

Mission Statement

- ✔ To promote community interaction by providing a facility for our diverse community to use, to share, grow and enjoy.

The Team

▼ Fair Board

- ▼ Anna Scharf – Chairman
- ▼ Linda Lambert– Vice-Chairman
- ▼ Nita Wilson
- ▼ Eric Stetnik
- ▼ Randle Sitton
- ▼ Diane Bishop
- ▼ Suzanne Burbank

▼ Fair Staff

- ▼ Tina Andersen – Fair Manager
- ▼ Linda Friedow – Administrative Secretary
- ▼ Gene Conklin – Resident Caretaker
- ▼ Jason Groshong - Maintenance
- ▼ John Hubbard – Janitorial
- ▼ Nikki Weaver – Office Assistant

Accomplishments & History

✓ POLK COUNTY FAIR HISTORY

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- ✓ **1913:** Sale of stock, \$1 per share, sold to build fairgrounds in Dallas.
- ✓ **1924:** Dallas donated land; a pavilion and stock shed were built.
- ✓ **1934:** County used buildings for storage. Fair held at Dallas Armory.
- ✓ **1938:** Fair moved to Monmouth, held in tent next to City Hall.
- ✓ **1940:** Fair moved to Grandstand at Oregon State College of Education, Fair held there until 1952.
- ✓ **1949:** Present 20-acre site purchased from H.A. Dempsey and George Esau.
- ✓ **1953:** Main exhibit building and first barn built, Fair held in August.
- ✓ **1956:** Home and Garden Building constructed.
- ✓ **1958:** Dining room and kitchen added to Main Building.
- ✓ **1960:** Horticulture area constructed (4H bldg). Midway Association Booths built. Polk County Saddle-ite Club organized.
- ✓ **1962:** Completion of Horticulture area.
- ✓ **1963:** South addition to Main Building.
- ✓ **1964:** Arts and Crafts Building constructed, barn addition.
- ✓ **1965:** Heating system installed in Main Building. New food booth.
- ✓ **1966:** New food booth and covered area in midway added, plus playground equipment and tables and benches. Loading ramp built; mobile home purchased for caretakers.
- ✓ **1967:** Livestock Building constructed.
- ✓ **1968:** Covered eating area built, developed winter parking area.
- ✓ **1969:** Constructed 10 booth spaces on West side of Arts and Crafts building, 12 horseshoe pits built for the first State Doubles Tournament. Concrete floor installed for covered eating area, beef wash rack built. New PA System installed.
- ✓ **1970:** Completed first phase of doubling size of kitchen and dining area.
- ✓ **1971:** Completed final phase of doubling kitchen and dining area. Installed underground electrical service to main building. Built 40'X 120' Horse Barn with 48 tie stalls. Country Garden Club donated funds for drinking fountain at rear of 4-H Building.
- ✓ **1972:** Installed \$10,000 lighting system in arena. Perrydale Goodwill Club and Perrydale Farmers Union donated funds for two drinking fountains.
- ✓ **1973:** First phase of 120' X 200" Multipurpose Building constructed, cost of \$25,750. New heating system in Main Building (\$4,149). Country Garden Club and Polk County Extension Alumni donate funds for indoor-outdoor carpeting in Lobby of Main Building. Henthorne Family donated funds in memory of Evertt Henthorne to install refrigerated drinking fountain in Main Building. Acoustical ceiling installed in Main Building.
- ✓ **1974:** New shelves purchased for Foods Division and racks for Textile Division. Graveled 20,000 sq. ft. of parking area.
- ✓ **1975:** Resurfaced front parking lot and other areas around the Main Building. Donations of \$1,000 from Cascade Farm Service, Rickreall, and Dow Chemical Co. used to install brick pillars topped with entrance lights at the main gate.
- ✓ **1976:** Install 5,000 ft of drainage tile to parking lot (\$11,000)
- ✓ **1977:** Partially paved area between Main Building and Arts and Crafts Building. New fence around arena, rebuilt announcers stand. Installed singular lighting in playground.
- ✓ **1978:** Show arena fenced, constructed midway booths, installed arena lighting, added pegboard walls to Main Building (funds donated by Extension Alumni).
- ✓ **1979:** Installed lights between Arts and Crafts Building, new 6" water lines, graveled section of parking lot, built goat arena.

