

GREGORY G. STEWART



President & General Manager

State Fair Park

Email: cwsf@fairfun.com

EDUCATION / SERVICE

Centralia College (1965)

Washington State University, B.A. in Agricultural Economics (1971)

U.S. Army, Vietnam (1966-1969)

WFA, College of Fair Management (1977)

RECOGNITION & HONORS

IAFE Certified Fair Manager (1984)

WFA Hall of Fame Award (1995)

IAFE Hall of Fame Award (2010)

GET TO KNOW GREG

CHILDHOOD DREAM OCCUPATION

Airline Pilot

HIDDEN TALENT

He won't tell us!

LAST ALBUM PURCHASED

Barbra Streisand Album

HOBBIES

Traveling, Boating, Horses, Fishing

Born in Olympia, Greg Stewart was hired in 1972 by the Central Washington Fair Association to be the Assistant General Manager under long-time Fair Manager, Hugh J. King. When King retired the following year, Greg was appointed General Manager of the five-day fair, overseeing a full-time staff of three people. While he is still the Fair's General Manager, a great deal has changed in the past 44 years.

The Central Washington State Fair and the 120-acre fairgrounds, now known as State Fair Park, have grown considerably under Greg's leadership. The Fair has grown into a ten-day event that is recognized as one of the premiere events in the Northwest and has become the single largest family entertainment event in all of Eastern Washington. Full-time employment has grown to 22 people who help oversee and accommodate some 317 annual events.

Under Greg's guidance and leadership, a number of major improvements and additions have been made at State Fair Park in recent years. Some of these include the construction of the Yakima Valley SunDome, the Deccio Administration building, Yakima County Stadium, and renovations to the historic Agriculture Building, Modern Living Building, Pioneer Hall and Expo Hall.

Stewart oversees management of the Yakima Valley SunDome located at State Fair Park. The 8,000 seat SunDome is a \$13 million multi-purpose facility. The building is also the home to concerts, rodeos, and numerous other events throughout the year.

Greg also oversees the management of Yakima County Stadium, which opened at State Fair Park in 1993. In 2014, Yakima County Stadium became the new home to the Yakima Valley Pippins, a West Coast League baseball team.

In 2000, the former Yakima Meadows horse race track located on the grounds was turned into a 3/8 mile race track, now called State Fair Raceway. The all-clay race track is utilized six months a year for Sprint car and dirt track car racing.

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Member, Yakima Rotary Club

Member, Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce

Member, Yakima Valley Visitors and Convention Bureau

Director and Vice President, Western Fairs Association (WFA) (1979-1981)

Member, Western Fairs Association (WFA) Professional Development Committee

Zone Director, International Association of Fairs & Expositions (IAFE) – 6 years

Treasurer, International Association of Fairs & Expositions (IAFE) – 3 years

Second Vice Chairman, Int'l Association of Fairs & Expositions (IAFE) (2000)

First Vice Chairman, Int'l Association of Fairs & Expositions (IAFE) (2001)

Chairman, International Association of Fairs & Expositions (IAFE) (2002)

Past Chairman, International Association of Fairs & Expositions (IAFE) (2003)

Director, Mid-West Fairs Association

President, Mid-West Fairs Association (2006)

Member, Northwest Showman's League

Member, International Association of Auditorium Managers

Gold Card Member, Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association

Board Member, Outdoor Amusement Business Association (OABA)