

FINAL MEETING OF THE 1995 BOARD

January 31, 1996

The final meeting of the 1995 Board of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held Wednesday, January 31, 1996 at 8 p.m. in the Ag/Kin Hall. President John Hussack called the meeting to order with the aid of his trusty gavel and welcomed the large turnout. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and adopted on a motion by Don Carlin, seconded by Dave Montross. Carried. The Secretary/Treasurer presented the 1995 Audited Financial Statements which showed a profit for the year. She noted that this was that first year that no financial aid was given from the federal government. The Financial Statement was accepted on a motion by John Douglas, seconded by Bruce Smith. Carried. Correspondence was read and included resignations from Jim Harrison and second vice-president Dennis Stoneman.

President John then reminded everyone that our Annual Banquet would be held Saturday, February 10th at 7 p.m. in the Ag/Kin Hall. Members should contact the Secretary if they plan to attend. The Annual Fair Convention will be held February 20, 21 and 22 in Toronto at the Royal York. President Hussack asked for the nomination of 3 voting delegates. It was moved by Don Douglas and seconded by Don Carlin that John Hussack, Russell Douglas and Linda Fisher be appointed delegates. Carried.

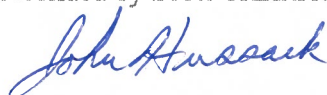
Don Carlin reported on the progress of the 125th Anniversary Committee. The Fair will celebrate its 125th year in 1997 and the committee is planning special features. The RCMP Musical Ride will not be possible since the Ontario dates it had open for June of 1997 have been changed. Don reported that the committee hopes to have something special each month and various committees will be in charge. Two planned events are a Craft Show and a Barn Dance. The Committee also hopes to create a commemorative poster that will serve not only as advertisement but also can be sold as a fundraiser. Don concluded his report by noting that 1997 will be a celebration year and that all members should "stay tuned."

President John Hussack then moved on to the "Name That Barn" contest. A suggestion box was placed in the new Animal Display Barn (aka the old Horse Barn) to help us find a name. The response was overwhelming and the executive was unable to come to a consensus. Thus it was decided to narrow it down to 4 possibilities and have the general membership vote on a suitable name. After much discussion the winner was "Squire McKinnon's Barn" - the entry of Barb Martindale. One of the suggestions was Cindy's Barn, after Cindy von Patrick a prize winning standard bred that had made its home in the barn for many years. We will place a plaque in the barn honouring her occupancy.

Homecraft President Linda Fisher assumed the Chair. She reported on the Zone Meeting of the O.A.A.S. that had been held in Simcoe in November. Of special note was the excellent panel discussion that included what exhibitors and judges expect of the fair. She also noted that the Dunnville Agricultural Society should be applauded for reviving the Dunnville Fair. She then asked if there were any changes to the existing committees. A new poster contest has been implemented for elementary students by the O.A.A.S. She suggested that the Needlecraft Committee might consider having a rotating chair since it is a large committee. Each chairperson is asked to compile a checklist of responsibilities and jobs for their committee and submit it to Secretary Vickie who is attempting to create a Master GuideBook for the Fair.

With no further Homecraft business, President John once again took the chair. He noted that we were going to enter our poster in the O.A.A.S. competition this year and complimented the design. Matie Paul announced that the Haldimand Board of Education had decided to make the Friday of the Fair a Profession Development Day in 1996.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Dave Montross, seconded by Scott Cranston.



ANNUAL MEETING

January 31, 1996

The 123rd Annual meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held Wednesday, January 31, 1996 at 8:00 p.m. in the Ag/Kin Hall. President John Hussack called the meeting to order and called for a Chair of the Open Meeting. Don Carlin was nominated as Chairman on a motion by Russell Douglas, seconded by Stan Jerome. Carried. Vickie Peart was nominated as Secretary of the Open Meeting on a motion by John Douglas, seconded by Scott Cranston. Carried. The Secretary read the minutes of the 122nd Annual Meeting which were adopted on a motion by John Hussack, seconded by Dave Montross. She noted the retirement of the old black and red Minute Books.

Chairman Don Carlin then called on John Hussack to give his presidential remarks for 1995. President John began by noting that it was a rare event when you could hardly see the 4-Horse Hitches for the dust at Caledonia Fair! Other points of interest included: the successful move of 4-H Achievement Day from Thursday to Saturday; the transition of the dusty old Horse Barn into a picturesque and popular Animal Display Barn; the painting of the Cattle and Sheep Barn after a long and tedious year of discussion; the purchase of Fair Jackets to make the directorate more visible to the general public; the participation in many of the local parades. He also noted that 1995 will also be remembered as the year that the Federal Grant were eliminated. President John then thanked everyone for their dedication and many hours of help.

Chairman Don then introduced Ross Sager, 1st Vice President of the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies who brought greetings from the O.A.A.S. He congratulated Caledonia Fair on another successful year and invited everyone to participate in the Annual Convention. He noted that a first at this year's convention would be a fundraising auction on the Tuesday evening. He also thanked District Director Don Douglas for his service on the O.A.A.S.

Don Douglas immediately followed Ross and said it had been an interesting 2 year term and he had enjoyed meeting people from across the province. He noted that all fairs seemed to encounter the same problems and it was important for fairs to network. He congratulated President John on the success of the 1995 Fair.

Chairman Don Carlin then asked for nominations for the appointment of 2 scrutineers for the Election of Directors if necessary. Don Douglas and Ross Sager were nominated by Ian McFarlane. Nominations were closed.

Chairman Don then outlined the vacancies open on the Directorate. He stated that it was an unusual year in that vacancies were open not only on the three year term but due to resignations, positions were open on the one year term. He noted that in the Meeting Notice sent to all Fair Members, President John Hussack had asked that those interested in becoming a director should contact. The following five members contacted him - Peggy Beckerson, Linda Fisher, Jim Pearce, Russell Smith and Dave Weir. Chairman Don then explained that the Executive had met to discuss a fair way to fill the vacancies. Before outlining the two proposals, he noted that there would be open nominations from the floor as well. Proposal One suggested that if there were no further nominations from the floor, and if the general membership was in agreement, the three year and one year term directors would be decided by random draw. That is, the first two names drawn would be appointed 3 year term directors and then remaining three would be 1 year term directors. Proposal Two - If there were further nominations from the floor, by democratic necessity an election would be held. The remaining directors on the three year term along with the five nominees would stand election for the three year term. The eight that received the most votes would become three year term directors and the remaining three would be appointed as one year term directors. Chairman Don asked for comments and discussions from the floor, noting that this was certainly a confusing matter. Much discussion ensued. Finally, the Chairman asked for nominations from the floor. No additional nominations were made and Allan Murray moved that nominations be closed. John Hussack then moved that we accept proposal one which stated that we would fill the three year and one year term by random draw of the 5 nominees. The motion was seconded by Kim Turnbull. Carried. The random draw was held and the new three year term directors are Linda Fisher and Jim Pearce. The one year term directors are Russell Smith, Dave Weir and Peggy Beckerson.

The Homecraft President assumed the Chair and asked for the report of the nominating committee. Jean Peart announced that new committee members in the Needlecraft Department are Debra Bunting and Cindy Benedict. Linda Fisher, the retiring Homecraft President, reflected on her term and said that it was an enjoyable experience and encouraged others to take executive positions. The Board thanked Linda for her dedication.

Bruce Smith then made a motion seconded by Fred Thompson that the following directors be appointed to three year, two year and one year terms:

Carried.

A motion was made by Dave Montross and second by John Douglas that we forward Affiliation Fees of \$225.00 to the O. A. A. S. Carried.

Other business included the introduction of new members, John Dickie - Light Horses and Candy Jamieson - Poultry.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Sue Honchar. Carried

FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF THE 1996 BOARD Jan. 30, 1996

The first meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society for 1996 opened with a call for the nomination of a President from the Annual Meeting Chairman Don Carlin. John Hussack was nominated for 1996 President on a motion by Russell Smith, seconded by Fred Forbes. President John assumed the Chair and thanked Don Carlin for chairing the difficult Annual Meeting. He reflected on the excellent weather of the 1995 Fair and hoped that he would continue to receive the same cooperation in 1996. He then called for nominations for the remaining executive positions.

Russell Smith nominated for 1st Vice President on a motion by Sue Honchar. Nominations closed by Fred Forbes. Carried.

Ralph Yule nominated for 2nd Vice President on a motion by Don Carlin. Nominations closed by Fred Thompson. Carried.

Vickie Peart nominated for Secretary on a motion by Linda Fisher. Nomination closed by Mary Carlin. Carried.

The Nominating Committee of Homecraft report was made by Jean Peart. Nominated by Jean Peart were Karen Douglas, President; Diane McEachern, 1st Vice President and Sue Honchar, Homecraft Secretary.

Homecraft President of 1996 Karen Douglas thanked outgoing President Linda Fisher for her dedication and hard work.

Steve Herman was appointed auditor for 1996 on a motion by Don Carlin, seconded by Dave Montross.

President John called upon Allison McAlpine for the Fair Queen Report. Allison was suffering from laryngitis but managed to convey that it appeared that we would have enough contestants for the 1996 contest and that we would follow the same format as last year.

The President then asked for suggestions to improve the 1996 Fair. Baking and Canning Display Cases need to be painted. We may have a Painting Work Bee for the Fence.

The next major question involved our involvement in the 1996 Plowing Match that will be held in Selkirk in September. What should we do? How should we participate? President John reminded everyone that we still needed to have some energy for Fair week. John Douglas noted that since the Plowing Match is in our home county, we should be represented, perhaps in the County Tent. Don Douglas noted that the booth should be staffed sufficiently if it is to be effective. After much discussion, a motion was made by John Douglas that we look into getting into the Country tent and investigate what other avenues are available. Seconded by Don Carlin. Carried. Russell Smith commented that we should approach the Plowing Match in a positive

manner as it is a major event for the area. Linda Fisher volunteered to look for Directors to staff the booth if necessary.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mary Carlin.

John Hussack

REGULAR MEETING

April 17, 1996

A regular meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held Wednesday, April 17th, 1996 at 8:00 p.m. in the Society Hall. President John Hussack welcome everyone and noted that the temperature of the Hall was certainly more acceptable in April than it was in January at our Annual Meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted on a motion by Don Carlin, seconded by Bud Cunningham. Carried. The Financial Report was given and accepted on a motion by Russell Smith, seconded by David Peart. Carried. One question arising from the Financial Report was the Utility Charge. President John Hussack and Past President Don Carlin explained that we receive a separate utility bill from the Town of Haldimand for Arena utilities from August 15th to October 15th. In 1995 the bill received was triple that of previous years. They explained that at an Executive meeting it was decided to offer 50% of the total since two had vacated the Arena on October 4th and should not be responsible for the remaining days in which the start-up ice was made. This year we will have the meters read on the day we move out. Correspondence was read.

President Hussack reported that 19 Fair members had attended the annual O.A.A.S. convention from February 20 - 22 at the Royal York. We had a very successful and noteworthy year receiving much recognition. Once again, we received the plaque for most points in the Photographic Competition. President John thanked Jean McClung for her fine efforts. We also received first prize in the Poster Competition with our new poster design. As well, at the Conklin banquet we received the Anna Woodley Award for the Fair with the Best Overall Packaged. To quote President John, we "cleaned-up.!"

The board then extended a special Thank You to Don Douglas for serving his two year term as District Director to the O.A.A.S. Caledonia Fair had not had a District Director since the mid 1950's. Don noted that he had enjoyed his tenure and hoped that we would endeavour to send another member to the the O.A.A.S. board.

President John reported that the Annual Banquet on February 10th had been a success. The highlight of the Banquet was the presentation of the 25 year Service Pins. Many of our honorary members attended to receive this honour. Ian McFarlane was thanked for arranging for the design and purchase of the Pins.

Homecraft President Karen Douglas assumed the presidential Chair. She called on Linda Fisher to report on Convention Highlights. Linda gave a brief overview of some new ideas and emphasized the need to include teens and entire families in Fair activities. Homecraft President Karen then presented Linda with her Past President's pin and thanked her for many hours of service. President Karen then asked for Volunteers to organize the Active Corner in the arena but met with no response. She then opened discussion up to the possibility of holding an ecumenical Church Service on the Sunday morning of the fair as a special event in our 125th Anniversary Year. She had spoken to the ministerial association in town about the possibility. Much discussion ensued. It was noted that the Golden Horseshoe held an Annual Church Service. Russell Smith worried about the difficulty of providing a proper atmosphere for a Church Service amid the hustle and bustle of regular program preparations. It was moved by Ron Young and

seconded by Don Carlin that Karen Douglas explore the possibilities with the Ministerial Association and bring her findings back to the next meeting. Carried.

Don Carlin then discussed the possibility of the Fair operating a food booth serving hot fruit sundaes in the Arena as a Fundraiser. With decreased financial assistance we are going to have to start to raise money. It was also noted that we are one of the few fair boards that does not have a food booth at their own fair. The fruit sundaes would insure that we were not competing with any of the other non profit organizational booths. It would also give us a chance to initiate youth volunteers. The possibility of also serving coffee and donuts was suggested by both Matie Paul and Don Douglas. On a motion by Linda Fisher, seconded by Don Carlin, it was decided to have a booth at the 1996 Fair. Carried with 2 opposing.

President Douglas then announced that Agricultural Day in Hagersville would be held June 7th and a sign-up list to staff our booth would be circulated. Our participation with a float in the local parades was then discussed. Allison McAlpine noted that good comments about our float certainly justified continued participation. After a little prodding, Allison McAlpine and Ian McFarlane volunteered to chair the Float Committee. Ron Young suggested the development of a Fair Mascot - perhaps Squire McKinnon.. The Caledonia Canada Day Committee has requested to end the parade on the Fairgrounds and has asked if we are willing to have a Refreshment Booth. Karen Douglas volunteered to chair the Committee.

President Hussack reassumed the Chair and called on Allison McAlpine to give a report from the Fair Queen Committee. She reported that 1995 Queen Jennifer Fraser had attended the Fair Convention. Allison will organize a Fair Queen Meeting at the end of April. She hoped to run a Fair Queen Information Night to encourage new participants.

Don Carlin and Peggy Beckerson reported from the 125th Anniversary Committee. A suggestion for a Craft Show to be held in the Arena in May or June of 1997 was made. The committee for the Craft Show will consist of Peggy Beckerson, Laurel Slack, Ruth Zadanyi and Sandra Stirling.

President John then discussed the need to harness the energy of youth on our Fair Board. Stated simply, we need Junior Members. He encouraged everyone to think of any young people who might be interested in volunteering and to give their names to the Executive. It will be important to give these young people meaningful jobs.

We then discussed changes in the Parking, Gate and Admission pass structure. At committee meetings, it was decided to staff the parking and gate security from within the Fair membership and fair volunteers. Two hour shifts of ticket taking and parking will be scheduled. This is one way to reduce our costs since funding has been cut. As well, to decrease the confusion of fair admission passes, every pass this year will be a single admission pass. Every pass will be taken and torn at the gate.

Our participation in the International Plowing Match was discussed at length. Don Carlin, Linda Fisher and Vickie Peart had attended an OPA meeting. It was apparent that there was no easy way for us to participate since space was not available in the Regional Tent. As well, no flyers will be permitted. Some suggested that we offer financial support to the Agri-Awareness Tent. It

was noted that with our fair the week following the Match, that we had to make sure to reserve energy for our own event as well. Fair Director Rodney Fox is heading the Livestock Section of the Education tent and would like volunteers to help out. Discussion continued. Russell Smith moved that we do nothing for the Plowing Match. More discussion. Would we be recognized for our lack of participation? Could we simply make a financial contribution and perhaps some physical manpower? Rodney Fox suggested that if we make a financial contribution to the Education Committee we could post a sign as a sponsor and perhaps note the Fair Dates on it. It is predicted that between 10,000 and 18,000 students will visit the Match. It was noted that there had not been a seconder for Russell Smith's original motion. Russell Smith withdrew his motion. Rodney again suggested a financial contribution paired with some people power. It was also suggested that we investigate the possibility of putting a float in the Plowing Match parade. Yet again, more discussion. It was moved by Don Carlin, seconded by Bud Cunningham that we donate \$350.00 to the Livestock Section of the Education Committee. Carried with two opposed. Rodney Fox thanked the Board.

Under further business, Rodney Fox asked for sponsorship of the Rainham Dairy Calf Club at the Canada Day Weekend festivities of It's Your Day in Gage Park. Rodney reported that last year they had dazzled the city people. He had shown slides of this event at our Annual Banquet. It was moved by Fred Forbes and seconded by Dave Montross that we make a \$50.00 donation to the Rainham Dairy Calf Club as a sponsorship. Carried, one opposed.

President John then announced a new feature for the 1996 Fair. We are not having a Agri-Awareness Tent this year. To fill this education void, we are having a Live Demonstration Area. A successful meeting was held and Matie Paul, Owen Beemer and Bud Cunningham will co-operatively organize the area.

Entertainment at the fair this year will include a Friday night Demolition Derby with 30 cars participating in a 4 cylinder event. If insurance endorses, what Roger Slack anticipates is the North American debut of a Riding Lawn Mower Demon will also be featured. This should bring great publicity.

President John then asked for any additional business. Russell Smith discussed the need to document and advertise promotional events for our 125th. Fred Forbes once again noted that Conklin should move their transport trailers from the midway area to increase parking.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Marg Bernhardt.



FAIR QUEEN MEETING

May 16, 1996

A Fair Queen Meeting was held May 16, 1996 at the Fair Office. Peggy Beckerson was ill so Allison McAlpine chaired the meeting. We discussed format and decided to stay with the Barbecue. Vickie Peart is to contact Ted Parr. If possible, we would like to have some chickens quartered before cooking. Vickie is also to contact Ed Vandendool re sound system and entertainment. Tickets will remain at \$8 for Adults, \$5 for children 4-12 and 3 and under Free. Tickets at the Door will be \$10. Karen Douglas volunteered to be ticket coordinator.

Menu was discussed and after much gnashing of teeth, it will remain the same! Vickie will contact Jones' re potato salad. Coleslaw - Linda Fisher; Carrot Salad - Lois B. Douglas; Rolls and Butter - Vickie Peart; Tomatoes and Cucumbers - Linda Fisher; Fruit Salad - Don Carlin; Ice Cream - Peggy Beckerson; Lemonade and Coffee - John Hussack.

We will buy our own drink dispensers (igloos) this year and have one for just water. 5-7 Servers will be needed.

The Contest was discussed. The speech topic will be the same as last year since we will have no repeating contestants. It will be "if you could pick one word to describe Caledonia Fair, what would it be." Allison hopes to have a Contestant Information Night. She will also take care of advertising by means of writing a short article for the Newspapers.

Possible suggestions for Judges are: Ruthann Charlton, Ross Sager, Ken Martindale, Margaret Johnson.

Vickie will order the Sash for the Princess. We have a Tiara. Don Carling will order the Presentation Bouquets and order Gladiola Baskets.

Ian McFarlane will be asked to be Master of Ceremonies.



EXECUTIVE MEETING

June 11, 1996

An Executive Meeting was held in the Fair Office on June 11, 1996. It was noted that Diane McEachern had informed a member of the Nominating Committee that she was resigning as 1st Vice President of the Homecraft Committee. Karen Douglas will contact her regarding a letter of resignation.

A Work Bee to paint Race Track fence will be held Saturday July 13th at 9:30a.m. Rain Out Day will be July 20th. John Hussack and Karen Douglas are to inform their Committee Chairman who in turn are to inform their members.

Rental Cost for the Fairgrounds was discussed. It is presently \$250.00 per day. Much discussion followed. It was noted that in order to have lights on in the Lower Washroom, a row of 'streetlight' also came on. Ron Young will be asked if there is an inexpensive solution to this waste of power. It was moved that starting July 11th, 1996 rental of the fair ground will be \$350.00 per day, seconded by Linda Fisher. Carried. The secretary can use her discretion when rentals of more than one day are booked.

Vandalism was discussed. It was also noted that many sports groups simply feel free to use the fairgrounds without our permission and there is a liability issue. The Secretary will send a letter to these groups.

Caretaker Ian McFarlane would like to offer his services to the Fair Board as an independent contractor. It was agreed to make this change. It was moved by Don Carlin and seconded by Ralph Yule that Ian McFarlane's hourly rate be increased to \$10 per hour. Carried.

Caretaker Ian has requested that we do the Arena set-up one week earlier. It was decided that it was better to keep the date as the traditional Tuesday after Labour Day. We must start to educate Committee Members that they can assume some responsibility for set-up.

Insurance was discussed. Last year we experienced difficulty since our regular insurer, Law, was no longer able to insure us under the same company but informed us after the policy was almost expired. After much investigation, we insured with Alexander and Alexander under the CAFE recommended insurer. The Secretary requested direction on this. It was moved by Don Carlin and seconded by Linda Fisher that we retain Alexander and Alexander as brokers with the CAFE recommended company.

Organization of new volunteers was discussed. It must be done properly or will backfire in a negativemanner.

President John suggested that we should initiate a Fair Newsletter since many members are not aware of all the operations of the Fair and this would be a good information vehicle.

Secretary Vickie read a letter from the Caledonia Ministerial Association requesting a time slot for an evangelical service at the fair other than Sunday Morning. Much discussion followed.

Vickie voiced her concern over the term eveangelical feeling that fair patrons should feel no pressure. It was decided that the best time slot would be either the Special Events Platform at 4 p.m. Sunday or the Grandstand at 5 p.m. We all felt that the Grandstand was a very large venue and perhaps the Special Events Platform would be more effective. It was suggested that perhaps a Gospel Singer could be booked for the SP. EV. Platform as a lead-in to the service. Karen Douglas will take these suggestions back to the regular meeting in August.

Permanent Improvement Suggestions - as witnessed by all present, the office ceiling is caving in - suggestion to shingle the Office, Ticket Booth, and Washrooms - Don Carlin to get estimates from Flemings and Brouwers.

Our perennial problem with the Kinsmen was also discussed.

John Husoack

REGULAR MEETING

August 22, 1996

A regular meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held Thursday, August 22nd, 1996 at 8 p.m. in the Ag/Kin Hall. President John Hussack welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that it would be an exceptionally busy September for everyone since the International Plowing Match preceded the Fair. He asked that members reserve some of their energy for Fair Week. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and accepted on a motion by Linda Fisher, seconded by Allison McAlpine. The Financial Report was given and accepted on a motion by Don Carlin, seconded by Jim Hussack. Correspondence read by the Secretary included a letter from the Corvairs asking if we would consider trading store rooms with them. Our store room is located adjacent to their locker room and office and they wished to add a trainer's room. Their current storeroom is at the other side of the arena. President John noted that he had scouted out the location. It would make it more awkward for us unless we could gain access to the arena by modifying a window. Discussion ensued. John Douglas felt that the trade could prove beneficial. It was moved by Russell Smith and seconded by John Dickie that we cooperate with the Corvair Hockey Club and switch locations. Carried. Also included in the correspondence was a letter from the Caledonia Ministerial Association regarding an ecumenical service they wished to have at the 1997 Caledonia Fair. Homecraft President Karen Douglas addressed this issue. Possible service times included Thursday night at 7 p.m. or Sunday at 4-5 p.m. on the Special Events Platform. She then asked if there was any objection to an Ecumenical Service. Lois B. Douglas was concerned that the Special Events Platform was a high traffic area and this would detract from the service. Others noted that on Sunday there would be cattle trucks, high pedestrian traffic etc. It was finally moved by Diane Peart, seconded by Ron Young that the C.A. S. agreed to having an Ecumenical Service at the 1997 Caledonia Fair with time and location to be left up to the Executive. Carried.

