



NYSAAF

NEWSLETTER

New York State Association of Agricultural Fairs, Inc.



From The President

Well this will be the last newsletter article that I write as your President. It's amazing how fast my time in the chairs has gone by, let alone my year as President.

It has been a year of transition with the retirements of Norma and Joan. Russell and Melissa have done a great job getting up to speed on how everything works and the hiccups have been nonexistent.

It has also been a successful year. Harry Booth and everyone involved in the public policy committee helped to secure \$5 million from the state of New York for our County fairs. This money should go a long way towards helping rejuvenate and revitalize the failing infrastructure and buildings on our Fairgrounds across the state.

I hope you are all filling out the necessary paperwork so that you can receive your share of these funds. If you need help, please ask your district director or any of us on the Executive Committee. If we don't have the answer we will help you find it.

As 2016 continues to become history, plans for the upcoming convention are well underway. Gary Newkirk and his staff at the Ulster County fair are putting the final touches on what should be a great weekend of learning and networking in Rochester.

Something new at the convention this year is a buffet dinner on Saturday night. It will be very similar to the way the breakfast is done each morning. We hope that this will solve the problems of getting seated and served in the Hotel restaurant. Please look for more information in the convention registration packet.

As the holidays approach I would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Andy Imperati, President

2017 Ag Awareness

The Ag Awareness program is an important part of what our Association offers to its member Fairs. This year marks the beginning of a new round of funding for the program. This year ten (10) Fairs will have the opportunity to participate and receive funding to spear-head their endeavor. The Association provides these funds for improvement to the agricultural related exhibits, equipment purchases or to develop a new ag related exhibit.

The Fairs eligible in 2017 are; Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chenango, Cortland Junior Fair, Delaware, Herkimer, Jefferson, Orleans 4-H Fair, Oswego and Tioga.

Our Board of Directors is committed to funding this program through 2020 to give each Fair the opportunity to benefit from the program.

As a reminder to the participating Fairs, your application is due to be submitted by December 27, 2016 for review by the committee.

See you all at the Convention in Rochester!

Russ Marquart, CFE

Ag Awareness Project Coordinator



Delegates from New York Fairs attend the Zone 1 Meeting at the annual IAFE Convention and Trade Show.



County Fair Showcase/ Slideshow

As in the past we would like to have a slide show of this year's fairs before the General Session begins each morning. If you have pictures you would like to provide for the presentation please forward them in jpeg format to Andy Imperati at aimperati@dutchessfair.com by December 23.

District 7 Report

District 7 submitted two very well qualified applicants for the NYSAAF Scholarships. Robin Smithling was chosen as one of the recipients and was recognized at the fairs opening ceremonies. Robin attended Marcus Whitman High School where she was class president, a member of National Honor Society, FFA, Junior Dairy Leaders program, Dairy Handlers and many community service activities all while maintaining a 93 GPA. Since she was old enough she has been an active part and volunteer at the Ontario County Fair, supporting and participating in the dairy program and as a Jr. Supt of the School & Domestic Arts. Robin has worked at Hilton's dairy farm as well as her family's farm, working with their Brown Swiss herd. Robin understands that in farming and the Fair industry "nothing" goes as planned and that one has to be flexible to be able to finish what needs to be done and that TEAMWORK is an important attribute. Robin is attending California Polytechnic College. She hopes to one day start up her own farm.

All of the fairs in the district are busy wrapping things up for the winter and working on their next fair season. The Wayne County Fair Board of Directors and Advisory Board continues to seek non-fair opportunities to increase revenue and public awareness. On October 8, the Fair held its 2nd annual Barn Dance at the Wayne County Fair Grounds that included square dancing featuring The Over & Under String Band with Dave Jacobs calling, live country rock performed by the Slow Riders, hay rides, pumpkin decorating contest and fun for the whole family. The event drew several hundred attendees and a profit to the fair. On November 5, the 11th

NY Fair Managers Meeting Report:

The annual Managers meeting took place October 14-16 at the Holiday Inn Oneonta, which at 11:30 Friday night had a bad Kitchen fire and the hotel was evacuated until 2:30am when thankfully we were allowed back in. Our meals were brought in by local restaurants. After that excitement the weekend went very well, 2 guest speakers Saturday morning, followed by a mini Fall Fair and trade show Saturday afternoon. We also helped a few Fairs with their grant information. It was a great weekend and HUGE Thank you to the Otsego County Fair Board for all their help.

