As I’m writing this article for the Washington State Fairs Association (WSFA) upcoming newsletter, in just over a month we will be meeting as an association for the 2017 annual convention. The WSFA Board of Directors and the Executive Secretary are working hard in completing the final touches to the program. I’m excited to share that Jeremy Parsons CFE, CEO/Manager, Clay County Fair in Spencer, Iowa, will be our featured keynote Speaker with the topic, “Does your community know how important the fair is and why it needs caretakers.” Also, we have invited the State Veterinarian, Dr. Joe Baker, DVM, to speak on Animal Health Trends, as well as the Director of Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA), Derek Sandison, to speak on topics of interest to the fairs.

The greatest benefits of a convention are circumstantial, often found in the seam of experience. The chance conversation in the coffee line could make all the difference. As such, don’t feel pressured by the structure. Of course, as an association, our hope is that you enjoy the full agenda. I read recently, many frequent convention-goers claim that their greatest convention experiences happened during the “downtime.”

In addition, business of the association is required to be conducted at every convention. This year is no different. We will have two Board members to elect as well as a By-Law amendment recommendation to consider. If you are a voting delegate, you will need to attend the Annual Business meeting. This is scheduled for Saturday October 21, 2017, from 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

As everyone has heard, the legislators did finally come to an agreement on a state operating budget for the next two years with only hours to spare before the government would shut down. Given the importance of the school funding and, for host of other issues, we are fortunate that the Governor’s budget did include the Fair Funding of $4 million for the next two years. This is the same amount that has been allocated since 2002. By all of us working together getting the word to the legislators, made a big difference in the legislative process. We were out there together, visiting and writing Representatives and Senators, educating them on the purpose and value of the Fair Fund and it paid off!

On July 20, after 193 days, the longest legislative session in our state’s history ended without the legislature agreeing on a Capital Budget! What does the Capital Budget mean to the Fairs? This means the Washington State Department of Agriculture will be unable to provide capital improvement grants for fairs. Previous years, Washington State Department of Agriculture received funding from the Capital Budget in amount of $2 million to be distributed to eligible fairs for Health and Safety improvements on fairgrounds. Last year, they received 92 submissions for proposed projects, with the Fairs Commission recommending approval of 52 of those requests. This could mean, for the next two years, no grant program for fairs unless legislators approve a capital budget. It is unknown, at this time, when a capital budget will be approved.

It’s never too early to start looking ahead at next year’s Legislative day in Olympia. In the meantime, mark your calendar for Thursday, February 22, 2018 for the Legislative day in Olympia. John Morrison, Heather Hanson, and I have been reviewing the legislative process and, at the same time, working with Teresa Norman with the Department of Agriculture. They have decided to take the lead and move forward with updating the Fair Statutes and the request for increased funding. If this makes it through the legislative process and becomes a “Bill”, this will be our focus during the legislative day in Olympia. We will provided more information on the subject during the convention.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2017 WSFA Annual Convention.

Terry/Atchison

WSFA President, Walla Walla Fair & Rodeo
Take Care

Does your community know how important the fair is and why it needs caretakers? We all wear many different hats and hold many different titles at our fairs (often it’s multiple hats and titles on the same day – more often, it’s multiple hats and titles on the same day at the same time). For some, we are the CEO’s or managers of our organizations; others are volunteer superintendents. Some of us literally unlock the gates every morning and shut the lights off at night. Others might order ribbons or sell tickets. Some might clean the restrooms or the barns. But despite the varied titles, hats, duties and responsibilities, we all have the same job at our respective fairs – we are the caretakers. Parsons provides the tools to “Take Care” of your fair, specifically how to do simple strategic planning, track your economic impact, promote your local relevance, and turn your Board into positive advocates.

Jeremy Parson, CFE has served as CEO/Manager of the Clay County Fair in Spencer, Iowa, since November 2011. Parsons also served as executive director of the Missouri State Fair Foundation, and prior to that, spent 11 years as a high school English Teacher and basketball/track coach so his summers could be free to work at the Iowa State Fair and later the Missouri State Fair. Originally from Leon, Iowa, his three main priorities beside the fair sector are his faith, his family and the Chicago Cubs. He and his wife, Keisi have three sons (Creighton, Silas, and Milo) and are active members of the Spencer First Baptist Church.

Jeremy will take this subject a step further in a session following at 10:30 AM titled . . .

**Take Care Continued . . .**
Legislative Update

Updating Fair statutes and the legislative process

The law governing how the Fair Fund is allocated was written in 1961. It is in need of updating.

Washington State laws, also known as RCWs can only be changed by the legislature. Laws set state policy, rules implement that policy. After the legislature passes changes to laws, state agencies write rules (WACs) to implement those laws. Only the Washington Department of Agriculture can change the rules that govern how the Fair Fund is used.

For the 2018 legislative session, the Washington State Department of Agriculture, (WSDA) has submitted a bill request to the Governor’s office updating the Fair Funding law. Since WSDA is a cabinet agency, their bill requests must be approved by the Governor’s office.

WSDA’s proposal is limited to updating the statute, it does not request an increase in funding.

If the Governor’s office approves the request, WSDA will ask legislators to sponsor the bill when the legislative session begins in January. If the Governor’s office does not approve the request, Washington State Fairs Association can still go forward with asking legislators to sponsor the bill. It will be introduced in both the House and the Senate. It will have a public hearing before the Ag Committee in each house where Fair supporters can testify and legislators can ask questions. Even though the bill does not increase funding, we should be prepared to answer questions about funding. After Ag Committee hearings, the bill may have to go through fiscal committees, then the Rules Committee, pass the House or Senate floor, then move to the other house and repeat the process. If all of that occurs successfully, the law governing the Fair Fund will be updated. We will need volunteers to write to their legislators and ask them to support the bill.

What does the bill do?

It updates the declaration of public interest and definitions by deleting the words, “welfare of farm people and rural living” and adding “educate the public about the production of food and fiber and promoting rural economic development.”

It deletes outdated language from past years.

It combines two sections that deal with allocations from the fair fund.

It adds language that allows the director of agriculture to waive the eligibility requirement of holding a fair two consecutive years immediately preceding an application for funding if a fair is not held due to a natural disaster such as a flood or wildfire.

Under duties of the Fairs Commission language is added about evaluating fairs to help determine merit.

Under current law, 85% of the Fair Fund is distributed to fairs. The remaining 15% may be used for special assistance grants. Of that, up to 5% may be used for administration including to cover Fair Commission expenses. The bill would increase the amount distributed to fairs to 95% leaving the remaining 5% for administration. The bill eliminates special assistance grants. Note that these grants have not been awarded since 1998 when the fair fund lost revenue from pari-mutual betting. Since then, fair grants have been coming from the capital budget.

It eliminates the cap on reimbursement for premiums for community fairs. Eliminating this cap will not affect allocations, because community fairs are currently receiving far less than what they pay out and the amount of money available for each category of fair is determined by the fair commission.

Each year, the commissioners take the total amount of money available in the Fair Fund and divide it into three buckets - youth fairs, community fairs, county and area fairs. There is no formula for the amount that goes into each bucket, it is based on past allocations. Once the money is in the bucket, a formula is applied to calculate the exact amount that goes to each fair. The same formula is used for both youth and community fairs. The formula considers premiums paid and merit rating. (The merit rating includes such things as gate receipts.) A more complex formula is used for county and area fairs. It also eliminates the reporting of premiums and prizes because this information is not used by the department during the allocation process.

This language can be modified further before a bill is introduced. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask.

Heather Hansen
WSFA Government Affairs
Britnee Kellogg

Britnee Kellogg was three years old when she started singing, and she’s never stopped. Her impressive career began at local fairs and talent shows—anything that gave her the chance to perform. If it had a stage and a microphone, she was there. Her love of country music started when she first heard Reba McEntire sing “Does He Love You.” Smitten from the first note, Britnee knew that she had found her chosen career. Every day since then has brought her one step closer to her dream. Today, you’ll find Britnee sharing the stage with the likes of Chris Young, Lee Brice, Martina McBride, Little Big Town and Keith Urban. You may have also seen her on Season 11 and Season 12 of American Idol. She has a large fan base, with a local and worldwide following. Most recently, Britnee has been focusing on writing and performing her original music and covers with her band. It’s a deeply personal project, one that allows her to truly showcase her rich, edgy vocal stylings. She is also working to create her first full length record, which will be out in early 2018. Britnee’s goal is to create a sound that people can relate to their own personal stories. She is a driven, passionate artist with so much creativity and a love for her craft.

Paul Isaak

Paul Isaak will Make Crowds Say Ohhh, Aahhh!! That Is, He’ll Walk Right Into The Audience, And Physically Make Them Say “Oooo, Ahhh!” Or Else.

From the moment he sets foot on the stage Paul Isaak commands the attention of his audience, then he lures the spectators into joining him on a comedy roller coaster which leaves them breathless. As their journey progresses, his composed demeanor is rapidly overpowered by a frantically energetic funnyman who wins the hearts of the audience as he struggles towards the grande finale of this comedy of errors.

