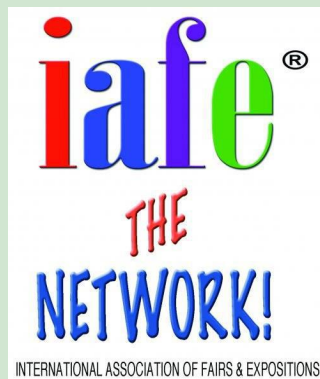




MAAF NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER 2022

Issue #7



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

I would like to start by congratulating the early fairs of the 2022 season. You have set amazing attendance records and welcomed thousands of Maine fairgoers with open arms. Members from other Maine fairs have been visiting our fairs to support them as well as to share ideas and programs. A new program for children was unveiled at Northern Maine Fair – “Lil’ Lumberjacks at the Fair” – that involved a wide variety of individuals, local businesses, MDACF representatives and educators in the planning process. Congratulations!

As we move through the fall months, you may have noticed that there are a few new names in fair leadership roles across our state. As the reins are passed, I encourage you to support these folks as they continue to work hard to offer the outstanding events that we have all come to expect in our Maine fairs.

August 1st was the deadline for purchasing a Maine state fair pass from the MAAF. \$3,200 was transferred to the MAAF Foundation, and I thank all of you who purchased these passes for your own use or as gifts to others. I will be in touch with the fair presidents to survey them as to their wishes for the upcoming fair pass season. After a lengthy discussion with Hope, it has been decided not to hold the 50/50 ticket raffle at Windsor Fair. We will continue to have a 50/50 raffle at the conference.

The MAAF Conference Committee (chairperson: Darcy Winslow) has been working to complete their planning for the January 2023 MAAF conference. A separate newsletter will be sent out within a month or so to share specific information regarding dates, housing, programs and much more. A reminder that our annual conference does not have a fee to register and attend workshops and presentations. Please consider attending.

Missy Jordan and I have been working closely with the newly assigned representatives from Bangor Fair as they strive to create an agricultural fair experience for 2023.

Avian flu continues to compromise the ability of our fair poultry superintendents to offer poultry shows at their venues. Some have opted to close their doors for the 2022 season, while others offered an exhibit of a variety of birds. This has been a difficult year for all exhibitors and superintendents as well.

IAFE updates include encouraging all Maine fair members to attend the 2022 IAFE Convention and Trade Show held November 27-30 in Indianapolis, IN. President Jeremy Parsons will share his fair mission and visits throughout the past year. Events during the convention include Fair A Palooza, held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, which will include rides, food, entertainment and more. There are scholarship funds available through the IAFE to attend the convention. FMI contact me.

Closer to home, mark your calendars for the 2023 ZONE 1 meeting to be held May 4-6 in Albany, New York. Plans are in the works to offer a group bus for travel and, once again, funds to attend are available through IAFE.

In closing, I encourage you to consider entering our Maine Grows project challenge and to look around your fair staff for the next MAAF Rising Star. Thank you for all your hard work and planning as you have prepared for the 2022 Maine fair season.

RISING STAR 2023

Time to start considering your nominations for this very special award!

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!

MAAF CONFERENCE JANUARY 27, 28 & 29, 2023

SAVE THE DATES

January 27, 28 & 29 2023

Sheraton at Sable Oaks, South Portland, Maine

Darcy Winslow, Chairperson

A reminder - attending the conference is FREE

Conference Schedule of Events coming out in future newsletters
and on the [MAAF](#) website.

ZONE 1, 2023 MEETING

Look for upcoming info. The conference will be in Albany, New York, May 4-6, 2023.

THESE SHOES WILL BE HARD TO FILL ROY ANREWS, FRYEBURG FAIR



“As we know, it takes committed, dedicated and enthusiastic people to make Fryeburg Fair the success it is today. That is the kind of team we have...” (Roy Andrews 2018) At an early age, Roy Andrews became involved with Fryeburg Fair – including joining his brother Dick in helping to grease pigs for the ever-popular pig scramble. Growing up in a farming family, Roy’s mornings began “like they do for most farm kids, with chores, lots of chores.” Starting with raising his own sheep, while at the same time working on the family farm (Riverside Farms), Roy had first hand experience with dairy cattle, as well as raising sweet corn for the corn factories. His foundation as a New England farmer was well on its way.

Following his graduation from Fryeburg Academy in 1956, Roy entered the Army, serving in the Honor Guard in Arlington, Virginia. Reflecting back on these years, he sees them as “a great time, a time when I learned a lot.” Returning home when his tour was over, Roy was soon encouraged by his father, Phil Andrews, to help organize the Fryeburg Fair parade, a Fryeburg Fair tradition that began in 1923. The parade has grown to the largest agricultural parade in the state, with hundreds of large and small animals being led past the grandstand by proud 4-H members and hardworking New England farming families.