Lisa Jones, President
Otsego County Fair Manager

annual All You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner will take place at the Palmyra Fire Hall from 4-8 pm. Adults are \$10, youth age 6-12 are \$5 and 5 and under are free. Plenty of raffles and fun for all.

The Ontario County Fair Board of Directors and Advisory Board also continues to seek non-fair opportunities to increase revenue and public awareness. On August 27th we hosted a surplus building supplies and tool auction. October 8th, Garden Brothers Circus was at the grounds and held 3 spectacular performances that were well attended. Ontario County Pathways hosted their annual Pumpkin Walk October 15th to a record breaking crowd. Events like these are a win win for all.

Orleans County Youth Fair is excited to continue their momentum that the new management team has ignited. The teamwork and overall satisfaction of partners made for a very successful fair season. The refreshing renewal is contagious and they hope to build from this and look forward to participate in the upcoming grant.

The district is planning to meet in November. Happy Holidays to all and we look forward to seeing everyone in January at the convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana Jo Hilton



2016-2017 NYS Fair Managers Officers
At the October meeting of the NYS Fair Managers Association, the following officers were elected; Jason Craig, President, Delaware County Fair; Alton MacDuffie, Vice President, Genesee County Fair; Gerry Elthorp, Secretary/Treasurer, Herkimer County Fair. The next managers meeting will be held in the Fall of 2017 with more information to follow.



Robin Smithling, District 7

2016 Scholarship Winners

The seven recipients of a \$1,000 Scholarship are:

Rebekah Allen - representing Genesee County Fair. Attending Rochester Institute of Technology. Major: Biomedical Science with pre veterinary focus. Expected to graduate in 2020.

Emily Ooms - representing Columbia County Fair. Attending Cornell University major in Animal Science. Expected to graduate in 2020

Ashley Gifford - representing Altamont Fair. Attending Connors State College, Oklahoma, major animal science - Genetic Analyst for the beef industry, specifically sire analysis. Expected to graduate in 2022.

Mikayla MacNeill - representing Cortland County Fair. Attending Virginia Tech. Major in Bachelors of Agricultural Science with a Masters of Agricultural Education, Extension and Leadership. Expected to graduate 2019.

Robin Smithling - representing Ontario County Fair. Attending Cornell. Major Dairy Science specific in Dairy Genetics, with a Minor in Equine Science and Photography. Expected to graduate 2022.

Andrew Bontrager - representing Wyoming County Fair. Attending Oklahoma State University - Major in Animal science. Expected to graduate in 2020.

Brianna Getty - representing Washington County Fair. Attending Siena, with a Major in Marketing. Expected to graduate in 2020.

The recipient of the Fair managers \$1,000 Scholarship is:

Brittney Noto representing Erie County Fair. Attending Morrisville State College. Major in Agricultural Business Development. Expected to graduate in 2018.

John Craft
NYSAAF Scholarship
Committee Co-Chairperson

2017 Convention Information Highlights

Convention Speakers



“Those who Laugh, Last”

Juli Burney – is a multiple award winning college professor, communications specialist, humorist and author. She is able to entertain with the ability of a headlining comedian while either motivating or training with ease as a nationally recognized speaker. Juli has been honored by her state as Artist of the Year because of her ability to help improve people’s lives through humor and effective use of communication tools



“Tell Me Somethin’ Good!”

Clint Swindall – is the President and CEO of Verbalocity, Inc. a personal development company with a focus on leadership enhancement. These solutions include leadership development programs, training, speaking and general consulting. Clint travels extensively delivering high-content speeches and training in an entertaining and inspirational style. He is the recipient of the Certified Speaking Professional’s designation.



NYSAAF

**Returning to the
2017 Convention!**

**Come on down and be a
contestant in the Interactive
Game Show Experience!**

Join us for a fun filled session where you and your team test your knowledge answering agricultural related questions all within a game show setting.

Stop by the Registration Booth for details and to sign up. It’s going to be fun!

2017 Convention Information

The 129th Annual NYSAAF Convention will be held January 13-16, 2017 at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center, Rochester, NY

Registration

The registration desk will be located in the gallery, street level. Your registration packets with badges and tickets will be available Friday 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM, Saturday 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM and Sunday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Registration forms have been mailed to you. On December 16th, registration increases to \$20.00. List your name on the form as you would like it to appear on your badge.

