



Get Your FairShare



CREATING UNIQUE EXPERIENCES THAT BUILD POSITIVE MEMORIES AUGUST – NOVEMBER 2007

CAMP REVITALIZATION INSPIRES W.F.A. DONATION

Recently, the Western Fair Association had the opportunity to tour Easter Seals – Camp Woodeden, and meet some of the youngsters that enjoy the multitude of activities provided for kids with disabilities.



In 2006, Camp Woodeden applied for a donation from Western Fair's Community Enhancement Fund to redevelop the facility into Canada's first year-round multi-sport camp for kids with physical disabilities. Chosen to receive support from the fund for their efforts, Western Fair Representatives toured the camp on July 18 and at that time presented a cheque for \$20,000 to Easter Seal Camp Ambassadors and a number of representatives from the camp's administration and Board. In turn, Western Fair was presented with a beautiful plaque which now hangs in the front lobby of our administrative offices.

The goal of revitalizing Easter Seals – Camp Woodeden into a year-round sports and recreation camp was established in response to a province-wide client and stakeholder survey that indicated a need for more challenging programs and camping experiences for physically challenged kids that went beyond the summer months. "Our kids want more fun all-year-round. We are in the process of transforming Camp

Woodeden into Canada's first year-round sports camp for kids with disabilities. Thanks to the Western Fair Association's generous donation we are one step closer to that goal," said Leela Sharma, Woodeden Campaign Director.

Since 1946, Easter Seals – Camp Woodeden has helped over 21,000 children afflicted with disabilities such as, cerebral palsy, spina bifida and muscular dystrophy,

to enjoy some life changing experiences at summer camp. Through community support, the revitalization of the camp will provide the opportunity for these kids to experience activities such as: rock climbing, sailing, tennis, wheelchair-accessible high rope courses, a 70-foot swing, and roller sledge hockey.

The Western Fair Association was impressed with the kids, staff and facilities experienced

during that visit. Thank you to everyone who took the time to show us the camp, and took part in some of the many exciting activities offered there so we could experience, if only for one afternoon, how important Camp Woodeden is to the families who utilize its services every summer. We look forward to a day when more families will enjoy the freedom and fun found in such a year-round facility.



Front Row, left to right: Heather Blackwell, Western Fair Corporate Affairs; Jamie Reaume, camper; Matthew Delby, 2007 Provincial Easter Seals Ambassador. Back Row, left to right: Dave Taylor, Western Fair Marketing and Annual Fair Manager; Karl Nevin, Western Fair Senator; Angela Abdallah, Quixtar Canada Easter Seals – Camp Woodeden Cabinet Volunteer.



New Governance in Place

By Gary McRae, CEO Western Fair



The culmination of almost a year of planning, researching, meetings and more meetings resulted in the approval and implementation of a new governance model, effective July 1, 2007.

A renewed commitment to the membership, restructured committees and the formation of a Senate, a Board of Governors and Fair Directors will provide a re-invigorated governance structure for the Association. Thanks to all involved in the process and there were many.

The review committee chaired by Past President and new Chair of the Senate, Denny Lang, spent many hours coming up with the right model that would serve the needs of the Association and provide meaningful involvement for the membership. To those who participated in our focus groups and completed surveys, your input was appreciated and is reflected in the final plan.

And thank you also to those who stepped forward to serve on the Board of Governors and Fair Directors. We hope you will find the experience both enjoyable and rewarding.

Jamie O'Shea and Ron Lackey decided to withdraw from the Association's governance at this time. Thank you for your past contributions and interest in Western Fair.

The governance review and resulting new structure were needed to move our ever changing and fast growing organization forward. Members and committees need to be more than just names on a list and we are committed to looking for ways to increase their involvement in a meaningful and rewarding way.

I supported the change, but my support should not be construed as a criticism of any previous Board of Directors or the past structure of the Board.

Over the years this organization, led by the Board of Directors, has always been an innovative, influential and impactful leader, both as a business and as a service provider in the greater London community.

In the past ten years alone, so much has been achieved by this organization because of the courage and conviction of the Board of Directors. They have worked effectively as a team, sharing responsibilities, successes and the odd failure.

