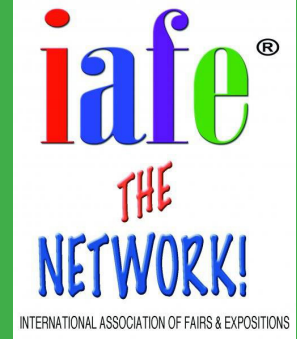




MAAF NEWSLETTER

2020 - ISSUE #3

JULY 2020



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT Barry W. Norris

First, I would like to recognize two of our committees who have been meeting throughout the past two months – virtually ! Our scholarship committee has chosen two outstanding young people to receive the MAAF scholarship, and I applaud their choices. Our IT committee has been meeting and crafted a very interesting Webinar that guided fairs through the process of creating a virtual fair. I also would like to direct you to the section in our newsletter that recognizes Lynn Anderson-Snow, our Maine teacher who received the National Award for Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture. We are so fortunate to have her in our state.

There are still a few fairs that have not chosen to postpone their event in 2020. The decision to do so is very time consuming and challenging, and I wish these fair boards the best as they continue to meet and deliberate.

The Saturday morning fair president weekly video conferencing has continued over the past eight weeks, and will now change to monthly. The presidents have requested that this continue in order to keep all fairs up-to-date.

I have received several requests for information from print and television media reporters, as they work to keep their readers/viewers up-to-date on the status of our fairs. I have also been participating in the by-weekly IAFE State and Provincial video conferences. Fairs across our country are facing the same challenges as those of us in Maine, and we can learn so much from their approaches to similar problems.

Our MAAF website is receiving a face lift, and part of the new information will be a section highlighting fair food vendors and where they have relocated during the summer. Contact information for seven vendors will be available soon.

I have been working on a committee that is addressing the future of harness racing in the state of Maine. As things develop, I will make sure that all the fairs are kept informed of our progress.

Finally, let me thank all of you for your flexibility, patience and continued hard work as you enter these summer months recreating what your fairs can offer the public. Whether it is rebuilding/painting your buildings, inviting food vendors to come for a day or two, hosting a small wedding event, or promoting a take-out supper....all of these show the public that we are still here, working hard to be ready for the 2021 fair season.

WATERFORD WORLD'S FAIR SUPPER

July 18th 4:30 - 6 PM - Baked Stuffed Haddock \$12
Haddock, macaroni & cheese, cole slaw, peas, cookies, coffee & iced tea
Email for more information: waterfordworldsfair@gmail.com

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MAINE200

LEADING THE WAY

MAINE200.ORG

Maine's Bicentennial Committee has recently announced that the state Bicentennial celebration will be held during the 2021 calendar year. Look for upcoming opportunities to gather (remotely) and share plans/projects/events. Contact Junia at junianorris@gmail.com for more information.



NATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING ABOUT AGRICULTURE AWARD GIVEN TO TEACHER FROM THOMASTON, MAINE!



Lynn Anderson-Snow, a fifth grade literacy and science teacher at Thomaston Grammar School in Thomaston, ME, has been selected as a 2020 recipient of the Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Award given annually by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the National Agriculture in the Classroom Consortium. They recognize exceptional teachers by presenting them with this distinguished award of an honorarium of \$500 and up to \$1,500 for travel related expenses to the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference. This competitive program recognizes state selected "Teacher of the Year" recipients for their successful efforts in teaching agricultural concepts in their curriculum. This is an opportunity to celebrate agricultural literacy enthusiasm and successful teaching about agriculture.

Ms. Snow 'opens' Common Ground Garden Seed Co. each spring in her classroom. Students are involved in every aspect of the company beginning with applications and interviews to determine the jobs they will perform in packaging, marketing and managing the sale of bulk seeds to raise funds for the school garden. Congratulations Ms. Snow!

