

Message from F&E, con't. from page 1
in 2007 that we felt it would be a good idea to talk with each of you face-to-face to let you know what's happening in Sacramento and about the issues that concern you in your local operations. These meetings will also be a good chance to communicate and coordinate our agendas to insure we focus on the major priorities in the upcoming year – a year that promises to be full of challenges and opportunities. If this format proves successful, perhaps it will become a template for something we do to stay in touch each year.

Please give thought to any topics of interest and any concerns that you have so that we can maximize our time together this spring. In that spirit, feel free to notify any of the Sacramento-based organizations of these topics so we can make sure your issues are addressed during our outreach meetings. We look forward to seeing and talking to you soon!

Agency Holiday Hours

Ready or not, 'tis the holiday season and this means some special office hours so everyone at CARF, CCA, CFSA, F&E, and WFA can spend time with their families and friends:

- CARF will be closed December 25 through January 1.
- CCA, F&E and WFA will be closed December 25 and January 1.
- CFSA will be closed December 25, 26, 27 and January 1.

The End of an Era. Karen Gallay, CFSA's Purchasing Agent is Retiring

For the past 18½ years, Karen Gallay has been just a phone call away from all of California's fairs.

Karen first joined CFSA as the agency's receptionist, and it wasn't long until she was enlisted to help with CFSA's volume purchasing program. In fact, for the past 12 years, Karen's been CFSA's *only* purchasing agent – until just recently, that is, when she began training Callee DeFoe, from CFSA's finance department, to assume purchasing duties after her departure.

Much has changed since the days Karen purchased primarily hand towels and garbage can liners for the fairs. Now her "bought that" list includes everything from boilers and chillers to ticketing systems, farm equipment, even a Zamboni and more than \$14 million worth of photovoltaic panels. You know that 9/11 Ball on display at Cal Expo? She bought that. And the granite for the bear medallion in the walkway by Cal Expo's Floriculture building? She bought that too.

Karen's "retirement" will keep her as busy as the job she's leaving. On the agenda: golfing, swimming, watercolor painting, camping with her husband (and taking over the bookkeeping duties for his CAD business), caring for her Mom, and spoiling 10 grandkids.

If you'd like to say good-bye to Karen, please stop by CFSA's open house celebrating Karen's career on Friday, January 26 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Fair Services Building in Sacramento. (1776 Tribute Road). Can't make it? She'll be in her office through the end of December and you can call her at 916/263-6191 or e-mail her at kgallay@cfsa.org.