President John then thanked all the Volunteers who had assisted in the Painting Bees held July 13th and July 27th. All of the outside fence has received a new coat of paint. Because of the damp conditions on July 13th the picket fence also got painted.

Allison McAlpine then reported on the Fair Queen Contest and Barbecue to be held Saturday, August 24th. We have three contestants - Jennifer Armstrong, Dawna Beth Douglas and Christine Vlaar. Allison also noted that 1995 Fair Queen Jennifer Fraser had attended the C.N.E. pageant.

Homecraft President Karen Douglas assumed the Chair. She reviewed committees and asked for any requirements. The Quilts reported that they needed new paper on their quilt racks. Lois A. Douglas is once again in charge of the Craft Show on Sunday and could use assistance in setting up. Vivian Hussack of the Special Events committee asked for volunteers to run contests. Linda Fisher reported that plans for our new fundraising booth in the arena were well underway. She gave a special thank you to Tom and Diane Peart for allowing us to pick strawberries in their patch. The Ice Cream Booth, as yet nameless, will serve coffee, iced tea, hot fudge and hot strawberry and blueberry sundaes. It was then moved by Mary Carlin and Janice Anderson that we once again order squares for the hospitality room from The Bake Shop in Cayuga. Carried.

With no further Homecraft Business, President John resumed the Chair. He reminded everyone that we are staffing the gates from within this year and require help. People are also asked to sign up for staffing Squire McKinnon's Barn, the Monte Carlo Event and the 50-50 Draw.

President John announced that he wished to implement a Youth Program at the fair, noting that it was necessary to insert some youthful enthusiasm into the Fair Board. He asked Committee Chairman to think of possible ways to incorporate juniors into their committees and asked for ideas for ways to organize a youth group. Suggestions included posting a notice during 4-H Achievement day and sending letters to the 4-H Clubs.

Permanent Improvements were discussed. Grounds and Buildings committee co-chair Don Carlin had received estimates for roofing the washrooms, fair office and ticket booth. The estimate from Brouwers was 2324 and from Fleming's 2079.00. He also noted that the ceiling in the Fair Office was in poor repair. Discussion included whether we should shingle over existing shingles, should we go to steel? In the office, could we ask for donation of wallboard from CGC or Georgia Pacific? After many rounds of discussion, it was moved by Russell Smith and seconded by Linda Fisher that Don Carlin should investigate the cost of removal of the old roofs and replacement with new shingles and get the price of a steel roof from Fleming Bros. and proceed as he and the Executive deemed the best deal. Carried.

President John asked for other business and then announced the dates of the work bees. Homecraft President Karen Douglas noted that the nominating committee is seeking a new 1st Vice President since accepting the resignation of Diane McEachern. President John accepted a plaque presented by Don Douglas on behalf of the Grand River Gymmies for our support of their club.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bud Cunningham. Carried.



COMMITTEE MEETING

October 9, 1996

125 Committee

The 125th Anniversary Committee met to discuss special activities for the 125th Anniversary of Caledonia Fair. A budget was discussed - will ask the general board for a suggested budget (\$10,000 discussed).

Possible events throughout the year:

January - Birthday Cake at the Annual Meeting, invite dignitaries and honorary members to attend.
February- Fair Brides through the years
March
April Church Service - any proceeds to a selected charity
May
June Participate in Ag Day - ask if we are allowed to have
The Berry Patch - as a fundraiser
Community Garden Party - preceded by Fish Fry
-perhaps have a silent auction to raise money
July participate in some way in Caledonia's Canada Day celebrations
August Barn Dance and Fair Queen Contest
September Fair Activities
October
November Craft and Dessert Evening/ Peggy Beckerson suggested having
Quilts n'Creation
December New Year's Levee

Other suggestions: Farmer's Olympics, Fishing Derby, Road Race, Foot Race
Photograph taken of entire Fair Board

Don Carlin updated everyone on the possibility of having a professional art poster created for our 125th. Don, Ruth Zadanyi and Vickie Peart travelled to Waterloo and met with Doug Ratchford to discuss the poster. The estimate to produce such a poster is approximately \$6500. This will be discussed at the general meeting on October 23rd.

Souvenirs were also discussed. The general concensus was not to have a wide variety of anniversary souvenirs but rather to concentrate on a few quality items. Sweatshirt/T-shirts were discussed.

An anniversary theme was discussed - ie. still alive at 125
We will try to have a column bi-weekly in the local paper.
A special float will be constructed for local and area parades
A special keepsake ribbon? for exhibitors.
Special 125 director's ribbons

125 COMMITTEE

October 9, 1996

The possibility of an Anniversary Quilt

Contact the North Erie Shore Heritage Association for heritage craft demonstrations

- Don Carlin noted that he had seen some good ideas at other fairs he had visited this fall, one of these is the idea of giving some of our asphalt drives street names, this would ease directions for our visitors
- Prize List will be expanded to include historical items - a keepsake
- possibility of getting advertising for the prize list to offset cost
- additional seating in Arena - possibility of getting local businesses etc to sponsor the purchase of ornamental park benches
- have a Cattle Parade in front of Grandstand
- hold a contest in the town for home decorating
- storefront decorations
- should contact Chamber of Commerce/Tourism Committee to coordinate decorating

GENERAL MEETING

October 23, 1996

A general meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held Wednesday, October 23, 1996 at 8 p.m. in the Kin/Ag Hall. President John Hussack welcomed the large turnout and commented that in true form for this fall season, it was still raining. He thanked all members for their help in the damp and muddy conditions. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Secretary and adopted on a motion by Bud Cunningham, seconded by Don Farrell. A preliminary financial report was given by the Sec/Treasurer who noted that gate receipts were the lowest in about 20 years. Midway, parking and draw receipts were also substantially down. Correspondence was then read.

John Hussack then briefed the board about the Junior Volunteer Committee. Early in the fall, the executive met with a number of youth who were interested in helping at the Fair. Each of these juniors chose some specific areas to work at during the fair. President John thanked these members for their hard work and cooperative manner in spite of the poor weather. He then introduced the participants and the board showed their appreciation. At the annual meeting, we hope to form a permanent Junior Volunteer Committee.

Sam and Jean McClung showed slides highlighting the Fair and were thanked by President John. He commented that for many of us it was our first chance to see the Fair since most of us cannot get away from our own committee's corner. He also noted that he and wife Pat had travelled to 10 fairs during the year and without a doubt, Caledonia has the most attractive Exhibition Hall.

President John then stated that it was time to put the 1996 Fair to rest and forge ahead to 1997, our 125th anniversary year. Peggy Beckerson, co-chair of the 125th committee then took the floor. She hoped that it would be a memorable year for not only our members but the community. Before outlining suggestions from a recent meeting of the committee, she noted that the committee would welcome input from the entire board. She also emphasized that if any member had concerns they should voice their reservations now since it was imperative to start preparations. Some of the events will be fundraisers and corporate sponsorships will be sought. Events for the year are as follows: January - Annual Meeting will be followed with a Social; February - Annual Banquet/ Bridal Show; April - Church Service with a motivational speaker; May - Ag Day, will see if we can take "The Berry Patch"; June - Fish Fry followed by a Garden Party open to the entire community; July 1st - Livestock Display at Canada Day Celebration; August - Fair Queen Contest followed by Barn Dance; September - special fair activities; November - Craft Demonstration and Dessert Night; December - end of year Levee. Other suggestions included a beautification contest for homes and stores, the production of a poster, sweatshirts, an enhanced prize list that will include historical data.

Scott Cranston will assist Peggy Beckerson in approaching Georgia Pacific for Corporate sponsorship. Peggy then re-emphasized that as a group we had to decide what we wanted to do. Do we have volunteer support to organize each of these activities?

October 23, 1996

The 125th Budget was then discussed. Peggy outlined the possibility of having a professional poster created. Don Carlin had contacted Doug Ratchford Associates and had received a quote of approximately \$6400 for the production of 3000 posters. This would be a fundraiser. The poster design would feature not just Caledonia Fair but also Caledonia landmarks to attract a larger buying public. Text would be separate from the graphic to allow framing. It was hoped that corporate sponsorship would offset some of this cost. Much discussion ensued. John Dickie felt that there was not a large enough market to recoup all the cost from sales alone. Ian McFarlane wondered if we wanted to commit financially to this project if corporate sponsorship could not be found. Russell Smith suggested that it might be possible to use this design for 2 to 3 years thus reducing overall cost. More discussion. It was moved by Russell Smith, seconded by Jim Hussack that the Board release \$10,000 to the 125th Committee as kick off money to pursue the anniversary year activities which also entails the poster. Carried.

President John then announced that the Zone meeting would be held in Welland on November 2nd and encouraged members to attend. He also described the OAAS calendar fundraiser. Each calendar costs \$20 and the fair board keeps \$5. Every day of the year, Sundays excluded, a draw for cash is made. Committee meetings will take place on November 9 and 16th.

Homecraft President Karen Douglas assumed the chair and congratulated members for transforming the Arena into a wonderful Exhibition Hall. She thanked The Berry Patch Committee for providing coffee for the Hospitality Room. Thanks were also given to the Pet Show, Special Events and Craft Show Committees. A separate Homecraft meeting will be held November 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fair Office. Committees were reminded to hold their meetings soon and try to include some sections appropriate to the Anniversary year. President Karen also announced that the Nominating Committee was pleased to report that Peggy Beckerson agreed to be 1st Vice President, Homecraft and will be placed in office at the Annual Meeting.

With no further Homecraft business, President John Hussack resumed the Chair. Other business included asking for volunteers to organize the Annual Banquet. Ian McFarlane, Sue Honchar and Linda Fisher kindly volunteered.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Fred Thompson.

HEMECRAFT NOVEMBER 5, 1996 7:30p.m.

President Karen Douglas welcomed and thanked the ladies for their participation and help in the 1996 Fair. She reported that Vicky McClung had won second place with her bread at the Zone Meeting in Welland.

The following reports were given:

BAKING: - 357 items

- 1/2 loaves and yeast products were well received
- 106 exhibitors overall
- Carol Jones was the overall winner (Richard Crossman special)
- Jane Camps - Most points in cakes (Richard Crossman Special)
- Vicky McClung won the 60% Whole Wheat Bread
- Anne McAlpine- Chocolate Layer Cake - 2nd Rosette
- Alice Murray - (Jone's Bakery Special) - Peach Pie
- (Martha Roulston Memorial Award)
- Nancy Armstrong - (Caledonia I.G.A.) - Fruit Loaf
- Bev. Momberquette - Bake Queen Special ("Queen of the Furrow Luncheon")

CANNING: - entries were up

- considering new ways to display entry tags in order to see more of the jar contents

NEEDLEWORK: children's knitting was the same but the Seniors work entries were up.
- quilting had 57 articles

ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY:- there were many more entries in photography and not enough room. The girls would like to be able to close down their section earlier (5:30p.m.) in order to take down picture and art before exhibitors arrive.

CRAFTS:- lots of nice crafts but there were no rubber stamps

ORGANIZED GROUP DISPLAY: searching for ideas for next year to coincide with Fair's 125
eg. Grandmother's Kitchen or Grandmother's Cedar Chest

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT: - 1616 entries (down)

- There is a need to create a separate committee for the Specials
- Since "foolscap" is scarce in the schools, an alternative must be found

JUNIOR FAIR: - entries were the same and the specials were well entered.
- 2 Baking Judges would speed things up.

CRAFT SHOW: Vacant Chairperson

BABY SHOW:-80 babies entered

- 1 set of twins
- Conklin donated stuffed animals
- George Jackson Jr. was the overall winner
- Joyce Smith will remain as chairperson

Karen reminded those who have not handed in their job descriptions to Vicky, to do so as soon as possible. All committee meetings should be held by December 1, 1996 and when planning your prize lists, try to include something from the old prize list books available for viewing in the office.

The following events were outlined by Peggy Beckerson (Centennial Committee Co-Chairperson):

- January - Lunch after Annual Meeting to include invite to Honorary Members)
- February - Bridal Show through the decades of the Fair
- April - Spring Church Service at the High School
- May/June- Ag. Day - Berry Patch Booth
- June - Garden Party and Fish Fry
- July 1 - Canada Day - Petting Zoo
- August- Barn Dance and Fair Queen
- September - Fair
- November - Quilts and Creations - Desserts
- December - Open House and Levy

Karen suggested that if any committee were using antiques in their displays, to secure them well with fishing line. It was also suggested that "Centennial Dress" be worn at Fair Functions. A video and picture album should be kept of all events throughout the year. Jean McClung was asked to do this and she agreed to it with the final video be compiled by Jodie.

ACTIVE CORNER SUGGESTIONS: Guilian Crafts, Spinners and Weavers, Quilting Displays, Lake Erie Historical Society doing demonstrations eg. butter making etc.

A Nominating Committee of Jean Peart and Mary Carlin was formed. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00p.m.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

NOV. 9, 1996

GATES

- Mark Peart, Al McEachern and Executive
- Due to increase in people taking advantage of Thursday Pay One Price, we need 2 ticket takers
- Back Gate (by sheep barn) - can float be reduced? need two people on after dark
- Admissions: Do we raise them to \$6 this year or remain at \$5 - should be discussed at annual meeting
- Advertise Fair through Homeowner's Ad through Canada Post
- to reduce illegal admission - have stamps printed in LARGE LETTERS
THUR FRI SAT SUN - 6 of each- will make it more difficult for people to cheat on admission
- EXIT gate - there is a great deal of congestion at the Main Gate since people are trying to enter and exit at the same time - will make a separate exit to be used during peak hours - will be easier to staff since junior can help at exit gate

PARKING

- Paul Fearman, Fred Thompson, Owen Beemer and Gene Colwell
- Wednesday night parking for Exhibitors went smoothly, could use help a little longer on Sunday
- if we have a Cattle Parade - how will we handle traffic
- Concession Parking - designated parking area introduced last year was too large an area - if Horse Show had not been cancelled due to rain, we would have had a space problem
- discussion about need for designated concession parking followed - Secretary felt that it greatly helped keeping concession cars out of inappropriate areas and that the grounds looked less like a disorganized parking lot
- agreed that we will have designated lot but move it further west along the fence and reduce its size - should be better since it is closer to the actual concession area
- discussion on Visitor Parking - will improve signage so visitors know that parking is \$2.00 in advance plus admission charge
- Fred Thompson felt that the executive should approach Six Nation re parking on Edinburgh Square - could we make a deal and split proceeds - executive for the most part felt this could backfire

POULTRY

- Jim Pearce, Bill Pearce, Candy Pearce
- no changes to prize list
- discussed the possibility of having Heritage/ Rare Breeds displayed as part of 125th celebrations - discussed competition versus display

- discussed Exhibitor recognition for participating in the 125th Fair
- Poultry Barn clean-up discussed - separate work bee
- need to build small ramp to make the building more accessible for wheelchairs
- Committee Members - add Paul Fearman - delete Dave Weir

Executive Discussed Dates for 1997 Meetings - Secretary to contact Kinsmen
January 29, Feb. 1 (Banquet) , April 16, August 20 and October 22

BEEF

- Pete Stubbs, Jim Hussack
- committee - delete Paul Gallant and Tom Hunter
 - add Charlie Barker and Ernie Allen
- in prize list delete - we request that animals enter lass youngest to oldest in age
- Delete #16 (showmanship class)
- discussed viability of Cattle Parade - as part of 125 celebrations
- delete - Hereford Silver Tray - Hedley Seeds
- in Steer Class delete weights - add
 1. Steer Lightweight
 2. Steer Heavyweight

DAIRY

- Bud Cunningham, Rodney Fox, Bill Richards, Richard Johnson and Executive (including Russell Douglas and Ralph Yule)
- since Russell and Ralph are on Executive they are resigning as co-chariman - New Chairman - Bud Cunningham and Rodney Fox
- add Bill Richards to committee
- New Trophy - Jersey Junior Champion by Richard Johnson
- discussed designation of Exhibitor spots in barn - necessary on Saturday since there is also the 4-H show
- is there a way of determining the number of exhibits in each class ahead of time (difficult since we allow late entries and entry forms that do come in early can change)
- Can Ringmaster make a Grid
- New Members of Committee - Andrew Topp as liason from Holstein Club
- Order Best Udder Ribbons with no designations
- discussed whether we need just one announcer for Holstein and Guernsey Show
- Send Letter to Gencor (Paul Larmer) re trophy
- Send thank you letter and \$50 to Don Ricker for use of his Milking Station

- discussed Livestock Display - erect 'heritage fence' snake fence/russell fence
- need to improve signage - make frames? mount against a colour to make them distinct from the white walls of the barn
- discussed what breed to have this year - Brown Swiss, Jerseys or Guernseys
- discussed Cattle Parade - winners only? what if exhibitors refuse?
- discussion of Straw - will put in Prize List - A STRAW BASE WILL BE PROVIDED EXHIBITORS MUST BRING THEIR OWN ADDITIONAL STRAW.
 - Secretary to put additional reminder to exhibitors when she sends entry numbers
- discussed Exhibitor keepsake for 125th year

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

November 16, 1996

ROOTS AND VEGETABLES

- Special by Peart's Strawberry Farm not Peart Strawberry Farm
- Section 2 - too much prize money for Jack o'Lantern - change to 15 10 5 3
- Section 32 - 3 varieties names, 3 of each variety
- Section 41 - Zucchini, Two
- Section 49 - Unusual Vegetable, check other prize lists to see wording
- no changes to FRUIT

GRAIN AND SEEDS

- Sec. 6 - Soft, Red Winter Wheat
- Sec. 7 - Hard, Red, Winter Wheat
- change numbers
- since Ralph Yule is on Executive he is stepping down as Co-Chairman and will be replaced by Robert Cruickshank

SHEEP

- no changes to sections
- add Jerry Kelleher to Committee
- noted that a member of the Douglas family had been chairman of Sheep Committee since 1909

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Nov. 18, 1996

HEAVY AND LIGHT HORSE COMMITTEES

Light Horse:

- offer to host 4-H Achievement Day for Horse Clubs in conjunction with Youth Show
- in Western Class Sec. 13. Open, Pleasure Driving, Period costume

Heavy Horse

- add Junior Directors
- Class 5, Sec. 2 SPECIAL - Jr. Showmanship - Cayuga Feed and Farm Supply?
Brian Walker will ask Randy Carter about this special
- Unicorn Hitch - Special by Wright Fuels - \$50, \$30, \$20
- Six Horse Hitch - \$50.00 by Fair Board
- Specials: Clark Agri Service - Jr. Champions
Callaway Mobile Feeds - Jr. Driver
Quick Feeds - Jr. Driver
Harwill Farms - Class 2,3 and 4, Sec. 1 & 2
- Time Schedule - 11:20 Best Draught Mare
- Parking was discussed, the Horse Committee felt that the designated concession parking area was too large and in the wrong area; after discussion it was decided to move the Parking area further west along the fence

JUDGE: Bill Stokes, if not try for a Percheron Judge

- Discussion of having a heavy horse obstacle riding contest - something that the spectators can relate too - Jr. Directors may be able to organize
- Lady Driver - for 125th anniversary - Since this year is our 125th year, we ask that Lady Driver dress in costume of an era at least 75 years ago (15% points awarded)
- The Heavy Horse Committee will assist the Entertainment Committee in the Horse Pull

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Nov. 20, 1996

ENTERTAINMENT

- Doug Murphy and Don Berry and Executive Members present
- discussion on 4 cylinder Demolition Derby on Friday night - cannot really judge success since the weather was inclement - decided to have it again next year
- discussed Lawn Mower Demo - what day? cost? safety? - will discuss with Roger
- will have the usual Saturday Night Demo
- Horse Pull on Sunday
- discussed making a stage style platform out of a trailer
- possible features for the 125 - Square Dance Competition / Fiddling Contest/ Step-Dancing

JUNIOR FAIR

- Add Linda Fisher and Dale Lang to list
- Delete Sandra Stirling
- can use Junior Helpers to control entry pick-up on Sunday
- in Prize List - no rule change
- #64 Any homemade candy made in microwave
- add Article of Sewing
- add Onions, 1 variety 3 On a Plate
- add Geranium, grown in pot
- 4-H Sections -- Need help setting up rabbit cages on Friday night
- Does 4-H Club have additional SIGNAGE
- add more signage to increase knowledge of visitors

COMMITTEE MEETING

DEC. 9, 1996

125th Anniversary Committee

The 125th Committee met to begin to organize events agreed upon at the October 23rd General Meeting.

- Vickie Peart will act as Secretary to 125 Committee and as Public Relations Officer for press releases etc. - this job does not relate to Promotions

- the Annual Meeting will be held January 29 - OAAS dignitaries to be invited as well as honorary members; a Social will be held after meeting; Peggy Beckerson will donate Birthday Cake

- Banquet will be held February 1st - tentative theme of a Birthday Party

- Bridal Show Committee - Linda Fisher, June Wise, Janice Anderson, Laurel Slack and Darlene Yule - will be held in local Church (Baptist? Grace?)

- April - Church Meeting - High School - perhaps better in Church - Douglas' to ask for Baptist Church - tentative date April 13th

- Ag Day - June 6

- Garden Party - June 21st - book Arena

- Fair Queen Contest - August 23 - book Don Edwards?

- Craft Demonstration and Dessert Night - Thursday, Nov. 14

- Year Finale - Levee - December 28

FAIR POSTER Update - moved by Don Carlin, seconded by John Hussack that we proceed with production of the Fair Poster and recover some of the cost through sponsorship and sales. Carried

- Scott Cranston is pursuing corporate sponsorship by Georgia Pacific

- we will also seek sponsorship of pages in the Fair Prize List

- we will Advertise each event as needed

Bridal Show discuss - time to be left to committee, possibility of Faye Farrell as soloist
- charge \$5.00

The Junior Volunteer Committee was discussed. It was moved by Sue Honchar and seconded by Don Carlin that membership due for Junior Committee Members be \$3.00 Carried. An amendment to our constitution was discussed. Vickie is to investigate how other fair boards have included junior in their constitutions.

Gate Admissions were discussed. Should we remain at \$5 for our Anniversary year? Ancaster and Rockton Fairs have had \$6 admissions for 2 years. Our expenses have increased. Don Carlin moved that the following recommendation be made to the Board at the Annual Meeting ; that Fair Admissions for 1997 be \$6 for Adults, \$1 for Elementary School Age Children; Friday Admission (to 5:00 p.m) for High School be \$3.00, School age free on Friday; 5 and under free. Seconded by Ralph Yule.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

DEC. 11, 1996

An executive meeting was held Dec. 11, 1996 at 7:30 p.m. First on the agenda was a discussion of our agreement with the Kinsmen Club. Vickie gave a historical overview of our relationship with the Kinsmen and noted that the present 25 year lease will expire in August of 1999. We discussed what our expectations are and noted that the Kinsmen had not kept us contacted re: rentals. After the renovations four years ago, they were to have established a joint account for rentals so we would have some idea of use and user groups. From this bank account expenses for maintenance were to be paid. The Hall could use paint. We also need a copy of the Kinsmen liability insurance.

At 8:30 Stan Jackson, Jeff? and Mark Martin of the Kinsmen joined our meeting. They said that rentals were low. Also due to an outdated heating system and poor insulation, heat costs clawed back any rental money. Linda Fisher suggested that we should improve the heating as a joint project. Mark Martin felt that insulation cost would be approximately \$700. The Kinsmen's major concern was what would happen to them in 1999. Will the Fair Board renew their lease. It was felt that as long as general upkeep of the Hall was satisfactory, the lease would be renewed but for a shorter period. John Hussack then asked the Kinsmen to take the heating issue back to the board and discuss the possibility of a new ceiling and insulation. The Kinsmen are to acquire quotes for materials and hopefully labour can be provided by both the Kinsmen and the Fair Board. Linda Fisher noted that a project between the two groups might foster better communications.