GOING VIRTUAL LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS

Youth auctions for postponed fairs continue to be in the planning stages. All livestock commodities will be included. For more up to date information contact the following fairs:

Cumberland Fair
 Contacts - Mark Cooper and Jennifer Grant
www.cumberlandfair.com
 Fryeburg Fair
 Contacts - Donna Flint and Randy Hall
www.fryeburgfair.org
 Bangor Fair - Corinna Caron
 Email - casacattle@live.com
 (207) 249-2191

COVID 19 STATUS - NOT POSTPONED

As of July 1st, the following fairs have NOT yet postponed

[Skowhegan](#) - August 8-17
[Springfield](#) - August 31-September 1
[Oxford County](#) - September 11-14
[New Portland Lions](#) - September 13-15
[Farmington Fair](#) - September 15-21

More timely information can be found on our website - [MAAF](#) and on the websites of the above listed fairs.

2020 MAAF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Natalie Domin, Freeport High School, received a \$1,000 scholarship award. Natalie plans to attend the UMaine Orono to major in animal and veterinary science. Once she graduates, she plans to go on to vet school and become a large animal veterinarian. Natalie has been active in Cumberland County 4-H in both sheep and equine and has attended Eastern States representing Maine on both the sheep and horse teams. A member of the National Honor Society, Natalie has been very active in school and community activities. Her local Fairs are Cumberland and Litchfield.



Natalie Domin, Freeport High School



Gavin Hemphill, Presque Isle High School

Gavin Hemphill, Presque Isle High School, received a \$1,000 scholarship award. Gavin plans to attend the U Maine Presque Isle and major in agri-business management and precision agriculture. He plans to work in the potato industry. Gavin has been active in 4-H Baby Beef and the FBLA and is a member of the National Honor Society. His local fair is the Northern Maine Fair.

Shelby Varney, Leavitt Area High School, in Turner, received a \$500 scholarship award. Shelby plans to attend York County Community College and major in veterinary technology. Shelby's family farm is certified through MOFGA and her family raises angus beef. She is active in her community and is a member of the National Honor Society and the NRA. Her local Fair is Common Ground.



Shelby Varney, Leavitt Area High School

The MAAF scholarship committee members are: MAAF board members Mike Timmons, Jeff Chadbourne and Hope Ricker, previous scholarship recipient and Junior Advisory board Charles Morrill, Jr.; and, representing agricultural studies, Sadee Mehuren.

MAAF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Darcy Winslow

On Saturday, June 6, the MAAF IT Committee offered a webinar entitled: How to Create a Virtual Fair. Close to 20 participants attended representing several fairs. The webinar was taped and can be viewed on the [MAAF](#) website. Look forward to other Webinar offerings from the IT committee throughout the summer.

THE LATEST ON OUR JANUARY CONFERENCE

The 2021 MAAF Annual Meeting/Conference Committee has been meeting during the summer, and will be sharing their progress in the September-October newsletter. Committee members are G. David Byras, chairperson, Jeff Chadbourne, Darcy Winslow, Eric Fitch, Garrett Lambert, and Melissa Jordan.

FAIR FOOD VENDORS - REINVENTING THEIR APPROACH



MELT, Owners Alexis Walls & Amanda Smith of Ellsworth/Bangor, sell a variety of gourmet grilled sandwiches, fun topped fries & unique truckmade appetizers called "munchies." Popular items include Amaze Balls, the Philly Melt, Cheeseburger Eggrolls, The Bacon Mac & Cheese Melt, & Buffalo chicken fries. They participate in the following fairs/festivals - Blue Hill, Fryeburg, Bangor Waterfront, & had plans to add Monmouth Fair & Farmington Fair. Their COVID-19 strategy is to operate at 337 High Street, Ellsworth & the Bangor Waterfront. "While our business has been negatively affected by COVID-19 in some ways, our experience in the food truck world has always shown us that you need to be adaptable & roll with the punches. We'd like every one of our customers to know that their support means so much to us & we are honored to be able to serve them!" For more information, see MELT on Facebook & at www.meltmaine.com



Kevin's Fries, by owner Kevin Cleasby of Raymond NH serves fries, corn dogs, chicken tenders, Italian sausages, fried dough, deep fried Oreos, cotton candy, and much more from their three trailers. Kevin started selling French fries at the age of 12 working with his parents, Patty & Frank. Kevin is donating part of his proceeds at Windsor to the Windsor Volunteer Fire Department and the Windsor Fair Museum. He participates in the following fairs/festivals - Topsham, Union, Windsor, Litchfield, Fryeburg & the Maine Lobster Festival. Kevin's daughter, Sara, has her own trailer specializing in fried dough & cotton candy.



