

Greetings from OAAS President Cathy Redden, Campbellford

“Fairs are living reflections of the life and times around them, rooted in agriculture and volunteer-driven. They hold deep cultural, traditional and emotional connections to the people of their local area and define a sense of community that grows social capital and quality of life.”
Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions

I don't think that I could have found any better description of what I am experiencing as I travel across this Province than what is said in these two sentences found on the CAFE website. Fairs are definitely a reflection of their community with each one providing a unique assortment of local artisans, produce, live entertainment and a wide variety of shows, competitions and exhibits. I continue to be amazed at the many creative and interesting ways that buildings can be decorated and competitions displayed. What remains the same however is the warm welcome, the hospitality and the pride in their hard work that is shown by everyone that I have met.

As I receive invitations to celebrate at your openings or ride in your parades, I am also reminded that there can be a dozen or more fairs on the same weekend. Given the size of the Province however, I regret that I will not be able to visit as many as I would like. For that reason I want to thank the District Directors and the OAAS Executive for doing their part to visit and ensure that the hard work and dedication of our membership is recognized.

I also want to recognize the work being carried out by the Board of Directors who have set an ambitious work plan for each of our committees. This includes a thorough evaluation of the OAAS Constitution and By-Laws along with suggested revisions, an analysis of how changes to the structure of the Board can be implemented, completion of the Train the Trainers Course by all members of the Strategic Planning Committee and the re writing by the Governance Committee of a number of policies and procedures to reflect current practice.....and those are just a few!

Cont'd page 2

OAAS Past Presidents Summer Get Together



EXTRA EXTRA READ ALL ABOUT IT

- Ontario Poultry Judges Association
- OAFE Award of Excellence
- First Impressions Program 2015
- Q&A re: OAAS Governance Restructure
- OAAS Convention 2016
- Ambassador Experience in District #13
- OAAS Office Manager
- Donations to Brigden Fair
- Peterbough Ex Marks the Spot Kick Off
- Avian Influenza Update
- CAFÉ Convention coming to Niagara Falls
- Summer Camp at Ancaster Fairgrounds
- Upcoming Insurance Webex Seminar

PRESIDENT GREETINGS CONT'D ...

Efforts are also underway to begin the process of replacing Kathryn Lambert – OAAS Secretary, and Kerry McDonald OAAS Treasurer who will be leaving those positions in 2016. They have greatly assisted the Association with their knowledge, skills and experience. We are pleased to note however, that Kathryn will remain as the Convention Coordinator.

No matter where you may currently be in your “fair season”, whether your fair has come and gone or you are in the midst of planning for this year’s event, don’t forget to take a moment and step back to just enjoy what you are doing. Remember, this year we should all be “Celebrating Rural Ontario”!

Cathy

OAAS BOARD GOVERNANCE RESTRUCTURE UPDATE

As we move forward in our planning for the downsizing of the OAAS Board of Directors, a number of pertinent questions have come forward following the District Spring meetings. In an effort to answer those questions and keep our membership informed regarding our progress, the following Q & A has been prepared.

Question: We currently have an Agricultural Director and a Homecraft Director. If there is to be only one Director representing each District what will he/she be called?

Answer: At this time it is suggested that they be known as a "Provincial Director".

Question: How will the Provincial Director be selected?

Answer: It will be the responsibility of each District and its member Fairs to select their Provincial Director. It is suggested that this may be done at their Fall AGM in a manner similar to how their District Executive is currently selected.

Question: What will be the role of the Provincial Director at the OAAS Board level?

Answer: The Provincial Director will continue to carry out the overall Duties of a Director as outlined in the OAAS Policy Manual. Much of their focus will be on the "bigger picture", addressing matters affecting the Association and its membership as a whole. This individual will be an important liaison between the Provincial Board and the District level. A complete description of the roles and responsibilities is currently being prepared for review at the OAAS October Meeting.

Question: What will be the role of the Provincial Director at the District level?

Answer: The Provincial Director will be part of the District Executive. He/she will serve as the liaison between the Provincial board and the District level, keeping the OAAS Board aware of District matters, as well as keeping the District Fairs aware of what has been discussed at the OAAS board level. The District will have the ability to determine any additional roles and responsibilities to be carried out.

