



MAAF NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER/
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2022



Issue #8

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE **by BARRY W. NORRIS**

Well , the end of our fair season is behind us, and many of our fairs are having their annual meetings. I, along with representatives from six of Maine fairs attended a briefing on the H-2B visa update hosted by Seasonal Employment Alliance at the Harraseeket Inn in Freeport. The update was very informative. Also in attendance were Rockwell Amusements and Gillett Shows. After the zoom meeting, all present attended a luncheon with Senator Susan Collins, a longtime advocate for Maine Fairs and the H-2B program. The Senator is working tirelessly in attempting to arrange for more visas to be released. She did inform the group that an additional 65,000 visas will be released in 2023. I'd like to thank those of you that were able to attend, and for you that may see the Senator in the coming days, please thank her for her work on this important issue.

I'd like to thank our MAAF conference committee for all of the work they have done on getting your 2023 conference program together. Darcy Winslow has more on this in the newsletter.

I am looking forward to connecting with the Maine delegation of about 12 fair representatives at the National IAFE Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana later in the month.

Some of you may be aware that in 2020 Maine agreed to host the Zone 1 Conference for 2025. I'm happy to report that the New Hampshire Fairs Association has agreed to co-host the event with us. Much more to follow in the coming months. Remember to look for information about the 2023 Zone 1 in Albany, New York. More will be available at the conference in Portland.

If you are interested in becoming an MAAF Board member, the application form is available on our website - mainefairs.net.

Make sure that you check out the MAAF website for additional news on the conference.

Once again, thanks to our MAAF newsletter team for yet another excellent issue!

I look forward to seeing you in January at our 2023 conference.



IAFE - INDIANAPOLIS CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 27-30, 2022

Representatives from several Maine fairs will be attending including Melissa Jordan (MDACF), Barry W. Norris (MAAF) and representatives from Blue Hill, Fryeburg and Litchfield.

Looking to the Future - 2023 IAFE Convention Nov 26-29, Salt Lake City, Utah

MAAF CONFERENCE JANUARY 27, 28 & 29, 2023



We are so excited for the 2023 MAAF Conference at Sable Oaks in South Portland January 27-29!

The Committee has been working to plan a great experience for everyone. Some highlights are, Friday night Auction and Variety Show (from our Tradeshow Vendors) possibly a DJ to end the night and Saturday night Banquet followed by a Dance featuring Hurricane Mountain.

Daily Workshops will include “Lets Be Champions of Agriculture”, “Active Shooter: Is your Fair Prepared for the Unthinkable” along with many others. Also, we have added a couple networking sessions to ask your steamy questions about printing, advertising, programs, where to find volunteers, appreciating your helpers, sponsorships/donations etc. while having a cocktail. New this year will be a cocktail hour for our YPI Attendees (Young Professionals Initiative for under-40). This will give our younger members a chance to connect, idea sharing and further relationships. YPI is through IAFE and connects with over 350 people across the country.

Food Trucks will bring us lunch choices on Saturday again. How fun was it to have them last year. Since the Hotel Restaurant won't be open for lunch, they will provide a boxed lunch as an option. The boxed lunch will need to be pre-ordered and prepaid (there will be a link on the website Annual Meeting Page). You will also find Toast on the Breakfast Buffet.

Did you know that there is **no charge** to attend the Conference. You can come attend the workshops and networking opportunities at **no cost**. If you want to come for the weekend the nightly room rate is \$139.00 plus tax including breakfast.

For the Auction Friday night, we will be looking for Donations of items. Since MAAF has a Foundation now the money raised by the Auction will go to offset the cost of the Conference. The generous donations will help provide speakers for the programming.

Keep checking our [2023 MAAF Conference](#) page to find all of the information soon. The schedule, online booking, registration, etc. will be available soon.

Darcy Winslow, Conference Chair

ZONE 1 - May 4-6, 2023 CONFERENCE

The Zone 1 conference will be held at the Crown Plaza Desmond Hotel in Albany New York.

IAFE leadership for this conference wrote to say, "We are excited about the classes we will be offering and the fun excursions we have planned. If you have never visited the Albany Area, now is the time to do it! Our convention and visitors bureau is creating a "What to do while you're in town" flyer. We will have copies at the IAFE Convention in Indiana and will send some for your January meeting."

FMI - visit the [IAFE](#) website.

WOODSMEN'S DAY EVENTS AT MAINE FAIRS

If your Fair has a Woodsmen's Field Day, please send pictures, contact person with email and phone number to [Junia](#). She is putting together a display to celebrate these wonderful events! Photos from Woodsmen's Field Days 2022 at Oxford Fair & Fryeburg Fair.

PHOTOS FROM WOODSMEN'S FIELD DAY- OXFORD FAIR



PHOTOS FROM WOODSMEN'S FIELD DAY- FRYEBURG FAIR



2022 MAAF CONTEST! “CREATING AN EXPERIENCE: MAINE GROWS” DETAILS

The deadline for applications is Friday, November 4th! [Click here for the application and details.](#)

RISING STAR 2023

Be sure to nominate your Fair's Rising Stars! Nomination for - [click here for the MAAF Rising Star Nomination Form!](#) Deadline is January 1st.

MAAF FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

The MAAF Foundation has been created to grant scholarships. Soon we will have a link to all information and application forms. Our board has been working on the 2023 application form, and chairman Hope Ricker will have application forms available at the MAAF conference in January.

Students - look for these great opportunities coming up!

PHOTOS FROM BLUE HILL FAIR CHARLOTTE'S WEB DISPLAY





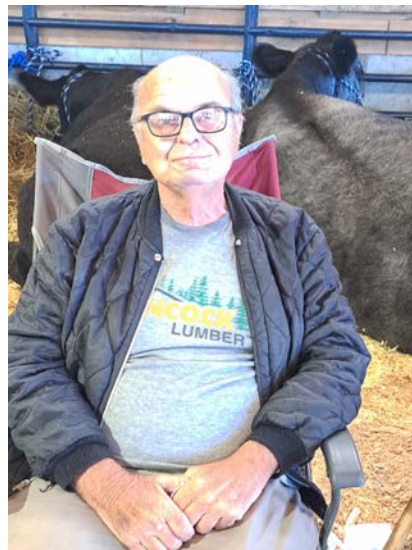
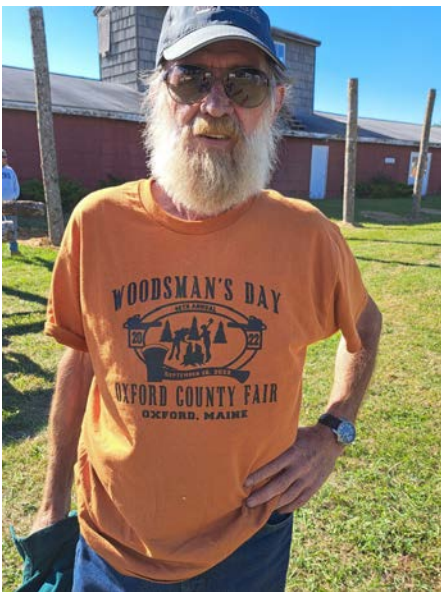
PHOTOS FROM HARMONY FAIR



PHOTOS FROM SPRINGFIELD FAIR KIDS GAMES



PHOTOS FROM OXFORD FAIR



PHOTOS FROM FRYEBURG FAIR



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