

Rosthern Host High School Rodeo

The Rosthern Ag Society held our 1st annual high school rodeo on September 1st and 2nd 2013. It was an amazing weekend, we had beautiful weather and the event was a huge success. We had over 70 horse trailers and over 100 rodeo entries. Youth competitors came from all over the province and everyone was pleased with how well the event went over. Our rodeo weekend started on Sunday with a junior high rodeo, followed by the high school rodeo. After supper we had a “family fun-raiser” to help support the Saskatchewan High



School Rodeo Provincial Finals. It was a fun evening with many laughs as parents competed against each other and their families. Events included, adult goat tying, hide races, and bucket races. Monday events once again started with the junior high rodeo followed by buckle presentations to the winners of each event. The high school rodeo concluded our weekend with buckle presentations following that event.

We would like to thank our stock contractor Willick Rodeo, grounds crew, Roth Road Landscaping and excavating, our local business for sponsoring buckles, SAASE and Tourism Saskatchewan for the new venture grant. Without all of you this rodeo would not have been a success, we are already planning next years' rodeo, to be bigger and better. **(Submitted by the Rosthern Ag. Society)**



Mortlach and Area Fall Fair

The Mortlach Agricultural Society was looking to partner with the local school on putting together a Fall Fair. The whole community got involved and the Fair was held on September 27. The Venture Project program assisted with some seed money, and plans are already under way for next year. Below is the report submitted by the Mortlach Agricultural Society.

Mortlach School has held a Fall Fair each September since 1989. In an effort to bring school and community together, it was expanded to include entries from both school children and the community. With the SAASE and Tourism Saskatchewan Venture Project Fund and under Glen Duck's guidance we got the project planned and organized.

The school gymnasium was transformed into a display area for the entries which started to arrive at the school early in the morning. Adult categories included: flowers, grains, garden produce, canning, baking, sewing, quilting, crocheting, knitting handicrafts, art work and photography. Children categories included: creative arts, artwork, baking, handicrafts, vegetables, and photography.

The judges were local volunteers who inspected, tasted, smelled, measured, checked articles for details, and determined the winners. They worked diligently and had decisions made by lunch time.

Joan Searle, the Mortlach Museum Curator, set up a display about previous community fairs. Her research has shown that Mortlach Agricultural Society was active in 1909. The 15th Annual Exhibition was held July 25, 1923. Mortlach Agricultural Society's 18th Annual Fair was held July 21, 1926 with \$2,000.00 in prizes being awarded! Admission to the fairgrounds was fifty cents. Mortlach's

last fair, Wheatlands Agricultural Fair, was held July 1991; the theme for this fair was "Happy Days are Here Again".

During the afternoon, the Fall Fair was open to visitors to view the entries. Students with their classroom teachers stopped by as did folks from the community. Everyone was excited to look for red ribbons!! There was also a table of garden produce for sale that people had donated – many folks purchased vegetables for their family's meals.

A beef-on-the-bun supper was held at the Mortlach Hall with proceeds going to support next year's Fall Fair. The committee was very thankful to the

Molde family who donated the beef for the supper.

The day ended with the Awards Ceremony held in the gymnasium. It was a very exciting evening as children and adults both collected their prize money for their entries.

Overall the day was very successful –the school had many visitors that day, competition was keen, and local talents were on display. This year was the first community fair in twenty-two years – and we are only looking for bigger and better next year – happy days are here again.

Thank you to the SAASE - Tourism Saskatchewan Venture Fund.



Swift Current's Young Ranchman's Show

Kinetic Exhibition Park came alive September 27-29, 2013 with the Swift Current Agricultural and Exhibition Association hosting the 'Young Ranchman's All Breeds Youth Livestock Show'. Being held in conjunction with the 'Ranchman's Ridin' and Recitin', Young Ranchman's added a youthful flare to a weekend steeped with old West traditions. The Beef Pen Show, Heavy Horse Pull, Stock Dog Trials and the Ranch Horse Competitions were a good mix of activities for all ages and interests to enjoy. Hooves and Feathers Show and Sale along with the Cowboy Poetry made for a fun filled weekend.