Question: What is the length of term of the Provincial Director?

Answer: It is currently being proposed that this be a 3 year term renewable for 3 more years.

Question: What will be the impact on the District of the proposed Provincial Board reduction?

Answer: Aside from the selection of a Provincial Director, there should be little or no change to the current makeup of the District Boards. Most District Executives already have a minimum of 5 members (Homecraft Director, Agriculture Director, Associate Homecraft Director, Associate Agriculture Director, Secretary/Treasurer). Their responsibilities will remain much the same. The Provincial Director position may be added to the Executive or one of the current Executive may choose to also carry out that role. The District will have to amend their by-laws to reflect how they wish to proceed.

CONVENTION

Question: How does the OAAS propose to operate the Convention with a reduction in Board Members?

Answer: While the Board is responsible for a great deal of the Convention planning, it is the Convention Coordinator who oversees much of its operations. The OAAS is pleased to announce that Kathryn Lambert is remaining as Convention Coordinator. The 2015 Board of Directors has also streamlined the Convention Committees and has formed a Competition Committee (Quilt, Bread & Cookies, Photography, Craft Room, Posters, and Displays) and a Convention Operations Committee. Detailed records are being kept of their operations and special attention will be paid this year to the volunteers required. We are fortunate to have a number of individuals who offer their help each year and look forward to seeing this continue.

FINANCES

Question: What impact will this change have on the District and the Fairs?

Answer: There is no expected financial impact. It is being suggested that OAAS forward to each District the funds budgeted for Fair visitation. The District treasurer could then administer those funds according to the fair visits made. Any additional remuneration paid by Districts to its Executive can continue. Approved expenses incurred by the Provincial Director would be reimbursed by the Association.

Any questions or concerns please direct to Margaret Clark

clarkmargaret02@gmail.com

OAAS OFFICE MANAGER

At its Summer Executive Meeting, the OAAS Executive, assisted by members of the Governance Committee discussed the future staffing needs of the Association. They discussed possibilities for replacing the current Secretary and Treasurer who will be leaving in April 2016. They also discussed the need to give additional assistance to the President, the Executive and the Board of Directors as they move forward in the process of restructuring the Board. The concept of an "Office Manager" is currently being pursued by members of the Executive.

Areas of Responsibility include (but are not limited to) :

- carrying out the day-to-day secretarial and financial responsibilities of the OAAS
- assisting the OAAS Board in fulfilling its governance functions
- ensuring organizational effectiveness and efficiency
- assisting with the implementation of the strategic goals and objectives of the organization

This position will demand:

- Excellent organization and communication skills
- A knowledge of the Agricultural Fair Industry
- Ability to work with Board of Directors
- Experience with membership driven organization
- A sound background in all related Financial matters

It is proposed that this will be a one year contract, beginning April 1, 2016. A report will be available for discussion at the October Board Meeting.

OAAS Convention 2016

February 18 – 20 , 2016 Fairmont Royal York Hotel

CONVENTION REGISTRATION RATES 2016

<u>Rates received before January 22</u>	<u>Rates after January 22</u>	<u>Rates at Convention</u>
3 day - \$125	3 days - \$150	3 days - \$175
1 day - \$100/day	1 day - \$125/day	1 day - \$150/day

Registration will be open by mid-November. **Online registration and payment only accepted.**
(over 90% of convention delegates in 2015 registered online)

Keynote Speaker Dan Needles Kicking Off Convention

The OAAS is thrilled to have Dan Needles kick off the 2016 Convention, on Friday morning. Dan is best known as the playwright behind the popular Wingfield Series which has played across the country for several years. Making us laugh about the old rural community and the way it meets the modern world. He has a variety of talks, including “Farmer Thinking”, “A Stroll Down the Seventh Line of Persephone Township” and “Land and Stewardship.”

For 25 years and from more than a thousand platforms, Dan has entertained audiences ranging from the Perth County Holstein Club Ladies Night to the Muck Soils Research Station in Bradford.

