What’s to like about the Fair?

Having been associated with several fairs and shows over a period of years, it has been a memorable experience to be a part of and observe the many changes. The growth and experiences of fair time can never be overestimated. The community, county and area fairs have been a show place for people to display their work and take pride in their many projects.

Many children have an opportunity for individual expression through displays of arts and crafts, photography, vegetable, field crops and animal shows. These displays require following instructions, selecting quality and quantity for display thus leading to joy of all those fair ribbons!

Several children have earned many dollars to be used for school and other educational opportunities. These fair displays teach responsibility (caring for projects), cooperation (working with others), and presentation, pride of ownership, accomplishment, and association with other fair exhibitors. During years past the fair ribbon granted “Bragging Rights” for youth, farmers and homemakers who worked hard for their exhibits for everyone to enjoy.

Today’s fair is even more important as only two people out of one hundred are involved in raising food, fiber and fuel for theirs and other families. Today’s fair offers an opportunity for all families consumers to learn and observe how and where their food begins to work its way to the local grocery store shelves. The fair can and will have a huge success informing the family consumer of food raising, processing and transporting and marketing chain. More and more consumers are becoming concerned about their local foods; the fair provides an educational platform for these family consumers.

Enough of my soap box philosophy- on to the fun parts of the fair! Cotton Candy, Icees, Candied Apples, Pop Corn and many more food items we enjoy during “Fair Time”.

Also the many mishaps that occur: Tommy letting his prize “red rooster” escape only to be chased through the exhibit hall; Troy’s heifer calf leading him on an unexpected tour of the midway, Emily becoming thoroughly drenched as she tries to wash her dairy heifer, Wanda and her friends eating her biscuit display before the judges completed judging, Kenneth’s daughter Jackie trying to control a restless lamb during “Wool and Woolies” judging; Dannie winning his first blue ribbon only to show and tell everyone in the exhibit hall. These experiences are no match for the joy and excitement.

If your family hasn’t taken in your community, county or area fair, that’s a missed opportunity for lots of fun, friendship and excitement. Don’t pass the opportunity by this year! “See YOU at the Fair”.