

President's Message



After accomplishing so much in 2005, the new year is upon us and there is plenty to look forward to in 2006.

On the immediate horizon is Youth Expo, April 7-9. Our 27th year is where "Best Buds Meet" as we salute "fun, flowers and friendship." Youth Expo is a wonderful family event featuring school projects, a science fair, carnival rides, food, petting zoos and educational exhibits for all ages. And best of all, it is free for the whole family.

Of course, summer wouldn't be summer without the OC Fair, July 7-30. This year's OC Fair hopes to be bigger and better than ever, which is saying a lot since in 2005 we set our all-time attendance record, welcoming more than 1 million guests

over the 21 days of Fair. This year's theme is "Flower Power - the year of the garden." So, mark your calendars. Don't be left out of Orange County's biggest event of the summer.

Along with the Fair, we also welcome the 2006 Pacific Amphitheatre Summer Concert Series featuring some of the brightest stars in music. Since reopening in 2003, the Pacific Amphitheatre has hosted some amazing shows and this year will be no different. Visit www.ocfair.com and sign up for the Pacific Amphitheatre newsletter to get advance notice on upcoming shows and special offers only available to subscribers.

And this is just the beginning. We have plenty of great events planned for the next 12 months and we hope you will be a part of the excitement.

Peggy Haidl
President, Board of Directors
Orange County Fair & Exposition Center

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Costa Mesa, California - Winter 2006

ORANGE COUNTY FAIR & EXPOSITION CENTER

32nd District Agricultural Association • 88 Fair Drive • Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • (714) 708-FAIR (3247) • www.ocfair.com

A Walk At The Farm

As they eagerly bound off the large black steps of the bus wearing matching shirts and name tags, it hits them and their small faces crinkle and they say in unison, "Ewww, what smells?" This is the common first reaction of the thousands of schoolchildren that visit Centennial Farm annually, a four-acre demonstration farm where guided tours give them hands-on, up-close agricultural education.

Since 1989, small children's groups, generally ranging in age from kindergarten to third grade, have had the opportunity to take guided tours of the Farm, which features small and large livestock and growing seasonal crops.

"There are many reasons we offer the tours," said Evy Edelo, agricultural education supervisor. "A few are to expose children to agriculture in a true setting, provide them with an understanding of where their food and fiber come from, and instill an appreciation of the work that farmers do."

Twice a day, five days a week, volunteer docents, known as "Farmers" guide groups of about 18 to 35 students through the rows of crops and past oxen, pigs, calves, sheep, goats and more.

On the guided tours, the Farmers share with the young visitors some basic facts about the various animals and crops. The



children learn how many stomachs Lily, the Farm's retired dairy cow, has; how the fluffy coat on the bashful sheep are shaved off, twisted and pulled to make sweaters; how the popular Bill and Bob together are known as "oxen"; and that the Farmers and staff don't really live at the Farm.

Participants of the guided tours also get the opportunity to hold a young chick and learn about the 21-day process of how an egg becomes a chicken. There is also a special milking demonstration and a seed-planting stop where the youngsters get to take home a memory of their visit to the Farm.

Guided tours are offered Monday through Friday at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. There are a limited number of slots (7 per start time per day) but self-guided dates are available every month for pre-kindergarten school groups, Mommy & Me clubs, and other schools who are unable to book a guided tour.

The Farm's 2005-06 season started in September and ends June 2. The Farm is closed all major holidays and for the Thanksgiving holiday Nov. 21-25, winter break Dec. 19-Jan. 6, and certain events including the OC Fair, Sand Sports Super Show and Pet Expo.

For more information or to make a reservation, visit www.ocfair.com.

**2006
OC
FAIR
FLOWER
POWER
JULY 7-30**
Year of the Garden
COSTA MESA * www.ocfair.com

What's Inside



Winter Events



A Walk at the Farm



President's Message

Did You Know?

Buy 2006 OC Fair admission now and save!
www.ticketmaster.com

Fun Is In Bloom For Youth Expo In April

The Orange County Fair & Exposition Center will again plant the seeds for creativity and innovation in today's youth during the 27th annual Youth Expo, held April 7-9, as it celebrates fun, friendship and flowers.

"Where Best Buds Meet" in 2006, the free event will showcase the musical, scientific, artistic and intellectual skills of Orange County elementary, junior high and high school students in a variety of competitive and non-competitive events.

Hundreds of student entries on display for the 51st annual Orange County Science and Engineering Fair prove that science can be cool. Budding scientists and engineers from throughout the county will showcase their inventions, experiments and research throughout the run of Youth Expo.

Hardhats, hammers and electric tools will invade the fairgrounds for a second year with the 17th annual Home Builders Council (HBC) Design Build Competition. The two-day event, Saturday and Sunday, challenges high school, community college, Youth Build and Regional Occupation Program (ROP) teams on their abilities to design and build structures under professional scrutiny and time constraints.

