

District 1-Mower County

Representing District 1 is an individual who has served on the fair board for 26 years. Over the years, this individual has held the offices of President, Secretary and Treasurer.

This individual is a notorious “note taker”. They have 26 years of notebooks organized and stored. This individual is a true “fair historian”. They not only take notes about their county fair, but takes meticulous notes while attending District 1 meetings, IAFE or the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs Convention.

Some of the committees this individual has been part of include: Executive, Advertising, Off-Season, Fair Square and On Grounds and Concessions.

In 2009, they chaired and led the way as their county fair celebrated their 125th year celebration.

This individual supports and honors those in the community through awards such as Outstanding Senior Citizens, Outstanding Service Organization, and the Century Farm Families to name a few.

He not only serves his community, but he served our country. He’s a proud veteran of the United States Army and served in the

Korean War. He marches with the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club and is an active member of the club, the Legion, and the VFW.

District 1 recognizes Ken Trom of Mower County as "Fair Person of the Year".

Congratulations Ken!

District 2-Carver County

This individual has served on the fair board for 33 years.

As a board member they have served on many committees including premium book, the committee to hire a fair manager, finance committee, and building and grounds committee. While serving on this committee they were instrumental in the new construction of a grandstand, entertainment center, public restrooms and commercial exhibit buildings. They were also involved in the reconstruction of many existing buildings on the fairgrounds.

Through the years they have been superintendent in a variety of areas including: poultry, rabbits, goats, sheep, hog, beef and llamas.

This individual has been very active with the county and state 4-H programs. They have served as Cloverleaf leader, Federation Adult leader, MN State Fair 4-H committee, and continues to work with 4-H youth throughout the county and state. They have also judges at many county fairs throughout Minnesota.

This individual began exhibiting poultry and sheep at the county and state fair in 1969, and continues to show today. They have shown in many states and receive numerous awards. Some of these awards include: American Poultry Association Hall of Fame Exhibitor Award,

American Poultry Association Endowment Life Membership Award, and the highest honor in the poultry fancy, the American Poultry Association Many Years of Service to the Poultry Fancy. The list of awards goes on and on.

This individual has also served on the Parish Council, finance committee and President of the Parish Council.

This individual has instilled the love of the fair, 4-H, and exhibiting in his children and grandchildren.

District 2 would like to recognize Adrian Rademaker from Carver County as "Fair Person of the Year".

Congratulations Adrian!

District 3- Isanti County

Representing District 3 is an individual who has a long history of service and commitment to county fairs. Their enthusiasm for the fair is contagious.

This individual has held the office of secretary. Along with holding office, they've been instrumental in many projects at their fair. They started a children's farmyard, organizes and runs demo derbies, received donations to build structures, helped their fair achieve 501c3 status just to name a few.

Promoting the fair through flyers, articles and photos in the local newspaper, organized the construction of a float for community parades; marketing and sponsorships are other responsibility this individual has taken on.

This individual is not only busy during the fair, but also before the fair cleaning, taking care of flower beds, organizing contests, creating the fair schedules for all events and worked with "Beyond the Yellow Ribbon" program to honor our service people with "Military Day" on the opening day of the fair. The list goes on and on.

This individual is not only very visible at their county fair, but you will see her at many other county fairs, at District 3 meetings, and at

conventions. She's always taking notes, gathering ideas to share with others. She works very hard to improve the county fair for all to enjoy.

District 3 honors Ruth Pascke of Isanti County as "Fair Person of the Year".

Congratulations Ruth!

District 6- Sherburne County

Representing District 6 is an individual who is a driving force behind the success of their county fair. They have served on the board for over 25 years and serves on numerous committees. You will find this individual volunteering countless hours prior, during and after the fair.

They were instrumental in creating a recycling program during the fair, collecting glass, plastic bottle and cardboard from vendors.

This individual has volunteered in the 4-H program for 38 years and has been an adult leader for over 10 years. As a retired Vocational Agriculture teacher, he shares his talent and skills in animal science, plant science, parliamentary procedure and leadership development. They have also led numerous 4-H educational workshops over the years in entomology, geology, and shop. He plans and organizes the tractor-driving contest for 4-H youth at the fair.

