



Message from Dane Dugan, RMAF President

Fair season is here! While that statement may bring about thoughts of stress, long days and hard work – try to remember the impact and excitement your efforts will have on the thousands of people that attend your community's (most likely) biggest celebration. Our industry is so unique in the ways that it touches people.

For some it's the nostalgia and others it's the thrill of experiencing a new extreme ride. Whatever the impact, you should feel great knowing you had a part in making it happen.

Even amongst all the chaos (the organized version, of course), one of the biggest lessons I've learned is how important it is to have a healthy work/life balance. Some of you probably have already mastered this concept but it's

taken me a bit longer to grasp. I've started spending a lot more time with family and friends. I've also been enjoying my surroundings by doing the things I used to do all the time like hiking, camping, paddle boarding and so on. It turns out, there is a life to be lived outside of work. Balance is key.

It's hard to believe that we are only four months away from our annual convention. The year has certainly gone by way too fast. As you proceed through your fair, don't forget to keep extra copies of your marketing collateral (premium books, posters, event guides, etc.) so you can enter them in the RMAF Summit Awards Program. We also have a new award that will recognize outstanding achievement in

innovation being named after former RMAF and IAFE president, Barbara Renner. See our website for more information.

The majority of RMAF fairs will take place over the next two months or so and I can't wait to visit as many as possible! My favorite fair foods are hand-dipped cheddarwurst corn dogs and gyros – so hopefully those are on the menu. Best wishes to all of our members for a successful season and enjoy what is left of summer!



Up-Coming Meetings & Conventions

November 8-11, 2017—92nd Annual RMAF Convention, Hotel Eleganté, Colorado Springs, Colorado

November 7-10, 2018—93rd Annual RMAF Convention, Radisson Hotel Billings, Billings, Montana

November 13-16, 2019—94th Annual RMAF Convention, Davis Conference Center, Layton, Utah

November 11—14, 2020, 95th Annual RMAF Convention, Hotel Eleganté, Colorado Springs, Colorado

2016 RMAF Board of Directors

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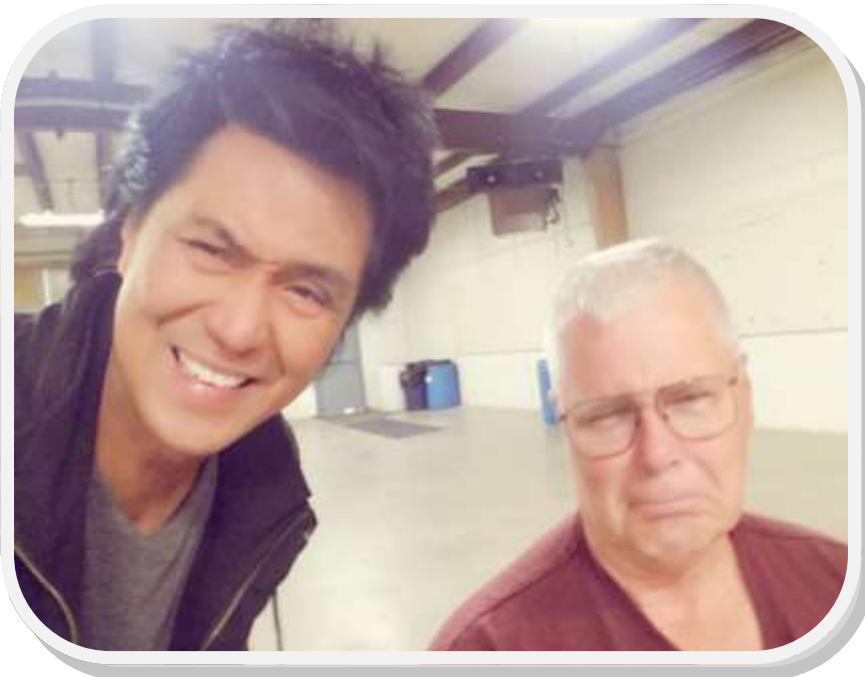
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Email: jane@robocarsentertainment.com

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Variety Act



"One month till the fair and David Brewer, the new manager of the Great Northern Fair isn't smiling any more (with Freddie Prez)."

Traveling to RMAF fairs this summer?
Working as an entertainer or just checking out the fair
fun? Share you pictures with us & we will use them on
our Facebook page and in up-coming newsletters.

FAIR EXCHANGE

Rocky Mountain Association of Fairs Newsletter

PO Box 77, Filer, ID 83328-0077

208-326-2288

Nancy Pitz, Editor

The FAIR EXCHANGE is published four (4) times yearly and is the official newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Association of Fairs

We would love to hear from you!

