



OHIO FAIR MANAGERS ASSOCIATION *AUGUST 2024 SUMMER EDITION & CONVENTION UPDATE*



OHIO'S FAIR SEASON IN FULL SWING & PLANNING FOR THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY IS BUILDING

Ohio's agricultural fairs have seen good results with weather cooperating for the most part and as successes and concerns come from the fairs **Deb Hukill, Program Chairman** for the 100th Annual Convention is incorporating those ideas into workshop sessions.

Ohio Fairs' Queen Leah Schuhart has been to many County and Independent Fairs and spent 6 days at the Ohio State Fair participating in various activities. Reports indicate that food and ride grosses are holding up with retail sales lagging last year. Attendance, junior and open class entries seem on par with 2023. Concerns with security around groups of youth misbehaving, have shown up at multiple Ohio's Festivals and Fairs.

As we look past Labor Day and begin planning for the **100th Convention "MOVING FORWARD"** the Registration Portal is open via ohiofairs.org for **Fairs, Associate Service Members and Guests** to purchase all items and services. The Friday January 3rd Celebration Evening in Hall A of the Convention Center will be transformed into a fairgrounds with Amusement Rides to **"RIDE"** Carnival Games with Prizes, a Barbecue Buffet served from 5-7, a Concert with the Fairgrounds backdrop by Jo Dee Messina and more fun. Doors open at 5pm with admission via your Registration Badge and the \$25 cover charge ticket that is ordered with your registration. **More details on Page 3 of Chairman Kim Meyers report.**

The Hyatt, Hilton and Sonesta Room reservation blocks are open and the **Drury Block (reminder 6 rooms per fair only)** will open mid morning **Thursday September 5**. If you need more than 8 rooms at the Hyatt, Hilton and Sonesta contact OFMA @ ohiofairs@att.net for a rooming list for that respective hotel to make your process easier. Reminder the tax exemption forms are on the ohiofairs.org website.

Ohio Fairs Hall of Fame and the Ohio Fairs Communication entries are due to ofmaform@att.net by October 20.

Ohio's Fair members can now register and we have added a Guest tab for those who wish to purchase the Guest Activities separate of a fair registration. Registration for the Convention remains at \$50 till November 30 and then the late registration cost is \$80.

Fun things to do this years will be 2 sessions of Production of Bourbon with Agriculture Classes led by Dan Bullen Past President, as well as Trail Bologna Bingo, Corn Hole Tournament, Reverse Raffle Tickets for Saturday nights Extravaganza evening and more. **Tickets can be purchased as a Guest or with your registration:** https://www.regpack.com/reg/templates/build/?g_id=100915442

The Annual Market Place tradeshow will be Friday and Saturday and the Associates Registration Portal is open to register and purchase. https://www.regpack.com/reg/templates/build/?g_id=100915442

All forms are on the ohiofairs.org website at: <https://ohiofairsorg.wordpress.com/forms/>.

To our remaining O-H-I-O fair weeks GOOD LUCK!!

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IMPORTANT DATES

Ohio Fairs' Queen Applications November 30, 2024

Ohio Fairs Hall of Fame Applications October 20, 2024

Ohio Fairs Communication Awards Applications October 20, 2024

OFMA 100th Convention Registration November 30, 2024 Early Bird \$50

REGISTRATION PORTAL LINK: OPEN ohiofairs.org

Late Registration PAID after November 30, \$80

Junior Fair Registration December 1, 2024

ALL OFMA FORMS – (ohiofairs.org/forms/)

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE DUE DATES

Outstanding Fair Supporter November 1, 2024

2024 Fair Date Request Form November 1, 2024

Fair Fund Request Form November 1, 2024

Fairs - 2024 Election Poll Books 10 days after the Election

2024 Annual Financial Annual Report January 3, 2025

Lisko Family Midway Amusements

3911 Cooper Rd Lowellville, OH 44436

Phone: 724-674-2232

Email: wendylisko@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.liskofamilyamusements.com>



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ohiofairs@att.net
<http://www.ohiofairs.org>

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Preparation for 100-Year Anniversary Celebration Right on Schedule

Kim Meyers, Chairman Long Range Planning (440) 309-8729



If you like great entertainment, good food, and a venue within walking distance of the trade show and your hotels, then you will love the OFMA 100-Year Anniversary Celebration. What a great way to start the new year!