**Register before December 15,
prices go up December 16**

**Saturday & Sunday Breakfast–
Advance ticket required**

For the 2017 convention the NYSAAF is offering a breakfast on Saturday, January 14 and Sunday, January 15. The menu will include: Sliced fruits, scrambled eggs, bacon, potatoes, sausage, assorted pastries, juices, coffee and tea. Breakfast will be located at the Radisson Hotel in the Grand Ballroom. Advance tickets are required and can be ordered on the registration form mailed to you. The cost is \$14.00 per person, \$16.00 per person if purchased after Dec. 15.

**Badge Requirements - Name
Badges must be worn to all
functions.**

Please wear your registration badge at all times. These badges are important for your identification to attend the meetings, enter the trade show and other functions involved with the convention. These badges indicate that you have registered for the convention; they help the trade show participants put names to faces and the ribbon color identifies fair attendees, associate members, officers and speakers.

Convention Program

You can download the 2017 Convention Program at www.nyfairs.com

Hotel Reservations

Reservations should be made directly with the Radisson Riverside Hotel and the Hyatt Regency. Be sure to tell them you are with the NYSAAF to get the proper room rate.

It is very important for everyone making reservations, (whether individually or one person making the reservations for the whole group) to be sure they are identified by name and by fair to eliminate any repetitions. We receive credits on the convention expenses from the Radisson and the Hyatt depending on the number of rooms used. Therefore, it is most important that all of our registrants stay at

one of the two hotels and that they know you are part of our group. Deadline for room reservations is December 31st. If you are tax exempt you must present the necessary paper work at the time of registration. If your fair is paying with a corporate card, please read the following instructions:

**Group Credit Card Instructions-
Radisson Riverside Hotel**

In effort to assist with previous billing issues we suggest the following procedures to assist in smoothing out the process. If you are a group that is looking to have all the rooms from your fair or organization billed to one credit card the following will enable you to do so:

1. Have one main contact for your group call the hotel 585-546-6400 and ask for Linda Donoghue the reservations manager.
2. Tell Linda that you are with Ag Fairs and you would like to create a **“group master”** for your fair. Linda will then create a “group master” for your billing purposes.
3. You will need to have the credit card and fill out a credit card authorization form.

Once that group master is created you can then either give Linda the list of names to go on your **“group master”** or you can have the individuals from your fair call in.

If you are going to have **individuals call in** on

Continued on Page 4

Convention Informationfrom page 3

their own please let them know that they will need to make a reservation under ABC fair part of the Ag Fairs block. That way all reservations will be under the correct fair. Linda will also take care of any payment or billing issues that you may have. Her email address is donoghuel@gfhotels.com

The Riverside Convention Center is connected to the hotels by skywalks. Note that there is a NO SMOKING policy at the convention center.

Directions

The parking garages for the hotels can be reached from Interstate 90 to:

WEST - From I-90 take exit 47 to route 490 east (stay in left-hand lane), then take Plymouth Avenue exit. Make a right onto Plymouth Avenue, then a left onto Main Street.

EAST - From I-90, take exit 45, follow route 490 west to Plymouth Avenue, exit ramp. Go straight to Main Street and take a right onto Main Street. After crossing the Genesee River, make a left into driveway from Main Street to Radisson Riverside Hotel, 120 E. Main Street. Make a right into driveway from Main Street to Hyatt Regency Hotel, 125 E. Main Street.

President's Reception

The President's reception will be held in the Riverside Ballroom at the Radisson Hotel on Friday, January 13 from 9 PM until midnight.

Auction

Saturday following the Past President Reception, our annual scholarship auction will be held. Donations can be left at the registration desk. Be sure your name is on each donated item. It is requested that the item have a minimum value of \$25.00. The Association will again be accepting credit cards for auction purchases. In addition to benefiting the Scholarship Fund, 25% of the proceeds will go to the General Fund to support convention activities.

Door Prizes

We request only one door prize per fair and it can be left at the registration desk. Label each item with the name of your fair and distinguish between door prize and auction item.