Paul Isaak combines situational comedy, audience participation, and improvisation with juggling and theater to create a memorable entertainment experience. He has been performing physical comedy since 1988. His career has seen him appear on board cruise ships, and at international festivals. He’s been featured at corporate conventions, on movie sets, and has opened for rock stars. With the ability to juggle flaming torches, bounce juggle five balls, or to escape from the most ludicrous straight jacket ever conceived, Paul Isaak delivers an incredible variety of visual delights in each performance. He has also been known to shave with a flying machete, toy with his waiter, and lots more. In fact, Paul’s repertoire is wide enough to incorporate different elements in each show. Amazingly, even with all of these unique skills, it is Isaak’s gregarious personality that is most captivating to the masses. He effortlessly invites each member of the audience to leave their worldly troubles behind and to lose themselves in the moment, as the show plays on.
Jeremy McComb,
That’s Entertainment International
After tour managing the biggest comedy tour in the country (Larry the Cable guy / Blue Collar Comedy Tour) writing movie soundtracks (one of which was nominated for a Grammy) and songs that have appeared on projects selling over 6 million units including 3 Nationally Charting Hits “Wagon Wheel”, “This Town Needs a bar” & “Cold” on Billboard. McComb is a performer who has seen it all. While spending time with major & major independent record deals and appearing on major tours (Sugarland, Montgomery Gentry, Eric Church). His first album was released to critical acclaim- “My Side of Town” was picked by People Magazine as “Nine stars to Watch”, received countless 4+ star reviews including “Country Weekly” who called it “one of the years most encouraging albums”. McCombs next release “LEAP & The net will appear” was self produced / independently released and spawned a 2012 summertime single “Easy as Breathing” Co-written by Jeremy and (Meghan Trainor Producer & Grammy winner) Kevin Kadish. 2015 marked a major career year for McComb, Tour Sponsor deals with TURNER Motorsports (a multiple Nascar Team Owner), EPIPHONE Guitars, Shure Pro Audio. Along with being included on an exclusive deal with WALMART featuring Tim Mcgraw, Lee Brice, Josh Thompson, Rodney Atkins and Jeremy’s last single “LOVE SONG” (which brought national airplay and garnered some of the biggest sales numbers in Jeremy’s career.) Jeremy’s new album “FM” produced by Grammy Winner Jamie Tate in Nashville (Mastered by 4 time Grammy Winner Joe Palacimo) hit the streets January 1st, 2016 and has received a Massive reaction! Early support from ITUNES allowed McComb to release 4 “teaser” tracks from the new record to awaiting fans- it was featured on the FRONT PAGE of the Music Giant’s “New & Noteworthy” Country section, Songs from the new album have OVER 1.1 Million Streams! Along with media appearances, a new Full album and soon to be announced partnerships Jeremy and his full band spent a blistering 150+ days throughout the country in 2015. 2016 is shaping up to be another big year with the biggest tour of his career to date and the new single “Didn’t We” currently making its way up the charts!

Lunch
Friday, October 20, 2017
Briana Renea
Briana Renea comes by her country roots naturally, growing up on a rural farm in Canby, Oregon in the heart of the Pacific Northwest. You can’t miss fiery haired Briana’s high-energy when she performs. Her musical style is greatly influenced by her childhood growing up on 80’s rock and 90’s country. Her music blurs the lines between pop rock and country.
She released her EP “Red Lips White Lies” in May 2015 and has just released a new EP “Chasin’ Trouble”. Her hard work is paying off, having her new single “Chasin’ Trouble” placed in the Top 40 for the Nashville Songwriters Association International’s (NSAI) second quarter of 2016. Off of her first EP “Red Lips White Lies” her song “Dirt Side” was chosen for the top 12 Best of NSAI Spring Training award.
Larry Wilson,
Giddyup Productions

2017 Comedy Magician of the Year, Larry Wilson, has appeared at Caesar’s Palace, Harrah’s, Bally’s and other major hotel casinos in Las Vegas, Reno, Lake Tahoe, and Atlantic City, as well as being a favorite at Hollywood’s famous Magic Castle. He was recently seen on Jimmy Kimmel Live television show, performing the Pinata of Doom for the roll out of Ford’s 2017 Escape. He is passionate about arts education and is a favorite presenter for arts organizations, schools, libraries and many other family-centered events. His magnetic appeal charms, surprises and delights all ages. As the Executive Director of Education Renaissance of Nevada Initiative, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, which produces SPELLBINDERS, the largest FREE International Festival of Magic in the World, Larry continues his mission to provide children and teens inspiring exposure to live performances.

“Larry Wilson has been a shining star of The Pioneer Center’s outreach division, and his work stands as a prime example of the importance of arts education for children.” ~ Dennyse Sewell – Managing Director

Jackson Michelson,
That’s Entertainment International

Raised in Corvallis, Oregon, Jackson Michelson kicked off his country career on the West Coast, carving out a sound that blended the rootsy twang of the American South with the sunny, feel-good spirit of the Pacific Coast. Nashville — the official capital of country music — lay 2,300 miles to the southeast, but Michelson focused on his home turf first, building an audience of West Coast fans who were drawn to his high-energy shows and relatable songwriting. By the time he did move to Nashville, he’d already spent years on the road, growing his fan base show-by-show and earning a record contract with Curb Records in the process.

It’s been a wild ride for the man who grew up in the “Grass Seed Capital of the World,” listening to the diverse sounds of his mother’s favorite country songs and his Dad’s soul records.

“Corvallis is a small college town,” he says of his Oregon home, whose farms supply much of the town’s teenage population with work during the warmer months. “You go to school, and in the summer you work on the farm starting at age 12. You either bale hay or drive the combine. That’s what most kids do, every single year.”

Once his older brother landed a record deal as a Christian artist, though, Michelson found himself with a different sort of summertime gig: selling t-shirts and CDs at his sibling’s gigs. Touring the country at a young age lit a fire inside Michelson, who began playing in bands back at home. He started writing original music, too, drawing on his own experiences to create songs that balanced high-energy hooks with good-natured, real-world storylines. It was music shaped by what he listened to and where he came from.

Songs like “The Good Life,” which has since become a popular track on SiriusXM radio, helped spread Michelson’s music to new fans across the country. Most of the grunt work, though, was done on the road, where Michelson delivered more than 100 shows per year. He opened for artists like Lee Brice, Blake Shelton and Frankie Ballard, earning new fans along the way. To him, those fans were everything. They were his muse, his support system, his champions. Crowd interaction became a crucial part of every Jackson Michelson show, and he always ended each gig the same way: by meeting fans, shaking hands and becoming friends with those who enjoyed his music.

“Crowd engagement is so important to me,” he says. “My show is just as much about the band paying attention to the crowd, as the band putting on a show for the crowd. It’s not just about us; it’s about the experience we’re all gonna have together.”

Now, with a record deal under his belt, Michelson is prepping for the next phase of his career. There are new shows to play, new songs to be written and new opportunities to explore. But he’s still the boy from Corvallis, happy to sing about “The Good Life” — a life he’s built himself, show by show and song by song — to an audience that continues to grow.
Vikki Gasko Green
Winner of Best Ventriloquist 1999 I-Fest
Winner of Best Musical Ventriloquist 1999 I-Fest

Being an entertainer since the age of 5, I took to Ventriloquism as a duck takes to water. I remember my Dad introducing me to the old recordings of Jack Benny and all the old radio shows including Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy.

I have been honored to perform my one-woman ventriloquism show at school assemblies, libraries, fairs, festivals and corporate events, entertaining children and adults all across the country and in the U.K with good clean family fun. I bring everything I need to my shows. I have my own sound system if needed. My microphone is a headset mic with a Samson wireless receiver. On my website www.vikkigaskogreen.com are many letters of recommendation.

Storm Rider
Vocals: Jimi Wrinkle
Has played music his entire life. He’s an accomplished drummer, singer and songwriter. Jimi has long been emersed in the local Seattle Rock scene. He has been featured on The Bob Rivers Show doing many renditions of “Twisted Tunes”. His vocals, harmonica work and percussions add an incredible dimension to The Storm Rider Band. His ability to recreate Jim Morrisons vocals is unparalleled. Speaks fluent Walla Walla.

Drums: Darryl Ulskey
Of Lithuanian descent, Darryl Ulskey was given his first snare drum at age seven while living on Whidbey Island. He bought his first drum kit at age fifteen and has played in various local rock bands his entire life. Darryl loves The Doors half-rock, half-jazz, half-circus style - which so far, has been his greatest challenge. Darryl plays Rogers drums and Paiste cymbals.