Fair History Continued

- ✓ **1980:** New siding on west and south ends of the Multipurpose Building. Concrete around three midway booths, between main Building and midway. Kitchen added to 4-H Building, new grill in Hamburger Heaven.
- ✓ **1981:** Reroofed half of Main Building, remodeled horse stalls.
- ✓ **1982:** Built walkin cooler/freezer, installed stainless steel sink unit in Main Kitchen. Repainted, installed florescent lighting in Horticulture Area. Installed florescent lighting in 4-H and Arts/Crafts Building. Purchased three bleachers and lectume speakers. New water line installed in front of Main Building.
- ✓ **1983:** Paved area between Arts/Crafts Building and Main Building. Extension Alumni donated funds to build 18 tables and 3 pegboard display racks.
- ✓ **1984:** Reroofed cow barns, added thermopane windows, insulation, aluminum roof, gutters and paint to 4-H Building.
- ✓ **1985:** Reroofed Textile Room and front area of the Main Building. Extension Alumni donated \$975 to construct 3 sets of bleachers. Arena Association donated sand for Outdoor Arena. New speaker system installed with donation from Arena Trust Fund. 17,739 sq. ft. of asphalt installed. Box stalls built in horse barn, donations from the community and Los Caballeros Horse Club. Mistletoe donation to reroof dining room area.
- ✓ **1986:** Sheridan FFA constructed one bleacher. Concrete poured in barns. Sand donated for Arena by Sheriff Posse and Valley Concrete. County Committee donated fiberboard for the 4-H Building. Mistletoe Extension donated water lines and faucets for Multipurpose Building; Extension Study Group donated railings for Show Arena. Saddle-ites donated clock for Small Meeting Room. Pat Adams donated microwave oven for the 4-H Building.
- ✓ **1987:** Polk County Sheriff's Posse, 4-H Horse Leaders and Saddle-ites donated sand for the outdoor arena. Extension Alumni donated funds to build 16 display racks. Remodeled Main Office. Lottery Grant to remodel Arts/Crafts Building (adding showers, restrooms, kitchen, wood dance floor). Independence Wagon Wheelers donated kitchen cabinets, stove, refrigerator, and dishwasher plus labor to install wood dance floor in the Arts/Crafts Building.
- ✓ **1988:** Polk County Extension Alumni donated \$1,000 for improvements in the Main Kitchen (added Doorway, countertop, and breakfast cart). Polk County Master Gardeners constructed a gazebo in the garden area with the help of donations from local businesses and organizations. Areas landscaped and planted by Master Gardeners. Completion of Arts/ Crafts remodeling project. Insulation and ceiling improvements in the Small Meeting Room, improvements to entry area in Main Building.
- ✓ **1989:** Polk County Extension Alumni donated \$1,000 to purchase chairs for Small Meeting Room and new tables, also donated \$1,800 for lighting on signboard. Reroofed dome area of Main Building, added new entry doors. Purchased ovens for Main Building. Rebuilt cattle wash rack, materials donated by Welliver Metal Production, Ram Steel and Steel Co.; labor donated by Bill Norfleet and Family and other 4-H and FFA members and parents. New electrical service to 4-H Building, Arts/Crafts Building, playground, game booths and barns.
- ✓ **1990:** Installed new electrical system to main parking lot, enlarged parking area to the east side of fairgrounds, added ditching and drainage system, graveled all of main parking area. Polk County Extension Alumni donated funds to purchase new chairs and chair carts. Painted inside of 4-H Building.
- ✓ **1991:** Main Building, Arts/ Crafts Building and 4-H Building painted outside. Monmouth Garden Club planting/landscaping around Fair signboard. Small Kabota garden tractor donated to fairgrounds. Wainscoting in Main Room of Main Building. Air conditioning installed in Arts/Crafts Building, funds donated from Independence Wagon Wheelers and matched by the Polk County 500 Club. Polk County Extension Alumni donated funds to purchase chair carts and folding chairs.
- ✓ **1992:** Exterior of Cattle Barn painted. Replacement of grills and cook top in the Main Kitchen. Dining Rooms and Textile Room wainscot to match the Main Room. Memorial Garden Area begun, flagpole and paving stones installed, plantings. Trees and rhododendrons donated for front entrance of the fairgrounds.
- ✓ **1993:** Repainted interior of the Arts and Crafts Building. Paving stones installed at the Main Ticket Area, contributed by Stone Man Paving. Entry overhanging constructed on the Arts/ Crafts Building and the south entry of the Main Building. Wash rack installed in Sheep Barn. Tie downs in roofing system in Beef Barn. Fund raising effort started for New Animal Building.
- ✓ **1994:** First Phase of new 80'X 200' exhibit building started, using all volunteer labor and donated materials and funds. A new activity of the Fair was the Polk County Store featuring products Manufactured and produced in Polk County.
- ✓ **1995:** The Fair was awarded a grant to make the fairgrounds more accessible to handicap patrons, improvements will include paving of parking lots, cement paving stones in the Floriculture area, modification to restrooms. The Polk County Store continued to be successful during the Fair. The Polk County Heritage Area was added this year, educating the public to little known facts of the county and providing demonstrations.