Banquet

The NYS Association of Agr. Fairs banquet ticket will be \$35.00 for either choice of Chicken Saffim-bocca or Sirloin Steak, if purchased by December 15th, On December 16th the cost of the banquet

"Help Wanted"

President Andy Imperati is looking for a person willing to act as our Convention Photographer. If you have a good digital camera and would like to take pictures of all aspects of the Convention please get in touch with Andy at aimperati@dutchessfair.com or Russ Marquart at rmarquart@aol.com as soon as possible. This person will need to be available from Saturday Opening session and finish up with the Group photographs after the Business Meeting on Monday. A digital disk of photographs would need to be provided and the photos will become the property of the Association as soon as possible following the Convention. If you would like to help out, please let one of us know!

tickets will increase to \$42.00. This offer is being made available to you by the Association in the hope that you will join us for the 129th annual banquet and entertainment showcase on Sunday in the Empire Hall North of the Rochester Riverside Convention Center.

Memorial Display

Memorial forms were mailed to you. If you have someone you want remembered, please send completed form to Dr. Marilyn Trainor, 436 Harris Dr., Watertown, NY 13601 by January 1.

Trade Show Booth & Hours

Exhibit will be open Saturday, January 14 from 11 AM to 5 PM and on Sunday, January 15 from 11 AM to 4 PM. Booths are 8 ft. x 10 ft. Contact Russ Marquart at 716-655-1958 or rmarquart@aol.com for further information on obtaining a booth. A lunch buffet (on your own) and seating area will be available on both days in the trade show for your convenience.

Discount Coupons

Lunch: Check your registration packet for a Luncheon Discount Coupon being offered by the NYS Association of Agr. Fairs and The Joseph Floreano Rochester Riverside Convention Center redeemable for a savings of \$1.50 off any concession purchase of \$5.00 or greater at the trade show.

This will offer you the opportunity to have lunch and also to conduct business. Tickets for the special drawing will be included in your registration packet. You must deposit the ticket at the trade show to be eligible. There will be a box where the prizes are displayed. Five qualifying tickets will be drawn Saturday at 4:30 and five Sunday at 3:30 PM. Qualifiers must be present to win. On Sunday, a drawing of the qualifiers will determine the winner. The winning registered delegate must be present to win. The prizes will be displayed in the trade show at the convention.

Trade Show Parade

The theme for 2017 is "County Fairs". The "Little Red Wagon Parade" will be held Sunday at 2:45 pm in the trade show area. Rules to participate were mailed to you with your registration information. Return your entry form by January 1 to: Nelson Eddy, 31571 Peck Road, Black River, NY 13612. If you need further information, contact Nelson at 315-523-3923.

NAME BADGES MUST BE WORN TO ALL FUNCTIONS

You can download the 2017 Convention Program at: www.nyfairs.org

NEW Meal Offering**Saturday Evening Buffet Dinner**

The Association is making available an alternative dining option during the Convention. A Buffet Dinner will be available to Saturday, January 14, from 5:00-7:00pm at the Radisson Hotel. Advance Ticket purchase is required, \$25.00 each and must be ordered with Registration. In the past, it has been a concern of the Fair's that there were not enough dining options to fit into the schedule. Therefore, the Board is offering you this alternative to the restaurant service. We hope you enjoy the experience, please take advantage of this NEW feature!

**IAFE Institute of Fair Management****Enroll now for a great learning experience!**

The mission of The Institute of Fair Management is to enhance the professional development of the employees and volunteers of our member fairs and expositions by providing education and training in areas of core competency necessary for the operations of today's fairs, large or small.

The core competency areas in which the courses of the Institute will be focused include management, risk management, marketing, programming, operations and facility usage.

For more information visit the www.fairsandexpos.com.

IAFE, The Network!

The IAFE Convention & Trade Show will be held in San Antonio, Texas in 2018 & 2019.

Its official! The IAFE Convention and Trade Show will be moving to San Antonio for 2018 and 2019. The Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center will be the home of the trade show and educational programming. Less walking; most hotel rooms are closer to the meeting space than the distance between elevators of The Paris Hotel to the Event Center in Bally's at our current convention site. Attendees will have eight hotel options, with a range of rates, amenities and ambience.

Save the Dates: November 25-28, 2018 and December 1-4, 2019.