If you have items of interest/news that you would like to get out to RMAF membership in the newsletter, you can drop a line to the RMAF office via email—rmaf@fildertel.com

All newsletter submission need to be into the RMAF office by 25th of the month proceeding the publication dates (January, April, July & October)

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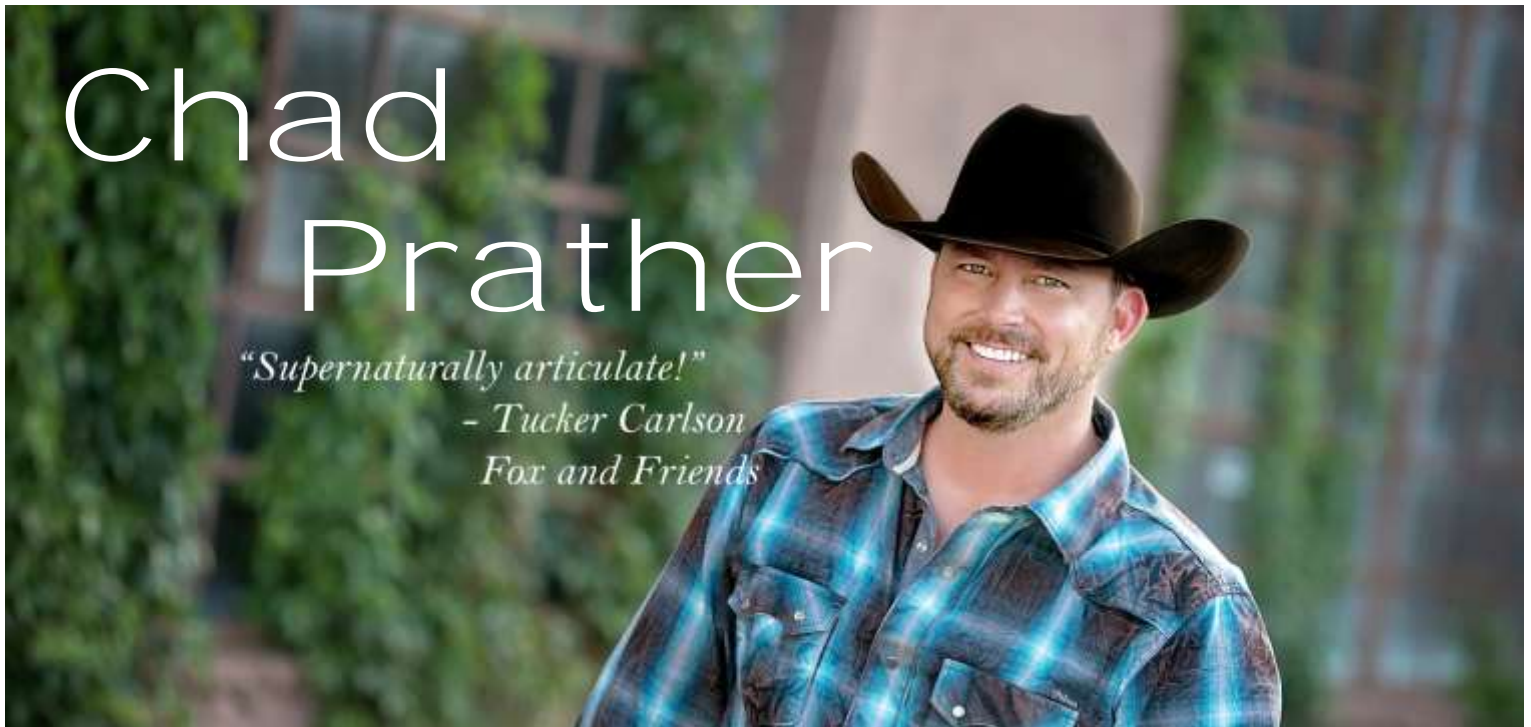
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2017 Convention Keynote Speaker



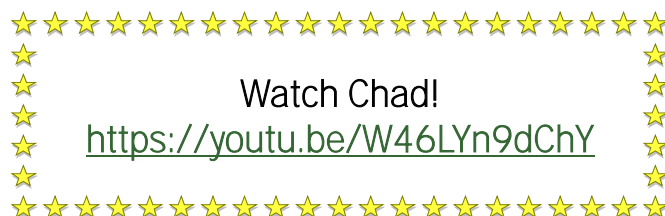
MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER ENTERTAINER HUMORIST STORYTELLER PHILOSOPHER

Chad Prather is a student of living life to the fullest. Never one to shy away from adventure or a new experience he faces the world with a smile. Chad is an adopted Texan that calls the Fort Worth (not Dallas!) area home. Although he grew up in Augusta, GA he migrated to Texas in 2003. Through life's many winding roads he has managed to keep his positive attitude and tries his absolute best to bring out the best in those he meets. Chad is an entertainer. A storyteller. Whether he uses music, comedy, motivational speaking, or any combination of the three he feels that everyone has a story that needs to be told.

