

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

## OHIO FAIR MANAGER'S ASSOCIATION

This January, numerous Directors from the Cuyahoga County Fairboard participated in the 101st Annual Ohio Fair Managers Convention held in Columbus, Ohio. The OFMA convention included a trade show, various seminars, and entertainment options. Furthermore, the Fairgrounds proudly received several accolades and awards, highlighting the hard work and dedication of the Fairboard, staff, and media partners that contributed to last year's success.

## OFMA AWARDS

The results are here, and hold onto your hats—once again, the Cuyahoga County Fair snagged the "BEST IN SHOW" award for 2026 of all county fairs held in the State of Ohio. All awards were voted on by our peers at the Ohio Fair Managers Association Convention this January! Additional Awards CCF earned were:

### \*\*1st Place Awards\*\*

- Television Commercial Campaign
- Social Media Campaign
- Printed Promotional Materials Campaign
- Misc. Use of Technology to Promote Fair

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Awards:

- Outdoor Campaign
- Fair Newsletter Campaign
- Promoting Agricultural Education

WAY TO GO! Pictures on page 3.



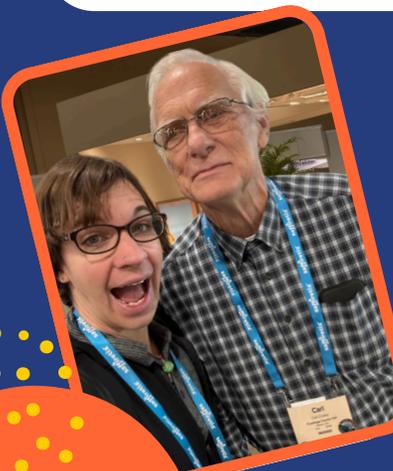
## IAFE CONVENTION

In November 2025, Fairboard President Carl Cooley and Director Jeff Dickson traveled to Denver, Colorado, to attend the annual International Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (IAFE) Convention and Trade Show. IAFE is a nonprofit organization that operates on a voluntary basis, dedicated to supporting state and county fairs across the nation and internationally, with the goal of improving their venues and operational effectiveness.

Our adventurous travelers devoted the week to participating in seminars centered around Ticketing, Security, and Entertainment. They also savored

performances by various artists, resulting in the booking of much of the entertainment for the 2026 and 2027 Fairs during this event. Both directors agreed that the convention was filled with innovation, valuable insights, and enjoyment.

*Pictured left: Dickson and Cooley enjoying the IAFE convention floor.*



## FAIRGROUND EVENTS CALENDAR

OHIO GUN AND KNIFE SHOW	JAN 17 & 18
INDIAN RIVER CITRUS TRUCK	JANUARY 21
GREAT LAKES TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSN.	JAN 24
CANNABIS FEST	JANUARY 31
QUEEN OF HEARTS CRAFT SHOW	FEB 14
WILD & WOOLY FIBER EXPO	FEB 14
OHIO GUN AND KNIFE SHOW	FEB 21 & 22
STRONGSVILLE ROTARY CLUB CHILI OPEN	FEB 28
CANNABIS FEST	FEB 28
GEM STREET USA	MARCH 13-15
FARM BUREAU TACK SALE	MARCH 15
OHIO GUN AND KNIFE SHOW	MARCH 21 & 22
CANNABIS FEST	MARCH 28
LAKE ERIE TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSN.	MARCH 28

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**NEWSLETTER**



**GET YOUR 2026 AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP TODAY!!**

Membership for the Agricultural Society's 2026 term will be open for purchase starting December 1, 2025 at the Fairboard Office for \$25 per person. You must be 18 years of age and provide proof that you are a Cuyahoga County resident (a valid driver's license will do). Your membership includes two tickets to the upcoming fair, which runs from August 11-16, 2026. Don't miss out – August 16 (the last day of the fair) at 10 pm is the final day to buy your membership.