Keyboard and Sax: Keith Nordquist
Keith’s musical abilities were influenced by bands like The Doors, Pink Floyd, Grand Funk, Hendrix and Eric Burdon. He performs as Ray Manzarek for Storm Rider, A Tribute to the Doors band. Keith graduated from NSCC in Music Studies and has played with well known blues musicians such as Albert Collins, J. B. Hutto and is a current member of the Washington Blues Society. Keith’s musical knowledge and experience compliments the band and its unique sound. Loves Fiats and is also known as “The Swammie”.

Bass Guitar: Joel Mentzos
Local native Joel has played his entire life here in Washington State. He adds depth to the band and recreates the energy bassist Jerry Sheff, famed Elvis bass player, provided for The Doors on “L.A. Woman”. Joel is an accomplished musician and leads the rhythm section with style.

Guitar: Michael Vincent
Michael weaves his way into Robbie Kreigers sounds and melodic vibrations mixing electric guitar with various complimentary accessories. He makes you travel back in time with his musical adaptations. Michael is an accomplished musician and loves rock and roll and the blues; a perfect fit with the Doors. .....Loves Salmon
Elana Jane,
That’s Entertainment International

Elana Jane has a youthful, country-pop sound. As a sixteen year old singer songwriter, her lyrics describe her experiences in high school. Elana has stayed driven throughout the years by the constant support of her family and friends, her positive attitude, her faith, and her passion for music and to succeed. She recorded her first EP featuring four of her originals, “Brand New Day - EP.” She plans on being in Nashville during the summer of 2017 to further develop herself. Her ultimate goal is to become a successful singer songwriter and artist, but also, achieves honors grades and has an ambition to attend a university if her path leads her in that direction. Elana Jane loves spending time with her friends, eating chocolate cake, and listening to her favorite songs. She also loves her two big, furry, yellow labs, Jake and Molly, who recently starred in the music video for one of her originals, “Brand New Day!” She’s currently writing new music, keeping up with social media, and is in the process of recording her second EP.

The Throw Zone
Jeremiah Johnston, That’s Entertainment International

Jeremiah learned to juggle at the young age of twelve. He quickly learned several tricks, astounded his parents and friends, and at the height of his juggling career, promptly retired. However, at 18, he unexpectedly discovered his father’s old juggling torches, and thought it might be time to come out of retirement. He was already acquainted with juggling, knew his father had once been an avid juggler, and even had pictures of himself at two years old playing with clubs, but he had no idea just how deep the rabbit hole would go. Entering college at Humboldt State University in 2005, Jeremiah discovered the Humboldt Circus Club, and thus, found his training ground. The Humboldt Circus introduced him to the stage, fire dancing, and to his first juggling partners. While developing his solo act, Jeremiah, along with his brother Jesse, became half of the four person juggling sensation, The Poetic Motion Machine, with whom they would go on to win the bronze medal at the 2009 International Jugglers’ Association’s annual competition. Throughout this time, Jeremiah slowly came to realize that juggling was to be his life’s path. He was to become a professional entertainer and instructor, sharing the wonder and joy of the juggling arts with the world. But first he had to finish college… Shifting his focus to dance and movement studies, Jeremiah finally graduated from Humboldt State in 2011. Hooray! He moved back to the California Sierra Nevada to begin performing with two other friends, and very talented jugglers, as Mountain Motion. It was with this trio that he returned to the IJA for his second bronze medal in team juggling in 2013. After many wonderful events and adventures, 2014 revealed that it was time for the trio to go their separate ways. This opened the door for Jeremiah to redefine his solo career. He created The Throw Zone, a business dedicated to dynamic entertainment, innovation, and education about the juggling arts. Today, Jeremiah lives in the Bay Area where he performs his solo act for audiences of all kinds. He loves performing and teaching the juggling arts, and looks forward to welcoming people to The Throw Zone.
BOBBY SOX & the JUKEBOX will take you on a nostalgic trip back to the Golden Age of Rock and Roll, the 50’s and 60’s. Performing the most fun, popular music of that era, this show encourages front of stage dancing as well as “sing-along” audience participation. This energetic presentation of upbeat, happy music will spark plenty of memories and generate smiles from “cool kids” of all ages.

Dinner
Saturday, October 21, 2017

Branch and Dean
Liz Gregory Talent and Gregory Productions

Branch and Dean hale from North Florida and are most at home making country music. Dean Scallan and Steve Branch met and quickly realized that their mutual love of country music, performing, and song writing made them a powerful duo. They moved to Nashville, set out to make great music, and soon caught the attention of Michael Huffman (aka Huff Daddy). Huff Daddy – who has worked with greats like Kenny Chesney, Conway Twitty, George Strait, Montgomery Gentry, and Diamond Rio – took Branch and Dean under his wing. Together they began writing and recording great hits like The Dash, Your Ol’ Ladies Gone and The Forgetter. “Their voices blend together so well and after working with them, I truly feel that they have the goods to bring their unique sound to the world,” said Huffman of collaborating with Branch and Dean.

While they are known for their exceptional songwriting skills and high-energy live shows, they also work tirelessly as the National Ambassadors for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CF). Branch’s distinctive vocals anchor the duo’s breakthrough hit The Dash, a tribute to his 23-year-old son, Theron who died after years battling CF. The Dash challenges listeners to make the most of every moment between the birth and death dates that inevitably will appear on their headstones. “Life goes by so fast and our story’s defined by how we spend that dash,” Branch sings in the hauntingly beautiful ballad.

Under the management of Erv Woolsey, best known as George Strait’s long time manager, Branch and Dean quickly have earned the respect of fans and the industry. Most notably, they have walked the CMA Red Carpet and recently achieved the position of the #1 all time record in the UK by landing on the Hot-Disc Charts for 10 straight weeks. They hosted the BCMA awards in October 2015 and have received several award nominations for their amazing music.

To book Branch and Dean for your next event or for interviews please contact the SSM offices at 614-254-2053 or Siara Sparkman, SSM Director of Promotion, siara@ssmnashville.com.

Matt Henry
Matt Henry, the “master of the unnecessary,” is a juggler with some serious skills—he won a world championship—but it’s his combination of one-of-a-kind stunts, comedy, and audience participation that keep him in demand around the world.

He started out busking on the streets of Manhattan, and later moved to Orlando, honing his skills with thousands (yes, thousands) of shows onstage at Disney World. He continued to expand his technical repertoire as well; his hard work was rewarded in 2001 when he bested dozens of other world-class competitors to win a World Juggling Championship. Laugh-a-minute is too slow a pace as he keeps you on the edge of your seats and rolling in the aisles. In addition to the comedy juggling show, Matt also offers a giant soap bubble act. After seeing a recipe for homemade bubble juice online, his initial efforts created such fascination and joy in onlookers that he knew he had to make it part of the act. Since then, he has brought his giant bubbles to events across North America, delighting children and the young-at-heart with his spectacular creations! Don’t miss your chance to see this versatile performer wow you with his wit, charm, and skill! Website: ssmnashville.com.
ELECTRO SWING - GOOD CO
Metropolis Management
ELECTRO SWING Seattle six piece Good Co is the United States’ first live Electro Swing Band. That new old sound, ElectroSwing combines the era of jitterbugging flappers and underground speakeasies with the funky beats and the electric sound of today’s dance music. At Good Co performances it’s quite common for such things as beatboxing harmonica jams, onstage dance parties, and crowd singalongs to spontaneously break out. Good Co is proud to present this new genre to hep cats everywhere. Pounding dance beats are mixed with gypsy jazz guitar riffs, samples from the past turned on their head along with a live horn section make for the best sounding dance party this side of the 1920’s. Featured performer for The Seattle Symphony and The Smithsonian. They Tour internationally and have performed with Caravan Palace.
A fun, infectious collection of tunes shot through a perkiness that brings a smile to my face and lifts my heart. This is life affirming dance music - Sepia chord
Good Co is a group of hard working, adaptive, professional musicians who are willing to work to accommodate tough situations and also to be flexible when the situation calls for it. - Brian Gardner, San Francisco Booker and Producer

Video Showcases
These Video Showcases will be shown at Meals during the Washington State Fairs Association Convention.

Banana Derby, Gregory Talent and Productions
Monkeys Riding Dogs around a racetrack. This event has the same set-up as racing pigs events. A fun filled event for your fair.

Sudsy Barn, Fusion Talent Group
Sudsy’s Barn is a one of a kind hand wash station promoting clean hands nationwide. Simply put it makes washing your hands FUN! Being that it is ADA compliant and adheres to government safety standards. Sudsy’s also opens up unique opportunities for sponsorships that you might not have been able to capture prior. Watch the Video to see for yourself the love that kids and adults alike have for Sudsy’s.

Wenatchee Youth Circus
Our mission is to reach as many youth as possible, helping to teach them one-by-one, the importance of setting goals for themselves while striving to work hard and stay focused. During this process they will learn the value of giving back to the community what our community has so generously given to them.
WYC, known as the “Biggest Little Circus in the World” is one of several nonprofessional groups presently performing in the United States. The show includes many professional quality circus acts, including: high wire, flying trapeze, fire acts, and aerial acts. WYC has no animal acts. Our performers are between ages of 2 up through the summer following their graduating year of high school. WYC is undeniably one of the four top nonprofessional troupes in the nation. Over the years the circus has played to audiences totaling over two million people in the western states from California to Alaska and in Canada as well, averaging 12,000 miles a year. The show has been so well received that many bookings are repeat dates, often made on the spot.