Dan will also be leading a seminar “Attracting Urban Crowds to the Fairs”. **DON'T MISS OUT !!**



OAAS INSURANCE WEBEX SERIES #2

TOPIC: Importance of Collecting Certificate of Insurance information from 3rd Parties

September 15, 2015, 6:30pm

Please email lori_lapalm@cooperators.ca
For webex login and call in info.

~ PRESENTED BY THE CO-OPERATORS INSURANCE ~

ONTARIO POULTRY JUDGES ASSOCIATION

The Ontario Poultry Judges Association has been formed to help fill the void in the Exhibition Poultry Industry in Ontario. With many of our licensed judges now in their senior years and the lack of new judges available, many of the poultry club shows and fairs in Ontario have found it difficult to obtain judges for their events. There has been interest in the program, and after several months in development we are able to move forward with a judges licensing program.

A committee has been formed to assist in the implementation and management of the association.

We have a judges panel consisting of licensed judges, who will be in charge of over seeing all aspects of the licensing process.

The mission of the Ontario Poultry Judges Association is to provide guidance and training to individuals interested in obtaining a poultry judging licence, to service the Exhibition Poultry hobby in Ontario, as well, to act as a governing body in the province of Ontario.

The association will be managed by its membership, to ensure that the integrity of the exhibition poultry hobby is upheld to the highest standards with regards to judging of poultry in accordance to the American Poultry Association Standard of Perfection.

We honour and embrace all judges who obtained their Ontario Poultry Confederation/ Ministry of Agriculture licenses as well as those who went on to obtain their American Poultry Association and American Bantam Association licenses. We encourage these judges to mentor our apprentice judges to aid in the continuance of the Exhibition Poultry Industry in Ontario.

Full details are available on the website <http://ontariopoultryjudgesassociation.weebly.com>

Frank Goodfellow
OPJA Chairman
613 375 6234
wildgenebert@kos.net

LEN PATTERSON MEMORIAL AWARD

Presented by Nothers Awards, London

The 7th annual Leonard Patterson Memorial award will be presented at the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies annual convention in February 2016.

Leonard Patterson worked for Nothers for several years and made many contacts and friends at the fairs. He volunteered and worked diligently on the board of Mount Forest fair, as well as for District #10, where he served as their director on the OAAS board and was elected president in 1986. Nothers is presenting this award in Leonard's memory.

Agricultural Societies wishing to nominate their Secretary and/or Treasurer, who has served their organization for at least 15 years, may do so by sending their nomination to the OAAS Past Presidents' Association by December 1, 2015. There is no special nomination form. Please submit in writing, explaining in details why you feel your Secretary and/or Treasurer is deserving of this honour. If previously nominated, please re-apply with an updated profile.

Please send your nomination to: OAAS Past Presidents'
Association, c/o Joanne Gregson, 16 Red Pine Cres.,
Wasaga Beach, Ontario L9Z 3B3
or email: jwgregson@sympatico.ca

Sympathy to the family of Irene Palmer, who passed away Tuesday August 11. Irene was the OAAS Agricultural President in 1990. Irene was a member of the Schomberg Agricultural Society.

OAAS GRAND CHAMPION Bread Competition Winner

Marlaine SteCroix, Manitowaning Fair, District 12

60% Whole Wheat Bread (2 Loaves)

1 tsp. Sugar
½ c. Lukewarm Water
1 Envelope of Dry yeast

5 to 6 cups of Flour (4 whole wheat 2 AP)
1 cup of Milk
3 tbsp. Sugar
½ cup Coldwater
2 tbsp. Shortening
2 tsp Salt

Dissolve sugar in water, sprinkle yeast. Let stand for 10 minutes.

Heat milk to boiling, add sugar, salt and yeast mixture to milk and 2 cups of flour. Beat with mixer or whisk until smooth, add 3 cups of flour gradually, add more flour to make a soft dough not sticking to bowl. Sprinkle 1 cup of flour on board and turn dough on to it. Knead until smooth and elastic. Put dough in greased bowl, let rise to double size. Punch dough, shape in two loaves. Let rise for 1 to 1 ½ hours. Bake in a 400° oven 35 to 40 minutes, depending on oven. Remove from pans, let cool on a grill.

