near Arc Park, yet people were asked to get their stuff to their booth from there. After the shift ended - there was no one there and cars and everyone did whatever they wanted, including driving past the check point. Neighbors yelled at me and were angry when I told them about the stop travel point. And all I said was that there was a stop point. I didn't try to enforce - just inform. Please get help from Traffic on this situation and how to handle moving people in and out. Security folks may be good at enforcing rules, but they don't know how to help traffic and people flow well.

If we are going to have to stay most of Monday to load out, please consider relaxing the exit time and end of selling time for food and drinks, and the closing of the portapotties. Perhaps some people should stay over Monday night.

I saw cars in the FarSide driving around on Sunday about starting 6pm while music was playing at the structure, it went on for a few hours. Then when I came back into Fair about 10:30Pm there was another vehicle on the 8. Felt unsafe and went against our guidelines. I know we were understaffed but this seems unacceptable while people are still dancing and being made to move for cars whilst we are all still on the property and working to create a safe place.

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Pre- and Post-Fair, there was not always a person with authority on site at night to handle issues where somebody should have been booted or the sheriff called. This happened last year, 2022, also Pre-fair.

Recycling

Please don't use recyclable plastic cups. They are not environmental. The garbage was overwhelming at Fair because of the so-called compostable cups. No one knows what to do with them, nobody wants them, the garbage companies don't want them in their compost. The Pickathon has a zero-waste program that the Country Fair should use. Many other fairs use this model. Please contact me if you need help with the change.

Popular Science: When a compostable cup makes it to the right facility and gets cycled into the soil, there's still debate about the total environmental impact of these products. In 2019, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) published a review of life cycle assessments (LCAs) of different types of compostable single-use food ware. Their findings suggested that standard plastics were actually better than compostables for the environment when taking into account compostable alternatives'™ dependence on an already fraught agricultural system. Monoculture corn, the major source for PLA production in North America, has lots of well-established downsides for the planet. The debate about single use compostables vs. recyclables may rage on, but reusable items will almost always be better for the environment than either. Although compostable cups might be a useful tool in a pinch, an even better option, he says, is a cup you don't throw away at all. Tossing a PLA cup into your home compost pile won't break it down, says Nora Goldstein, executive editor of BioCycle magazine, a publication covering the organic waste recycling and composting industry. "I put [compostable plastic] cups from NatureWorks in [my home compost] from the early fall of last year, and they're still there" she says. The only way to make the cups actually break down, she says, requires a specific set of microorganisms used in industrial composting that need temperatures well above what most backyard heaps reach to thrive.

My annual request is, again, that there be information posted at the recycling kiosks about what to do with newspapers, clean paper & cardboard. I get different answers from volunteers.

Recycling Crew crashed the glass cans loudly at dawn, which is their usual, though for once they weren't blaring music at top volume! There was one day where that crew was swearing at each other nastily and half the camp commented on it. Overall an improvement.

However, on Sunday an older bearded man identified by security as being from Recycling was watering Smile Snivel with a hose just outside the entrance to New Kids Loop and a Recycling camp. I waited to get their attention and asked them not to spray us. We hadn't gone 3 steps when the man turned the hose on us and said what are you witches that will melt? I got wet, but not very. Another person got it in the eyes and almost fell despite her cane while trying to avoid the water. She was caught by another person who also got wet. I went back and talked to the man about doing something after being asked not to and we talked about consent. They half-heartedly apologized for offending (what they said) but didn't excuse their behavior and definitely had a bad attitude. Water crew told me they often take water hoses away from the Recycling crew due to inappropriate behavior!

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Despite the repeated requests to staff to pack out what they pack in, I saw multiple recycling stations in non-public areas that were overflowing with crew garbage on Monday morning. We can do better.

Recycling having to collect mounds of trash on Monday slowed traffic into booths and contributed to the load-out delays. I know they have to do it, but it's not working to do it the way we are.

No compost barrel at picnic, at least none could find.

Recycling crew was amazing. I had a chance to talk with a few of the crew on Monday, it is obvious how much they appreciate and respect the co-ords and each other.

Registration

The "book" at information booths was not comprehensive. I didn't get an email to sign up 'til Wednesday before Fair. Who knows if it got in?

Long wristband line for vendors Wednesday. Very hot, almost 2 hours in line. That's never happened. Assuming short on volunteers and very forgiving if this was the reason. Appreciated the people delivering electrolytes to those of us in line. I felt cared for.

Registration: please, please, please, have more registration volunteers for the booths, the wait is unFair and treacherous in the sun and heat. It seems specifically disrespectful to the vendors and that is not cool.

Registration was an absolute mess this year. While I appreciate registration had a new team approach, the constant delays of being able to write in names for passes and send in \$ was ridiculous and caused me a lot of angst. I would like to take care of monies due and passes all at one time as it used to be, so I can focus on creating my art. I was so concerned about the disorganization of it all, for the first time in 32years. I sent my payment by certified mail. (I do not bank online.) Getting an e-mail on July 3, to update information after I was already onsite was ludicrous! The lines for the wristbands get worse every year, especially in the heat with no shade provided. Used to be by alphabet and that seemed to work better instead of the free-for-all mess it has become. I do not understand why we can pick up parking passes early but cannot obtain wristband till Wednesday. Can that be changed? I hope that 2024 registration improves these processes.

I think the "Info for Booth Reps" page on the .net site where everything was gathered was a good idea, but it was not conveyed to crafters clearly enough that they needed to review all of the materials there and would not be getting paper copies. Information transmission took a huge setback from efforts of previous years. The transition to online registration is necessary but needs more support.

Some lines were very long, and it was HOT. Could we get more shade structures and a mister out there?

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Another aspect of our organization that hasn't scaled is the sticker booth. We have the same number of lines that we've had for many years handling many more people. The real world shows us that increasing population without a commensurate increase in infrastructure produces congestion. Maybe we can learn from that.

Registration needs extreme updates. Why the archaic method of 2 people having to first look up an envelope and then write down numbers and such? There's modern technology out there that would speed this up IMMENSELY, please join the 20th century.

Registration gets a D- grade this year. Every year we hear they are trying to improve wristbanding for vendors and every year the wait gets longer and longer. It was over 2 hours in the hot sun with VERY LITTLE SHADE Wednesday. Cross train, move to electronic check-in, open more windows, SOMETHING. This must change. If more money is needed to streamline the check-in, please get the budget approved. No more than an hour wait.

You charged me twice for the same pass for a member of my booth. You would not let him in until he paid for his pass even though I had paid for it. The whole process was such a mess. I had people showing up for worker passes that had to pay for them when they showed up....as we have done for years. But you had it in my records as owed my final payment for that. What a mess. Anyway...you owe me \$140.00 for a pass you made me pay for twice...I cannot afford to cover this. Please issue me a check for the \$140.00 ASAP and do not let this happen again!! Thanks so much.

A line at Registration for single Booth Reps getting a single wristband would help the discouraging practices in place. It is the only line where one person can be joined by a large number of members of their group or booth family and everyone waiting behind them has to endure it. A booth rep may have to leave their camp and booth unoccupied and unsecured for hours on Wednesday just to get wristbanded, which takes a few minutes.

I guess the only real thing I wish would be a sign-in line for people of old age; one that offered shade and hay bales to sit on while we wait. It ain't easy getting to a place where you need to ask for help but, there you are.

My only true complaint about the overall operation this year was the line at registration to get banded. It took 2 hours & 25 minutes for us to reach the front- which in and of itself is fine. My problem was I'm very fair skinned, as are some of my booth mates, and we were in the blazing sun for hours. We all got burnt. Please, place additional shade structures along the registration line in the future- our dermatologists thank you.