Don Carlin presented the Utilities Bill for the Arena. At almost \$2500 it was substantially greater than we have paid before. Since water is now metered we can expect an even greater bill next year.

After the Kinsmen left, our agreement with the Golden Horseshoe was discussed. Presently they pay \$1500 and have paid this for four years. One problem discussed was the fact that they essentially make it impossible to rent the Fairgrounds to other groups in the summer since they move in the first week of July and exit the 3rd week of August. President John also noted that the Golden Horseshoe had not put Caution tape around their piles of lumber as requested. It was felt that the Golden Horseshoe must use our electrician exclusively. After much discussion it was moved by Russell Douglas and seconded by Ralph Yule that we charge the Golden Horseshoe a flat fee of \$50 per day for day of entrance to day of departure. Carried.

The Annual Banquet was discussed. 25 year service pins will be given and members will be asked to wear Period costume.

The 1997 Prize List was discussed. Cost for advertising per page was discussed with following rates suggested (by Scott Cranston): Full Page \$200; Half Page \$125; 1/3 Page \$75; Business Card Size \$30.00

REGULAR MEETING

January 27, 1997

The last regular meeting of the CAS was held January 29, 1997 at 8 p.m. in the Society Dining Hall. The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted on a motion by Russell Smith and seconded by Don Farrell. The Financial Statements for 1996 which reflected the rainy weather suffered during the fair, were presented by the Secretary-Treasurer. They were accepted on a motion by Don Forbes and seconded by Don Carlin. Carried. Correspondence was then read.

1996 President John Hussack reminded everyone that our Banquet would be held February 1st, 1997 in the Dining Hall. The OAAS Fair Convention is scheduled for February 18, 19 and 20. The President then asked for the appointment of 3 voting delegates to the convention. Russell Douglas, Karen Douglas and Ralph Yule were nominated on a motion by Don Carlin. Carried.

Peggy Beckerson reported from the 125th Anniversary Committee and outlined the various activities planned from the special events at fair time to the extra activities during the year. As well, she announced that the Committee was planning on fundraising and seeking corporate sponsorships for events and prizes that would carry on beyond our 125. Planning meetings will be held February 4 and 11th.

Linda Fisher then spoke on the organization of our first 125 event, the Bridal Memories Evening, March 7th at 8 p.m. at the Caledonia Baptist Church. Allison McAlpine will be in charge of ticket sales.

John Hussack reviewed the implementation of the Jr. Volunteer Committee. It was moved by Don Farrell and seconded by John Dickie that the Jr. Committee be formed and that the annual membership fee be \$3. Carried.

Homecraft President Karen Douglas assumed the Chair and thanked the board for their support and said that she looked forward to spending another year as President. She told everyone to Enjoy this special year.

President John asked for other business and announced that Ancaster Fair was having a barn dance on April 11. Tickets are available at the Office.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bud Cunningham.

Russell Douglas

124th ANNUAL MEETING

January 29, 1997

The 124th Annual Meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held January 29, 1997 at 8 p.m. in the Society Dining Hall. The President called for nominations for the Chair of the Annual Meeting. John Hussack was nominated by Russell Smith. Nominations were closed by Fred Thompson.

The Chair asked for nominations for a Secretary for the Open Meeting. Sue Honchar nominated Vickie Peart. Nominations were closed by Bud Cunningham.

The minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and accepted on a motion by Don Carlin, seconded by Bud Cunningham. Carried.

1996 President John Hussack gave a report on his presidency and thanked the board for their cooperation. He outlined all the events the fair had taken part in such as Ag Day and local parades. In July we had two successful painting bees with good volunteer turnout. He then pointed out that no one in Haldimand Country needed to remember what the September weather was like. He wished the Society luck as we enter our 125th year. The Board then showed John their appreciation for his untiring efforts as President of this organization.

Chairman John then called upon our visiting dignitaries to bring greetings. We were honoured to have OAAS President Ross Sager attend the meeting. Ross promised an interesting convention with no dull moments. District 6 Director Gary Whitwell also spoke and commented on his visit to our 1996 fair commenting favourably on our Exhibition Hall. He noted that he had started the day in the west of the region and washed his way east. Tony Dalimonte, Deputy Mayor of the Town of Haldimand brought greetings from the Town.

The Chair then asked for nominations for the appointment of 2 scrutineers for the elections of 8 Directors for a 3 year term. Don Douglas nominated Ross Sager and Gary Whitwell and nominations were closed by Don Carlin.

The Chair called for nomination of Directors for a 3 year term. A vacancy is present due to the resignation of Allan Hyslop. Dale Lang nominated the previous slate of directors and Peter Stubbs to fill the vacancy of Allan Hyslop. Nominations were closed on a motion by Fred Thompson. The 3 year term directors are Don Carlin, Jim Hussack, Peter Stubbs, Peggy Beckerson, Doug Murphy, Dave Weir, Ralph Yule and Russell Smith.

Karen Douglas announced that Wendy McBurney will join the Board as a new Homecraft member.

Chairman John asked for a motion to forward affiliation fees of \$225 to the OAAS and this was moved by Ralph Yule, seconded by Kathy Johnson. Carried.

Other business included a discussion of fair admissions. We are one of the few fairs that has maintained our admission at \$5 for adults. After some discussion it was moved by Don Carlin, seconded by David Peart that the 1997 Admission schedule be as follows: Thurs - \$2 for Adults/ \$1 Adult with donation to food banks. Public School and under free. Friday - Adults \$6 / Elementary School free/ High School \$3 until 5 p.m./ under 6 Free. Saturday and Sunday - Adults \$6/ Elementary School \$1, Under 6 Free. Carried.

The Annual Meeting was adjourned on a motion by Fred Forbes.

FIRST MEETING OF THE 1997 BOARD

January 29, 1997

The first meeting of the 1997 Board of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was called to order by President John Hussack. He called for nominations for President for 1997. Don Carlin nominated Russell Douglas and nominations were closed by John Douglas and Russell Smith.

New President Russell Douglas assumed the Chair and thanked John Hussack for his efforts as Presidents. He also thanked now Past Past President Don Carlin for his continued involvement. Russell noted that it was a humbling experience to assume presidency of a 125 year old organization and that he knew he had big shoes to fill. He asked for support, cooperation and even criticism if necessary. He sees his term as being Captain of a Team and success depends on the dedication of all players.

He then called for nominations for 1st Vice President for 1997. Russell Smith moved that Ralph Yule be 1st Vice President and nominations were closed on a motion by Richard Johnson, seconded by John Dickie.

On a call for nominations for 2nd Vice President for 1997, John Hussack nominated Linda Fisher. With no further nominations, nominations were closed on a motion by Jim Hussack, seconded by Fred Forbes.

Karen Douglas then nominated Vickie Peart for Secretary for 1997. Nominations were closed by John Hussack.

Calls for Homecraft President resulted in Karen Douglas being nominated by Sue Honchar. Nominations were closed on a motion by Lois A. Douglas, seconded by Kathy Johnson.

1997 Homecraft President thanked Past President John Hussack for his work. She thanked Homecraft Committees for being prompt in having their organization meetings.

She then called for nominations for 1st Vice President, Homecraft. Laurel Slack nominated Peggy Beckerson. Nominations were closed by Joyce Smith, seconded by Linda Fisher.

Sue Honchar was nominated for Secretary, Homecraft by Jean Peart. Nominations were closed by Allison McAlpine, seconded by Kathy Johnson.

Business included the appointment of an auditor for 1997. It was moved by Russell Smith, seconded by John Hussack that Steve Herman be appointed for another year. Carried. New Board Members for 1997 are Charlie Barker and Ernie Allen.

President Russell then asked for suggested improvements for the 1997 fair. Bud Cunningham noted that the Judging Stand in the Cattle Ring needed some improvement. Richard Johnson suggested that it might be possible to arrange for a farm auction at the fair to bring added interest. He also noted that a Farmers Market Day at the fair would be beneficial and promote agriculture. Jean McClung wondered about having a Karaoke night. Fred Thompson felt that extra light is needed at the lower end of the track, east of the Grandstand.

President Douglas then invited everyone to stay for Birthday Cake and Coffee in honour of our 125th Birthday. He thanked Peggy Beckerson for donating the cake.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned on a motion by Mary Carlin.

Russell Douglas

FUNDRAISING MEETING

February 4, 1997

The executive and members of the 125 committee met to discuss fundraising possibilities, not only for anniversary celebrations but looking to future years.

Suggestions included: concentrating on Caledonia, Cayuga and Hagersville and having a coordinator for each area; each area to be clearly defined so there is no overlap; key larger businesses; letter out in advance and then followed up; give donors choice of participation such as prize money, event sponsor, prize list ad.

The following people were suggested for follow up: John Hussack, Doug Murphy, Allan Murray, Robert Cruickshank, Mike Jones, Roxanne Wilkieson, Janice Anderson, Lois A. Douglas, Lois B. Douglas, Scott Cranston. Other suggestions: Joyce Smith, Laurel Slack and Brenda Ferris.

Don Carlin suggested the donation of Park Benches for the Exhibition Hall. People could donated them as In Memoriams etc.

An organizational meeting will be held with above volunteers on February 11th.

Russell Douglas

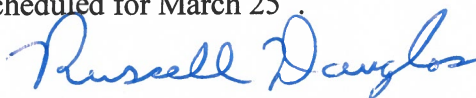
COMMITTEE MEETING

February 25, 1997

A meeting of the 125th Anniversary Committee was held to discuss upcoming 125 events. The Bridal Memories Show is on schedule for March 7th. The non-denominational church service will be held April 13th at the Baptist Church at 7:30 p.m. We discussed possible motivational speakers to give the address. Secretary Vickie will contact the OAAS for the name of the Reverend who gave the address at the Fair Convention a few years ago. He is from the Woodstock area and also works with the police. The Order of Service was discussed. This event will be chaired by Karen and Russell Douglas and Faye and Don Farrell. Special music will be provided by a choir composed of Homecraft members.

The Garden Party is slated for June 21st. Admission will be free as this is an event to thank the community for their support over the past 125 years. The committee is planning 3 hours of entertainment and a special area for children. Food will be available at old time prices.

The next 125 meeting is scheduled for March 25th



COMMITTEE MEETING

March 25, 1997

The 125th Anniversary Committee met to firm up plans for the Church Service. Order of Service will be: Welcome & Opening Prayer (Russell Douglas); Hymn: Responsive Reading; Welcome and Thank you for Special Music; Special Music; Scripture; Message by Rev. Roger McCombe; Prayer; Lord's Prayer; Benediction; Special Music.

After the service, there will be a fellowship hour with coffee, tea, juice and squares being served. Some refreshments will be served in the back of the sanctuary for those who are unable to navigate the stairs to the basement. An honorarium will be given to Rev. McCombe as well as to the Church. Donations plates will be at the back of the church for a free will offering. This will be passed on as a donation to the Caledonia Food Bank.

The service will be announced in the local papers and committee members will try to have it announced in their various church bulletins.

After the Church Service organization meeting, an executive meeting was held. President Russell discussed a Work Bee to replace the office roof which has lost a great number of shingles. It is scheduled for April 19th. Russell will contact Committee Chairs to recruit volunteers. Russell has been approached by Minor Hockey about renting the fair grounds the weekend of June 28th for a rodeo. This is fundraiser to help pay for the new zamboni. It was agreed that our normal rental rate of \$350 would apply.

John Hussack moved and Sue Honchar seconded the motion that we donate \$100 to the Canada Day Committee. Carried. Moved by Karen Douglas, seconded by Linda Fisher that we donate \$25 for the town's Flower (Adopt a Barrell) program. Discussion

followed and the motion was amended by Sue Honchar that we donate \$50 to the program. Carried.

We discussed the individual member insurance policy offered to the fairs by Law Insurance and its effectiveness. After some discussion it was moved by Sue Honchar and seconded by Ralph Yule that we continue to insure members (Cost approximately \$2.50 per person). Carried.

Secretary Vickie reported that the Holstein and 4-H committees had put forth the suggestion that a large tent be installed for their respective shows. Ralph Yule felt that this would not be feasible since it would drastically reduce parking.

Jones' will not cater the dining hall this year so we will have to explore other possibilities.

Russell Douglas

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, April, 16, 1997

President Russell Douglas welcomed everyone to a regular meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society on Wednesday, April 16, 1997 at 8 p.m. in the Ag/Kin Hall. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and adopted on a motion by Dave Montross seconded by Jim Hussack. The Financial Report was read and after a brief question about the utilities charge was adopted on a motion by Bud Cunningham, seconded by Sue Honchar.

President Russell then called on Peggy Beckerson to report on the activities of the 125th Anniversary Committee. Peggy reflected that a quarter of the year was now behind us and several successful anniversary activities had taken place starting off with the cake and coffee social at the Annual Meeting. The Bridal Memories show held in March was well attended. Over 50 gowns were modelled by young friends of the fair and fair members. She thanked the Committee for their efforts and reported that the profits of the evening were approximately \$475. Faye Farrell then reported on the April 13th Church Service with guest speaker Rev. Roger McCombe and gave a special thanks to Presidents Russell and Karen for their effort. She also thanked the Fair choir for providing music noting that they and accompanist Pat Hussack could take their show on the road. A cassette tape of the service was made. Homecraft members were thanked for providing the delicious squares for the social after the service.

The next activity for our 125th Anniversary is a Garden Party on June 21st. This will be a free event as a way of thanking the Community for supporting the fair. Volunteers are needed. On Canada Day we will participate by setting up an Animal Display in Kinsmen Park. Al Fisher will coordinate this. The Berry Patch will also scoop their fabulous sundaes during the Day's festivities.

The Fair Poster is almost complete and will be available in early June. Ideas for the Anniversary Float for this year's parades are needed. Call Allison McAlpine if you can assist.

Homecraft President Karen Douglas then assumed the Chair. Ag Day in Hagersville on June 6th was discussed and we will set up the Berry Patch to sell ice cream sundaes and coffee. Please sign up for a shift. Karen then gave a summary of the highlights of the 1997 O.A.A.S. convention in Toronto in February attended by 16 members of the Fair. She reported that this year's Active Corners in the Exhibition Hall would include the Quilter's Guild. As well Ruth Zadanyi and Family will once again demonstrate Butter Making. A Craft Show coordinator is needed. Karen also announced that District 6 would hold a Judging School in Smithville on May 10 for Knitting and Sewing categories.

With no further Homecraft Business Karen turned the meeting back over to President Russell. The Secretary announced that the Prize List, expanded this year to include advertising and Fair history would not be available until the beginning of July. The President then reported that the Executive and other volunteers had embarked on a Fundraising Project entitled Friends of The Fair. Businesses or individuals were encouraged to sponsor prize money or one of our special events. For example Conklin's agreed to sponsor the Baby Show. To date, response has been positive.

The Kinsmen have approached the Fair Board to discuss various solutions to the heating problem in the Kin Hall. The Executive met with them and asked Gary Fisher to explore possibilities. He is to meet with the Kinsmen. If a decision is needed a special meeting of Directors may need to be called.

Vickie Peart then outlined the Memorial Bench Project for the Exhibition Hall. We will purchase decorative park benches for seating. If you wish to dedicate one of these to a friend or family member, please contact the office.

A Work Bee to reshingle the Fair Office will be held Saturday, April 19th. A meeting of the Junior Volunteer Committee is scheduled for April 22.

Member Jodie Easson was congratulated on receiving the Princess Rose Award, a provincial honour, for her service in the Junior Farmers.

President Russell then reported that Jones, long-time caterers to the Fair, no longer wished to provide this service. Don Carlin has contacted a number of catering groups to provide quotes. A discussion followed on whether we needed full catering services during the fair with the knowledge that any new caterer would charge more than Jones. Members would have to subsidize their \$6 dollar meal ticket in order to receive a full meal. Comments included that the Kin Hall was a good place to sit down away from the fray of the fair, the fact that there was good food available through the church and service clubs. Kim Turnbull suggested that Judges could be given additional money in lieu of a meal ticket. It was agreed that the Thursday meal for Judges would have to be catered since most booths were not open until 4 p.m. The general consensus reached was that we did not need full catering services for the full duration of the fair but the Executive should pursue alternatives.

President Russell asked for any further Business. Jean Peart commented on a movie of the 1927 Caledonia Fair recently debuted at the York Historical Society. The Anniversary Committee is also looking for any Fair Memorabilia for special displays at Fair Time.

As the meeting drew to a close, President Russell asked everyone to get involved in this very special year for the Agricultural Society. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bud Cunningham.

Russell Douglas

JR. VOLUNTEER MEETING

April 22, 1997

A meeting of the Junior Volunteers of Caledonia Fair was held April 22nd. President Russell thanked everyone for their assistance at the very wet 1996 fair noting that it was not a typical year. The Garden Party was the centre of the discussion since the Jr. Volunteers will organize the children's area. Dawna Beth Douglas will chair the Garden Party Children's Committee. Suggestions for the garden party varied from volleyball to a petting zoo. They will hold a separate meeting to finalize plans.

Jr. Members were asked if they had specific committee they wished to be on.

John Walker – Beef Cattle

Jeff Smith – Heavy Horse, Beef

Pam Douglas – Floater

Dawna Beth Douglas – Sheep, Floater

Lindsey Farrell – Light Horse

Melissa Farrell – Light Horse, Floater

Christine Barnim – Light Horse

Jim Barnim – Floater

Jim Walker – Beef, Heavy Horse

All members are welcome to assist in the Exhibition Hall clean out on the Sunday evening of the Fair. Secretary Vickie then took orders for Fair Jackets.



SPECIAL MEETING

May 28, 1997

The Executive met with the Golden Horseshoe Antique Society to discuss the rental agreement. Present from the GHAS were Wayne Francis, 1st Vice President, Fred Thompson and John Wickett. President Russell discussed a number of our concerns, the first being electrical work. Russell emphasized that there should be no electrical changes without consulting fair electrician, Ron Young. Fred felt that this was unfair since Hugh Patterson had served them well over the years. Russell noted that from a safety perspective it is imperative for us to have complete control over electrical changes. John Wickett felt there were a number of plugs that needed repair and offered to meet with Ron Young to check out the electrical plugs prior to Civic Holiday Weekend. A diagram of all plugs should be made.

Our second concern was safety on the grounds since they have high piles of lumber to be made into buildings. It is impossible to keep the public off the fairgrounds and in the past few years there has been petty vandalism on the grounds. Russell noted that this lumber was unsafe and required the GHAS to install caution tape around their site. GHAS members felt that it would just be removed by vandals but Russell insisted that this was necessary and suggested that they take a picture to verify that due diligence was taken. From a liability point of view this is important. The final point involved the amount of time the GHAS is on the grounds. The original agreement 30 years ago was for 3 weeks.

Over the years, the set-up and tear-down time has increased to the point that the grounds are now occupied for close to 7 weeks. This means that we cannot rent the grounds to other groups. This sequed onto the issue of rent. For the past six years, rent has remained at \$1500. Russell stated that since our rental rate is \$350 per day, the current rental agreement needed revising. Russell stated that the new agreement would be \$50 per day. If the GHAS could speed up their process, no increase would be incurred but it they continued to be on the grounds over 40 days, the rent would increase. Much discussion ensued. This year the GHAS felt they would need the grounds from July 5 to August 16. This is the 30th Anniversary of their event. This would result in a rental cost of \$2200. More discussion followed and the GHAS requested a lower rental. President Russell stated that the Executive needed time to discuss this and would contact the GHAS with an answer shortly. The GHAS left the meeting and after some discussion it was moved by Sue Honchar and seconded by Karen Douglas that we make a one year agreement with the GHAS for a rental cost of \$2000. Carried.

Russell Douglas

GARDEN PARTY MEETING

May 15, 1997

A planning session for the Garden Party was held. The committee feels a budget of \$1200 will cover entertainment costs. The following entertainers are confirmed: Barbershop Quartet, Bob and Larry Martin, Three Tenors, Fiddlers, Nanticoke Choir, Captain Bill James – Magician, Betty Giles – Handwriting Analysis. Eleanor Wood will act as MC. The Baking Committee will organize the food. A Hot Dog and a Lemonade will cost only \$1. The Berry Patch will also sell ice cream sundaes. The Junior Volunteer committee is coordinating the children's area which will include face painting, games and entertainment. Instant Replay flyball dogs will also put on a demonstration.

Russell Douglas

EXECUTIVE MEETING

May 15, 1997

A brief executive meeting was held after the Garden Party meeting to discuss the rental of the fairgrounds to the Arena User groups for a Rodeo the last weekend of June. President Russell explained that the weekend was far more complicated than we were originally lead to believe. All blocks must be removed from the demo ring and it will have to be ploughed. Discussion ensued about the possibility of this putting our demo derbies in jeopardy if we have a rainy year. We also discovered that they were having a beer tent. Again, must discussion followed since this increases our liability risk. Since we have already levied the \$350 per day rental fee for the event, we cannot raise it. However, it was moved by John Hussack and seconded by Peggy Beckerson from this date forward if a rental group wishes to have a beer tent an extra levy of \$500 per day will be charged in addition to the \$350. Carried. It was also agreed that we will charge \$30 an hour for use of out tractor and worker for the moving of blocks and any other ground work. The arena user group must have the ground worked by us since we need to protect our interests.

Russell Douglas

EXECUTIVE MEETING

June 3, 1997

An executive meeting was held on June 3rd with a variety of issues on the agenda.

The ceiling in the Fair Office has been falling down for the last two years. It was moved by John Hussack, seconded by Ralph Yule that the ceiling in the Fair Office be replaced. Carried. Rick Richardson Drywall will be contacted since he was the only contractor to offer an estimate.

Exhibitor membership was discussed. Historically it always matches the admission of the fair and we raised gate admissions to \$6 this year. (Exhibitor membership permits two admissions to the fair) It was moved by Peggy Beckerson, seconded by Karen Douglas that admission rates be raised to \$6. Carried.

The Fair Caterer was discussed. Don Carlin had invited 6 different groups to submit quotes. Karen Richardson was the only caterer to submit a quote. It was decided that Thursday lunch was needed for judges and directors. We will also ask Karen about the possibility of offering a Sunday Brunch.

The Agri-Demo Tent was discussed. We will recruit a committee at the August meeting but Ralph Yule will contact Don Ricker about use of his portable milking parlour.

Mini-rosettes for the Jr. and School Departments were viewed as a possibility for our 125th Fair as well as every exhibitor/entertainer/member receiving a participant's ribbon. It was moved by Karen Douglas and seconded by John Hussack that the above ribbons be ordered at the approximate cost of \$1 per rosette and 10 cents per participants ribbon.

The Secretary gave an update of the Friends of the Fair fundraising program.

The fair's participation in Canada Day celebrations were reviewed. Allan Fisher will chair the Animal Display at Kinsmen Park. The executive will staff a refreshment booth at the parade's end and the Berry Patch will sell sundaes and beverages by the dam. We will also be putting our float in the parade.

The Awards Ceremony at the fair will be scheduled for 5:15. Presenters and winners should come forward before the ceremony to expedite the time.

The Fair Queen Contest and Barbecue will be followed by a Barn Dance featuring the Country Ramblers this year as part of our 125 celebration. Vickie will contact Ted Parr to barbecue the chicken and order potato and macaroni salad from Jones. Sue Honchar will make the cole slaw. Peggy Beckerson will order ice cream from Hewitts and Don Carlin and Jean Peart will make Fruit Salad. Lemonade and Coffee will also be served. At the Barn Dance we will sell hot dogs, pop and coffee.

