



FAIR FAMILY NEWS

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR  ONE CREATIVE FAMILY

VOLUME 31 ISSUE 3

AUGUST 2023



WHAT'S INSIDE

- p. 2 Keep In Touch
- p. 3 Resolution Resources
- p. 4 Teddy Bear Blowout
- pp. 5-7 Election Ensemble
- p. 8 Safe and Sheltered
- p. 9 Conveyance Canvass
- pp. 10-11 Landscape Megacosm
- pp. 12-13 Creation Story
- pp. 14-15 The Last Announcement
- pp. 16-17 A Positive Mark
- p. 17 Fair Life
- pp. 18-19 Mainstay Champions
- pp. 20-35 Annotation



FAIR FAMILY CALENDAR

AUGUST

- 19 Annual Teddy Bears Picnic, 2 pm to 8 pm
- 20 Fair Evaluation, 11 am, Entertainment Fire Pit

SEPTEMBER

- 11 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm
- 13 Fair Family News Deadline

OCTOBER

- 2 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm
- 4 Fair Family News Deadline

NOVEMBER

- 6 Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm
- 8 Fair Family News Deadline

For additional events see:

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



Photo © 2019 Aaron Blake

WASH HANDS IN SOAP AND WATER!

KEEP IN TOUCH

Oregon Country Fair
442 Lawrence St.
Eugene, OR. 97401
(541) 343-4298

FFN@OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.ORG

INFO@OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.ORG

OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.ORG (EVENT INFO)

OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.NET (BUSINESS SITE)



*Happy
Birthday
Virgos!!*



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

Get on the FFN and/or Voting Membership List

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

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

Or Email to: info@oregoncountryfair.org



FFN HEAT INDEX

Michael "Blistering" Ottenhausen
Mary "Mighty Warm" Doyon
Suzi "Sizzling" Prozanski
Daniel "Red-Hot" Cohn
Brad "Roasting" Lerch
Niki "Hot" Harris
norma "steamy" sax
Kim "Baking" Griggs
Vanessa "Broiling" Roy
Alex "Toasty" Zabala



CeDaR: A Conflict Resolution Resource

by David Gubernick, CeDaR Team

Another great Fair has come and gone, yet CeDaR remains active throughout the year. CeDaR is one of the Oregon Country Fair's conflict resolution resources that has been providing mediation services for you on-site during pre-Fair for these past many years. And once the Fair begins, CeDaR has offered a safe and private environment for empathetic listening by our trained volunteers in our booth located in Dragon Plaza's far corner next to Photo ID.

CeDaR is our Fair Family name and a program for the Center for Dialogue and Resolution (CDR), a nonprofit organization that has been dedicated to the peaceful resolution of conflicts for residents of Lane County for more than four decades. CDR also provides year-round services to Fair Family members that are free and offers mediations for a very reasonable fee for non-Fair related issues such as divorce mediation, parent-teen issues, conflict coaching, restorative justice, and community and workplace mediation. An annual Basic Mediation training is also available for those who want to become mediators.

This recent 2023 Fair found our booth actively servicing the Fair Family from the onset of opening our booth doors during the pre-Fair period. In addition to CeDaR

assisting many Fair-goers this year with conflicts, CeDaR also redirected folks to other conflict resolution resources such as Campsite Mediation, NRTs, BUMs and/or White Bird, when applicable.

If you want more information about our Conflict/Resolution services and our Basic Mediation training, please contact the Center for Dialogue and Resolution at 541-344-5366 or look us up on the web @ <https://lanecd.org/>





Teddy Bears Picnic

We're looking for people to help clean up and to do random tasks as needed.

If you can spare an hour or so on August 19 to help make this picnic as fun and successful as they've always been, please get in touch.

office@oregoncountryfair.org or 541-343-4298

Please join us in making this the best picnic ever! (Hey, the Sugar Beets are playing - you don't want to miss it.)



Teddy Bears Picnic Featuring the Sugar Beets

August 19 — 2 pm to 8 pm

Come out and spend a gorgeous day at the Fair site on Saturday, August 19 from 2 pm to 8 pm for our Annual Teddy Bears Picnic. We will meet up at Main Stage for a great day of music, food and Fair Family fun. Camping is allowed on Saturday night only.

We are super excited to announce that the Sugar Beets will be on stage 4 pm to 7 pm! Get ready to dance because they always bring the crowd to their feet.

The Ritz will be open from 4 pm to midnight for those of you who would like to take a soak. No alcohol, glass or cameras are allowed.

We are cooking up chicken and veggie burgers this year! We will have all the fixings along with chips and side salads.

We are NOT having a potluck. There will not be tables set up for Fair Family to share food. We want to keep all of our Fair Family safe and healthy by limiting the number of shared dishes. You can bring your own side dishes and share with your friends if you like.

Please bring:

- Plates and Utensils
- Picnic Blankets
- Chairs
- Beverages in non-glass containers (bottled water will be provided)
- Sunscreen
- Good vibes and positive energy



The Sugar Beets will play at the Teddy Bears Picnic starting at 4 pm.

OCF Board Election 2023 Timeline

submitted by Stephen Diercouff, Membership Secretary

BOARD **ELECTION**

We will be electing four Board directors this year, all for three year terms.

The Election Committee will mail a ballot to all registered voters in early/mid-September. This will also serve as notice for the Annual Meeting. The voter pamphlet will be published on our member website at <https://oregoncountryfair.net/board-elections> when the ballots are mailed, to reduce printing and mailing

expenses and paper waste. Contact elections@oregoncountryfair.org if you need a paper copy of the voter pamphlet.

You may email elections@oregoncountryfair.org to check on your membership status (before September 15) or to update your address.

Aug 20 **Candidate Statements**

- August 20, 8 pm PDT — Deadline to submit candidate statements for publication in the voter pamphlet and voter info section in the Fair Family News. (Please see OCF Board Candidate Eligibility & Application Info on the Elections page on the .net site.)

Sep 21 **End of Voting Sign-up**

- September 21, 8 pm PDT — September 21, 8 pm PDT — Last day to sign up as a voting member to vote in the 2023 election. (See Voting Member Eligibility and Responsibilities on the Elections page on the .net site.)

TBA **Candidate Forum**

- September 30 — If you haven't received your ballot by this date, we may not have your correct address or you may not be on the voting member list. Contact elections@oregoncountryfair.org as soon as possible to check on your ballot.

Sep 30 **Verify**

- TBA: Get Out The Vote Candidates' Forum

Oct 14 **Annual Membership Meeting**

- October 14 , 6:30 pm — Annual Membership Meeting. The agenda will include the State of the Peach, the Treasurers' report, and Board candidate statements.

Oct 21 **Ballots due by 8 pm**

- October 21, 8 pm PDT — **BALLOTS ARE DUE** at the Fair Office, 442 Lawrence St., Eugene, OR, 97401. Ballots received after this time will not be counted.

Oct 22 **Ballots counted**

- October 22 — Ballots will be counted, with results posted upon completion

Submit candidate statements and member registration forms to: elections@oregoncountryfair.org (scan and email) or mail to the Fair Office, c/o Election 2023, 442 Lawrence St., Eugene OR 97401.

Voting Member Eligibility and Responsibilities

by Stephen Diercouff, Secretary

If you wish to vote in the OCF Board of Directors 2023 election, you must already be a registered member or meet the member eligibility requirements in Article V, Section 2 of our Bylaws (https://oregoncountryfair.net/wp-content/uploads/bsk-pdf-manager/2022/11/OCF_Bylaws_Amended-October.3.2022.pdf) and submit a membership form by September 21, 2023.

Your member responsibilities include keeping the Fair informed of your current contact information, and voting in person at the Annual Meeting or submitting your ballot to the OCF office by the deadline. You need to continue to meet the participation requirements and vote at least once every three years to remain on the voting list.

The Election Committee will mail a ballot to all registered voters in early/mid-September. This will also serve as notice of the 2023 Annual Membership Meeting. The voter pamphlet will be found at <https://oregoncountryfair.net/board-elections> when the ballots are mailed. To conserve printing and mailing costs, we are not sending printed copies of the voter pamphlet. If you are unable to access it online you may contact elections@oregoncountryfair.org via email or leave a message at the Fair Office (541) 343-4298 to arrange to pick up a printed copy or have it mailed to you.

Link to membership application:

[https://oregoncountryfair.net/elections/member-](https://oregoncountryfair.net/elections/member-ship-application.pdf)

[ship-application.pdf](https://oregoncountryfair.net/elections/member-ship-application.pdf)

You may submit member registration forms to elections@oregoncountryfair.org (scan and email) or by postal mail to the Fair Office, 442 Lawrence St., Eugene, OR, 97401.

You may email elections@oregoncountryfair.org to check your membership status (before September 15), update your address, or request a replacement ballot if you have not received yours by September 30.

Be sure to include your name and current contact info (mailing address for your ballot, phone number, and email address).

Each individual must request their own ballot. Please do not request ballots for family members, partners, or friends.

Ballots are not available at the Fair Office unless pickup arrangements are made with elections@oregoncountryfair.org.

Deadlines

September 21: Last day to sign up as a Voting Member (to vote in the 2023 election)

October 21: Ballots due by 8 pm PDT at the Fair Office, 442 Lawrence St., Eugene, OR, 97401.

Ballots received after this time will not be counted.