Kids’ Pedal Tractor Pull, Fusion Talent Group
In this fair favorite attraction, kids are celebrated for their achievement as they pedal a vintage 1950’s highly modified tractor with an attached weight transfer sled down the track, competing against the heaviness in tow. You’ll find the suspense and drama is action packed with music to build the excitement with observing audiences. Kids’ Pedal Tractor Pull is the perfect addition for your fair year after year. Watch the Video to learn more. Kid’s vs Machine! This attraction boosts self-confidence With a unique activity designed for ages 4 – 12! A popular event at fairs coast to coast.
Lanky the Clown, *That Entertainment International*

One exposure to the warm characters created by Danny Kollaja, aka Lanky, the Clown will quickly make the average patron understand why this dedicated professional is an Award Winning performer. Lanky is joined by “The Smile Inspector” and “Sheriff Shorty” for his visits to your event. To these portrayals Kollaja has recently added a stilted Uncle Sam character and a stilted, non-clown (Wild West) Marshall Slim and 10’ pirate character.

The depth of Lanky’s performances allow him to work a wide range of audiences from small children’s events and family events to night club performances. Venues have ranged from county and state fairs and festivals across North America to International Fairs (Japan). In addition international goodwill clowning tours and church clowning are part of his dedication to the art. He has repeatedly toured Russia and Guatemala, and has recently toured Afghanistan and Cambodia as part of an International Coalition of Clowns put together by renown Medical Doctor, Patch Adams.

Dale K, *Fusion Talent Group*

Dale K is a world class hypnotist that provides a show both interactive and hysterical. You will find he introduces the power of suggestion in an always humorous and unconventional manner. One of the keys to popularity of Dale K is his versatile ability to entertain a wide demographic in an assortment of venues. In addition to his one-man show Dale K offers a full multi-media experience. A popular headliner for both Disney Cruise Line and Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas, he’s sure to be a hit at your event!

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**Strolling Showcase**

**Lunch, Friday, October 20, 2017**

(Approximately 11:45 AM – Hallway)

**Fair Magic**

Fairy Magic & Children’s Entertainment Services was born from the desire to uplift, educate and entertain children. It is our goal to inspire and delight children of all ages. The magic show is ever changing and very interactive. Every audience and venue / event is different and Hahna is always able to customize a character and show to fit the need of client.

Our shows and characters are focused on the interconnection of all beings and with Mother Earth. We inspire children to embrace kindness, compassion, and to choose gratitude.

**DRAGON CHARACTER COMING SOON!**

Hahna is like a little kid motivational speaker with glitter and wings. She believes that children are the most magical of all, and that they have vast amounts of innate wisdom within them. She looks to children for inspiration in how to live life through joy and wonder. Being a professional Fairy is her passion and art and she feels it is an honor to be a part of celebrating with families at their special events. Performing and inspiring is soul filling for Hahna and she absolutely believes life is magical and that it is up to each person to choose to make it a great day.

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**Washington State Fairs Association Mission**

“Washington State Fairs Association is dedicated to the success of Washington’s Fairs through coordination, education, information, legislation and public support.”
Thursday, October 19, 2017

10:00 AM - Registration Desk Opens – Hotel Lobby
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM  Turn in your Contest Entries – Hotel Lobby

1:00 – 1:50 PM Convention Kickoff

Round Table Sessions
1: Reaching out to Your Chamber of Commerce/VIC, Roylene Crawford, WSFA Director & Kittitas County Fair
2: Phone Apps for Your Fair
3: How to be a Rock Star at Your First WSFA Convention, Jim Baron, WSFA Past President & Manager NW WA Fair,
4: Introducing “The League” of Agricultural and Equine Centers (LAEC) Marnye Langer, Langer Equestrian Group Insurance Solutions (LEGIS), Burbank, CA
5: West Side Super School Planning Meeting
6: Wildcard - This space is saved for the “Hot Topic” after the 2017 Fair Season
7: Animal Service/Companions – What can we ask or not ask
8: Event Pro - Management Software, Mickey Webb, WSFA Director & Grant County Fair and Erin Gurtel, WSFA Director & Spokane County Fair

2:00 – 2:50 PM SESSION

1: Maximizing your Year-Around Facility Rental Program, Debbie Baker, Washington State Fair
2: How to Work with Your County Commissioners, This will be a panel discussion with 3 - 4 County Commissioners participating
3: Marketing Social Media, Mary Kae Repp, Learn more about organic and paid campaigns. This session will focus on how to best utilize all social media platforms using the newest trends. Additionally, this session will give you information on the core demographics utilizing each social media platform.

3:00 – 3:50 PM SESSION

1: Grounds Entertainment – Change vs. Traditions
   How do we, as Fairs, balance traditions with the changing entertainment landscape? In this session, we will discover ways to look at change and traditions within the entertainment programming you are offering at your grounds. Andrea Thayer, Grounds Entertainment Manager, Washington State Fair
2: Liability Issues for Fairgrounds, Marnye Langer, Langer Equestrian Group Insurance Solutions

(LEGIS), Burbank, CA

Be aware of some frequent issues pertaining to liability exposure at your fairgrounds, including internal operational considerations and best practices for working with renters and promoters at your facility. This fun, engaging discussion is presented in plain English and will give you some good tips and considerations for your fairgrounds, your staff, and your board or municipality you may be part of.

3: MANAGEMENT BY G.O.B.S, Bill Ogg, CFE Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days, The “Good Old Boy Style” may be a successful Fair and Fairgrounds management organizational method – or not! This interactive session will discuss options to assist Boards and Managers to develop a structure that efficiency, reduced stress and most importantly; facilitate a more successful Fair.

4:00 – 4:50 PM SESSION

1: Motivating the Millennials, Mary Kay Repp
   Motivating the Millennials through creating a heliotropic engaging culture in your work place. Mary Kae has experience being an executive coach, helping companies and Managers best lead their teams. The session will give guidance on leading in a Heliotropic manner and teaching your team to Be The Sun, Not the Salt.
2: Get up to speed with Current Animal Health Trends, Brian E. Joseph, DVM Washington State Veterinarian
3: Updating Fair Funding Statutes – How you can help - Heather Hansen, WSFA Government Affairs

Service Members Meeting - Trade Show Hall
Heritage BEF

5:45 – 6:15 PM - No Host Social in Hallway

6:15 PM Doors Open for Dinner
HERITAGE BALLROOM DCA
Presidents Welcome – Terry Atchison, WSFA President
Silent Auction
Dinner
Video Showcase
Banana Derby, Gregory Talent and Productions
Sudsy’s Barn, Fusion Talent Group

Entertainment Showcases
1. Britnee Kellogg
2. Paul Isak
3. Jeremy McComb, TEI

9:00 PM
WSFA President’s Reception
Hospitality Room – 731
Sponsored by Carroll Unruh and Oregon Beverage Services
Food Sponsored by Penny Nelson, Hazel’s Diner

Friday, October 20, 2017

DAY 2

8:00 AM Registration Desk Opens

9:00 AM Opening Session of the WSFA Convention -
HERITAGE BALLROOM D, C, and A
Welcome – Terry Atchison, WSFA President
Color Guard
National Anthem
Invocation – Introduction of WSFA Directors
Committee Reports

Take Care, Jeremy Parson CFE, CEO/Manager, Clay County Fair IAFE Keynote Speaker
Does your community know how important the fair is and why it needs caretakers? We all wear many different hats and hold many different titles at our fairs (often it’s multiple hats and titles on the same day – more often, it’s multiple hats and titles on the same day at the same time). For some, we are the CEO’s or managers of our organizations; others are volunteer superintendents. Some of us literally unlock the gates every morning and shut the lights off at night. Others might order ribbons or sell tickets. Some might clean the restrooms or the barns. But despite the varied titles, hats, duties and responsibilities, we all have the same job at our respective fairs – we are the caretakers. Parsons provides the tools to “Take Care” of your fair, specifically how to do simple strategic planning, track your economic impact, promote your local relevance, and turn your Board into positive advocates.

