

Markham Heating
 & AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS
 172 Bullock Drive, Unit 27, Markham

 471-1748

Tribune
Focus

Community
 Sports
 Leisure
 Entertainment

FOR A
 FREE
 PROPERTY
 EVALUATION
 CALL IAN BATT
 640-6560
 RE/MAX IMPERIAL
 REALTY LTD.

Serving Whitchurch-Stouffville-Uxbridge and area

A Metroland Community Newspaper

Wednesday, January 18, 1989

Markham Fair records success in 1988

Three sun-filled days at the 1988 Markham Fair produced the brightest financial statement in years. Net earnings totalled \$84,717, it was revealed at the Society's annual meeting Jan. 11.

Chartered accountant Ed Bobot of the firm of Cooper, Millson and Foster called it "the most successful Fair from a financial standpoint in 12 years."

"You're beginning 1989 on a very sound base," he said.

He praised the Fair's financial committee for its handling of fiscal affairs.

The increased attendance, (13,000 more than in 1987), was reflected in admission receipts which totalled \$187,220 as compared to \$175,330 the previous year.

Earnings were up in most areas, the report revealed, with a sharp hike in property rentals at \$129,001 compared to \$87,668 in 1987.

Expenses totalled \$438,857, an increase of about \$22,700.

A little more than \$243,000 of this was included under 'operating,' an area that comprises everything from advertising to postage.

"A very strong statement," was Mr. Bobot's conclusion.

President Dave Morrison described the Fair as an integral part of the community.

"We're reaching out," he said. "We're listening strongly to new ideas."

President Morrison expressed confidence that 1989 would be equally successful. "We're making the 'mouse-trap' better," he said.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Morrison, on behalf of the membership was expressed by the Fair's president-elect Diane Ward.



Photo: JIM THOMAS
 Dave Morrison, past-president of the 1988 Markham Fair, hands the gavel over to Diane Ward, the 1989 president. Mrs. Ward is stepping in to help continue the Fair's record-breaking success tallied for 1988. Despite a day of rain during the October event, attendance figures were up and the Fair board posted a profit after the receipts were counted.

Fairground rentals boom

Markham Fairground rentals by 'outside' users, which helped pad the 1988 budget for the Markham and East York Agricultural Society, is continuing through 1989.

With the exception of January, February and December, the site is utilized every month, and in several instances, several times each month.

Bookings, still incomplete, are handled by Tony Arkell, the Fair's secretary-manager.

Schedule of events follow:

March 18 and 19 — Country Decorating and Collectible Show; March 28 and 29 — Belgian Horse Sale and Horse Pull.

April 1 — Ontario Hereford Prestige Cattle Show and Sale; April 20 and 26 — World Wide Church of God.

May 12 and 13 — Christ Anglican Church Antique Show and Sale; May 14 — Jack Russell Terrier Show; May 20 to 22 — Quarter Horse Show; May 20 — Ontario Goat Association Show; May 26 to 28 — Budweiser Truck Show.

June 3 and 4 — Simmental Beef Cattle Sale; June 10 — Markham Firefighters' Dance; June 17 — Multiple Sclerosis Car Rally and Dance; June 23 to 25 — Markham Car and Auction Show and Sale.

July 1 and 2 — Morgan Horse Show; July 6 to 8 — Holstein Canada Cattle Judging Clinic; July 14 to 16 — Shorthorn Interna-

tional Junior Show and Sale; July 21 — York Region Pork Producers' Barbecue and Dance; July 29 — Ontario Hackney Association Show.

Aug. 7 to 12 — Stars & Stripes Quarter Horse Extravaganza; Aug. 5 — Saddlebred Association Show.

Sept. 9 — Fair Queen Pageant and Dance; Sept. 28 to 30 and Oct. 1 — Markham Fair.

Oct. 13 to 15 — Snowmobile Show; Oct. 20 to 22 — Markham Home Show; Oct. 28 — Polled Hereford Club Sale.

Nov. 18 and 19 — Country Decorating and Collectibles Show.

Sunshine helped boost Fair figures

A reversal in Markham Fair's attendance decline has prompted a sigh of relief from directors.

A total of 59,110 people clicked through the turnstiles during last year's four-day show, the largest turnout since 1983.

This figure includes a record low Sunday due to an all-day rain.

An attendance breakdown, made public at the Fair Board's annual meeting Jan. 11 follows: Thurs., Sept. 29 — 10,318; Fri., Sept. 30 — 15,921; Sat., Oct. 1 — 28,909; Sun., Oct. 2 — 3,962.

By comparison, overall attendance figures in four previous years were: 1984 — 57,497; 1985 — 47,001; 1986 — 40,941 and 1987 — 46,029.

Finance Chairman Harvey Brown pointed to the fact the

downward attendance spiral had been reversed.