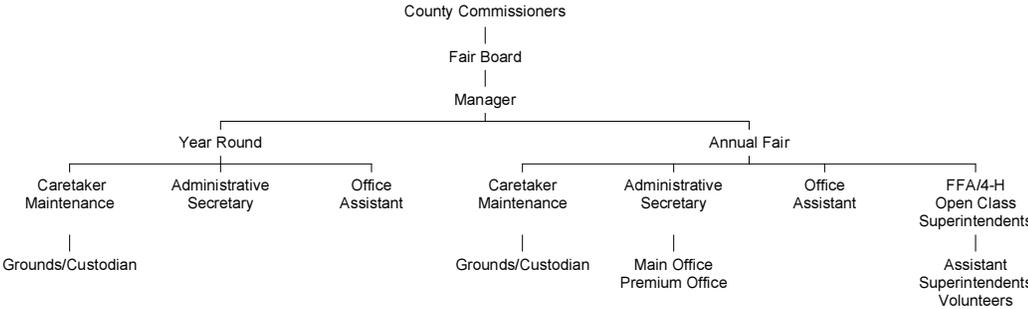
Fair History Continued

- ✓ **1996:** Polk County Fair Improvement Association was established to organize and operate an annual fundraiser dinner and Auction. Funds generated from the dinner and auction were used to make improvements on the Fairgrounds, mostly to the new exhibit building. ADA grant project was completed, paving of the parking lots and remodeling of restrooms for handicap accessibility.
- ✓ **1997:** Asphalt on South and East roadway of Swine Barn. Concrete floors in Swine Barn and New Building "C". Sidewalk north end of Swine Barn, storm drain around and between Sheep Barn and Building "C". Paving Stones in Master Gardeners Area, labor donated by John Smith.
- ✓ **1998:** New fencing around Horse Arena and Livestock Judging Arena. Put in roll up windows for kitchen counters.
- ✓ **1999:** New septic system was finished. New heating system installed in the main building and the 4-H building. New hood exhaust systems in the main kitchen, purchased deep fat fryers, double glass door refrigerator and new gas coffee pot in main kitchen. New swine pens. Exhaust fans for the beef barn. Main building had new stucco put on it and repainted, new sign board, electrical updated in barns, new gutters and down spouts were installed in the beef, dairy, goat, sheep, and swine barn, repaired roof on sheep barn and arts and crafts building. Replaced caretaker home. Seal coated parking lot, replace doors in south room of main building. Purchased new stage. Donated funds from the Polk County Extension Alumni were used to purchase a new computer for the office.
- ✓ **2000:** New steam table purchased and installed, deep sink put in kitchen for hand washing and janitorial use. Purchase of 10 new aluminum bleachers and llama pens. A donation from the Polk County Extension Alumni and Fisher Implements was used to purchase a tiller and arena harrow for the horse arena. Coastal Farm and Home Supply donated a pressure washer. 5 canopies were purchased for Annual Fair
- ✓ **2001:** Remodeled kitchen in main building, new double door refrigerator, 2 grills, ovens, stove, stainless steel sinks and counter tops, dishwasher, and stainless steel work table. Plumbing and electrical updates. 5 more canopies were purchased for Annual Fair. Funds from the Polk County Fair Improvement Association were used to put new siding on the east end of the sheep barn, dust control in the sheep barn, new sheep panels were built by volunteers. Metal fence and gates were installed in the livestock area to confine livestock during the fair. Manure ramps were
- ✓ **2002:** Goat panels were built by volunteers, portable horse stalls were purchased with funds from the Polk County Fair Improvement Association dinner auction. Four portable P.A. systems were purchased with funds donated by the OSU extension alumni, rolling carts were constructed by a volunteer for easier transport of the P.A. systems to the barns.
- ✓ **2003:** 50 new rabbit cages and updates to the electrical system in the arena dog house we done with funds generated from the Polk County Fair Improvement Association dinner auction. A carpet cleaner was purchased with funds from the Craft Festival door donations. A new front flower and plant bed was put together by the Master Gardeners. 18 loads of sand were donated for the arena by John Fowler Sand & Gravel and the trucking of the sand was paid for by the 4-H Horse Leaders Association.
- ✓ **2004:** A new 8,092 sq. ft. floral building was constructed. This was the first major construction on the fairgrounds in 10 years. The old floral building was tore down and hauled away by volunteers from the Polk Soil & Water Conservation District. The gazebo constructed by the Master Gardeners in 1988 was removed. Money for this project came from grants from the Spirit Mt. Community Fund, the Rural Development Fund and the Polk County General Fund. The funds from the Polk County Fair Improvement Association were used to put lights in the small show arena, lumber to redo the 4-H stage and purchase a new livestock scale. A fax machine for the main office and a roaster oven for the main kitchen were donated. The main office and both meeting rooms were repainted by a volunteer from Inter-stone Paving.
- ✓ **2005:** Building C was acclimatized, the sheep panels were rebuilt and repainted and the septic system in the main building was replaced. Money was raised to buy a new PA system for the main building and put on hold to use as a matching fund for a grant to put a PA system throughout the entire fairgrounds.
- ✓ **2006:** Electrical upgrades were done to the beef and swine barns with money raised by the Polk County Fair Improvement Association. Master Gardeners donated money to put in a man door and an exhaust fan in the floral building. Stairs were replaced at the dog house in the arena. We removed the Ham Shack to allow for more RV parking with volunteers from the HALO program.
- ✓ **2007:** Replaced the septic tank and drain lines to the caretaker's residence. Concrete was poured around building C, pervious up front and regular around the sides, donated by Scott Erickson of Quality Concrete, work done by Ritchter Concrete Construction. New drains were installed throughout the grounds, new concrete was poured in front of Market Office and Swine Barn, labor was donated by Scott Andersen. A new tractor was purchased from Brim Tractor. New arena poles and lights were put up. Poles donated by Commissioner Mike Propes, labor and equipment to put poles in the ground was donated by John Strader and Bill

