



JOHNSON COUNTY FAIR TALK

APRIL 2011

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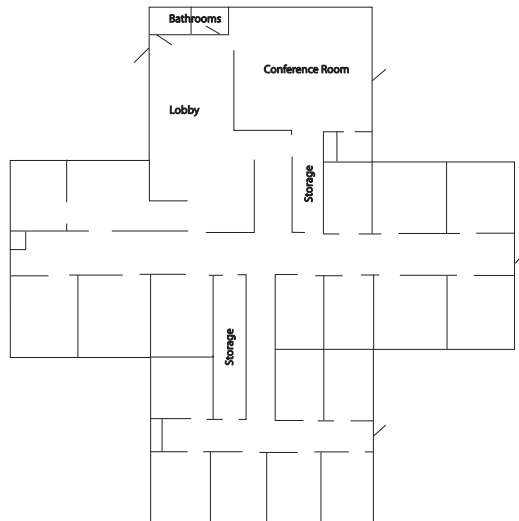
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2011 JOHNSON COUNTY FAIR THEME



GROWING UP AT THE JOHNSON COUNTY FAIR

We have been working on getting ready for the 2011 Fair. This year our theme is "Growing Up at the Johnson County Fair". We have all grown up a little since the last fair and so have some of our ideas. Look for them in the next newsletter



Sometime this early summer Extension will be moving out of the Office Building and into their new building next to the fairgrounds. JCAA would like to find another excellent renter for the office building. We are looking for a business/company that would work well with the fairground lifestyle. The building is 4500 square feet with ample parking. There are presently 17 private offices (10X12), a large lobby area, one large conference room with a break room, two restrooms, and lots of storage. It would be possible for you to remove non-load bearing walls and change the building to suit your needs. We would prefer a single renter but would consider renting a wing of the building or

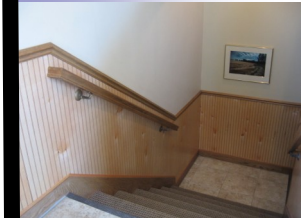
single office spaces. The ideal situation would be a non-profit organization, similar to ourselves. JCAA will mow the grass and remove snow in the winter. Contact the office at 337-5865.

Watch for the remodeled website page. It should be done by the time you get this newsletter. Please tell us how you like it...is it easier to navigate?

We have a new email address: johnsoncofair@gmail.com

Another up-grade to Montgomery Hall

This March we added birch paneling to the entry and stairway in Montgomery Hall.



**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE OR
CONTACT US BY EMAIL.**

**Website:
www.JohnsonCoFair.com
NEW Email:
JohnsonCoFair@gmail.com**

JOHNSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS—FACILITIES REPORT

There has been several updates made at the fairgrounds. Last fall two tile lines were put in. One is a from the Heritage Barn to the ditch by the road. This tile services the drains by Barn 1 and the Office Building. This 10" tile replaced a 5" that was 90% filled with sediment. The second tile line is an 8" tile with 3 drains. It was installed on the west side of the show barn. This has been a very wet area and this should resolve the water issues behind the show barns.

The entry way and stairwell in Montgomery Hall is now finished. Wainscoting was installed in March.

We purchased a new tractor with a loader and a pull behind new mower. The new tractor is an 80 horsepower International which will aid in snow removal and cut down the time it takes to mow the grass. The finish mower has a 12' cutting width.

Later this summer before the fair we plan to have a 2" overlay put on the main parking lot. It will also be restriped and marked. Extension is allocating some funding toward the improvement of the parking lot.

In our continuing efforts to relocate the over head electric lines underground. Two lines were buried, one was the line going to the Rabbit/Heritage Barn and the other line serviced Montgomery Hall. There was a electrical pole that blew down near the Rabbit/Heritage Barn. The pole was eliminated and a new light was added to the east side of the Heritage Barn. On the west side of Montgomery Hall two poles were removed and a light was added to Building A and Montgomery Hall.

We also hope to have the floor of the Rabbit Barn cemented before fair. This a cooperative effort by the fairboard and Jeff Englert, project leader of the Rabbit Department.

Gary Shemanski



SPONSORSHIPS & EXHIBITS

Sponsorships committee has acquired Billion Auto as a premier sponsor. Our goal for sponsorship this year is set at 30,000. Last year we had people/companies sponsor \$15,000...we want to be very energetic in finding more sponsors for this year. Please consider being a sponsor for the 2011 Johnson County Fair. Feel free the contact any of the fairboard directors.

Commercial exhibits is another opportunity to share at the fair. If you own or work at a company that would like 70,000 people noticing your business, consider being a exhibitor at the Fair.

**Contact Charlie Isaacs at:
319-325-2163 or
charlisaacs2@msn.com.**

The University of Iowa is going to have an exhibit very similar

to what they had at the Iowa State Fair. They will be using 5 spaces in Building C to showcase various departments, including sports, dentistry & the college of pharmacy. This year we are having an ATV rollover working exhibit. This would be of interest to all the 4-H kids.

2011 FAIR CLEANUP

After being gone for year the 4-H clubs of Johnson County have volunteered to help keep the 2011 Johnson County Fair neat and clean. With changes in extension and JCAA the cleanup for the 2010 fair got lost in the shuffle. The JCAA board of directors decided after the 2010 fair to take the lead role in organizing the clubs for clean up during the fair. JCAA secretary and 4-H leader Tom Wall drafted a

letter to the club leaders and requested their support at a resent leader meeting. Eleven clubs have stepped forward so far. Each club will be assigned a day and an area to clean up during the fair. This frees JCAA staff to clean restrooms and prepare for events during the fair.

The other request of the clubs was that they could request volunteers to help with putting

the fair gates, chairs and traffic control items away Saturday after the fair. Many hands make light work of this big task. With the help of the 4-H youth of Johnson County and the JCAA members the Fairgrounds will be ready to welcome any event Sunday after the Fair. Thank You 4-H.

**JOHNSON COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**

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July 25-28, 2011 — Join us at the Johnson County Fair

COMMENTS FROM OUR PRESIDENT—DAVE SCHMIDT

Can you believe there are only four months until the 2011 Johnson County Fair? As the Mission Statement for the Johnson County Ag Association states our main goal is to provide a place for the 4-H and FFA fair. All of the activities of the Fair Board revolve around this goal. Fortunately, Johnson County has many opportunities to raise money to put on the fair.

The Board started the 2010-2011 Year by sending eight members (and Spouses) to the Iowa Association of Fairs annual meeting in Des Moines, last December. Board members attended numerous seminars such as, what your responsibilities are to be part of the Board, reviewing your articles of incorporation, fund raising, and preparing for a disaster during the fair. All attending thought it was a worthwhile activity. Many hours were spent networking with other county Board members. Also watching the talent showcase is always a highlight.

Some of the Boards current activities include, Updating mowing

equipment. Last summer the grass never stopped growing. The Building and grounds committee is reviewing bids to resurface the parking lot. This will happen before the fair. Entertainment committee is putting finishing touches on a great line-up for the Fair. Rental committee is working with all the vendors for the commercial exhibits. And don't let me forget we will have a new carnival this year with more and better rides. The whole Board is working on getting sponsors for the Fair. That can be an opportunity for all of us. Please consider being a sponsor. For as little as one hundred dollars you can be a sponsor and be part of putting on the Fair. Other sponsor opportunities will give benefits such as meal tickets during the Fair.

Finally, I consider it a great opportunity to serve as Board President. The Board has a great work ethic. Everyone is willing to pitch in and work. Everyone is very involved in the decision process, which can at times be very challenging. The Board has a very positive attitude and considers their Mission in all they do.