This organization has been so very fortunate to have been served by such a capable and committed group who have always acted in the best interest of the Association.

As we move forward under our new governance model we extend our sincere appreciation to all former Directors of Western Fair Association.

SENATE

Past Presidents and all future
Past Chairs of the Board of Governors.

Chair: G. Dennis Lang

Karl Nevin

Jan B. Delaney

John White

John Ferris

Bill Grieve

Gary Williams

Hugh Filson

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The authoritative governing body
of the Association.

Chair: Ken Levy

Chair Elect: Jack E. Davis

Vice Chair: Alan Marr

Michelle Campbell

Ray Chowen

Don McCallum

Councillor Cheryl Miller

Fair President: Gary Weese

Chair of Senate: G. Dennis Lang

FAIR DIRECTORS

Oversees the budgeting, planning and
operation of the Association's signature
event, the annual Western Fair.

President: Gary Weese

President Elect: Jean Johnson

1st Vice President: Hugh Fletcher

2nd Vice President: Tim Kelly

Warden Wes Hodgson

R. A. (Bob) Earley

Al Edmondson

Fred Evans

Denise Hodgins

Jim Hunter

Councillor Bernie MacDonald

Tom Prout

Bill Reath

Councillor Harold Usher

Bill Zwambag

Chair of Board of Governors: Ken Levy



Long Service Rewarded

On June 19, 2007, Western Fair Association recognized a number of staff members for their years of service. The annual Long Service Award program highlights and rewards levels of service beginning at five years up to 40-plus years.

An operation the size of the Western Fair Association could not function without a strong, knowledgeable and loyal employee base. Western Fair Association requires a large workforce, 365 days a year, to operate effectively. The Association benefits from a long-service workforce, which in today's world is quickly becoming a rarity. A seasoned workforce is a strength and an asset and the Association extends sincere thanks and congratulations to those who were honoured recently.



10 Years

Top, left to right: Nikki Bertoia – Mutuel Teller; Zachary Graves – Bartender.
Bottom, left to right: Ilsi Branisa – Raceway Customer Service,
Nancy Chapman – Mutuel Teller.

15 Years

Lena Lindberg – Sales Coordinator.
Absent – Bill Walsh Sr. – Security & Traffic Control Supervisor.



20 Years

Top, left to Right: Debbie Carriere – Event Services – Grandstand,
Diane Talbot - Event Services – Grandstand, Lori Circelli – TOF Server.
Bottom, left to right: Nelly Smith – Mutuel Teller, Audrey Stringle –
Concessions Supervisor.

25 Years

John Prance – Event Services – Grandstand.
Bottom, left to right: Marianne Peckham and, Barb Daniloff - Mutuel Tellers.



30 Years

Larry Traher – Custodian.

35 Years

Left: Barry Graves – Food and Beverage Manager.
Right: Gary McRae – Chief Executive Officer/ General Manager.



45 Years

Left: Teresa Fitzpatrick – Mutuel Teller.
Right: Izetta Blackman – Mutuel Teller.

THE ADVENTURE AWAITS

The summer has started to wind down, but we are cranking up the cannon, filling the snake pit, oiling the chainsaw, building docks, smoking ribs and more, all in anticipation of another new and enhanced Western Fair. Year after year people visit the Fair to take advantage of fun, thrills, spills and good food – this year we are decked out with new layouts, attractions, entertainment, competitions, vendors and rides.

ANIMAL ADVENTURES

Join the Western Fair for animal adventures of all kinds. Go on safari for snakes; search the sky for eagles and falcons; herd horses, cattle and sheep in our agricultural pavilion; ponder why racing pigs race and check out the BIG AIR at the Dock Dogs attraction.

Explore your wild side, with our many fantastic animal attractions. Experience the **Canadian Raptors Conservancy – BIRDS OF PREY** at close range as the birds swoop and dive above your head. Don't give a HOOT! You should...this show is rated a family favourite at the Fair.

