

At November 1-4 convention

MAAFS CONVENTION SUCCESSFUL

TIMONIUM, MD—Nearly 200 conventioners attended the Maryland Association of Agriculture Fairs and Show Convention here, November 1-4, when the statewide organization celebrated United We Stand. Hosting this year's event was The Baltimore County 4-H Fair.

Speakers from across the United States presented numerous workshops and seminars on an array of topics ranging from improving ticket and gate controls to being prepared for an emergency. A trade show was also featured.



"We were pleased with the caliber of speakers who took part in our convention," said Nancy Hendricks, MAAFS president. "Our association has always been very fortunate to bring some of

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Fair wins several national awards

RAMSBURG IS NEW FAIR BOARD PRESIDENT

J.R. Ramsburg Jr. of Thurmont became the new president of the Frederick County Agricultural Society Inc. and The Great Frederick Fair during the Board of Managers' reorganizational meeting on December 8. The Board's reorganizational meeting followed the agricultural society's annual stockholders' meeting also held that same day.

Ramsburg takes over the leadership role of the 11-member board from Nancy Hendricks who served in that capacity the past two years.

James S. Grimes of Frederick was elected vice president. Robert Frank of Frederick was elected secretary, while Maurice Gladhill of Frederick becomes the new treasurer.

Other fair board members re-elected were Joseph Free, John Bare, Dr. James E. McClellan and Julien Delphey, all of Frederick; Clyde Crum of Thurmont; Nancy Hendricks of Middletown; and John Bell of Walkersville.

Re-elected as legal counsel were Michelle Martz Bowles for the Frederick County Agricultural Society and W. Jerome Offutt for The Great Frederick Fair.

Ramsburg, who served as president of the organization from 1994-1995, said he is looking forward to moving ahead with the agricultural society and the fair in the areas of agriculture education, family entertainment, and maintaining a positive presence in the city and county's business sector.

During the Frederick County Agricultural Society's annual 250-member stockholders' meeting, Mrs. Hendricks, in her report to the membership, detailed many of the progresses made over the past two years, including electrical and

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John Bare Elected to Board

IRVIN RENN RETIRES FROM BOARD OF MANAGERS

When Irvin Renn was elected to serve as a Board of Manager for the Frederick County Agricultural Society Inc. and The Great Frederick Fair Inc. in 1949, little did he realize then that his role would be carried on for the next 52 years.

And though Renn of Frederick recently resigned as a Board of Manager, doesn't mean that he won't be involved with the fair any more. In fact, he'll still be doing all of the planning and making all of the arrangements for the special guest luncheons held during fair week, as well as overseeing the food arrangements for the Frederick County Agricultural Society's annual meeting. Renn retires with the recognition of Honorary Board Member and Consultant.



Elected to the Board is John E. Bare, owner of H.B. Duvall Inc. and Reich's Ford Truck and Tractor of Frederick. He has been a Frederick County Agricultural

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The Great Frederick Fair Inc. and The Frederick County Agricultural Society Inc. publish AG AveNEWS as a general information service for its Life Members, and business clients and associates. Additional information regarding any of the matters published within may be obtained from the Administration Office.

BOARD OFFICERS

J.R. Ramsburg Jr., President
James S. Grimes, Vice President
Robert W. Frank, Secretary
Maurice A. Gladhill, Treasurer

BOARD OF MANAGERS

John E. Bare
John W. Bell
Clyde C. Crum
Julien P. Delphrey
Joseph C. Free
Nancy N. Hendricks
James E. McClellan

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Becky Brashear, CFE

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Robert Fogle

The Great Frederick Fair Inc.
is a member of:



The Maryland Association of Agricultural Fairs and Shows Inc.

The International Association of Fairs and Expositions



The Chamber of Commerce of Frederick County

The Frederick County Tourism Council

The Pennsylvania Association of Fairs

HERE'S HOW TO REACH US

The Administration Office at The Great Frederick Fair is open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Our phone numbers are 301-663-5895 or 301-663-6319. The fax number is 301-663-9719.

Our street address is 797 East Patrick Street, or to reach us by mail, address materials to P.O. Box 604, Frederick, MD 21705.

Our website address is
www.thegreatfrederickfair.com.

Exhibit wins national award

BUTTERFLY HOUSE DRAWS THOUSANDS TO FARM AND GARDEN BUILDING

Did you have a chance to visit the Butterfly House at this past year's Great Frederick Fair? If so, we're sure that you'll agree that it was one of the most educational and interesting exhibits that has been incorporated in the fair in recent years.