The Young Ranchman's Show is an event open to all youth 21 years of age and under. After many months of planning, 108 young Agricultural enthusiasts gathered together for three days of not only livestock events, but also Public Speaking, Art, Photography, Team Show Judging and most importantly networking and team building. The overwhelming response to this show confirmed the need to provide an event that encourages our provincial

youth to remain involved in agriculture.

Thirty public speakers filled a board room waiting for their turn to present a speech. Topics ranged from 'Scuba Diving', 'Driving across the USA to the Denver Stock Show' to 'Swimming with the Dolphins' and 'Raising a Million Cats'. Some participants were seasoned speakers and others first time participants. The poise and confidence of the youth involved certainly impressed the panel of judges. Judges were teachers, Aldermen, ranchers and toastmasters - all individuals who have practiced public speaking within their professions. They noted the importance of this skill to the juniors, applauding them for a job well done and encouraging the group to keep excelling with this life skill.

Along with promoting youth to be responsible for livestock and to work alongside one another, this week-end offered help to those who were in need of a little extra expertise. This show was not just a cattle show for exhibiting livestock; a minimum of 2 'Skills competitions'

had to be entered. Judging, showmanship, grooming, public speaking and art and photography were part of this year's skills category. Being that this was our first year, we wanted the youth that have never attended a show like this to have a good experience entering classes that were somewhat familiar.

Photos with a 'Beef Cattle Influence' theme were judged and displayed, as well as: pencil sketches, paintings, Modge Podge Skulls and jewellery boxes, Lego art, stall signs and hand drawn posters. All were an excellent exhibition of the young people's talents. Plans for next year are to include marketing and literature,



as the intention is to include a few new additions every year.

Friday night was an evening to get acquainted and have some fun after a feed of Pizza and Pop! Although it was in a mixer format, a lot of questions were asked about the agricultural industry to create a quiz bowl competition. Along with this, the marshmallow toss and other games, teams used strategies to get the Oreo cookie that was stuck to one team members face moved down to their mouth. You can imagine the excitement that caused! We ended the evening with a fun old fashion game of musical chairs.

Saturday morning would come very early for those who were involved in the show team judging competition. After instruction on the formalities; exhibitors worked in pairs to judge a class of bred yearling heifers and fill out a judging card in the preliminaries.

Twenty-three teams of 46 participants competed, most had no prior experience or knowledge of this type of competition. At the end of the day three senior teams and three junior teams made their way to the show ring 'one duo' at a time. One person took on the role of judge while the other was the ring man. Reasons given to the crowd on a microphone were well presented.

At the end of the competition the top two senior teams and two junior teams were announced. It was interesting to receive the feedback we had on this competition as many pairs were already planning their





strategy for next year.

Because we followed their criteria and met all the requirements, we are the first Saskatchewan-based youth livestock show that qualifies youth to move on to compete at the Canadian National Young Cattleman of the Year Program. Chase Miller, Cody LaFrentz, Sadie Anwender and Georgia Pawlitzka will advance and our show team judging winners will go to the Western Canada Show Team Judging Finals in Bashaw, Alberta. Senior show teams of Chase Miller & Cody LaFrentz, and Julia Pawlitzka & Cheyenne Catley along with our junior teams of Sadie Anwender & Garrett Liebreich and Kyle Wall & Shane Hanel will be off to Bashaw in 2014!

The little Rancher program had 41 registered youth 8 years old and under. This program was geared to provide age appropriate information about the agricultural industry and safety, along with games, arts and craft and lots of snacks!