We are in the process of finding families interested in sponsoring Memorial Benches for the Exhibition Hall. Cost will be approximately \$115 (Bench and plaque)

Russell Douglas

GENERAL MEETING

August 20, 1997

President Russell Douglas welcomed a large turnout of members to our general meeting on Wednesday, August 20, 1997 at 8 p.m. in the Ag/Kin Hall noting that the fair was fast approaching. He called on the Secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting which were adopted on a motion by Jim Hussack, seconded by Ron Young. Carried. The Financial Report was read and approved on a motion by Don Carlin, seconded by Ralph Yule. Carried.

President Russell began the business portion of the meeting by thanking those volunteers that had helped shingle the Office and Ticket Office Roof in April. He then gave a brief overview of some of the activities of the Fair Board over the spring and summer months. He noted that we had rented the Fairgrounds for Caledonia Rodeo Days which had lead to some frustrating moments for the executive. The Garden Party held on June 21st as part of our 125th Anniversary celebrations was a success with 400-500 people in attendance. He thanked the Junior Volunteer Committee for their help in organizing the youth activities for that evening. On the July 1st the Fair was involved in a number of Canada Day activities. We sold refreshments at the end of the parade which concluded at the Fairground. As well, the Berry Patch operated until early evening in Kinsmen Park. A great success was the Petting Zoo in the Children's Area of the park. President Russell thanked the many volunteers who contributed to the success of these events and commented that this had been a busy year and would be busier still. He also praised the Float Committee for their work. The 125th Anniversary Float has been well received in our area parades.

Correspondence was read with no business arising from it.

The President then called on Allison McAlpine to give a report on the Fair Queen Contest. Three contestants have entered and it promises to be a good competition. We will set up the arena after the meeting.

Co-chairs of the 125th Anniversary Committee Peggy Beckerson and Don Carlin were asked to bring us update on 125 activities. Peggy noted that the Garden Party was a success despite a brief downpour. Many townspeople commented that a yearly or bi-annual Garden Party would be appreciated. Our float won an award at the Fisherville parade. She also briefly commented on the Canada Day activities. In conjunction with the Fair Queen Contest this year and as part of our 125 celebrations, a Barn Dance featuring the Country Ramblers will follow the Barbecue. The 125 Committee also encouraged everyone to purchase the commemorative poster that was unveiled at the Garden Party.

The Exhibition Hall committee is asking each committee to incorporate something significant from the fair's past into their display. Another addition to this year's fair is the purchase of Memorial benches for the Exhibition Hall. There are still some available so contact the office if interested.

President Russell notified the members that lunch would be catered on the Thursday of the Fair and Sunday Brunch would be available. Meal tickets worth the usual \$6 will be honoured at service club and church booths.

First Vice President of Homecraft Peggy Beckerson assumed the chair in the absence of President Karen Douglas. She introduced new member Anne McBlain who will be a Floater this year. Helpers for the Scarecrow activity at Agstravaganza on September 18th were requested. Peggy emphasized that extra help was always needed Thursday afternoon before the Hall opens and at tear-down time on Sunday. Each committee was then asked for any special requests for their department. The Hospitality and Hall Duty lists will circulate and instructions for the Hospitality room will be posted on the wall. The Junior Fair and School Department will have commemorative mini-rosettes for their first prize winners.

Before discussing further business, included conscripting volunteers for the Live Agri-Demonstration Committee. The Squire McKinnon, Monte Carlo, 50-50 draw and Berry Patch gave brief reports. A list of Dates to Remember were passed out and President Russell emphasized the help was needed during the entire Fair week. He also reminded everyone that morning clean-up begins between 7 and 7:30, the Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the fair.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bud Cunningham.

Russell Douglas

GENERAL MEETING

October 22, 1997

Wasn't that a party! With these words, President Russell Douglas opened the general meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society that followed the 125th Fair on Wednesday, October 22, 1997 at 8 p.m. in the Kin/Ag Hall. He then went on by thanking the good Lord for near perfect weather. He also praised everyone for their cooperation and noted the special Antique Vehicle Display "How We Came To The Fair" organized by Fred Thompson as well as the demonstrations by the North Erie Shore Historical Society. President Russell then indicated that the highlight of the fair was getting to drive the tractor at the Demolition Derby!

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and adopted on a motion by Bud Cunningham, seconded by Jim Hussack. Carried. A preliminary financial report was given by the Secretary who noted that this was one of the best gate receipts in our history. Correspondence was read with no business arising from it.

President Russell thank Sue Honchar for organizing the Honorary Director Social on the Sunday of the Fair. This was well attended by these members who dedicated many hours to the fair in past years.

Sam and Jean McClung then showed slides of the 125th Fair although we think there was one slide that snuck in from a more southern clime. President Russell thanked Sam and Jean for their excellent work.

The President thanked Caretaker Ian McFarlane for his groundskeeping and for his patience in trying to accommodate the needs of all the committees. Ron Young, electrician and fair member was thanked for being available when electrical problems occurred.

Volunteers to organized the Annual Banquet were requested. After a prolonged silence, Ian McFarlane volunteered to head the committee.

Don Carlin then gave a report of the 125 committee. He thanked everyone for their cooperation. The Exhibition Hall received many compliments with every committee including a historical component in their area. Two 125 events remain; a Quilts n'Creation craft demonstration on November 13th and an end of year levee on December 28th. Russell then thanked Don and Peggy for their work in coordination the 125 celebratons.

The Zone meeting for the OAAS will be held in Binbrook on November 1st. Members planning to attend must contact the Secretary immediately.

Committee Meetings for non-Homecraft committees will take place in January. President Russell apologized for any members that did not receive Meal Tickets. In the future, if any committee is missed, they should pick tickets up at the Fair Office. The Dining Hall

was discussed. Karen Richardson provided an excellent meal on Thursday and a Sunday Brunch. We will look into resuming part or full catering next year.

President Russell then turned the meeting over to Homecraft President Karen Douglas. Karen thanked everyone for their cooperation, encouragement and kindness. Best of all, she had fun at the fair. She reflected that every year it is amazing to see the Arena transformed into a beautiful Exhibition Hall. She also reminded all of the volunteers that their help does not go unnoticed and the Executive is thankful for all the support. Volunteers for the last minute painting bee of the entrance fence the weekend before the fair were thanked. A separate Homecraft meeting will be held November 20th in the Fair Office. Committees are encouraged to hold their meetings before Christmas. President Karen also thanked the various chairpeople and the fair office for their work.

Karen then turned the meeting back over to President Russell. Don Douglas reported that the 50-50 draw had a good return. Russell thanked the committee and all the volunteers for staffing the various selling posts and complimented ticket seller extraordinaire Bud Cunningham. It was reported that the Spelling Bee on the Special Events Platform was very successful with the possibility of holding it again next year.

Gate admissions were discussed. Some feel there should be a reduced rate for Seniors and High School students. A family rate was also discussed. We also discussed the effect of raising the adult fee to \$6 this year.

President Douglas asked for other comments or suggestions. Faye Farrell spoke of the Instant Bingo Trailer that was at some of the other area fairs and wondered about the possibility of having it at Caledonia.

Information Booth volunteers revealed that the most asked questions revolved around the location of a banking machine. Scott Cranston enlightened us on the amount of transactions needed to make this feasible and we simply do not have attendance for bank to justify setting a machine up.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Fred Thompson. Members enjoyed coffee and donuts courtesy of Presidents Karen and Russell Douglas.

FAIR QUEEN /125 MEETING

July 15, 1997

An organizational meeting for the Fair Queen Contest and Barn Dance was held July 15th. Allison McAlpine is coordinating the contestants. Three young ladies have entered the 1997 contests. Peggy Beckerson will contact possible judges and purchase gifts for them. Jodie Easson, former Fair Queen, will MC the event. Contestants will arrive at 3 p.m. for a briefing and their interview. Speeches will begin at 6:45 and the topic will be, Caledonia Fair – 125 Years of Tradition. The Queen should be crowned no later than 8 p.m. Vickie should order the crown and sash.

Hours for the BBQ are 5 to 7 p.m. and tickets are \$10 each for Adults, \$5 for children 6 to 12. This will include admission to the Barn Dance. Dance tickets are available separately for \$5 per person, 12 and under free. Vickie will call Don Edwards of the Country Ramblers to see if he will announce the Dance at any event he plays at.

Other 125th business included the possibility of getting a group photo taken. Vickie will contact photographers to get prices.

Memorial Benches have been requested by the following: Linda Fisher, Peggy Beckerson, John Hussack, Doug Bain, Vickie Peart and Ralph Yule.

Don Carlin will arrange to have Friends of the Fair signs made for display at the fair. All major donors will be listed.

The next meeting notice will request that members wear period costume for the Fair to add to celebration. Suggestions include that men wear white shirts, dark pants and a bow or string tie. Women can wear period garb but not on judging day.

Rick Richardson has been contacted to replace the ceiling. He will adjust his quote and deduct the cost of drywall materials which will be obtained at near cost from the CGC. This was moved by Ralph Yule, seconded by Linda Fisher. Carried.

Russell Douglas

HEMCRAFT MEETING

Nov. 20, 1997

A meeting of Homecraft committees was held in the Fair Office on Wednesday, Nov. 20th, 1997. President Karen Douglas welcomed members and thanked everyone for a wonderful year full of extra activities. The hard work has not gone unnoticed and she thanked everyone for the support given to both Russell and herself.

At the OAAS Zone Meeting , the quilt from our fair won 3rd prize.

The various committees then gave their reports.

Baked Products had 90 different exhibitors and the cases were loaded. Sheila Berry won Overall Points and most points in Cakes. Canned Goods had 324 jars in the pickles and relish categories alone. Judges were recruited from other departments that had finished. Needlecraft reported fewer afghans. In the judge's book the need for items to be either hand or machine sewn needs to be clearer.

There were over 40 quilts and a wonderful selection of antique quilts. The judge reported good quality. The winner of the Champion quilt, Rea Holloway indicated to the committee that she shelf some prize in addition to the trophy should be added. The quilt committee also reported that they needed to start tearing down earlier than 5:30 and worried about too many people in the Hall during tear down. We will try to reinstate a structured approach to clearing the Hall before exhibitors are allowed to reenter.

Photography had more than 100 extra entries this year. Dismantling is a problem since it takes time and exhibitors start to grab increasing the possibility of people taking the wrong pictures. Marg Bernhardt has requested an additional committee member.

The Christmas Corner reported an increase in entries but the quality was down. Laurel Slack diplomatically noted that many items were "well used." The 8 special 125 classes were not as successful as she hoped. She thanked Sue Honchar for the boughs of real evergreen that added a festive touch to their corner.

It was noted that the Organized Group Display was very uniform in design this year. A discussion in how to get more groups to exhibit followed.

The School Exhibit had 1788 entries, up from 1721 the preceding year. The theme was excerpts from past prize books. The separate Specials committee headed by Matie Paul worked out well and they had a separate judge. School memorabilia of executive members was displayed and enjoyed by the public.

The Junior Fair was well entered. Success seems to depend on keeping the categories general. One noted problem was the fact that judges do not always measure entries leading to exhibits which should be disqualified winning prizes. Past members Lisa Liegler has moved back to the area and assisted the committee.

The Craft Show chaired by Marylou Cunningham has 15 exhibitors, many of them new. 87 babies cooed and smiled their way through the baby show. Since it was nice weather, it was surprising that there were not more entries. It was suggested that perhaps we could change the show slightly and have categories such as the baldest baby, the baby with the curliest hair etc.

The Pet Show was excellent, perhaps the largest in Pet Show History. Some classes had as many as 17 in a class. The Special Events Platform was successful. Suggestions for next year's entertainment included taking advantage of the native dancers on New Credit or Six Nations.

President Karen asked anyone who would like to change committees to let her know. She also explained that the Thursday afternoon of the fair, the Exhibition Hall is bedlam and it is very difficult for the Caretaker to get fences and screens up before opening time at 4 p.m. President Russell would like help from Homecraft Departments in setting up their own fences. Members agreed cheerfully to this. Some of the Homecraft members felt that Homecraft does more than their fair share of time on gates, info booth, hall duty etc and suggested that the men be encouraged to volunteer for some of these jobs.

President Karen complimented the work done by Jr. Volunteers. It was a busy year and anytime we called for help, they were always there. New Jr. Volunteer members include Jacob Vandendool, Trevor King, Ashley Yule and John Beattie.

Jean McClung suggested that one way to get help for organizing the Banquet would be to rotate it around the various committees. Karen sent around a sheet for members to sign up to bring a dessert to the banquet.

Allison reported that we will enter a float in the Caledonia Santa Claus parade and the parade in Cayuga. We will put the float together on Saturday, Nov. 29th before the parade. It was suggested that we enter a float in the Pumpkinfest Parade in Waterford next year.

The final 125 event will be a New Year's Levee/Open House on December 28th. Peggy Beckerson reported that the Quilts n'Creation Craft night netted us \$162.00. Peggy continued saying that she hoped that we would continue to come together as a group beyond the 125 events. Linda Fisher was absent but sent word that she needs new volunteers for the Berry Patch.

Jean Peart and Mary Carlin will sit on the Nominating Committee. A 1st Vice President is needed as well as a helper on Photography.

President Karen suggested that departments hold their planning meetings before Christmas so we can prepare the new advanced prize list early in the year. After some discussion it was decided that the theme for next year will be "Apple Appeal".

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Nov. 26, 1997

An executive meeting was held November 26th, 1997 in the Fair Office.

If the caterer is available, the Fair Banquet will be held February 7th, 1998 in the Kin/Ag Hall. Linda Fisher will receive the Agricultural Service Diploma.

The Annual meeting will be held January 29th pending Kin Hall availability.

Bruce Smith will be available to draw the Fair Float on Nov. 29th in the Santa Claus parade. As in past years, he will receive a \$100 honorarium for each parade he has attended this year to show our thanks for the work involved in preparing his team of Percherons.

Ralph Yule reported on trying to get rid of the racoons in the rafters of the Kin Hall. These animals were quite social during the Fair and greeted exhibitors above the office door. Live traps have been set but to date, no luck.

President Russell suggested that Committee Meetings for non-homecraft be held on the last two Saturdays in January. It was suggested that perhaps the Jr. Fair and Jr. Volunteer Committees could meet on the same day.

The final wrap-up activity of the 125 celebrations will be held Sunday, December 28th. Invitations will be sent to honorary members, friends of the fair, media and government representative. It was suggested that we give 125 posters to anyone who donated more than \$100.

The Secretary gave a brief financial report. President Russell then reported on our small bleachers. Three sets were moved back up to the ball park. Next year we do not plan on loaning them out since the wear and tear of moving is hard on them.

It was moved by John Hussack and seconded by Peggy Beckerson that waive our rental fee to the Caledonia Fire Department for the Regional Firefighter's games to be held here in June. The Fire Department does not charge us for their attendance at the two Demolition Derbies and we feel that we should reciprocate. The secretary is to send a letter stating the actual cost and the waiving of the fee. Carried.

John Hussack noted that we should meet with the Golden Horseshoe Antique Society to discuss their contract in February or March.

Russell Douglas noted that Fred Thompson had still not submitted names to reimburse for the antique vehicle display at the fair. If we do not receive individual names, we will make a donation to the Antique Car Association.

A Fundraising meeting will be held early in the new year.

The prize list was discussed. No decision was reached about including advertising this year. Secretary Vickie noted that the cost of the printing of the souvenir prize list did not include the cost of typesetting. This year we ran into difficulty when the regular typesetter announced they would not make the necessary changes. Thus the book needed to be reset and we were in a time bind. After scouting around for last minute typesetters, it became apparent that we would need to set it ourselves. Because the secretary's husband, Charlie Roth (Penpoints) is involved in the printing industry, we had access to a typesetting program, converted files and set about resetting the book. The time involved was considerable and requires some skill. Secretary Vickie suggested to the Executive that Charlie should receive some reimbursement since this is a cost which would have been incurred if sent outside. Estimates for typesetting were around \$1500 and she suggested that Charlie receive \$500. The executive felt that this was not enough and it was moved by Linda Fisher and seconded by John Hussack that \$1000 be given to Charlie along with their thanks. Carried. In future years, we will be setting the book ourselves which should result in a saving for the fair.

As well the Secretary announced that she plans on purchasing a monitor and printer early in the next year. (She has purchased a new computer at home and will use her old computer at the fair office thereby reducing the cost to the fair) The purchase of a computer was approved at the annual meeting in 1996. We will also need to purchase the software (Pagemaker) to produce the prize list and will seek approval next year.

President Russell lead a discussion about the creation of a CheckList for Rental of the Faigrounds. It became apparent this year that we need to be aware of every aspect of ground use before each rental so we can assess its impact on the fairgrounds. This may in turn affect the rental fee. A complete review of rental policy and the Checklist will be on the executive's agenda early in 1998.

An organizational meeting for the 125 Levee will be held December 13th at the Fair Office.

Russell Douglas

EXECUTIVE MEETING

January 14, 1998

An executive of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held January 14, 1998. The first topic on the agenda was the Fundraising campaign for 1998. It was decided not to solicit advertising for the Fair Prize List but to convert the advertisers into donors. Peggy Beckerson will be in charge of restructuring last year's donation letters. Three different letters will be necessary - the first for last year's donors; the second for last year's advertisers and the third for new requests. The executive is asked to come up with new businesses to send the requests to.

President Russell Douglas stated that Don Carlin had approached him re the Society offsetting the expenses for members attending the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions conference to be held in Toronto following the OAAS convention. Don Carlin and Vickie Peart are attending. It was moved by John Hussack and seconded by Linda Fisher that the CAS cover basic registration fees and one night's accommodation. Carried.

The Annual Banquet will be held January 31st. Russell Douglas will act as MC, Peggy Beckerson will say grace, Ralph Yule will thank the caterer. Russell will also present the 25 year service pins.

The Annual Meeting will be held January 29th. President Russell has contacted the directors up for a three year term and three of them wished to step down. Bruce Smith and Don Forbes wish to go on the Honorary Director list and Don Berry wishes to go down to a regular Committee Member. The nominating committee consists of Russell Douglas and John Hussack. An announcement for parties interested in becoming a Director has been included in the Meeting Reminder.

The Membership fee for Directors and Committee Members will remain at \$5. Jr. Volunteers members' fee is \$3.00.

Russell Douglas informed us that Lannie Salmon wishes to become a committee member. He also thanked us on behalf of his church for the use of the float bed for the Santa Claus Parade. The Church also wishes to borrow 40-50 chairs.

Suggestions for 1998 included the purchase of a proper canopy for the Special Events Platform.

REGULAR MEETING

January 29, 1998

The last regular meeting of the CAS for 1997 was held January 29, 1998 in the Society/Kin Hall. President Russell Douglas thanked everyone for coming out. On a sad note, he also announced that long time member Bob Creighton had passed away this day and that the funeral would take place on Sunday. Sympathies are extended to the family.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and adopted on a motion by Bud Cunningham, seconded by Don Carlin. Carried. The Financial Statements for 1997 were presented by the Secretary-Treasurer who noted that the wonderful weather reflected itself in the statement. They were accepted on a motion by Russell Smith, seconded by Don Carlin. Carried.

Correspondence was read with no business arising from it.

President Russell then reminded everyone of the Banquet on January 31st. Card tables are needed. The annual OAAS convention will be held February 17, 18 and 19th at the Royal York in Toronto. It was moved by Don Forbes, seconded by John Hussack that the President, Vice President and Homecraft President be appointed as voting delegates. Carried.

Peggy Beckerson, with a sigh of relief, gave the final report on the activities of the 125 committee. She reviewed the events of last year starting with our coffee and birthday cake social at the end of last year's annual meeting. This was followed by a successful banquet in February and Bridal Memories, a nostalgic look back at Fair Brides in March. April featured a Church Service with inspiring speaker Roger McCombe. In June, we hosted a community Garden Party followed in August by a Barn Dance (held in conjunction with the Fair Queen Contest). The Fair in September had many special 125 features. In November there was a Quilts n'Creation Craft Night. The year ended with a Holiday Levee, an open house to welcome the community. Peggy hoped that we would continue to host more events that brought us together as a group.

President Russell thanked the board for its cooperation during the busy year with a special thank you to Don Carlin and Peggy Beckerson, co-chairs of the Anniversary Committee.

Homecraft President Karen Douglas reminded members to bring desserts to the Annual Banquet.

President Russell then asked for any further business. Russell Smith noted that the future of the Livestock Barns should be contemplated.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Jim Hussack.

125 ANNUAL MEETING

January 29, 1998

The 125th Annual Meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held January 29th, 1998 at 8 p.m. in the Society Hall. President Russell Douglas called the meeting to order and called for nominations for the Chair of the Annual Meeting. Russell Douglas was nominated by Don Carlin. Nominations were moved closed by John Hussack.

The Chair asked for nominations for a Secretary for the Open Meeting. Ralph Yule nominated Vickie Peart. The motion was seconded by Bud Cunningham.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and accepted on a motion by John Douglas, seconded by John Hussack.

President Russell Douglas reported on his 1997 presidency and stated that it was hard to believe that a whole year had passed since we sat at the annual meeting enthused by yet to come 125th Anniversary celebrations. The year was lots of fun and produced many memories. He thanked the honorary directors for their past and present contributions and touched upon some of the society's 1997 projects. This included our anniversary float and a special thanks to Bruce Smith for providing his team of Percherons to draw the float. He also commented on the various workbees held during the year. The Fair itself was blessed with good weather and the people came. He thanked Secretary Vickie and the office and Ian McFarlane for his caretaking duties. He concluded his presidential report by stating that our 125th year was at an end and this was the first year of our second 125 years.

Past President John Hussack then thanked Presidents Russell and Karen for donating the wagon bed for our new float.

President Russell then asked for nominations for the appointment of 2 scrutineers for the elections of 8 Directors for a 3 year term. Don Douglas nominated John Hussack and Ian McFarlane. Nominations were closed by Russell Smith.

The President noted that the nominating committee comprised of the President and Past President had contacted the slate of directors and there are three openings. Don Forbes and Bruce Smith wish to move to the Honorary roll and Don Berry wishes to move down to the Committee Member level. John Hussack then nominated the following slate of 8 directors for a 3 year term – David Peart, John Douglas, Mike Jones, Scott Cranston, Ruth Zadanyi, Mark Peart, John Wickett and Jodie Easson. The President called three times for further nominations from the floor. With no further nominations, nominations were closed on a motion by John Dickie, seconded by Bud Cunningham.

Homecraft President Karen Douglas announced new Homecraft members, Elizabeth Smith, Kathy Young and Sandra Young.

President Russell then called for a motion to forward a \$255 affiliation fee to the O.A.A.S. Don Carlin made the motion which was seconded by Ralph Yule. Carried.

The membership fee for members will remain at \$5 for regular members and \$3 for Jr. Volunteer Committee members.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by John Hussack.

FIRST MEETING OF THE 1998 BOARD

January 29, 1998

The first meeting of the 1998 Board of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was called to order by President Russell Douglas. He called for nominations for President for 1998. Russell Smith nominated Russell Douglas and nominations were closed by John Hussack, seconded by Jim Hussack. Carried.

President Douglas called for nominations for 1st Vice President for 1998. Ralph Yule was nominated by John Hussack. Nominations were moved closed by John Douglas, seconded by Jim Hussack. Carried.

On a call for nominations for 2nd Vice President for 1998, Ralph Yule nominated Linda Fisher. Nominations were closed on a motion by John Hussack, seconded by John Douglas. Carried.

Mary Carlin nominated Vickie Peart as Secretary for 1998. Nominations were closed on a motion by Lois B. Douglas, seconded by Sue Honchar. Carried.

Next came nominations for Homecraft positions. Peggy Beckerson was nominated for Homecraft President in 1998 on a motion by Sue Honchar. Nominations were closed by Jim Hussack and seconded by Lois B. Douglas. Carried.