Planning for the big celebration is right on schedule and going well. The marquee evening is set for Friday, January 3, 2025 in Exhibit Hall A at the Columbus Convention Center. Exhibit Hall A is one of the newest and largest venues in Columbus. Doors Open at 5pm with the buffet. We are expecting a capacity crowd of approximately 2600 people to attend.

Reserved tables remain for sale and can be purchased ranging from \$200 to \$2500, and unreserved tables will be available at no cost. A limited number of the higher priced reserved tables will put you right next to the stage for the national country music act. The country artist that will perform is Jo Dee Messina at 8 PM. She has charted six number one singles on the Billboard Country Music Charts. She also has received honors from the Country Music Association and the Academy of Country Music. She has been nominated for several Grammy Awards. Her list of accomplishments also includes two platinum and three gold albums. She was the first female country artist to have three multiple-week number one songs from the same album. She is very well-known for her fantastic live shows.



At the Friday evening event, a delicious Western BBQ buffet, 5-7pm has been planned along with a cash bar. Amusement rides, games, prizes, and raffles have been planned.

Each convention registered person attending will be required to purchase a ticket "Cover Charge" for \$25. The ticket includes entertainment, the BBQ buffet, amusement rides, free games, and prizes awarded to Fair Boards and Associate Members.

Anniversary merchandise that will be available for purchase includes Jack Daniels Whiskey in a specially designed 100-year anniversary commemorative bottle. There will also be many clothing items available including polo shirts, t-shirts, hooded sweatshirts, and jackets. Other items being planned include hot and cold Stanley cups and glasses.

Free commemorative merchandise to be given away includes color changing stadium cups, handbags, and draw-string sportbacks. There are many other items under consideration and currently being designed. Details are also being finalized on the location and space that will be available for historical exhibits.

Sponsorship opportunities for Friday's marquee event are also available. Please visit the OFMA website for details after June 1. Should you have any suggestions or special requests, please forward these directly to me at kim.meyers@protonmail.com or (440) 309-8729.

OFMA 100th Anniversary Merchandise and Clothing available NOW


<https://ofma2024.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

Clothing, Ball caps and More



REGISTRATION LINK: Fairs, Associate Member and GUESTS

https://www.regpack.com/reg/templates/build/?g_id=100915442



Ohio Fair Managers Convention Registrant Portal

Editors note: For fairs who can not pay for guest activities on account they have alcohol involvement your guests or directors//officers can purchase separately at any time.
Cut off is sold out or December 15

Ohio Fair Managers Inc. [Home] Settings [Logout] My Application 0%

Company Information

There are mandatory fields in this form that should be filled out. They are outlined in red below.

i This is the first step of establishing your umbrella account.

You will be able to register attendee(s) after completing all of the required forms for this account.

Registrant Type

☐ Associate Member

☐ Fair Member

☒ Guest

Company Name

Ohio Fair Managers Inc.

PRESIDENT REPORT

Stanley Strode OFMA President

Greetings from President Stanley:

Welcome to the heart of fair season. For some, your fair is now in the history books. Now you have the chance to come out and enjoy a neighboring fair. Some of you are at your fair now and many are still looking forward to your fair. Good luck to you and enjoy.

I have been to 22 fairs so far this year with 30 more on my schedule. I am posting each visit on Facebook if you would like to check out my fair journey. I have really enjoyed visiting with Fair board members, fairgoers, and vendors. I have also enjoyed exploring the grounds and tasting the favorite foods. If I do not make your fair this year, God willing I will see you next year. My theme for the coming year is 'Moving Forward'. Many fairs are already taking up on this theme as they are moving forward with ideas and facilities.

The convention committee and board are moving forward for the 2025 OFMA convention. The program committee has lined up some good sessions. We have a big show planned for the 100th year celebration this year. If you have not reserved a table yet, you need to do so soon as they are going fast. Just a friendly reminder your financial report will be due at the convention in January.