The project started this past spring when the office staff discussed the idea of such an exhibit with Board Member Clyde Crum who is also committee chairman of the Farm and Garden Building, and Connie Palmer, the building's superintendent. Both expressed delight with doing something new and different in the Farm and Garden Building. With that, Bob Bishop, horticultural specialist with the Frederick County Cooperative Extension Service was contacted to see what help he could offer in even getting such an exhibit developed. He immediately referred us to Jim and Teresa Gallion of Walkersville, and from there, this great "Ag-xperience" began! Upon discussing the fair's goal and objective with the Butterfly House, the Gallions, habitat stewards and wildlife gardening consultants, took this entire project "under the wing."

Imagine seeing a Monarch butterfly being born! Imagine watching a newly born butterfly extend its wings and fly for the first time! Imagine learning what butterflies like to eat! Imagine learning the role that butterflies play in our eco-system and how that impacts you! Imagine tagging and releasing a Monarch butterfly before beginning its migration to Mexico! These were all truly Ag-xperiences at this past year's 139th Great Frederick Fair.

The 10 x 10 foot screened and plexiglass butterfly house was built by the fair's maintenance supervisor Herman Claggett.

Literature informing the public on the importance of butterflies to our eco-system as well as tips on attracting these colorful creatures to backyards was also available at the exhibit. Experts, like the Gallions were on hand during fairweek to answer questions on butterflies and butterfly gardening! Stadler Garden Center provided the proper plant materials, showing what homeowners can plant in their backyard to attract these colorful creatures.

Ranger Rick, mascot of the National Wildlife Federation, also made special appearances during the week to greet the public while butterflies were being tagged and released to begin their migrate to Mexico.

The Great Frederick Fair won three national awards during the International Association of Fairs and Expositions Convention in Las Vegas, NV, in early December. The New and Specific Agricultural Education Event Award for the Fair going Public was for the Butterfly House. This display was a new and innovative exhibit to show the fair going public the important role that butterflies play in the ecosystem.



Open each Saturday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

FARMERS MARKET STILL OFFERS ARRAY OF PRODUCTS

If you're looking for some special goodies, The Great Frederick Fair Farmers' Market is the place to visit. Open each Saturday from 8 a.m.-2 p.m., the market offers a variety of items from country cured hams, crab cakes and cheeses to baked items, pastries and herbs to fresh produce.

The market, in its 27th year, is still the only year round market in Frederick County. The market was started in 1974 by members of the Frederick County Agricultural Society as an outlet for producers to market and sell their products to consumers wanting to purchase fresh agriculture products.

The market is unique in that it has its regular customers and it also draws from the various other activities that occur on the fairgrounds throughout the year. With an average of two to three events on the grounds each Saturday, the exposure and customer base is tremendous.

For more information on the market, call 301-663-5895 or visit the fair's website at www.thegreatfrederickfair.com.

LOCAL FAIRS REPORT SUCCESS WITH ON-LINE ENTRIES

Both the Maryland State Fair and The Great Frederick Fair report success with open class livestock and Home Arts and Farm and Garden exhibitors who entered their exhibits on-line this year through a co-op program initiated among Maryland fairs.

This new and innovative service came about after several months of developing standardized open class livestock classes between the two fairs, thus creating a standardized open class livestock entry form that enabled exhibitors to only have to complete one entry form instead of the multiple ones now required. Other fairs in Maryland are expected to come on-line with the same capability in 2002.

"What we're trying to do is making entry time less time consuming and much more convenient," said officials from both fairs. "People seem to like having the convenience of entering on-line, and especially the livestock folks of only having to complete one set of entry forms.

The Maryland Association of Agricultural Fairs and Shows website at www.maafs.com, has served as the central location for exhibitors to complete and submit their entries. However, on-line users could also access the entry form capability from the individual fairs' websites and marylandstatefair.com or www.thegreatfrederickfair.com. Entry payments on the secured site are required and capable via credit card, or payment by check. However, entries are not confirmed until the complete payment is made.

"This is a really exciting area that Maryland is venturing into," fair leaders said. The fairs participating in this service also run the Blue Ribbon Fair Premium Program which has made the task of standardizing the class offerings a bit easier. Some minor modifications to classes have been made, although fairs can still continue with special class offerings.

HERMAN CLAGGETT NAMED MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Herman Claggett who has been a long-time employee at The Great Frederick Fair recently completed his first fair as supervisor of the maintenance division. Claggett was appointed supervisor of the division following the sudden and unexpected death of Butch Stitley this past January.

Even with as much experience as Claggett has had in the past with helping prepare for the fair, he said this year was a big learning experience with coordinating employee work schedules and knowing exactly what needed to be where and when.

"There was a great group of people helping all of the way," Claggett said. "It takes everybody working together and that's just what we did." Two fulltime staffers make up the Maintenance Division on a year round basis. As the weather breaks in the spring and time gets closer to the fair, several additional staffers are brought on board to assist with various duties.