County Fair Reports 2016

Dutchess County Fair

Dates: August 23-28, 2016
 Attendance: 362,383
 Gate Admission: Adult \$15.00/ Senior \$10.00
 Parking: N/A
 Weather: Sunny, Mild, Hot
 Carnival: Powers Midways
 Entertainment/Fee/Attendance: Third Eye Blind, 3202 Paid/Parmalee Old Dominion, 2378 Paid/Hotel California Eagles, 2800 Free/Chase Rice, 3143 Paid
 2017 Fair Dates: August 22-27
 Reported by: Andy Imperati, General Manager

The Great New York State Fair

Dates: August 25-September 5, 2016
 Attendance: 1,117,630
 Gate Admission: Adult \$10.00/Child-12 & under Free/Seniors-Free on 2 days
 Parking: \$5.00
 Weather: Sunny and Warm
 Carnival: Wade Shows
 Entertainment/Fee/Attendance: Chicago, Free, 31,000/ Daughtry, Free, 4,000/ Three Days Grace, Free, 22,000/Fb Reda, Free, 20,000/ Brian Williams, Free, 20,000
 2017 Fair Dates: August 24-September 4
 Reported by: Rachel Boyce, Director's Administrative Assistant

Delaware County Fair

Dates: August 15-20, 2016
 Attendance: 77,103
 Gate Admission: Adult \$8.00/ Child 12 & under Free/ Senior ½ price on Thursday
 Parking: Free
 Weather: Nice, Rain Tuesday, Hot Saturday
 Carnival: Reithoffer Shows
 Entertainment/Fee/Attendance: Derby, Paid, 4592/ FMX, Paid, 536/ NYTPA, Paid, 2189/ Truck Pull, Paid, 2305/Frank Ballard Concert, Paid 1834
 2017 Fair Dates: August 14-19
 Reported by: Edward Rossley, President

Wyoming County Fair

Dates: August 13-20, 2016
 Attendance: 76,000
 Gate Admission: Free
 Parking: \$5.00
 Weather: Heavy Rain, 6 days mainly sunny and war,
 Carnival: Hammerl Amusements
 Entertainment/Fee/Attendance: Performance Tractor Pull & Grand Parade, Cancelled, Firemen's Parade & Garden Tractor Pull, Cancelled/ Draft Horse Show, Paid, 400/ ESP Tractor Pull, Paid, 3100/ ESP Tractor Pull, Paid, 3800
 2017 Fair Dates: August 12-19
 Reported by: Connie Weaver, Treasurer

Schaghticoke Fair

Dates: August 31-September 5, 2016
 Attendance: 95,948
 Gate Admission: Adult \$11.00/ Child Free/ Seniors Free

Parking: Free
 Weather: Sunny perfect
 Carnival: Reithoffer Shows
 Entertainment/Fee/Attendance: Farm Tractor Pull, Free, 2000/ Sanctioned NYTPA Pull, Free, 2000/ Double Figure 8 Demo Derby, Free, 2500/ Double M Rodeo, Free, 2500/ Tim McGraw/Shania Tribute, Free
 2017 Fair Dates: August 30-September 4
 Reported by: Carly Reyna, Manager

The Altamont Fair

Dates: August 16-August 21, 2016
 Attendance: 70,000 plus
 Gate Admission: Adult \$15.00, \$17.00/ Child under 36" Free/ Seniors-Free on Senior Day
 Parking: Free
 Weather: Rain, Hot, Humid
 Carnival: Dreamland Amusements
 Entertainment/Fee/Attendance: Coronas Circus, Free/ Hollywood Pig Races, Free/ Budweiser Clydesdales Free
 2017 Fair Dates: August 15-20
 Reported by: Amy Anderson, Manager

Fonda Fair

Dates: August 30 – September 5, 2016
 Attendance: 39,286
 Gate Admission: Adult \$10.00/Child \$2.00/ Senior \$10.00/\$5.00 on Senior Days
 Parking: \$2.00
 Weather: Sunny perfect temperature
 Carnival: Coleman Brothers
 Entertainment/Fee/Attendance:
 2017 Fair Dates: August 30 – September 4,
 Reported by: Mary Ellen Wimont

Herkimer County Fair Assn, Inc.

Dates: August 16-21, 2016
 Attendance: 60,293
 Gate Admission: Adult \$10.00/Child \$3.00
 Parking: Free
 Weather: Good weather
 Carnival: Gillette Shows
 Entertainment/Fee/Attendance: Van-Dells/ Free; Skeeter Creek/Free; Lonesome Dove/Free; Chris Taylor/Free; Grit & Grace/Free
 2017 Fair Dates: August 15-20,
 Reported by: Gerry Elthorp, Treasurer-Manager

Ontario County Fair

Dates: July 26 – 30, 2016
 Attendance:
 Gate Admission: Free
 Parking: Car load \$8.00/\$5.00 Walk ins, single in car or motorcycle
 Weather: Nice & HOT
 Carnival: Playland Amusements
 Entertainment/Fee/Attendance: Demo Derby/Empire State Tractor Pullers/ Party Petting Zoo/Hot Dog Pig Races/Sylvia Fletcher Comedy Ventriloquist/Westy's Birds of Prey
 2017 Fair Dates: July 25-29,
 Reported by: Shana Jo Hilton, Secretary

New Members

Authenticity

Melanie Webb
 495 Forest Hill Avenue
 Saranac Lake, NY 12983
 518-354-3243
 Food: Authentic Canadian Real Poutine with Cheese Curds, Canadian Style Hot Dogs & Hamburgers

J.S. Concessions, Inc.