Hope you all have a great fair!
Stanley Strode OFMA president
shstrode74@gmail.com



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OFMA

2025 CONVENTION MENU

FAIR, ASSOCIATE & GUEST PRICING

Fair Membership \$200.

Associate Membership \$115.

Comes with one Business
Category listing extra are \$20

Attendee Registration \$50.

Attendee Registration \$80.

Registration after December 1

Trade Show \$375 - \$400.
Booths

ODA Breakfast Friday \$27.

Awards Breakfast \$27.
Sunday

Queens Lunch Thursday \$38.

Corn Hole Thursday \$15.

100th Anniversary \$100.
Jack Daniels Bottle

Friday Presidents Receptions

Celebrating our 100th year.
Each attendee will need their
registration badge and have
paid the \$25. cover charge to
attend this event.

President Reception Tables

see map layout on website

○ Only 16 tables available **\$2,500.**

Only 38 tables available **\$1,000.**

Only 31 tables available **\$300.**

Only 49 tables available **\$200.**

44 Free tables available

Extravaganza Saturday \$200.
Table

Bourbon Tasting \$50.

Friday - session 1 at 1pm and
session 2 at 2:30pm

Bingo, Wine & Bolonga \$40.

Saturday - at 2:30pm

Reverse Raffle Ticket \$100.

2025 Extravaganza Evening January 4, 2025 Regency Ballroom



I want to thank everyone who was involved in our extravaganza and auction last January. We had a great time plus a huge success. The 2024 auction will be hard to top, but we have a goal for 2025!

We are going to close out our 100th convention on Saturday with an extravaganza and auction again. **Final Drive Youth Auction** will again be in the auction previewing and live streaming all Live Auction Items.

Our DJ will be back so bring your dancing shoes. We are asking each district to bring a large item again this year for the auctions. Your donation toward this item will be appreciated at your fall district meeting.

If you have not purchased your reverse raffle ticket, see one of our board members, check out our web page or call into the office. Only 300 tickets will be sold and they are usually sold out early. The side board raffle tickets are available also in the OFMA office January 2, 2025.

See you in January!

Stanley



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5pm doors open for the Country Western Buffet pulled pork, shredded chicken and sides, desert and beverages **Buffet closes at 7pm**

5-7:45pm Amusement rides, games and cash bar.

8pm Opening Act and 8:30 Live in Concert Jo Dee Messina

Following the concert the rides, games & prizes till 11pm

How do you participate?

Each person entering must have a convention registration badge to gain entrance and Each person must purchase and present a \$25 cover charge ticket with your registration.



Dinner and Concert seating are rounds seating 10 per table and the following Sponsorship tables to buy for the entire evening. **1 lucky table buyer will win \$5,000**

How to reserve tables, the orders will be processed at the OFMA office in the time stamp of entry, payment and assigned by level of sponsorship at the best closest location to the stage.