I requested an extra pass via the food committee for a woman who has worked for my booth since it began. She is a mother of two young children one 2-year-old infant and one 3-year-old toddler. She and another mother who also works at my booth also with another 3-year-old toddler, asked if we could get another worker pass so their childcare provider could come and help them with childcare so they can work the booth. This childcare provider would have been of benefit to two mothers and one father who work at my booth, who have small infants and toddlers (3 total small children). We asked for an extra pass for a childcare provider but were denied. On top of being denied, the communication liaison questioned my ability to be a good

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food booth rep. He seemed to imply my requests and advocating for parents in my crew indicated I was not a good food booth rep.

Booth Reg, thank you for taking the time to help out those who are technology challenged, I know it made a difference.

Ritz

As much as it's great to hear good music in the Ritz, having big name musicians and DJs in there is just too much. I tried twice and left really quickly. There's absolutely no room to enjoy the facilities. And no room for staff to clean the saunas. If you can actually get a seat they are really gross because staff can't even clean. My teenagers were finally old enough to go in at night this year and they felt so overwhelmed. The magic of the nighttime Ritz experience is gone. It's become another stage. Please bring back the more sauna type music. Piano, folk, acoustic lounge music that doesn't draw a 2-hour wait in line crowd.

Unsure how much sway y'all have over this, but designating a quiet sauna or quiet hours at the Ritz would be great both for those of us with sensory sensitivities and those of us who simply prefer quiet contemplation. This is the second year in a row I've had a meltdown in the sauna as a result of sensory overload as people chant in the enclosed acoustic space despite my attempts to interrupt and ask for a return to quiet.

Will the Ritz be pouring concrete in violation of the guidelines?

Safety

The gate (to Piggy's camping) was locked to cars starting Saturday. I understand not wanting in/out; but what if there was a fire? No one even knew the gate code to open it; or who to call to get it. The security, gator and construction crews weren't able to track it down. So, that is a huge safety risk!

I would like to see a policy implemented to screen our staff / volunteer / booth members through the National Sex Offender Registry to protect Fair family from any offenders.

Sanitation

There are two crews that it would be beneficial to have more of a pre- and post-fair presence (i.e., shifts): Sanitation and Recycling. The entire Fair family greatly depends on the services of these two crews. There were a lot of Fair family on site early this year and I know it is always frustrating to have services shut down before you are ready to pack out. Maybe pre and post shifts could be offered to these two crews to allow full services to be offered to those who are on site before and after fair.

Additional portapotties on the paths.

If toilets close during public hours need signage before public arrives to use them, not just when they get there.

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Xavanadu HoneyBuckets-- I tried to go to the restroom 3 times Sunday morning. To say they were disgustingly filthy inside and out is an understatement! and right next to Moon Path childcare. They were not cleaned until 10:30am The ones by Main Camp weren't cleaned until 9:30. This is a very unacceptable, unsanitary health risk!! My booth neighbor went to Odyssey to complain & basically got the big brush off. The HoneyBucket contract maintenance should be earlier for Fair family safety. Especially since Xavanadu has become Saturday night party central!!

Portapotties need cleaning more than once a day. Having my bottom less than inches from someone else's poop is gross.

Please continue Honey Bucket service at least through Monday post fair, especially in areas where post crews camp and work. It's not fair to need to stay and not have clean facilities.

I have noticed that porta potties are not cleaned after a certain time on Sunday and soap and water is shut down very early on Monday. This creates a very unclean situation for all those that are spending Monday packing out. It would be great if the toilets could be cleaned sometime between Sunday night and Monday morning to refresh them for folks who have early shifts on Monday morning and are unable to pack out until later. Also, for those who are just a little slower getting out. Access to clean toilets goes a long way to keeping disease out of fair. Even if fair has already "ended". Perhaps in the wee hours of Monday morning or late on Sunday like around midnight would be great. I hate to think my family is enduring icky potties and hiking while I'm working my final shift at White Bird. Thanks

Shutting down the porta-potties on Monday before noon in SCOF Lot and everywhere else we could find was difficult. My bowels were active that day and I was SOL literally. Poop! Wait a few more hours. Never encountered this issue in 20 years on crew. Cars leaving were backed way up. Is this a new service company? So did not work.

More handwashing please, the bucks in many places have no handwashing, shameful we did not improve this, especially after covid...

Piggy campground could use more love. There were no hand washing stations at our HoneyBucket (also none for wristband crew), and the showers didn't open until late Thursday. We need more amenities in Piggy. At least the same as other campgrounds.

Sanitation: Thanks for having the water turned on and soap available as soon as a bathroom was open. Also, thanks for having plenty of toilet paper in all the potties I used. Thanks so much for all the hard workers on the sanitation crew, you all rock!!

Hats off to Sanitation. The potties near me were open (2-3) on Tuesday, which is so super great! I didn't have to walk 1/2 mile to pee! THANK YOU. Also - the night lights in the potties during fair were fabulous. I didn't need my headlamp to potty at 3am. Amazing. Fabulous improvement and much appreciated!

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Portas. Best year ever for clean toilets, toilet paper and water at the hand wash stations. Some portas had a handle inside which I really appreciated, but for others I had to use the open/close handle and kept thinking it'd break off!

I was very concerned that the bathrooms nearest to Community Village were closed all day Sunday. So many people complained. I was concerned that people might pee and poop in the woods. It was challenging for young people to have to walk so far to use a bathroom and we were not able to safely take children checked into our booth (*Little Village*) to the bathroom since it was so far away. That meant parents had to check on their children frequently and we spent time finding them and asking them to take their children to the bathroom. Though it was nice to have the bathrooms opened so early, it may be best to make us walk down to Main Camp longer and not open the bathroom by the Village quite so early so they make it through Fair. Or pump them out either in the morning or evening during Fair. I also wish all the bathrooms didn't smell so bad. Can we try making compostable toilets again? Or have even more potties?

Things were a little harder after the bathrooms outside Community Village were closed on the third day. I'd like to be able to use the Shady Grove six-packs on Sundays, and I wonder if the only way that can happen is not to open them until Wednesday of Fair week. I was OK walking up to Politics Park, but it was so embarrassing when our guests wanted to use them, and the kids from the Village wanted to use them and couldn't.

Sunday, late morning I was astonished to find the pit toilets at Shady Grove closed. A staff person told me they were full. That was weird!

Community Village 6 pack needs to be addressed. It was not open to the public on Sunday.

Then there's the Shady Grove six packs that filled up and were closed during Fair, the Upper River Loop side Saturday evening, and the Main Camp side Sunday morning. Rumors abound; I'll mention two. Is it true we couldn't get a truck in to pump them out on the Long Tom side Sunday morning because there's not enough path left to hold it, and we couldn't bring a truck in through the Village from the 13th Street side because no one wanted to move the tubs of bamboo away from the Master Gardeners Booth so it wouldn't fit between there and the Restaurant either? Or was there never a question of a mid-Fair pump, and the vaults were just not pumped before Fair, and when we started pooping into them we were pooping into last winter's flood water? Surely it couldn't be that we just poop more than we used to.

POTTIES- closure of the Shady Grove six packs on Saturday morning (for the duration of Fair) was a bit of a problem. Taking 12 toilets (including 2 handicap accessible stalls) plus 2 urinals out of commission for 2 days of Fair was a hardship for many, including the children in Community Village Childcare, the hundreds of campers, and all Fair goers and Fair family who had a hard time making it to the next nearest potties, the ones near a Main Stage and the Library.(and some didn't make it.) Wondering why the sixpacs could be already unusable after one day of light Fair attendance?