1996-1997 Homecraft President Karen Douglas thanked everyone for their support and turned the chair over to Peggy Beckerson. President Peggy called for nominations for Homecraft 1st Vice President. Marjorie Yule was nominated by Mary Carlin and nominations were closed by Karen Douglas, seconded by Diane Peart. Carried.

Karen Douglas nominated Sue Honchar as Homecraft Assistant to the Secretary. Nominations were closed by Lois B. Douglas, seconded by Janice Anderson. Carried.

Having assumed the chair, Peggy Beckerson thanked Karen for her excellent work as Homecraft President noting tha she had large shoes to fill and hoped for the member's support.

Peggy then thanked the members who had moved off active directorship, Bruce Smith, Don Forbes and Don Berry for their dedication to the Society.

Homecraft Business included a lengthy discussion of the problem of tear down and entry claim on the Sunday evening of the fair. It is impossible for some departments to dismantle their department before exhibitors enter to collect. One of the major problems is clearing the Hall of visitors to allow for the dismantling. Much discussion ensued. Some suggested that we close the hall at 5:30 but Don Carlin noted that it was important to make sure the visitors that came late in the afternoon did not feel cheated. It was also noted that it is important to remind inside concession exhibitors that they must not tear down early since exhibitors then feel they can collect their articles early. Karen Douglas

suggested that a committee be formed to usher visitors out of the hall. It was agreed that we will start reminding people that the hall will be cleared at 5:30 and at 5:45 start to clear the aisles. The Hall will be closed at 6:00 p.m. and exhibitors will not be allowed in until 6:15. This will give additional time for Directors to dismantle their exhibits in readiness for entry claim. Lois B. Douglas reminded everyone that Sunday evening should be an "all hands on deck" time and all available fair members should help in the Exhibition Hall.

President Russell Douglas then addressed the problem on getting the Exhibition Hall ready for opening on Thursday at 4 p.m. Screens and barriers need to be put up and he suggested a sub-committee be struck for this purpose. Each hall committee is asked to supply one member to assist with the Thursday afternoon set-up. As well, Caretaker Ian will have the barriers ready so committees can do this themselves.

Steve Herman was appointed as 1998 Auditor on a motion by Don Carlin, seconded by John Hussack. Carried.

President Russell then congratulated Russell Smith as Haldimand Farmer of the Year. He also thanked the Jr. Volunteers for their excellent help during the busy 1997 fair. He also announced new committee members Richard Young and Lanny Salmon.

President Russell then thanked Ron Young for being available for electrical problems during the fair. Ron then outlined the extensive work he did in 1998 and outlined the highlights of a Hydro Inspector's report. John Hussack noted the importance of keeping up to safety standards.

Suggested improvements for the 1998 fair were called for. Mary Carlin noted the need for more bleachers and to make sure we inspect the seating we have. Another problem area is morning clean-up on Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning. It is imperative that more members be available for morning sanitation duties. Don Douglas suggested restructuring the corner of the sheep barn which may allow trucks to leave ~~by~~ Nairn St. rather than by the Main Entrance.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bud Cunningham.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

February 7, 1998

GATES:

Mark Peart, Al McEachern and Dave Montross were present.

Dave Montross announced his resignation from the Gate Committee and as a Fair Director. He will rework the Cash Float sheets for 1998 and give them to the Secretary. No change in admission fees. Gate Security was discussed. Two men are needed at the West End Sheep Gate from 6 to 9 on Friday and Saturday night.

PARKING:

Fred Thompson was the only member of the committee present. Co-chair Paul Fearman wishes to change to another committee so Parking will be a major concern in 1998. Fred Thompson will contact Owen and Jack Beemer to see if they are interested in chairing the committee. The secretary stated that this would be a good committee to encourage Jr. Volunteers to join. We will ask Paul Fearman to draw up a schedule of parkers needed to assist us in the restructuring of this committee.

The possibility of moving livestock vehicles out via Nairn Street instead of the Main Entrance was discussed. There are many pros and cons. John Hussack will contact Peter Stubbs and see if he can bring his truck and trailer down to do a test run out the back gate.

Fred Thompson noted that more light is needed by the east end gate.

GRAINS & SEEDS:

Richard Harrison chaired the meeting. Points discussed included: need an extra committee members, need to work on getting more exhibitors (Vickie to call Shirley Eybel re Binbrook Fair grain exhibitors). It was also decided to make a separate section for the Jr. Grain and Hay Exhibits. This would help fill up the space and eliminate the crowding in the Jr. Fair Section.

No changes to the prize list or prize money were made.

Also requested is one member to assist in a "How To Judge" demonstration on the Friday or Saturday of the Fair.

President Russell also outlined the difficulty of getting the Hall ready for opening at 4 p.m. on Fair Thursday. He asked that the committee appoint one member to assist the Hall committee for this purpose.

Judges were discussed. Possibilities include Brad Halyk, Allan Hedley or Grant Richardson.

VEGETABLES & FRUITS

Tom Peart and Stan Jerome were present. Secretary Vickie suggested that it was time to retire the word Roots from this category since it was no longer meaningful. Few changes were made. In section 32 it should be listed as an 8 X 12 tray. In the Fruit sections, baskets should be quoted in metric measurements. Tom will inquire about the rental of a scale for measuring the biggest pumpkin.

The 1998 theme – Apple Appeal – was discussed. Vickie and Tom will contact Foodland Ontario for posters and information. Tom will contact various apple growers for the possibility of displays. He will also contact Cider Keg about a Sparkling Apple Cider display.

BEEF:

The first item discussed was the wash rack and its tying facility. It was felt that two different heights of holes are needed to insure that exhibitors do not tie to the water line resulting in disaster.

Signs should be placed over electrical receptacles informing exhibitors that they must not tamper with them.

The Herefords would like a show catalogue. Secretary Vickie said this would be possible but exhibitors would have to have entries in by early September. Ron Young said that he would assist in getting the catalogue ready for printing.

Dave Kohler will donate two vouchers from River Flats for the Market Steer Class.

Judge: Roy Chamberlain, Shedden

DAIRY:

There was a lengthy discussion on the sharing of the Cattle Ring between the 4-H and Jersey Shows. The 4-H show has attempted to be finished early to accommodate this but is it necessary? The paying public that comes to the Fair Saturday afternoon (usually after 2) enjoys seeing youth participants so why are we in a hurry to finish the livestock shows? Could the Jersey show start earlier and stagger with the 4-H show? Is the overall 4-H Showmanship class necessary?

Jersey Judge: Brent Butcher Guernsey Judge: Paul Stuart

Secretary Vickie noted that the Holstein Club had asked if an additional 20% could be deducted from Holstein exhibitors and sent to the club. Vickie outlined some of the logistical difficulties. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Rodney Fox and seconded by Bud Cunningham that if the Holstein Club wishes additional entry fees they must administer it themselves, not the Fair Board which will continue to deduct 15%. Carried.

The Judging Stand was discussed. It needs modifications to allow for two tables. Two mikes are also required.

SHEEP:

Don Douglas, Dawna Beth Douglas, Pam Douglas, Don McBlain and new member Jerry Kelleher were present. It was decided that no straw should be provided in the sheep pens.

Delete on page 25. Straw will be provided. A thorough restructuring of the prize list was made eliminating many of the rules and regulations necessary when Federal Prize money was available.

A discussion of how to encourage more visitors to watch the show followed. We will increase signage and attach signs to the canopy.

Judge: Duncan Gates – Glencoe / Irwin Jackson/ Rockwood

JR. VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE MEETING

February 12, 1998

President Russell Douglas welcomed the Jr. Volunteers and complimented them for their cooperation and hard work during the 1998 Fair. He welcomed new members present: Ashley Yule, John Beattie and Trevor King. Jake Vandendool was not present.

It was decided that the Committee would appoint a Chair to conduct their meetings. Jeff Smith and Lindsey Farrell volunteered to be co-chairs. A member of the Executive will sit in on their meetings. The next meeting will be held Thursday, March 7th at 7 p.m. in the Fair Office.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

February 12, 1998

The executive continued with a meeting after the Jr. Volunteers. The first items discussed was the possibility of a market being held on the Fairgrounds. We have been approached by Jeff McNeice and Wm. Blyleven about a Caledonia Farmer's Market that would be held Thursdays from 3 to 7 p.m. from May to October. It was moved by John Hussack and seconded by Linda Fisher that we meet with them to discuss the pros and cons of an agreement. Carried.

The OAAS discussion was discussed and travel arrangements made.

Our fundraising project "Friends of the Fair" was next on the agenda. This is a follow-up to the last executive meeting. A list of new contacts was made including: Kim Richardson, Slack Lumber, Oneida Ford, Norfolk Co-op, Royal Bank, Bruce MacDonald, Steve Herman.

The next meeting will be held February 24th.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

February 14, 1998

POULTRY:

Jim Pearce and Bill Pearce attended. Judge: Norm Saito
Delete from Committee: Dave Weir Add: Paul Fearman

Jim noted that gravel is needed along the ramp to insure that the Poultry building remains wheelchair accessible.

30-40 more pens are needed. We have been borrowing pens from Ancaster Fair for the last few years. The pens should be collapsible. Jim will inquire at Clark's about the cost of new pens. He will also find out material cost since he feels they could be made very easily. Jim would also like to build a small room in the corner of the Poultry Barn to house the feed and extra equipment during Fairtime. This would add to the appearance of the Building.

Vickie noted that Judge Norm Saito had recommended that Special Rosettes be awarded to the Champion Standard Bred, Bantam, Pigeon and Duck. Jim felt this was not needed since most exhibitors have an excess of Rosettes and would not really value them.

HAY:

John Hussack was the only member of the Hay committee present. A new judge will be sought out since Dave Mitchell has ably judged for the past 4 years.

A discussion followed on what to do if inappropriate (not dry) hay is exhibited following last year's problem. Directors should be free to remove it from the area.

HEAVY HORSES:

The possibility of having two separate sound systems for the Light and Heavy Horses was discussed – one toward the Grandstand and one toward the Light Horse Ring.

Heavy Horses – Include in rules – Stallions cannot be shown in Harness
In Class 5 – Section 2 delete 3 years and under

Judge: Don Walker 4A Pjilip Pl. Kincardine, Ont. N2Z 2E6

LIGHT HORSES:

Class 6 – Youth Show will have a Noon Start to help get the area cleared for the evening shows
Change order of events – Sections 1 & 2 English Pleasure and English Equitation

Class 10 Add: Sec. 5. CHS (Cdn Hackney Society) Jr. Showmanship
Sec. 6. CHS Jr. Exhibitor
Prize Money: \$15 \$10 and \$5 for all others

The Gate by the Washroom fence needs to be marked well so exhibitors do not go near

NIGHT SHOW & ENTERTAINMENT:

Doug Murphy in attendance. A discussion followed on the Demo Derbies. Additional bleachers were discussed. In addition to the 300 seat unit from Morton's, Secretary Vickie will contact Paris Fair to see if their bleachers are available. Security to make sure spectators do not enter danger area must be increased this year.

Other entertainment: We will look for new sports activity acts at the OAAS convention. There is the possibility of a trampoline act from Rick Davis Promotions.

JR. FAIR MEETING

February 26, 1998

First on the agenda of the Jr. Fair Committee was the issue of Judges. It was decided that an additional judge was needed to help wade through the increased Jr. Fair entries.

Sheila Phibbs will be asked to judge 4-H project clubs.

Add to Committee List: Lisa Liegler, Linda Fisher, Lannie Salmon

A number of changes made in Prize List – some to theme of Apple Appeal

Sec. 51 Apples, 5, 1 variety on a plate

Discussion of Grand Champion Showman – Russell Smith will discuss with 4-H Committee

Jean McClung requests that the 4-H sign be available for pictures during the fair

EXECUTIVE MEETING

February 26, 1998

A short executive followed the Jr. Fair Meeting.

It was moved by Karen Douglas, seconded by Sue Honchar that a private letter be sent to Craig Ashbaugh. Mr. Ashbaugh had suggested in an article to the newspaper that the Kinsmen were able to support their Hall independently so other community halls should also be able to be self-sustaining. In fairness, especially to the Kohler Agricultural Centre, we felt council should be aware that the Fair board owns the Kin Hall, pays its insurance and contributes 60% to all renovations. Copies of this letter are also to be sent to Marlene Phibbs and Bob Heil.

The 1998 Friends of the Fair fundraising campaign was discussed. Potential donors were discussed and committee members were assigned to contact donors after the letters of request had been sent.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

March 24, 1998

An executive meeting was held prior to the meeting with members of the Golden Horseshoe Antique Society. It was decided to keep the rent at the 1997 level of \$2000 but to encourage them to move out as soon as possible. They must also use our electrician for any electrical work. We will also inform them that Summer Breeze will take place on July 18th.

A workbee to reshingle the lower washroom roof will be held Saturday, April 18th. Members not keen of climbing can assist in the Spring Fairground clean-up.

The Fair Queen Contest is scheduled for Saturday, August 22nd. As in past years, we will have a chicken barbecue. Following the barbecue and the crowning of the Queen, we will hold a barn dance with music by the Country Ramblers.

John Hussack gave a report on the Junior Volunteer Committee. They had discussed several projects including a High School Band Challenge on the Thursday night of the fair and an Elementary School Challenge on Friday afternoon. The executive discussed the feasibility of these projects. It was moved by John Hussack, seconded by Sue Honchar that \$500 be allocated for a Battle of the Bands on Thursday night to be overseen by the Jr. Volunteer Committee. Carried.

We discussed the possibility of having pedal tractor pulls for the children at the fair. Vickie is to contact Rockton Fair.

Meeting with the Golden Horseshoe

John Wickett and Fred Thompson attended on behalf of the Golden Horseshoe Antique Society. It was agreed that we would continue with a one year contract with rent at \$2000.00. Hydro was discussed and Ron Young will check electrical outlets. The Golden Horseshoe Society must use Ron Young for all hydro work. We also requested that the GHAS put yellow caution around their area of set-up for safety reasons. Fred noted that the GHAS would be happy to give us free space for promoting the fair and would be happy to have our float take part in their parade. We noted to the GHAS that Summer Breeze would take place on July 18th. This meeting adjourned.

After the GHAS representatives left, the executive meeting resumed. We have a proposal from William Blyleven and Jeff McNeice to hold a Farmer's Market weekly on the Fairgrounds from June to October. It was moved by Ralph Yule and seconded by John Hussack that we meet with McNeice and Blyleven to pursue the market proposal. Carried.

The progress of our fundraising was updated.

A discussion on the purchase of a 10 by 10 KD Kanopy was discussed. This is a portable tent which could be used by the Berry Patch for outdoor events, as protection for sound equipment during the Fair and can also be rented. The cost is approximately 1000.00. It was moved by John Hussack and seconded by Peggy Beckerson that we purchase the canopy. Carried.

Catering during the fair was also discussed. Some members would like to see Friday and Saturday meals in the Dining Hall resumed.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

April 1, 1998

A short executive meeting was held on April 1st before meeting with organizers of the market. The major discussion revolved around the Market. Before we can proceed we need to discuss location, dates, what they require from us and payment.

It was moved by John Hussack and Sue Honchar that we donate \$50 to the Caledonia Adopt-A-Barrel (of Flowers) campaign run by the Chamber of Commerce. Moved by Ralph Yule, seconded by Marjorie Yule that we donate \$100 to the Caledonia Canada Day Committee. Carried.

Canada Day was discussed. We will design a float for the Caledonia Canada Day parade as well as other local parades. As well we will operate the Berry Patch at the Dam on Canada Day. As a community project, we will also volunteer an Animal Display for the day.

Linda Fisher noted that Strawberry pickers are needed for the Berry Patch supply.

Jeff McNeice and William Blyleven then arrived and outlined their proposal for a Caledonia Farmer's Market. It will be comprised of ideally 18 to 20 vendors so everyone does well. They feel a realistic starting number is one dozen including vendors selling fruits and vegetables, baking, a butcher and a few craftspeople. They offered the Fair Board the chance to operate a refreshments booth. The market would run every Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m. from June to October. We would be required to provide garbage cans, washrooms and picnic tables.

Each vendor will be required to purchase a membership in the Caledonia Farmer's Market Association which is under the auspices of the Ontario Farmer's Market. Stall Fees will be on top of this. The fairboard will receive the membership. This year the amount will be \$1100 plus GST with payment taking place July 1st and the middle of September.

It was moved by Sue Honchar, seconded by Ralph Yule that we support the forming of the Caledonia Farmer's Market on the Caledonia Fairgrounds. Carried.

FLOAT MEETING

April 22, 1998

A meeting was held to discuss the preparation of a float for the various local parades. The float will reflect our 1998 theme Apple Appeal. Peggy Beckerson chaired the meetings and began by asking everyone what the first word they thought of when they heard the word Apple. Answers included apple pie, apple blossoms, varieites, cider, juice, sauce, hampers, picking.

A sign was discussed. Peggy will contact Norfolk Apple Growers for ideas and information. Ideas for the float included making miniature apple trees and creating an apple picking theme. We could also showcase apple varieties. Allison McAlpine has an antique apple peeler.

Our next meeting to start assembling the float will be May 6th.

FAIR QUEEN/BARBECUE/BARN DANCE MEETING

April 22, 1998

The Fair Queen Evening will take place Saturday, August 22nd. It was noted that a new committee was needed to chair the Barbecue. Laurel Slack and Cindy Benedict volunteered much to the glee of the last five year's committee! The menu will consist of chicken, cole slaw (Sue Honchar), Potato and Macaroni Salad (purchased from Jones Bakery), dinner rolls, fruit cup (Don Carlin and Jean Peart) and Ice Cream (Hewitt's Dairy). Vickie will see that cutlery, plates, napkins etc are purchased. Ticket costs will be \$12 for the BBQ only, \$15 for BBQ and Dance and \$5 Dance only. Kids 5 – 12 will be \$5 and under 5 are free. Complimentary tickets will be sent to neighbouring fairs and local politicians.

The Berry Patch will look after evening refreshments.

After some discussion, it was decided to change the name of our contest to Fair Ambassador in an effort to attract more contestants. The speech topic will be the contestant's choice. We will seek Apple related jewellery instead of corsages for the contestants.

Regular Meeting

April 15, 1998

A regular meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held Wednesday, April 15th at 8:00 p.m. in the Kin/Ag Hall. After President Douglas welcomed everyone to the meeting, he called on the Secretary to read the minutes of the last regular meeting. They were adopted on a motion by John Hussack, seconded by Bud Cunningham. This was followed by the Financial Report which was adopted on a motion by Jim Pearce, seconded by Ralph Yule.

Correspondence read by the Secretary included the resignation letter of Dave and Shirley Montross. President Russell noted that the Montross' had been excellent volunteers.

Leanna Felker from the 2nd Caledonia Group Committee representing the Boy Scouts attended the meeting and announced that the Scouts would volunteer for the Sunday morning clean-up. They also wish to have a booth to promote scouting. President Douglas thanked her for the much appreciated offer noting that morning clean-up was a big issue at the fair.

John Hussack, Past President of the Fair, was not able to attend the annual banquet in February. Thus President Russell took this opportunity to present him with his 25 year service pin noting John's hard work and dedication to the fair. He also noted that the Banquet had been very successful focussing around our 1998 theme Apple appeal.

He then called on Karen Douglas to give a report of the Fair Convention held in Toronto in February. Karen presented the highlights of the convention noting that it was a good place to pick up new ideas. Caledonia Fair was the recipient of the CNE Shield for most points in the photographic competition. Karen thanked Fair Photographer Jean McClung for her work.

Vickie Peart gave a brief report on the convention of the CAFÉ that followed the OAAS convention commenting that it was a bit disappointing and not organized as well as the OAAS convention. Don Carlin also attended the CAFÉ convention.

The meeting was then turned over to Homecraft President Peggy Beckerson. Peggy welcomed everyone. First on her agenda was the announcement of the Millenium Quilt Project coordinated by Linda Fisher, Sue Honchar and Ruth Zadanyi. The quilt pattern Country Boy has been selected. For \$5, quilters purchase material for a square. When the square is returned in September the \$5 is returned. The squares will be judged at the Fair and during the next year will be made into a quilt. This quilt will be displayed at the 1999 Fair and tickets will be sold on it. Peggy also gave a brief report on the Fair Queen noting the competition would take place Saturday, August 22nd. She asked for new volunteers for the Fair Queen committee as well as a committee to construct a float to advertise the fair in the various local parades. A sign-up sheet was passed around. The active corners for the Exhibition Hall were discussed. She noted that if committees need helpers, they should not hesitate to contact willing volunteers.

President Peggy then began to recruit a new volunteer for the Pet Show Committee. Pam King volunteered for this position.

With no further Homecraft business, the meeting was turned back over to President Russell. Russell announced a work bee for April 18th to reshingle the Lower Washroom Roof. For those not keen on heights, there will also be a clean-up Bee to pick up the considerable garbage on the grounds.

Jeff Smith of the Jr. Volunteer Committee gave a brief review of their meeting. Their project for 1998 will be a Battle of the Bands on the Thursday night of the Fair.

The fairgrounds are booked for a number of events this summer including the following: Car Show – May 9; Dog Show – June 4-7; Firemen's Games – June 12 & 13; Summer Breeze – July 18; and the Golden Horseshoe from July 4 to August 15th. President Douglas also explained that a group of marketers had approached the Board about the possibility of holding a Farmers' Market on the Fairgrounds to be held each Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m. from June 4th through to the end of October. Discussion ensued about insurance, garbage pick-up, facility use etc. The Fair has been asked to have a concession booth at the market.

The Berry Patch will be back in business for Ag Day on June 5th and Canada Day. Members are asked to pick extra strawberries if possible for use on our sundaes.

Scott Cranston was called on to report on the Fair's Monte Carlo. Last year was the "swan song" of the casino. New government legislation no longer permits roving casinos. Scott and Jan Cranston were thanked for their efforts as Casino Chairpersons.

Catering for the fair was discussed. Don Carlin will investigate a variety of possibilities and schedules for meals in the Dining Hall.

The Friends of the Fair fundraising project is underway for the second year. There will be no advertising in the Prize List this year.

One new feature at the 1998 Fair will be a children's area adjacent to the Live Agri-Demonstration tent. John Hussack and Jodie Easson volunteered to help coordinate this area. Jeff Smith said that he would ask for volunteers from the Jr. Committee as well.

President Russell then asked for any new business. Jack Beemer stated that he felt that chain link fence would ease the burden of constructing barriers for the demo ring. Don Carlin noted that some of our bleachers were in the ball park. A friendly letter requesting that the bleachers be returned no later than September 15th will be sent to the ball association.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bud Cunningham.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

July 6, 1998

The Executive met on July 6th, 1998 to discuss a number of issues.

The Fair Board will directly purchase the \$10's worth of tickets for the O.A.A.S. Millenium Quilt fundraiser.

Rodney Fox, chair of the Agrstravaganza Committee, has asked to use the Fairgrounds for the program on September 24th. Rather than the Scarecrows, we will set up a live animal display as our activity centre. Once again, we will provide lunch for the 40 volunteers. Rodney expects approximately 500 students will participate.

A brief update on the Friends of the Fair program was given.

Due to the large amount of trimming that is done on the Fairgrounds (fences, buildings, track fence etc.) President Russell suggested that we purchase a large lawnmower style trimmer for a cost of approximately \$1000.00. It was moved jy John Hussack, seconded by Linda Fisher that the trimmer be purchased from O'Neil's Farm Equipment. Carried.

The Chamber of Commerce is renting the Fairgrounds on July 18th for their Summer Breeze music festival and are renting our tents and platform. We will set up the equipment on Friday the 17th.

The August meeting will be changed to Monday the 17th to accommodate President Russell who is scheduled to go on vacation the next day.