10:30 - 11:45 AM SESSION
1: Take Care Continued, Jeremy Parson CFE, Clay County Fair, IAFE Sponsored Speaker
2: WA State Fair Commission - Fair Commissioners and Teresa Norman, Fair Coordinator, WA Department of Agriculture
3: Speed Dating with WSFA Services Members and Washington Fairs - Great opportunity to meet your Fair Contacts and WSFA Service Members, Moderator, Penny Nelson, WSFA Service Member Director

11:45 AM
Strolling Entertainment Showcase
Fairy Magic

Noon – 2:00 PM Legislative Lunch
HERITAGE BALLROOM DCA
WSFA President and Legislative Chair – John Morrison
WSFA’s role in updating the Fair Funding statutes – Heather Hansen, WSFA Government Affairs
Introductions of Legislators
Introduction of Derek Sandison, Director Dept. of Ag.
Introductions of WA State Fairs Commissioners
Candidates’ Speeches (WSFA Board of Directors)
Silent Auction
Video Showcases:
1. Wenatchee Youth Circus
2. The Kids Pedal Tractor Pull

Entertainment Showcases:
1. Briana Renea
2. Larry Wilson, Giddyup Productions
3. Jackson Michelson, TEI

2:00 – 5:00 PM Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting for 2017 Trade Show –
HERITAGE BEF
Prize Drawing at 4:45 PM/ No Host Social Hour

3:00 PM
Young Professionals Session, Kady Porterfield, Agriculture Department Manager, Central WA State Fair

Carnival Guild Meeting –
A Meeting for Carnival Guild Members

5:45 - 6:15 PM
No Host Social in Hallway

6:15 PM Dinner -
Costume Contest – “Spirit and Pride County Wide”
HERITAGE BALLROOM DCA
Silent Auction
Video Showcase
1. Lanky the Clown, TEI
2. Dale K, Fusion Talent Group

Entertainment Showcases:
1. Vikki Gasko Green
2. Storm Rider

Live Auction –
Hospitality Rooms Open

10:30 PM
“Jam” Session – Hotel Lobby

Saturday, October 21, 2017
DAY 3
8:00 AM Registration Desk Opens

9:00 – 9:50 AM SESSION
1: Instabrags vs. Videosnaps: How & When to Use Both, Cassie Roberts Dispenza, Saffire Social Networks, especially Instagram & Snapchat have taken a turn for the similar— it seems like everything you can do on one you can do on the other. So, when should you use Instagram and when should you use Snapchat? What are the differentiators that make it worth having both or should you just pick one? Join us to answer these questions and strategize on how to most efficiently put these Millennial and Generation Z-focused apps to work for you!
2: Regulatory and Requirements Issues of Operating Drones at your Fair, Deputy Jim Payne, Clark County Sheriff’s Office
3: Let’s Talk Rodeo,

10:00 – 10:50 AM SESSION
1: Hispanics, and Asians, and Gays, oh my!
Luis Valdivia, Multicultural Marketing Specialist, San Diego County Fair, California
The San Diego County Fair is a trendsetter in terms of multicultural marketing: its Hispanic marketing program - the longest-running in the Fair industry, and the 1997 WFA Merrill Award recipient - reached its 20th anniversary in 2017. The Fair’s groundbreaking “Out at the Fair” - also a WFA and IAFE award winner - is the only official LGBTQ outreach program in the Fair industry. The WFA award-winning Asian Festival has also made great strides in three short years. We would like to share these success stories, tips on getting started, and...
how reaching out to untapped multicultural groups can increase Fair attendance each year.

2: **Youth for the Quality care of Animals**, Paul S Kuber, Ph.D., Washington State University Extension, Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a new, industry supported quality assurance program for youth producers ages 8-21 years old. YQCA will provide a common framework for youth food animal quality assurance programs that will enhance the educational experience of youth, improve the care of food animals and provide a higher level of food safety to consumers. YQCA includes information for youth showing the following food animals; Pigs, Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Sheep, Goats, Market Rabbits and Poultry. This program launched in March 2017.

3: **The Benefits of Entertainment Routing with other Fairs or Events**, Eric Marcuse, Romeo Entertainment Group, The NW region provides great opportunities and tremendous geographical challenges for routing talent and attractions to your Fair. We will explore the benefits of working with other Fairs, events, artists and attractions to secure talent and favorable pricing for your event! This session will offer not only industry insight but presents a great opportunity to discover new opportunities through routing!

**11:00 – 11:50 AM SESSION**

1: **What you can Expect from your Sheriff’s Department in an Active Shooter Situation**, Sgt. Fred Nieman, Clark County Sheriff Office Spokesman

2: **Utilizing Service Members Better at your Fair**, Alan Brueus, Fast Track Entertainment

3: **Eyesore to Eyecandy: Elevate Your Brand NOW!** Jeremy Emerson, Saffire, When we think about branding ourselves or our organizations, we can find ourselves intimidated by amount of work in front of us. Where should we start? Do we need a professional brand book or guideline? What if we have no idea what a Pantone color is? We know we hate Comic Sans and Papyrus, but what makes a good font choice, and do we even need one? Never fear! Jeremy Emerson, one of Saffire’s partners and Creative Director is going to show us how to go from “drab to fab” or “eyesore to eyecandy” with two components: a logo, and killer photography. Wait, don’t have either? Not to worry, we’ll discuss ways of utilizing what we’ve got to work with, and tips for sourcing and generating awesome photographic resources that will help our websites, Facebook timelines, Twitter feeds and Instagram pages looking tip-top, portraying our brands in the best possible light!

**Noon – 2:00 PM Awards Luncheon – HERITAGE BALLROOM DCA**

Introduction of Past WSFA Presidents
Contest Awards (Attendance, T-Shirt, Poster, Scrapbook, and Photos).
*Please pick up your items before 3:00 pm today.*

Service Member of the Year Award – Presented by Penny Nelson, WSFA Director and Hazel’s Diner
Silent Auction

**Entertainment Showcases:**
1: Elana Jane, TEI
2: The Throw Zone, TEI
3: Bobby Sox and Jukebox

**2:00 - 5:00 PM Trade Show – HERITAGE BEF**

Prize Drawing at 4:45 PM

**2:00 – 2:50 PM SESSION**

1: **Ins and Outs of the Master Planning Process**, Tom Beckwith, Beckwith Consulting Group, LaConner, WA

2: **Theme and Creative Displays**, Choosing your theme and incorporating the theme throughout your fair. Where to find themes ideas and decoration and ideas on how to display your exhibits. Sue McIntire, WSFA Director & Jefferson County Fair and Erin Gurtel, WSFA Director & Spokane County Fair

3: **Types of Alcohol Permits for your Fair and Events**, Carroll Unruh, Oregon Beverage Services

**3:30 – 4:30 PM**

**WSFA Annual Business Meeting**

**6 – 6:30 PM**

No Host Social in Hallway

**6:30 PM**

**Doors Open for President’s Banquet – HERITAGE BALLROOM DCA**

**Video Showcase:**
Joe Stoddard

**Entertainment Showcases:**
1: Branch and Dean, Gregory Talent and Productions
2: Matt Henry
3: Electro Swing Band - The Good Co, Metropolis Management

Hospitality Rooms Open

**10:30 PM “Jam” Session - Hotel Lobby**

**Showcase Your Fair and help WSFA Too**

We have 3 meals left available for centerpieces: Thursday dinner, Saturday Lunch and Saturday Dinner. Centerpieces can be as simple or elaborate as you would like. The theme of convention this year is Spirit and Pride County Wide. We usually have 30 tables that would need centerpieces. I will have more information as the date gets closer.

****New this year each Fair that does a centerpiece will be able to make a 3 1/2 – 5 minute photo/slide show to be shown on the big screen before the meal. Just gather some pictures showcasing your Fair and fairgrounds include the Fair dates and your web page info and put it on a flash drive.

This is your chance to brag about your Fair to the other Fair lovers.

Sue McIntire
WSFA Director
Position # 4
Jefferson County Fair  jeffcofairgrounds@olypen.com
Fair Exchange – Northeast Washington Fair

Kids City New Area at the Northeast Washington Fair. This Kids City is the brainchild of Sandy Everson, who also started and continues with, if not the only kids talent show in the state - We call it performing arts. Covers all sorts of talents, divided into age groups same as 4-H ages and runs all 4 days of the fair. She has written grants for her small town of Northport and started their youth center up there. You name it this gal is doing it while holding down a full time job. She has talked about this kids city for a couple years but space has been tough as I don’t have any barns or buildings not being used. The last one was the little cat barn that since has been overtaken by the fiber arts girls. Then one day she was here while I was moving extra stuff out of one end of the storage under the grandstands and there it was the space for her city. I moved things out and put them with my tools at the other end and she made her phone calls to her worker bees and there it started in a matter of weeks she had built the coolest miniature town you have ever seen. The attention to detail is amazing. She discovered that her grampa was a policeman in the 20’s so his picture is on the wall at the jail. She has a can opener that leaves the lid in tact so she emptied and glued the lid back on for the grocery store—she cut out pieces of wood and painted them to look like meat. There were times you would look in there and kids that didn’t know one another would be interacting. One in particular was a little girl that was acting as the waitress in the restaurant and others were giving her orders of what they wanted and she would go and cook something and deliver. She even had a question and answer in there and created a scavenger hunt like the one she created on the grounds. Your prize when you are done is an ice cream cone—over 200 kids received cones over the 4 days in those two hunts. I would love some sort of recognition for Sandy and she needs to share her thoughts although there are not many with her ambition and drive.

