

Harvesting 100 years of memories with past Morrow County Royalty

What better way to remember the way it was, than to talk to someone who was there?

In the discussion on what to do to make the 100th year of the Morrow County Fair a memorable one, it was decided to invite all past royalty.

So, with the daunting task of finding addresses, the search was on with Rita Bergstrom, Teresa Bedortha and Sylvia Sandford finding and inviting as much past royalty as possible.

The letter was drafted and more than 180 letters were mailed, but some letters were returned labeled undeliverable. A list of names that the team couldn't locate was created, hoping someone would know how to get a hold of them. An

article in the Heppner Gazette Times also ran that list.

More phone calls, letters and emails came in from these ladies, asking why we were looking for them. After telling them why, we have had a great response.

So far we have 40 members and counting of that elite team of women "coming home" to honor us at the 100th year of the fair. You will get to meet these ladies at the fairgrounds, while they wander through the exhibits. On Saturday they will be riding on horseback or on floats during the parade.

After the parade, Queen Krysten has invited all of these ladies to be honored guests at her queen's luncheon, to be held at the Parish Hall

of St. Patrick's Catholic Church. This will be a time of memories, stories and history of the Morrow County Fair.

At the Saturday night performance of the rodeo, past royalty will be in the grandstands. These ladies will be introduced and recognized for their efforts of promoting Morrow County in their travels. Two of these elite ladies, 2004 Princess Emily Bergstrom and 2012 Queen Maggie Collins, are going to be in the arena during the rodeos, packing the American flag and singing the National Anthem.

There will be a booth at the fair with memorabilia of past royalty. Come out and take a look at the memories created over the last 100 years.



Top: 1945 court- Joan Hisler Sumner, Dorothy Bergstrom Stefani, Collen K. Greenup, Darlene Biddle Hoskins, Jo Ann Graves Pettyjohn Bottom: 1936 Queen Genivive Hanna (Corbin)



Front (L-R): 1957 Christine Swaggart-Norden, 1993 Elizabeth Doherty, 1985 Bridgett Greenup-Blair, 1953 Elise Bauernfeind-Hern, 1966 Erna Lynn Winchester, 1977 Mary Ann Proctor-Munkers, 1968 Berniece Matthews-Thorton, 1972 Susie French-Ward, 1970 Sherri O'Brien-Watson, 1947 Merlyn Kirk-Robinson, 1990 Judy Jepsen, 1975 Mickey Hoskins-Madison. Middle (L-R): 1987 Cindy Davis-Brosnan, 1949 Shirley Wilkinson-Rugg, 1967 Verina French-Shiller, 1992 Jenni Ashbeck, 1989 Nancy Bailey-Gorham, 1958 Pat Steagall-Dougherty, 1963 Sandra Eubanks-Dooney, 1961 Joan Moe-Hudson, 1986 Dawn Timms-Wagner, 1940 Marjorie Parker-Day, 1981 Nancy Miller-Weinke, 1974 Sherry Kemp, 1971 Michelle Miller-Burns. Back (L-R): 1960 Susan Partlow-Stanhope, 1991 Jodee Ashbeck, 1983 Lottie Laughlin Holcomb, 1980 Lori Edwards-McCabe, 1982 Anita Palmer-Pranger, 1954 Grace Miller-Carpenter, 1962 Marlene Fetsch-Currin, 1964 Shannon Mahoney-Smith, 1984 Sylvia Ladd, 1969 Sheila Luciani-Cozad, 1956 Pat Wright-Anderson, 1946 Darlene Biddle-Hoskins, 1979 Deborah Palmer-Parks. Horseback (L-R): 1973 Jeanne Daly, 1976 Patricia Van Schoaick-Maben. Wagon (L-R): 1924 Alice Rietmann-Peterson, 1933 Dorothy Doherty, 1923 Eva Padberg-Griffith. Surrey owner - Jim Mathews. -Photos by Judy Barber & Sandy Matthews, August 1993