

THE DURHAM BULL SHEET

News and Events of the Durham/Middlefield Exchange Club

WHAT A WET FAIR!!!

Water, Water Everywhere.

Well this will be a fair to remember. In all the years that I have been involved with the Durham Fair in one capacity or another, I never remember where it rained so much and for all three days. I have not heard any official attendance numbers but less than 100,000 is a number that is being tossed around. With these low numbers we are lucky that we have a low cost product in our French Fries. I heard some booths made no money or very little. It is a lot of work not to make any money.

Our group worked very hard. A few shifts at the soda delivery were light but generally the booth was well covered. If it had been a normal fair with normal attendance I think even the booth might have needed more people on Saturday.

Thank you to all who did their part to make this fair a success. Walter Douglass and Mike Cheney did a great job in making the soda delivery go smoothly and gave those who worked soda a good laugh. If you cannot have fun doing it, it is not worth doing I always say.

The booth owes Kenny Hall, Rich Astle, Doug Meyers and Kevin Frank a great deal of thanks. Without their hard work the booth would not have been ready. I would personally like to thank Kenny Hall for all of the work getting the booth ready and for running around picking up the supplies at Stew Leonard's. Everyone should give Kenny their thanks for all that he does for the club. He was back at the booth this weekend helping me clean the fryolators.

Our soda delivery numbers were given to me. (My wife is the soda coordinator for the fair.) The numbers are

pretty low. As an example in 2006 we delivered 3341 cases of soda and water, last year we delivered 4096 cases of soda and water; well this year we delivered 1730 cases total. Everyone remembers how hot it was last year. Last year we delivered 859 bags of ice, this year we delivered 273 bags.

At press time I do not have any fair booth numbers but maybe by this Thursday's meeting we might have a preliminary number.

Due to the decrease in our number one fund raiser the board might have to review the budget and make some changes. We will do our part to keep our programs funded to the best of our abilities. Our members may have to step up a bit when it comes to our other fundraisers so we can give to our programs at the level we are accustomed to.

Candidates' Forum

On Thursday, October 9, 2008 we again will be having our Candidates Forum at the Durham Firehouse where we invite our local candidates to discuss the issues in their campaigns.

Hopefully, some of the hot issues of the day will be covered like our pending state deficit and how this will affect our taxes again.

George Eames will again moderate the evening. We will have a quick meeting prior to the forum, which is open to the public. Join us at the firehouse at 6:30 pm.

Annual Road Cleanup on October 25th

Again this year we will be sponsoring the twice-annual Adopt-A-Road road clean up. This date coincides with the National Day of Service. All around the country Exchange clubs will be working together to make this country a better place to live.

We have been cleaning the streets of Durham for many years now. Babby Nuhn has been the chairperson for this event for years. This project is important to our community. Babby has done a great job over the

years getting other groups involved. She really needs help. Lets all do our part and make this a successful Adopt-A-Road. We will meet at the Exchange Club Pavilion at Allyn Brook Park at 8:00 AM on Saturday October 25th to meet and get to clean up our road, which is Rt. 147 from Valero to the Middlefield town line. If you are interested in working on the committee call Babby Nuhn. Babby can be reached at 349-0798.

Salute to CT's Bravest

On October 23, 2008 at the Aqua Turf in Southington, CT the Connecticut District Exchange will hold its annual Salute to Connecticut's Bravest honoring the firefighters of Connecticut.

This year the Middlefield Fire Department and the Durham Fire Company will be honoring firefighters at the event. Our club will sponsor them and honor them along with Exchange club members and other firefighters from around the state.

Please mark your calendar and plan on attending. It is a great evening to honor those who put themselves in harms way for us.

Editorial

People ask me, "How did we do at the Fair?" My usual answer is "Great!" We did have a good Fair in spite of the weather. Rich Astle and Kenny Hall and their crew did a fantastic job, as did Wally Douglas and his soda delivery people.

Personally, the Fair was great for me because of the enthusiasm and camaraderie of those who volunteered to work their shifts. Some people even got off their shift selling French fries and went over to work on soda delivery! Gluttons for punishment, you say, "nah", people were having fun.

It's the same old story; if you don't join in, you miss one of the best parts of being in Exchange. We all get a kick out of the "thank you" that come in as a result of our generosity, but those who had an active part in producing the money derive twice the satisfaction.

We opened the French Fry booth on Thursday night to feed the people who are setting up their booths. It was a good thing we did, as the rest of the weekend was a bust due to the weather. It was still a lot of fun.

When you ask people why they join Exchange, many will reply, "I want to give back to the community." I'm sure that is part of it, but I think back when I joined and

remember Bob Alves inviting me to a meeting and the fun the people had sharing a beverage or two, teasing one another, and just plain enjoying one another's company.

So, for those of you who are reluctant to volunteer at fundraisers or serve on a committee or don't attend many meetings, I say you are missing the very essence of who we are in Exchange. So get involved, sign up for something, enjoy the friendships, and experience the satisfaction of giving.

Phil

Meetings

October 9, 2008 – 6:30PM-
Durham Firehouse-
Candidates Forum

October 16, 2008 – 6:30 PM-
Board of Directors Meeting-
Ralph Chase's house

October 23, 2008- 6:00PM
Aqua Turf- Salute to CT's
Bravest

October 25, 2008- 8:00AM
Allyn Brook Park- Adopt-A-
Road

November 16, 2008- 6:30 pm
TBD- Regular Meeting-
Angela Atwater- Kidsafe
director our guest speaker

November 20, 2008-6:30 PM
Board Meeting- Al Bradanini's
house

No November 27th Meeting-
Happy Thanksgiving

December 11, 2008 – 6:30 pm
TBD – Regular meeting –
Larry McHugh Middlesex
Chamber of Commerce will be
our guest speaker

December 14, 2008- 7:00 pm
TBD-Christmas Party

December 18, 2008 6:30 pm
Board Meeting – Phil
Gaudreau's Middlefield house