PO Box 755
 Rhinebeck, NY 12572
 845-876-8238
 Food: Concessions

Jeff Williams Music and Entertainment

370 West Road
 Argyle, NY 12809
 518-361-1226
 Attraction: Throwback Country, Classic Rock & Patriotic

Old Orchard Woodcarving

Jennifer Black
 42 Dodge Avenue, Lot 134
 Waverly, NY 14892
 607-346-0764
 Attraction: Chainsaw Carving Demonstrations

Green River The Ultimate CCR/ John Fogerty Tribute Show

Rick Horvath
 4 Beechwood Drive
 Lake Ariel, PA 18436
 570-862-2586
 Attraction: Tribute Show

Metropolis Management

Bridget Callahan
 105 Old Landon Road
 Canton, PA 17724
 570-692-0572
 Book Agent

Variety Extreme

Ivan Arestov
 1065 Loganberry Street
 Oshawa, Ontario, Canada L1K 2W3
 786-877-9782
 Attractions: Variety Stage Show

Ax Women Loggers of Maine

Alissa Wetherbee
 20 Hallbrook Way
 Ellsworth, ME 04605
 207-479-1777
 Attraction: All female lumberjack show

Fire Magick

Jozette Gordon
 207 Parker Street
 Watertown, NY 13601
 315-771-3337
 Attraction: Circus Entertainment



Obituary

Joan E. Tweedie

Joan E. Tweedie, 73, of Walton passed away on Thursday afternoon, October 6, 2016, surrounded by her family.

Joan was born on March 8, 1943 in Walton the daughter of the late Floyd and Dorothy (Ploutz) Slauson Sr. On June 16, 1968 she married Gary A. Tweedie in Roxbury. He predeceased her on September 3, 2014.

Joan was a member of the New York State Association of Agricultural Fairs. Along with Gary, she loved the Delaware County Fair and was a great asset to him as he was the Concessions Manager for over 20 years. She took great pride in coordinating the vendor layout of the large commercial tent. Over the years she made many friends at the fair with the vendors and fair goers. She enjoyed collecting carousels, making jewelry, ceramics, cake decorating and loved spending time with her grandchildren. She loved working in her garden, mowing her lawn and took great pride in mowing both sides of MacGibbon Hollow of which she received many compliments.

Joan is survived by her loving family, her children, Mark and Peggy Tweedie of Deer Lodge, MT; Jay Tweedie of Walton; Gary and Colleen Tweedie, Jr. of Gouverneur; Tim and Catherine Tweedie of Walton; Jim and Terri Tweedie of Walton; Melissa Beardslee of Walton; Ricky and Chanda Tweedie of Unadilla; her "seventh son" Pat and LuAnn Applegate of Middletown, PA; grandchildren, Austin, Ethan, George, Heather, Xavier, Mia, Sydney, Timothy Jr (TJ), Joshua, Alaina, Morgan, Nick, Aubre, Cortlin, Stephanie, Rachel, great grandchildren, Atticus, Marvin, Jr., sisters, Linda Myers of Roxbury; Ruth (Stan) Axtell of Chittenango, brother, Floyd (Linda) Slauson, Jr., her brother and sisters in law, Dale and Delores Tweedie of Chenango Bridge; Harold and Pat Tweedie of Penhook, VA; Glenn Tweedie of Deposit; Sandra and Bill Kerr of Chase Mills, NY; special friends, Jane Beers of Walton; Sarah Zelif of Canandaigua, NY; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Bits & Pieces

County Fair Showcase/Slideshow

As in the past we would like to have a slide show of this year's fairs before the General Session begins each morning. If you have pictures you would like to provide for the presentation please forward them in jpeg format to Andy Imperati at aimperati@dutchessfair.com by December 23.