OCF Annual Meeting
Saturday, October 14, 2023 – 6:30pm

The Annual Meeting will be a hybrid meeting. It is being held at the Longhouse at LCC. You can also attend via Zoom and it will be available for viewing on YouTube livestream.

Zoom meeting link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81884987601?pwd=MFh0MjllSnBEQ1N0UWN5V2cxUm5lUT09>

Meeting ID: 818 8498 7601 Passcode: 382911

Please visit oregoncountryfair.net, for more information about connecting online or via phone.

AGENDA

Welcome/Agenda Review — AJ Jackson, President

State of the Peach — Kirsten Bolton, Executive Director

Treasurer's Report/Annual Financial Report — Hilary Anthony & Lynda Gingerich

EAB Work Group Report

Feedback Report — Jen-Lin Hodgden

Candidate Presentations — AJ Jackson, President

Format

- Each Candidate has 6 minutes to use as they please
- A Candidate can invite questions from the attendees
 - If audience has a question, raise your hand or Zoom hand
 - Facilitator will moderate hands
- Facilitator will provide a 30-second signal that the 6 minutes is nearly up

Order of Candidates (this is not the order they appear on the ballot. They are alphabetical by last name):

- Pending names
- Candidates from the Floor

Conclusion — AJ Jackson, President

FAIR PHILANTHROPY:

Thank You to the Jill Heiman Vision Fund

by Community Supported Shelters



The 2022 grant that Community Supported Shelters received from the Jill Heiman Vision Fund was used for some of our most challenging months during the winter. Our unhoused clients assist with chopping wood for the woodstoves in each of our Safe Spot Communities. Our wood splitter needed repair, and we were able to use some of this grant to fix this important piece of equipment.

One of CSS's biggest regular expenses is a "new

member tote." These totes cost approximately \$70 each. Every new client receives a new sleeping bag in these totes. The Jill Heiman Vision Fund grant allowed us to purchase more than 55 new, low-temp sleeping bags. Gift cards were also purchased to let clients pick out their cold-weather clothing (jackets, pants, thermals, etc.). Keeping our clients safe and sheltered from the elements is paramount to us. Thank you so much for your help in meeting these needs.



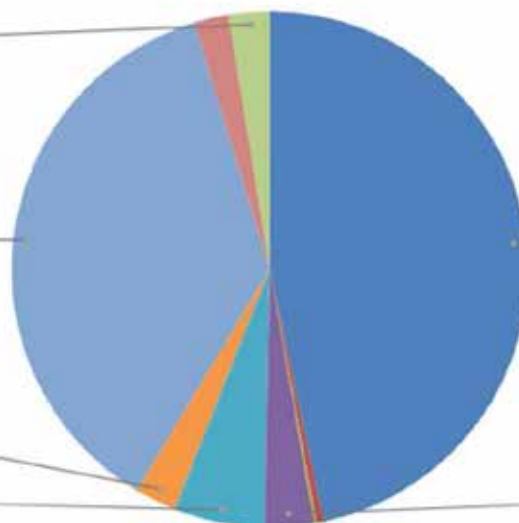
Community Supported Shelters is so grateful for the support of the Oregon Country Fair and its patrons.

Winter Supplies

Wool blankets
2.6%

Sleeping bags
36.7%

Handwarmers
2.6%
Gloves and hats
5.7%



Gift cards for clients
46.6%

Generator repair
3.0%

Positively Neutral: Take the Transportation Survey!

by your Carbon Neutral Working Group

You may have seen the article in the May 2023 edition of the Fair Family News “Positively Neutral: Do your part! Carpool with friends!” That article described the work of some OCF volunteers concerned about our contribution to climate change. This group partnered with Portland State University’s Institute for Sustainable Solutions and developed a Phase 1 report that was summarized in the October 2020 issue of the Fair Family News (FFN).

This year the working group convened several sessions in the StewardShip Booth in Xavanadu to explore ways OCF could lower its carbon footprint and launched a survey about travel choices used during 2023 Fair.

The OCF Survey crew also added transportation questions to their annual exit surveys. We will report on the results of both of these surveys in a future article of Positively Neutral.

To reach the Carbon Neutral Working Group, please email us at: carbonneutral@oregoncountryfair.org.

The Biggest Source of Emissions is Travel.

Initial estimates place the Oregon Country Fair’s carbon emissions at 4,500 tons, equal to the annual electricity use of 691 homes. The research also found that 97 percent of the carbon footprint calculated in 2019 is due to travel. The other 3 percent was primarily from the use of vehicles to service the event and the operation of the Fair’s year-round Eugene office.

Carpooling Can Significantly Lower Our Carbon Footprint

The survey found that travel by OCF volunteers and by the general public both significantly contribute to our overall emis-

sions. Here are some of the findings:

Travel by Crews and Booths

Nearly 55 percent of the Fair’s calculated emissions come from an estimated 60,000 trips made by both booth members and crews before, during, and after the Fair.

These trips tend to be concentrated to and from a few metropolitan areas such as Eugene, Portland, and Seattle, which provides a big opportunity for carpooling to reduce single-occupant vehicle trips.

Travel by the Public

Nearly 43 percent of the Fair’s calculated emissions come from the public traveling to and from the event on one or more of the three days of the Fair.

Of this travel, between 50 percent and 65 percent is from air travel and the remainder from driving.

Driving assumed two people per car per trip, which means that increasing carpooling to an average three or four people would reduce estimated public fairgoer driving emissions respectively by 25 percent or 50 percent.

Carpooling with two people—and especially three or four—is more carbon-efficient per mile

than air travel, suggesting that longer road trips with your friends may be a net positive on the Fair’s carbon emissions.

Please help us by taking the survey using the dinosaur QR Code or [CLICK HERE!](#)
Deadline to submit Sept. 15, 2023



Oregon Country Fair Site Natural History

by Dennis Todd, Land Use Management Planning Committee

Reaching the age of 50 is a landmark for humans and festivals. Many of us remember the early days of the Fair and like to reminisce about the changes that have occurred. But the OCF site had been through many changes before we arrived.

Twenty thousand years ago, during the Ice Age, the climate of the Willamette Valley was cool and dry. The OCF site was never covered by glacial ice, but ice sheets elsewhere in North America caused the jet stream to move south, shifting winter storms away from the Pacific Northwest. Easterly winds off the ice sheets chilled and further dried the Willamette Valley. The glaciers in the Cascade Range and the Puget Trough reached their southernmost extent around 15,000 years ago, when a subalpine flora, including grasses, sedges, herbs, and montane conifers dominated the valley. Megafauna included bison, bears, giant sloths, mammoths, mastodons, elk, dire wolves, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, horses, and a predatory bird with a wingspan exceeding 12 feet. It is likely that people were in the Americas since at least 33,000 years ago. Evidence of hunting of now-extinct megafauna is found throughout the Americas. In Oregon the evidence goes back to more than 14,300 years ago and at the OCF site to 10,500 years ago.

When the glaciers retreated, the climate remained cool but became more humid as winter storm tracks moved over the valley. Conifers took over much of the grassland, reducing the forage available for large grazing animals and possibly contributing to their extinction. Because of changes in the Earth's tilt, summers warmed and winters cooled substantially around 10,000 years ago. Droughts prevailed. Douglas firs and oaks moved into the valley and replaced montane species. Fire became more common, perhaps intentionally set by humans. The valley was a mosaic of river gallery forests, fire-maintained grasslands, and scattered oaks, alders and firs. Six thousand years ago, the summers became cooler and drier while winter precipitation increased. Drought-tolerant plants were replaced by species more adapted to today's conditions. Beginning about 4,000 years ago, the climate became much as it is today. We have benefitted from a remarkably stable climate for four millennia. Consequences of climate change cannot be foreseen from our recent history.

The Long Tom River valley floor is composed of ice-age alluvial sediments 200 to 300 feet deep. Deposition

has continued episodically during the postglacial period. Only the greatest of the dozens of late ice-age Lake Missoula floods, which occurred 15,000 to 13,000 years ago, reached the OCF site, leaving little sediment in contrast with the northern Willamette Valley where sediment, rocks, and gravel deposits from the floods make up much of the valley soil. The uplands at the site are on the Dolph soil deposit, which is at least 50,000 years old and may be more than 100,000 years old. The Ingram surface along the Long Tom River began forming as much as 5,000 years ago; deposition on this surface continues to the present. Most of the archaeological sites examined near the OCF site are on this surface.

Evidence of worked stone flakes and other artifacts in the Willamette Valley indicates human occupation earlier than 12,200 years ago. Fluted Clovis points have been found near the OCF site, indicating that hunters were in the area more than 11,000 years before present. Charred camas bulbs found in a large camas oven near the Long Tom River were carbon-dated to 10,500 years ago. The OCF property, especially the upland area adjacent to the wetlands, has extensive evidence of occupation as a seasonal gathering and hunting site, with camas ovens and stone artifacts dating back thousands of years. Wetlands were very important for subsistence resources, including both plants and animals.

Native peoples would have been affected by great geological events. A few of the Lake Missoula floods would have covered the OCF site with as much as 20 feet of water. Mount Mazama (today's Crater Lake) erupted about 7,700 years ago, leaving ash throughout the Pacific Northwest. This is documented in myths. Great subduction zone earthquakes happened every few centuries (the most recent occurring on January 26, 1700), which would have been felt from the coast to the Willamette Valley. All of these natural disasters would have disrupted trade and the movement of people.