Thanks for opening some of the potties early in the week.

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The toilets were a lot better this year but were all terrible on Monday. There were a lot of people on site breaking down and packing up and toilets were not cleaned and then were faced door to door to make them unavailable. In entertainment camp it was absolutely ridiculous, and it made a lot of people understandably angry. There was nowhere to go to the bathroom! It was terrible. Toilets should be cleaned and available through Monday.

There were several problems with sanitation, and the vendor did not seem able to meet timelines for servicing toilets and hand wash stations, leading to overflowing toilets. Also, several of our internal six-packs were overflowing and needed to be closed early Saturday morning during the event. This was unacceptable, and it may be time to consider how we handle our toilets. Vault toilets, especially in Politics Park, are antiquated and disgusting. The risk of large communal vault toilets to public health is high, and we can do better.

RE HoneyBuckets. While they were generally kept clean and in good order, there was absolutely no provision (inside the potties or trash outside) for feminine hygiene products. I noticed this continued to be an issue at the Teddy Bear Picnic. Also, a HoneyBucket tanker was again (it was last year as well) inside Xavanadu during public hours early afternoon, parked in front of various food booths. While I understand this was to dispose of gray water, it should never be done during public hours. Most people assume big potty trucks like that are pumping poop, and it's a big turnoff as you're ordering food. I have pictures of both times. They need to either do it after the public leaves or have a back-way access to the booths.

Once again, we have a really serious situation with handwashing and sanitation at Middle Park Road in South Woods/South Piggy. Last year, we managed to skirt dealing with this issue due to flooding, so there were no Honeybuckets there, and then of course there was the pandemic before that. Now it's as if the feedback that I and many others in South Woods submitted prior to that (2017-2019) was ignored, deprioritized, or forgotten. We feel like all of us former Craft Lot family are like the red-headed step kids of fair, and our folks work really hard (not that I wish to offend any ginger step kids, but you get my point). This year, HoneyBuckets were delivered to Middle Park, but with no sink. No sink means that every single person who poops, including little kids, is forced to wash their hands with the drinking water barrels, or (more sane) use hand-sanitizer and then dash back to camp for wipes. So, Thursday night, after my late night shift, I took it upon myself to walk over to Fair Central and report that there was no sink. They heard me, and said they'd get on it. There was still no sink Friday, and when I went to take a shower at Piggy, I met a Honeybucket guy, and while he was jumping in front of me to go in the shower, I asked him to tell his boss that we still had no sink at Middle Park. He said he'd get on it. So, eventually, many hours later, we had ONE of those smaller 2-sided sinks. It lasted a day... until it got knocked over in an unfortunate incident involving a 10-year-old out for trouble on a rampage (my crew leader's description, not mine). And it was never refilled after that. Ok, yeah, it's kinda so ridiculous it's funny, right? After all that effort on my part, a kid knocked over the puny sink we were given for potties that serve hundreds of people daily. But it's not all that funny, because years later, we still have this sanitation issue, without even hand sanitizer on the posts by the drinking water. This is how fair families get sick. What do we want in South Woods, that we've been wanting for years, that Site Crew and Water Crew said they'd look into? A gravity-fed sink, refilled by our crews, at least once daily with potable water for handwashing & hygiene, with soap. Or, at the very least, 2 LARGE foot pump sinks that are

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refilled by Honeybucket. I do know that their contract was extra expensive this year, so the very least they could do is provide proper handwashing stations that are tended in a timely manner!! As you can imagine, as Fair family for 23 years and a mom of a grown kid, I feel totally exasperated as I watch a pack of little kiddos with dirty hands not able to get clean and then running off to play! This is utterly inexcusable, and frankly, a massive oversight on behalf of the organization as far as keeping our Fair family safe and healthy. Please, someone get back to me and let me know that this feedback was seen, discussed, and had made its way to Site/Water so that a plan can be implemented for the future. Thanks very much.

Honey bucket emptied and turned all the buckets around, so they weren't usable at around noon (*Monday*). That's 7 hours before people are expected to be off property and the entire back lot was still full of people packing up. In my opinion this should not have happened until it was time for people to be off property.

My mobility has been declining with age, LOL, ya think! As a result, I have been using my mobility scooter all weekend. 4A at the dragon's head is a huge blessing. I leave my scooter parked on the charger at night & use my tricycle to get back & forth to my camp in SCOF Lot to the dragon. Wonderful solution. My fervent plea is for an ADA porta potty inside the 4A at the dragon's head. There was one in past, but this year not. It was a sad urgent situation on my first trek to 4A, unloading, getting all situated & no bathroom. YIKES. You could ask me how it went & the answer **DEPENDS** on the time to get to an accessible bathroom. Too Long. I honor & respect all of our hard work to give the world these lifelong memories & I thank us all!! I am hoping to get a reply or group response.

Management needs to figure out the porta potty situation so that pre-Fair crews can wash their hands at camp and across site. The fact that handwashing and portas were closed until July 1st was an abhorrent health hazard and felt really disrespectful to those of us who showed up early to volunteer.

Sanitation was **THE BEST** I have ever seen it! Every porta-potty was entered with confidence instead of trepidation. There was always handwashing soap and water available. Truly impressive! I hope that this level of cleanliness continues.

I so appreciated the additional porta potties in many places, especially up at Entertainment Camp/Chickadee.

Security

We (*Ambiance Entertainment Production crew*) were barred from using the foot path that joins Energy Park and Chickadee during Fair hours (entering from Energy Park). We were delayed in supporting our wandering performers for whom the paths are their stage. I should not have to argue or convince my way through normal access points in order to do my job. Additionally, for staff/volunteers these "shortcuts" are sometimes the only thing that allows them to enjoy Fair for the brief time they're off shift. If they are required to wade their way through the 8 during public hours they have more commute time to consider and may not get to see Fair at all, even though they're helping to make it run.

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There were some minor miscommunications on who needed to be posted where (*1am-7am Alice's Rove Internal Security*) but it was still a lot of fun.

You should probably actually check bags. Literally, just a glance into my bag and that was it. I could have brought in any drugs, alcohol, anything, and I saw people with beers walking around as well as people smoking weed in every single smoking section.

A Security staff person posted at the Bridge Too Far had a 20,000-lumen flashlight that he claimed was necessary for him to do his job. He was careless with the beam, allowing it to point at eye level, causing flash blindness and eye pain to passersby. He also pointed the beam into the trees to spotlight an owl that he said was up there. It is illegal to harass wildlife in Oregon without a permit (ORS 498.006). Harassment of wildlife is defined as acts that frighten or chase but do not kill wildlife (OAR 635-043-0051). When offered feedback, he was dismissive and mocking. Nobody needs a 20,000-lumen flashlight to do their job at Fair. I hope that Security crew coordinators will educate their volunteers on the appropriate level of illumination needed as well as basic flashlight etiquette.

Seventh Generation

How can single use plastics be discouraged? Saw too many water bottles, etc., Pre-Fair and during Fair.

Showers

The new Flowing Notes shower near Chickadee & Areo are very nice with the wood floors. One person in our camp who uses a cane was disappointed that the ramp from prior years had been removed and then was upset to be told by multiple shower crew that it was not necessary and took up space. She felt like people with disabilities were considered not necessary. She was happy there's an alter-abled shower at the Hub, but 2 stalls in one location for 15K people over many acres isn't enough, especially with our growing number of elders. We were disappointed that hospitality showers didn't open until Thursday 5pm near us, and I think Saturday on the Far Side. Everyone in our camp was extremely hot and sticky for 2 days with no showers as the Ritz line was very long and not do-able for some since the line is in the middle of the smoking area(s) and it's a long time to stand. I heard inside it was incredibly crowded too. It just doesn't scale to our nighttime population.

