



SHOWCASING OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE...

Spring 2011

AMARILLO, TEXAS Tri State EXPO

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Marketing Awards

The Tri-State Fair & Rodeo was honored with five marketing awards from the 2010 campaign. The Tri-State Fair & Rodeo competes with other events in Texas having between 100,001-500,000 attendees.

The Texas Association of Fairs & Events annual convention was held January 6-8 in Austin and recognizes excellence in marketing campaigns that promote fairs and events.



Dale Williams, acting President of the Exposition addresses the membership March 22 at the annual meeting.

Williams Addresses Exposition Members

As Dale Williams stated in his address at the March 2010 annual meeting, "2010 is going to be an exciting year for the Exposition with lots of changes and improvements. A major focus of the board is to continue upgrading facilities." Well he and the board kept their promise and if you have been to the grounds lately you have seen just that.

"We have made some big improvements to the Exposition grounds this past year," said Dale Williams, acting president of the board of directors, in his report at the annual board meeting in March. Several of the improvements that have taken place have been the removal of the sports arena and the upgrading of the commercial exhibits building. The CEB now boasts new restrooms, a fully equipped kitchen, heating and air conditioning, lighting, floor-

ing and a sound system.

Additionally Williams briefed the attendees on the Rainwater Harvesting System that was installed adjacent to the Rex Baxter Building to conserve water and irrigate the new landscaping around that facility.

He also reminded everyone that over 600 volunteers and more than 14,000 hours of their time went into putting on the Gala and the Tri-State Fair & Rodeo to make it a success.

New board members include: Brandon Boughen, Texas AgriLife Extension Service; Angela Burkham, Texas AgriLife Extension Service; Scott Hindman, Xcel Energy; Tori Lujan, Southwest Dairy Farmers; Kim McKinney, AQHA; Arcadio Rivera, Konica Minolta Business Solutions; John David Shannon, James Bros. Implement; Neil Shelton, Rancher; Benji Ware III, Amarillo National Bank; Pete White, Bar W Ford and Ryan Zimmer, A-1 Rocket Industries.



Maryann Hueston receives the Volunteer of the Year award from Virgil Bartlett.

Maryann Hueston was chosen as the "Volunteer of the Year." Hueston exemplifies what volunteerism is about according to Virgil Bartlett who made the announcement at the annual meeting. "Maryann never says no and is always willing to take the lead on a project when asked."

Tri-State Fair & Rodeo Gala ~ Saturday, September 10

88th Annual Tri-State Fair & Rodeo ~ September 16-24

Exposition Loses Incoming President Albus was Set to Lead the Exposition 2011-2012



Garnier E. Albus, 58, of Amarillo died Saturday, Dec. 11, 2010.

Services were held 11 a.m. at Amarillo South Church with Charlie Cox officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery by Cox Funeral Home, 4180 Canyon Drive.

Garnier was born on Oct. 5, 1952, in Vernon to Lucille and Edwin J. Albus. He was a life-

long resident of Amarillo, where he was a 1972 graduate of Amarillo High School. He was very proud to be a Sandie.

Garnier worked for Hedgecoke Motors in the parts department and worked as body shop manager for Brown Pontiac. He also was a partner in the used car business in Amarillo before becoming a fastener sales rep. for the past 25 years. Garnier's life was filled with giving and volunteering. He had a great love for cooking and serving others.

He was a member of the Tall in Texas Chili Pod, where he was instrumental in starting the Make-A-Wish Chili Cook off 26 years ago. He was a member, officer and past president of Make-A-Wish in Amarillo, where he also served as granting chairman. He was a member and treasurer C.A.S.I. (Chili Appreciation Society International), he was a charter member of the Coors Cowboy Club. He was a member and past president of the Southwest Optimist club and active with Special Olympics as well as Eveline Rivers Christmas Project. Garnier was president elect of the Tri-State Fair and Exposition board of directors.

Garnier is survived by his best friends, Bill Pittman, Melvin Sanders and Butch Bingham all of Amarillo. He is also survived by many friends in Amarillo who loved him very much.

Garnier's friends request that memorials be made to the Garnier Edwin Albus Foundation, in care of Herring Bank, Attn: Terry Wright

Volunteer Spotlight

Kay Ledbetter-Many of you remember Kay from her days at the *Globe-News* some know her as the voice of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. The Tri-State Fair knows her simply as the Co-Chair of the Creative Arts Division. Whatever her role in the past, present and future she is one of two main ingredients that make the Rex Baxter and all its divisions work together. Kay has been on the board of the Exposition since 1995 and doesn't leave the fair until the work is done each night. She is also instrumental as the Department Supervisor for the Gardening & Agronomy Department. Kay also serves on the concessions committee.

Alby Peters-Alby seldom misses a day during the fair but she did in 2010 to serve her peers as a presenter at the TEEA state conference in Wichita Falls. She retired from Potter County Extension Service in 1999 and hasn't slowed down. Alby Co-Chairs the Creative Arts Divisions of the fair. Alby and her husband Don have a combined 17 years of volunteer service to the fair.

Sheila Quirk-Sheila is the heart and soul of the livestock division. Sheila has served as the livestock secretary since 1999. She sees that each of the ten livestock shows she oversees is properly accounted for and documented. Sheila literally moves to Amarillo from Hereford for the ten days she needs to be at the fair but lets not forget the additional days and nights she spends readying her department and wrapping up the event each year.