Smallpox swept through in 1782-83, killing up to 90 per cent of the native population, leaving perhaps 10,000 Kalapuya just before contact with white explorers and fur trappers. Malaria further decimated the natives in 1830-33. By the late 1830s, the aboriginal population might have been as low as 600 individuals. In



A.T. Agate's sketch: "Costume of a Callapuya Indian"

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1856, the few remaining were sent to the Grande Ronde and Siletz Reservations.

Euro-American fur trappers and explorers visited the Willamette Valley in the early 1800s. Beavers were abundant. They shaped the landscape by building extensive dams and cutting down trees and brush for food. Beaver-fur hats became the rage in Europe, leading to fur trapping throughout the West. Competition between trading companies led to a “kill-them-all” policy that took all the beavers from contested areas, including the southern Willamette Valley. Beavers have rebounded and are now found in the Long Tom River and OCF’s 40-acre wildlife reserve called “The Unorganized Territory,” where their ponds are nurseries for cutthroat trout and other creatures.

Explorers in the early 1800s noted the frequent grass fires, the extensive “oak and fir openings,” which today we would call “oak savanna,” and the dense, apparently unburnable river gallery forests. Intentionally set prairie fires ceased by the 1840s when settlers arriving by the Oregon Trail colonized the valley. Others came from California along the “Old Trail” — long used by Native Americans — that ran north-south just east of the OCF site, not far from Territorial Highway.

By the 1850s, much of the area around the site was settled and farmed. A map from 1856 shows that the uplands were oak and fir savanna. The OCF parking lots were seasonal wetlands, with Miss Piggy’s Lot a shallow pond. Indian Creek meandered as a shallow, braided channel through staff campsites, Child Care, and the Sauna before joining the Long Tom River. Some time before the first aerial photos in 1936, the current Indian Creek channel was formed by dredging a deep ditch across the wetlands to drain them and increase agricultural land. Aerial photos and tree ring analysis show that the dense fir forest in the uplands along Chickadee Lane started growing in the first few decades of the 20th century.

The Long Tom Post Office was established in 1853 on the river bank south of OCF’s Maple Gate. A.L. Humphrey, who farmed land on the south side of the river, was the first Postmaster. The unincorporated community of Elmira was called “Duckworth Landing” until 1884, when it was renamed and a post office was established by Postmaster I.N. Duckworth. Around 1914, the Eugene-Coos Bay railroad track was built south of the current OCF site. The city of Veneta was platted in 1912 to capitalize on the developing railroad. It was incorporated in 1962.

In 1957, Route F between Eugene and Mapleton was completed, replacing a road that ran from Florence to Junction City to Eugene. Route F ran close by the northern edge

of the OCF site on what is now known as Suttle Road. In the 1980s the planning for the new stretch of Highway 126 was begun. Construction began in 1986 with the clearing of the route south of the site, parallel to the railroad. Diligent effort by OCF’s volunteer archaeologists and researchers from the University of Oregon kept the roadway further south than its proposed route, which would have cut through OCF parking lots.

Before the Country Fair bought the property, it was owned by WAC Corporation, which provided aerial photography services throughout the coastal West. They used an airplane runway in what is now Miss Piggy’s Lot — at the right time in the spring, the runway can still be seen in the distribution of wetland plants.

The Fair began using the site in 1970. In the 1980s, we purchased the property, installed the water system, built a storage barn, added a residence for a caretaker, and upgraded roads and bridges. Path expansion into the Left Bank and Chela Mela occurred in the 1990s. Additional land purchases over the years increased our holdings from 270 acres to more than 500 acres.

Reverence for the land, a motto central to our ethos, guides our stewardship of the site. Wildlife refuges have been protected, agricultural land retired from production, river log jams allowed to accumulate, and brush encouraged to grow in the constructed Indian Creek channel. Thousands of people who visit the site each year may see only the wonderful party, but there is a rich backstory to the site.

For more reading:

Aikens, C.M.; T. J. Connolly; D. L. Jenkins. 2011. Oregon Archaeology. Oregon State University Press, Corvallis.

Gilmore, Daniel M. et al. 2015. Chronology and Ecology of late Pleistocene Megafauna in the Northern Willamette Valley, Oregon. *Quaternary Research* 83(1):127-136.

O’Neill, Brian L. et al. 2004. A Holocene Geoarchaeological Record for the Upper Willamette Valley, Oregon: The Long Tom and Chalker Sites. University of Oregon Anthropology Paper No. 61.

Turner, David. 2017. *Along the Long Tom River*. Paw Print publishers, Junction City, OR.

Whitlock, Cathy. 1992. Vegetational and Climatic History of the Pacific Northwest During the Last 20,000 Years: Implications for Understanding Present-day Biodiversity. *The Northwest Environmental Journal*, 8:5-28, 1992

<https://lump.oregoncountryfair.org/Documents/Handbooks/LumpManualCurrent.html>

[The 2011 book is a state overview. In the Willamette Valley section the authors refer to the Veneta area sites, which are the OCF sites. The 2004 publication covers the highway work and the grant work and is available as a PDF.]

An Oregon Boy's Story – From Dreams to Creative Devotion

by Hans Muir

Being born and raised in Oregon gives people appreciation for the lifestyles and values of those around us. In a state with such natural beauty, there is far more country than urban to take in. Even those folks who live in the urban centers have close access to the various natural ecosystems, and those who live in the country are more directly connected to the environment. With that proximity to the natural local biomes, Oregonians have empathy for those living places that surround us. This mentality drives the people who embrace all that encircle us, to seek connections to these wild spaces and with the people who inhabit them.

My personal experience began in the wide-open countryside of the Willamette Valley, where I was born the middle child into a family of transplant parents. They moved to Oregon for what we all value: fresh air, clean water, abundant undeveloped environment, and the community and culture of local people who honor and respect these resources.

The quiet tranquility lacking in many urban centers is plentiful in the valley's small farming communities where my parents first chose to live and create our family. Here, I got my start, peering out across the fields and forests toward the faint blue mountains that enclose the valley. To me they were the backdrop of this tiny universe I inhabited. It never occurred to me in those days that other people experienced life without such beauty.

At a certain point the dreamy days of country living would come to an end, and my family decided to relocate to the city of Eugene where the urban and the countryside blend together to create a community like no other I have witnessed. With year-round celebrations



of life and gatherings of like-minded individuals, this place was rich with culture and vibrant with energy that could only be described as friendly and nurturing to the mind and spirit.

From the Saturday Market, to the Holiday Market, the Kiva, the Friendly Street Market, to the street fair known as the Eugene Celebration, to the great grand-daddy of all festivals the Oregon Country Fair, so many wonderful venues offered opportunities for connections to people, products, and places. One thing was vividly clear to me growing up in this environment: People will come together to show support for those experiences

they mutually cherish. These experiences inspired me to pursue my own craft of leather working, and eventually to my current passion: shoe-making.

Little did I know that the rest of humanity does not always operate by those principles that I held so dearly. Understanding the world from the perspective of an Oregonian is somewhat like looking at the world through rose-colored glasses. The lighthearted, caring and community-focused nature of the people that I value profoundly does not always appear to manifest in other places. Along my journey there have always been forces pulling me away from my creative space, and maintaining a studio and dedicated time to craft has been a struggle at times.

There is some special thread that connects the people of Oregon in a complex tapestry that reflects the diversity and strength of people who love the land and the living creatures who roam it. This connectivity and shared value system enables these celebrations of life to establish, demonstrate and reveal the true oneness

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of the Oregon peoples. From music, to food, arts, and crafts, creative expressions in all forms are appreciated, adored, and enjoyed in this space. Not only are the end results – the final products – valued, the source and origin of each has further unique significance added, making each item a route for the end user to connect to that process of creation.

By understanding the who, what, where, why, and when of a product, we see these things as more than a disposable material. By meeting the people whose hands and minds are responsible for creating the end result, we learn of and about the continuum from which each sprout like new seeds from a field rich with nutrients.

Becoming a shoemaker was my path to complete the cycle, to be a part of this connection between the resources and consumer. I am channeling the creative process to manifest utility and beauty.

Receiving the blessing of connection to the wider world around us, and feeling closer to one another and the earth, we appreciate the bonds that enable our greatness to be expressed. Inspiration comes in many forms. The sensation of realizing the insight that each of us is capable of excellence can motivate people to unlock their own inner vision.

From this rousing within ourselves comes thoughts that become actions with the effect of generating results in a profound and magnificent way. Seeing others dedicate their time and energy and love toward the greatness within shows us the path forward, toward living a life enriched with value greater than money or power. The simple fact that people are creators is often lost on us in the modern era of commercialized factory-produced, imported experiences.

One amazing power that humans possess is that we are capable of anything, not only what has been, but what has not yet occurred. Facing uncertainty and doubt to overcome the negativity takes tenacity and dedication.

The pursuit of the dying craft of shoemaking in order to honor the tradition and techniques of those who came before us is a valuable effort I take seriously. This realization led me to pursue my own deep creative desire to produce leather footwear, following the traditional techniques using hand tools popularized long before the industrialization of manufacturing processes.

Once I had the determination to become the creator I knew was possible, next I had to seek out the path to develop the skills, abilities, and knowledge required to make great shoes.