I went to the showers with someone using a cane to walk. Remarked that the ramp was gone. The crew person said, "We decided we didn't need that." Seems at odds with being accessible, especially since we added a pre-post 4A crew this year. Saying that to someone who obviously needed it was kind of disrespectful and ableist. Would have preferred something along the lines of "Sorry that we couldn't get it done in time, can we get you a ride over to some shower that's accessible?"

Miss Piggy showers - less showers this year and not as efficient since people got undressed/dressed in the individual showers. Miss the hand washing stations that were there last year.

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The upgrade to the FarSide showers seriously made my weekend. Stellar choice.

More staff showers: I would love for White Bird to have their own bank of showers; it's challenging to access showers without excessive cost and your healthcare providers should be clean and able to get rid of any yuck they get on them during a shift.

Suggestion regarding the showers - I used the ones on Smile. Would be helpful to have shut-off valves for each stall so that a broken valve doesn't take half of the stalls off-line.

I also want to share how hard the Shower Crew pre-fair build crew works. This year Shower Crew took on capital projects at several locations and worked up until the last minute making sure things were working as best as they can. There are always unexpected challenges that require problem solving and the work doesn't stop until the jobs are complete.

Signs & Banners

We love Fair, have gone many years. First comment is when you first get to those parking lots, with all the wonderful smiles guiding you to park and no way could we find those gates and 3 of us in our 70's out there stumbling around trying to figure how to get to the entrance. Got lost over by the rv and tents place and went in the wrong way. So, some signage of where the main entrance is would be great.

If possible, better signage on the recycling so folks know that all cups are compostable. I saw so many cups in the plastic recycling that the crew then have to dig out. Thank you! It was an amazing fair!!

We got lost trying to leave Fair in our car. People kept waiving us back to the entrance where we couldn't exit. Some "Exit this way" signs in the parking lot would have been very helpful.

Please put a sign *above* Will Call, not where people stand in front of to get their tickets. None of us knew where to go and we accidentally stood in a giant line for the bathroom for 15 minutes before being informed where Will Call was.

Politics Park toilets have always been a laugh. This year an "outhouse boogie" was danced as I left the toilet, picked up by the next in line who was entering. However, I think it's time to paint some new politicians' names on them. We're missing Marjorie Taylor Green, for instance, and LOTS more, and sadly many young people don't know who some of those old names were (I had to instruct one on the viciousness of the ballot measure that reduced education funds years ago, for example). Not that history is unimportant, but I think laughter is more important in this case. The sign painters may need some inspiration.

It might be nice to have some signs along the road to help people know which way to go to exit on Monday; it was very slow and confusing.

Site

Negative - Waiting for 2 hours in the direct sun on Wednesday morning in order to register. I was very unhappy to see how brown Dragon Plaza was leading up to the event with no effort being made to water it or green it up. The sprinkler even sat in the plaza for long periods of time being unused. In 30 years, I cannot remember it looking so shabby. Xavanadu also went unwatered, but the Plaza is our front door. It made me sad.

The whole Fair needed watering - the Eight, the roads, all of it suffered. Peachey sat parked.

I love the flowers at Main Stage. But this was the second year in a row that they were so tall that they blocked the view of the performers from the audience. Would be nice if things could be rejiggered so that we had both the flowers and the view.

The roots on the path to the South Woods camping need to be covered; they are so exposed they are dangerous and can barely get a cart over them.

Also, please reinstate shade tents on Main Stage field. We were lucky the temp dropped from 99 to the low 80s by Fair time, but it was originally projected to be a scorcher. This is a health and safety concern.

Sound/Noise (Amplified vs Acoustic vs Recorded)

Amplified Sound. Boom Boxes going by and in camps and on the path continue to kill the acoustic Fair magic and be unpleasantly loud. The owners have no interest in turning it down and I got a lot of push back for asking very politely. The OCF Guidelines aren't being followed. We need a designated area for amplified sound and super bright lighting for those craving a rave or Burning Man style event and some areas that are designated as acoustic / soft light and protected as such.

The biggest downer to me was the ubiquitous noise from vehicles and the complete and utter lack of enforcement of Guideline #50. Sound Amplification. It was not possible to get away from amplified recorded music. There was usually music blasting out of the Recycling Crew trucks at all hours, even when other crew people were trying to sleep. Many, many camps had recorded music playing. There was recorded amplified music at many gates, in booths, other vehicles driving around, in the meadows, in people's packs walking through the eight, and even in front of stages where other people were performing. This has completely changed the character of Fair experience. Many fewer folks out playing instruments. I spent some time in Entertainment Camp but could barely hear people singing over the noise from outside. And that singing, and the community that it builds, is a major component of the heart of Fair to me. Could be that I'm just not seeing it, but that community building just doesn't seem present in the amplified music with more lights than my neighbors put up during the holidays. We claim to do things with intention at Fair, and it was with intention that we wrote Guideline #50. If we're intentionally ignoring it we should say so. Maybe in keeping with the Rainbow Connection we should have an affinity space for acoustic music as a place to get away from amplified culture.

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One of the saddest things to me was talking to a person in a nearby camp who said that he brought his guitar hoping to find people to play with but couldn't because nobody was playing due to the amplified music.

I keep hearing that we need amplified recorded music because "that's what the young people want." I'm guessing that this is anecdotal and not a balanced sample of our population. It's not what the young people in my camp want.

My earlier comments may have made it seem as if I'm opposed to amplified and/or recorded music. Absolutely not the case. I love them. But, that's not what I come to Fair for. I'm concerned that if Fair continues to change to produce something that one can find, often better, at other festivals, and loses what makes us unique, that we'll lose our paying customers and fail.

Hi! I feel that the Hoarse Chorale stage is much too loud, and the sound mixing is off - bass and drums so loud in the mix that it is hard to hear other instruments clearly. It is often so loud that it makes me nauseated and anxious. Many folks who camp in the areas around Hoarse Chorale (including vendors over in Xavanadu!) have told me that the shift to very loud music at Hoarse Chorale has negatively affected their camping experience and made them question continuing to come to Fair. I have slept elsewhere for the last 4 Fairs because it is literally impossible to sleep and feels harmful to be near music that loud. For many of the acts at Hoarse Chorale, the volume could probably be reduced 20-30% and it would still be loud, and it would sound better! Sorry to sound like an old grump, but I miss the days when there was enough quiet at Fair that it was easier to make hand-made impromptu music here and there. Now the only time acoustic music can be made anywhere near Hoarse Chorale is early in the morning. Also, here it is Tuesday, and my ears are still ringing loudly. And think of the poor wild creatures who call Fair home! Fair is my favorite place in the world, but this is a humble plea for you to consider that it may have become too loud. Can we please dial it down a bit? Thank you.

Everything was too loud, sad to say, and for my spouse with hearing aids unbearable. Really a lack of respect to play at hearing destroying levels... that you have to cover your ears to protect. The dragon was the worst with the drums! Even the parade was louder this year. Really do we have to destroy what hearing we have left?

We noticed more technology. We completely understand needing power to plug things in, etc.. However, there were vendors (don't remember the numbers) who were playing Bluetooth pop music loudly in their booth. It took away from the 'live' music that was happening nearby. It would be nice to not have this at Fair.