He suggested that had the excellent weather continued through Sunday, an additional 10,000 people could have been added to the attendance totals.

It's obvious, he said, that weather is a main contributing factor.

Said Secretary-Manager Tony Arkell: "The sun finally shone on Markham Fair for three glorious days. The crowds poured in, to view and appreciate all your efforts to display agriculture at its best. Although Sunday was rained upon in no uncertain manner, the total attendance was 13,000 more than in 1987. This would seem to show that good weather is the most important part of the success of our Fair."

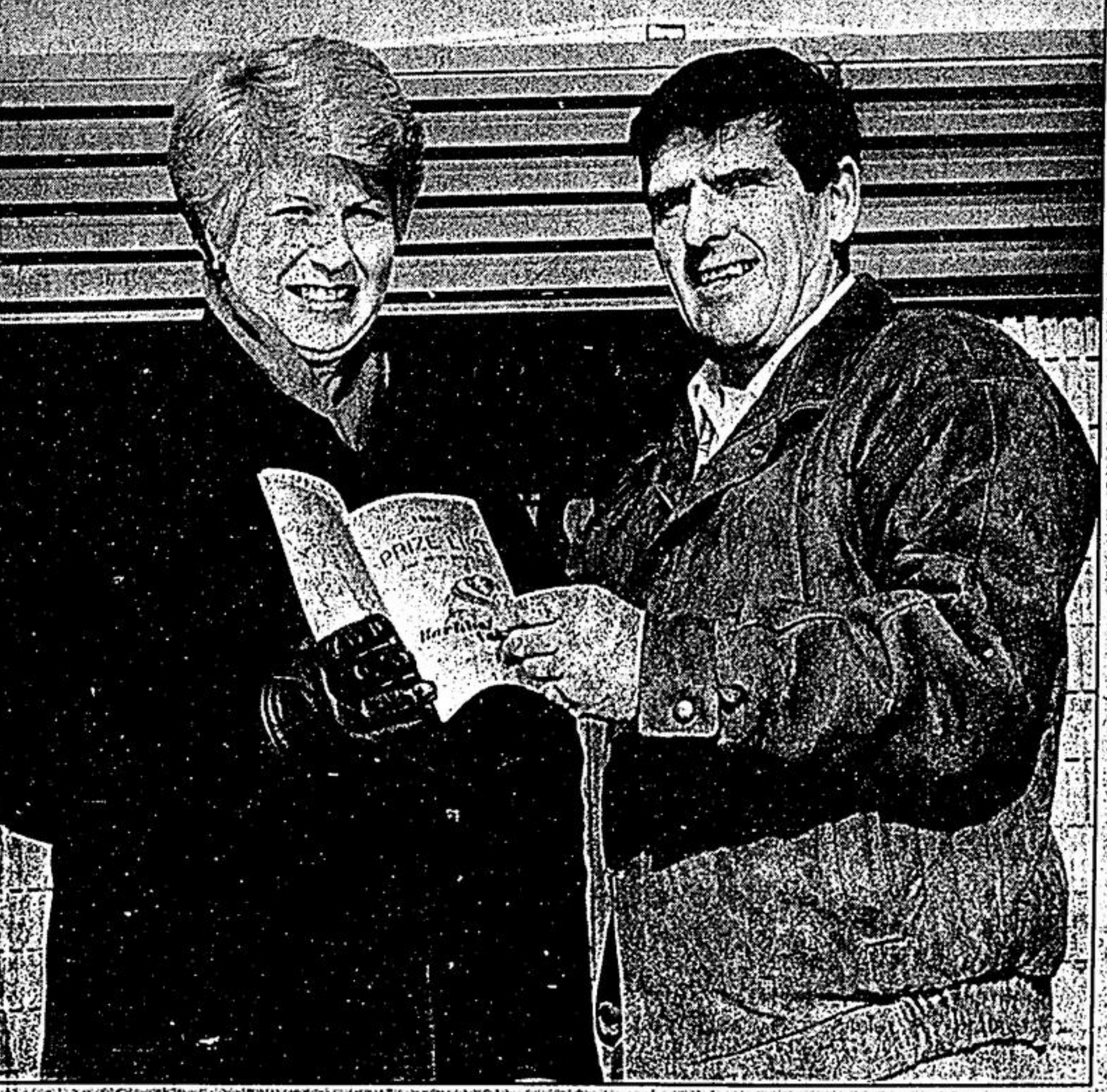


Photo: JIM THOMAS
Winning combination
 Plans for the 1989 Markham Fair are in good hands once again this year by a team of dedicated volunteers. Here, Fair Board First Vice-President Carol White and Second Vice-President Don Miller peruse the 1988 Prize List booklet to help them consider what to offer Fair-goers in the fall. The board remains optimistic about the success of this year's event after posting impressive results from the '88 Fair.