*Queen of Hearts*  
CRAFT SHOW

Come join the love at the Queen of Hearts Craft Show on Saturday, February 14, from 9 AM to 4 PM! With over 80 fabulous vendors, crafts galore, delicious food, and loads of fun, you won't want to miss it! Plus, admission and parking are FREE—what's not to love? Contact the event manager for more details at BereaFleaMarket@gmail.com. Or give the Fairboard Office a ring to fill out a vendor application and pay for your spot over the phone: 440-243-0090.

**INDOOR FLEA MARKET**

Get ready to score some serious bargains because parking is on the house and the shopping is top notch at the Indoor Flea Markets this Winter! With three buildings bursting at the seams with goodies from over 90 fabulous vendors, you might just lose track of time! For just a buck, you can stroll in at 7am and unleash your inner treasure hunter. Check out the dates below! Got some stuff to sell? Hit up CUYFAIR.com/Fairgrounds/Flea-Market for the vendor application or give the Fairboard Office a ring (MWF 10-3) at 440-243-0090!

2026 INDOOR FLEA MARKET DATES:

January 3-4 | February 7-8 | March 7-8

HOURS: Sat-6am to 1pm, Sun-7am to 1pm



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**WILD & WOOLY FIBER EXPO**

Looking for fiber art supplies & equipment? Come explore fiber artists and their crafts at the Wild & Wooly Fiber Expo on February 14, 2026 from 11am-4pm. Parking is free and admission is only \$5.



**FAIRBOARD MEETING**  
JANUARY 22 - 6PM  
FEBRUARY 26 - 6PM  
MARCH 26 - 6PM



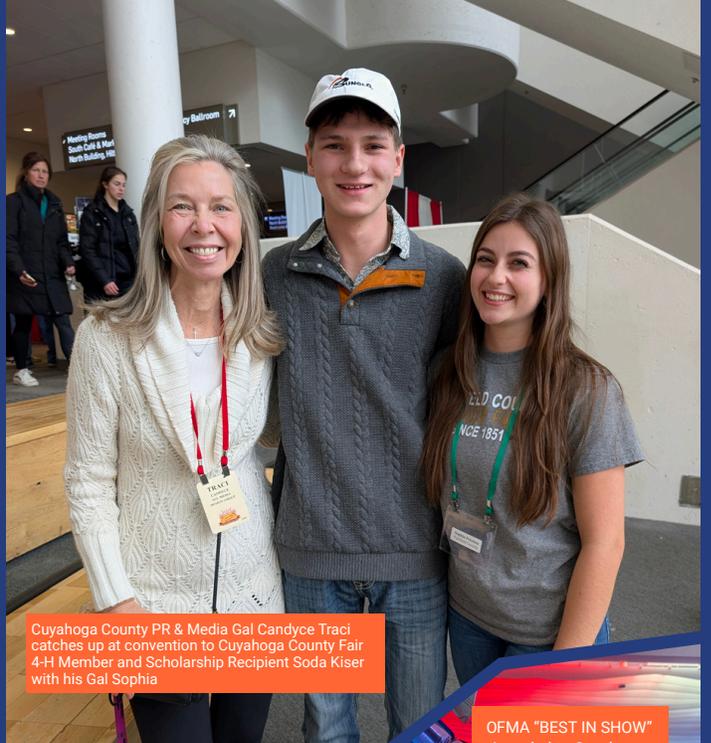
**2026 CUYAHOGA COUNTY FAIR**  
AUGUST 11-16

# January 2025 OFMA Convention

Cuyahoga County Fair Officers and Board Members attend the OFMA Communication Awards Breakfast



Cuyahoga County PR & Media Gal Candyce Traci catches up at convention to Cuyahoga County Fair 4-H Member and Scholarship Recipient Soda Kiser with his Gal Sophia



OFMA "BEST IN SHOW" Awarded to Cuyahoga County Fair.

Cuyahoga County Fair Officers, Directors & Fair Associates at OFMA Convention Dinner.



A Variety of Award Entries posted at OFMA Convention with Cuyahoga County Fair front and center.



Cuyahoga County Fair Board Members accept the Communications Awards "BEST IN SHOW" award for 2025.