This article was submitted by the Fair Manager, Lori Matlock of the Northeast Washington Fair in Colville, Washington. If you have something to share about your fair or business please send pictures and story to wastfair@comcast.net. We will publish in our next newsletter and share on our website.
Hello Guys and Gals,
The summer has been an adventure, smoky, humid and incredibly hot. Break downs and bickering crew. But I guess that’s why we do it year after year. It’s something that gets in our blood. The pleasure I had though was seeing friends like Karen Quest, Joe Stoddard and Elisa Hayes. The Board once again fighting for budgets and keeping the fair industry alive in this age of electronics. Giving the families a place to come together and learn about our states wonders in agriculture, wine making and history. With so many places being torn apart by hurricanes, floods and fires I feel really blessed to be in an industry that brings joy, laughter and maybe for just a moment people forget their problems. I hope all of you had a good season and are well and happy. I still have Central WA State Fair to do and am looking forward to seeing some of you there. Be Safe Out There.

Penny
Penny Nelson
Service Member Director
Hazel’s Diner

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New WSFA Service Members

**Buck Trout Puppet Truck**
**Rick Leonard**
17328 Ventura Blvd #230
Encino, CA 91316, Phone: 818-219-8890
Email: bucktroutshow@gmail.com Website:bucktroutshow.com
Since 1995 Buck Trout has been making appearances at some of the largest events in the United States. This truck driving puppet promotes good values and is a family favorite at state and county fairs, car shows, sports shows and parades.

**Britnee Kellogg**
**Britnee Kellogg**
PO Box 2692, Tualatin, OR 97062
Phone: 971-221-9942
Email: britneekellogg@gmail.com
Country Singer

**Fairy Magic**
**Hahna Lunda**
PO Box 898, Clinton, WA 98236, Phone: 310-320-7502
Email: FairyMagicEntertainment@gmail.com
Website: www.FairyMagicEntertainment.com
Fairy Magic & Children’s Entertainment Services was born from the desire to uplift, educate and entertain children. It is our goal to inspire and delight children of all ages. The magic show is ever changing and very interactive. Every audience and venue/event is different and Hahna is always able to customize a character and show to fit the need of client. Our shows and characters are focused on the interconnection of all beings and with Mother Earth. We inspire children to embrace kindness, compassion, and to choose gratitude.

**Funaddicts/Bobby Sox & the Jukebox**
**Robert Seeley**
255 S 197th Street, Des Moines, WA 98148
Phone: 253-632-6388
Email: rsmusic2k@aol.com Website: www.funaddictsband.com
Four piece band entertainment

**Leapfrog Entertainment**
**Robert Stuverud**
PO Box 686, WA 98020, Phone: 425-774-4098
Email: rob@leapfrog-entertainment.com
Website: www.leapfrog-entertainment.com
Leapfrog Entertainment has been booking the best quality grounds entertainment since 1994.

**Storm Rider/A Tribute To The “Doors”**
**Darryl Ulskey**
PO Box 1406, Edmonds, WA 98020
Phone: 206-715-6977
Email: Darrylul@msn.com Website: www.stormrider-a-tributetothedoors.com
Professional Tribute Band

**Vikki Gasko Green Magical Ventriloquist**
**Vikki Green**
810 NW 41st Street
Vancouver, WA 98660
Phone: 360-600-3022
Email: vgasko@gmail.com Website: www.vikkigaskogreen.com
Award winning bi-lingual ventriloquist, who uses a wide variety of characters, magic and audience participation to excite audiences young and old alike.

**Cecil’s Magic**
**Cecil Lewis**
11124 W Riverview Drive
Post Falls, ID 83854 Phone: 208-755-0203
Email: cecil@cecilmagic.net Website: www.CecilMagic.com
Cecil’s Magic provides family friendly entertainment with live animal and lots of audience participation. From Strolling magic to Stage illusions, his quick wit and comedy is suitable for young and old alike.
GF Strategies’ Greg Flakus to close out long Fair consulting career at the end of 2017

After more than two decades of successfully helping fairs and festivals refine and streamline food and beverage service, Greg Flakus, founder of GF Strategies, has announced plans to retire at the end of 2017.

“We do plan to continue to work with the festivals this summer,” said Flakus. “We also plan to continue on a selected basis working with venues that are seeking help with selecting a master food contractor or an on-site look at their food and beverage operations.”

Since 1996, when GF Strategies accepted its first customer outside of the Northwest region, the Houston Livestock Show, the company has helped 53 fairs implement a sales tracking system for food sales. The system is in place from Massachusetts to San Diego to South Carolina. The results have allowed these fairs to increase their year over year sales and benefit from the company’s expertise on menus, layout, signage, seating and transaction levels by area and event wide.

In 1992 GF Strategies was asked by then-manager of the Oregon State Fair Don Hillman to help the fair with a project to select a new food and beverage contractor. They also created what would become the model for sales tracking long before cashless sales and smartphones arrived on the scene.

“Little did we know that that project would lead to the formation of our company as Winning Ticket Strategies in 1993,” Flakus said. The company changed its name in 2000 to GF Strategies, more appropriate to the concept.

The Oregon State Fair in Salem still uses the system, as do some of the top fairs and events in the nation, including the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo; The Eastern States Expo, West Springfield, Mass.; San Diego County Fair, Del Mar, and the Arizona State Fair, Phoenix. In all the company has worked with fairs in 20 states, including state fairs in Oregon, Indiana, Oklahoma, Washington, and Colorado, and major fairs in California, Texas, Indiana, Vermont, Oregon and the home state of Washington. In Oregon, 10 fairs continue to use the GF Strategies system as well as eight in California and six in Washington.

The company also provides food and beverage consulting to festivals, stadiums, arenas and convention centers, including on-site visits to review food and beverage operations, assistance with selection of a year-round food service provider and labor and food cost reviews.

For more information visit www.gfstrategies.com.

Book your Rooms at the Hilton Vancouver, today. To get the Convention Rate they must be booked before September 18. Mention WSFA (Washington State Fairs Association) to get the Convention Rate 360-993-4500 or 1-800-HILTONS

Use WSFA Block Code of S17

Our Convention Room rate is:
Single and Double Occupancy of 115.00 per night
Triple Occupancy of $125.00 per night
and Quad Occupancy of $135.00 per night

We have a limited amount of rooms reserved in our Block so make sure to make your reservations today
Our cutoff date for these Rates is September 18, 2017.
After September 18th the rate goes up.

Dates of Convention October 19 – 21, 2017
Thursday - Saturday

Washington State Fairs Association Vision
“Leading Washington Fairs in successfully meeting the changes and challenges of the 21st Century.”
**Remember the Convention Auction**

Convention is just a little over a month away and we are beginning to round up items for our ever-popular auctions. WSFA Vice President and Auction Chair Tom Muchoney, is asking that everyone start planning now for our Annual Auction. We would like to see Fair Packages - featuring happenings at your 2018 Fair, Weekend Getaways, and items that tell the story about your special corner of the state. Quilts, Coffee, Gardening Items, Outdoor Items, Plants, Food Baskets, Kids Items, Fall and Christmas Items are always popular.

Items for the Auction can be brought to the Registration Desk on Thursday, October 19 starting at 10:00 AM. We have a donation form on our website (wastatefairs.com), it can be filled out and brought with you or you can send to the WSFA office at wastfair@comcast.net or PO Box 945, Conway, WA 98238.

If you have questions about the auction give Tom Muchoney a call at 425-344-3657 or Gale a call at 360-269-9971

*Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing all your 2017 Treasures.*

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**WSFA Thanks and Honors Jeff Fulks for his dedication to the Washington State Fairs Association and the Fair Industry.**

Persons who captured time… memory keepers… historians… artists. These are just a few ways to describe a photographer. With the commonality of cell phone cameras, anyone and everyone can take pictures, but few can capture essence. Just about every Fair in America celebrates the artistry of the Photographer. Halls full of hastily taped or pain-stakingly arranged photographs telling stories and capturing moments. But very few Fairs have artists that give of themselves to make sure that every moment has the opportunity to be captured… and memorialized forever.

A true testament to the dedication of volunteers, it was difficult to find people that could give specific information as to Jeff's (and Margaret's) involvement with the Fair. For most, they simply have “always been there to help”. Everyone easily points to the photography department, where one or both have been mainstays.

However, since Jeff is well known for seeking out the many events at Fair (and Fair Convention), he sees the many aspects of Fair operations. This makes him an invaluable resource. Each year, the Benton Franklin Fair honors individuals for their commitment to the Fair. In 1991, Jeff & Margaret Fulk were recognized for their continued work and dedication towards the Fair's goals.

Jeff is not limited just to taking photos at Fair events, as Jeff Fulks Photography offers full service Photography services in the greater Richland Area. Jeff is a member of the Professional Photographers of America and the State affiliate, Professional Photographers of Washington, where he served as President in 2008.