Caretaker Ian MacFarlane has requested that the set-up bee be changed from the traditional Tuesday evening after Labour day to the last Saturday morning in August to give him additional time to prepare the Exhibition Hall. After some discussion, it was decided to bring it up before the general meeting and see if a concensus could be reached.

Fair Queen Ella Wilson will compete for the ambassador of the CNE on August 23rd at 4 p.m. at the Bandshell. President Russell hopes that some members will be able to attend. Unfortunately this will conflict with our Barbecue so Ella will not be able to attend it. Therefore we will thank her and wish her luck at the August 17th General Meeting. Vickie will purchase flowers for a presentation.

No restructuring of the Sheep Barns will take place.

President Russell noted that the Caretaker's helper during the Fair, Roy Parkin, has requested a raise from \$7.50 per hour to \$8.00. After a brief discussion, it was moved by John Hussack, seconded by Karen Douglas that Roy Parkin receive \$8.00 per hour in 1998. Carried.

Russell gave a brief Hydro update. A grounds and buildings meeting will be held in the near future and Ron Young will be invited to go over the hydro report with us.

The Secretary reported that she had been in contact with Sgt. Slack of the Regional Police regarding possible changes due to the changeover to OPP. Sgt. Slack said that this will not take place before this year's fair and arrangements will be the same as in preceding years.

An Ag Awareness committee meeting needs to be called. Russell will get in touch with Peter Stubbs.

Russell noted that we need to make sure there is more help for morning clean-ups at the Fair. He will address this at the general meeting.

The next meeting notice will include a reminder that sign-up sheets for all the various Fair Activities will be available at the Fair Office so those not attending the meeting will have equal opportunity at time slots.

GENERAL MEETING

Monday, August 17th, 1998

President Russell Douglas welcomed a large turnout of members to a General Meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society held Monday, August 17th, 1998. Ella Wilson, 1997 Fair Queen was first on the agenda. The CNE Ambassador of the Fairs pageant conflicts with the annual BBQ making Ella unavailable to formally end her year at the event.. Despite a case of the flu, Ella valiantly came out to the meeting . Allison McAlpine presented Ella with flowers and thanked her for her contributions as Fair Queen and wished her luck in the future. There will not be a Fair Ambassador Program in 1998 due to lack of contestants.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were adopted on a motion by Ralph Yule, seconded by Bud Cunningham. Carried. The Financial Report included a brief report on the Friends of the Fair program. It was accepted on a motion by Don Carlin, seconded by Sue Honchar. Carried. Correspondence was read with no business arising from it.

President Douglas reviewed some of the events that had taken place since our April meeting. A successful workbee in April resulted in a new roof on the lower washroom. Old shrubbery was also removed from around the washroom. Peggy Beckerson and Don Carlin relandscaped the area in front of the washroom. A second crew of volunteers undertook spring clean-up of the grounds. The Float Committee has designed a float that reflects our 1998 Apple Appeal theme. It has attended parades in Cayuga, Caledonia, Fisherville and Selkirk as well as Golden Horseshoe. Its final voyage will be to the parade at Binbrook Fair. Ag Day saw the Berry Patch resurrected. Despite a cold windy day, many sundaes were sold. In June the Fairgrounds went to the Dogs with rental by the Erie Shore Kennel Club. This was followed by the Niagara Regional Firemens Games the second weekend in June. Summer Breeze, a Caledonia Music Festival, rented our grounds in July. And of course, Civic Holiday weekend brought the Golden Horseshoe Antique Show. President Russell also noted that the Caledonia Farmer's Market was operating successfully with good turnouts each week. The Fair is operating a refreshment booth during the market.

Sign up sheet for the various jobs during the Fair were circulated.

A discussion then took place on changing the Set-up Workbee from the traditional Tuesday after Labour Day to the Saturday the week before Labour Day. After much discussion, an informal show of hands resulted in the work bee being changed. It will take place Saturday, August 29th at 9 a.m.

Lindsey Farrell, Co-Chair of the Junior Volunteer Committee, gave a brief overview of their Battle of the Bands project which will see it debut on the Thursday night of the fair. She requested that some of the "senior" or as President Russell stated, the "less young" members be on hand to act as security that evening.

Don Carlin reported that meals will be available in the Dining Hall Thursday noon, Friday and Saturday noon and evening and Sunday Brunch and be provided by Karen Richardson. The cost of dinner on Thursday will be covered entirely by the Fair Board. The other days members must top up the difference between the \$6 meal ticket and the cost of the meal. President Russell reiterated that if committees need meal tickets to please go to the Fair Office and pick them up. He is not always able to cross paths with every committee chair.

He then turned the meeting over to Homecraft President Peggy Beckerson. President Peggy requested that if a committee needed supplies beyond the usual tacks and tape, they should purchase it themselves and submit the receipts to the Secretary. She outlined the Homecraft timetable reminding committees to assign some members to arrive early on the Wednesday during entry drop-off. A brief outline of the Millenium Quilt Project was given.

President Peggy then initiated a discussion of the Awards Ceremony that has been taking place on the Sunday of the Fair just prior to closing. In the past the Vice Presidents of the Board have been responsible for organizing the Ceremony. It was generally agreed that this format is not very successful and often few attend. Discussion was lively. Lois B. Douglas wondered if exhibitors and presenters would come out to another evening. Some noted that livestock exhibitors came from a distance and thus should receive their awards at the showing. Most felt that exhibitors should receive their prizes at the end of the Fair. However as Janice Anderson noted, why would people return for an Awards evening if they already had the award in hand. Diane McEachern felt that it was worth trying the change and moved that a separate awards evening be held. Seconded by Don Carlin. Carried.

President Peggy announced that the Hospitality Room would be largely self-serve since volunteers were more useful in other locations.

With no further Homecraft business, she turned the meeting back over to President Russell.

President Russell informed the members that the executive had met with Ron Young to discuss some electrical updates required by the Hydro Inspector. Ron was putting together estimates and various options. Portable Fencing for the Demo Ring was discussed. The Parking Committee needs more people. Peter Stubbs, Bud Cunningham and last year's crew were volunteered into service once again at the Agri-Demonstration area. A new 'Kid's Area' will be located next to the Agri -Demo area. Pedal tractors have been purchased for a Pedal Tractor Pull.

President Douglas reminded all fair members that there are many jobs during the Week of the Fair and any help would be appreciated. He then asked for New Business. Al McEachern requested help in taking food donations from Thursday night's admission to the Food Bank. Owen Beemer offered to help.

Homecraft President Peggy Beckerson then had the honour of presenting the Agricultural Service Diploma to Linda Fisher. Peggy outlined Linda's service to the Society noting that she had served as Homecraft President and has worked enthusiastically on a variety of Fair Committees. And to top that, she also brought a family workforce with her. Linda graciously accepted the award stating that she had enjoyed her fair experiences.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bud Cunningham.

GENERAL MEETING

October 29, 1998

A regular meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held Thursday, October 29th at 8 p.m. in the Kin/Ag Hall. President Russell Douglas welcomed everyone and remarked on the success of the 1998 Caledonia Fair noting that the weather was cool but dry. He followed this with a brief of the various activities of the Fair Board since the last meeting. The Annual Chicken Barbecue and Barn Dance held in August was a success. The Fair Set-Up Bee was changed from the traditional Tuesday evening after Labour Day to the last Saturday morning in August. This proved successful with a good turnout. The Fair Float had its last outing on September 18th at the Binbrook Fair Parade and won first prize. The next morning an informal painting bee was held with over 20 enthusiastic paint brushes in action. Agstravaganza, spearheaded by Rodney Fox, Marlene Topp, Mike Jones and Marlene Phibbs was held on the Fairgrounds on September 24th and was its usual success. The Fair's activity centre featured four pens of farm animals and was a hit with the children. We also hosted the lunch for all the volunteers that day.

President Russell then moved on to specific comments about Fair Activities. He noted that the Monday workbee had a large number of volunteers. Thursday night the Jr. Volunteer Committee organized a successful Battle of the Bands. Russell thanked the Jr. Committee for all their cooperation during the fair and congratulated them on the success of their first event. A new feature at the fair, pedal tractor races for the kids proved to be an entertainment hit with John "hot and heavy" Hussack on the microphone. President Russell noted that we hope to expand the Kid's Area next year. We also need to improve our Agri Awareness area. The extra grandstand brought in for the Demo Derbies combined with the portable fencing helped these popular events run smoothly. He also thanked the office staff for their work.

The Secretary then read the minutes of the last regular meeting which were adopted on a motion by John Hussack, seconded by Bud Cunningham. She then gave a brief preliminary financial report that included a summary of prize payout so members could see the distribution of prize money. Correspondence was read with no business arising from it.

Jean and Sam McClung followed with their annual slide show highlighting the sights and scenes of the 1998 Caledonia Fair. Most members agree that this is where we really get to see the entire fair. President Russell thanked the McClungs for their fine efforts.

He then announced that the Zone Meeting of the O.A.A.S. would be held Saturday, November 7th with the Wainfleet Fair acting as hosts. Members planning to attend should contact the Secretary immediately.

Volunteers to organize the Annual Banquet were requested. A prolonged silence followed at which point President Russell gently volunteered last year's committee of Ian McFarlane, Linda Fisher and Sue Honchar.

The next discussion focussed on whether we should try to hold a Fair Queen competition in 1999. Allison McAlpine, chair of the committee stated that she could argue both sides of the coin and asked for opinions from the floor. Jodie Easson, speaking as a former Fair Queen, felt that we might be more successful in attracting competitors if they were sponsored by community groups noting that some potential competitors are reluctant to "blow their own horns." The sponsoring group would not have to contribute financially. After considerable discussion, a general consensus by show of hands indicated that we would try another Fair Queen competition in 1999.

Lois B. Douglas gave a brief report on the pedal tractor pull competition noting that 120 children competed. She commented that next year the Fair Board would have to finance throat lozenges for announcer John Hussack.

The Agri-Awareness area was discussed. Due to a number of factors, it was not as successful as we would like. It needs to have a Chairperson who is not committed to a number of other committees.

Lindsey Farrell, co-chair of the Jr. Volunteers reported on the successful Battle of the Bands and thanked everyone for their assistance.

President Russell then handed the meeting over to Homecraft President Peggy Beckerson. Peggy thanked everyone for their cooperation noting that the opening of the Hall went smoothly this year with each committee appointing a helper. The Hall Closing and subsequent Exhibitor entry pick-up needs some polishing and will be addressed next year. She reminded everyone of the Appreciation evening to be held on Saturday, November 14th at 7:30 in the Kin/Ag Hall. The 1998 Theme Apple Appeal was very successful and many compliments were made on the crisp, clean appearance of the Exhibition Hall. President Peggy noted that at a recent Homecraft meeting it was decided that the 1999 theme would relate to the Millenium and asked members to think about a suitable catch phrase for the theme. She then noted that we may be approached by Parent Councils from some of the Schools to come up with a comprehensive school program to offer on the Friday of the Fair so schools could attend. Discussion followed with many members feeling that ample educational features are offered. President Russell noted that an improved agri-demo area would assist here.

With no further homecraft business, President Russell again took the Chair. Upon asking for additional business, Mike Jones suggested that the offer of a scholarship or bursary to the Caledonia Fair Queen might attract participants. Don Douglas thanked everyone for their help in selling 50-50 draw tickets and Linda Fisher followed with thanks to The Berry Patch volunteers.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Sue Honchar.

Russell Douglas

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

January 9, 1999

The Executive met with a number of committees to plan for the 1999 Fair on Saturday, January 9, 1999.

GATES:

Mark Peart noted that the committee needs more help. They need someone who is available the entire weekend. The various gates were discussed and it was noted that the West End Sheep Barn experienced difficulties since not all volunteers ripped tickets off.

It was decided that at the August meeting, the secretary will review pass policy, gates policy, ticket taking responsibilities and concession pass policy to the entire membership. This will hopefully ensure that most members are able to answer questions knowledgeably.

Mark wondered if we could ask Les Fearman to make his backyard available for Director parking (adjacent to the West end of the Fairgrounds).

POULTRY:

Chairman Jim Pearce made no changes to Poultry sections in the prize list. He asked that Norm Saito be asked to judge in 1999. He noted that the entrance to the Poultry Barn has started to sink and thus it is no longer wheelchair accessible. Various solutions were discussed included stone screenings. After some discussion it was agreed that the best and most permanent solution would be pave the entrance. He would also like prize ribbons as opposed to stickers for the Children's Pets categories.

He also suggested that a small (approximately 4 x 8) feed/supply room be built in the northwest corner of the Poultry barn. We also discussed adding an agri-education component to the building. For example, once or twice a day Jim could pull a bird or rabbit from a cage and discuss how it is judged.

GRAIN:

Add Section 24: Tallest Stalk of Corn

Delete Mark Peart from the Committee

Allan Hedley was requested to judge again in 1999.

The caretaker needs to build new boxes for the ears of corn.

The agri-education component was discussed and it was decided to have a box with approximately 6 to 8 6" squares to display a variety of grains or corn so the public can easily compare what each looks like. The committee will ask Kim Turnbull to build the display.

HAY:

Add Section 10: One bale Commercial Hay, for horses, judged on the colour, dust- free, packaging,

Heaslip Award: - Grand Champion Silage Champion

BEEF:

Delete: Charlie Barker from the Committee Add: Dave Kohler

Delete Changes in Rules and Regulations. Add in bold print: No limit to # of entries per class.

In Market Steers, add Sec. 4 Market Heifer

Change to Champion Market Animal/Reserve Champion Market Animal.

Make sure prize money is changed in the prize list.

A Jackpot show was discussed. We will still pay the prize money but exhibitors will pay a fee to enter each section. This money will be thrown into a "Jackpot" and divided for example, among the top winners. A lengthy discussion ensued revolving around whether this would be a deterrent to entries. Pete Stubbs and Dave Kohler noted that it had been successful at Rockton Fair and sometimes added an incentive to attend a show. The committee will get back to the secretary with a decision after they talk to absent committee members.

The secretary will be provided with a mailing list to encourage new exhibitors.

DAIRY:

We began with a discussion of the lack of exhibitors in the Jersey Show in 1998 and whether this was just an aberration. We then discussed the possibility of switching the Jersey and Guernsey show days if the Jersey Show continues to be weak. We had been asked in the past about the possibility of holding the Guernsey zone show but had not been able to free up space on the Saturday.

Judges: Guernsey – Paul Stuart

Jersey – the secretary to choose from Judge's List

Best Udder Rosettes were adequate in 1998

Letter of Invitation to the Holstein Show

SHEEP:

Judge: Duncan Gates

Delete Class 27 # 2 (Crankshaw)

We discussed how to get more visitors over to watch the Sheep Show. Jerry Kelleher felt that we should do most of the sheep shearing at ringside rather than the Special Events Platform. It does attract people and hence more people would be attracted to the area. If possible we would like to have sheep shearing on all 3 days of the Fair. As well, Don Douglas will try to have sheep on the grounds all 3 days.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

January 16, 1999

The executive met with a number of committees to plan for the 1999 Fair on Saturday, January 16, 1999.

VEGETABLES & FRUIT:

Delete: Jack Beemer
Judge: Brian Murphy

Chairman Tom Peart noted that we now own a set of scales donated by Georgia Pacific. He is storing them at home.

Delete: Sec # 14 – Parsnips, Add Garlic, any variety, 5 bulbs

He requested that the Caretaker build 5 new 30 x 30 trays for the Vegetable Displays

In the Apple Sections specify Wooden Half Bushels – change in prize list.

LIGHT HORSES:

We held a lengthy discussion of the viability of the Western Show on Sunday. Don Farrell wondered aloud why we are even having the show when exhibitors have been down and it draws few spectators. He noted that in 1998 the conditions were perfect yet we were still unable to attract exhibitors. He and John Dickie concurred that the Youth Show on Friday afternoon is successful and that the Light Horse Show on Saturday is less so. We discussed the possibility of working up the infield which would make it more attractive to the Western exhibitor but this would detract from the rentability of the Fairgrounds for other events. And it is no guarantee that exhibitors would come and still doesn't address the problem that few spectators spend time watching the show.

After a general agreement that we should eliminate the Westerns, we discussed other alternatives that would draw people to the area. We all feel that the Grandstand/Horse Ring area lacks crowd appeal on the Sunday. Suggestions include a Miniature Horse Show and the Carriage Show (Tri Country Carriage).

At this point the heavy horse committee arrived and a joint discussion continued. Bruce Smith noted that the Heavy Horse committee had been pondering the idea of having a "games" component to their show but realized that they did not have time on Saturday. He suggested that the best way to make this succeed would be to invite various competitors to compete. This way we would have some control over having a good show.

The secretary pointed out that she felt it was imperative that we give the Miniature Horse people adequate space this year since we have moved them around helter skelter the last four years.

It was generally felt that the change was in order. John Dickie is to check with the Tri-Country Carriage Association. Bruce Smith is to explore the Heavy Horse Games option. We will meet on Saturday, January 30th at 10 a.m. to further discuss this issue,

HEAVY HORSES

The Heavy Horse Committee discussed the elimination of the Six Horse Hitch class. We have had decreasing entries in this category. There was also a general discussion on how to attract more exhibitors. Chairman Bruce Smith noted that there are fewer Heavy Horse exhibitors in this area.

Changes:

Class 5, Section 6 \$50 to all hitches

Section 7 4 – Horse Abreast - \$100 \$80 \$70 \$60

We need to check with Fred Thompson re the 6 Horse Hitch
Judge: Glen Lewis from Paisley

ENTERTAINMENT

The main discussion revolved around the demolition derbies. The Insta-Fence we rented this year definitely proved successful. As well the extra set of bleachers was an asset.

The Battle of the Bands organized by the Jr. Volunteer Committee was also successful and will probably be repeated in 1999. Chair Doug Murphy commented that he felt the High School Challenge was still going strong.

JR. FAIR

The Jr. Fair Committee reviewed the prize list and made the following changes:

Sec. 4 New Year's Eve 1999

Sec. 30/31 Building Blocks /Highest point must not exceed 40 cm.

Sec, 35 My Favourite Place

Sec. 36 A collection of 4 photos of Haldimand Landmarks ie. Historical buildings

37. Poster Promoting Canada's Food Guide

38. Cartoon, futuristic them

72. An article of Sand Art

73. A card created using rubber stamps

EXECUTIVE MEETING

January 20, 1999

An executive meeting was held January 20, 1999. President Russell Douglas noted that we have contacted member Scott Cranston to attend an executive meeting to discuss our investments. Scott was not able to attend tonight but we will meet with him in February.

The secretary asked for volunteers to attend Conklin's Banquet at the Annual Convention in February. Peggy Beckerson, Sue Honchar, Linda Fisher and June Wise will attend.

President Russell explained that he was having difficult finding someone to accept the position of 2nd Vice President. Peggy Beckerson mused that perhaps the problem was the fact that we have 2 year terms and this means an 8 year commitment. A discussion ensued but most felt that this was not a deterrent.

Ralph Yule stated that Tom and Nancy McBride are interested in becoming members of the Board in 1999. They volunteered last year.

President Russell felt that we should try to have news articles about the fair in the local papers to increase visibility.

We discussed the forming of a Strategic Planning Committee to examine the Fair as a whole and explore its strengths and weaknesses. This committee should also include members from the Jr. Volunteer Committee. Peggy wondered if it would be beneficial to invite some members of the public who visit our fair.

The Ag-Awareness Committee was discussed. The committee should be chaired by someone who has no other commitments. John Hussack offered to chair the Kid's Area.

The Friends of the Fair Committee will convene in early February. Peggy suggested that we ask for a representative from each of the fair committees to lighten the load of the executive.

We discussed possible ways to assist Rodney Fox, a director who lost a barn in the recent winter storm. Ideas included setting up a fund and providing the food for the debris clean-up bee. Russell Douglas will contact Eddie Armstrong.

President Russell also noted that he and the secretary had made the decision before Christmas to donate \$300 to member Vicki Lanigan who had a family crisis. There was not time to bring it before the executive. All members present felt that this was acceptable. The Secretary read a note of thanks from Vicki.

When we had our 125 celebration in 1997, the Garden Party held in June was very successful. Some members of the community commented that it should be an annual event. We discussed the possibility of holding it every other year. Incoming President Ralph Yule will address the Garden Party at the annual meeting.

The 25 year lease with the Kinsmen expires in August of 1999. We will have a separate meeting to discuss the lease before we meet with the Kinsmen.

President Russell stated that the Farmer's Market on the Fairgrounds had been successful and had brought in \$1100 in revenue. We will contact Jeff McNeice and William Blyleven of the Caledonia Farmer's Market Association to discuss their 1999 rental.

Secretary Vickie Peart requested a pay raise for 1999 noting that she now does all the typesetting for the Fair Prize List and brochure. This was previously subcontracted out. After some discussion it was moved by John Hussck and seconded by Linda Fisher that the salary of Vickie Peart be raised to \$20,000 yearly. Carried.

Peggy Beckerson noted that a Hall Committee meeting is needed and that it would be best attached to an Executive meeting. We also discussed the Awards/Appreciation Night. It was not fully successful. We spent some time discussing possible alternatives. It was agreed that we did not want to present the awards on the Special Events Platform on late Sunday afternoon. One of the most viable suggestions was the idea of inviting award winners and Friends of the Fair to an informal Open House at 4 p.m. in the Kin Hall on Fair Sunday. Winners could pick up their awards and be recognized. This would follow the Honorary Directors Tea.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

FINAL MEETING OF THE 1998 BOARD

January 28, 1999

The Caledonia Agricultural Society held the final meeting of the 1998 board on Thursday, January 28, 1999 at 8 p.m. in the Kin/Ag Hall. President Russell Douglas welcomed members to the meeting and then called on the Secretary to read the minutes of the last regular meeting. These were adopted on a motion by John Hussack and seconded by Bud Cunningham. Carried. She then presented the 1998 Financial Statements and outlined the highlights. They were accepted on a motion by Fred Forbes, seconded by John Douglas. Carried.

Correspondence included a letter of resignation from Fred Forbes. Fred has served on the Fair Board since 1964 and would now like to become an honorary director. President Russell thanked Fred for his years of service.

The President announced that the annual convention of the O.A.A.S. will be held February 16, 17 and 18th at the Royal York in Toronto. He then asked for the appointment of 3 voting delegates to the convention noting that traditionally we have appointed the President, 1st Vice President and Homecraft President. It was moved by John Hussack and seconded by John Douglas that we appoint President Ralph Yule, 1st Vice Linda Fisher and Homecraft President Peggy Beckerson. Carried.

President Russell then passed the meeting over to Homecraft President Peggy Beckerson. She asked Sue Honchar to give an update on the Millenium Quilt Project. Sue reported that she along with Linda Fisher and Vickie Peart had met with quilting expert Jane Webster of Hamilton who had suggested that we use a Twist and Turn design that would minimize the fact that not all the blocks were the same size. Sue hopes to have the quilt pieced by the end of February and then we will make a decision on who will quilt it.

President Peggy then reminded everyone that the Annual Fair Banquet would take place February 20th. As has become a tradition, she asked members to sign up to bring a decadent dessert to the banquet.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bud Cunningham.

126th ANNUAL MEETING

January 28, 1999

The 126th Annual Meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held Thursday, January 28th, 1999 at 8 p.m. in the Kin/Ag Hall.

President Russell Douglas began the meeting by asking us to take a moment to remember the members of our Society who had passed away in 1998 – Bob Creighton, Bob Blackwell, Reta Bain and Mrs. Les Olds. He noted that these are the people who have built up and improved our fair.

He then called for a Chairman for the Open Meeting. John Hussack nominated Russell Douglas as Chairman and nominations were closed by Bud Cunningham.

President and Chairman Russell then called for nominations for a Secretary of the Open Meeting. Vickie Peart was nominated on a motion by Ralph Yule. Nominations were closed by Karen Douglas.

