

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 08-14-1955)

EXCHANGE CLUB PLANS FAIR FOR THIS YEAR

Plans to hold a Southwest Georgia Fair here in the fall were announced on the weekend by Albany Exchange Club officials.

D. S. Hautman, Chairman of the newly named Southwest Georgia Fair Association Inc., said the fair would be held the week of Oct. 17-22. The site will be in front of the Dougherty County Agriculture Building, Lowe Road and Slappey Drive.

Chairman Hautman said approximately 20 acres of land, belonging to the county, will be used for fair purposes.

Directors assisting Chairman Hautman with the fair include Dick Hutchinson, Paul Carson, Charlie Lumpkin, Phillip Wiggins, George Reynolds, C. T. Pope Jr., Jim Pierce, J. D. Reeves and W. C. Layton.

Committee Chairmen for the fair include Paul Carson, fairgrounds; J. D. Reeves, merchants sales; W. C. Layton, industrial exhibits; Phillip Wiggins, publicity; R. S. Hutchinson, ticket sales, and Hudson Arthur, premium books.

The central office for the fair will be Hotel Gordon, Mr. Hautman said. A contract already has been signed with Gem City Shows, Quincy, IL. for a carnival, Mr. Hautman said.

Last year's carnival was handled by the Albany Shrine Club. Fair committee chairman will meet on Tuesdays and Fridays at 5:30 p.m. at the office of Dick Hutchinson to formulate the fair plans, Mr. Hautman added.

The special guest of the club yesterday was Maj. John Rousch of the Albany Marine Supply Center.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 09-01-1955)

Members of the Albany Exchange Club and their wives will discuss plans for the Southwest Georgia Fair, scheduled for the week of Oct. 17 at a luncheon meeting tomorrow at 1 p.m. at Hotel Gordon.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 09-03-1955)

A review of plans for holding the Annual Southwest Georgia Fair here this fall highlighted a brief business meeting of the Albany Exchange Club yesterday at Hotel Gordon. Members and their wives heard the discussion by Exchangites Hudson Arthur and Paul Carson.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 09-14-1955)

EXCHANGE CLUB OF ALBANY LISTS PLANS FOR 'BIGGER, BETTER' FAIR THIS YEAR

The Albany Exchange Club announced plans for the colorful 1955 Southwest Georgia Fair, to be held here Oct. 17-22 today.

D. S. Hautman, President of the Sowega Fair Association, said the plans not only call for a bigger and better fair next month but a much more convenient setup for the exhibits, displays and other attractions.

The Gem City Shows will furnish entertainment, rides, games and shows for the frolickers, Mr. Hautman said. The midway, with more than 100 attractions should prove to be one of finest ever seen in this area, Mr. Hautman added.

Entries from the following exhibits are invited: 4-H and FFA Clubs (boys), hog class, beef cattle class, poultry class, agricultural, grain crops and miscellaneous agricultural products.

4-H and FHA Clubs (girls), Junior Exhibits (girls 10-14, canned products, clothing and handicrafts. Senior exhibits (girls over 14), canned products, clothing and handicrafts.

Farmer's livestock, beef cattle, Herefords, Aberdeen angus, shorthorns and others. Adult poultry and women's' work, canned products, domestic and applied arts and special handicrafts or art.

Mr. Hautman said that premium books, giving complete details of requirements, premiums, and classes are in process of distribution and are available from the local county agent or home demonstration agent or through the school, vocational, agriculture and home economics department.

He urged that all entries should be made as soon as possible since space is limited and entries cannot be accepted after allotted space is filled.

The fair will be housed in tents located one half mile south of the Cardinal Ball Park between Newton Road and Slappey Drive, Mr. Hautman declared.

The Sowega Fair Association is composed of the following Exchangites; D. S. Hautman, President; Hudson Arthur, Vice-President; J. L. Pierce, Secretary and Treasurer. The directors include C. T. Pope, George Reynolds, R. S. Hutchinson, Club President, Paul Carson, W. C. Layton, Phillip Wiggins and J. D. Reeves.

Instead of having county exhibits in the 1955 fair, the fair association will offer prizes for displays from Community Improvement Clubs from the counties: Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Crisp, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Lee, Grady, Mitchell, Seminole, Tift, Turner and Worth.

Any additional information on the fair may be secured by writing to the Southwest Georgia Fair Association, P. O. Box 147, Albany.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 09-22-1955)

The Albany Exchange Club will meet at the fairgrounds, Lowe Road and Slappey Drive at 1 p.m. tomorrow instead of Hotel Gordon to discuss plans for the Southwest Georgia Fair. A box lunch will be served.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-10-1955)

EXCHANGE-SPONSORED SOWEGA FAIR PLANS SET BY EXCHANGE

Final plans for the opening of the Southwest Georgia Fair, to be held Oct. 17-22, have been completed.