Ye Olde English Fish and Chips is owned and operated by Wayne and Kristy Alexander & family of Richmond, Maine. They started out in 1997. The Alexanders credit Carver's of Bremen, Maine, for consistently supplying high quality seafood. Their menu includes English fish and chips, fried whole belly clams, fried sea scallops, fried gulf shrimp, seafood platters, fresh lobster rolls, fresh haddock sandwiches, clam or crab cakes along with chicken fingers, sweet Italian sausage subs, burgers, hot dogs, cole slaw, French fries and onion rings. Everything is packed to go. They participate in the following fairs/festivals - Ossipee Valley, Union, Farmington, Presque Isle, Acton, Fryeburg, Skowhegan, Topsham, Litchfield, Oxford and several Maine festivals. Cash and all major credit-debit cards are accepted. Their 2020 plans include the following locations - Windham Correctional Facility, 17 Mallison Falls Road, Windham; Presque Isle, 686 Main Street, July 14th thru July 19th, 11am-7pm daily; Richmond - 495 Brunswick Road (Route 201) July 23rd-July 26th, 11am-7pm daily except July 26th is 11am-5pm. For more information go to their Facebook page or call (207) 242-5308



Mr. and Mrs. Sausage, is owned & operated by Dana Levasseur & his brother & daughter of Monmouth, Maine. Dana worked with the original owners, Skip and Ada Brawn starting at 16 years old! Dana purchases produce and supplies locally using Blackies Farmstand and Bell's potatoes. His menu items include sausages, steak subs, fries and a variety of soft drinks. Mr. & Mrs. Sausage can be found at the following fairs/festivals - Ossipee Valley, Topsham, Windsor, Farmington, Fryeburg, Richmond Days, Hallowell Days, and the Great Falls Balloonfest. For now they can be found at the Rumford Information Center, Route 3, Rumford, Maine.



Homemade Apple Crisp & Baked Stuffed Potatoes

Owner Mike Philbrick specializes in hot apple crisp with whipped cream and/or ice cream and baked potatoes with your choice of toppings. His vendor wagon was built by Amish builders in Pennsylvania. He is located at the Rumford Information Center on Route 3.



Baked by Kara

Baked by Kara is known as "The cupcake booth at the Blue Hill Fair," and owned & operated by Debbie Ledien (207) 812-0228. Menu favorites include classic, whoopie pie, birthday cake, peanut butter cup & margarita cupcakes many with yummy fillings! Pop-up sales for 2020 are planned for July 18, August 1, August 15 & August 29 from 11am-4pm at the Halcyon Grange #345, 1157 Mt. Pleasant Street, Blue Hill, Maine. Find them on Facebook & IM.



If you know any Fair vendors who are opening around the state, let us know! We'd love to support them!

Smokin' Phil's Belly Bustin' Barbeque, by owner Phil Butterfield of Monmouth, Maine is a family owned and operated business including Phil's wife, daughter, mother and sister-in-law. This is their 5th year in operation. Phil handcrafted his own smoker. Their menu includes pit smoked beef brisket, pulled pork, smoked sausage and chicken, ribs, many special sides including his very popular homemade corn bread. They are part of the following fairs/festivals - Monmouth, Topsham, Common Ground, Cumberland, Litchfield, Blue Hill, Bath Heritage Days, many Maine beer festivals and concerts at Thompson's Point. 2020 plans can be found on their Facebook page or by emailing Phil at smokinphilbbq@yahoo.com or calling (207) 242-8797.