This individual can also be found judging 4-H projects at seven to eight fairs each summer.

As a Master Gardener, they help plant, maintain beautiful gardens on the fair grounds. They also teach Jr. Master Gardening classes to youth in the community.

He started Environmental Educational Days, a one-day field trip to the National Wildlife Refuge in the Sand Dunes State Forest, for middle school students. He engages experts from the USDA Soil and Water Conservation, Minnesota DNR-Forestry Management and others to teach the students. The National Wildlife Refuge honored him with the “Outstanding Volunteer Service Award”.

He’s an active member of his church, serving as an elder, and helping with community outreach meals. WCCO awarded him with the “Good Neighbor” award.

District 6 honors Marv Ziner of Sherburne County as “Fair Person of the Year”,

Congratulations Marv!

District 7- Swift County

Representing District 7 is an individual who's been on the fair board for 19 years. This individual was elected president in 2002, an office they still hold today.

This individual was instrumental in increasing the camping facilities at their fairgrounds from 15 primitive spots to 90 campsites complete with electricity and water. Every year these campgrounds are packed with 4-H families camping, having a lot of fun throughout the fair, and making life-long family fair memories.

In 2007, this individual wrote and applied for a grant from the Minnesota Horse Council requesting money to build a new horse arena on the fairgrounds. They received the grant and in 2008, a new horse judging arena was built.

The largest fair project this individual had part in was the fund raising and construction of the Chuck Brown Memorial Building in 2004. Chuck Brown was a state representative for 12 years, before his passing in 2003. This building is used for all the free entertainment, kids events, 4-H events, contests and many more community activities.

Working at the fair, attending the state fair has become a family "A'FAIR" for this individual and his family.

In 2009 he received the award from the county 4-H program,
“Fair Supporter of the Year”.

This individual is also very active in his church. He served as
usher, an elder, treasurer and financial secretary.

District 7 would like to recognize Charles Wilts of Swift County as
“Fair Person of the Year”.

Congratulations Charles!

District 8- South Saint Louis County

Representing District 8 is an individual who was elected to the board in 2000, and became president in 2004.

Over the years, this individual has accomplished a long list of projects including: glassed in exhibit space to keep exhibits clean and safe, improved lighting and installed fans in the exhibit building, built new public restrooms, and meeting and concession buildings.

The fair grounds are used by multiple organizations for many different purposes throughout the year. This individual has a way of working with everyone, and is always available to answer questions or lend a hand.

Year around you can find him at the fairgrounds fixing water pipes, mowing the grass, dragging the indoor riding arena, setting up stalls, or hauling dirt. He is the “go to” person if you have a question or need help.

In 2006, this individual received the “Saint Louis County Volunteer Excellence Award” for outstanding service to his community by volunteering his generous gifts of time, talent, and energy in contributing to the exceptional quality of life in our region, and helping

to make Saint Louis County a better place to live and grow for all our citizens.

District 8 recognizes Frank Siiro of Saint Louis County as “Fair Person of the Year”.

Congratulations Frank!

District 9- Pennington County

Representing District 9 is an individual who joined the fair board in 1973, giving 37 years of service as a dedicated member. While on the board they held the office of president. As a member of the executive board they have served as past president and vice president.

This individual has been a leader and instrumental in making each fair successful. A couple of the major projects include building a grandstand, a bus garage that serves as the fair office, new restrooms on the fairgrounds, new 4-H show arena, band shell seating shelter, and a dance floor by the band shell.

Some of the committees they have served on include: bull riding, building and grounds, budget, nomination and the grandstand committee.

During the fair he's in charge of the portable bleachers, and other seating needs. They assist in the layout of food vendors, making sure the Thief River Falls Huck Olson Arena is set up for the 4-H, open class exhibits and all commercial rental booths.

Throughout the year he makes sure the fairgrounds are ready for all community events such as auction sales, Dairy Days, Boy Scout Day Camp, horse shows, snowmobile races and the list goes on and on.

This individual has been called a “year-round fair board member”.

District 9 recognizes Laverne Hamre of Pennington County as “Fair
Person of the Year”.

Congratulations Laverne!