

EANS Newsletter

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Past President of EANS & Manager of the “ Big Ex “ Jean Marlin has big plans for the South Shore Exhibition this year.



The South Shore Exhibition will be held on July 25th to the 31st and this year the theme will be “ **Blue Jeans & Country Dreams** “

Plans are well underway for the 2005 version of the South Shore Exhibition. After all the rain and flooding on the South Shore, things are drying out and crews have been able to mow the grass that sprung up with a little encouragement from the few days of sunshine the area has experienced. The “ Big Ex “, held in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, is classed as one of the largest in the Province. Along with the Saddle Horse Division, competition is offered for

both Dairy and Beef Cattle. The whole week is inundated with Horse pulls and Ox pulls. Thursday’s highlight is the L. E. Veinotte & Son’s International Horse Pull, a competition between the local teams and teams from Cumberland, Maine, USA. Monday to Wednesday, classes are offered for Miniature and Halfinger Horses with a large Show Horses competing from Thursday to Saturday. The Craze-Crew Stunt Team will be demonstrating daring jumps with their BMX bikes, skateboards and roller-blades from Monday to Thursday afternoon. On Friday fair-goers will see Karen Durrant paying tribute to the great Tina

Turner. Friday night is the exciting new Oland-McNeil Ox pull where four qualifying teams will compete pulling the American Distance Pull and four more teams pulling the Canadian Heavy Load Pull. Saturday night features the fabulous country music star Patricia Conroy straight from Nashville, Tennessee. The week will conclude on Sunday with the ever-popular ATV challenge. As always, there will be lots of excitement for the whole week on the Mmidway with rides and games from Campbell Amusements. Wear your blue jeans and experience all your country dreams at the 2005 “ Big Ex “.

EANS President Jeff Yuill, attends Fairs Development Workshop in Gander



The fairs development workshop was held at the Albatross Hotel in Gander on May 28th and 29th and was designed to provide fair organizers and volunteers with valuable information about accessing funding through various programs, finding creative new ways to increase the agriculture component at the fair, and gain tips on management operations for fairs. There were also opportunities identified to network with other fair organizers and share information and experiences.

The workshop received assistance from the Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Natural Resources for developing awareness of the

important contribution that agriculture makes to the local economy and provide visitors to fairs with an opportunity to experience rural culture and hospitality.

The President made a presentation on behalf of EANS which included the details of the Association and objects of the EANS Society which was incorporated on July 13, 1973. The presentation outlined the activities implemented this year which included:

1. A newsletter to be published for members every three months.
2. Initial work for developing an Atlantic Committee to include Associations of the Atlantic Provinces.
3. Support to CAFÉ for prevention of Tariff # 3.
4. Administration of government subsidy to fairs and exhibitions.
5. Assist members in acquiring

additional funding opportunities.

6. Developed a long-term business plan for EANS.
7. Established a new EANS website (www.eans.ca) for information to member associations and public information on fairs and exhibitions.

The presentation and participation by the President made a significant contribution to the activities planned for the Province of Newfoundland & Labrador and formed a new and cooperative relationship with the government representatives of that Province and the fair organizers. We can look forward to future interaction on issues and activities with the participants on fairs and exhibitions and benefits derived from the activities of an Atlantic Committee.

Digby County Exhibition Ready to Go

Director of EANS and Manager of the Digby County Exhibition, Jean Marshall, is well organized for this year's exhibition for August 24 to 27, 2005.

The exhibition is held at Bear River, Nova Scotia, located in the Southwestern part of the Province. Bear River is a small village nestled within a deep valley that has become fondly known as "the Switzerland of Nova Scotia". It is home to many outstanding artisans and Canada's first solar wastewater treatment facility. Bear River offers a look into the past at the Bear

River Heritage Museum.

The Digby County Exhibition grounds are located on scenic Riverview Drive in Bear River. This year's exhibition will feature lots of activity such as horse pulls, ox pulls, ox relay races, yarding demonstrations, tractor tilt competition, tractor driving competition, craft demonstrations, as well as craft, baking, flower, art and photography displays. The local 4H Club will have displays in their own building as well as take part in various competitions and demonstrations. Commercial displays will fill the commercial building again this year

and in the entertainment building, a variety of entertainment is planned throughout the week, including the ever popular "Mr. Legs" contest. The dining hall opens for breakfast and, in addition to providing special dinners and suppers, is open all day long providing a good selection of sandwiches, chili and chowders, etc. Fish, chips, hamburgers, hot dogs, etc., will be served at the outside canteen. Always a popular event, this year's Truck Pull is being held on Sunday, August 28th in the afternoon.