Ancaster Fairgrounds Summer Camp

Ancaster Agricultural Society has started a camp and dozens of local children are reaping the rewards. Summer 2015 marks the kickoff of Ancaster Fairgrounds Summer Camp for children 5-13 years. Campers interact daily with baby animals including; bunnies, chicks, ducklings, kids, and a calf, go for a hay wagon ride throughout the 200 acres property and identify flora and fauna, participate in games and activities that instill core values such as leadership, friendship, community, agriculture, and creativity, play and sing camp games and songs, meet a community hero, and go on an end of the week trip to venues including African Lion Safari, Ripley's Aquarium, and Safari Niagara.



The camp came together based on Ancaster Agricultural Societies Strategic Planning Committee looking to expand our presence in our community and bring more people out to the fairgrounds outside of our September fair.

We were lucky enough to have the right person available at the right time to bring the idea to fruition and find a group of dedicated counsellors to lead our young troops.

2015 marks the beginning of a fantastic opportunity for both urban and rural children to experience traditional camp activities supplemented by the glamorous part of life on the farm, cuddling baby animals! Camp runs for 4 weeks this summer 8:30am-4:30pm for \$250/child



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies

~ For the latest news, pictures, announcements ~

CLEAN HARBORS PROVIDES \$10 000 DONATION TO BRIGDEN FAIR

A \$75,000 project to install a backup generator system in the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall received a \$10,000 donation from Clean Harbors toward the cost. Our thanks to Clean Harbors for their support.

From right, Clean Harbors general manager John MacDonald, facility administrator Devon Jamieson and general manager Jim Brown surrounded by MAS Board of Directors.

The Brigden Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall has been designated as a Emergency Evacuation site by the local Township.

Photo courtesy of Bonnie Stevenson/St. Clair Twp Beacon



Skyhawks drop in to promote 170th Peterborough Exhibition

Members of the Skyhawks parachute over Morrow Park on Thursday June 25, 2015 in Peterborough, Ont. to celebrate the new marketing campaign 'Ex Marks The Spot' for the 170th annual Peterborough Exhibition taking place at Morrow Park on August 6-9th, 2015.



The Skyhawks, the Canadian Forces parachute demonstration team, delighted hundreds of city schoolchildren with an aerial demonstration following several agricultural-related activities hosted by the Peterborough Agricultural Society at Morrow Park.

More than 700 students from St. Anne and nearby St. John Catholic elementary schools, on their last day of school, enjoyed wagon rides, a petting zoo, cow patty bingo, free ice cream from Kawartha Dairy and learned from a dairy educator as part of the celebration.

The society has partnered with Fearless Marketing, headed by former CHEX-TV personality Michelle Ferreri, for this year's exhibition. The new campaign, with a new slogan of Ex Marks the Spot, celebrates the importance of Family, Fun, Community and Agriculture.

SOURCE: Clifford Skarstedt/Peterborough Examiner/Postmedia Network
<http://www.thepeterboroughexaminer.com/2015/06/25/skyhawks-drop-in-to-promote-170th-peterborough-exhibition>

Ambassador Experience Day in District 13: On Saturday July 18th, District 13 held their annual Ambassador Experience Day with 8 Ambassadors attending. Ambassadors were in attendance from Brooke-Alvinston-Watford, Forest, Glencoe, Ilderton, Parkhill, Rodney-Aldborough, Wallacetown and Western Fair District. The day consisted of a series of mock interviews, round table discussion, information sessions and a presentation from former CNE Ambassador of the Fairs Claire Milton.

Thanks to our mock interviewer team who gave their time to be part of this day - Joan Edwards, Claire Milton, Mark Beaven, Cheron Chamberlain, Melissa Johnson and Michelle Evanitski. Each ambassador went through three different interviews - one for a regular employment position, once for a position with a non-profit, and a mock CNE interview. These have proved to be very beneficial to our Ambassador participants, as some of them have never been through an interview process outside the Ambassador program.

The main discussion session was focused on getting the youth perspective about fairs and specific fair issues, and some really great information came from this discussion. A summary of this discussion will be sent out to all the fairs in District 13.