Amplified music after hours has gotten totally out of control. You almost can't walk ten feet without someone's speaker blasting their own personal dance party, drowning out live music by real musicians. On Thursday night, the Love Lounge which I had enjoyed during the day, turned into a giant rave with music blasting across the river into my booth on the Left Bank. It was like they were right next door to me. As I walked up Strawberry Lane the sound did not diminish until almost the drum tower.. Where I came upon a group of black folks playing marimba & drums and singing traditional African songs. Remember when the drum tower was the big source of noise at night? Or how about all the pre-fair parties where we are subjected to hate speech songs which do not reflect OCF supposed values. I do not know what the

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answer to all this is. Maybe volume control? Whatever happened to no amplified sound after 2am? Seems it has morphed into me, me, me; not us, us, us, with no respect for your neighbor. Fair is about more than the after-hours party.

Our booth and camping are virtually across from Maple Commons where the piano is. While I personally love the piano, this year I felt it's negative impact for the first time. My feedback is that the piano was delivered too early. It was on site Monday of Fair week and made maneuvering vehicles extra difficult.

I also feel it should not be playable on Wednesday night. Even if it is there, perhaps the top could be closed with a sign that indicated people would be welcome to play it on Thursday. People were playing it loudly and sometimes discordantly during the wee hours on Wednesday and on Thursday nights/mornings. These nights before the party nights are ones I count on to have some decent sleep to be ready for what is to come.

Perhaps piano quiet hours are in order? A number of families camp in the vicinity. Kids don't wear earplugs. It happened soooooo many times that after some time of silence someone would decide to bang it out on the piano at 3:00 am. The piano woke me up before the birds and service crews! How about piano quiet time from 1:00 am - 6:00 am? At least on Thursday and Friday and Sunday????

We camp across from the Maple Commons piano and love it! But would request that on Thursday night the quiet hours start at midnight or 1pm. This year someone was hosting a very loud singalong until 3am and even with earplugs jammed in it was impossible to sleep through the screaming of the crowd around the piano. The same goes off 3am could be kept for Friday and Saturday evenings, but that night before the first public day is often a particularly crucial one for folks to be able to rest and finish both set up. Most of the time, though, the piano is wonderful with the atmosphere it creates and the people it draws to that area. Thank you for maintaining it so well!

I had an amazing time! As usual. I've been to Fair since I was 4, I am 48. Missing only 2 years (1 year I gave birth to my daughter, the other Covid) Some of the most magical moments are the impromptu music along the pathways and in front of booths with the most amazing musicians. I feel like the increased presence of electronic, non-live music, deterred from these magical moments. I would love to go back to no electronic music. It has a place (so many!!) But I don't feel like OCF needs this.

There was a lot of loud amplified prerecorded music i.e., boom boxes on the path, what happened to our jug bands and other ACOUSTIC artists on the path?

Some years the early cleanup crew disturbs the whole fair with extremely loud music. It is traditional for those crews to play music, and, at the right decibel level, it mitigates the souls of banging cans a crew voices. This year it was ear damaging overkill that woke up my camp! I asked the woman driving the red truck to turn it down and she refused. A young doing the cleanup work yelled "it's tradition."

I am a 52-year veteran and I have heard varying levels of noise accompanying those crews early in the morning, and this was by far the worst it's ever been! I'm just a couple degrees of separation from the guy who started the "tradition" of being excessively noisy in the morning. He was not a morning person, but passionate about recycling and his screaming rant always

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seemed resentful of the fact he had to work early in the morning while others slept. It was a happy fair in the neighborhood when he retired! Both early mornings and after 1:00 there needs to be a standard of practice for how loud amplified sound can be! Waking thousands of people unnecessarily is mean spirited and it's time it stopped.

LOVE YOU RECYCLING, BUT NOT YOUR EARSPLITTING MUSIC AT 6AM. Can't you dial it down or wear earphones? PLEASE.

Traffic

Traffic is great to work with. We (Lot Crew) coordinate very well with them!

Traffic crew deserves a huge round of applause for keeping things moving this year. This was the smoothest load in/out I can recall in 20 years. Strong work.

We need flaggers on the corner of Suttle and Territorial, and one at the FarSide gate that have a way to communicate via radio or whatever to each other!! The exit from FarSide is VERY dangerous if hauling any kind of trailer and the traffic timing is horrible. If they stagger the exits from shuttle and then to FarSide rather than having FarSide wait until traffic clears on Territorial it would work better. Relying on a flagger to guide you out blindly is an accident waiting to happen; we were almost rear ended coming out of FarSide.

Traffic/parking needs extreme updates. Then there's traffic, where to even start? How about the effect of the public and the residents on Suttle Road? Thursday, Friday and Monday there was such a backup, traffic didn't move for hours. I would be irate if I was a resident not to mention how unsafe and probably illegal it is. You're a multimillion-dollar operation, use some of that \$ to make things run a little smoother. I'm fairly experienced and still had extreme problems and waits. I can't imagine the panic and anxiety of someone new to our amazing event.

Traffic on Monday: can we do it different? Everyone being able to drive in to the 8 is crazy. Maybe the full load teddy is a slip for in and out? In addition, parking in the vineyard with poor transportation back and forth was really challenging. I don't think I'll be purchasing a Fair parking pass again and will use Otherside instead. It was so easy and quick. With that said, I know we can do better...

Although Fair is always great, some staff (specifically Traffic) were extremely unkind and unwelcoming. The stress and lack of organization within Traffic and the treatment of people was disheartening and made for a stressful time.

I had to park at the Winery as I arrived late Thursday afternoon. It took more than 30 minutes to drive the short distance as there is only one lane. Traffic had to wait as the shuttle made the return trip. Once parked, I waited more than a half hour for the next shuttle which quickly filled leaving another long line of people waiting for the next shuttle. I wonder if it would be possible to enter via Vineyard Rd instead so that we have one way to enter, and one lane dedicated to exiting. In essence, the reverse of the shuttle service on Monday. Granted, re-entering Fair

on Monday also took a while. I haven't considered all the possible effects on traffic flow inside our property nor on Suttle Rd, but I hope management considers this option.

Trees

We were sad, in Little Village, the Community Village childcare booth, that we have a very rotten tree with a huge, hazardous branch behind our booth. We were not successful in getting any response from Tree Crew before the 2022 Fair, despite multiple entries in the Tree Book, so the more cautious among us camped elsewhere, or skipped that Fair. We did have a visit Thursday night of Fair week from some folks who said it would be dealt with over the winter, and maybe we shouldn't use the Quiet Room, that part of our booth where it was most likely to fall.

This spring we started leaving messages in the Tree Book again as soon as it appeared. We emailed Sierra. She said we should leave a message in the Tree Book, and that it didn't get done last year because it rained right up until Fair, and there hadn't been a Fair for so long, and the staff was understaffed, but this year we mustn't worry. We left messages with maps, and phone numbers. We flagged the tree and left signs in the booth. Cautious crew members moved their camps. Eventually we realized that trying to take it out after we'd set up the fencing and parachutes and India prints in the Quiet Room would be kind of disastrous, and sure enough Wednesday of Fair week we found a note on a piece of wood on a table under the tree saying it was too late to do it this year.

I haven't been out since Fair, and probably won't be til the Picnic--maybe it's already done?

After 50 years of Fair attendance, 46 years of volunteering, I couldn't camp at my campsite because of a fallen tree. It fell across my campsite before the 2022 fair. We signed up on various forms with VegManECS, Quartermaster etc. and were told they would get to it! Well, the week before the 2023 fair they told us, "No they weren't going to remove it...deal with it!" Really?? After 2 years of assuring us they would fix it! (20-30 people used to camp there, now there's only room for 3-4 tents instead of 8-10) So I must move...if I can find a site or do the hour each way commute.

VegManECS

We need to find our way back to no brush cutting. VegManECS, Site Crew and Camping all need to find alignment around what "no brush cutting" means and to whom and how it applies. The level of weed whacking activity we are experiencing is surely killing baby trees at a time we need to be more mindful.