Junior and senior high school jazz bands will rock out for the



16th annual Youth Expo Jazz Festival to show who are the coolest young cats in the county. Novice and advance competitions will take place Friday and Saturday.

Future stars of the stage, television and movies will make their earliest attempts at stardom in the 24th annual Youth Expo Talent Search. Entrants, continued inside

Local Businesses Mix It Up Mar. 9

Businesses and individual professionals from throughout Orange County will mix and mingle at Orange County's Largest Mixer III on March 9.

Touted as the "ultimate networking business event," this year's mixer will have rows and rows of booths representing a variety of industries, companies and corporations. Organizers hope to encourage membership in Orange County chambers, visitor bureaus and business organizations, in addition to providing businesses and professionals the opportunity to network for mutual support.

This unique networking event is a collaboration of Orange County chambers of commerce and convention and visitors bureaus. Participating chambers and bureaus come from Costa Mesa, Santa Ana, Huntington Beach, Fountain Valley,



Westminster, Anaheim, Newport Beach, Orange, Buena Park, Fullerton, San Juan Capistrano and Tustin.

There are also several specialty groups participating, such as the Latin Business Conexion, American Business Women's Association, Black Chamber of Commerce, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the British American Business Council.

Promoters have also teamed up with Reading by 9, a Los Angeles Times'

community program, to promote literacy. Attendees can donate a new children's book for a chance to win two roundtrip tickets courtesy of Southwest Airlines.

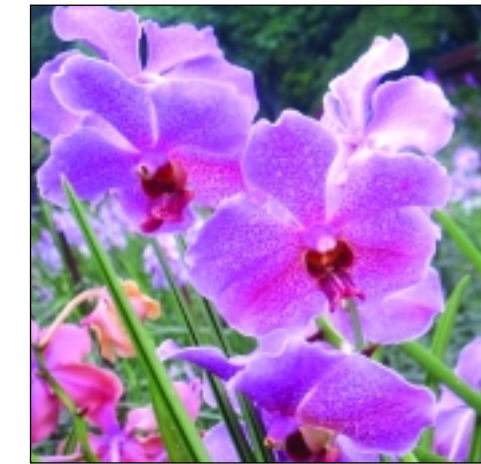
Also, local restaurants and eateries will be offering complimentary hors d'oeuvres and samples from their outstanding menus.

Orange County's Largest Mixer III will be held from 5-9 p.m. at the Orange County Fair & Exposition Center. Admission is \$15 and parking is free. For more information, visit www.ocmixer.com.

Orchid Show Plants Its Seed At OCFC

For the first time, the 20th annual Fascination of Orchids International Orchid Show and Sale will showcase the beauty and intrigue of the popular tropical flower at the Orange County Fair & Exposition Center Feb. 10-12.

Formerly housed at nearby South Coast Plaza, the annual extravaganza is touted as one of the largest and most spectacular orchid shows in the world with numerous vendors, exhibits, workshops and seminars. There will be growers from California, Hawaii, Asia, and Central and South America selling dozens of varieties of orchids.



on its Web site that the orchid was second only to poinsettias in potted flowering plant sales for 2004 with some 17.2 million being sold in the United States alone.

The organization attributes the flower's growing popularity to its beauty, heartiness and relatively low-cost production. Nurseries throughout the nation have taken to growing huge volumes of quality plants.

The show is open Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. One-day admission is \$3 and an unlimited weekend pass is \$5. Parking is free. For more information visit www.ochidshow.com.

Strings, Glue And Americana At OCFC In Winter

The Orange County Fair & Exposition Center will start the new year on a musical note with the **Tex*Us Guitar Show** Jan. 21-22. Music and guitar enthusiasts will come together to see the latest and the best of the guitar industry. Hours are Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$10 and ages 12 and under are free.

Locals will be pulling out their photographs, glue, double-sided tape and fancy cut scissors Feb. 17-19 for the **Scrapbook Expo**. Share tips, exchange ideas and pick-up the latest creative design kit for that next scrapbook project.

Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$8 and ages 12 and under are free.

Opening the spring season at OCFC, the **California Country Show** will offer a little bit of Americana from Mar. 11-12 with over 50 vendors selling folk art, country furniture, quilts, hooked rugs, samplers, toys, gardens, vintage paint and more. The show will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$9 and visitors 17 years old and younger are free.



Fun is in bloom, continued here regardless of previous experience or agency affiliation, will try to sing, dance, act and perform their ways into the judges' favor on Saturday and Sunday.

Grilled-to-order hotdogs and hamburgers, gooey-cheese-covered tortilla chips, sugary cotton candy and more will be sold by local youth groups holding their annual fundraisers.

Free activities, arts and crafts will

be hosted by local Girl Scout troops throughout Youth Expo. Learn how to train a dog or see what exciting adventures local troops have taken this year as you braid a lanyard keychain or get your hands dirty finger painting.

The 27th annual Youth Expo is open Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission and parking are free. For more information, visit www.ocfair.com.