The road to greatness is not without obstacles. However, with determination and desire to persevere, I have managed to push closer and closer to this destination. By expressing myself to others, I have found reverberations and amplification of my values. This empowering sensation pushes one to overcome hurdles like fear, doubt, or uncertainty. The harder I pushed, the easier it became to reach closer to my objective.

While there is certainly an endless quest for advancement, there is also a quaint tranquility in appreciating where one is at and how far one has come to reach this place. I will never yield in my pursuit of progression, and yet I can say that I am delighted with the journey that has led me to this point, including all the misfortunes and misdirection and meanderings that may have delayed my achievements. Along the way I have grown to respect the ups and downs, the bumps in the road, the turbulence in the flight, the lulls in excitement, all of which make this voyage so much more interesting.

After spending years developing my passion, knowledge and skills, all while collecting tools and resources and networking with the current makers in the field, I finally felt my craft was ready to share with the world at large. In 2022 I submitted my first application to be a craft vendor at Oregon Country Fair, and the jury responded positively offering me a one-year booth to sell my shoes for my first time.

The booth was a great success, providing the public a chance to touch and feel and talk about handmade shoes face-to-face with Me the maker.

This experience was an amazing and refreshing dose of energy, which encouraged me to continue with a booth application for 2023 that was also accepted. I looked forward all year to another opportunity to share what I love with the blessed community that has shaped my perspective on the world. In addition to running the booth this year, I was also able to introduce my wife and children to the magic of camping at the Oregon Country Fair for the first time ever in 2023, and they all fell in love with the festival life!

So I raise my glass to all those who came before and those who will come after I am gone, to the pursuit of your dreams and the perseverance to never let the world around you get in the way of reaching for them!

**The simple fact that
people are creators
is often lost on us
in the modern era
of commercialized
factory-produced,
imported
experiences.**

Fair Thee Well: Denny Guehler

by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News

Denny Guehler, former Main Stage emcee known as “The Voice of the Fair,” died at home on July 16 at age 73.

Dennis Bryan Guehler was born Aug. 23, 1949, in Sandwich, Illinois, to Donald and Shirley Guehler. He grew up on his grandparents’ farm in Somonauk, Illinois. His grandparents were Ann and Albert Guehler. He had three siblings: Rhonda, Sherrill, and Roger. His dad helped out on the farm and his mother was a nurse.

Denny worked hard on the family farm and did well at school, where he ran cross-country and played center on the basketball team. One summer Denny and Rhonda had jobs as lifeguards at Lake Holiday, and Denny saved a girl’s life. His family was very proud.

His senior year of high school, his teachers and classmates awarded Denny the American Legion School Medal, listing an impressive array of extracurricular activities: president of his senior class, president of the National Honor Society, president of the German Club, president of the Chorus, assistant sports editor at the school newspaper, and manager of the yearbook staff. He also sang in choir and played trombone.

Denny attended Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin, where he acted in college theater productions and worked as an announcer and news reporter for WFNY-FM radio station in Racine, Wisconsin. He also was elected president of his fraternity, Beta Phi Epsilon, and served as chairman of the student Senate on the student government executive board. He graduated in 1971 with a double major in History and Speech / Theater Arts.

Soon Denny felt a draw to go West. In early 1974 he moved to a commune in Ashland, Oregon. Denny’s friends nicknamed him “Bear” because of his 6-foot-7 frame and deep, booming voice. In October 1974, Denny and some friends moved to Eugene. He attended his first Country Fair in 1975 with his friend Gary Pleskow. Denny said that he was “blown away” by his first Fair; it was so different from the Midwest.



Denny jumped right into Eugene’s theater groups and became active behind the scenes in local politics. When he volunteered for Jerry Rust’s campaign for Lane County commissioner in 1976, he met Bill Wooten, Ken Kesey and lots of other Country Fair folks who volunteered for Jerry. After Jerry Rust got elected, Jerry asked Denny to head up his advisory group for the Lane Economic Development Council (LEDC). The advisers also included Bill Wooten and Hal Hartzell.

During this time, Denny was sporadically employed but super busy — serving on several nonprofit boards, while being president of LEDC and president of the Community

Center for Performing Arts (WOW Hall), and acting in plays at Main Stage Theatre.

In 1981 he was hired as promotion and development director at KWAX radio station at the University of Oregon. After he left KWAX, he worked at KLCC-FM, KPNW-FM and KRVM-FM. He made more than a dozen TV commercials and countless radio ads. He also had a landscaping business.

In 1986, Denny won the audition for Main Stage Emcee at the Oregon Country Fair. In 1988 — inspired by Robin Williams’ hit film “Good Morning, Vietnam” — Denny started opening the Fair each morning with his voice booming out: “GOOOOOD MORNING, Oregon Country Fair!” The greeting would remain his Main Stage trademark for three decades.

Through the years, Denny served on the board of the Community for the Performing Arts (WOW Hall) and was president of the board for two years. He appeared in at least 33 different plays and productions. His diverse roles ranged from King Arthur in “Camelot,” to Lennie in “Of Mice and Men,” to the Rev. John Hale in “The Crucible.” Denny was a founding member of the Oregon Repertory Theatre; served on the board of directors

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of Mainstage Theatre Company and chaired the Mainstage Theatre board for one year. He also worked for Very Little Theater and for Actors Cabaret of Eugene (ACE).

After a massive truck wreck in 2002, Denny struggled with health issues and ended up using a wheelchair to get around. Nevertheless, at the Country Fair's 50th anniversary in 2019, Denny rolled his wheelchair to Main Stage, and to the delight of many Fair old-timers, got the festivities going with a hearty "GOOOOOD MORNING, Oregon Country Fair!"

Denny was proud that he managed to buy his own house, that he landscaped it beautifully himself, and that he lived at home for 40 years — up to his last breath. Denny was a big man with a big voice and a big heart and will be sorely missed.

His grandparents and parents have passed on. Denny is survived by his brother, his sisters, three nephews, one niece, and five grandnieces and grandnephews.

Denny requested that his ashes be spread behind Main Stage at the Fair. A ceremony to honor his wishes will be held at Main Stage at 3 pm, Aug. 19, during the Teddy Bears Picnic.



On Wednesday, Aug. 23, a memorial gathering honoring Denny's life will be held from 5 pm to 9 pm at the WOW Hall in Eugene.

(Thanks to the generous friends of Denny's who donated to the GoFundMe account to help with expenses. Funds will pay for the celebration of life at the WOW Hall and will purchase a sugar maple tree — Denny's favorite tree — to be planted in his memory. Any remaining funds will go toward cremation costs.)



Photos © 1989 Paxton Hoag

Denny Guehler played a key role in Reverend Chumleigh's concrete smash-up routine on the Oregon Country Fair Main Stage in 1989.





Fair Thee Well: Cheryl 'Nel' Applegate

Fair Elder Cheryl "Nel" Applegate peacefully passed away on June 1, 2023, at her home in Eugene, surrounded by her loved ones. Nel's life was filled with music, service, joy, and many deep friendships. She filled the world with the love she gave.

Over the years, Nel volunteered at the OCF Wristband booths, helped with the Little Peoples booth in Community Village, and served on the Village Council.

She was born on October 7, 1951, in Greenville, Ohio, and grew up in the close-knit farming community of Gettysburg, Ohio — the daughter of Nelson and Patricia Applegate. Nel shared a memorable childhood with her brother, Lonnie Ray, filled with endless play and laughter. Of course it was always "home by dusk...or else!" The family lived across the street from their school.

In high school, Nel immersed herself in music—playing the saxophone—while also serving as a cheerleader. Her dedication and talents led her to be recognized as the 1970 "Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow." Nel pursued her higher education at Miami University of Ohio as a music major, later studying Social Work at the University of Cincinnati, and ultimately graduating from Linfield College in 1989.

During her young adulthood, Nel embarked on a journey across the country, following the Grateful Dead and attending countless concerts (all pre-Shakedown Street). Eventually, she found her home in Oregon after marrying her first husband and embracing the joy of motherhood with their two beautiful daughters. Although life brought her through two divorces, she ultimately discovered her soulmate, Timothy Mueller, who became her husband, trusted companion, lover, and unwavering source of support for the last two decades.

Nel dedicated more than 30 years of her life to working with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in both Colorado and Oregon. She devoted more than 20 years to Lane County Developmental Disabilities Services in Eugene, where she played a vital role in establishing a program to support young mothers with intellectual developmental disabilities (IDD), enabling them to raise their children with proper assistance. Additionally, Nel was instrumental in the



initiation of a housing and support program for unhoused individuals with IDD, benefitting numerous families in Lane County.

Her finest honors were receiving the Arc of Lane County Lisl Wechter award in 2005, the Arc of Oregon Al Soenneker Memorial Award in 2006, and the Thanks to You Award from Kind Tree Productions in 2007.

Driven by her gratitude for the blessings she received, Nel volunteered for various organizations in her community. She dedicated 20 years to KindTree Autism Rocks, served as a Board Member for 12 years at Whitebird Clinic, and was involved with the Kutsinhira Cultural Arts Center. She

also held the esteemed position of an Oregon Country Fair Community Village Elder.