The **Giant Snakes of the World** showcase will open your eyes and drop your jaw when you take-in the largest snakes in the world and a reptile education you can't get in a book. Here, a brave man gets face to face with pythons, boa constrictors and all kinds of adrenaline inducing reptiles.



If you thought you were the world's best long-jumper then you've got competition! Make a point of catching **DOCK DOGS** at this year's Fair. The competition is straightforward yet exciting! Simply put...the dog with the longest leap off the end of a dock into a huge tank of water WINS! Check out some local Londoners vying for this year's gold medal or sign up your own pet at www.dockdogs.com for registration information.



What's a Fair without 'down on the farm' fun? Catch a glimpse of your favourite **barnyard animals inside Agriplex**. Watch live animal birthing sessions in the Maternity Ward where a bevy of beautiful babies awaits you or check out the newest additions to the Fair in their warm and cozy stalls. **4-H Competitions** will WOW the whole gang. Stop by the milking and sheep shearing demonstrations for more fun and don't forget the **Pig Scramble** for children, aged 6-12.



There's a lot of horsin' around at this year's Fair including; **Horse Disciplines of the World, Mid-Western Horse Show, Youth Horse Show, Heavy Horse Display and Team Penning** all in 10-days. **The Dodge Rodeo** Tour, showcased in the Grandstand, will provide a glimpse of a true athlete's life, for sure!



The **New Mustang Horse Show** will showcase a talented cowboy, two mustang horses and three dogs in the Agriplex at different times throughout the Fair. Spontaneous eye-watering



laughter is encouraged during the show's highlights of hilarious high-jinks between the animals and their master.



Racing Pigs and Ducks have migrated indoors to the Agriplex this year, find a spot in the bleachers and relax out of the sun while our pink porkers and their feathered friends race for the treasured trophy. And if that isn't

enough, **Pony Rides in the Park** is sure to be a family photo album must! These little four-legged foals come back year after year and delight the little ones with a spin around the ring.



THRILL ADVENTURES

Something a little out of the ordinary at the Western Fair is the **Human Cannonball** show. Although risky, this daredevil adventure takes place sky-high above the midway several times a day throughout the Fair and is worth the price of admission.



Shot out of a cannon he flies high above the crowds to land in a small net 150 feet away from his launch point. The blast from the cannon and the roar off the crowd are audible clear across the grounds. BANG-ON fun!



The carnival comes to the city with over 50 memorable, hair-raising thrill rides! Awaiting the adventuresome are the **Gravitron, Scrambler, Himilaya, Zipper and Freak Out!** We've also got the **Giant Wheel, Orbitor, Sea Dragon, Bumper Cars, Fun House, Zero Gravity**, plus many more.

Some new rides to the midway mix include the **Full Tilt, Wave Swinger, Street Fighter, Monkey Mayhem and Traffic Jam**. Tons of fun with all the lights, music and dazzle required of a proper midway.

If you are faint of heart, don't plan on checking out the hair-raising adrenaline-packed-action taking place in the McDonald's Grandstand this year. Some of the scariest stunts on wheels is the most popular FREE entertainment offered at the Fair. Insane exploits are on display with destructive **Demolition Derbies**, over-the-top **Imperial Stunt Drivers** and **Extreme Motocross** mayhem. We challenge you to stay in your seats as you watch all these death-defying acts of perilous pleasure. Events are FREE with fair admission.

WESTERN FAIR

September 7-16, 2007



FRIENDS AND FOLKS ADVENTURES

We are sure your outlandish group of adventurers will get a kick out of the many adventurous opportunities the Western Fair offers for every age and interest.

Whether you prefer thrills, music, games or competitions, a trip to the fair provides many rewards. Enjoy a game of bingo or trek the grounds in search of one of our marvellous strolling performers. Enjoy **Bandaloni**, the one-man band; **DOO DOO the Clown** and **Rock-It-Robot**.



Shopping and food fantasies are never far away, the Progress Building boasts vendors and merchants of all kinds, hawking their wares and slicing and dicing their way into your heart. With over **150 exhibitors** you can check out a variety of clothing, jewellery, electronics, household products and services, plus many unique gift ideas, you're sure to find something you want or need including a little down-home shopping charm of **Fanshawe Pioneer Village Country Store** located in the Agriplex.