At the end of the day, this group of enthusiastic participants made their way to the show ring to wait for their turn to tell the crowd a few things about themselves using the micro-phone. Most were very eager to participate in this while others needed a little prompting. Whether they realized this or not, it was a fun way to introduce these Little Ranchers to public

speaking and in the future, show team judging

This program may have been the most important part to start to introduce youth to today's Agricultural Industry. We expect this portion of the Young Ranchman's show to grow quickly with both rural and urban participation. Perhaps this is the key to have a better understanding of the Agriculture Industry. In today's world of social media, it is our industry's responsibility to provide age appropriate factual information.

The banquet Saturday night was attended by 300 people. Sponsors were acknowledged for their commitment to the show and the daily award winners were asked to come to the front of the room for applause for their success in the skill competitions that day. Our guest speaker for the night was Robert Dixon. He was born and raised in Vermilion on a mixed farming operation. Robert runs a small herd of purebred Shorthorn cattle that are shown and sold across North America. He manages and markets his herd through distinctly contemporary venues, such as online sales and multi-media marketing campaigns.

Robert is a graduate of the Agribusiness Diploma program at Lakeland College. He now instructs at the college in the Agribusiness program. Among the courses

he teaches is Agricultural communications, Business Management, Livestock Genetics, Public Relations and Event Management and Livestock Marketing. Before coming to the college, Robert worked for the United Farmers of Alberta (UFA) in public relations/communications and as a business analyst. He also serves as the chairman of the board for Green Hectares, a non-profit agricultural organization. He was also recognized this year as one of Alberta's 'rising stars' as one of 'The Next 10'. In his spare time, Robert enjoys traveling and riding horses. He travels to all the major livestock exhibits

and shows throughout North America connecting with producers, businesses and organizations. Robert enjoys speaking at agricultural events, and particularly to youth involved in agriculture. He is passionate and dedicated to connecting people to agriculture.

We were thrilled to have Robert share his experiences with our participants, inspiring them to tackle the agricultural industry! His message to everyone was to be proud of an industry that feeds the world! Gone are the days as describing ourselves as Just a Farmer or Just a Rancher. He reassured us it was OK to think outside the box and that anything is possible.

The Young Ranchman's Youth Livestock Show was a huge success and plans for next year's show are well under way. With some additional events and experience, our hope is to make this 'The Premier Youth Agricultural Show in Saskatchewan'.

Thank-you to SAASE, Tourism Saskatchewan and the Swift Current Agriculture and Exhibition Association along with all sponsors, for providing funding to help start the Young Ranchman's All Breed Youth Livestock Show. This valuable program will be here for the betterment of the future of the Agricultural Industry.

Tourism Saskatchewan Adds \$50,000 to SAASE Venture Project Program for 2013



Tourism Saskatchewan's new CEO - Pat Fiacco announced that Tourism Saskatchewan would be supporting the SAASE Venture Project Program in 2013 by adding an additional \$50,000 to the program - bringing the total amount available for new events, enhancing existing events, community development and the development of new Agricultural Societies. Over the last number of years the program has been instrumental in getting new events, festivals, programs and new Agricultural Societies up and running.

"The Venture Project Program has demonstrated its value many times over for its knowledgeable and in-depth understanding of how best to support rural development at the community level. The events that will arise out of this support will celebrate the Saskatchewan spirit and is found all throughout our great province," said Pat Fiacco. SAASE would like to thank Tourism Saskatchewan for their continued support of this important program, and looks forward to all the great new community programs and events that will come out of the Venture Project Program for 2013.



Record Crowds Attend Saskatchewan Equine Expo

In excess of 10,000 horse enthusiasts passed through the doors at Saskatoon Prairieland Park for the second annual Saskatchewan Equine Expo in Saskatoon, February 15-17, 2013. The three-day event presented in partnership with the WCVM and the SHF, featured educational seminars presented by the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, clinician Paul Dufresne, 11 breeds on display, an industry trade show, demonstrations by the Saskatchewan Hunter Jumper Association, the Alberta Donkey and Mule Association, Trainers Challenge, Friday and Saturday evening Equine Extravaganza that thrilled a standing room only audience. New to



the event this year was Canada's Ultimate Cowhorse competition where participants from across the provinces showcased their best horses in three components for the Champion buckle and prize money.