The 2006 Youth Expo Handbook is available online.

Download the handbook and register your entries online.

Visit www.ocfair.com and click the Youth Expo button.

For additional info, call (714) 708-1554.

2006 OC Fair Sponsorship Opportunities

The 2006 OC Fair, July 7-30, offers an excellent opportunity to reach over 1 million potential customers over 21 days. As a sponsor of the Fair, you will achieve the exposure and visibility necessary to successfully promote your service or product.

The opportunities are endless as a sponsor of the OC Fair!

For **Corporate Sponsorships**, contact: Michele Richards at (714) 708-1716.

For **Premium Space Rentals**, contact: Events Sales & Services at (714) 708-1572.

Events CALENDAR 2006

Jan., Feb. & Mar.

Weekly Events

ORANGE COUNTY MARKET PLACE
Saturday & Sunday, 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Main Lot. Admission: adults \$2, children under 12 free.
 Tel Phil Enterprises (949) 723-6660
www.ocmarketplace.com

FARMERS MARKET
Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Main Lot. Sponsored by the Orange County Farm Bureau (714) 573-0374

CENTENNIAL FARM
Monday - Friday, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Admission: free.
 (714) 708-1916

JANUARY 2006

21-22 ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER TRAVEL SHOW
Saturday, noon - 5 p.m.
Sunday, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Buildings #10 & #12.
 Admission: adults \$8, seniors (55+) \$7, children under 12 free.
 Orange County Register (714) 796-7874
www.ocregister.com

21-22 TEX*US GUITAR SHOW
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Building #14.
 Admission: adults \$10, children under 12 free.
 Tex*us Guitar Shows, Inc. (918) 288-2222
www.texasguitarshows.com

27-29 30th ANNUAL HOME REMODELING & DECORATING SHOW
Friday, noon - 7 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
 Buildings #10 & #12.
 Admission: adults \$6.75 (with coupon \$5.75), seniors (55+) \$4; children 12 & under free.
 N.E.C. Group, Inc. (818) 557-2950
www.thehomeshow.com

FEBRUARY 2006

4-5 CROSSROADS OF THE WEST GUN SHOW
Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Buildings #10, #12, #14 & Parade of Products.
 Admission: adults \$10, seniors \$9, children under 12 free with adult.
 B&L Productions (801) 544-9125
www.crossroadsgunshows.com

10-12 FASCINATION OF ORCHIDS
Friday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
 Buildings #14 & #16.
 Admission: \$3.
 Fascination of Orchids (949) 645-3112
www.fascinationoforchids.com

10-12 SCATS GYMNASTICS COMPETITION
Friday, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday, 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sunday, 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
 Building #10.
 Admission: TBD. (714) 895-2909
www.scatsgymnastics.com

17-19 SCRAPBOOK EXPO
Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Buildings #10, #12, #14, #16, #17

& Parade of Products.
 Admission: adults \$8, children under 12 free.
 Scrapbook Expo (360) 897-6024
www.scrapbookexpo.com

25-26 MALIBU CAT SHOW
Saturday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Building #10.
 Admission: adults \$5, seniors (62+) & children under 12 \$4.
 Malibu Cat Club
www.cfasouthwest.org

MARCH 2006

3-5 GEM FAIRE
Friday, noon - 7 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Building #12 & Parade of Products.
 Admission: adult \$5, children under 12 free.
 Gem Faire, Inc. (760) 747-9215
www.gemfaire.com

4 WHAT'S UP FOR KIDS
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Building #14.
 Admission: free
 (310) 544-1042
www.whatsupforkids.com

9 O.C.'S LARGEST MIXER III
Thursday, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
 Building #14, #16 & Baja Blues Restaurant.
 Admission: \$15.
 (949) 222-6600
www.orangecountyslargetmixer.com

9 APARTMENT ASSOCIATION OF ORANGE COUNTY ANNUAL TRADE SHOW & CONFERENCE
Thursday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Admission: free.
 Apartment Association of Orange County (714) 638-5550

11-12 CALIFORNIA COUNTRY ANTIQUE AMERICANA SHOW & SALE
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Building #14.
 Admission: adults \$9 (\$6 after 2 p.m.), children 17 & under free.
 Paid admission good for both days.
 (831) 479-4404
www.californiacountryshow.com

16-18 SUGAR PLUM FESTIVALS "ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW"
Thursday & Friday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Building #10.
 Admission: free.
 Sugar Plum Festivals (562) 598-0857
www.sugarplumcrafts.com
 NO STROLLERS PLEASE

19 BRIDAL SHOW
Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Building #12 & Parade of Products.
 Admission: adults \$10.
 Adcom Publishing (714) 670-7800
www.brideworld.com

25-26 CROSSROADS OF THE WEST GUN SHOW
Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Buildings #10, #12, #14, & Parade of Products.
 Admission: adults \$10, seniors \$9, children under 12 free with adult.
 B&L Productions (801) 544-9125
www.crossroadsgunshows.com