Garden Lovers as well as those that appreciate **Art, Photo and Crafts** will find a treasure trove of all things artsy in the the Canada Building. Study **oil paintings** and **pastel drawings**, take-in **1000s of photos**, discover talented **crafters** and **artisans**, experience all kinds of beautiful **home crafts** and **culinary showcases** amidst floral fragrances while touring our **potted and cut flower competitions**.

Enjoy the antics surrounding a couple of our on-ground competitions at this year's Western Fair. You'll get energized with serious belly laughs as you take-in the **Mom and Dad calling; cup stacking; apple or potato peeling, and corn shucking competitions**. Enjoy the **Super Farmer** competition in the Agriplex, and see kids 15-21 participate in a number of farm-chore related relays. Go gaga over the 4th annual **Baby Competition** located on the Link Stage where you can sign-up for the babe-fest that day, and cross your fingers for a win in one of the numerous categories. The **Stihl Timbersport Canadian Finals**, located in the Agriplex, is a one-day lumberjack-sized event which challenges competitors to a number of timber related sports. The event takes place Thursday, September 13,



Explore the zanier side of science with **Mad Science's** spectacular live stage show, **Newton's Revenge 2**. Renowned for its unique brand of educational entertainment and newly revised for 2007, Newton's Revenge 2 is designed to demonstrate the role physics plays in our everyday lives. Be ready to take cover as educators unveil a gravity-powered ping-pong ball launcher, or when teams of young audience volunteers use specially designed catapults to discover the

power of Newton's Third Law. As the teams go head-to-head in a slingshot challenge, audiences will see all the Laws of Motion in action in one spectacular scientific showdown.



The Agriplex, full of our barnyard buddies will also host an environmental theme this year; check out the **Ontario Federation of Agriculture's ENVIRO-FARM**. The Enviro-Farm display illustrates much of what agriculture is doing to protect the environment.

FOOD ADVENTURES

We've been on an adventure of our own seeking new food thrills for those with an adventurous constitution. Investigate the award-winning **International Food and Travel Building**, offering a sampling of food from around the world. This attraction has added a fantastic draw prize for those that visit the building. Fill out a ballot to win **two Via Rail tickets to Halifax** on Canada's beautiful east coast. Check out the world-wide smorgasbord and take your taste buds to the **Caribbean, Japan, Vietnam, India, Peru, Thailand, China, Portugal, Italy** and the **Middle East**. New to the culinary tour this year is **Africa, Mexico and Greece**.

The cooking stage inside the International Food and Travel building, sponsored by A&P this year will offer Fresh Foods cooking demos where you can treat yourself to a free sample afterwards.



Or, put a little meat on your bones at the new **Canadian Barbeque Rib Fest**, a meat lover's oasis in the middle of the North Park. Western Fair's newest food attraction will host ribbers marinating, slopping sauce and smoking their favourite rib cuts amidst the hub-bub of the park.

We know you love 'fair food' classics and they're back! **Belgian waffles, butterfly chips, bacon on a bun, caramel corn, candy apples, cotton candy, elephant ears, fudge, snow cones, salt water taffy, ice cream on a stick, mini donuts, deep fried Mars Bars and fried cheese on a stick**. These tasty little morsels are heaven on earth to many of our attendees who ask for them year after year.

However, it wouldn't be much fun without a few new sensations to explore so, we found some savoury and sweet treats just for you. **Croissant calzones; fudge puppies; caramel apple chips; tropical iced teas and smoothies; maple syrup candy floss and apple dumplings with ice cream**.

A totally re-designed **Patio Café**, one of the Fair's most popular eating areas, still offers a taste of some traditional home-cooked favourites and healthier food options. **Fish and chips; soup and deli meat sandwiches; freshly made salads and muffins; hot chicken sandwiches; beef on a bun with beef gravy; hot pulled pork on a polish bun with BBQ sauce; rotisserie chicken off the spit; baked potatoes, and crocks of baked beans**. Yumeeee!