The Albany Exchange Club, which is sponsoring the fair, states that the location this year is two miles south on Slappey Drive, directly in front of the County Agricultural Building on Lowe Road.

Entries, which have been received for the various exhibits, indicate much interest in a 17-county area.

There will be 12 "community club" exhibits, plus all phases of 4-H, FFA, and FHA work.

Possibly the largest exhibits of livestock and poultry at the Southwest Georgia Fair will be shown during the week and judged Oct. 18.

Gen City Shows, which is one of the larger carnivals, will be on the midway. "School Day" has been set for Negro children on Tuesday Oct. 18 and for white children on Wednesday Oct. 19. On these dates, from 10 to 6 o'clock, admission and most rides on the midway will be 10 cents.

There will be numerous commercial exhibits, several food booths and many interesting agriculture features to be seen. The Exchange Club's aim is to promote all phases of agricultural pursuits, build a better trade area, and provide a full week of enjoyment and pleasure for people in the Southwest Georgia area.

Other exhibits which promise to bring much interest is the religion exhibit, sponsored by the Albany Ministerial Association, the Forest Ranger's exhibit, Civil Defense exhibit, and Military exhibit.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-12-1955)

A Ladies night dinner will be held by the Exchange Club Thursday at 8 o'clock at Hotel Gordon. Participation of wives of members in the forth coming Exchange Club sponsored Southwest Georgia Fair will be discussed.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-17-1955)

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA FAIR OPENS IN CITY

Teeming with colorful community club, agricultural and commercial exhibits and sporting the Gem City Shows, featuring the third largest midway in the nation, the 1955 Southwest Georgia Fair threw open its gates today for a week's stand at its new fairgrounds off South Slappey Drive.

Under sponsorship of the Albany Exchange Club, this year's fair consumes more than 31,000 square feet of exhibition spaces set up under giant tents on a floor of sawdust.

Aside from large displays of 4-H Club and FFA agricultural and homemaking exhibits, the fair features booths exhibiting the products of 11 of the Southwest Georgia community improvement clubs from the counties of Colquitt, Lee, Sumter, Baker, Early, Dougherty, Mitchell and Randolph.

Classes in the livestock and poultry division are all full, with an especially large number being in the poultry exhibit.

On the midway, a combination of some 35 shows and rides are on tap for youngsters and adults. Included among these is a special circus show.

Boasting a premium list of \$3,400, the fair's judging committee will begin determination of winners in various classes of exhibits Tuesday at 10 a.m. In the cattle, hog and poultry division FFA members will compete against each other and 4-H members the same. This holds true for all other 4-H and FFA classes.

Judging of the community improvement club exhibits will begin at 3 p.m. Tuesday. Aside from the various commercial booths, Civil Defense, the Lee-Terrell Forest Rangers, Dougherty County Forest Rangers, the Albany Ministerial Association, the National Guard, the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Marine Corps have arranged interesting exhibits.

Of special interest is a booth containing exhibits of work done through the City Recreation Department's Hobby Shop.

The big 17-county fair's new location is on Lowe Road, south of Cardinal Baseball Park and directly across from the Dougherty County Agricultural Building. The entrance faces towards Slappey Drive and officials suggest that patrons use Slappey Drive as an access-way, allowing them easier entrance to the spacious, supervised parking areas, which have been provided.

Gates at the fair will open at 1 p.m. except on special event days. Two "School Day" events have been planned, one for Negro children on Tuesday and for White school children on Wednesday. Gates will open those days at 10 a.m. and also on Saturday, when a matinee is scheduled.

On both "School Days", from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., practically all rides and show will charge only half price for the youngsters' tickets.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-21-1955)

CLARK THREAD WINS BOOTH DISPLAY AT ALBANY FAIR

Two big nights and a matinee await Southwest Georgians who visit the bustling fun-packed midway and view the educational agricultural exhibits being displayed at the 1955 Albany Exchange Club's Southwest Georgia Fair.

Crowds have been big throughout the weeklong stand of the 17-county extravaganza with Wednesday's "school day" feature drawing an estimated 8,000 persons through the South Slaphey Drive fairgrounds entrance.

"We're proud of what we have out here at the fair," says D. S. Hautman, General Chairman, "and we want all the folks in our area to see it."

According to Chairman Hautman, judges for both the livestock and booth exhibits have tagged the displays and livestock at the 1955 fair as among the best ever seen in Albany.

Judging of commercial booths, completed late Wednesday, show the top award going to the display of Coats and Clark, Inc. Runner-up was Huggins Outboard Motor Service.

Another feature of the commercial booths is the number of valuable prizes being awarded through various contests.

Gates to the fair will open at 10 a.m. Saturday and the midway will be in operation throughout the afternoon and evening.

Mr. Hautman pointed out that any profit derived from the 1955 fair would go towards providing a permanent location and facilities for modern fairgrounds.