Fair History Continued

- ▼ 2008: Central FFA made metal table carts. Central High School wood shop made 20 new tables and the Independence Wagon Wheelers put the legs on them. The bleachers to the west of the arena were covered with a wood structure, funds provided by the Polk County Fair Improvement Association, Polk County Fair Foundation and Polk County General fund. The patio behind the 4-H building and a walkway from the patio of the main building to the new patio at the 4-H building was put in, ground work done by donated equipment from Bob Eagon Excavating and donated labor by Bob Eagon, Scott and Mark Andersen. Sand donated by Grossman & Wesson Gravel. Gravel provided at a discount price by Valley Concrete. Pavers furnished at a discount price from Western Interlock and installation of the pavers provided at a discount by Pavers Inc. Funds for this project we provided by the Warner Waddell Trust.
- ▼ 2009: Enclosed the kitchen in the main building with fund from a Rural Development Grant and PCFIA. Replaced 6 manure bins, labor by Haight fabrication, funds from PCFIA. New beef and swine barn doors were built by Central FFA.
- ▼ 2010: Replace grease trap in main kitchen work done by Garber Excavating. Replaced carpet in Main entry – labor donated by Valley Flooring Center of West Salem. Put water filter system in Swine barn. Replaced carpet in Caretaker's bedrooms – carpet donated by Valley Flooring Center of West Salem. Purchase new riding lawn mower (Huskavarna) from L & L Equipment. Purchase brush mower for New Holland tractor from Rickreall Farm Supply. Purchased a Kawasaki Mule from Ag West. Planted 20 trees throughout grounds, trees donated by Meyers Nursery, equipment donated by Eagon Excavating, planted with donated labor. Trees delivered by volunteer Linda Lambert and holes dug by volunteer Scott Andersen. Dog house stairs replaced by volunteers from the Bus N USA RV Rally, lumber donated by Independence Wagon Wheelers. Dog house door and window revamped by Fair Board members Dean Anderson and Keith Harris.
- ▼ 2011: 30 trees were donated by Meyers Nursery and planted by volunteers from 4-H and FFA, equipment donated by Bob Eagon Excavation and Rickreall Farm Supply. Mulch for the project was donated by Grossman & Weston Gravel. 10 picnic tables were built by the HALO program members, funding for this project came from the Polk County Fair Improvement and the Dallas Community Foundation. The drain system for the swine barn was completely redone, rock was donated by Grossman & Weston Gravel and labor was donated by Scott Andersen. The bus stop was put in at the front of the fairgrounds for Salem Transit (Cherriots) with a grant from ODOT. 10 loads of gravel were dug out of the bus stop area and put back onto the parking lot equipment donated by Polk County Public Works and labor donated by Scott Andersen.
- ▼ 2012: The Polk County Fair Improvement Association started the first phase of the remodel of the 4-H bathrooms; 2 new showers were added to each bathroom and upgrade of the water heater. Replaced old wooden sign board with new electronic sign. Upgraded the electric in 4-H building. Upgraded the lights in Main, 4-H, A/C and Swine barn. Put the first set of bricks in the main entry of main building. Put roll up doors on the floral building. Replaced two sets of doors in the 4-H building and put in new outside lights on the 4-H building. Replaced 2 stoves and a microwave in the 4-H building with help from Keizer Appliance.
- ▼ 2013: Framed in new roll up doors on the floral building. County donated dirt to bring up horse barn floor. Replaced pegboard in textile room. Insulated the doors in building C. Replaced both sets of doors on East side of main building. Replaced lighting on front of main building. Replaced counter tops in A/C building. The Polk County Fair Foundation through a capital campaign raised \$120,000.00 and purchased 16 acres to the East for the fairgrounds.
- ▼ 2014: Polk County Fair Improvement Association started 2nd phase of 4-H bathrooms, replaced sinks, toilets, counters and heater. Front piece of fairgrounds got WIFI. 3 Security cameras were installed.
- ▼ 2015: The large speakers at the arena were installed. Water main replaced. Front entrance matching

