

PUBLIC FORUM

About the fair!

Editor, Spectrum:

We as members of the Washington County Fair Board have a need to express our feelings about the misunderstandings of the fair.

First of all, it is a county fair, not a Hurricane, St. George or Enterprise fair. We need to realize where the "heart" of our county is.

Next, we need to realize the growth we are experiencing and the problem of finance and room with keeping it in Hurricane. The majority of the fair board members are from St. George and Enterprise. (Not saying that the few from Hurricane haven't been worth their weight in gold.) Those of us needing committees and such, have tried to incorporate Hurricane people with little success. We also feel that for all the hard work and loyalty which we have shown towards our fair, there has been little thanks from the public.

A few of the most important areas of the fair are: continuous entertainment, 4-H, carnival, queen pageant, baby contest, twin and freckle contest, princess contest, fights, exhibits, booths for food, parades, clean up crew, and look-alike contest.

These take hours of work and lots of help from everyone. If we could put into dollars, the hours spent by these committees would tip the budget. There is no pay to us for a full year's work.

At least \$1,000 is spent a year for shoes, clothing etc. by Cleo Atkin out of her own pocket to help the queen royalty look better for the county. This 1986 year is the first time in six years that Mrs. Atkin has been paid, and we guarantee that \$3,000 she did receive is poor pay for a full time job. We wouldn't do it for that. Would you?

The \$4,000 was raised by the queen committee and had to be put back into the General Fund, but charged to the county fair so it looked like the fair was overbudgeted. The \$3,000 worth of scholarship were donated by businesses from cities in our county except for Hurricane.

The reason for moving the fair started because the Washington County School Board stated that "1980 would be the last year for the use of the schools." Cleo then got going on that premise.

If we want a county fair and not a church party, we who care had better start to fight. Hurricane want the fair and if it stays there, Mr. Bringhurst, you better quit your bank job because your new one is a big one.

As the story goes with the "Little Red Hen," they all want the benefits but no one wants to do the work!

Mr. Bringhurst purposes that he spend \$1,500 for the fair and put the rest in a fund for a new building, so that in a few years there would be enough money saved. That seems almost impossible with prices increasing everyday. Why not use the Dixie

Center. We hope that cutting the budget doesn't take away from the fair being fair.

Kaye Peterson
Debbie Cottam
Mary Snow
Mildred Peterson
Betty Reeves
Winel Bracken
Nick Lang
Vonda Larsen
LaRee Jones
Elna Rae Page
Mel Taylor

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