As a VegManEC, I speak for all plants, the trees, the bushes, the wildflowers, from the tree canopy to the lush green wetland forest understory. I speak for health of our wetland forest and the soil that provides the nutrients. I speak for preservation and the health of our ecosystem. We are destroying our green areas. We are not preserving our green spaces. We are destroying wildlife habitat and food sources for wildlife all at an exponential rate. We are doing the most outrageous scraping away of plants and duff in the eight, in booths, leaving the soil dusty and bare, with no protection from the floods that come every year, not just in vending spaces, but also in camping behind the booths. I have seen every plant in one booth, snowberries, tiger lilies, wildflowers, trilliums, and other native plants weed whacked away, and

raked until the roots were gone. This is happening both in the vending area and the entire camping space behind. Even baby trees (oaks and maples) are being destroyed; these are the future canopy of our forest as the ash dye. Some vine maples are being cut by unknowledgeable or pure carelessness. Many instances of this unsustainable destruction are obvious to see, if you saw what was there before, it is disheartening to see how we are treating the land for a few days of vending and camping. What happened to no plant cutting except for VegManEC, Site or Tree crew as stated in the guidelines. They can lay burlap bags or carpets and many plants will stay alive. Where are the consequences. I personally would not allow rakes anymore. And now for campsite outside of the public area. Those are also being machined with weedwhackers indiscriminately. Baby trees we planted and have been caring for 10 years, or more, are being weed whacked by camping crew. Please make them stop. Campsites do need to be clear-cut of all vegetation; none really needs to be cut at all. I would take all weedwhackers and rakes away from camping crew as they are really destroying the understory one campsite at a time. Leaving no protected green zones. This is not sustainable. It is not needed; people can camp in harmony with plants. Camping crew is killing not only the understory but also the future canopy. They don't even identify what they are cutting, where are the consequences, where are the limits, there is no need for this destruction, and it needs to be stopped. They were asked to stop by many but refused and kept destroying our forest. Take away the camping weedwhackers!!!! ALSO PROTECT THE GREEN ZONES, STOP CUTTING INTO THEM. Maybe we need to have severe consequences. When a VegManEC says to stop cutting, stop raking, stop weed whacking, stop destroying, where is the backup??? How can we stop people who feel entitled to kill baby trees we planted over 10 years ago. We will need to plant more as soon as the all die, how will those new babies make it to the canopy if we allow anyone the right to murder the baby trees????

Vibes

While I understand the interest in appealing to younger people, it felt like a whole different festival this year, with so much less of its quirky country charm. All of the crafts were outrageously high end, nothing reasonably affordable to be found, and the vibe was way more Coachella/Burning Man (which are fine events, in themselves) and really felt less grounded and charming.

My husband and I noticed that it felt like the overall feel was moving 'away' from the OCF and more toward modern music/edm/etc.. I don't think this has much to do with Fair, but toward the younger populations who are coming. Being a high school teacher in a rough district, I can tell you that though there are gems, the younger generations (in the past decade) are coming into their 20's with less kindness unfortunately. :/ They will learn...but it will take time.

I haven't been since before Covid until this year. I really missed the welcome from the people in the parking lot. The spirit was lacking. It felt understaffed and I had to find my own way. Somehow, we need to get the 70s hippies spirit infused into the new young folk. Love and peace and assistance. It seemed Fair was missing some magic from the past. I noticed the old people were dancing, and the young people were not. I'm missing the openness and friendliness.

2023 OCF Feedback Report

The Main Camp weekend of the construction party was a perfect storm of a number of volunteers making personal attacks on members of staff, rather than using existing communication lines to give operational feedback. I saw a volunteer yelling across Main Camp directing another volunteer to refuse to take a task a staff member asked them to take. There were stickers on toilets making personal attacks on staff people; and then those attacks continued online. The efforts to humiliate and demean staff people--coming from volunteers, some of whom have, and have had, leadership roles, was shameful and immature. I was disappointed in the people perpetrating the disrespectful acts, and saddened for our community that more volunteer leaders did not step up to work to reset the tone and help address the underlying issues.

Video

So grateful for live feed. I am 76, haven't missed a Faire other than Covid years and 2017, when my husband died, and I couldn't go this year due to plumbing emergency. Just discovered live feed and I am thrilled to be able to hear music and feel some of Faire magic. Thank you so much.

I'm glad the Video Crew was supported in livestreaming and sharing the event so not everyone has to come in person to enjoy it.

Hi Oregon Country Fair! My name is Jacque! Someone showed me pictures of the flamingo exhibit you put on this year, which I absolutely loved. I am wondering if you will have flamingos again next year at Fair. I would love to come see them, however it is extremely challenging for me to travel down to Eugene and go to the Oregon Country Fair because of my disability and my wheelchair cannot go through the fields, so unfortunately, I cannot attend (Unless you have a disability friendly way to attend?). So, I was wondering if you could have somebody make a video of the flamingos and other exhibits, to put on YouTube/TV for people like me to watch the Oregon Country fair? Thank you so much!

Volunteer

Volunteers are not appreciated for their professional and institutional knowledge. This includes committees as underappreciated and underutilized. Maybe OCF is no longer volunteer driven?

One thing that worries me is that we lack institutional knowledge, and through the discord of the last few years, we have not remembered or captured the processes that make things work well. Those that had been doing this a long time left or were removed, and along with them went important information. It will take time and perhaps making amends with some folks to get it back.

Please do something for volunteer appreciation on July 4th that actually feels like a party. PFK doing 2 meals is the bare minimum, people need a real party to be able to keep putting in 12-hour days during crunch week. In years past we've had live music, fireworks, karaoke. It feels like the volunteer appreciation has slipped away more and more each year. It would be nice to have something come back.

2023 OCF Feedback Report

Negative: pre-fair meetings in which we all had to drive out to site to either:

- Give feedback on an item that had clearly already been decided (it felt like a fake effort to make us feel included).
- Be disregarded because one person had specific ideas and would not let it go so the decision maker went with an inadequate plan to pacify the person, making everyone else just have to figure it out.
- Attend the meeting but nobody showed up and there was no notice of cancellation.

It continues to amaze me how hard volunteers work, and work together, to make the event happen. This brings me joy and no small degree of hope. As an organization we need to nurture volunteers.

Wanna Join Fair

I am interested in helping moms and babies at Fair. Is there a volunteer application process?

Hello, I would like to inquire how I could go about presenting and sharing an idea that I have. This is also feedback. I have been working as a DSP/PSW for 6 years and as a person that not only supports people with disabilities I am also a person that experiences disabilities myself. This was only my second year at Fair. I would love to present the idea of having a sensory zone for kids and adults at OCF. I remember that The Arc Lane County had something like this last year at OCF but did not see them this year. I would love to offer this service to Fair family and hope I can get the people that make those final decisions on board with my idea. I would love to share some more details, perhaps via a phone call or in person meeting if that was a possibility. I have gotten a lot of feedback from people on social media that they would have loved to have a designated "quiet" space where children as well as adults with sensory overload could unwind and take a break from the busy fair so they will not get overstimulated. I, myself, experienced over stimulation easy and I got extremely overwhelmed. If The Arc Lane County would have been there again with their sensory booth, I would have 100% taken a break in that area. Would you please consider giving me the chance to present my idea? I already have a team behind me that would help me facilitate the Sensory Booth if that is something OCF would be interested in. I look forward to hearing back and thank you for taking the time to read my feedback.

My first fair and it was absolutely magical. Would love to volunteer but I would be happy to experience it the same next year.