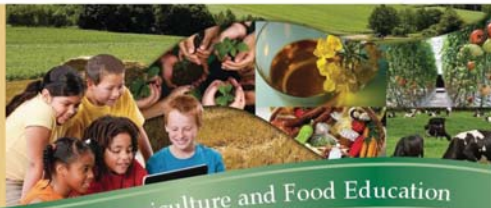
District 13 Ambassador Alumni Lauren Armstrong (Plympton Wyoming), Carleigh McInnes (Western Fair District), Taylor McLean (Glencoe), Emma Whiting (Plympton-Wyoming) and Greg Williams (North Dorchester) did a fabulous job organizing and running what proved to be a fun and informative day for the Ambassadors. Thanks to them for all of their continued hard work with this program.

Special thanks to must go to Western Fair District for providing us with the facilities to host our event and to North Dorchester Agricultural Society for providing our lunch. Additional sponsors of the day included District 13, Ilderton Agricultural Society and Brooke-Alvinston-Watford Agricultural Society.

Submitted by: Carrie Fraleigh De Schutter



Ontario Agri-Food Education Inc.



The 2014 Award of Excellence in Agriculture and Food Education

Connecting Classrooms with Agri-Food Perspectives

Each year, thousands of children and adults visit Ontario's 223 agricultural fairs and various agriculture education and awareness events to experience a taste of the country. For many visitors, these events provide interactive opportunities to learn about agriculture and food and can serve as optimal venues for agricultural education.

Ontario Agri-Food Education Inc. (OAFE) wishes to acknowledge and encourage these interactive educational programs in Ontario.

The Award of Excellence in Agriculture and Food Education is awarded annually to one organization that provides an outstanding agri-food education program for students and teachers.



Criteria for

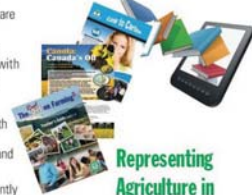
The Award of Excellence in Agriculture and Food Education

- Your education program should involve partnerships with schools, community organizations and/or businesses, commodity groups and other local or provincial members of the agri-food community.
- The number of participants in your education program and the cross-section of visitors benefiting from your information and activities will be considered.
- Activities and information for students must be grade appropriate and linked to the Ontario curriculum.
- The variety of agri-food topics introduced will be considered; therefore the information must be factual, relevant and up-to-date.
- An assortment of innovative and exciting activities should be included in the education program.

- You are encouraged to include input such as testimonials, letters, comments, artwork, etc. from program participants. (students, teachers, volunteers, etc.)
- Programs that extend beyond the day of the event (i.e. sending information home for parents, providing ideas and/or materials for teachers, etc.) are encouraged.
- Nominated organizations **must be** OAFE members. Your involvement with OAFE demonstrates your continued support of agriculture and food education and helps OAFE in providing teachers and students with accurate and balanced information about agriculture, food production and rural communities.

All entries will be judged by a panel of representatives from agriculture education and awareness organizations using the criteria provided.

Details of the judging criteria can be found on the OAFE website at www.oafe.org



Representing Agriculture in Ontario Classrooms

Note: If your organization is not currently an OAFE member, please visit our website at www.oafe.org or call our office for more information on member benefits.

Promote the educational program at your fair and help increase awareness of the agri-food industry by submitting an entry for the *Award of Excellence in Agriculture and Food Education*.

CFIA Removes Final Avian Influenza Control Zone in Ontario

July 29, 2015

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has removed the final Avian Influenza Control Zone, located in the counties of Oxford and Waterloo, Ontario. The quarantine on IP2 has been removed at the completion of the 21-day waiting period that followed the cleaning and disinfection process under CFIA oversight.

The [information table for infected premises](#) has been updated on the Agency's website.

Permits are no longer required for the movement of birds and bird products in Ontario.

Removal of Avian Influenza Control Zones is a Canadian domestic measure and has no impact on export of poultry or poultry products.

A 3-month enhanced surveillance period following the cleaning and disinfection of all IPs is required by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) before a zone will recover its avian influenza free status.

The cooperation and support of the Province of Ontario, the poultry industry and the owners of the infected birds were critical to the successful control of this outbreak and the removal of the control zones.