\$2500 Blue ribbon tables to be sold 1st and 2nd rows from the stage

\$1000 Red ribbon tables rows 3-6 from the stage

\$300 Tables stage left and right rows 2-7

\$200 Tables stage left and right rows 4-9

36 additional tables at no charge wings and back row

Contact Name: \$2500 # needed

Fair or service member name \$1000 # needed

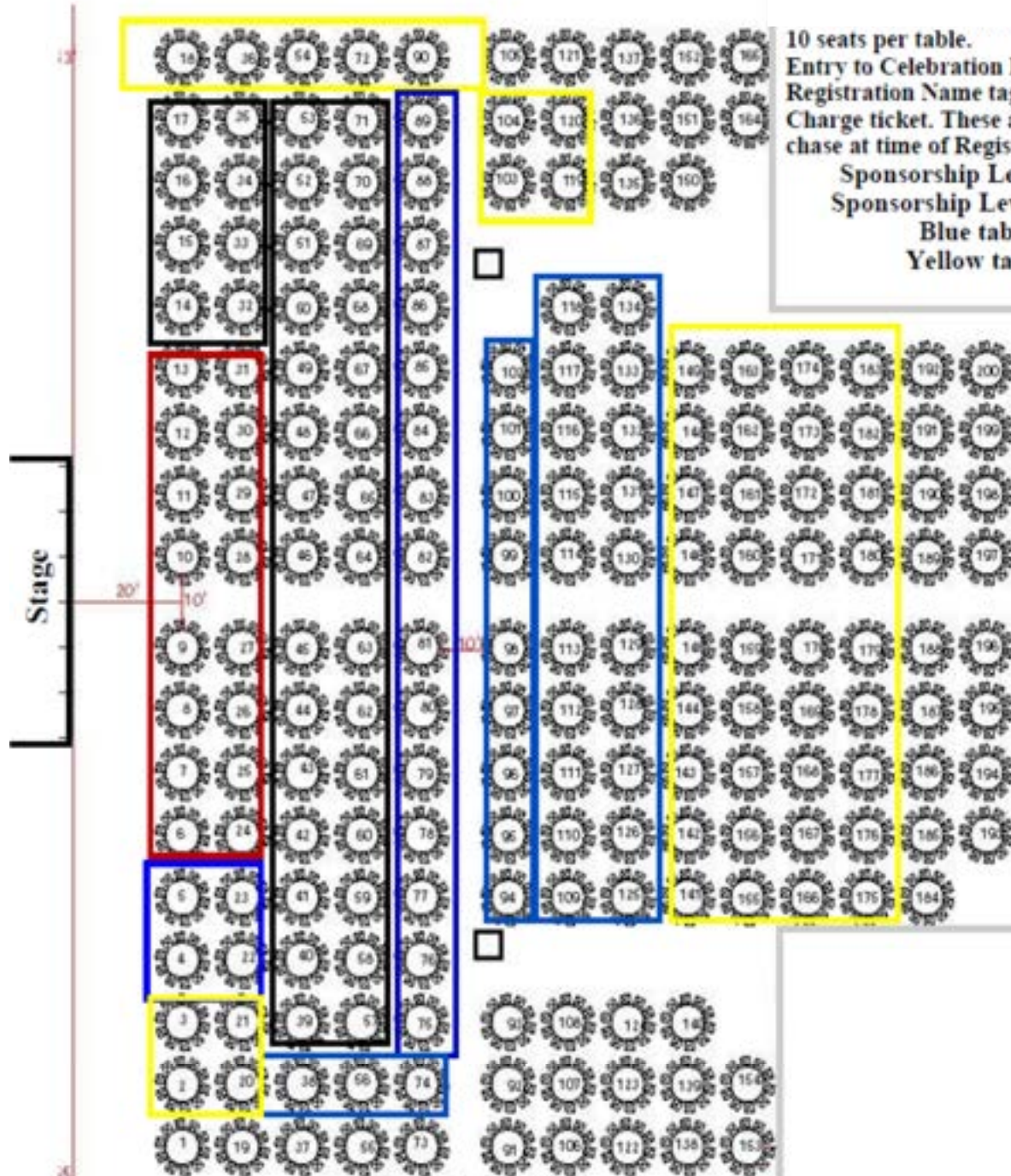
E-mail: \$300 # needed

Phone: \$200 # needed

Invoice:

TABLE CHART CONTACT THE OFMA OFFICE VIA OHIOFAIRS@ATT.NET FOR AVAILABLE TABLES

Buffet Lineups



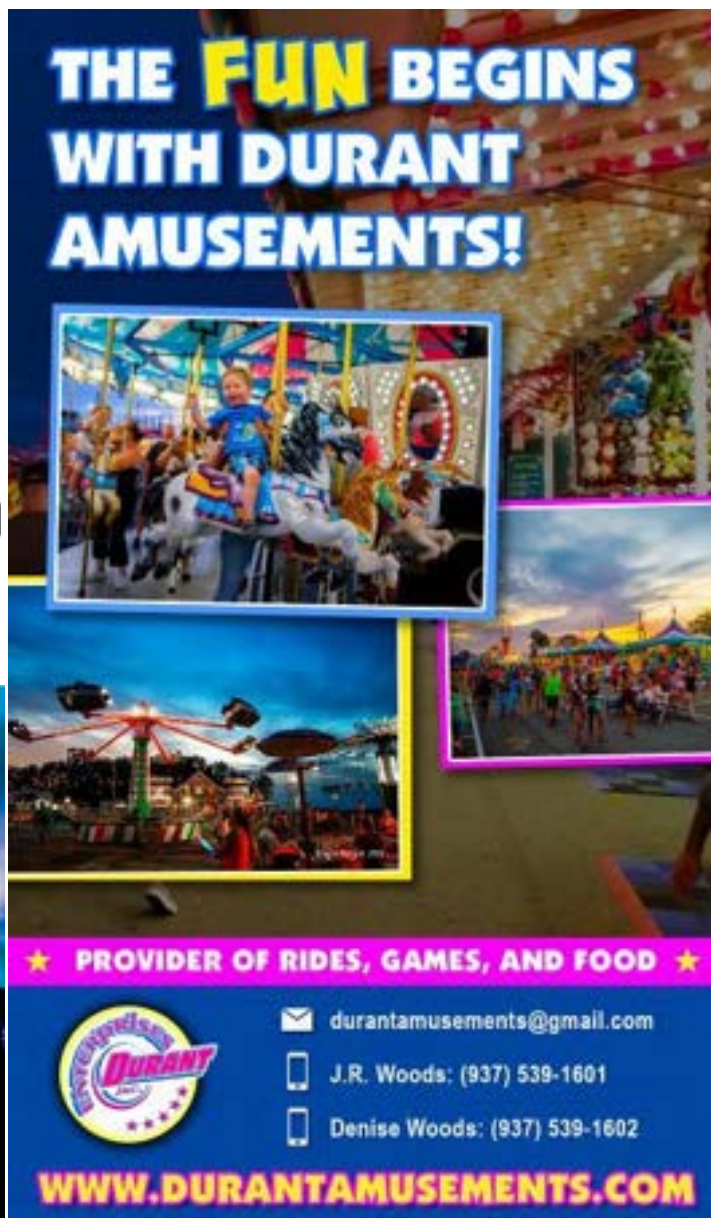
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3 AMUSEMENT RIDES, 3 MIDWAY GAMES AREA

2025 Ohio Fairs Convention Speaker Lineup as of this Newsletter

Thursday	12:30-2:00	Fairfield	Leadership in Changing Times	Ian Hill Chief Executive Officer The Changing Point
Thursday	2:15-3:15	Fairfield	Fair Security how do we raise the safety level higher	Jeffery F. Cotner IAFE Speaker Texas State Fair Security Lead
Friday	1pm - 2pm	Taft AB Room	"Recruiting and retaining Volunteers in the 21st Century"	Ian Hill Chief Executive Officer The Changing Point
Saturday	9:30 AM	Hall A Convention Center	"Leading with Humble Confidence"	KeyNote COTY BACK FFA Background

Draft Program is at:





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Nostalgia

- “its delicate, but potent. In Greek nostalgia literally means ‘the pain from an old wound.’ It’s a twinge in your heart far more powerful than memory alone. This device isn’t a spaceship, it’s a time machine. It goes backwards, and forwards... it takes us to a place where we ache to go again. It’s not called the wheel, It’s called the carousel. It let’s us travel the way a child travels – around and around, and back home again, to a place where we know are loved.”

“Mad Men Don Draper”



Ohio Fairs' Queen Leah out & about on the fair circuit



Left, Priceless pic

Right: Ohio Fairs Queen Leah Schuhart, Ohio Fairs' Queen Travel Sponsor: Fairs.com, Jeff Cole



Ohio Fairs' Queen Leah with Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Brian Baldrige at the Ohio State Fair

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99th Convention Presenting Sponsor
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Ohio Fairs' Queen Contest
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Nutrien Ag Solutions

Showcase Dessert Buffet Evening Burnham & Flower Agency, INC

Cornhole Evening and Extravaganza Snacks
Bates Brothers Amusements

Extravaganza Snacks
Bates Brothers Amusements
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