The Trainer's Challenge, sponsored by NAERIC, showcased the talents of three outstanding horse trainers; Dale Clearwater from Hanley, Saskatchewan, Clint Christianson from Bracken, Saskatchewan and Jesse Lussier from Ste. Rose du Lac, Manitoba. All three amazing horsemen thrilled the crowd during each session with their individual skills. At the end of the event, hometown favorite Dale Clearwater was awarded the Championship title for the second year in a row.

A clinic presented by Paul Dufresne from Pritchard, B.C. was a big hit with spectators and pre-registered participants alike. Paul also presented exhibition performances at the Extravaganzas on Friday and Saturday nights.

The industry trade show, once again exceeded expectations with vendors indicating they will be back next year. Expanding the trade show space by an additional 13,000 square feet, was much appreciated indicated Prairieland Park Agriculture Manager, Lori Cates.

A show highlight was the Equine Extravaganza held two evenings, both Friday and Saturday. The crowd that gathered in the Prairieland Park Ag Centre was overwhelming and adding the additional evening performance enabled more spectators the ability to witness the shows. The event demonstrated the diversity of different horse breeds and disciplines. The audience was amazed by the professionalism of Paul Dufresne and his Andalusian horses, the fence work component of the Cowhorse competition and the diversity of the Miniature Horses as well. "Standing room only, once again confirms that Saskatchewan people really appreciate that we are showcasing the equine industry right here in Saskatoon." said Brenda Sapergia, Livestock Manager.



Discover the Farm: A Farm Facts Experience Swift Current Poultry & Exotic Animal Sale

The Second Annual Swift Current 'Discover the Farm: A Farm Facts Experience, and Poultry and Exotic Animal' sale occurred on April 19th, and 20th of 2013. Invitations were sent out to all Swift Current and Southwest area schools to attend this event. Educational materials were provided by various organizations which are associated with Saskatchewan Agricultural industries including the Swift Current Ag & Ex, the provincial program Ag in Classroom, and SAASE.



The goal of this project was to invite various agricultural groups, particularly the exotic chickens, birds and other specialty animals raised by local breeders into one site for school students and the public to learn, observe, and interact. Presentations for the students included exotic birds and animals, beef, dairy cows, poultry, crop growing and care, safety, Saskatchewan Agriculture in the Classroom, and SAASE provided interactive computer programs. The new areas added this year were the Agrium Seed Trailer, safety topics that included those of equipment safety, power safety, ATV safety and First Aid provided by local presenters from SaskPower, St. John Ambulance, and the RCMP.

This project was important for several reasons.

1. "Discover the Farm School Tour": displays set up with presenters that provided information. The majority of participants were from Grades 1 through to grade 6 although we also had Special Education students from the Comprehensive High School and up to Grade 8 from the Hutterite schools. Interactive groups were set up to visit each of the 12 different stations during the two hours set aside for the school tours. Presenters gave introductions and functional understandings of basic agricultural and safety principles. The computers that were set-up brought forward important introductory and factual curriculum suitable for the age groups of the students - primarily about Poultry, Beef, Pork, and Dairy.

Each of the 24 groups (12 in the morning, 12 in the afternoon) were also provided with time to visit animals and birds, and take a class photo by the 'barn', and search for a class prize in the 'needle in a haystack' (a small farm animal with seed packs hidden in shredded paper). A total of 98 students participated the first year. This, the second year of the event, over 400 participated.

2. Various exotic breeders had a place to come together. They were able to offer their animals and birds to the public in one venue. An opportunity was offered to families for gathering and discovering what is available agriculturally in the Swift Current area.