From pigs to parades, to planning. Planning the maintenance and construction of buildings throughout the grounds. As the buildings and grounds superintendent, and later the general superintendent of the fair, Roy has been responsible for over 100 buildings, having been directly involved in the construction of over eighty-five of them. On July 11, 2018, Roy and his team came face to face with the unthinkable - a wind driven fire on the grounds involving the sheep barn, extending to the cattle barn and potentially exposing the livestock barn and 4-H barn. Over 20 fire departments from across the region quickly arrived to support the Fryeburg firefighters. While no injuries were reported to humans or animals, two buildings were completely lost and six others sustained damage. Less than three months later, as the 2018 Fryeburg Fair opened its gates, hundreds of farmers housed their cattle on the site of the former cattle barn – under a 100 x 250 foot tent! Leadership through personal involvement brought the fair family together, as the Fryeburg team accomplished this amazing feat.

On a lighter note, the back story surrounding the fair Museum area is in itself amazing. What began as a collection of farm buildings brought together on the fairgrounds, became even “sweeter” when Loretta Greene agreed to share her wood stove cooking skills with the fairgoers – thanks to Roy’s encouragement. Recognizing the potential for this area of the fairgrounds, he worked with Ted Greene and others to design a location where people can visit and learn the history and hands on

traditions of New England farm life.

From the past to the future, Roy Andrews has always listened to suggestions from his employees, community and his peers as he has worked with the fair trustees to improve the fair year after year. In 2008, a mothers' lounge with a changing area was constructed. 2010 welcomed a garden center responding to the increasing interest in backyard gardens, and then 2012 saw the Specialty Foods building open – showcasing Maine foods made with Maine products. The arrival of Rustic Taps Catering added a craft beer tent in 2019 introducing fairgoers to one of Maine's most rapidly agricultural products.

In March of 2022, at their annual conference, the Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs recognized Roy Andrews by presenting him with the first annual Catharine L. Damren Distinguished Service Award. Catharine “Katie” Damren, the MAAF legislative liaison, worked tirelessly on behalf of Maine's agricultural fairs to ensure that they were well funded and well supported by individuals, businesses and organizations across the state of Maine. Roy's commitment, dedication and enthusiasm for Fryeburg Fair, and for all Maine fairs, combine to make him a most deserving recipient of this award. Roy is often seen visiting other Maine agricultural fairs throughout the summer, talking with fair members, exhibitors and vendors alike, thanking them for their hard work on behalf of Maine agriculture.

In reflecting back on the career of Roy Andrews – from his early years as a pig greaser to his current role as President Emeritus of Fryeburg Fair, these words of a former Fryeburg Fair president ring true “There are very few things that anybody does alone without the cooperation of others” (Philip G. Andrews, 2000). Roy has been helping to guide the team at Fryeburg Fair for over fifty years, doing his job with a sense of loyalty to his family, community and to the agricultural way of life.

Photo below of Roy with his wife, Duddie



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

Category 1 – Agricultural experiences designed for **CHILDREN**. These experiences

will include information, demonstrations, and hands on activities which introduce children to Maine agriculture.

Category 2 - Agricultural experiences for **ALL FAIRGOERS** that educate fairgoers about Maine's agriculture. This can be a one day program or on going throughout your fair.

Division 1: Fairs operating for four concurrent days or less.

Division 2: Fairs operating for five concurrent days or more.

2022 MAAF Agricultural Award Judges are:

Kayla Bess, Sales and Marketing Manager, *Maine Grains*

Maine Grains, located in Skowhegan, is creating jobs, improving land use and providing healthy food for all while serving as a successful model for thriving local economies. They manufacture locally grown stone-milled grains, a staple in the human diet. kayla@mainegrains.com

Aaron Englander, Farm Program Coordinator, Erickson Fields

Erickson Fields Preserve located in Rockport, Maine, is, among other things, home to the Teen Ag Program, where local high school students work planting, harvesting and distributing food to local hunger relief organizations. It also includes a community garden and Kids Can Grow, a program that teaches families about backyard gardening.

aenglander@mcht.org

Jeannie M. Tapley, Director of Operations, Maine Potato Board

The mission of the Maine Potato Board is to provide a competitive environment for Maine potato growers, processors and dealers while promoting the economic importance to the state and quality of the product. You may be familiar with Spuddy, their mascot, who is the star of their children's informational booklet about Maine potatoes. jtapley@mainepotatoes.com

MAAF Award Application:

Please include the following five elements:

1. A brief description of your event(s) and the connection to Maine agriculture.
*Specifically, *Maine Grows*
2. Who was involved in the planning process? – i.e. individuals, community organizations, agencies, businesses, sponsors, etc. – and the roles they played
3. What challenges did you face and how did you address them?
4. How did the public react to your event? – i.e. personal feedback, hits on your website, survey monkey results, photos of interaction during your event
5. How was your event promoted? – i.e. newspapers, social media, posters, school and promotional programs prior to the event, etc.

*Each element will be evaluated on a scale of 1 – 4

1 = No evidence presented

2 = Minimal evidence of involvement presented

3 = Evidence of involvement is presented

4 = Evidence of involvement is thorough and comprehensive

Mail applications to: MAAF, P.O. Box 3, Union, ME 04862

Applications must be received by Friday, November 4, 2022.