In his Report on 1998, President Russell reflected that 1998 had been a successful year and indeed we had been blessed with good weather for 2 successive years. He thanked everyone who had contributed their time and energy. He noted that that past two years, especially our Anniversary year had been very special for he and Karen. He was especially pleased to see the growth and involvement of our Junior Volunteer Committee. He reminded us that we must not become complacent and must strive to improve. Thus in 1999 a Strategic Planning Committee will be formed to look closely at where we are heading.

He then called on the Secretary to read the minutes of the last Annual Meeting which were adopted by on motion by Russell Smith, seconded by Doug Murphy. Carried.

Following this, the President called for the appointment of 2 scrutineers in case of an election. John Hussack nominated Bruce Smith and John Douglas. Nominations were closed by Russell Smith.

The President noted that the 7 one year term directors had been contacted and wished to stand for a 3 year term. There was one opening to fill the position vacated by Dave Montross. He then called for nominations for directors for a 3 year term. Ralph Yule nominated Bud Cunningham, Russell Douglas, Donald Farrell, Linda Fisher, Rodney Fox, John Hussack, Jim Pearce and Tom Peart as Directors of the Caledonia Agricultural Society for a 3 year term. President Russell then called for further nominations three times. With no further nominations from the floor, the nominations were closed by John Douglas.

The last item of business was a motion by Jim Hussack to forward affiliation fees of \$255.00 to the O.A.A.S. This was seconded by John Hussack. Carried.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bud Cunningham.

FIRST MEETING OF THE 1999 BOARD

January 28, 1999

The first meeting of the 1999 Board of Directors for the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held Thursday, January 28th, 1999 at 8 p.m. in the Kin/Ag Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Russell Douglas who called for nominations for the 1999 President of the Caledonia Agricultural Society. Ralph Yule was nominated on a motion by John Hussack, seconded by Collin Fisher. Russell Smith moved that nominations be closed. Carried

1999 President Ralph Yule then assumed the Chair noting that it had been a pleasure to work with 1997-98 President Russell Douglas and that his meetings were always informative and instructive. He congratulated Russell on a job well done and the membership then showed their appreciation with a hearty round of applause. President Ralph stated that he looked forward to working with members as we move towards the new millenium. He noted that it takes a lot of support of all members and volunteers to operate the fair and that we are always open for suggestions and improvements. He concluded his remarks by looking forward for a sucessful fair for 1999,

He then called for nominations for 1st Vice President for 1999. Linda Fisher was nominated on a motion by Karen Douglas. Nominations were closed by Bud Cunningham. Carried. President Ralph commented on what an asset Linda was to the executive.

On a call for nominations for 2nd Vice President for 1999, Russell Douglas nominated Peter Stubbs. Nominations were closed by John Hussack. Carried

John Hussack nominated Vickie Peart as Secretary-Treasurer for 1999 and nominations were closed by Jim Hussack. Carried

Next came nominations for Homecraft President. Peggy Beckerson was nominated for 1999 Homecraft President by Linda Fisher. With no further nominations, nominations were moved closed by Laurel Slack. Carried

Homecraft President Peggy then assumed the Chair stating that she looked forward to working with the executive and the good people of the Fair Board emphasizing the need to work as a team. She then called for nominations for 1st Vice President Homecraft for 1999. Marjorie Yule was nominated on a motion by Karen Douglas. Nominations were moved closed by Laurel Slack. Carried

Nominations were then opened for the 1999 Homecraft Assistant to the Secretary. Sue Honchar was nominated on a motion by Linda Fisher. Karen Douglas moved nominations closed. Carried. Peggy noted how ^{Sue} picks up the loose ends and has organized the Honorary Directors Tea for the last two years.

Homecraft Business included a brief discussion of the judging controversy. President Peggy asked each committee to take 5 minutes before the start of judging to review areas in the prize list that may be problematical. She reminded Committees to submit their

prize list information to the Secretary as soon as possible. In early March there will be a meeting of the Fair Ambassador Committee and the Exhibition Hall.

With no further Homecraft Business, President Peggy turned the meeting back to President Ralph.

On a call for the appointment of an auditor for 1999, Russell Smith moved that Steve Herman C.A. be appointed. This was seconded on a motion by Fred Forbes. Carried.

President Ralph read a list of new members for 1999 – Dave Kohler, Tom and Nancy McBride and Jr. Volunteer members Brian Barnim, Holly Chamberlain and Laura McMillan. He noted that we are always looking for new members. It is beneficial for people to volunteer for one year before becoming members so they have some idea of the involvement required. Pam King submitted the name of Karen Robinson who had volunteered in 1998.

The President then announced that the theme for 1999 would be Millenium Countdown. The Secretary outlined a few ideas including preparing a time capsule.

We will run our Friends of the Fair Campaign again in 1999. President Ralph noted that last year we had raised around \$8000 in sponsorships. While it is certainly not a popular job, it is an important one. He and Homecraft President Peggy would ideally like one person from each committee to join the Friends of the Fair Committee to ease the burden.

One of the activities held as part of our 125th Anniversary celebrations was a Garden Party. This was met favourably by the community and it was suggested at the time that we hold it every other year and as President Ralph noted, this is the other year. Plans will begin in early March.

The Caledonia Farmer's Market initiated last year was very successful and seemed to have lots of community support. We will meet with the organizers to discuss their 1999 plans.

President Ralph then asked for suggested improvements for the 1999 Fair beginning with a call for a chairperson for the Agri-Education Committee. This needs to be an exclusive job. It was suggested that we recruit potential exhibits at Ag Day in Hagersville. Another suggestion from the executive is the need for a Strategic Planning Committee. Ralph noted that this is a committee for thinkers since we need to look overall at the fair and where it is heading.

Linda Fisher passed on a suggestion from Don Carlin that the fair organize a number of dinners as a fundraiser for the Fair. John Hussack reported that the white fence on the inner fairgrounds is long past its best and it may be time to eradicate part of it. A decision would have to be made on what kind of new barriers or markers we used. This will be handed over to the Grounds Committee.

Sue Honchar asked if any decision had been made on how to assist director Rodney Fox whose barn was destroyed in the recent winter storm. Suggestions included helping out at the debris clearing bee and organizing a lunch committee. Russell Douglas has

contacted one of Rodney's neighbours to find out what arrangements have been made but has not yet received a reply.

Bud Cunningham would like the Cattle Judging Stand to be restructured.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bud Cunningham.

STATEMENT OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS – 1999

President	Ralph Yule	905-765-4103	150 York Rd. Caledonia N3W 2C4
1st Vice Pres.	Linda Fisher	905-765-4245	4285 River Road, Caledonia N3W 1T4
2nd Vice Pres.	Peter Stubbs	905-765-6753	245 Mines Road, Caledonia N3W 1X5
Sec/Treasurer	Vickie Peart	905-765-6861	151 Caithness St. E. Caledonia N3W 1C2

Society Mailing Address: 151 Caithness St. E. Caledonia, ON N3W 1C2

DIRECTORS

Don Carlin	Box 2165 Caledonia N3W 2G6
Jim Hussack	R. R. # 2 Cayuga N0A 1E0
Doug Murphy	R. R. # 1 Cayuga N0A 1E0
John Hussack	2 MacMillan St. Caledonia N3W 1A1
Rodney Fox	R. R. # 5 Cayuga N0A 1E0
Bud Cunningham	8984 River Road Caledonia N3W 1T6
Don Farrell	481 Argyle St. S. Caledonia N3W 1Z4
Tom Peart	3545 River Road Caledonia N3W 2E6
David Peart	R. R. # 5 Cayuga N0A 1E0
John Douglas	1278 Hwy 54 SS11 Caledonia N3W 2G9
John Wickett	1496 McKenzie Rd. Caledonia N3W 2C3
Scott Cranston	1265 Hwy 54 SS11 Caledonia N3W 2G9
Mark Peart	21 Caledonia Ave. Caledonia N3W 2L1
Jim Pearce	R. R. # 5 Cayuga N0A 1E0
Sue Honchar	4335 River Road Caledonia N3W 1T4
Peggy Beckerson	125 King St. E. Caledonia N0A 1H0
Russell Smith	1670 Hwy 54 Caledonia N3W 1W3
Dave Weir	126 Dumfries St. Caledonia N3W 1A7
Ruth Zadanyi	252 Berwick St. Caledonia N3W 1G1
Jodie Easson	54-25 th St. Etobicoke M8V 3P3
Mike Jones	1730 Hwy 54 E Caledonia N3W 1W3
Marjorie Yule	150 York Rd. Caledonia N3W 2C5

COMMITTEE MEETING

February 2, 1999

AGRI-KIDS

A new committee was formed to implement and oversee a new program that would expand our live agri-demonstration area and children's activity area. John Hussack volunteered to chair the meeting. Other members present at this organizational meeting were Ralph Yule, Lois B. Douglas, Kathy Young and Vickie Peart.

The area available for this is approximately 140 feet by 50 feet. Two tents, 20 x 30 and 30x 30 are available. Sides for the tent were considered. We will investigate getting industrial plastic. Secretary Vickie will also contact Cameron Canopies about the cost of professional sides. The area should operate until at least 5 p.m.

The following ideas evolved:

Under Cover – Invite the North Erie Historical Society (Dave Rushton) to do ongoing demonstrations – heritage crafts all three days – they might wish to focus on a different one each day.

Create a Corn Maze for Children and Parents to Go through – snowfence covered with plastic – may have to purchase corn but should be good attraction

Have a straw pile for kids to jump in

Blacksmith – have a blacksmith in the area demonstrating all three days

Kids Activities - Have a 'Corn' Box – paint in primary colours, have benches for parents around it – look for farm toys at garage sales in the summer – make sure we put Caledonia Fair logo on everything

Colouring Activity Centre – Farm pictures – hang them around the tent on a makeshift clothesline – could also do easy crafts depending on help

Contests – Corncobs in a Hamper, Loonie in a Haystack (Can use chocolate loonies/toonies) Bale Throwing Contest, Rooster Crowing

Pedal Tractor Pull – define and decorate the area (i.e. red, white and blue flags, fencing) – make sure it is somewhat separate from the tent where demonstrations etc need to be heard – discussed possibility of having tractors available for children to ride in an enclosed area

Animal Displays – Calf Hutch with fence around it

- Milking Displays – need to take place several times during the day
- Sheep Shearing – Saturday and Sunday
- Goat Milking / Goat Run
- 4-H Rabbits
- Show Dogs – How to Groom etc.

Make sure Signage is good

Have an AgriKids Entrance visible from pavement to entice visitors (like Haldimand Holstein Show entrance to showring)

Paint boards with animals etc and cut out holes for faces – photo ops

Prizes – Loonies, real and chocolate

Have Caledonia Fair AgriKids ribbons printed

Must recruit help

EXECUTIVE MEETING

February 4, 1999

An executive meeting was held on February 4, 1999 to discuss our lease with the Kinsmen Club. In 1974 a 25 year lease agreement was made between the Caledonia Kinsmen and the Caledonia Agricultural Society. It expires in August this year. The Secretary passed out a package of information pertaining to each member of the executive.

After members had an opportunity to review the information, Russell Douglas asked for ideas and opinions. Russell started the discussion by noting that the original agreement was very vague and in any new agreement would need to be more specific. For example, according to the 1974 agreement, the Fair Board has limited availability to the Hall.

Two points that we must be clearly defined in any new contract are:

1. If either party should move or dissolve the building becomes the property of the other party.
2. We must make sure that the Kinsmen and anyone that rents the building have adequate liability insurance.

One approach suggested that we approach the Kinsmen with several options. One option includes the following: we pay the property insurance, meter our utilities separately and pay for our rentals (which would be around \$1000 a year)

Another option is that we pay insurance, meter utilities separately, collect 20% on any rentals and that any repairs/renovations be on a 50-50 split.

Upon reflection, it was noted that it may not be cost efficient to try and separate our utility costs. It was then suggested that a lump sum, based on part of the Kinsmen utility bill, be offered.

Marjorie Yule noted that any agreement reached should be read by a lawyer to protect our organization.

Much discussion ensued since it was felt that a new agreement with the Kinsmen would be in our best interests.

The general consensus reached among the executive present at the meeting is as follows:

The Caledonia Agricultural Society will pay the property insurance on the building.

The Caledonia Agricultural Society will maintain the Fair Office (internal and external) part of the building without assistance from the Kinsmen.

The Caledonia Agricultural Society and Kinsmen will split major renovations and repairs (to be clearly defined) on a 50-50 split.

The Kinsmen will be responsible for general maintenance of the building (to include a definition of general maintenance)

In lieu of the Caledonia Agricultural Society receiving a portion of the rentals of the Kin/Ag Hall, the Kinsmen will pay Fair Office utilities.

The Kinsmen will make the Kin Hall available to the Society at any time upon reasonable request. The Society may include a minimum number of days it must be made available.

The Caledonia Agricultural Society will meet yearly with the Kinsmen to do a general walk-through of the building.

The Kinsmen must provide the Caledonia Agricultural Society with proof of insurance.

The new lease will not exceed 5 years.

The executive will meet on February 23, 1998 to review this proposal before it arranges a meeting with the Kinsmen. This will be followed by a Friends of the Fair meeting. The executive also set meeting dates for the rest of the year. They are as follows.

April 22 August 26 October 21 Annual Meeting Jan. 27/2000

Workbee – Saturday, August 28th

The Garden Party date was set at Saturday, June 19th.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

February 23, 1999

A brief executive meeting was held at 7:30 in the Fair office to review the proposal to the Kinsmen regarding the end of their 25 year lease.

The Secretary handed out an outline of the proposal suggested at the meeting on February 4 for the executive to peruse and comment upon.

The following comments and suggestions were made:

That the Kinsmen should pay all utilities – Fair Office and Kin Hall included.

The Kinsmen should provide proof of liability insurance yearly.

A clause should be added to deal with the possibility of the dissolution of either groups. This should be defined by a lawyer.

We need to find out whether or not the Kinsmen can own property – in the past they were not able to.

When we meet we will let the Kinsmen propose their ideas before setting out our proposal.

We will meet with the Kinsmen on March 17 at 8:00 p.m.

FRIENDS OF THE FAIR MEETING

February 23, 1999

A meeting was held on February 23rd to begin our 1999 Friends of the Fair campaign. As well as members of the executive a number of representatives from other committees were present.

The meeting was chaired by President Ralph Yule. Secretary Vickie handed around the fundraising/sponsorship programs of a few other fairs as suggestions. The first point of discussion focussed on the creation of sponsorship levels. We did not have this in the past and it made signage difficult. The general consensus was that we needed to have categories. Considerable discussion followed on what names we should assign to the various levels. Suggestions included animals and colours. It was felt it should have an agricultural name. Marjorie Yule suggested we use sheaves as the theme. After more discussion it was decided to use sheaves and define the levels as Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze to make for easy recognition among donors and the public.

The next decision was to assign value to the various categories. Again there was much discussion. Russell Douglas noted that it was necessary to make sure that all donors, even those below the \$50 level including trophy/plaque donors be recognized. Jim Pearce felt that these donors are most often recognized by signage at their award and thus receive good recognition. Betsy McBurney suggested that we needed to have a high category to give donors something to strive for.

A decision was reached to use the following categories and monetary levels:

Platinum Sheaves - \$1000 plus
Gold Sheaves - \$500 - \$999
Silver Sheaves - \$200 - \$499
Bronze Sheaves - \$50 - \$99

We then discussed the various 'rewards' for each of these categories.

We will produce a certificate of recognition to send to each contributor.

Tom Peart suggested that those giving higher levels be given the option of placing an advertising sign somewhere in a high traffic area of the fairgrounds – perhaps behind the vegetable, grain and hay displays. Discussion followed. If this was offered, signs would have to be of a uniform size for ease of display.

Signage for Friends of the Fair was also discussed. It was suggested that we take pictures of these signs to send to the contributors so they can see that they are being recognized.

Betsy McBurney suggested that we produce stickers that 'Friend' can display at their place of business.

Peggy Beckerson suggested that we have business cards printed with the fair's address and phone number printed to hand out when we make calls.

The Secretary was instructed to draft letters requesting support as well as a draft of the various levels of support and their rewards which will be part of the sponsorship package.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, March 10, 1999.

Executive Meeting – Kinsmen

March 17th, 1999

The Executive met with the Kinsmen on March 17th to discuss the lease agreement of the Kin Hall that expires in August of this year.

President Ralph welcomed the 5 representatives from the Kinsmen including President Dave Dishke. They indicated that it cost around \$3000 a year to operate the building. According to Kin Canada they are only allowed to spend 15% of any fundraising on building maintenance. Since rentals are limited, they have a severe problem coming up with funds for building repair and maintenance. The ceiling currently needs replacing as well as the additional of insulation to reduce heating bills.

They said that in 1998 the Hall was used 12 days by the Fair Board, 42 by the Kinsmen and K-40 and 68 by the Brownies. Current rentals barely cover expenses.

We discussed the current arrangement of a 60-40 split on major renovations and what expenses had been shared in the past. We also discussed our concerns about insurance and liquor liability.

Several options were discussed including the Fair Board taking over operation of the Kin Hall. The Kinsmen preferred to keep the hall since they felt it gave validity to their organization to have a permanent home base.

We gave them a copy of our proposed new agreement and we discussed it together. The major change is that we enter into any new renovations/repairs on a 50-50 split but assume entire responsibility for the Fair Office portion of the building (which we had been doing anyway).

Considerable discussion followed including possible ways for the Kinsmen to raise funds for their portion of repairs. Linda Fisher suggested that we enter into a joint fundraising project that would be operated through the Fairboard with all proceeds going into a Hall account. Both groups seemed favourable to this.

The Kinsmen will take the proposed agreement back to their group for discussion and we will meet again on April 29th.

Executive Meeting/Parking Committee Meeting

March 30, 1999

The Parking Committee met with the Executive to discuss the need for more help. Owen Beemer noted that on Fair Wednesday at least 3 people are necessary to get exhibitors safely in and out of the arena area. We discussed how to recruit new members and interest them in joining the parking committee. Fred Thompson suggested getting each livestock committee to assign one member to help with the parking. If possible it would be beneficial to have Jr. Volunteers paired with an adult in apprenticeship fashion. We will include the need for help in the meeting notice and in the fair newsletter. This must be resolved before September.

After the Parking meeting, the executive discussed several other items. We discussed strategy for our meeting with the Golden Horseshoe Antique Society. Rental fees will remain at \$2000 unless they have a Beer Tent in which case it will go up to \$2400. Russell Douglas moved that the rental fee for the Golden Horseshoe will be \$2000 or \$2400 if they have a beer tent. Seconded by Sue Honchar. Carried. We will also request that caution tape must be installed around all building projects. Ron Young must be used for any electrical work.

We also discussed the need to form an emergency plan and the need for more fire extinguishers.

It was moved by Sue Honchar and seconded by Linda Fisher that we purchase a mobile sign on a 50% split with the Caledonia Farmer's Market Association. Carried.

We discussed the Garden Party. The date will be set as June 19th. We discussed having the Fair Queen in conjunction with the Garden Party but felt that we needed to separate it from this event.

Meeting adjourned.

Executive Meeting

April 7, 1999

An executive meeting was held on April 7th to meet with the Golden Horseshoe Antique Society and the Exhibition Hall Committee.

While waiting for the Golden Horseshoe members, the Fair Ambassador program was discussed. While the general consensus at the last general meeting indicated a desire to try it again in 1999, there did not seem to be a real commitment. We discussed when we would hold it since we were having a Garden Party rather than a Barn Dance this year. The timing of the event in relationship to the CNE would be awkward. Russell Douglas also pointed out that we did not intend to have a Garden Party every year. We then discussed the possibility of holding it opening night of the fair. Secretary Vickie noted that last year's lack of contestants was not an aberration rather part of a trend to fewer and fewer contestants. Why should energy go to a flagging project? After considerable debate, it was decided that Peggy Beckerson would bring the matter up for discussion at the general meeting. If there were no volunteers to form the committee, this will indicate lack of commitment and the cancellation of the program.

Golden Horseshoe Antique Society

John Wickett and Fred Thompson represented that Golden Horseshoe Antique Society. Fair President Ralph Yule discussed a number of our concerns. We will require the Antique Society to put yellow caution tape around all their construction projects to show due diligence in trying to keep people away from the displays. Last year we put \$750 worth of stone in front of the grandstand so we need the Golden Horseshoe to be careful when grading for their tractor pull. The Antique Society would like to put a waterline from the tap at Squire McKinnon's barn down to at least the 2nd pole and will pay for the installation. We will get back on this matter after our Grounds and Buildings walk about. Rent will remain at \$2000.

Exhibition Hall

The Exhibition Hall formally consists of John Wickett, Peggy Beckerson, Don Carlin and Ruth Zadanyi. Don and Ruth listed their concerns, the primary one being the need for more help. Ruth requested that blue standards and other displays be washed before being moved into the hall. They also need more assistance in decorating. We discussed the possibility of dividing the set-up bee into an earlier group which would power wash some of the displays. A number of the jobs, such as putting around the memorial benches, should be added to Ian's "To Do" list. Last year we made some progress in making the Hall Opening less hectic. We need to remind members that everyone needs to stay on hand until the Hall is opened. We will need a new morning Floor Sweeper this year.

We then discussed trying to make Entry Pick-Up on Sunday more orderly. John Wickett noted that he had not been informed of the change in plans last year and thus let everyone in at 6:00 p.m. rather than 6:15. Lively discussion followed regarding the pros and cons of such things as only letting a limited number of exhibitors in the building at one time. The final consensus that will be presented to members at the next General Meeting is as follows: We will start to clear the Hall at 5:30 and the doors will close at 6:00 p.m. We will close the large arena door at 5:30 to deter the crowd from pushing in when the School Department starts to tear-down. We will encourage all available members to assist in clearing the hall of people. Everyone except committee members will be asked to leave. At 6:30 p.m. we will re-open the Hall and exhibitors will be allowed back in with a claim pass.

We need to emphasize that the reason for this change to for security reasons.

General Meeting

April 22, 1999

A regular meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held on Thursday, April 22nd, 1999 at 8 p.m. in the Ag/Kin Hall. President Ralph Yule welcomed everyone making special note of new members. He called on the Secretary to read the minutes of the last regular meeting which were adopted on a motion by Jim Hussack, seconded by Doug Murphy. The Financial Report was accepted on a motion by John Hussack, seconded by Sue Honchar.

President Ralph then gave a brief review of the Annual Banquet held on February 20 noting that John Hussack had received the Agricultural Service Diploma. He also reported that he had given Greg Bates his 25 year service pin. Sixteen members attended the Fair Convention in Toronto in February. We were awarded first prize for our poster and won a number of prizes in the Photographic Competition. Thanks to Jean McClung for her photographic expertise.

After the correspondence, President Ralph turned the meeting over to Homecraft President Peggy Beckerson. Peggy reminded everyone of the Judging Symposium to be held in Simcoe on Saturday, April 24th. Advanced Prize Lists are available and members are encouraged to distribute them to various communities. She called on Sue Honchar to report on the Millennium Quilt Project. Sue happily reported that the quilt was now in the hands of quilter Mary Roth. If anyone is interested in contributing some stitches to the quilt, they should contact Sue and a suitable day will be arranged. We hope to have tickets available for sale by Ag Day in Hagersville. Linda Fisher gave an update on The Berry Patch. Scheduled events that will require volunteers are Ag Day, Canada Day and Summer Breeze. The Berry Patch has also committed to making sundaes for the Reunion 2000 barbecue in May of 2000. Berry Pickers are needed to insure that we have enough berries for these various projects.