Candyland is a kids dream and we've got tons of vendors to build your own Candy Mountain if you wish. Fried favourites also abound. **Nachos, smoked sausage, back bacon, pogos, corn dogs, meatballs, poutine, chilli dogs and**

burgs, elephant ears and funnel cakes and deep fried donuts. To wash it all down there's a variety of juices, iced capps, hot chocolate, speciality coffees and teas, old fashioned apple cider, shakes and smoothies, razzles and slushies, mineral water, bottled water, or Gatorade and Perrier for the posh. If you need a cool, sweet treat to finish it all off; flavour burst ice-cream, chocolate dipped cones with or without nuts, soft serve ice cream, sundaes, splits, yogurt and sno-cones.

APPLAUSE ADVENTURES

Music, dance, demonstrations, drama, action – Western Fair stages have the stuff to put you on the edge of your seat – or on your feet! Prepare to be satisfyingly surprised and mightily entertained.

The **A&P Cooking Stage** is located inside the International Food and Travel Building. This stage will feature demonstrations that are sure to help everyone in their own kitchen.

The **Mad Science Stage** features **Newton's Revenge 2** several times daily, plus **Bandaloni** and **ethnic entertainment** in the evenings. **Fresh Vegetable Growers of Ontario Stage** located inside the Canada Building will host several demonstrations ranging from pastry making and fun with flowers, to apple peeling and corn husking contests.

The **North Park Stage**, located in Kiddyland, will feature **Splash n' Boots** musical entertainment for kids, **DOO-DOO The Clown** and **Craig The Amazing Juggler**, daily throughout the fair.

The ever popular **Porky's Midway Pub and Grill Stage** will have the joint jumping. Tried and true local entertainers and tribute artists keep audiences entertained and quench the occasional thirst with cool 'of-age' beverages to add to the adult fun of this on-grounds oasis. Catch the following acts through-out the fair. VODOO LOUNGE, LUCAS, BAD TO THE BONE, MOON SHINE RIDERS, AMC, 2ND CHANCE, BRAVE & CRAZY, PARTY PIRATES, KATMANDO and JENN MARRINO.

The McDonald's Grandstand Stage presents:



Elvis Tribute Concert with *Orchestra London*, Friday, September 7 at 7:30 p.m. – reserved seating \$20.

A Tribute to Elvis Presley sponsored by Ontario Lottery and Gaming, with two Elvis tribute performers supported by Orchestra London in honour of the 30th Anniversary of the legend's death.

Three Days Grace, Wednesday, September 12 at 7:30 p.m. – general seating \$35.

Enjoy popular Canadian hard rock/post-grunge band Three Days Grace. The band's break away lead single, "I Hate (Everything About You)", reached number one on the U.S. Rock charts and number two on the Canadian Rock charts. Their latest album's second and third single, "Pain", and "Never Too Late" are rocking the airwaves this summer.



The Nylons, Thursday, September 1 at 1 p.m. – free with Fair admission.

The much-loved Nylons rock the Grandstand on Senior's Day this year. With seven gold and platinum recordings, this four member vocal group is a true international success story. The group is celebrating their 25th Anniversary in the recording industry with the release of their 14th CD, Sterling.



Paul Brandt, Thursday, September 13 at 7:30 p.m. – reserved seating \$30.

Canadian country sensation Paul Brandt takes the stage. In the short span of a decade, his name has become synonymous with Alberta, independence, and quality. Paul Brandt is the voice of Country Music in Canada.

Kenny Rogers, Friday, September 14 at 7:30 p.m. – reserved seating \$39.

Rounding out the musical grandstand concerts for the week is country legend, Kenny Rogers, who has become such an icon that it's easy to forget how he got there. His raspy voice is instantly identifiable – he sounds like nobody else. For more than five decades, Rogers has delivered memorable songs, drawing fans among rock, pop, soul and country audiences.



The **Anne Eadie Park Stage** sponsored by Xerox is a community showcase of talented bands, dancers, singers and entertainers all mixed together to provide an entertaining respite amongst the hustle and bustle of the Fair. Most evenings you can find quarter and semi-finals of the **Ontario Youth Talent Competition** on this stage. Winners of these events compete again on the final weekend in junior and youth divisions to take home the top prize. Singers, entertainers, musicians, bands and dancers of all kinds, keep audiences tapping their toes, clapping their hands and put smiles on faces.