*For further information, contact Barry W.

TRAIL OF TERROR - UNION FAIR

TRAIL OF TERROR

at the Union Fairgrounds

FRIGHTS AT NIGHT

\$10 Entry Fee
per person

Advanced sales
\$8
Call 470-7401



Oct 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29

6:30-8:30 PM



GUEST COSTUMES NOT PERMITTED

facebook

Made with PosterMyWall.com

**Do you enjoy Halloween?
Need a good scare?
So do we.**

The Friends of Union Fair will sponsor their annual Halloween Trail of Terror on the last three Fridays and Saturdays of October (October 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, and 29).

The Trail is an after-dark, outdoors, escorted walking event through the barns and

around the grounds of the Union Fairground. Don't be surprised by what you see and hear!

The core team started planning in February, developed the general scheme, and started building props. Promotion and recruiting started in May, seeking some to become planners, designers, and builders, and others to become scare actors. We're well on our way. All we need is you.

You'll find the fun just off Hwy 17 in Union, ME, on Fairgrounds Lane. It will be open from 6:30pm – 8:30pm each night. The cost will be \$10 per person. Before and after the scare, refreshments will be available. This event is recommended for adults and children 12 and older. Younger children must be escorted by an adult.

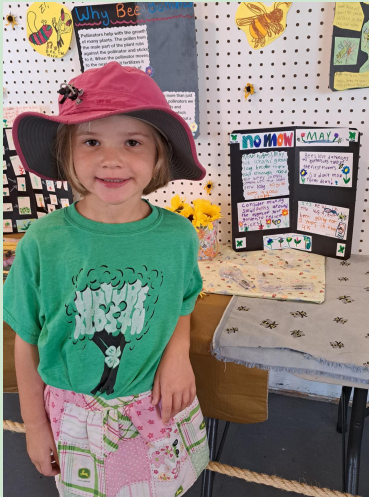
Is it good? The 2020 Trail of Terror won the Judges Choice Award for non-Fair events from the International Association of Fairs and Expositions. It's updated and modified every year, and just keeps getting better!

We're waiting for you.

FMI: email vendor@unionfair.org or call 207-470-7401.

**Find us on [Facebook](#)
or
<http://www.unionfair.org/trail-of-terror>**

PHOTOS FROM ACTON FAIR



PHOTOS FROM PISCATAQUIS FAIR



PHOTOS FROM LIL LUMBERJACKS NORTHERN MAINE FAIR

The Northern Maine Board of Trustees presented their newest addition to the fair this year, and it was greeted with great enthusiasm. Shawn Bugbee, the lead for this new display, said, "Lil Lumberjacks will provide fairgoers of all ages the opportunity to interact and learn more about trees, forestry and the forest products industry through a variety of interactive exhibits." Similar to their very popular Lil Farmers exhibit, this area offered interactive areas that included a gathering spot at the conclusion where young people could cook s'mores around an open campfire. Multigenerational groups eagerly traveled through the stations learning about the northern Maine forest – the largest contiguous, privately owned forest in the United States.





MAINE FAIRS - SCHEDULE

Up to the minute information can be found on the [MAAF website!](#)

- Windsor Fair - August 28 - September 5
- Blue Hill Fair - September 1 - 5
- Harmony Free Fair - September 2 - 5
- Springfield Fair - September 3
- Clinton Lions Agricultural Fair - September 8 - 11
- Litchfield Fair - September 9 - 11
- Oxford Fair - September 14 - 17
- New Portland Lions Fair - September 16 - 18
- Farmington Fair - September 18 - 24
- Common Ground Country Fair - September 23 - 25
- Cumberland Fair - September 25 - October 1
- Fryeburg Fair - October 2 - 9

IAFE THE NETWORK
INDIANAPOLIS CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 27-30, 2022

Be sure to check out the IAFE Conference Website for Conference Details!

Join with other Maine fair members to attend the 2022 IAFE Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana! The theme this year is Fairs United, and will offer content to fit the needs of fairs of all sizes – from the smallest to the largest. The IAFE website has a schedule available now, and the exact content of all workshops and sessions will be updated throughout the summer. The spectacular highlight of this program will be a “fair for fair people” held on Sunday night, November 27, inside the Indiana State Fair Fairgrounds Coliseum. There will be carnival rides, food, drink, entertainment and loads of fun for everyone.

A very special offering will be the hands-on, interactive showcase of Ag Education projects, programming, and exhibits from fairs all across the country. This will be an opportunity for IAFE members to experience Ag Education programming and ask questions.

Many Maine fairs are IAFE members, and several MAAF board members have been to previous conventions. If you are interested in more information, look on the IAFE website or ask Barry Norris, Kathryn Hunter, Missy Jordan or MAAF President David Byras. They are among many who have first-hand experience attending the IAFE convention. Look forward to seeing you in Indianapolis November 27 – 30 !

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