3. Interactive hands-on experiences were provided for all ages both days. Students on Friday, the public on Saturday. They were invited to intermingle with a variety exotic birds (chickens, chicks, roosters, geese, etc.) and animals (donkeys, alpaca, rabbits, miniature cows etc.) as well as actually milk a 'life-like' dairy cow, and given the opportunity to grow their own sunflower.

4. The various Swift Current and surrounding areas (including some from southern Alberta) producers' products were made readily accessible to the public. Many were interested in buying, making contacts, and gathering information. All of this was made available in one venue: the Stockade Building at Kinetic Exhibition Park.

This project provided learning and working environment connecting the Southwest area rural producers. Public interest was strong: the community was offered the opportunity to observe and learn about the growing agricultural and ranching community. This was the second annual event to take place in Swift Current, and the feedback received was very positive with 100% reporting that they will return. Exhibitors, producers, and presenters from various organizations were impressed with the growing educational interest regarding agriculture, ranching and the added sessions on safety. All responses proved the event is worthy of continuing and expanding for 2014.

Submitted by: Swift Current Ag & Ex



SASKATOON PRAIRIELAND PARK HOSTS THE WORLD PROFESSIONAL CHUCKWAGON ASSOCIATION



The World Professional Chuckwagon races made their only Saskatchewan stop from June 6 - 9 in Saskatoon. Below you will find an article on the races.

JOHN WALTERS MAKES THE TURN FOR HOME DRIVING THE SIENNA CONTRACTING OUTFIT!

Inclement weather on Saturday made for unsafe track conditions that did not improve in time for Sunday night racing in Saskatoon, thus shortening the 2013 Saskatoon World Chuckwagon Races – in Memory of Ashleigh Richards to a two day aggregate competition. John Walters, driving the Sienna Contracting Outfit, and along with outriders Chanse Vigen and Dustin Gorst, captured the 2013 Saskatoon World Chuckwagon Races championship after posting the best two day aggregate time of 2:35.27. It was Walters first career victory on the WPCA Pro Tour in just his fourth year on the circuit. Walter's drove off in a new GMC Denali Pick-up Truck and a silver buckle symbolic of the 2013 Saskatoon World Chuckwagon Races, in Memory of Ashleigh Richards.

Despite the weather shortened event, Walter's performance in Saskatoon was nothing short of spectacular as he established the WPCA track record at Prairieland Park on Thursday, and backed it up with a third place run on Friday.



Brenda Sapergia, Livestock Manager, Saskatoon Prairieland Park presents John Walters and his outriders with championship buckles. Also in the photo (L to R) Brian Peet, Wheaton GMC; Reg Willick, HJR Asphalt, Outriders Dustin Gorst and Chanse Vigen.