Nel's passion for music resonated throughout her life. From her involvement in high school bands and choruses to her collegiate music studies, she continued to find immense joy in participating in musical groups. Her journey included singing with the Eugene Peace Choir, and performing with the Jenaguru Marimba Ensemble, Mudzidzi Mbira Ensemble, and the Steel Wool Band. She performed at the Oregon Country Fair with Jenaguru, Madzidzi, and Steel Wool, as well as with The Shy Notes, an a cappella group.

Nel was preceded in death by her parents, Nelson and Patricia Applegate, her first husband John Schmitz, as well as other dear relatives and friends.

She is survived by her beloved husband, Timothy Mueller; her precious daughters Hannah (Jeremy) Bargmann and Erin Schmitz; and her cherished grandchildren Olivia and William Bargmann.

Nel also leaves behind her brother Lonnie Applegate and nephew Corey Applegate of Greenville, Ohio; her brother-in-law Jim Schmitz (Diane) of Cincinnati, Ohio; her sister-in-law Linda Pavonetti (Jim) of Lake Orion, Michigan; and five nieces and nephews. She was greatly loved by Betsy Kelly (Dirk) of Eugene and Susan Schroeder of Astoria, who were her sisters from another mother. Nel will also be fondly remembered by Tim's daughters, Emily Mueller (Fred), Deidre Mueller

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and their four children, both of Appleton, Wisconsin; and Miranda Rommell (Andy) of Corvallis. She leaves behind many other dearly beloved friends, family, cousins, and three generations of the Grateful Dead Sunshine Daydreams crew.

Nel lived a life filled with an amazing amount of joy and cherished moments. She leaves behind a legacy of wonderful memories for her children, grandchildren, family, and friends, for which she will always be eternally

grateful. She sincerely hoped she helped enough people to earn her passage and prayed that she left a positive mark on the world.

Now she will join her beloveds on the other side.

A Celebration of Life is planned at 3 pm on September 16, 2023, to honor and commemorate the remarkable journey of Cheryl "Nel" Applegate. The celebration of life will be at 2096 1/2 Arthur Street.

Charitable donations can be made in her name to Kind Tree Productions Inc. and White Bird Clinic.



FAMILY LETTERS

This newsletter is for the Oregon Country Fair Family and all material is volunteered from the membership.

Opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Fair or the FFN.

Letters must be limited to 300 words. They will be edited for length and clarity. Please include name, Fair Affiliation and a method of communication (i.e. phone number or e-mail).



Fair Family News Editorial Policy

The Fair Family News provides space for a calendar of events; announcements; Letters from the Family and to and from the Board; information for and from crews, booths and entertainers; committee reports; official information about the Fair; and room for any other Fair Family contributions with the purpose of sharing. As space allows, Fair-related contributions such as art, short literary pieces and humor will be included. All printed material will be edited for clarity and length. We will not print personal attacks or material that is libelous. It is the intent of the Fair Family News to print all sides of a debate whenever possible. This newsletter will uphold the OCF Code of Conduct.

Life on Snivel Road

by Shasta Hatter, Elder (formerly Admissions)

Peach carts crackle
over the rocky road
roll along so agilely

tapestries from three
households create
a wall of privacy

the sound of gators
runs day and night
glad for a ride later

a short walk
to the Eight
dust and more dust
is our mate

half an hour
to get a shower
everyone gracious
no impatience

Honey Bucket cleaned often
still approach with caution
smell of disinfectant
after each service—
hold your breath at 3 am

shared chairs
and shared snacks
seeing friends at Fair



UNDERWRITERS

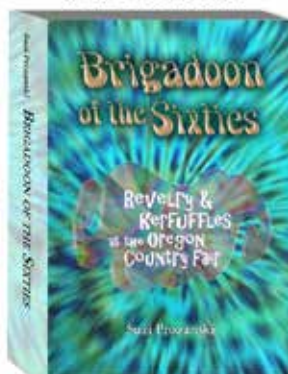
Recently Unclassified Material

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

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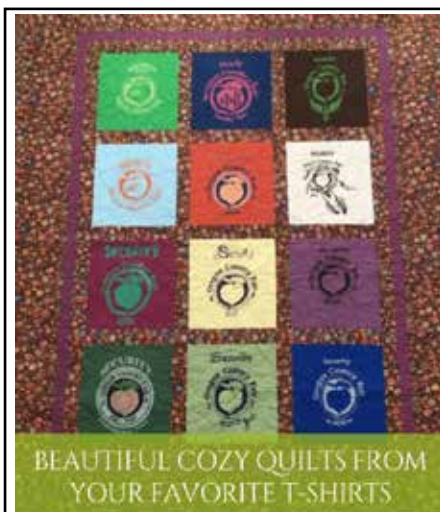
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8/19 - Common Girl, IX of Swords, Confluence,
and Solution Honey
9/9 - Capn' Trips: Bob Dylan & The Dead
9/10 - James Hunter with Nat Myers
9/16 - KPOP Night
9/22 - CupkKake
9/24 - Laundry, Growing Pains, Verb8im
9/29 - Groundation with Sol Seed
9/30 - David Arkenstone & Friends
10/1 - Ben Bailey
10/5 - Sueco
10/12 - Keller Williams

Photo © 2018 Ben Ammon





Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

(Subject to approval by the Board at the July 16, 2023, Board meeting)

Sunday, June 25, 4 pm at Alice's Fire Pit

Zoom remote online and live streamed on YouTube

YouTube recording link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1XU_3WliY5U

Board Directors present: George Braddock, Paxton Hoag, Ann Rogers, Jon Silvermoon, Sue Theolass, and Lisa Parker (VP of Bylaws and Policy).

Absent Board Directors: Tom Horn (President), John Alexander, Anthony "AJ" Jackson, (VP of Membership Engagement and Services), Sandra Bauer (VP of Philanthropy and Fund Development), Arna Shaw, and Kevin Levy. Other Board officers present: Hilary Anthony (Co-Treasurer) and Stephen Diercouff (Secretary). Staff present: Kirsten Bolton (Executive Director), Alexis Maddock (Co-Event Manager), Mark Malaska (Co-Event Manager), Vanessa Roy (Marketing Manager), Norma Sax (Office Manager), Alex Zabala (Office Assistant), and Anna DiBenedetto (Board Scribe).

The meeting was facilitated by Lisa Parker, who called the roll and determined that the meeting was lacking a quorum, and therefore no regular business could be conducted. She then adjourned the meeting.

Next Board Meeting – Monday, August, 7 pm via Zoom





**OCF Board of Directors Meeting
Sunday, July 16, 2023 – 7 pm**

(Subject to approval by the Board at the August 7, 2023, Board Meeting)
Zoom remote online and live streamed on YouTube.



YouTube Recording Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKcx9762cNc>

Board Directors present: John Alexander, Sandra Bauer (VP of Philanthropy and Fund Development), George Braddock, Anthony “AJ” Jackson, (VP of Membership Engagement and Services), Paxton Hoag, Tom Horn (President) Kevin Levy, Lisa Parker (VP of Bylaws and Policy), Ann Rogers, Arna Shaw, Jon Silvermoon, and Sue Theolass. **Board Directors absent:** None. **Board Officers present:** Hilary Anthony (Treasurer), Stephen Diercouff (Secretary). **Board Officers absent:** None. **Staff present:** Kirsten Bolton (Executive Director), Vanessa Roy (Marketing Manager), Norma Sax (Office Manager). **Scribe Absent:** Anna DiBenedetto (Board Scribe).

The meeting was facilitated by Mauricio Valadrian.

The minutes of this Board meeting are presented with motions and votes without discussion. The entire meeting, including discussions, can be viewed on the YouTube recording at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f4RH4SHJpKc>

(YouTube video 0:52)

Mauricio read this statement:

"This is a Special Meeting of the Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors that was called by five Board Directors. It is not a Regular Board Meeting. In a Special Meeting, the only business that may be conducted can be what was stipulated in the call for the Special Meeting. On June 26, 2023 the Secretary received the following call for a Special Meeting of the Board: 'Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 3 of the OCF Bylaws, a special meeting of the Board will be held on Sunday, July 16th, 2023 at 7pm. The purpose of this meeting is to conduct the business that would have been conducted at the June-Ly (6/25/23) general business meeting of the Board had there been a quorum in attendance, and to discuss the items of Old Business that were tabled. This meeting will be held online and will be open to the membership.

Per the call for a Special Meeting, only those business items that were on the agenda for the June 25, 2023, meeting may be transacted at the Special Meeting."

Mauricio introduced himself.

Announcements:*(YouTube video 2:48)*

Stephen: Three items:

- 1) If there any advisory petitions, then July 31 is deadline to submit them.
- 2) The Board election is happening in October. Submit candidate statements by 8 pm on August 20.
- 3) The Election website will be updated by July 20 online so prospective candidates can get info how to submit their statements.

Norma: The Teddy Bears Picnic is scheduled for August 19 at Main Stage Meadow. The Sugar Beets will provide music.

Arna: The Jill Heiman Vision Fund is accepting food vouchers until July 31. We are also accepting money.

Paxton: Fair evaluation will probably happen August 20 at Entertainment Fire Pit at 11 am.

Minutes Review*(YouTube video 8:23)*

Arna moved to accept the minutes of the June 5, 2023 meeting. Tom seconded.

Motion passed: 9-1-2; Jon opposed; AJ and Sue abstained.

Agenda Review, Amend, Approve*(YouTube 16:22)*

Paxton moved to approve the agenda as it stands, Sandra seconded.