For many, we welcome Jeff’s enthusiastic shutter work when we attend our WSFA Family reunion each October. It is a guarantee that a majority of photographs from Benton/Franklin are the work of Jeff, you can tell by the awards hanging from them. For those that have had the pleasure of facilitating or hosting workshops, you know that the door will open at some point in time, with Jeff’s camera capturing the moment. It is dangerous to fall asleep at a workshop. As a speaker, an acknowledgement that you are doing well should be noted when after taking a few photos, Jeff stays to listen to your presentation. Jeff is probably the only person that can say they have attended EVERY workshop at each WSFA Convention he has attended.

Thank you for your continued dedication to the Fair Industry…

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*2017 WSFA President Terry Atchison thanking Jeff Fulks and presenting him with a bottle of Walla Walla Chocolate Wine*
The following Bylaw changes will be discussed and acted on at the 2017 WSFA Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 21, 2017. The Clark County Fair proposes the following changes to the WSFA Bylaws for consideration by the membership at the 2017 Annual Meeting.

**WSFA Bylaws**

**ARTICLE IV – DIRECTORS**

Section 2. Change the sentence that presently reads: “A member in good standing per Article III, Section 1 may not have more than one (1) representative at any time” to read “A member in good standing per Article III, Section 1 may not have more than one (1) voting representative at any time”.

Rationale: The intent of the original language is to ensure that any one member Fair not have more than one vote on matters of business of the Association. Given that the Immediate Past President does not have a voting membership on the Board of Director’s, if left the way it is, the member Fair from which he/she comes is ineligible to have a voting member of the Board until his/her term as Immediate Past President has passed. This all assumes that the Immediate Past President’s term as an elected officer has expired at the time he/she becomes Immediate Past President. Otherwise it is moot and that Fair still has one voting member. This change just covers the case where the term has expired at the time the President also becomes Immediate Past President. It will happen in 2018. When Terry Atchison becomes Immediate Past President, his term on the Board will be over. With the current wording, the Walla Walla Fair would not be eligible to have a WSFA Board member for up to two years.

**ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

Section 8. Add the following wording to the last sentence of Section 3: “where an election will be held to fill the unexpired term of the ineligible Director.”

Rationale: The present wording, although sufficient, is not clear that appointed Director’s must stand for election at the next annual membership meeting if they so desire, along with any other candidates, for Board positions that become vacant. The wording also needs to be clearer that any vacancy so filled is for only the unexpired term of the vacant position so that the rotation of two Directors off the Board each year is maintained. Otherwise depending on the circumstances and timing, there could be three of the eight Directors leaving the Board at the same time and possibly from the same side of the State. A key advantage of the four-year term was that it allowed us to ensure that any maximum of only two Directors will rotate off each year.

Article V – OFFICERS

Section 8. Add the following sentence after the end of the first sentence of Section 8: “It will be the responsibility of the Board to fill the office of Executive Secretary, if so created, and to prepare and present an annual evaluation of the incumbent.”

Rationale: The present Bylaws were not clear as to the responsibility for filling the office of Executive Secretary and there was no provision for evaluation of the incumbent, nor the desired frequency of an evaluation. Given that the Executive Secretary works directly with the Board on a regular basis, it is logical that the Board would hire and evaluate that individual.

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**Washington State Fairs Association**

2017 – Board of Directors Nomination

**WASHINGTON STATE FAIR ASSOCIATION** Board of Directors will have three (3) positions up for election this year.

The Bylaws: “a Director must be nominated for a specified position and elected by the voting delegates at the annual meeting.”

**Position #2** – Currently is held by Tom Muchoney from Evergreen State Fair. He is eligible to run for this position again having been elected to the position in 2013. **Position #2 is a Westside Position.**

**Position #3** – Currently is held by Tom Gwin from Washington State4–H Fair Puyallup, WA. He is eligible to run for this position again having been elected to the position in 2013. **Position #3 is a Westside position.**

**Position #8** – On January 5th the Board appointed Roylene Crawford from Kittitas County Fair to fill the seat vacated by Brenda Adame until the 2017 Convention. She is eligible to run for this position as defined in the By-Laws. **Position #8 is an Eastside Position.**

If you are interested or know of someone that would be an effective board member, please let me know. Also, we are asking for a written letter of intent to run and a short paragraph of your qualifications is required. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any Board member.

Erin Gurtel, WSFA Director, Position #6
Chair, Nominations Committee
Send a letter of interest to Erin Gurtel, Chair – 404 N. Havana, Ste 1, Spokane Valley, WA 99202 or egurtel@spokanecounty.org
# Washington State Fairs Association

## Convention Registration Form

Hilton Vancouver, WA  
October 19 – 21, 2017 ... “Spirit and Pride County Wide”

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Please print legibly your CORRECT name tag depends on it!

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<th>First Time at Convention</th>
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**Name of Fair/Business:** ____________________________________________________________

**Contact Name:** _________________________________________________________________

**Address:** _____________________________________________________________  
Street or P.O. Box: __________  City: __________  State: __________  Zip: __________

**Email:** _________________________________________________________________  
Telephone: _________________________

**Amount enclosed:** $ ____________________________

**Visa Card/MasterCard/Discover #** ____________________________  
**Exp Date:** __________

**Security Code** __________, last 3 digit number on the back of the card located at the end of the signature line.

**Name as it appears on the credit card:** ____________________________________________

**Signature:** ________________________________________________________________

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- **Save with Early Bird Registration till Tuesday, September 19, 2017 Only $297.00.**
- **Registration Fee starting Wednesday, September 20, 2017 is $340.00.**
- A registration entitles you to a name badge, entrance to all convention activities, 5 Meals and a booklet making you eligible for all of the prizes to be given away.
- **Individual meals: Thursday evening - Friday lunch - Friday evening - Saturday lunch - Saturday evening - All individual meals are priced at $40.00 each.**
- **Badges will be required at all meetings and convention functions.**
- **Refund Policy: Requests for a refund must be received by Monday, September 18, 2017. Starting Tuesday September 19, 2017 the funds may be transferred to another member, but not refunded.**
- Make checks on all registration payable to WSFA with proper funds.  
- Make a copy for your records. Thank you and we will see you in Vancouver, WA
- **To have a Trade Show Booth you must also be registered for the Convention, with this form.**

---

**WSFA Office Use Only:**  
**Mail this form to:** WSFA Convention  
Washington State Fairs Association  
P.O. Box 945, Conway, WA 98238  
**E-Mail:** wastfair@comcast.net  
**Website:** www.wastatefairs.com  

**Questions:** Call: 1-360-269-9971  

**Check #:** __________  
**Amount:** __________  
**Includes:** __________  
**Other:** __________
WASHINGTON STATE FAIRS ASSOCIATION
CONVENTION at Hilton – VANCOUVER

Convention Theme: “Spirit and Pride County Wide”.

This year our Trade Show Area will be Show Area will be in Heritage DCA. A draped table, fabric dividers, and chair will be furnished. The exhibit hall booths are approximately 8 feet wide by 8 feet deep. Please return this form as soon as possible, space is limited. There will be hospitality times plus coffee and snack breaks in the trade show area. You must also submit a convention registration form with the trade show registration form to have a trade show booth.

Name: __________________________________________

Person to contact: ___________________________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________ Product or service: ___________________________

Booth costs: Booth Fee plus convention registration depending on the size of booth. Payment for commercial booth must accompany this form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Single booth - $160.00</th>
<th>Double double booth - $300.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Bird</td>
<td>Starting September 20</td>
<td>Starting September 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price Prior to</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plus Washington State Fairs Association Convention Registration

PLEASE NOTE: To participate in TRADE SHOW you must be registered for the Washington State Fairs Association Convention.

Do you need WiFi? Yes or No

Electricity Needed? Yes or No

Electricity Charge at $ 105.00 (includes both days)

Name as it appears on the credit card: _________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________________________________

Visa / Mastercard/Discover: ___________________________________ Exp Date: __________ Security Code: __________

Signature: __________________________________________ Email: __________________________

Mail this form to: Washington State Fair Association – Convention

P.O. Box 945
Conway WA 98238
360-269-9971, if you have questions, please call or email: wastfair@comcast.net

WSFA Office Use Only

Check # ________

Credit Card: ________________

Date Rec’d: __________

Amount: ________________

Other: __________________

WIFI

Cascade Amusements
A Full Service Carnival
“Your Commitment to Excellence”

1521 N. Jantzen Ave., #413
Portland, OR 97217
Phone: 503-927-4657
cascadeamusements@comcast.net
WSFA Convention Contests

Bring Scrapbook, Poster, T-Shirt entries to the Contest Entry Table on Thursday, October 19, 2017 between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
ONLY THOSE ENTRIES SUBMITTED BY THAT DATE AND TIME WILL BE JUDGED
(late entries will be accepted for display only).

