



February 2017

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"To all of the California fairgrounds that responded without hesitation on a Sunday evening to take care of people they didn't know personally, but people they knew needed a safe place to be out of the line of danger in relation to the Oroville dam in northern California: Congratulations! You serve your community in times of celebration and in crisis! You are a true community treasure."

~ From the staff of CFSA

Reprinted from CDFA's *Planting Seeds* blog:

Northern California fairs step-up in Lake Oroville crisis

Posted on [February 15, 2017](#) by [Office of Public Affairs](#)



Evacuees at the Glenn County Fairgrounds in Orland

When a fear of imminent disaster on February 12 led to mass evacuations in communities along the Feather River beneath Oroville Dam, tens of thousands of people were forced to clear out in a hurry, many with no place to go.

A number of Northern California fairs stepped-up at a moment's notice to provide shelter for people and animals, including pets, horses and a few head of livestock. At the evacuation's peak nearly seven-thousand people were housed at fairs in Chico, Grass Valley, Orland, Woodland, Colusa, Roseville, Auburn and Sacramento.

Partnering with agencies like the [Governor's Office of Emergency Services](#), [the Red Cross](#), [the Salvation Army](#), and local law enforcement, the fairs were able to provide a range of urgently needed services while people awaited the all-clear signal to head home.

There were plenty of examples of the resilience and generosity of the human spirit. At the Silver Dollar Fair in Chico, members of the Chico State University soccer team [stopped by for a friendly work out](#) with evacuees. At the Placer County Fair, [a wedding was held](#). A dedicated crew of volunteers saw to it that an evacuated Olivehurst couple could get married as planned on Valentine's Day.

The crisis at Lake Oroville is yet another example of how [California's network of fairs](#) partners with local communities. The fairs are much more than a place to congregate and celebrate. They are bonafide public assets; essential institutions that serve Californians in many important ways.

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Mark your calendar! Upcoming CFSA Deadlines!
Workers' Compensation Reporting Form, Hazardous Special Events Survey, and Revenue Protection Program Application Deadlines

Last month CFSA's risk analyst, Lianne Lewellen, sent several different documents to your fair: a Workers' Compensation Reporting Form (mailed to all Workers' Compensation pool member fairs), a Revenue Protection Program Application, and a Hazardous Special Events Survey. Each one, if applicable to your fair, has a deadline for its return to Lianne. Take a look:

The **Workers' Compensation Reporting Form**, mailed to all Workers' Compensation pool member fairs, is due back to CFSA by **Friday, February 17**. (Remember to report all volunteer hours worked.) You can return the form by fax: 916/263-6159 or by email to: llewellen@cfsa.org.

The **Hazardous Special Events Survey**: If your fair is holding any fair-sponsored hazardous special events this year, such as motor sports, rodeos and/or horse shows, please be sure to fax or email your completed survey to Lianne by **Tuesday, February 28**. You can return the survey by fax: 916/263-6159 or by email to: llewellen@cfsa.org.

If you wish to participate in the **Revenue Protection Program**, please fill out the program's application and return it along with your payment (a fee schedule was emailed to your fair along with the application) by **Friday, March 3**. Mail to: CFSA, Attn: Lianne Lewellen, 1776 Tribute Road, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95815.

If you need another copy of any of these documents, or if you have any questions, please contact Lianne at 916/263-6145 or llewellen@cfsa.org.

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Maintenance Mania 2017 is Coming to Cal Expo
Tuesday - Thursday, February 28 - March 2

Attendance is free for all California fair staff thanks to funding from CDFA!
Visit www.maintenancemaniaman4fairs.com for an event schedule and to register online.

Maintenance Mania is a long-established educational event designed specifically to help everyone involved in the maintenance and operation of their fairgrounds expand their job knowledge, while sharing experiences, tips and techniques.

This year's sessions and workshops, as in previous years, will be lead by industry experts - your peers and colleagues who understand firsthand the challenges you face every day. Fair CEOs, maintenance supervisors, maintenance staff and anyone who wants a better understanding of the many aspects of fairground maintenance and operations is encouraged to attend.

Maintenance Mania is Tuesday through Thursday, February 28 through March 2, at the California Exposition & State Fair fairgrounds in Sacramento. Day one is an optional day of boomlift and fork lift operator certification testing, followed by two days of skills training and convenient opportunities to take state-mandated training.

You'll find a full event schedule and online registration form, along with hotel suggestions, on the www.maintenancemaniaman4fairs.com website.

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Raising the risk pool management bar!

CFSA Board Approves Scope of Work for a Special Risk Pool Analysis

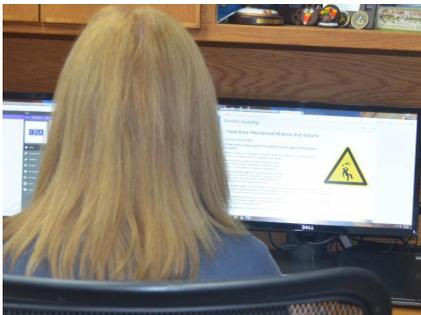
CFSA takes its responsibility as manager of the fairs' pooled programs extremely seriously. And one of the many ways CFSA ensures that its operating strategies adhere to the most highly accepted best practices is with periodic comprehensive special risk pool studies that include an analysis of the methods used for allocating program costs to individual members (annual fees) and for the establishment of pool reserves.