Paxton moved to amend the agenda to remove all named items on the agenda except President's Peace. Sandra Seconded.

Lisa asked for a friendly amendment to adjourn the meeting after the ED report and member input. Paxton accepted. Sandra declined to accept.

Lisa moved to amend the agenda to adjourn the meeting after the ED report and member input. Jon seconded.

Motion to vote on the amendment made by Lisa.

Amendment passed: 9-3-0; AJ, Sandra, and George opposed.

Member Input

(YouTube 42:47)

(Dozens of comments.)

ED Report

(YouTube 1:11:20)

Administration

- We received feedback about the porta potties.

During pre-pre-Fair, we had an unusually large number of people on-site and that stressed our porta potty resources. The nice weather definitely played a role in the excitement of getting to work on-site.

We will continue to assess our porta potty needs during pre-pre-Fair.

At the beginning of Main Camp, we were trying to get ahead of the curve and allowed Honey Buckets to place porta potties around fair early. This caused a lot of confusion and frustration and the belief that this is the normal amount of porta potties available to crews. It is not.

In an effort to serve and support our volunteers, we have opened many more toilets.

We have been actively investigating these complaints and have been checking on the porta potties regularly.

We have consistently found that the porta potties are not overflowing. They are being serviced regularly and I expect this issue will be resolved.

We are aware of active misinformation and false narratives on Facebook and on-site. We can't act on rumors.

Please actively participate in problem solving by contacting BUMS or employees with first-hand information about issues. The BUMS and employees are committed to making the volunteers experience a positive and productive one.

- I was a guest speaker at the Veneta Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, June 14.

Financials

• There will not be June 2023 financials in the August 7 Board packet. We will present the June and July financials at the September Board meeting. This is due to the large volume of transactions that need to be reconciled and we need extra time to accomplish this.

- We will begin the SVOG grant audit in August.
- With the large increases in some contracts, we are asking all Crews to reduce expenses and only spend on Health and Safety needs.
- It will be a couple of years before OCF has overcome the financial effects of COVID and not having an event for a couple of years.

Event Management

- An on-site Coordinator meeting occurred on June 4 at 2 pm at Alice's Fire Pit. It was well attended.

- An on-site Coordinator meeting will occur on July 2, at 4 pm at Alice's Fire Pit.
- New Fire Risk signs will be placed at the Information Booths and Fair Central. Please check them daily before starting your permitted camp fires.
- We met with the City of Veneta City Administrator, Lane County Sheriff Office and Zumwalt Campground on-site on Thursday, June 15.
- Verizon is confirmed for two cell towers.
- The LTD contract is signed and the service level is the same as previous years
- There will be no Fireworks this year on the 4th of July.
- The site is closed and only working crews or booths are allowed on site.
- Durables Crew is utilizing their new dishwasher and this is a big step forward for our durables program.
- Lots of work is happening, the weather has been cooperative, and lots of meetings are happening to address individual crews needs.

Marketing

- Lots of advertising is taking place – we are on Facebook, print, radio, billboards and Spotify.
- Pre-Sale of Merchandise is going extremely well. We opened our poster archives and you can now buy posters dating back to the first year. Big thank you to James Bateman, of the Advertising Crew, for making this happen.
- Ticket sales are pacing very well. We sold 12,500 Friday, 15,400 Saturday and 11,500 Sunday.

2023 contracts:

- Honey Buckets contract – done
- Ritz Sauna – done
- Whitebird – done
- Verizon COW Tower – done
- AT&T COW Tower – still working on
- T-Mobile COW Tower – done
- Equipment Rental – work in progress
- Dodeca Art Barn – done
- LTD – done
- First Student – done
- Western States Flagging – done
- ATMs – done
- Credit Card machines – done
- Radio Contracts – done
- City of Veneta Banner Permit – done
- Life's Best In Tents – done
- Commemorative Sales Printing – done
- Staff T-Shirt Printing – done
- Water Hydrant Meter Rental – done
- Dust Control – done

- Ice – done
- Refrigerated Trailers – done
- Towing – done
- Lane County Sheriff's – done
- Guidelines Printing – done

Permits:

- Right of Way Permit — done
 - 2023 Outdoor Assembly Permit, Farside — pending
 - Camping — pending
 - ODOT – done
- Next year's dates are July 12, 13, 14, 2024.

Mauricio's Final Thoughts

(YouTube 1:17)

Mauricio gave the Fair praise. He asked that we suspend the illusion of being adults. From the last 20 minutes of meeting, he can see what a magic event the Fair is. Everyone came together at the moment of understanding this thing greater than us. (This is the President's peace.)

Meeting adjourned





**Board of Directors Meeting
August 7, 2023, 7 to 9:20 pm**

(Subject to approval by the Board at the September 11, 2023, Board meeting)

YouTube recording link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BOS4ZbWPq1A>



Board Directors present: John Alexander, Sandra Bauer (VP of Philanthropy and Fund Development), George Braddock, Paxton Hoag, Tom Horn, Anthony "AJ" Jackson, (President, VP of Membership Engagement and Services), Kevin Levy, Lisa Parker (VP of Bylaws and Policy), Ann Rogers, Arna Shaw, Jon Silvermoon, and Sue Theolass. Absent Board Members: none. Other Board officers present: Hilary Anthony (Co-Treasurer), Lynda Gingerich (Co-Treasurer), and Stephen Diercouff (Secretary). Staff present: Kirsten Bolton (Executive Director, Mark Malaska (Co-Event Manager), Vanessa Roy (Marketing Manager), Norma Sax (Office Manager), and Anna DiBenedetto (Board Scribe).

The meeting was facilitated by Mauricio Valadrian.

The minutes of this Board meeting are presented with motions and votes without discussion. The entire meeting, including discussions, can be viewed on the YouTube recording at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BOS4ZbWPq1A>.

Announcements

(YouTube video: 0:01:45)

Stephen: The Board election is coming up soon. The petitions deadline passed and none were received. Candidate statements must be received by 8 pm on August 20. If you are a Fair member (if you received a wristband or a Worker Day pass in the last 3 years), the deadline to register to vote is 8 pm on September 21. October 15 will be the Annual Membership meeting, which is a hybrid meeting. Ballots due at 8 pm PDT on October 21. The ballots will be counted on October 22 and the winners will be announced. There are four directors up for 3-year terms. Information is on the .net site.

AJ: Fentanyl is a not-so-silent killer, killing many in our community. Eight folks were lost last weekend and 16 were lost the week before to overdose. Please, everyone going to festivals and parties, be safe. Get Narcan training if you can.

Paxton: Fair evaluation meeting is August 20, day after the picnic, at Entertainment Fire Pit. Generally, it runs from 11 am to 2 pm or 3:30, whenever they are finished. People can talk about whatever they want to discuss about this year's Fair.

Cynthia Peachey: Carbon Neutrality Working group has put together a transportation survey and it was posted on the website today. Please go to .net site to take the quick and anonymous

survey. Info on Phase I project with PSU is on the website as well. Thank you for participating and carpooling.

Norma: Teddy Bears will be out in the woods on August 19. Please join us 2 to 8 pm. The Sugar Beets will play and there will be food and sides provided. You can bring an extra dish, if desired. You can camp Saturday night but not Sunday. There will also be a memorial for Denny Guehler, "the voice of OCF Main Stage."

Minutes Review

(YouTube video: 0:08:51)

**Lisa moved and Tom seconded to approve the minutes of the June 25 meeting.
The motion passed: 11-0-1; Jon Silvermoon abstained.**

**AJ moved and Lisa seconded to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2023, meeting.
The motion passed: 11-0-1; Jon Silvermoon abstained.**

Agenda Review and New Business

(YouTube video: 0:11:57)

Arna moved and Lisa seconded to approve the August 7 agenda.

Lisa moved and Arna seconded to amend the Agenda by moving the motion to appoint AJ Jackson as President from New Business to the first position of Old Business.

The motion was approved: 12-0.

Lisa moved and Arna/Paxton seconded to approve the amended agenda.

The agenda was approved: 12-0.

Member Input

(YouTube video: 0:17:25)

Sue: Comment regarding our recent event: Not having crafters listed in the Peach Pit was very saddening. There were very few photos of craft items, food and none of Energy Park in the Peach Pit, which seemed like serious lapses. The website is missing a lot of pictures of key parts of the Fair that are not entertainment-based. That is a disservice to the parts of Fair that are not being promoted, such as uplifting and spiritual aspects of the Fair. Crafters and booths represent a huge part of the income stream of the Fair, so they should be better promoted.

Nancy: I agree with Sue, it was disappointing that Crafters were not listed. I've been a 40-year crafter and we have long felt like unappreciated second-class citizens and it's very disappointing. On Tuesday or Wednesday before Fair, that was when I got a notice to indicate what I wanted the Peach Pit to say, which was obviously too late to be printed. I also missed the water truck. I liked the guys coming with hoses because the path can't get saturated enough without it. Please bring

back morning water trucks. Also, ID wasn't checked when getting wrist bands — not a good idea. People were allowed to do Booth Rep business who weren't Booth Reps. Those types of things need to be dealt with in a strict way like they used to.