The Fair attendance categories are: A - Fairs under 8,000 and youth shows; B - Fairs 8,001-22,000; C - Fairs 22,001-40,000; D - Fairs 40,001-100,000; and E - 100,001 and over.

PHOTO CONTEST – Due Monday, October 9, 2017 Photos must be mailed to:
Tom Gwin WA State 4-H FAIR, 2606 W. Pioneer, Puyallup, WA 98371

All entries will be judged by a professional photographer. In addition to judging the categories listed below, the judges will be asked to select an overall winner. This will be the Grand Sweepstakes winner.
A) Carnivals
B) Contests & Games
C) Animals
D) Kids
E) Senior Citizens
F) Entertainment
G) Rodeo
H) General Interest

Ribbon stickers will be used and put on ALL winning entries on the FIRST day of the convention. Ribbons for winners will be available on request. During one of the meals at the convention a list of winners will be displayed on all tables. All fairs that entered should also be listed. An announcement and ribbon recognition will be made for the GRAND SWEEPSTAKES. Category winners will be listed in the Fair Views following the convention.

CATEGORIES

BLACK AND WHITE (includes digital and film prints, judged as the same)
A) Carnivals
B) Contests & Games
C) Animals
D) Kids
E) Senior Citizens
F) Entertainment
G) Rodeo
H) General Interest

COLOR (includes digital and film prints, judged as the same)
A) Carnivals
B) Contests & Games
C) Animals
D) Kids
E) Senior Citizens
F) Entertainment
G) Rodeo
H) General Interest

1) Only 8 X 10” or 8 X 12” Black & White or Color prints accepted. Each will be judged separately.
2) Photos must depict Fair related activity.
3) Photos taken by your Newspaper are acceptable: include name photographer and newspaper.
4) Judges have the right to change categories as they see fit; i.e., a photo showing a child and an animal may be general interest.
5) There will be three places awarded in each of 8 categories.
6) A Grand Sweepstakes winner for best photo will be chosen by the judges.
7) All categories may be entered by your fair. Only three entries per category are allowed.
8) Type on a 3 X 5 card. Leave ½ inch space at the top. Use single spacing: Captions may be added, but not required. Write in pencil on the back of the photo the name of fair and category. (Single Space)
9) All photos must be picked up by 2:00 PM on the last day of the convention. NONE WILL BE MAILED.
10) NO PHOTO COPIES ARE ALLOWED. ALL PHOTOS MUST BE ON PHOTOGRAPHIC PAPER.

SCRAPBOOK CONTEST – Due Thursday, October 19, 2017
between 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.

A scrapbook should tell the story of your fair and its operations. It provides a lasting record of the fair on a yearly basis and is a treasury of all aspects of activities, events and people. Assemble your scrapbook as if every person who looks at it has never attended your fair.

These rules were developed to provide flexibility and allow each fair entering a scrapbook to be creative and innovative in producing their record.

Scrapbooks will compete in the appropriate size division (a) under 8,000 and youth shows (b) 8,001-22,000 (c) 22,001-40,000 (d) 40,001-100,000 (e) 100,001 and over.

Judging score will be based on the judging results for the categories listed below.

Creativity Total of 30 points
Use of theme 5 points
Use of Color 5 points
Originality 5 points
Readability 5 points
Overall appeal 10 points

Introduction Total of 5 points
Preface (name of fair, name of city, fair dates, fair attendance, theme, category and person(s) doing book
Table of contents (WITH PAGE NUMBERS INDICATED)
Map

Preparations Total of 10 points
Fair Board Activities
Staff
Preparations for Fair

Fair Time Total of 40 points
Entertainment
Fair Activities
Fair Departments

Promotions Total of 15 points
Advertising (anything you paid for)
Publicity
Posters
Miscellaneous promotional pieces (TV coverage, library exhibits, etc.)

Off Season (Optional) NO POINTS
Interim events and activities
Ticket samples, etc.

TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE
100

General rules and instructions
Example: First section of Scrapbook
First Page (Introduction) is a tabbed page.
Page 2 – back of Introduction page is blank – as are all other tabbed pages
Page 3 – Title page/Preface – Must include name of fair, city, dates, fair attendance, category, theme, and person(s) doing the scrapbook
Page 4 – Table of contents – with page numbers included
Page 5 – Map of fairgrounds

Required
Use both sides of pages (except tabbed pages)
Incorporate theme throughout scrapbook
Label (caption) ALL pictures clearly
All pages must have page numbers
Premium/Exhibitor guides MAY be included (many are now on-line, so this is optional)
Scrapbook judge will be independent of WSFA. Scores will be tallied and the judge(s) will give awards based on above scores. The judge(s) will determine the winners in each size division. A “Judges Choice” will be awarded to one entry only. Score sheets will be provided for all scrapbooks.
**POSTER CONTEST** - Due Thursday, October 19, 2017 between 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.

The purpose of this contest is to share the wide variety of the ways fairs market their event with the use of posters.

Posters will be judged in two categories:
1) **Artistic**
   - The poster should be an Artistic presentation of the fair.
   - A special event or feature may be included, but not required.
2) **Informational**
   - Poster is to clearly present information about the fair (i.e. date, time, special events, cost, presale ticket purchase location, etc.). Both categories will compete in the appropriate division as determined by fair attendance. The judging criteria are listed below:

**JUDGING FOR POSTER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Artistic Points</th>
<th>Informational Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of White Space</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Impact</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Originality</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information/Content</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WSFA Board of Directors will award “Fair Board’s Choice” in both categories if there are qualified entries.

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**T-SHIRT CONTEST** – Due Thursday, October 19, 2017 between 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.

Awards will be given in each attendance division for “Best Use of Theme”. There will be “Best of Show” T-Shirt awarded if merited.

*Please note the following:
All t-shirts must be picked up by 2:00 PM on the last day of the convention. NONE WILL BE MAILED.

**WEBSITE CONTEST**

**TO ENTER** – PLEASE SEND AN E-MAIL TO: wastfair@comcast.net
Be sure to include your attendance category (the Fair attendance categories are: A - Fairs under 8,000 and youth shows; B - Fairs 8,001 - 22,000; C - Fairs 22,001 -40,000; D - Fairs 40,001-100,000; and E - 100,001 and over) and
New this year
Service Member Website

**Rules:** The site must be active. All sites will be judged using a 1 to 10 point scale with 1 being the lowest score and 10 being the highest score. The score will be based on the following criteria:

1) Navigability/organization of website
2) Overall appearance/impression, including creativity and graphics
3) Use of graphics and other effects
4) Website adheres to a consistent theme
5) Website shows production excellence

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Please support these Service Members!
2017 Washington State Fairs Association Convention Checklist

1. Fairs – Remember to send in your Voting Delegate Registration Form signed by a representative from your fair. This needs to be filled out so, your fair is eligible to vote at the annual meeting, send this to the WSFA office or turn in at the Registration Desk when you arrive at the convention. This can be emailed to wastfair@comcast.net or brought with you to convention.

2. Scrapbook Contest – Fairs bring your scrapbooks to convention and turn these in at the Registration Desk between 10 AM and 3 PM on Thursday, October 19, 2017.

3. Poster Contest – Bring your 2017 Fair Poster to WSFA Convention. Turn the poster into the Registration Desk between 10 AM and 3 PM on Thursday, October 19, 2017.

4. Photo Contest – Fairs mail your photos to Tom Gwin, 4-H Fair, 2606 W Pioneer, Puyallup, WA 98371 by Monday, October 9, 2017 for judging. Your photos will be judged by a professional photographer and will need to be entered by Monday, October 9 for judging.

5. T-Shirt Contest – Remember to bring your T-shirts to the convention. Turn them in at the CONTEST ENTRY TABLE between 10 AM and 3 PM on Thursday, October 19, 2017.

6. Create a list of items to share at Convention – Bring them with you and share them at meals, during sessions or while networking with other fairs and service members.

7. It’s not too late to register for the 2017 WSFA Convention. Call the WSFA Office at 360-269-9971 or email at wastfair@comcast.net. You can also register at the convention registration desk on site at the convention. We hope to see you there.


8. If you haven’t reserved your room yet, do so today. Call the Vancouver Hilton 360-993-4500. Remember to mention the WSFA Convention that will motivate them to give you a room in our block. If they do not have any rooms left give the WSFA Office a call we may have a few left in our block.

9. Bring a donation for the silent auction and live auction. The silent auctions will be held on Thursday - Saturday depending on the amount of items donated. The Live Auction will be at the Friday Night Dinner. Turn your auction items in at the reservation desk when you arrive at convention. Come prepared to do some shopping for the Holidays!

10. The dress for Friday night’s dinner Costume Contest is Spirit and Pride County Wide come prepared to have fun. (October. 20, 2017)

11. We invite you to dress up for the Saturday Night President’s Banquet.

12. Remember to bring items from your fair to share at the Resource Table.

13. Most importantly, have a safe trip to convention. We look forward to seeing you October 19 – 21, 2017 in Vancouver, WA!