The last time CFSA conducted a special study was in 1998. Since then, CFSA's business environment has undergone significant changes: Fiscal support from the State to California's fairgrounds has become minimal and competition from the private sector has increased. These factors, plus an additional 17 years of risk pool performance, suggest the time is right for another special study.

A scope of work for the special study was prepared by CFSA staff and approved by CFSA's board of directors during the February board meeting. The study will be conducted by Bickmore, the Sacramento-based company that also provides annual actuarial services to CFSA. Research will begin in late March/early April, with a report to the CFSA board in June, in time for the setting of 2018 pool fees.

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CFSA Announces a New Pool Member Fair Benefit: Online Risk Management Training

If adding risk management training to your fairgrounds' safety program is on your New Year's resolution list, prepare to cross it off! More than 1,000 Internet-based risk management training modules are now as close as your fairgrounds' computers. Among the many features of the training module program is an administrative documentation function letting you know who has completed an assignment and who is still working on it. Best of all, no travel is required and the modules are conveniently ready when you are.

Professionally developed by TargetSolutions, the training modules are made available to CFSA through the agency's membership in CSAC-EIA (California State Association of Counties - Excess Insurance Authority). CFSA is excited to share its access with all Workers' Compensation and/or General Liability Pool Program member fairs at no cost.

With a wide range of topics to choose from, the training modules are ideal learning resources for everyone at your fairgrounds, including temporary staff.

For details about how to access the training, or to have a course plan designed especially for your fairgrounds - including risk management topics that address your most frequent incidents/accidents - please contact Mario Castagnola, CFSA risk control specialist, at 916/263-6183 or by email: mcastagnola@cfsa.org.

Stay tuned for more pool member value-added benefits in 2017! CFSA is exploring additional services designed to save you time and money. Watch your email and check CFSA's website, www.cfsa.org, for updates.

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CFSA Board Elects Board Chairman and Vice Chairman

During its February board meeting, CFSA's board of directors elected Dan Jacobs, CEO of the Antelope Valley Fair, to serve as its board chairman, and Jim Wolcott, CEO of the Lassen County Fair, to serve as vice chairman.

For the past two years, Dan has served as the board's vice chairman. Board officers serve two-year terms.

Here are your CFSA board directors for 2017/2018:

Chair: Dan Jacobs, Antelope Valley Fair CEO, representing fair classes III-VII.

Vice Chair: Jim Wolcott, Lassen County Fair CEO, representing fair classes I and II.

Pat Conklin, Dixon May Fair CEO, representing fair classifications III-VII.

Stephen Kenny, Butte County Fair CEO, representing fair classes I and II.

Michael Olcott, Director At-large, Kern County Fair CEO, representing fair classes III-VII.

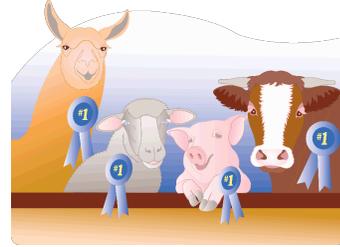
John Quiroz, Branch Chief of the California Department of Food & Agriculture's (CDFA's) Fairs & Expositions Branch, appointed by the Secretary of the CDFA.

Larry Moss, Public Member. Retired risk manager for the East Bay Regional Parks District.

Have a question about a CFSA program or service, or about a past or upcoming board meeting? Feel free to contact CFSA or your fair classification's board representative!

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Use CFSA's Animal Exhibitor Group Coverage to Your Fair's Advantage!



If your fair requires animal exhibitors to have general liability coverage, consider the benefits of using CFSA's Animal Exhibitor Group Insurance:

- It saves time - your fair doesn't have to collect insurance certificates from every exhibitor. And, whether you are covering five or 105 FFA, 4-H, Grange and/or independent exhibitors, only one Special Events receipt needs to be generated for the entire group.
- If an animal injures a fair visitor or damages someone's property, the animal's owner *and family* are covered, and so is your fair!
- If there's an incident and your fair is a member of the CFSA General Liability pool program, neither your General Liability rate nor your fair's loss history will be affected.
- Providing exhibitors with coverage is a great community-spirit gesture.

For more information about the Animal Exhibitor Group coverage and its benefits, please contact Lianne Lewellen, CFSA risk analyst, at 916/263-6145 or llewellen@cfsa.org.

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Revised: CFSA's Non-Hazardous and Hazardous Activities List Now Includes Drones and Cannabis Events

When CFSA spots a trend in new fairground event requests, the Non-Hazardous and Hazardous Activities List of minimum liability insurance limits for fair contractors and facility users, is quickly updated to ensure General Liability pool member fairs are adequately protected. The most recent list additions are Drones/Controlled Flying Objects, listed within the \$1 million coverage category; and Cannabis Festivals and Tradeshows, listed within the \$2 million coverage category.

The revised list is currently being distributed to all California fairs. If you don't receive a new list within the next week or so, please contact Lianne Lewellen, CFSA risk analyst, at 916/263-6145 or llewellen@cfsa.org. You can also find [the list on CFSA's website](#).

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mthurber@cfsa.org.

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