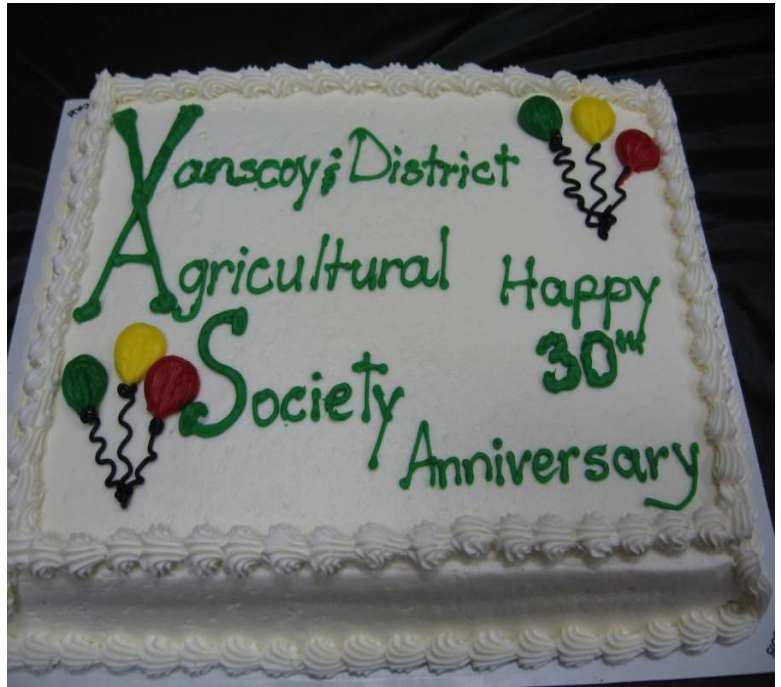
Vanscoy Celebrates an Anniversary

The Vanscoy and District Agricultural Society celebrated its 30th Anniversary Fair - August 17 - 18. Below is the article submitted by the Vanscoy Agricultural Society.

This year we celebrated our 30th Anniversary over 2 days of events on Saturday and Sunday August 17th and 18th. Our celebration began with a parade at 10am Saturday. We had 22 parade entries including floats, horses, tractors and lots of kids and candy. Kidsville was open for both days from 1-4 pm with games, crafts, face painting, dinosaur dig and the bouncy castles. The Balloon man entertained on Saturday and Beeper the Clown had her magic show on Sunday. There was also a little britches rodeo for children 11 and younger. This was an event using stick horses for games and races. The Vanscoy Multiple 4-H Club hosted a scavenger hunt which took the kids all around the fairgrounds looking and asking for items in their hunt. The gymkhana event started Saturday at 1 pm with 30 riders and the Light Horse show was Sunday with 42 participants.

Other Saturday events were: a Ball tournament (5 teams), Quilt truck, Tractor show and of course the Fair exhibits. Saturday evening began with a Roast beef supper followed by entertainment with the return of Elvis AKA "The Cadillac Kid" and his son "Avery". The supper was catered by Robin's Nest Restaurant of Vanscoy. Everyone also enjoyed a piece of cake celebrating Happy 30th Anniversary. The day's festivities ended with a great display of fireworks at dusk, which were set by the Delisle fire Dept.

Sunday events included a Pancake breakfast followed by a polka mass at 11 am. The tractor show, the Quilt truck, Kidsville with Beeper the Clown and a 3D Archery Outdoor Course Demonstration were the other activities for Sunday. A special Thank you to Barb Sparrow, Shelley Sowter and Jean Kent for putting together a very impressive and informative 30 year history display of the Vanscoy and District Agricultural Society. Many came out for the 2 day celebration, met with friends and neighbors and enjoyed the fun and games of the good old summer fair! Check out the web site www.vanscoyanddistrictagsociety.ca for pictures as well as for future events. Thank you again to our many sponsors and to our much appreciated volunteers to step up to ensure a successful event.



Canada's Ultimate Cow Horse Competition

This new event was held in conjunction with Saskatchewan Equine Expo at Saskatoon Prairieland Park, February 15-17, 2013. The competition attracted the finest horses, horse men and women from across the Western Provinces to compete for the first Canada's Ultimate Cow Horse title! Standing room only crowds witnessed the competition's three basic components: herd work, reined work and fence work.

Canada's Ultimate Cow Horse competition is the only event of this kind in Saskatchewan and it was apparent from the enthusiastic crowd, that an event of this caliber was appreciated. Not only did the competition provide outstanding entertainment, but also allowed the athletic ability of the horses to be showcased.

Saskatchewan Equine Expo has been embraced by multiple sectors of the equine industry. The event showcased different breeds and disciplines, also the businesses that provide product and services. Exhibitors to the trade show came from across Canada – from Nova Scotia to British Columbia. The Western College of Veterinary Medicine also participated in the event with ongoing demonstrations and presentations that covered a wide range of topics on horse health.

Canada's Ultimate Cow Horse competition added another component to Saskatchewan Equine Expo, which continues to make this event unique, while providing education, entertainment and networking opportunities. Many positive comments from patrons and participants indicate that this will be an ongoing event that will continue to grow.