Markham Fair round-up

New directors
 Six senior directors were elected, for three-year terms when the Markham and East York Agricultural Society (Fair Board) held its annual meeting Jan. 11.

Successful nominees are David Owen, Jim Dickin, Harvey Brown, Paul Donahoe, Terry Boag and Doug Savage.

Harvey Brown will continue as the board's finance chairman.

Six junior directors were acclaimed. They are Chris Curr, Kim Little, Holly Purcell, Jan King, Russ Brown and Jill Taylor.

Tot totals
 Babies are the Fair-goers of the future; they must be treated well.

This is the feeling of Lorraine Tabernor, chairman of the Baby Place at Markham Fair.

Last year's influx of tots totalled 683 — a record, Mrs. Tabernor reported at the annual meeting, Jan. 11. Except for an inclement Sunday, this figure could have been close to 800, she said.

The youngest 'guest' was five days old. They hosted three sets of twins.

"Next year, a larger trailer is a must," Mrs. Tabernor concluded.

Seniors update
 Markham Fair's Historical Committee, chaired by Betty Hoover, also hosts the 'Over 60 Club'.

During the Fair's four days, the committee welcomed 638 senior guests.

Harold Brookfield of Union Villa was 'high man' at 94. Gladys Beckett of York Manor, Newmarket, topped the maternal side at 89.

Both Mr. Brookfield and Mrs.

Beckett were presented with 1988 Markham Fair souvenir plates.

Kid power
 Markham Fair's School Children's Section hosted 2,430 entries, committee chairman Judy Resch reported at the annual meeting Jan. 11. This was an increase of 300 over the previous year.

The display included 32 schools with Whitchurch-Highlands retaining the coveted Howard Cosburn Memorial Award.

Their prize money totalled \$313.

Mrs. Resch expressed regret at losing Bev Carson as a valued judge. The task of judging the entries took seven hours, Mrs. Resch revealed.

The committee chairman for 1989 is Lorraine Rayner. The co-chairman is Terry Boag.

Fair exhibits add flair

Exhibitors help make a fair. The number of exhibits make Markham Fair great.

A summary of exhibits for 1988 was made public at the Society's annual meeting Jan. 11.

A breakdown follows:

Antiques, 410; Art, 183; Christmas, 232; Crafts, 238; Domestic Science, 736; Flowers, 315; Needlework, 372; senior citizens homes, 85; Photography, 630; Eighteen & Under, 650; Special Needs, 18; School Children, 2,430; Grain, etc., 52; Potatoes, 18; Roots and Vegetables, 191.

In the Poultry and Pets category, exhibits follow:

Standards, 175; Bantams, 398; Pigeons, 126; Doves, 41; Rabbits, 62; Eggs, 15.

In the Heavy Horse division, entries follow:

Percherons, 12; Belgians, 30; Clydesdales, 30; Commercial, 47; Specials, 15.

Five Junior Farmers' Clubs participated representing 47 members.

There were 82 Jersey exhibits; 58 Holstein; 39 Guernsey and 32 Ayrshire.

In beef breeds there were 60

Charolais, 46 Shorthorn; 44 Simmental; 40 Angus and 26 Hereford.

In classes for goats there were 35 Alpine, 30 Saanen; 20 Tog-

genberg; 17 Nubians and 12 Grades.

There were three classes for sheep — Suffolk, 34; Dorsets, 18 and 33 of other breeds.

Site rentals soar

The suitability of Markham Fairgrounds for many and varied activities was evident in the 1988 financial statement placed before the Society's annual meeting, Jan. 11.

Rental income soared to a record \$129,001, more than \$40,000 above 1987.

Finance chairman Harvey Brown drew attention to this, praising the work of secretary-manager Tony Arkell.

"It represents a big part of our income," Mr. Brown said, "almost our profit."

The successful rental program was also mentioned by Diane Ward, chairman of the 1988 Administration Committee.

Said Mrs. Ward: "There seems to be no limit to the increase of rentals from year to year on our grounds. The difficulty of driving to and parking in Toronto, coupled with the availability of approximately 200,000 potential customers in our immediate area, has encouraged show producers to employ our facilities for their extravaganzas."

Mrs. Ward drew attention to three particular events — the Snowmobile Show, the Super Dave Osbourne TV Show and the Romandale Holstein Sale.

With respect to the Romandale herd dispersal, Mrs. Ward said the event attracted would-be buyers from all over the world and provided the Fairgrounds with favorable publicity.

Balancing act
 Focus columnist notes fine line in child abuse cases. See Page C-3

Harmony
 Jim Rehill's quite a vocal part of Stouffville. See Page C-5

Calendar
 More events are scheduled in the Stouffville area. See Page C-7