President Peggy then gave a report on a meeting of the Exhibition Hall committee. After considerable discussion the committee has decided that we will begin to clear the hall at 5:30. At this time the large arena door will be closed. It will formally close at 6:00 p.m. and re-open for entry claim at 6:30. Exhibitors will be allowed in after showing their claim pass. It is hoped that this will make for a more orderly and secure process. She also asked that each department inform the Hall committee when they will be doing their pre-fair set-up.

The next issue discussed was the Fair Ambassador. Peggy reminded everyone that at the last general meeting there was a general consensus that we try to revive the program. She noted that the executive had revisited the issue at a recent meeting and felt that a new committee would have to commit to the program. She asked for comments and volunteers. After a lengthy silence, Allison McAlpine stated that she felt that the silence indicated that we were not fully committed and thus we should let it slide. Karen Douglas then moved that we cancel the Fair Ambassador program and this was seconded by Allison McAlpine.

President Peggy turned the meeting back over to Ralph Yule. The first item on the business agenda was the Parking Committee who have requested more help. In the past few years, committee members have either retired or changed to other committee. At the last fair, there was barely enough help to assist. Since this is a safety issue, it must be addressed. New member Wayne Barnim volunteered. Bruce Smith noted that Dave Murray has indicated that he would like to join the board and perhaps he would volunteer or this committee.

President Ralph then informed members that our 25 year lease with the Kinsmen ends in August. The original agreement was short and vague . The executive have met with the Kinsmen to try and forge a new agreement.

A brief review of our Friends of the Fair fundraising program was given. This year we have initiated various categories of sponsorship which we are calling the "Sheaves" program.

Volunteers are needed for our Garden Party scheduled for June 19th. Each committee chair is to submit the name of at least one volunteer. Sign up sheets for the various activities we are participating in were then circulated such as Canada Day and Ag Day.

John Hussack gave an overview of a new feature planned for the 1999 fair, Agri-kids which will feature a corn/maybe straw maze, livestock, hands on demonstrations, agri-games, pedal tractor pull etc. Needless to say, volunteers are needed.

Another change for 1999 is the elimination of the Western Horse Show on Fair Sunday. Ben Allison gave a short report noting that it will be replaced by a demonstration and display area for a variety of Horses, including Miniature Horses.

President Ralph reviewed the activities scheduled for the Fairgrounds this summer. We will also need volunteers to prepare a Float for the various parades. A workbee to paint fences will also be called sometime in the early summer. Jr. Volunteer committee members were reminded of a meeting on April 27th. If committees have building projects for Caretaker Ian, they should notify him by mid-summer.

Ralph then asked for new business from the floor. Jack Beemer wondered about the wisdom of cutting the Hall A-frames down and that a better idea would be to build new ones. He also reported that on Fair Saturday, parking in the ring area seemed to be more limited due to the 4-H Show. We will look into this.

President Ralph informed us that Ian has a new toy – forks on the tractor which should allow us to gradually put displays etc on pallets. This should not only be labour saving but also cause less wear and tear .

Ian McFarlane then made a presentation of special past presidential headgear to Past President Russell Douglas.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Jim Hussack.

EXECUTIVE MEETING WITH KINSMEN

May 6, 1999

The executive met with members of the Kinsmen to further discuss a new lease agreement since the original 25 year agreement expires in August.

The Kinsmen took our draft of a proposal for a lease agreement back to their membership and had some points to discuss. One item they had discussed and acted on was the need for all groups to have liquor liability insurance.

The initial discussion centred on the clauses involving maintenance and major renovations. While both the current Fair Board and the Kinsmen executives understand the spirit of the new contract, it was agreed that any new contract needed to be specific for future executives.

Considerable discussion ensued. Major renovations include such things as a new furnace, roof etc. Jason from the Kinsmen formulated the following wording: Major Renovations are defined as planned or unexpected replacements and repairs to structural and/or mechanical systems of the building that incur an expense over \$250 per occurrence. (I.e, furnace replacement, roof repairs, heating and ventilation.

Maintenance is defined as reasonable and expected costs and repairs associated with the day to day operation of the hall up to \$250 per occurrence.

The clause involving meeting yearly will be rewritten to define that the meeting will take place after Thanksgiving of each current year.

We also agreed to define the minimum number of days the Hall must be made available to the Fair Board as fifteen.

Dave Dishke, President of the Kinsmen, outlined a few other concerns of their membership. While they would like a five year contract, they would like a clause that allows them to renegotiate if necessary. They would like an option to break the lease if their financial situation changes. Presently they are very dependent on the rental income provided by an obedience dog class. Without this they are unsure if they could continue to operate the building.

The two most pressing renovations include the ceiling replacement which would allow for insulation and the replacement of the furnace. The Kinsmen had a furnace estimate of \$2200 but did not have an estimate for the ceiling drywall and insulation. The Kinsmen requested that the Agricultural Society foot the bill and the Kinsmen would work off the expense.

Again considerable discussion followed. Russell Douglas pointed out that the lack of insulation in the ceiling might be the real culprit for high heating bills. Thus the furnace replacement could be deferred. This would give a more realistic picture of whether the furnace is the problem. The Kinsmen are to obtain an estimate for the ceiling and bring it to the next meeting. President Ralph Yule indicated that the Ag Society would need some time to consider the Kinsmen proposal.

We discussed the joint fundraising project. The Kinsmen proposed a Corn Roast on Saturday, August 21st. We will discuss this at the next meeting which will be held Tuesday, June 1st in the

Fair Office. Secretary Vickie will rewrite another draft of the Lease Agreement. The Kinsmen then adjourned.

The Executive stayed and discussed the Kinsmen proposals. One concern was the Kinsmen request regarding the length of the new contract. Their desire for a five year contract yet asking for an option to renegotiate at any time seemed to be at cross purposes and not to the benefit of the Ag Society. Peter Stubbs expressed a concern about the Kinsmens' dependence on the rental income from one group to provide the income to support the Hall. He suggested that perhaps the Kinsmen's desire to maintain the Hall as a meeting place is unrealistic and should not be at the Fair Board's expense. We discussed the Fundraising project and noted that if we provide the grounds and arena for the Corn Roast, this should be considered part of our contribution.

We also discussed the ramifications if the Kinsmen opted out of the contract while they still owed money on any repairs that were entered into with the understanding that they would be split on a 50-50 split. Russell Douglas pointed out that we would probably make the repairs anyway and thus would not, in essence, lose any money. Considerable discussion followed regarding the fact that while we want to be good neighbours, we have to protect ourselves. If the Kinsmen have the right to opt out, do we have the option to ask them to leave if we aren't satisfied?

The hour grew late and the meeting adjourned.

**LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CALEDONIA AGRICULTURAL
SOCIETY AND THE CALEDONIA KINSMEN**

Second Draft

The Caledonia Agricultural Society will pay the property insurance on the building.

The Caledonia Agricultural Society will maintain the Fair Office (internal and external) part of the building without assistance from the Kinsmen.

The Caledonia Agricultural Society and Kinsmen will split major renovations and repairs on a 50-50 split. Major renovations and repairs are defined as planned or unexpected replacements and repairs to structural and/or mechanical systems of the building that incur and expense over \$250 per occurrence (i.e. Furnace replacement, ceiling repairs, heating and ventilation).

The Kinsmen will be responsible for general maintenance of the building. Maintenance is defined as reasonable and expected costs and repairs associated with the day to day operation of the hall up to \$250 per occurrence.

In lieu of the Caledonia Agricultural Society receiving a portion of the rentals of the Kin/Ag Hall, the Kinsmen will pay Fair Office utilities.

The Kinsmen will make the Kin/Ag Hall available to the Society at any time upon reasonable request. The Kin/Ag Hall must be made available to the Agricultural Society for a minimum of 15 days per year.

The Caledonia Agricultural Society will meet yearly with the Kinsmen to do a general walk-through of the building. This will take place after each Thanksgiving of the current year.

The Kinsmen must provide the Caledonia Agricultural Society with proof of insurance.

The new lease will be for a period of _____ years.

Issues Not Resolved: Whether to write into the agreement an option for the Kinsmen to renegotiate the agreement at any time.

FLOAT MEETING

May 19, 1999

A meeting to discuss the Fair Float for the various community parades was held with the following people present: Marjorie Yule, Lorraine Johnson, Ian McFarlane and Vickie Peart.

We brainstormed on how to incorporate the Millennium Theme into the Float design.

The following ideas emerged.

Place barn in middle of the float – time capsule can be placed here - Have rooster on top of barn – the New Millenium dawns

The barn will be divided in half – one half painted red and green – old fashioned barn - the other half painted silver - futuristic farming – all silver – desk with computer screen – satellite dish from garbage can lid – Fair Vue –

Paint blue and red graphics on the silver to tie in with fair colour theme and bunting

Lorraine will look for whirligig pinwheels that we can use for flowers on futuristic part of float

Look for experimental test plot stakes/ test tubes to suggest animal cloning

Corn Stalk – spray paint silver – add microwave popcorn bags to it or something of this nature

Star Wars like things.

Projected completion time June 19th so we can have it on display at the Garden Party

Will have next meeting when barn is built

GENERAL MEETING

August 26, 1999

A regular meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held Thursday, August 26th, 1999 at 8 p.m. in the Kin/Ag Hall. President Ralph Yule welcomed everyone to the meeting noting that another year had passed and many new features will be added this year to improve the Fair. He then called on the Secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting which were adopted on a motion by Doug Murphy, seconded by Jim Hussack. The Financial Report was given and accepted on a motion by John Hussack, seconded by Doug Murphy. Correspondence was read.

President Ralph then gave an update on some of the activities since the last meeting. He thanked the volunteers for assistance at our successful Garden Party on June 19th. Approximately 500 people attended. A real hit was the carriage rides provided by Richard Johnson and his team of Canadians. We attended Ag Day in Hagersville in June with the Berry Patch selling their infamous ice cream sundaes. President Ralph congratulated Secretary Vickie on receiving an Agricultural Appreciation Award from the HFA at Ag Day. The Fair was well represented at Canada Day. Once again we provided a Petting Zoo in Kinsmen Park. Thanks to the members who provided animals. Although the weather did not prove conducive to the sale of sundaes, the Berry Patch braved the wind and the rain. We also had a float in the parade. The Fair Float also participated in both the Fisherville Fun Day and the Selkirk Country Festival parades. Thanks to Bruce Smith whose team of Percherons draws the float. President Ralph also thanked the volunteers who constructed this Millennium Countdown float.

President Ralph reported that we had a break-in at the Fair Office on June 29th. The office will need new steel doors and we will install a security system. A Painting Bee was discussed and will be held on September 11th at 9 a.m. with a September 18th rain date. The Dates to Remember Sheets were then reviewed. Everyone was reminded that during Fair Week, any help members can provide would be greatly appreciated. This year many of the displays will be stored on pallets and this should ease some of the heavy labour. The Set-Up Bee will take place Saturday the 28th. President Ralph requested that some members stay after the meeting to help put up streamers in the Arena.

Catering at the Fair this year will be provided by Karen Richardson. President Ralph congratulated Don Carlin for being named District 6 Director to the O.A.A.S. He then turned the meeting over to Homecraft President Peggy Beckerson.

Peggy called on Sue Honchar to give a report on the Millennium Quilt. It was unveiled at the Garden Party. Sue urged everyone to sell tickets. Linda Fisher then reported on the Berry Patch which met with great success at the Garden Party. She asked that members consider the purchase of a trailer to store supplies and equipment which could be easily hauled to various functions. This will be discussed at the October meeting.

President Peggy then went over the Fair Week procedures including set-up on either Monday or Tuesday. She reminded Chairpersons to bring any judging supplies and also to mention judging protocol to any new volunteers. They should also advise judges of any problematic categories. She then reviewed Sunday Hall closing procedures. We will start clearing the building at 5:30 and the large arena doors will go down. By 6 o'clock the Hall should be empty except for directors. Exhibitors will be readmitted by Claim Pass at 6:30. There will be no exceptions to this procedure. We hope this will ease the strain on directors.

President Peggy also announced that we will try another procedure for presenting Fair Awards. On Fair Sunday between 4 and 5 an Open House will be held in the Kin Hall for Fair Winners and Friends of the Fair.

She asked for any further business. A shortage of tables for Judging Day was noted. Ten new tables have been constructed. Connie Stubbs asked about Fair Members Dress Code and a discussion ensued. Lois B. Douglas noted that directors need to distinguish themselves from the general public especially on Wednesday and Sunday. It was noted that sometimes the blue blazers and plaid sashes are not suitable for the job. Peggy also asked for volunteers at Agstravaganza.

With no further Homecraft business, Peggy turned the meeting back over to President Ralph. He welcomed new members Helen Peirson and Ken McConachie. Some new features at the 1999 Fair were also highlighted. John Hussack reported on Agri-Kids. A Corn Maze was planted as a central feature. Volunteers are needed. On Sunday in place of the Western Horse show, there will be a breed display with demonstrations. It is hoped that there will be 5 or 6 breeds including the Miniatures.

Secretary Vickie then gave a brief course entitled Pass Policy 1019 to help inform fair members of the intricacies of Fair Pass procedures.

President Ralph then passed along a suggestion that as a Fundraising project we do a Caledonia Fair version of the Antique Road Show. We have the space, displays etc. to do this and it may be an effective way to fundraise with a single event. He asked for comments. Diane McEachern then moved that we pursue this idea.

The final business was a reminder for everyone to add their names to the Sign Up sheets for the various Fair activities.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Jim Hussack.

GENERAL MEETING

October 21, 1999

President Ralph Yule opened the general meeting of the Caledonia Agricultural Society on Thursday, October 21st, 1999 at 8 p.m. in the Kin Hall. He thanked everyone for the tremendous help noting that we had ended the century with a highly successful fair.

He then called on the Secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting which were adopted on a motion by Jim Hussack and seconded by Linda Fisher. Carried. The Secretary then gave a brief financial report. After the correspondence was read, President Ralph called on Jean and Sam McClung to present a slide show on the highlights of the 1999 Fair. Once again the photography was excellent and we all enjoy the colour commentary provided by Sam.

President Ralph then reminded everyone that the Zone Meeting of the O.A.A.S. will be held in Rockton on Saturday, October 30th. Anyone planning to attend should contact the secretary immediately.

Another successful Agstravaganza was held on the Fairgrounds on September 23 with over 500 school children participating. Ralph thanked the members that had contributed animals for our activity centre and our volunteers. He made special note of the hard work of Rodney Fox who chairs the event.

A request for volunteers for the Annual Banquet met with no response.

President Ralph then turned the meeting over to Homecraft President Peggy Beckerson. Peggy began with a special thank you to Owen Beemer and the Parking Committee for their exceptional efforts on Fair Wednesday when the torrential rain made exhibit drop-off a challenge. Some of our long time exhibitors noted that this was the worst weather in their memory. She also thanked Don Carlin and Ruth Zadanyi for once again transforming the Arena into a spectacular Exhibition Hall.

The next item on the agenda was the Awards Ceremony which President Peggy noted, was an problem we seem to revisit each year. A variety of formats that have met with limited success. This year an Awards/Friends of the Fair Open House was held in the Kin Hall late Sunday afternoon. Attendance was poor. Peggy proposed that next year winners will pick up their awards at the trophy case. A special congratulations certificate will be send to each winner with their prize money.

President Peggy then called on Linda Fisher to report on the Berry Patch. She thanked everyone for their assistance. She noted that at a previous meeting there was some discussion about the purchase of a trailer to store the Berry Patch supplies which would also enable us to go to more venues. However there seems to be a consensus to keep the Berry Patch at a smaller scale.

Sue Honchar reported on the Millennium Quilt draw. Tickets sold well at the Fair. Profit to date is in the \$600 range but we still have until the annual meeting to sell tickets.

Catering during the Fair was also discussed. Karen Richardson has given notice that she will not cater next year. Discussion included the possibility of the Fair Board catering ourselves. But would this spread our labour too thin? If the Berry Patch downscaled to coffee only would some of that committee cater? Could we cater on the Thursday only? Maybe a community organization would like to cater the Sunday brunch? There was no resolution and this problem will be addressed at further meetings.

With no further Homecraft business, the meeting was turned back over to President Ralph. Ralph noted that the Caledonia Reunion 2000 committee is requesting Memorabilia.

At our August meeting the possibility of hosting an Antiques Road Show type of event as a fundraiser was discussed. A chair is needed. Diane McEachern agreed to Co-chair the event.

President Ralph reminded everyone that Committee Meetings should take place in January and then asked for suggestions and improvements for the 2000 Fair. One suggestion was better lighting for the Quilting area. Jean McClung noted that someone should be appointed in the Cattle Ring to clean the inevitable droppings.

Don Douglas then addressed the serious issue of lack of participation at work bees. Attendance this year at all the bees was poor. Should attendance be mandatory for at least one of the workbees? President Ralph agreed that this was an issue that the executive had discussed and planned to have a special Director's meeting to address.

Don Douglas also thanked all members who had volunteered on the 50-50 Draw.

John Hussack then gave a brief overview of the highly successful Agri-Kids area which made its premiere at the 1999 Fair. The cornbox was occupied non-stop once again proving that sometimes the least costly activities are the most successful. The milking demonstrations were also a hit this year. The corn maze was a hit until it met with some destruction from roving visitors. He thanked everyone for their help adding that the committee would like more volunteers.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Al McEachern.

Special Director's Meeting

November 10, 1999

A meeting of the Directors of the Caledonia Agricultural Society was held on November 10, 1999 at 8 p.m. in the Fair Office. President Ralph Yule welcomed the Directors and thanked them for attending this special meeting. He noted that he and Marjorie had attended some other fairs this year and it had made them appreciate our own fair more.

President Ralph then continued by stating that Directors are a big part of what keeps the Fair operating smoothly. While we have managed to run successful fairs, there are some issues that need to be addressed. These questions were outlined in the letter that was sent to each member. For ease of business, Ralph suggested that we run through the questions as listed.

Question #1: Most convenient time for set-up & tear-down.

President Ralph noted that if attendance is good, it can be pleasant. However when there is a shortage of hands, it becomes a chore. Traditionally we had the set-up bee on the Tuesday evening after Labour Day. Two years ago it was switched to the Saturday before Labour Day and the turnout was good. This year the turnout on that date was disappointing.

So the question remains: What is a good time?

This followed with a fairly freewheeling discussion. Volunteers go where they have the best time. Should we have an appreciation evening. Russell Douglas noted that only about 10% of members show up for the set-up and tear-down bees. Where are the rest of the people. This continued with a discussion of whether people really know what goes on behind the scenes and what it takes to get the Fair off the ground. President Ralph acknowledge that even though he had been on the Fair Board for a long time, he had no idea of the amount of behind the scenes work until he was on the Executive.

One suggestion to alleviate the problem was to contact Committee Chairman and have then contact committee members. There was some discussion of job descriptions.

Tom Peart suggested that we have 2 set-up dates and 2 tear down bees. Maybe we try to accomplish too much at one time. These bees will have prescribed time that should be adhered to so members don't feel that they will drag on.

John Douglas stressed the need for personal communication. We should ask members to attend and make sure that it does not sound too dictatorial.

Although it is burdensome, we should arrange a means to call and remind everyone of the bees in additional to their written notice.

Doug Murphy pointed out that with the "palletization" of many of our displays, the logistics of the workbees have changed. This year a lot of time was spent waiting for the tractor and the pallet forks can't be everywhere. There was a suggestion that we rent another tractor with forks for the bee. We should also have a more concise plan of action for workbees so volunteers aren't wasting time.

Question # 2: Should we limit the number of extra activities we do? i.e. Stage rentals, canopy rentals, Garden Party, Berry Patch, Parades, Livestock Displays etc.

Discussion on this questions was once again freewheeling. Should the Berry Patch be scaled down. If so, would we be able to cater on the Thursday.

Our participation in the various parades was discussed. Marjorie Yule felt that although parades take extra work we need to be visible in the community.

Pete Stubbs voiced strongly that he felt that running a fair should be adequate and we should question the number of extra events we participate in. Is it necessary to construct a float when a horse and wagon would be adequate and do we need to attend parades outside of town.

Doug Murphy noted that we should continue to do things that bring in income.

Ralph Yule noted that part of our problem is with delegation of task. Perhaps the executive has not been good at delegation.

Russell Douglas then reminded us that the extra things we do are not our major problem. It is largely the same volunteers that participate in the extra projects that also appear consistently at workbees. The crux of the problem is how to get more people to participate.

We then had a discussion on how to handle garbage detail at the fair which was a major problem this year. Secretary Vickie had sleuthed out how it was handled at neighbouring fairs. At Rockton, the Jr. Committee is responsible and are treated to breakfast afterwards. At Binbrook, directors clean-up and are also treated to breakfast. Ancaster pays a group to do this.

A lively discussion ensued. Most agreed that the President of the Fair should not have to be on garbage detail every morning. The general consensus was that in 2000 we will ask a service club and/or organization (i.e Boy Scouts) to assist up and offer them an honorarium. This will be done in conjunction with our caretaker.

Question # 3: Should jobs be designated?

The general consensus on this question was no. In the long run it is more beneficial if all members realize that they should be responsible for more than just a specified committee. Russell Douglas once again noted that if there is enough help, the Fair is a lot of fun.

Question #4: Do we hire more help at Fair Time for our Secretary and Caretaker?

It was generally felt that we did not need more help for the Caretaker beyond the assistance he receives from Roy Parkin.

Secretary Vickie will need to hire a new assistant for Fair Month in 2000.

There was some discussion about having a Fair Manager. Bud Cunningham felt that a Fair Manager for the grounds would be beneficial.

There was also a discussion on whether Vickie Peart's title should be changed to Secretary-Manager. Vickie noted that the problem with Secretary-Treasurer is that to those outside the Fair organization, it implies that she takes minutes and does book-keeping. In reality most of her tasks are of a managerial nature. There was more discussion. Don Carlin noted that a change in title could not take place without a constitutional ammendment. For the present time, Vickie will retain the title Secretary-Treasurer.

It was moved by Don Carlin, seconded by Bud Cunningham that Vickie Peart find suitable help at Fair time with designated hours at her discretion. Carried.

Question # 5: Do we need to hire students or service groups to pick-up garbage each morning of the Fair?

This question was answered in our discussion of Question # 2. We will seek an outside group for garbage detail at the 2000 Fair.

Question #6: Should the executive had a one year term?

President Ralph stated that it has been exceedingly difficult to find directors willing to stand on the executive. The executive has discussed at various points whether the 2 year term which essentially translated into an "8 year sentence" is a deterrent. John Douglas, a past President, strongly felt that it should be a 2 year term since this allows a President to see through projects to their completion.

Most felt that the 2 year term was not a deterrent but rather life's circumstances. Both Scott Cranston and Doug Murphy noted that while they hoped to someday be on the executive, young children made it presently difficult.

Question # 7: Does the executive have too much authority?

This is a difficult question. Past President John Douglas commented that you might think this until you actually get on the executive. Less executive authority also means more directors meetings. It was generally agreed that this meeting was a positive step in several respects. Hopefully if directors are more fully involved, committee members will follow.

Peggy Beckerson then moved that the Caledonia Agricultural Society will hold 2 Directors meetings annually on the 2nd Wednesday in November and on the 2nd Wednesday in April. Seconded by Linda Fisher. Carried.

In the closing general discussion, it was generally felt that the key to most of our problems was communication.

Doug Murphy felt that we have to make a concerted effort to bring new volunteers in and have to make sure they have a certain level of commitment. Ruth Zadanyi reiterated the need to make sure volunteers are committed before they join.

In a discussion about upcoming Committee Meetings, Doug Murphy suggested that perhaps it would be less intimidating for Committees to meet separately from the Executive. It will still be necessary to have a Committee Chairs meeting to coordinate the various information.

President Ralph then thanked everyone for attending this most informative meeting.