Water

Please have some hose access and someone authorized to spray water on Abbey Rd. The dust was terrible this year. We go thru two barrels of water/day and need to sprinkle from the outhouse to the piano lounge to try to protect product from the dust. It's a challenging and labor-intensive job that could so easily be solved with access to a spigot.

To arrive on Monday and have the water available for refilling my water bottle - priceless. I do not recall in my 14 fairs, being able to drink fair water this early. Thank you so much!

2023 OCF Feedback Report

The water spigots are not easy to find.

I think I experienced more misting stations and feel they are a lovely aspect. Would love to see even more of those!

If my water barrel had been filled Tuesday and Wednesday I would have mitigated the dust.

My booth has a water barrel since we water our stretch of the path; water crew made sure we had the water we needed.

Website

Just looked at the .org page, there we have 'a glimpse of fair'. How incredibly disheartening that there is not one photo of an artisan or food booth included.

The Artisan Directory is not visible on the .org site and the interactive map is a tool that is not available during the event due to internet issues. Both could be strengthened.

The .net site is the most user-unfriendly website I've experienced. I expect if I do a search for Board minutes, Fair Family News, etc.. to be directed to a page headed by the topic and then a link to specific years and then specific months/issues. This does not happen, rather, I may be provided five different options, each from a different year or month. I realize I can click on General Info and with further scrolling find the links I need. IMO, it's not intuitive and possibly true for others. Additionally, the calendar for upcoming events appears to list the current month's events and meetings. There is a link to "view all events" that directs one to monthly calendars with a mark noting which days have something scheduled requiring the user to click on each one. Not User-friendly. It would be helpful to list the date for all annual events such as the Teddy Bear Picnic, elections deadlines, candidate forum, Annual Meeting, etc. so that one could scroll and see them all. Perhaps there could be another link to the regularly scheduled committees' meetings with updates made as needed.

White Bird

Thank you especially to White Bird's Little Wing for fast responses to medical issues and working with external security on it.

Who Are We/What are our Values?

This was my first-year volunteering. I think everything went very well. Aside from toilet paper running out at the Hoarse Chorale stage bathroom on Saturday (I have kids). I am really grateful to all the staff and volunteers who put this together each year. I visited as a guest for a few hours at a time in the past. It has been inspiring and profound to watch this event evolve to match the ever-growing community's interests. My only suggestion would be to have Fair's moto or values displayed or framed in every booth. Not that anyone needs a reminder, but I enjoy the mission in action, and I think it helps to remind everyone what brought you together and what is keeping you together. But, in all honesty, I think everything is perfect just the way it was, and I appreciated this year's layout.

2023 OCF Feedback Report

Post pandemic is rough. Seems a whole generation is missing. This generation, under 30 crowd, is massive compared to the over 60 crowd. Lots of original Fairies are no longer with us or can't manage the work involved in Fair duties. Getting older myself I see Fair lacking in wheelchair accessibility and seating. The lopsidedness of age has increased ageism. Politics in the OCF have increased divisiveness.

While I observe the board and the diversity committee issues to be a terrible distraction to the main purpose of fair, my hope is that they can overcome these issues by encouraging more fair family to vote and have a stake in the thing. The same people keep getting reelected and so forth and the same things keep happening. Leadership is a hard thing for some good people to want to take responsibility for, but we really do need some fresh blood to normalize the unpleasant issues that seem to take over the board and committees. I myself rely on so many people to do my job well, that the infighting and all that is just ridiculously a waste of time and energy. I'm approaching retirement. I hope that my 20 years in service to the greater good of Fair, is not in vain and my contribution to the life of the organization made a good impact. I wish more people felt this way. I think the pandemic was not good for us as a whole. We lost something. We lost perspective that it takes a village. People would rather bad mouth each other and fight, write strangers inappropriate letters looking for support, threaten litigation and look to disarm and quiet the collective voice we've fought to have to this event each year.

All in all, it seems that the longstanding OCF BRAND as an enjoyable beautiful and magical event is becoming tarnished. I wouldn't recommend it to anyone the way it is now and that's SAD.

There is no other event like Fair. It's grown and evolved over the years while still maintaining the original spirit. Lately it feels like the evolution is no longer organic. It feels like it is being pushed into a festival that doesn't contain any soul. Why would you want to move to being one of a hundred similar festivals when you have something as special and unique as Fair. Crafters felt completely overlooked this year. The Peach Pit might be pushed into becoming something I can't be a part of.

A number of issues that I observed fall into the same category. We claim to be an intentional community and to do things thoughtfully and with intention, but such claims don't align with the reality that we've bumbled along and don't address issues until they've gotten way out of hand. The biggest of these is our years of somehow-better-than-the-outside-world uncontrolled growth. Much of what we do at Fair hasn't scaled well to our much-increased population.

I deeply appreciate all the organizational challenges that come with getting Fair back on track so I hope these issues can be addressed and remedied by our next Fair. I've been participating for many years and love our gathering of the tribes and Fair Family. Let's bring back the Magic! Peace and Peaches!"

Wi-Fi

The Wi-Fi struggled. Rarely worked on Strawberry Lane. Spoke with a dozen other crafters. All the same.

First year sharing a booth on Strawberry Lane, a lovely lane, but it has a few issues including No internet the entire fair. Mostly no service, can't check email, can't use any features from multiple providers; seemed so strange after all the hype about how it will be better.

People expect to use cards these days. I had to do all manual enter -- after Fair; loads of chances to get non-approved charges; not fun when it happens and yes it did but, I would rather take the chance than lose all the sales because of no signal.

We had absolutely NO Wi-Fi signal in our area of Fair this year. Wherever the tower was placed, it did not work. No one could use even their cell phone data to process payments. In the past we were able to process payments though it was slow. This year, nothing.

The internet was less functional for me than any other year.

Please fix the credit card issue for merchants! This year was somehow worse than last year.

Wristbands

The alphabetic groupings for volunteer wristbands at the sticker booth need to be re-categorized. Granted, it will require new signage and perhaps another line or two, and perhaps some more wristband crew. However, the lines are not even close to equal. Regardless of standing in line early when other pre-Fair crews are banded or Wednesday/Thursday, the line for A-L is longer than the next line. Surely, between Budget Committee that determines each crew's pass allocation and the folks in the yurt that collect our fees, a more-equal line distribution could easily be calculated. We've always done it this way is not practical.

Xavanadu

Maybe clip a bendy, not too bright/not too weak, battery-powered reading light to the sheet music stand on the piano at night for anyone bringing sheet music. That's the only improvement I can think of! Everything was incredible and amazing as always! The guy in charge of the piano during the day when I played the first time was so kind and encouraging, even when I totally choked and butchered the difficult song I tried to play out of nervousness. I stopped by at night later and played a few easier songs and felt 100x more relaxed and enjoyed it more the second time around, even though I occasionally needed to pause when my boyfriend and I kept accidentally turning off the silicone light-up bunny I brought to read my sheet music when I moved it around to see the notes better. It wasn't quite bright enough to light up the whole page and was really awkward to try to fit on the music stand.) Also, was absolutely thrilled with the circular multi-toned gong platform in Xavanadu, and really hoping that it's now a permanent part of Fair. (Glad none of the mallets seemed to disappear this year like they did in 2019.)

I got lost in the sound bath in Xavanadu. Both my granddaughter and I were mesmerized.

Kudos

Thanks PreFair Kitchen. Thanks BUMs

I'm super appreciative of the new paid staff and the general organization of Fair this year. I think so many people are doing such a good job, and it's all made my life as a coordinator so much better, less chaotic, less confusing, more equitable. Thank you to all of the leadership, paid and volunteers, who helped to preserve this beautiful organism despite the hurdles we face. I am so looking forward to this year as a year of rebirth. We got our collective sea-legs back last year. This year, we rise to a new height. I was terribly afraid we wouldn't make it. But now I believe we will. My sincere thanks.

