



NEWSLETTER

HADDAM NECK, CONNECTICUT

WINTER 2021

WILL THERE BE A FAIR THIS YEAR? That's a question we will answer when the Governor allows conditions under which we can afford to open. While shut down we have closed the grounds and reduced year-round expenses as much as possible in the absence of any incoming revenue although maintenance of the facilities has continued. Once we know if we can open and can count on sufficient revenue the decision to open the Fair can be made. Because of careful planning, the Haddam Neck Fair is in better financial shape than some, and we intend to keep it that way.

CHANGES TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Franky Dallas, a Fair Director since 2006, resigned from the board in a move toward retirement. A life-long long resident of Haddam Neck she and her family have been fair volunteers for many years. Franky came up with many ideas for events such as opening the Fair with a neighborhood Tractor Parade and the Women's Skillet Toss. She has supervised many of the children's games, painted fair signs on short notice and took responsibility for the set up downstairs in the Fair Hall. We hope she will continue as a volunteer.

Two new Directors joined the board in 2020. Meghan Danaher Gagne grew up in Haddam Neck and has run the Baby Show at the Fair for over ten years and maintains the Fair's social media presence including the Facebook page. She is currently a teacher in Glastonbury and is active in community activities including the Podium Players and as a Cub Scout Den Leader. Meghan and her husband Jason live in East Hampton with their three children.

Kevin Burnham became a member of the Board of Directors in 2020, this past Fall. His association with the Fair began when his oldest son joined Boy Scout Troop 57 from East Hampton. Troop 57 has collected bottles and cans during the fair for years. Kevin has been an involved parent with scouting activities at the Fair and gradually Troop 57 has taken on most of the duties of the Trash Team during the Fair.

In his day job Kevin is a Project Engineer at CTDOT in the consultant design unit. He and his family live in East Hampton.

CALLING ALL FAIRBOOKS

The Board of Directors is working to acquire a complete set of Haddam Neck Fairbooks dating from 1911. We have all the books from 1960 but prior to that there are gaps

Years which we are missing are: 1911. 1912 1913 1915 1916 1917 1919 1920 1921 1922 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1932 1933 1937 1940 1947 1952 1954 1957 1959.

If you have Haddam Neck Fairbooks from years past squreled away somewhere please look through them. If you have any which are listed and which you are willing to donate to our collection we would be very happy to get them.

Incidentally, Fairbooks for the 2020 Fair that *Wasn't* are easily recognised by their black covers. If interested, we still have some available.

WORKNIGHTS:

Work nights on the fairgrounds are expected to start in the middle of June and continue every Wednesday night throughout the summer.

Angie Tegge is the Director in charge of work nights and can be reached at angie312@aol.com. Fair or no Fair there are projects which need to be completed. Arrangements can be made for those who prefer to work independently or cannot come on Wednesday nights.

109th Haddam Neck Fair Dates
(Circumstances permitting)

Friday, Sept. 3rd (from 4:00 pm),
Sept 4th, 5th and 6th. 2021
Labor Day Weekend

FAIR WEBSITE: <http://www.haddamneckfair.com>

PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

Not having a Fair this past year was unusual given our 100 plus year history although there were no Fairs in 1942, '43 and '44 during WWII.

Agricultural Fairs first began in the 1800s when Horses and oxen did the work of tractors, trucks and cars and most households were involved in agriculture be it a garden, a few chickens and animals or in many cases, a larger farm.

Their purpose was to spread knowledge of better agricultural methods, homemaking and improved living through comparison, competition and contests at a large social event. Much has changed over the years, but many of the traditional events continue and others have been added. Horse and oxen drawing continue, but are now over shadowed by tractor and truck pulls. Many of the exhibits continue as always like the baked

goods, canned goods, flowers and vegetable entries and handiwork. photography exhibits have transformed from snapshot collections into largely digital entries and the quilt entries with machine quilting are now permitted.

The Haddam Neck Fair is dedicated to offering a family oriented, educational agricultural fair, continuing the tradition started 100 years ago. Visitors notice flower beds, the maintained grounds and parking lots. They comment on the roominess and safety of the grounds, the abundance of shade trees the variety of entertainment activities and they appreciate the fact that we sell beer.

Haddam Neck's Fairbook is part of the 100 year tradition and has ranked very high in the State Fairbook contest. However it's necessary that the Fair change with the times Therefore, in addition to the book which now also appears online on our website (www.haddamneckfair.com) we post updates on Facebook as the fair approaches.

Thank you for your support

Mike Stevens – President

Wednesday Worknights

begin in June

Volunteers are needed for many projects

HADDAM NECK FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2021

Mike Stevens - President	860-267-8171
David Tozier - Vice President	860-873-3071
Dianne McHutchison - Secretary	860-267-4671
Susan Ruttly - Treasurer	860-345-4049
Amy Casey - Assistant Secretary	860-345-3926
Kevin Burnham	860-267-0196
Diane Darcy	860-227-0501
Meghan Gagne	860-754-6151
Betty LaBella	860-554-5116
Bob McGarry	860-267-7906
Rebecca McLean	860-267-9975
Wayne Ruttly	860-345-4049
Randy Spencer	860-267-1305
Angie Tegge	860-759-5334
Brook Tegge	860-301-8916

House Committee

Diane Darcy, Betty LaBella,
Wayne Ruttly

Auditors

Jane Aldieri
Terry "Fats" Danaher

Mailing Address:

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P.O. Box 220
Middle Haddam, CT 06456
www.haddamneckfair.com

Haddam Neck Fair Association
c/o Dianne McHutchison -Secretary
346 Quarry Hill Road
Haddam Neck, CT 06424



VIA
HADDAM NECK
PONY EXPRESS

HADDAM NECK RESIDENT