The CFIA continues to remind poultry owners to take an active role in protecting their flocks by employing strict biosecurity measures on their property, and immediately reporting any signs of illness.

For more information on avian influenza and measures poultry farmers can take to protect their flocks, please visit the CFIA web site at www.inspection.gc.ca.

SOURCE: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/diseases/reportable/ai/2015-investigation-ontario/statement-2015-07-29/eng/1438045882400/1438045883166>

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FIRST IMPRESSION PARTICIPANTS

Brooklin and Port Hope
Oro and Arnprior
Mitchell and Glencoe
Ripley-Huron and Plymouth-Wyoming

THE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD EDUCATION

IMPORTANT INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR YOUR SUBMISSION:

- You are welcome to choose any type of media to describe and/or demonstrate the content of your program (i.e. letters, photos, videos, brochures, sample activities, etc). **Website entries will be accepted.**

- Both the content and the presentation of your entry will be evaluated.
- Remember to include the enclosed **entry form**.
- All information in support of your entry must be received at the OAFE office by **November 28th, 2014**.
- Please forward all documentation to:

Ontario Agri-Food Education Inc.
8560 Tremaine Rd., P.O. Box 460
Milton, ON L9T 4Z1
Phone: (905) 878-1510
Fax: (905) 878-0342



Vicki Peart (L) accepts the 2013 Award of Excellence on behalf of the Haldimand Agriculture Awareness Committee presented by Rachel Hendriksen, OAFE Outreach Coordinator.

The Award of Excellence in Agriculture and Food Education

**Previous entrants and winners are encouraged to submit an entry each year.*

The winner of the **Award of Excellence in Agriculture and Food Education** will be recognized on the perpetual trophy and will receive a keeper trophy as well as an OAFE Community Level membership (\$100 value) for the next year.

The award will be presented at the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies Annual Convention.

Thank you for your interest and involvement.

"The premier learning connection between agriculture and education."

Helping Young Minds Grow



Ontario Agri-Food Education Inc.

Ontario Agri-Food Education Inc.
8560 Tremaine Rd., Box 460
Milton, ON L9T 4Z1
Phone: (905) 878-1510
Fax: (905) 878-0342

Registered Charitable Number: 13237 2285 RR0001

OAFE receives support from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Entry forms and information are also available online at:

www.oafe.org

CAFE CONVENTION OFFERS SPECIAL RATES FOR ONTARIO FAIRS

The Sheraton on the Falls in Niagara Falls will be the scenic location of the 2015 Convention of the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions, from November 19th to 21st. We are looking forward to being in this beautiful setting, and hope that many Ontario fairs will be in attendance in their home province. In order to make that possible, CAFE is offering some special pricing *for Ontario fairs ONLY!*

Ontario Fairs have the option to send multiple delegates sharing a single registration – that is, a different person might attend each day, using a single registration. The Earlybird Rate of \$599 includes all meals and social functions, but naturally a large part of that cost is due to the price of catering at a hotel. So we are also offering the option of attending **WITHOUT** attending meals or social functions at a reduced rate of only \$100 per day! Although this does mean missing some mealtime presentations and showcases, it represents a substantial saving. Don't miss this very affordable opportunity to network with volunteers and staff from fairs large and small across Canada – and hear inspiring presentations geared to our industry.

This year's convention promises to be one of our best. With a theme of "Get Inspired", and with the Canadian National Exhibition as host, delegates can expect to be informed and entertained to the max! We have an outstanding line up of speakers, including Frank O'Dea, founder of the Second Cup Coffee chain, who will inspire with the story of how he went from a homeless man on the streets of Toronto to a successful entrepreneur. Other sessions on topics like Sponsorship, Change, Marketing and Culinary Tourism are sure to send delegates home with new ideas and fresh energy. To register visit www.canadian-fairs.ca or phone the CAFE Office at 204-571-6377. We hope to see you there!



Join in the Celebrations
100Years of 4-H in Ontario

100th Anniversary Gala
September 26, Cornwall

Royal Agricultural Winter Fair
November 6-15, 2015



100
YEARS
1915-2015