I LOVED walking around fair with my baby before the public was let in and after they left before my shift started.

Big thanks to the recycling and cleanup crews, which I greatly respect.

What an excellent Fair! Not too crowded, friendly vibes. I was able to talk to more vendors and make connections and BUY ART AND FOOD! Noticed far more BIPOC and out Queer presence and that's beautiful. I especially loved the art installations in Xavanadu this year, the large interactive musical sculpture was sublime, it filled the meadow with an undercurrent of harmony all day long without being overbearing. Also loved the Crab! Crustae-ship! Xavanadu and Chela Mela are my fave places to be, lots of space and shady places and interactive stuff to do and excellent food. I didn't go to stages this year, but all my friends say the bands were excellent, with good quality sound and that the sound was better contained to its own area.

Nice job everyone.

Thanks on Sunday evening to the Big Boy, Dog Crew members and Charlie Silvermoon who helped manage and deescalate an hour-long (maybe longer) situation at my post under the security tower with a dog owner that could have turned ugly. I was one of the external security crew members that assisted the dog owner when he insisted on filling out several incident you! It was the best Fair I've ever attended!

Everything felt extremely smooth this year. We kept wondering what was going on. Why aren't there huge traffic jams and lines for moving? Why is everything so dang easy? Good work.

The Staff did an amazing job!

As always we had a lovely time at Fair. It is up to the individual to make it what it is. Appreciate EVERYONE who puts all their time and energy into putting on this fair!!!! LOVED many of the new performers this year. :)

Fair is beautiful, thank you!

Thanks to all who worked so hard to make this Fair so wonderful. Thanks to all the volunteers, performers, crafters and food booths for making this such a great fair.

2023 OCF Feedback Report

Absolutely love Fair. Thanks for everyone's hard work!

Excellent fair! I was very happy to see full booths this year and overall had a great time.

BEST FAIR EVER

All in all, Fair was a beautiful and awesome event, little drama and I had a great time with my friends and wife. Thank You All....

Thank you for a wonderful Fair. There are a few issues that could be improved for 2024.

Thank you for listening. Thank you to all the incredibly dedicated people who volunteer to make this event happen. It's rather amazing. And thank you to the paid staff for all that you do. It's a complex organization and with complex human beings. I appreciate you!

Overall, this Fair was another wonderful and magical experience. Thank you to the board and organizers/crew leads/volunteers for putting in so many hours to make it happen.

First, it was a great fair. This was my 37th. There was one exception...

What a wonderful Fair. Had yet another amazing time. That said, I also observed a number of areas in which we could improve. In general, I found the public-facing side of the event had fewer issues than the private side.

Thank you, everyone, for all you do - mostly unseen and un-thanked. Thank you!

Thank you for considering my feedback. There was a lot that was done so right, and I am always impressed with the work we all do together.

Thank you for yet another fabulous Fair. Also, a huge thank you for all the sanitizers that were scattered around Fair. I appreciate the opportunity to offer my thoughts.

I thought the 2022 Fair was amazing! The community came together to create an event that was safe, welcoming, and an opportunity for everyone to be inspired by speakers, music and creativity in all forms. I was happy to see The Oasis as an example of a positive step forward.

It was great to be back amongst my Tribe. Fair 2018 was my last real Fair. 2019 cut short by serious illness within Family: 2022 skipped because of illness/death within Family. Thoroughly enjoyed re-connecting. What a special 'Magical' place we have. Abundance of gratitude to our present Management (Kirsten and Staff), volunteers and everyone who participated.

I enjoyed Fair this year. It was refreshing to see the widespread diversity expressed in both families, fair attendees, entertainment and staff. I was happy with the response and level of involvement the Executive Director Kirsten had with the crews and staff troubleshooting and resolving issues that arose. I really appreciated the grievance mediation team who did their best to be supportive of those in need. I'm very grateful to all the crews and hard workers who prepared the site and took care of volunteers through Fair.

2023 OCF Feedback Report

I took a year off from FC this year, wanting to experience Fair more like a member of the public, since the last 3 years of such vicious and dishonest behavior of so many volunteers- mostly aligned with fired staff personnel - had poisoned my experience. To my absolute delight and surprise, it felt like the old Fair; the public was so happy, so excited, so costumed and beautiful, so engaged in every aspect, so participatory, it felt like I was in a time warp, and I really mean that! I thought Main Stage was brilliant to front every band with a woman, I thought the booth people and public were more engaged. I thought Spoken Word was more relevant. I loved the drag show and the conversations there, and seeing so many more happy young people who were working in all the areas of Fair was just awesome and heartwarming. Everyone greeted me as I came in, there was not an unkind word or snark anywhere in the public facing crews I engaged with. I heard all about the ugliness in the kitchen and elsewhere from a dear friend who i totally trust, and some of the blatant undermining of current Staff going on, but thankfully the public experience did not seem tainted by it. No idea why the SM quit in the middle of Fair, but obviously very nonprofessional conduct. Kirsten and her staff have clearly worked really hard to bring the magic back and focus on what matters and deserve credit for keeping their heads up and eyes on the prize, although I cannot imagine how difficult it must have been. They, with lots of help from many good-hearted Fair family/community members, created a much needed YES YES YES experience for me, and for thousands of other souls.

The vibe at Fair was perfect this year. Music was great, vaudeville was great, food was great, crafts -awesome vibe, great.

Hi folks. Overall, on the fun side, a lovely fair. I appreciated the presence of so much female talent this year, as well as the celebration of LGBTQ+, etc..

Mostly though, bravo! This was by far the best (of 44) Fairs I have ever had.

Always Best Faire Ever!

Anyone who does not believe in zombies has never been to "First Coffee Bell!!!"

Overall, a very well-run event. We love all the music at night. Daytime music is great too! All of the art installations were beautiful. The event managers and motor pool did a great job keeping us informed and well equipped. Mark, Alexis, Sharklet, and Xandra are great to work with and always willing to jump in and help out.

Traffic crew did a great job of keeping us moving through efficiently. Loved the fire show! Teddy Bear Picnic was great as well and is a good way to thank volunteers. Great job to management and leadership!

This was a wonderful Fair, perfect weather, joyful crowds & lots of smiles. (My job is smile production).

Thanks for providing a great, safe Fair for another year!

2023 OCF Feedback Report

Parking lot and traffic crews did phenomenal this year, felt very organized and safe.

First thank you for all you do; it's amazing.

This was my first year back since 2019. I've been part of Fair every year since 1988. I've been on Carts Crew for about 20 years. It was great to be back, and I had a good Fair overall.

As always, it's good to be welcomed home and to be back with my Fair family on sacred land.

My family, who were Fair day-trippers for the first time greatly appreciated the volunteers outside of the gate in the morning who were continually calling out the appropriate lines and places to go to enter. I love the fact that you have ways to help people get to the front of Fair who have difficulty walking. I also absolutely love the marching bands and the impromptu parades. That is my favorite part of Fair. I missed the interactive work that the trolls used to do and the people pushing Carts. I loved it when they yelled funny things at Fair-goers when they were coming through.

I camp at Zumwalt and help with the coordination of the emergency preparedness crew. I love Fair family, love the community spirit. Very hard to describe the sense of connection and wellbeing to someone who has not attended. OCF is a wonderful experience, one that I hope continues for many years to come.

All in all, a good start to hopefully another long run.

To the feedback co-ord, what a huge job you do; this helps us do better year after year.