Mike: Media Crew team member, offering perspective about media happenings at the Fair — particularly the booths with KLCC and KRVM. The Fair should change the way it does media broadcasting. KLCC has abandoned Eugene community and have become NPR basically. They no longer announce arts events or concerts. Their booth at Fair was barely staffed. They have a lot of clout in advertising for the Fair, but we need to stay true to our community values more. The one fundraising event they run is an alcohol event and they pollute the airwaves two or three months of the year at the expense of all the other community events. I don't think they should get that "hot tub" booth perch at the Fair. They are also bullies and abandoned the Oregon community. KOCF deserves the perch instead.

Remedios Rapoport: Fair represents social change through things like Community Village, Energy Park, alternatives ways to live to help make the world healthier. Promotion for these values were lacking. Couldn't find crafters in Peach Pit. Been trying to connect Fair to Deep Transformations Network people but our website doesn't show anything about our deeper values. We look like just another fluff music festival — we need to demonstrate gentle revolution work to help make a better world. Let's keep improving Country Fair and demonstrating the values we are supposed to stand for.

Paxton: Remind people that Feedback form is on the website if you have observations. Feedback goes to relevant crews. It's an effective tool to get feedback where it needs to go.

AJ: Take a second to acknowledge that I am thankful for everybody that participates in this organization. I believe everybody is doing their best. People are often trying to fix a problem at these meetings, and it can make it feel heavy and negative. Let's maintain empathy for folks who are trying their best. As we are critical, put ourselves in others' positions.

Executive Director's Report

(YouTube video: 0:32:07)

First, I would like to give a heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers, artists, crafters, restaurateurs, and entertainers for making the 2023 Fair a success. Your gift of time and energy makes each year magical. I hope all of you were rejuvenated by the community we create. I want to thank the employees for their tireless efforts in supporting the annual work of the Fair. Their commitment to the Fair and to supporting the volunteer's efforts has helped make everyone's job easier, and we couldn't do it without them. Every event is different. The challenges we faced last year weren't the challenges we faced this year. What makes us successful every year is our ability to overcome the challenges. Through our co-creative efforts, we have survived the pandemic. I look forward to continuing our journey of transforming culture in magical, joyous and healthy ways for many, many more years.

Administration: Sierra McComas has resigned her position as the Site & Facilities Manager. Her last day was July 9. She decided to pursue work that is more in line with her professional goals. I want to thank her for her contributions to the organization and we wish her the best in her

future endeavors. I posted the position on July 11, and it closed today, August 7, at 5 pm. A Hiring Council will be created to review resumes and conduct interviews.

I have created a new position called Site Supervisor and promoted Korey Stidham to the position. He will work closely with the new Site and Facilities Manager to prioritize and accomplish the many tasks associated with managing 500 acres and multiple facilities.

The Board of Directors Election is October 21, 2023. August 20 at 8 pm is the Candidate Statement deadline. Please email them to elections@oregoncountryfair.org. September 21, 2023, is the deadline to register to vote in this election cycle. The Annual Meeting is October 14, 2023, at 6:30 pm — Location TBD. Ballots are due at the Eugene office by 8 pm PDT on October 21, 2023. A Candidate Forum will be scheduled — date TBD. The deadline to submit Advisory petitions was July 31.

Marketing: The Media covered our event well. Social Media coverage was excellent. Advertising was effective. Ticket sales were robust. Commemorative Sales were the second highest ever. The Peach Pit Artisan Directory didn't happen and we are working to make sure that doesn't happen again. Here is a brief explanation of what is needed to align the process for equitable inclusion for all artists: The Artisan Directory in the Peach Pit was excluded in 2022 and 2023. Last year, many things were delayed by our return to an in-person event. This year, we had challenges with coordinator turnover and changes to processing booth packets. We also had more than 100 vendors take a leave in 2022 who had to be contacted about their intent to sell in 2023 before Booth Registration could begin. These are the most recent issues that prevented the Peach Pit's ability to provide a printed Artisan Directory.

The ability to print a directory has ongoing challenges that need to be addressed. First, the timeline for vendors to sign up for Fair does not align with the deadlines for the Peach Pit. The application to become a new vendor ends on April 1. The jury process follows and is completed by mid-April. From there, all of those vendors must access the Wait/Share list to find a booth. They cannot be added to Artisan Directory until they know where they can be located. The Wait/Share list is dependent upon Booth Reps responding with their intent to sell and any changes to their businesses. The Peach Pit cannot print an equitable, useful list of artisans without this information.

Booth Registration works very hard at compiling all this information, and they usually get their start in April. The deadline for the Peach Pit to go to final edits is May 15 and then directly to print by the first week of June. Its distribution to local businesses starts June 15 and goes online at the same time. Booth Reg is still working on getting people into their booths until July.

Second, the information given to the Peach Pit by Booth Registration is inadequate for the task of helping our patrons shop with our vendors. The information that is available is a list of names without business names and keywords. The names are only for vendors who are current Booth Reps. The list excludes anyone who is sharing a booth or new to the Fair. That means hundreds of vendors are not included on the list when it is given to the Peach Pit.

We tried something new this year that didn't go as planned. We set up a Google Questionnaire for all vendors to submit 60 characters for the Peach Pit that could include their business name, booth location and keywords. We received 40 responses by May 15. We could not use only 40 responses with more than 400 vendors at the Fair.

We reactivated the form at the end of June and received 200 more responses by July 5. We placed an Artisan Directory at every Info Booth. The online Artisan Directory is available to all vendors to update their business info including pics all year until Wednesday before Fair. That was the most equitable way to provide a directory to help shoppers find what they want.

The only way to print an equitable, useful Artisan Directory for the Peach Pit is to work on getting our deadlines to line up. We can work toward this goal this year. The Peach Pit wants to give our patrons a useful Artisan Directory and would appreciate the help of Craft Committee and Booth Registration to find a way that can work for everyone without excluding those who are not current Booth Reps.

Financials: The 2023 event revenue was strong and some revenue streams were the second highest on record. June and July 2023 financials will be presented at the September 11 Board Meeting. This is due to the large volume of transactions that need to be reconciled and we need extra time to accomplish this. We have begun the SVOG grant audit. The 2022 Financial Statements are done. The 990 and CT-12 tax fillings are being prepared. Tickets sales came in strong this year. We sold the following number of tickets to the public: Friday — 12,500; Saturday — 15,400; Sunday — 11,500. Expenses are still coming in and we won't know the full financial picture until after September 30, which is the last date Coordinators can submit reimbursement for expenses associated with the 2023 Fair.

Event Management: OCF 2023 Highlights: The weather was perfect! Mid-80s all three days. No major incidents. We lived-streamed Main Stage for the first time, and it was amazing. Efforts to monetize this in the future are underway. Thank you to White Bird for caring for our community. They served more than 4,000 people. Thank you to the many service providers that helped make the Fair a success: Honey Buckets, Ritz Sauna, White Bird, Verizon, T-Mobile, Sunbelt Rentals, United Rentals, Life's Best In Tents, Dodeca Art Barn, LTD, First Student, Western States Flagging, Bear Comm, City of Veneta, Shermann Brothers Trucking, Cascade Ice, Paragon Water, Lane County Sheriff's Office and Lane Fire Authority. There are many more to thank, but I'll stop there. No problems with our many permits, including the Outdoor Assembly Permit that we needed for the first time.

2023 Fair Lowlights: AT&T did not bring a COW Cellular Tower this year. Great effort was put into convincing them to bring one by Floyd Prozanski and the Office of Emergency Management to no avail. I want to thank them for working on it to the last minute. Cellular Service and Internet was a major challenge again. We continue to assess the needs and improve the system annually. There were many rented vehicles damaged. Next year's event dates are July 12, 13 & 14, 2024.

The Teddy Bears' Picnic is Saturday, August 19, 2 pm. BBQ chicken and vegan burgers and hot dogs will be served. Please bring your own utensils and side dishes. This is not a potluck, and we will serve some side dishes. The Sugar Beets will be performing. No camping on Friday or Sunday night. Please, please, please — Pack it in, Pack it out.

Site: The Winery House burned down on July 24, 2023. A spark near the driveway caught the grass on fire and it spread to the house. No site employees were at the Winery at the time of the fire; the neighbor reported it, and Durwin was first on the scene. Thankfully no one was injured

and no other structures were damaged. I have contacted our insurance company — the house is insured and our deductible is \$500. It is insured to \$150k; I will report back on what the insurance company offers. Permits for restoring the power pole and removal of the debris are underway.

Culture Jam: Is happening right now — August 4 through the 11. Forty-four youths are participating with 26 staff volunteers. It's great to have Culture Jam back and fulfilling our mission.

There is a real estate opportunity that will be brought to the Board in an Executive session soon.

Jon Silvermoon: Wants to hear more about monetizing live-streaming bands. This would be a change from what we have done in the past. Please talk to the Board about policy implications. Would bands also profit? Saw a report that North Atlantic Gulf Stream will collapse very soon, possibly by 2025, which is the year we have said we will be carbon neutral, so please update us as soon as you can on where we are on meeting our goal of carbon neutrality by 2025.

Treasurers' Report

(YouTube video: 0:45:05)

Lynda: Reiterate what Kirsten said: Norma is working very hard to pay all the bills, but she needs reimbursement submissions in as soon as possible to do that. Deadline is September 30. Thank you to all the volunteers and Coordinators for staying within your budgets.