Organizational Chart



Market Conditions

As Polk County's population grows and changes, the Polk County Fairgrounds programs are gradually expanding.

The biggest competition comes from increasing choices of discretionary spending. Oregon has seen an explosion of special events and local attractions. Numerous festivals, concerts, and sporting events are adding to the growing special event/entertainment market. The leisure industry is now a multi-million dollar industry in Oregon.

The Polk County Fairgrounds is challenged to keep up with the changing needs of its customer base and compete with the rapidly expanding special events/entertainment industry. As the demographics change the Polk County Fairgrounds must be flexible in what it offers to the community.

Rapid growth in the Polk County area, new road construction and access to the fairgrounds are all market conditions which effect the fairgrounds and its future.

Key Challenges

▼ Key Challenges:

Maintaining and improving the facilities to ensure their continuance as an asset to the community.

Good communications between Polk County Government, community leaders and the Fair Board.

Educating the public – Increasing participation with adults and youth.

Secure stable long-term funding for fairgrounds.

Competitive pricing for building usage, table rent for our own shows, admission for year round shows and annual Fair, and fair booths.

Guiding Principles

- Provide a gathering place for our diverse community.
- Provide a facility for the annual fair.
- Promote and showcase talent, agriculture, forestry, industry and resources of Polk County.
- Promote volunteerism for the enhancement of the fairgrounds.
- Market the fairgrounds to achieve its greatest economic potential.
- Maintain and improve the facilities of the Polk County fairgrounds to ensure their continuance as a viable asset for the community.
- Administer fiscal affairs in an effective and responsible manner.
- Fulfill the need for an emergency and community resource center.
- Bring families together by promoting opportunities for all to participate in the cultural, educational and scientific advancement of our community.
- Promote and encourage the exchange of ideas and information between volunteers, Fair Board, County Commissioners, residents of Polk County and visitors.
- Establish a strong working relationship between The Polk County Fair Board, Polk County Fair Foundation and Polk County Board of Commissioners

Goals

✓ **Maximize donations and support**

- Volunteerism
- Business support
- Cash donations
- Labor and material donations

Developing a joint facility plan

Explore grant opportunities

Explore partnership opportunities with other organizations

Lead an effort with key partners to develop and achieve a Vision Plan

Financial Objectives

- ✔ **Administer fiscal affairs in an effective and responsible manner**
Keep the Fair budget in a positive balance.
- ✔ **Developing a long term plan for self sufficiency**
Pursue other partners to secure funding
- ✔ **Write for grants**
Write for grants for projects such as the playground equipment, and events during Fair.
- ✔ **Encourage donations & Volunteerism**
- ✔ **Develop & Design Projects**
To promote volunteerism
- ✔ **Continue promoting the Fair**
Continue with promoting the Fair by selling Fair sponsorship for both year round and the Annual Fair
- ✔ **Polk County Fair Foundation**
To support the development of the Polk County Fair facilities by the Fair Foundation

Vision

Be the premiere community
event center for
Polk County

Signature Page

✔ Anna Scharf _____ Date _____

✔ Linda Lambert _____ Date _____

✔ Nita Wilson _____ Date _____

✔ Eric Setniker _____ Date _____

✔ Randle Sitton _____ Date _____

✔ Suzanne Burbank _____ Date _____

✔ Diane Bishop _____ Date _____