Before joining the fair staff as a fulltime employee, Claggett was a fireman for 25 years at Citizens Truck Company in the City of Frederick. During that time he also worked parttime for the fair, before coming on a year round basis.

He recently moved into the Caretaker's House, and has since painted the exterior and done some minor renovations.

Meanwhile during fairweek, the Board of Managers and staff dedicated a flowerbed outside of Building 12 (the 4-H Building) in memory of Stitley who worked for more than 25 years at the fair in the maintenance division.

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BUSINESS PARTNER OR FRIEND

MAAFS 2001 CONVENTION

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the most respected figures in the fair industry to our annual meeting. This year was no exception."

Several local and state fair officials were featured speakers including Dr. Tom Hartsock, director of the Institute of Applied Agriculture at the University of Maryland; Andy Cashman from the Maryland State Fair; Barry Lippy from the Carroll County Fair; and Diana Wilson from the Anne Arundel County Fair.

The list of nationally recognized speakers was also extensive with Barbara Renner, former IAFE president from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Dennis Hazzard, CFE, from Delaware State Fair; Mozelle Williams, CFE from the Florida Federation of Fairs; and Wayne McCary from the Big E in Springfield, Mass.

Numerous awards were presented during the convention, including Fair Person of the Year, communications awards in several categories and educational exhibits. The Great Frederick Fair won the state's overall communications award as well as five individual recognitions for promotional materials; website; poster board; and caps, t-shirts.

IRVIN RENN RETIRES

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Society Inc. Life Member since 1993.

Bare has been an exhibitor on the fair's Machinery Row since the 1970s. He has been a supporter of many aspects of The Great Frederick Fair including the 4-H Livestock Sale, the milk giveaway on Machinery Row, and donating the use of equipment for use on the fairgrounds throughout the year. He was also instrumental in the construction of the fair's milking facility that draws thousands of spectators during the nine-day fair to watch cows being milked.

John E. Bare

"It is quite an honor to have been appointed to serve on the Board of Managers of The Frederick County Agricultural Society and The Great Frederick Fair," Bare said. "I am looking forward to working with my fellow Board members, the fair staff and the Life Members to ensure the Great Frederick Fair continues its valued and proud traditions."

RAMSBURG

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overall facility upgrades; on-line fair entry registrations; upgrading and promoting the 27- year old Farmers Market; and successes with the fair's website.

She said announced that The Great Frederick Fair, conjunction with WFMD/WFRE and Frederick County 4-H Cake Auction recently presented a \$15000.00 check to the Clear Channel Disaster Relief Fund, benefitting persons affected by the September 11, 2001 tragedies at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The donation was the result of concertgoers who donated their tickets from the Randy



Travis Concert originally scheduled during the September Great Frederick Fair, but was cancelled by the entertainer in view of the tragedies. In place of the cancelled concert, fairgoers were treated to a patriotic performance organized and produced by local talent star Debbie Williams.

As part of her report, Mrs. Hendricks asked for a moment of silence in memory of Butch Stitley who was employed by the fair for more than 25 years. Stitley died this past January while preparing to fight a fire adjacent to the fairgrounds.

She also announced the 2002 fair dates of September 13-21, celebrating *Simply Ag-xquisite...A black tie A-fair celebrating 140 years!* Black and silver with accents of red and gold will be the colors used with the theme.

**UPCOMING EVENTS
AT FAIRGROUNDS**

Looking for something to do on a weekend in the next several months? Why not take in a craft show or antique auction or home show or computer sale or cattle show or sale?

As you can see a lot of varied activities are held at the Frederick Fairgrounds throughout the year. Schedule of events by month are available. To be added to the mailing list, please drop us a postcard with your name and address, and we'll send you the next issue. Or check out our website for a listing of monthly events at www.thegreatfrederickfair.com

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

12 Thomas Auctions 410-775-2866

FEBRUARY

1-2 Great Frederick Coin Show/Sale 304-728-9923

9-10 Cabin Fever Craft Show 301-898-5466

16-17 Toy Sale 301-662-1125

23 Thomas Auctions 410-775-2866

The Great Frederick Fair won three national awards during the International Association of Fairs and Expositions Convention in Las Vegas, NV, in early December. Awards were captured for New and Specific Agricultural Education Event for the Fair going Public (the Butterfly House); Single Interview-Newspaper (4-H'er raising lambs for fair); and Home Page (website).

During the agricultural society's meeting, the stockholders voted to adopt the resolution ratifying the purchase of 704 and 706 East Patrick Street, encompassing just over four acres. The property will be used for fair and offseason event parking.