Dr. Gregg Veneklasen-Known for his colorful shirts Dr. Gregg is truly the color at the north end of the grounds during the annual fair and rodeo. Having been the official veterinarian for the past 11 years Gregg donates many hours to 4-H and FFA youth during the fair and throughout the surrounding communities. Additionally, Gregg was nominated for the PRCA veterinarian of the year in 2010.

With this spotlight we have chosen four of the 600 plus volunteers at the Tri-State Fair & Rodeo. Everyone does their duties during the fair but we often forget what it takes to prepare for an event of this magnitude. With that being said we simply wish to thank you for your time and assistance.

Dine With the Exposition Tuesday, May 17

Enjoy lunch or dinner with your friends and support the Exposition at the same time. Present the Exposition flyer at "On The Border" on Tuesday, May 17 and we receive 10% of food and beverage purchases.

Please download the flyer from our website tristatefair.com and ask your friends to do the same.



7th Annual Gala Slated for September 10

Plans are being finalized for the 7th Annual Gala to be held Saturday, September 10th 7pm at the Amarillo National Center. Kevin Fowler will be the headliner with the finalists for the Amarillo Star contest opening the show.



Kevin Fowler

In addition to the concert there will be food and drinks provided by area restaurants and an exciting live and silent auction to benefit the Tri-State Exposition Scholarship Endowment Fund. VIP tables will be available by reservation only and sell out early so call the office today 806-376-7767 to reserve your table for eight at \$500.



Texas Volunteer of the Year

Glenn McMennamy, long time volunteer of the Tri-State Fair & Rodeo, was named the Frances R. Cooper Volunteer of the Year by the Texas Association of Fairs and Events (TAF&E) during their annual convention and trade show January 7-9. "This award marks the highest level of recognition given to a volunteer in the Texas fair industry and Mr. McMennamy personifies everything the award stands for – selfless service, a desire to better his community and a singular vision for how one's efforts can make a difference. TAF&E is proud to count him among our ranks," said Penny C. Reeh, Executive Director, TAF&E.

McMennamy has served as a catalyst of the Amarillo Tri-State Exposition for over 40 years. The Tri-State Exposition, 40 years ago suffered from antiquated infrastructure, small time attitude and lack of vision. Over the years through McMennamy's vision and countless hours of "hands-on" volunteer work, the Exposition has been transformed from a sedentary operation, known for the nine-day annual fair and rodeo, to hosting local, regional, national and international events throughout the year.

McMennamy has served on almost every committee including the Exposition Board President. Currently he chairs the Long-Range Planning Committee. McMennamy was the community leader that championed the legislation that resulted in the creation of the Amarillo-Potter Events Venue District that helped provide funding for the Amarillo National Center. "McMennamy has been the driving force behind creating the national attention that our facility now enjoys," said Virgil Bartlett, General Manager Amarillo Tri-State Exposition.

Family members, friends and exposition board members were gathered to surprise McMennamy when the awards were presented.

TAF&E is a non-profit trade association for Texas fair and festival professionals, volunteers and suppliers that began in 1926.



Glenn McMennamy with Amarillo Mayor Debra McCartt. Mayor McCartt along with Vance Reed wrote letters of recommendation for Glenn to receive this prestigious award.



Amarillo Tri-State Exposition
3301 E. 10th Avenue
Amarillo, TX 79104

Mission Statement

The Amarillo Tri-State Exposition will provide a wholesome educational, cultural and recreational experience for area citizens by hosting the Tri-State Fair & Rodeo and other events to strengthen the Amarillo economy.

Mark Your Calendar

May 7~ Panhandle Team Penning & Sorting
Bill Cody Arena
13-15~ Panhandle Golden Spread Quarter Horse Show
Bill Cody Arena
21-22~ Original Team Roping ~ ANC
28-29~Panhandle Cutting Horse Association
Bill Cody Arena
28-30~Amarillo Obedience Training Club ~ ANC
June 3-4~Coors Cowboy Club Ranch Rodeo~ANC
3-5~Palo Duro Cutting Horse ~ Bill Cody Arena
18~Panhandle Reined Cowhorse Association
Bill Cody Arena
25~Miniature Bull Riding ~ ANC
July 1-3~Quarter Horse Show
Bill Cody Arena
3-4~McCracken Team Roping ~ ANC
9-17~National Jr. Limousin Cattle Show ~ ANC
21-24~"Boom Circuit" Quarter Horse Show
Bill Cody Arena
23-24~Matthews Team Roping ~ ANC
30-31~Steer/Heifer Jackpot
Vance Reed & Tommy Grant Arena
August 6~Panhandle Team Penning ~ Bill Cody Arena
6-7~Panhandle Cutting Horse Association ~ ANC
13-21~West Texas Futurity ~ ANC
29-Sept. 3~AQHA Adequan Select ~ ANC

Exposition Staff

Virgil Bartlett-General Manager
Cindy Backus- Office Assistant
Lavonna Davis- Office Assistant
Angela Ragland- Sponsorship/Marketing Director
Trinidee Chambers- Bookkeeper
Lani Ambs- Receptionist
Maryann Hueston- Development/Fundraising
Jesse Townsend- Grounds/Maintenance Supervisor

Board Officers

Garnier Albus-President (Posthumous)
Dale Williams-Acting President
Terry Wright-President Elect
Virgil Bartlett- Secretary
Gary Fletcher-Treasurer
Robert Devin-Treasurer Elect

Call or Check our web sites for additional information
Phone: 806-376-7767 Fax: 806-376-6942
www.tristatefair.com
www.amarillonationalcenter.net

The Amarillo Tri-State Exposition is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. Contributions are considered tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.