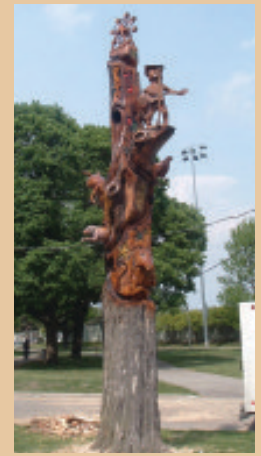
For more information on these and other adventures awaiting you at the Western Fair this year check out our website www.westernfair.com.



Western Fair's Story Tree Highlights Traditional Elements of the Fair

Western Fair Association's big, beautiful tree carving, and in carver Robbin Wenzoski's opinion the best tree creation London has seen to date, was completed this summer and is located in beautiful Queen's Park adjacent to the Western Fairgrounds just off of Dundas Street.

Instead of cutting down a majestic old maple tree that had died, the Western Fair Association commissioned tree carver Robbin Wenzoski to create a bit of outdoor art and commemorate the Association's signature event, the annual Western Fair. A number of carved fair-related characters were created, this winter, in Robin's studio and were then applied to the trunk when the final carving of the tree took place.



The folksy character embellishments will be familiar to fairgoers, with a number of agricultural animals and birds represented as well as a clown, a ferris wheel and elements of fair entertainment. The creation of an outdoor tree sculpture will be a new highlight for this year's 132nd Western Fair, taking place September 7-16, where many new adventures await.

Though the sculpture will be on display in Queen's Park for the public to enjoy for years to come, make sure you stroll through Kiddyland near the Park Stage to view the maple masterpiece. It is worth the adventure to find it on the grounds during the Fair.



London City Music Theatre® Nearing Completion



Theatre - tiered seating



Theatre stage

The London City Music Theatre rises from the ghost of the old IMAX Theatre building, located on the Western Fairgrounds; now that reconstruction has begun the dramatic effects of the new London City Music Theatre® have begun to be revealed. Once the theatre is completed visitors can expect to find a new tiered seating area that boasts two new corporate levels with balcony, as well as a small banquet facility at the rear of the theatre bringing audience capacity to 600 plus. The deep pit that once existed at the front of the theatre for the five-storey-high screen, has been transformed into a stage, changing rooms, green room and orchestra pit, which will all be directly under the stage.

The current changes are the result of five weeks of renovating that began when long awaited building permits were finally received in early June. The construction crew was up and running full time a little over a week later and if plans stay on track it is hoped that construction will be completed by mid to late August.

Plans initially called for a wooden stage to be constructed, but due to building codes a more expensive, concrete and steel stage, with a wooden sprung surface for dancing was required at triple the original costs. This has delayed construction somewhat, but plans are in place to begin with a soft opening early this fall and gradually work into a full entertainment schedule within a year of opening.

The fact that the exciting completion of the London City Music Theatre® is in sight means that staff have been busy procuring quality acts that President, Dale Henderson, hopes will fill corporate boxes, corporate tables and the new Banquet Room. Corporate pre-selling is anticipated says, Henderson and he states, "we will be unique in that we will be offering London and the surrounding area a variety of entertainment such as concerts of all genres, comedic and musical theatre, dancing during afternoon matinees and evening performances."

The London City Music Theatre® hopes to meet the community's need for live theater, music and dance in an updated, unique and intimate space that will attract visitors to the Western Fairgrounds and also draw from visitors already on-site, taking in other forms of entertainment at the event centre.