NYSAAF Fair Dues

Association Treasurer, Melissa Beardslee, reminds all Fair Treasurers and Managers that the dues notices went out in October and are payable by December 5 so that all are accounted for by convention time. Note that your dues are determined by your 2015 attendance. Mail your dues payable to NYSAAF to Melissa at 32 South Street, Walton, NY 13856.

Premium Reimbursement Rpt.

In order for your Fair to be eligible for premium reimbursement for 2016, you must complete the Annual Report sent to you and return to us before December 15, 2016.

The Annual Report, Premium Book and Harness Race Summary (if applicable) are due by December 15, 2016. It is important that you meet this deadline since our calculations cannot be completed until all of the Annual Reports have been received. If your report is received after this deadline, your Fair will be deemed ineligible for reimbursement. Please submit the following:

1. Agricultural Society Annual Report (AF-8)
2. Harness Race Summary Sheet (AF-1) (if applicable)
3. Premium Book

Dates to Remember

2016

- December 15 Deadline for NYSAAF Convention Registration
- December 31 Deadline for Hotel Reservations for Convention, Radisson Hotel & Hyatt Hotel

2017

- January 13-16.....NYS Association of Agricultural Fairs Convention, Joseph A. Floreano Rochester Riverside Convention Center, Rochester, NY
- February 6-8..... NICA Business Expo & Food Show, Sheraton Tampa East, Tampa, FL
- February 7-11..... Gibtown Super Extravaganza, & Trade Show, Gibtown Showmen's Club, Riverview, FL
- February 10..... OABA Annual Meeting, Sheraton Tampa East, Tampa, FL
- February 21-23..... IAFE Impact & Impressions Specialty Seminar, Menger Hotel, San Antonio, TX
- March 30-April 1 IAFE Zone 1 Meeting, Crowne Plaza, Reading, PA
- April 22..... NYSAAF Board of Directors Meeting NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY
- April 25-28..... IAFE Management Conference, Davenport Hotel, Spokane, WA
- May 10-12..... IAFE Institute of Fair Management Summit, Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza, Sacramento, CA

BEFORE DECEMBER 15 SEND TO:

Eileen Horton, Fiscal Management
NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets
10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY 12235

If you have any questions, would like an electronic version of the form e-mailed to you, or believe that you may not be able to make the filing deadlines, please call us at (518) 457-9564.

Newsletter

The NYSAAF Newsletter is published 3 times a year in April, September and December. Our Convention Newsletter deadline is November 1st. Send information for the newsletter to Russell Marquart at rlmarquart@aol.com. Thank you to all who contributed to this newsletter. Visit us on our website at: www.nyfairs.org.

"Together we can grow our Association"

Our NYSAAF organization is always looking for new Associate Members that will enhance our membership and their business opportunities. The Association is open to people who are valuable partners in the Fair's throughout New York. If you are already an Associate Member or a Member Fair who knows someone or an organization that already exhibits, I would encourage you to reach out to them to seek out membership. Please encourage them to visit our website at www.nyfairs.org and complete the 2017 Associate Membership Application. Membership is \$65.00 per year. "Together we can grow our Association!"

Presidents' Fair Showcase

Andy Imperati, General Manager, Dutchess County Fair, Rhinebeck, NY



Return to:

**NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION
OF AGRICULTURAL FAIRS, INC.**

Russell L. Marquart, CFE, Executive Secretary
PO Box G • Elma, NY 14059
www.nyfairs.org



**Visit us on our website
at: www.nyfairs.org**

**Thank you to all who contributed to
this newsletter.**



JOIN US January 13 - 16, 2017 129th NYSAAF Annual Convention

**Joseph A. Floreano Rochester
Riverside Convention Center • Rochester, NY
Convention Program – www.nyfairs.org**

**Call for room reservations:
Radisson Riverside Hotel – 585-546-6400
Hyatt Regency – 585-546-1234
<http://resweb.passkey.com/go/NYSAssocAgriculturalFair2017>**

Convention

Presenting Sponsors:

Allied Specialty Insurance, Inc.,
Dreamland Amusements
Powers Great American Midways

TRADE SHOW

Empire Hall South
Saturday, January 14, 2017
11:00 am - 5:00 pm
&
Sunday, January 15, 2017
11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Gold Plus Sponsors

Allied Specialty Insurance, Inc. • Dreamland Amusements,
Powers Great American Midways

Silver Sponsor

W.G. Wade Shows

Bronze Sponsors

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