



NEWS RELEASE: July 8, 2011

FAIR HONORS INDIVIDUAL EXCELLENCE

PLEASANTON, CA – July 8, 2011 – The Alameda County Fair Association played host to the Annual Director's Blue Ribbon Awards Reception on Wednesday night at the Palm Pavilion at the Alameda County Fair. The evening included a cocktail reception, presentation of awards, and a welcome message from Pat O'Brien, President of the Fair's Board of Directors.

The Exhibitor's Choice Award/ Agricultural Feature Booth was awarded to the Alameda County Department of Agriculture's Ms Ronnie Eaton and was presented by Director Patsy Gilbert.

The Exhibitor's Choice Award/Landscape Gardens went to Apple Blossom Nursery's Chuck Sackett. Presented by Fair Director Dean Schenone, Chuck started in the gardening business in 1972 with nothing more than a pair of loppers, a lawnmower and a broom.

The Directors' Choice Award, bestowed upon the finest landscape garden entry as voted by the Board of Directors, was presented to Jacquie Courtright, owner of Alden Lane Nursery. Jacquie Courtright is a past director of the Alameda County Fair and was instrumental in making the gardens what they are today.

Best of Show Garden was presented to Dan Pozzi of Restoration Landscape for his award winning landscape design. Dan received a degree in Ornamental Horticulture and started full time landscape work in 1974. Dan began showing at the Alameda County Fair in 2009 and in three short years, won Best of Show.

A special award was presented to Bras & Mattos Monument Company for their guidance and expertise in creating a memorable monument to the community called the Alameda County Historical Monument.

"Throughout history winning a Blue Ribbon at the Fair has long been an honor and a thrill," said CEO Rick Pickering. "Winning a Blue Ribbon is considered the pinnacle of success in any given competition."

The Western Fairs Association Blue Ribbon Awards, honoring achievements and contributions to the success of the Fair over the past year, was presented to Bonnie Terra, Fremont Bank, Barbara Anderson, and Jerry and Janet Hollendorfer.

Bonnie Terra, Assistant Chief/Fire Marshall

Bonnie Terra has been serving the citizens of Alameda County for over ten years. She has developed strong relationships throughout the community especially at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Following in her parent's footsteps who both received 4H ribbons as children in California.

Fremont Bank, Sponsor

Fremont bank has been a long time supporter of the Alameda County Fair and sponsors a spectacular fireworks show each year that has become a featured event annually.

Barbara Anderson, Alameda County Fair Amateur Gardening Coordinator

Barbara Anderson's has overseen the Agriculture Building, flower exhibits, cake booth and so much more. Her love for the Fair is indescribable.

Jerry & Janet Hollendorfer, Horse Owner & Trainer

Jerry Hollendorfer came to California in the late 60's and never left. He started as a groom at Bay Meadows and went on to work in various capacities for trainers Jerry Dutton and Jerry Fanning before taking out his trainer's license in 1979. He went on to ranking eighth on the all-time earnings list for

trainers as well as the fourth winningest trainer in North American thoroughbred history. August 12th Jerry Hollendorfer will be inducted into the National Racing Museum's Hall of Fame. Janet Hollendorfer is Chief Assistant and is a significant contributor to the training process.

About the Fair Association:

The non-profit Fair Association continues to provide a significant public benefit without receiving any tax support. The Fair Association's nonprofit Board of Directors seeks to operate the Fairgrounds in a professional business manner & maintain prudent cash reserves. In addition to maintaining & enhancing the existing facilities, the Fair Association originally purchased the 268-acre Fairgrounds in the 1930's and deeded the property to the County of Alameda in the 1940's.

With the "Oldest One-Mile Race Track in America," the Fair Association hopes to continually enhance its horse training and racing program in Pleasanton.

For more information, please visit www.AlamedaCountyFair.com, or call (925) 426-7600

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