Upcoming **WESTERN** Events

FAIR

SEPTEMBER 2007

- Sept. 2 **North Park Fall Celebration**
 Sept. 7 – 16 **132nd Annual WESTERN FAIR**
 Sept. 22 – 23 **London Bridal Expo**
 Sept. 21 – 23 **Ontario Born & Bred Reining Futurity**
 Sept. 23 **London Amateur Radio Flea Market**
 Sept. 26 **Prenatal Health Fair**

OCTOBER 2007

- Oct. 13 – 14 **Forest City Yearling Sale**
 Oct. 14 **London Model Aircraft Swap Meet**
 Oct. 19 – 21 **Friends of the London Public Library Book Sale**
 Oct. 26 – 28 **North American Beef Congress**
 Oct. 26 – 28 **London Fall Arts & Crafts Show**

NOVEMBER 2007

- Nov. 3 **Standardbred Canada Fall Extravaganza Sale**
 Nov. 10 – 11 **Kids Expo**
 Nov. 10 – 11 **Fall Fiesta Agility Trial**
 Nov. 12 – 22 **Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Pre Registration**
 Nov. 16 – Dec. 2 **Samko & Miko Toy Warehouse Sale**

- Nov. 17 – 18 **Canadian Caprine Classic**
 Nov. 24 – 25 **Gem and Mineral Show**
 Nov. 28 **HIV/AIDS Awareness Expo**
 Nov. 29 – Dec. 2 **Christmas Craft Festival**

DECEMBER 2007

- Dec. 1 **Animalert Bazaar**
 Dec. 12 **Prenatal Health Fair**
 Dec. 17 – 21 **Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Program**
 Dec. 30 – 31 **NAPC 2007 Extreme Tour**

The above information is subject to change.

For more information on:

Live and Simulcast Racing 519-438-7203

Top of the Fair Reservations 519-433-3247

Sport Centre 519- 438-7293 EX 347, Ice Rental EX 348

To contact us:

Western Fair Association / Fair Share Editor

P.O. Box 7550, London, ON N5Y 5P8

1-800-619-4629 or 519-438-7203 EX 261

Fax: 519-679-3124

Website: www.westernfair.com

LONDON'S FARMER'S MARKET

Open every Saturday from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. in the Confederation Building at the Western Fairgrounds. Products range from the finest in fresh produce – fruits, vegetables, meats, cheese, baked goods, specialty meats, flowers, eggs, dry goods, handicrafts and more.



Molson Pace 2007 –

Richest Night Ever in the Tracks 46 Year History **By Frank Salive**

The \$255,000 Final of the Molson Pace at Western Fair Raceway saw Rare Jewel turn the tables on Maltese Artist to win in 1:53, tying the all-time track record on the richest night ever in the track's 46-year history. It was also one of the last major races at the Western Fair Racetrack for the 2006/2007 season which ended June 29. The eight free-for-allers who advanced to the final

represented the most talented field ever assembled for the track's signature race in its long history.

Prior to the start of the final race, Rare Jewel's driver, Chris Christoforou, noted that his horse was only able to race full-out for the last 10 feet before the wire in the elimination rounds and he was hoping for a better opportunity in the final. He certainly got it.

As the field left the gate three horses were gunning for the front, Rare Jewel, Maltese Artist and Special Report. Chris Christoforou praised his horse, Rare Jewel, "he was fantastic tonight. I was lucky enough to clear early and I think that made a big difference. I was able to put Maltese Artist in the two hole which is basically where I wanted him. I can't say enough about my horse. "

Only the fourth win in 17 starts this year for Rare Jewel, a six-year-old gelding by Artiscape, owned by Norm Vartanian of Hamilton, Ontario and trained by Brett Robinson, but the gelding now has \$215,000 earned this year giving him \$747,000 lifetime.

With the 1:53 clocking, Rare Jewel joins Four Starzzz Shark, Ponder, Buckeye One, Grand Bend Turbo, Rob Roy Mattgregor, Our Lucky Killean and Maltese Artist as one of the fastest winners ever at Western Fair.

As Christoforou pointed out, there was a full house at the London track on the warm evening which produced two other track records and the on-track wager was \$131,000 which is the highest it's been in more than six years at the Western Fair Raceway.

One of the toughest field of horses the Molson Pace has ever seen, the race held a great attendance for the evening's festivities. Racing at the London oval is on hiatus for the summer months, but resumes its 2007/2008 race season this fall, Monday, October 1, 2008 at 4:05 pm. Check out the track's webpage at www.westernfair.com for more information.