A STORY THAT MATTERS.

Through his social media humor videos, he is considered to be one of America's fastest growing public personalities. His wife, Jade, is still rolling her eyes. A sought after public entertainer and motivational speaker, Chad uses his life experiences as an athlete, a husband, a father, and a traveler to coach and encourage others on their journey. He is also the host of Ride Television Network's "It's My Backyard" as well as making numerous other TV and radio appearances.

You can catch Chad's keynote address on Thursday, November 9 directly following lunch in the Grand Ballroom





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From the Files of “Tailgate

Tailgate Entertainer is a podcast about the fair industry and the exciting people involved in it. The goal of the show is to help those involved in the industry succeed by sharing years of collected wisdom. You will not find a more eclectic mix of people in the world than those that work at fairs. The exciting journeys, lessons, and humorous anecdotes are woven together here to provide encouragement, education, and support for the industry” You can listen to the podcasts at www.tailgateentertainer.com

Along with the podcasts are “life lessons” on the road Blog by Alan Buress. Alan is a seasoned veteran in the fair entertainment world and a member of RMAF. Please enjoy these blogs as I have.

Tammie Ryan

Service Member Rep

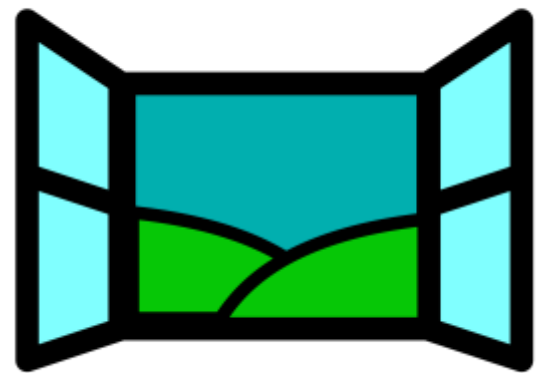
Sometimes you have to X out a few windows before you can move forward.

My life is like my computer screen. Currently, I’m focused on writing this post, but I can see there are ten other windows open at the top. These are all things that I am working on and waiting for my attention. When I close one of the tabs, it disappears, but the space is immediately filled by the others. Like me, my computer screen doesn’t allow for any gaps in the menu bar. When I finish a project, a trigger goes off inside me and I immediately fill the space by starting a new one or quickly turn my focus to an existing one. Because of the way I am wired, I never allow for any unscheduled time. Unchecked, my life can quickly become filled with lots of busyness and little meaning.

Some people might view this as a negative thing. In fact, there have been times in my life when I have tried to change and become a simpler person with fewer projects. Bottom line, I can’t. It’s how I’m wired. What I can control though, is what windows are open and how many at any one time. Realizing this has taken me a lifetime but as I gain a better understanding of how I am wired, I become more and more excited about my future.

The questions I’ve had to ask myself are, how many windows should I have open at one time and what should the tab on each one read? I concluded there is no right answer to the number of tabs because my interests continue to expand and life’s demands continue to change. The most important thing is what the windows are and their significance to my current goals.

This is now the central focus of my career. As current projects come to completion, I can’t kid myself any longer, I know I am going to fill the gaps. The difference now is that I am taking very long pauses before opening new windows.



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Bobbi Jo Heald

Campbell County Fair, Gillette, WY 2015, 2016

"It was a hit!...Bubbles flying all over the
fairgrounds... I am going to have them back!"

Wendy Sandberg, Fair Director

Washington County Fair, St. George, UT
2010, 2011, 2014

"If you book the stilt show, you have
to book the bubble tower,
I think the adults had more fun with it
than the kids. It was a great addition
to our KidsZone, but...it could be a
stand alone event."

Derek Ricci, Fair Manager

Brown County Fair, Aberdeen, SD 2016

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Chad M. Banks

Sweetwater County Fair, Rock Springs, WY
2012, 2015, 2016

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August 1, 2017:

Registration opens for the combined RMAF & CAFS (Colorado Association of Fairs) annual convention. All information will be available on the website, www.rmaf.net. Look under EVENTS → Convention.

Reminder—All service members hotel reservations **MUST** BE made thru the RMAF Office or you will not be assigned a display room in the Service Member room block.

October 7, 2017:

Early Registration ends. After this date, the cost of registration will increase & the hotel room block will close.

October 13, 2017:

This is the advertising deadline for convention program ads and sponsorship commitments,

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