Hilary: Thank you to everyone who is collecting and disbursing money. Commemorative Sales staff knocked it out of the park. It's a combination of design, merch, hours open. The 2022 Financial Statement Review was in Board packet. This is a review that a contracted accountant does, comparing prior years and does all the disclosures and presents information in professionally accepted accounting principles, which is different from how we usually look at the information in our budget. We should put it on the .net site so people can look at distribution of expenses. Statement of Functional Expenses is very interesting and revealing and only nonprofits do it. The balance sheet looks kind of like what we see a lot. Shout-out to Kirsten for her effort to get this report done quickly. We started right before Fair and it's ready now in August, which is earlier than many other years.

Committee and Working Group Reports

Committees should send their reports to Vanessa (vanessa@oregoncountryfair.org), to be posted on the .net site and included in the Board packet.

Diversity Committee: Met on May 22 and the notes are here:

<https://oregoncountryfair.net/wp-content/uploads/bsk-pdf-manager/2023/08/Diversity-Committee-Meeting-Notes-5-22-23.pdf> .

Jon Silvermoon: September 25, 7 to 9 pm there will be a Zoom Board work session about Emerald Ash Borer and the OCF's response in Willamette Valley. Look at LUMP committee page

for more information: <https://oregoncountryfair.net/land-use-management-planning-lump-committee/>.

Old Business

(YouTube video: 0:51:30)

Tom moved and Lisa seconded: The Board moves to elect Anthony (AJ) Jackson as President of the Fair. (sponsored by Tom Horn, Sue Theolass, Sandra Bauer, Paxton Hoag, Lisa Parker, Kevin Levy, Jon Silvermoon, John Alexander, George Braddock, Arna Shaw, and Ann Bennet-Rogers)

Whereas on November 7, 2022, the Board of Directors elected Tom Horn as President and Sandra Bauer, Anthony “AJ” Jackson, and Lisa Parker as Vice Presidents. The Board year (November 2022 to November 2023) was divided into trimesters, and the President assigned each VP a trimester in the event that the office of the President was vacated. Sandra Bauer was assigned the first trimester (November 2022 through February 2023), Lisa Parker was assigned the second trimester (March 2023 through June 2023), and Anthony “AJ” Jackson was assigned the third trimester (July 2023 through October 2023); and Whereas in accordance with Article IX, Section 6 of the OCF Bylaws, in the event of the death of the President, the Vice President will become President for the remainder of the term; and Whereas Tom Horn has resigned as President and is still very much alive, in accordance with Article IX, Section 2 of the OCF Bylaws, the Board of Directors must elect a new President to serve until the next annual Board meeting; and Whereas the vacancy of the President's office occurred during Anthony “AJ” Jackson's trimester; I, Tom Horn, move that the Board elect Anthony “AJ” Jackson as the President of the Fair for the remainder of the Board term ending at the next annual Board meeting, to be held on November 6, 2023.

The motion passed: 12-0.

Personnel Policies Committee Appointment — Sandra Bauer (AJ & Arna)

(YouTube video: 0:55:45)

Arna moved and AJ seconded to add Sandra Bauer to the Personnel Policies Committee.

Member comment: Aaron: Highly recommends Sandra. She's already works with the Committee and used to work on an old version of the committee.

The motion failed: 7-5; Paxton, Lisa, Sue, Jon Silvermoon, and Ann opposed.

Committee Best Practices Work Group — Manual Revisions Recommendations (Arna & Sandra)

(YouTube video: 1:11:23)

1) Arna moved and Sandra seconded this motion: The Committee Best Practices Work group recommends the following Best Practices' manual revisions: 1. BOD Liaison Role “Committee

Facilitators and Board Liaisons are responsible for ensuring that all present at committee meetings adhere to the Code of Conduct and will set and ensure that each member of the committee and other individuals, whether present or absent, will receive respectful and equitable treatment."

Arna called the question and Sandra seconded. Motion passed: 12-0.

The motion passed: 9-0-3; Lisa, Jon Silvermoon and Sue abstained.

(YouTube video 1:41:30)

2) Arna moved and Sandra seconded this motion:

Closed Committee Meetings: The purpose of Board committees is to provide information and recommendations to the Board, and in that role closed meetings should be rare and only used when absolutely necessary. All committee, subcommittee, ad hoc and work group meetings of OCF Board-appointed committees are open to all Fair members with certain exceptions, as described below. All criteria below apply to committees, subcommittees, ad hoc and work groups. Any Director may attend any closed meeting.

Process and criteria for a closed meeting: The OCF Board of Directors may request by a motion that a committee address a topic requiring confidentiality. Any committee or subcommittee wishing to hold a closed meeting must request and receive prior approval from the Board liaison(s) and Board President and provide notification of their intent to hold an approved closed meeting, including the reason, date, time, location or link, and agenda to all members of the OCF Board of Directors not less than seven days prior to the planned date of the meeting. If a closed committee meeting is planned to occur in the context of a meeting at which topics that are not eligible to be discussed in closed committee sessions are also on the agenda, the agenda items to be discussed in closed session must be clearly marked as closed and arranged within the agenda in a sequence that consolidates the closed topics in a contiguous section of the meeting prior (to) or after the primary agenda topics.

Permitted Topics for Requesting Closed Meetings: Legal, personnel and real estate; When an approved Board motion allows for a committee closed session.

Sue offered a friendly amendment and Arna and Sandra accepted to add one more topic to the permitted reasons: sensitive issues. Also add a clause that emergency closed meetings or portions thereof are permitted, providing the entire Board is notified of the emergency closed meeting as soon as the emergency arises.

Member Comments:

Jonathan Pincus: Anything could be construed as sensitive matters at any time. The point of this criteria is that they have open governance. Strongly recommend against accepting the amendment.

Steven Berkson: Committee wasn't shut down, whether it is ad hoc or not. They have been reporting their progress to the Board every month so questioning why they are doing this work is ludicrous at best and embarrassing at worst. Agrees with Jon and is surprised that the friendly amendment was accepted because other subjects aside from those that are specifically defined are

too subjective. There has been too much difficult history based on people calling subjects sensitive to close meetings.

Spirit: If you will recall, at the February 18, 2022, special Board meeting, sensitive issues were discussed in the context of the Diversity Committee, but it can be applied to other committees too. It was said that the Diversity Committee may hold closed meetings when they have been asked to assist with sensitive situations, with the approval of the majority of the President, VP and Board liaison. Is the goal of this new language to cover all committees to have the same policy? If so, I'm OK with it, as long as it still consists of those three people voting. Board should maybe be doing more homework behind these motions. Committees are supposed to be doing work of the Board and following committee best practices, not some version of it.

Steve Gorham: Agree with Jon Pincus. We should not have committees that are closed so vote No. 2 down.

Aaron: Maybe friendly amendment could be adjusted a little bit. Thinks the intention was for Crafts Committee could do their work because they sometimes handle sensitive topics in their meetings. Crafts Committee doesn't have same rules as Diversity Committee because when there is a Board motion to act in a different manner, that is a valid reason to act in a different manner, but I think this came up around Crafts Committee.

AJ moved to extend the meeting for an additional 20 minutes. Tom seconded.

The motion passed: 12-0.

Jonathan: Remind everybody that this proposed criteria would apply to all Committees. If Crafts Committee needs particular consideration, that is what the focus of the amendment should be.

Sandra moved to call the question and AJ seconded.

The motion failed: 4-6-2; Sue, Paxton, Jon Silvermoon, George, Arna and Ann opposed; John Alexander and Lisa abstained.

AJ moved and Paxton seconded to extend the meeting until 9:40.

The motion failed: 7-5; Sue, Lisa, Jon Silvermoon, George and Ann opposed.

Arna moved to table the rest of the Old Business items on the agenda (remaining No. 2 Best Practices item) that she had brought forward until the next meeting.

Elders Eligibility Work Group Recommendation (Sandra & George): Sandra Tabled until next month.

New Business

The Board moves to Establish an Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors Rules of Order (John Alexander, Sandra Bauer, George Braddock, Paxton Hoag, Tom Horn, Anthony Jackson, Kevin Levy, Lisa Parker, Ann Rogers, Arna Shaw, and Sue Theolass).

Whereas a common understanding of the Rules of Order is necessary for the Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors to function fairly and efficiently; And Whereas the Board has not adopted a

standing set of Rules of Order; The Board resolves that in matters of meeting process the Board will follow (in order): 1. The Oregon Nonprofit Corporation Act (ORS65) and the bylaws of the Oregon Country Fair, using the stricter rule when both statute and bylaw address the matter, 2. Official Board Policies, as embedded in the forthcoming OCF Rules of Order, 3. Established local custom, 4. Robert's Rules of Order as the authority of last resort when all the above are silent on the issue; The Board further resolves that the Board will: 1. Create an ad hoc Rules Committee whose term coincides with the current Board term and can be extended by the incoming Board during its term, 2. Appoint members to the committee, and 3. Refer matters of process to the Rules Committee for their recommendations on Board meeting process policy; The Board further resolves that, after a Rules of Order is adopted, the rules will be reviewed at every Board retreat so that the incoming members will be familiar with them, and refer any desired changes to the Rules Committee at the first meeting of the new Board.

Next Board Meeting — September 11, 7 pm via Zoom

President's Peace

(YouTube video: 2:18:28)

AJ: Thank everyone for consistently showing up and being interested in the business of this organization. We need you more than ever. Keep your questions and comments coming and vote, vote, vote.

