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dunncountyfair.org

Fair Location  
620 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Menomonie, WI 54751

DATE: September 5, 2018  
TO: Dunn County Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Deb Gotlibson, President

Thank you to the Dunn County Board of Supervisors and the citizens of Dunn County for your support of the Dunn County Fair. We selected as our 2018 fair theme *Red, White & Blue – this Fair is for You*. This proved to be a fun theme as clubs and exhibitors decorated and prepared exhibits using this theme – use your imagination, I'm sure you can come up with all kinds of scenarios.

Beautiful weather helped us to have a successful fair. With exception of the rain late on Wednesday, causing the grandstand farm truck and tractor pull to be cancelled, the weather was perfect.

Exhibits remained static for the youth area and increased slightly in open class. With the second year of the new program for online entries, FairEntry, we continue to create efficiencies in the program. We still have to research why our scanners are not always working; hopefully this will be resolved before the next fair. This eliminated all manual entries that our staff had to complete after the fair. We look forward to expanding the use of the program in the future.

Attendance numbers were about the same this year; almost 40,000 people attended the five day event. Parking continues to be a challenge for the fair. Without a secure grounds, the fair board continues to also be challenged to have an accurate count; the attendance numbers are based on the number of tickets sold at the gates along with weekly passes sold and daily passes issued, using a formula to calculate the final numbers. The grandstand shows this year brought in good crowds on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

The free stage and food court area was again a popular gathering place for fair goers as they gathered to watch top-notch entertainment and enjoyed delicious food. We tried a new format for Friday, dubbing it local night which resulted in a huge crowd that listened to great music late into the night.

The Fair hires many service and community organizations, such as the Lion's Club, Knights of Columbus, Boy Scouts, 4-H clubs, Menomonie Mustangs and Red Cedar Racing, to run the gates, park cars, serve as cleaning crews and work at the grandstand. Individual volunteers also put in many hours to help the fair be successful; without their help, our job would be much more difficult and the fair would not happen. Thank you!

UW-Extension agents are extremely helpful with the educational aspect of the fair. Our arrangement with the Public Works/Facilities staff continues to be a tremendous help in putting together an educational and entertaining event for the residents of Dunn County and the surrounding area.

Plans are well underway for the next fair – mark your calendars and join us July 24 – 28, for the 134<sup>th</sup> edition of the Dunn County Fair; join us and you will find yourself educated and entertained!

I look forward to sharing more information with you at the County Board of Supervisors' meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deb Gotlibson, President