The Historic Hants County Exhibition

The Hants County Exhibition is 240 years old!

The Manager of the Hants County Exhibition, David Coombs, and the President of the Hants County Exhibition Association, Brian Casey, (also Vice-President of EANS), will be celebrating the 240th anniversary of the exhibition in Windsor, Nova Scotia.

The Windsor Agriculture

Society moved to the present location in 1951 and the operation has grown and consists of nearly four acres under roof. The facility operates all year which is used extensively during the summer months and for hockey and equestrian activities in the winter months. The six day exhibition is held in

September over two weekends, September 16 to September 18, and September 23 to September 25. The 240 Anniversary will be exceptionally entertaining this year and the attractions will be varied to attempt to express interest for all demographics.

Excerpts from the Windsor Fair (now the Hants County Exhibition) History Notes:

In March 1765 at a public meeting in Halifax the following resolution was passed:

"Whereas it is thought the Establishing of the Fair at Windsor will be of great utility to the Province of Nova Scotia, a number of gentlemen of Halifax being desirous of promoting every measure that may conduce to the public good, have entered into a subscription for premiums and rewards and will cause the following to be given on Tuesday, the 21st of May, 1765, the first day of the fair."

Some of the premiums and regards offered are as follows:

"For the person who would bring the greatest number of Neat Cattle the award was 3 yards of English blue superfine broadcloth and a silver medal. For Horses, the prize was a saddle, a bridle, and medal. For Sheep, a pair of shears and a medal. Other prizes were a churn and a medal for the best cow. A whip and a pair of spurs for the best horse, and six yards of ribbon and a medal for the best 12 pounds of butter or cheese. The best wrestler was offered a laced hat and a pair of spurs, while the next best got a pair of shoes and buckles, and the third, a pair of buckskin gloves."

A description of this Fair, written by Mrs. Winckworth Tonge is as follows:

"On the 21st day of May, 1765, the first fair and market was opened in the district of Windsor on land granted to commissioners for that purpose which had been reserved to the King at the foot of the Fort Hill. At this time there was a considerable show of cattle, horses, sheep and hogs, and good samples of grain of all sorts; butter, cheese, homespun cloth, etc. There were premiums and prizes given to encourage industry and agriculture. Forty horses fit for saddle or draught were brought from the Winckworth Farms (now Wentworth) and offered for sale. This group won the prizes in the horse class. The Fair was regularly opened twice in every year on the days appointed in the Charter, for a considerable time; but as it was found that the county was not sufficiently populous and improved to be benefitted by it, and that it only served as an excuse for a day of idleness and intoxication, it was thought most prudent to discontinue it. The establishment of a market was also premature and dropped for want of supplies. These attempts, though unsuccessful, show at least the zeal, energy, and exertion for the public good which actuated their promoters."

"On the 21st day of May, 1765, the first fair and market was opened in the district of Windsor..."

**The Exhibitions
Association of Nova
Scotia**

40 Gateway Road,
Halifax, NS B3M 1M9

PHONE:
(902) 443-2039

FAX:
(902) 443-6721

E-MAIL:
glen.jefferson@ns.sympatico.ca

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.eans.ca

About the EANS

The Exhibition Association of Nova Scotia is a non-profit organization that showcases the agriculture of the Province and relates the urban and rural communities through knowledge and awareness of farm activities while providing entertainment, community attraction for tourists and economic benefits for the Province of Nova Scotia.

Funding and services provided by the Province of Nova Scotia through the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, is greatly appreciated and adds support to the fairs and exhibitions in various parts of the Province from June to October each year.

The EANS Newsletter is published quarterly, relating events of the Nova Scotia Fairs & Exhibitions. Your contributions to the Newsletter would be appreciated. Please send all relevant material to:

**Glen Jefferson, Executive Director,
40 Gateway Road,
Halifax, N. S.
B3M 1M9**

Or email to: glen.jefferson@ns.sympatico.ca

Exhibitions Association
of
Nova Scotia

