



BEAUMONT & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

www.beaumontagsociety.com

NEWSLETTER

December 2011

BADAS Continues to Grow

Your non-profit society was registered in January, 1990 under the Agricultural Societies Act of Alberta. Along with nearly 300 other ag societies across the Province, BADAS offers agricultural, recreational and cultural opportunities to our District and Alberta's Capital Region. This exceptional volunteer organization now fully owns the 70-acre Fairgrounds parcel just west of Beaumont and has entered Phase 3 of a 25 year development plan. With the help of Leduc County, the Town of Beaumont, the Province of Alberta and many private companies, BADAS offers facilities and programs at the Fairgrounds that attract thousands of visitors each year. Why not make it your New Year's Resolution to contribute your time and talent to this very successful organization. Now that's a Happy New Year! ■

Annual General Meeting Friday, January 6, 2012

We are trying something entirely different for the upcoming Annual General Meeting! It will be held in conjunction with an evening social get-together on Friday, January 6, 2012. The venue is Blackjack's Roadhouse in Nisku (see page 6 for a map). The serious part of the evening – the AGM – will begin at 7:00 PM, followed soon after by the PARTY! Enjoy some light refreshments and take a moment to thank the Board for another productive year. Every volunteer appreciates a heart-felt 'Thank-You' every now and then! ■

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Executive Committee

Annual Business Planning Guides BADAS

Your Executive again conducted a confidential survey of Directors to better understand what BADAS does well and what we could do better. New this year was confidential surveys of Members who use the Equine Cross Country Course and *Gerry Patsula Community Gardens*. Results on Page 3 – take a peek! ■

Burn, Baby, BURN!

A high point in the 22-year history of BADAS was the burning of our mortgage to the Fairgrounds. Beginning way back in 2000 with the help of very generous terms from the Beaumont Credit Union oh so long ago (thanks for believing in BADAS, BCU!), our final payment was made in August, 2011. An initial investment of several hundred thousand dollars is now worth many millions of dollars. Visit the BADAS website to find out the names of all of the happy faces below! ■



Burn-out, Baby, BURN-OUT!

The saying 'Success breeds Fatigue' applies to your Ag Society Executive. There will be a major turn-over of your Executive starting this year – we must find a new Secretary and Treasurer.

LITERALLY – WE CAN'T GO ON WITHOUT YOU!

Development Committee

Unanimous Board Decision to Move on the Agri-recreational Barn Project

At the March 7, 2011, monthly meeting, the Board voted to move forward with this important project. Leduc County and the Town of Beaumont Councils have joined together once again to support this project. In partnership with BADAS, we are approaching the Province for a matching grant to determine the feasibility of a capital fundraising campaign. Project details and progress reports are found on the Facilities and Bookings page at www.beaumontagsociety.com. ■

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee oversees budgeting, grant applications, fundraising efforts, and review of financial activity for BADAS.

All revenue sources for the 2010-11 fiscal year are shown in the Treasurer's Report on page 4. The 'big ones' included:

- ❖ Alberta Agriculture & Food – \$21,742 operating grants;
- ❖ Leduc County - \$2,550 operating grant;
- ❖ Fundraisers/Facility rental/Sponsorships – \$19,827. ■

Operations Committee

Events at the Fairgrounds were challenged by exceptionally wet weather and the equine herpes virus early in the season. These factors led to the first time that operating revenues did not exceed expenses. Fortunately, the weather turned and attendance rose to 3,500 visitors, several hundred more than last year.

2011 saw some changes leading to more success at the **Geny Patsula Community Gardens**. Some "new land" adjacent to the existing plots was rototilled last spring. With a new layout designed by our engineer, Harry Zuzak, the number of available plots expanded to 38 from 30 in previous years. Thirty-four plots were rented out. A cold, wet spring hampered planting and early season maintenance. Late in the summer, drier, warmer conditions helped the gardens recover to some extent. Many thanks to Linda Robinson and side-kicks Charles Fensky and Debbie Nyman for organizing and representing the gardeners.

The second annual **Beaumont Derby** was held on May 14th and 15th, 2011 and was once again very successful. Cross-country and show jumping clinics were held on May 14th and were attended by 46 riders. The Derby, a competition consisting of a combination of cross-country and stadium jumps, was held on May 15th and was attended by 53 riders in five classes ranging from Starter to Training.

The Klondike Chapter of the Alberta Carriage Driving Association descended on the BADAS Fairgrounds again for their annual competitive event – the **Klondike Carriage Classic** – on the weekend of Aug 13 & 14, 2011. Drivers from all over Alberta competed in Driven Dressage, Timed Cones course and a 4km Cross Country Marathon. Beautiful weather, beautiful grounds, spirit of competition and fast horses! Can't wait till August 11-12, 2012, when we do it all again!



Photo Credit: Rich Kylo Images

Back again were the considerable talents of the artists and organizing committee for the fourth annual **Beaumont Blues Festival**. New this year was absolutely perfect weather, which also helped entice over 1,500 guests to visit our Fairgrounds. BADAS once again managed parking which, along with returns from ticket sales, raised \$3,500 for new development projects. For more pictures & information on the 2011 Festival and plans for 2012, visit their website at: www.beaumontblues.net.

Fairgrounds Supervisor Katrina Ponich attempted to keep a handle on maintenance of the Fairgrounds this past summer. She was hired in early June, and had very limited hours to spend on-site. She looked after the sand rings, trapped nuisance moles, monitored/ordered supplies and services, cleaned up garbage and manure, and repaired equipment and building fixtures (with the help of her Dad). She also co-ordinated the efforts of Ken Van Marum, Charles Fensky, Joshua Palamattam, and many volunteers that took on mowing, weed control, painting, and general maintenance of the buildings and Cross-Country jumps. Nasty wet weather into late July really hampered maintenance activities, although by late fall the grounds were brought back into reasonably good shape. Many thanks to all volunteers and champions for helping keep our Fairgrounds in great condition. ■



Promotions and Membership

TOWN & COUNTRY DAZE: Once again BADAS partnered with the Town of Beaumont's Promotions Committee to stage another successful *Town & Country Daze* weekend. BADAS focused on hosting a parade (June 11) and the *BADAS 4-H & Open Horse Show* (June 12). We were once again fortunate to have great weather for both events. The *BADAS 4-H & Open Horse Show* had 46 entrants, down a bit from 2010. Thirty-one classes were offered for competition.

MEMBERSHIP: BADAS ended 2010-11 with a total of 184 members – 134 Full (regular adult), 37 Junior (12-18 years of age), and 12 Lifetime. **Renew your membership for 2010-11** by filling in the [form](#) on [page 5](#) of this newsletter, or on the [website](#), and returning it with the appropriate funds, to the Ag Society. Folks can visit www.beaumontagsociety.com, go to the Contact and Join Us page, and download a copy of the membership form. Note that membership fees increased for 2012, as approved at last year's AGM, to match Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies (AAAS) recommendations. ■

2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Ostapek	President
Lois Watson	Vice-President
John Bryson	Treasurer
Sandee Horneman	Secretary
Jim Hiley	Past President
Bruce Walker	Director
Shannon Morin	Director
Jackie Toma	Director
Lori deBruijn	Director
Loretta Martin	Director
Linda Robinson	Director
MaryAnn McDonald	Director
Phil Marquis	Director
Don Schiewe	Director
Harry Zuzak	Director

The Ag Society thanks the Councils and Administration of Leduc County and the Town of Beaumont for timely support. Also, thank-you to County Councillor John Schonewille and Town Councillor Jacqueline Biollo for their efforts on our behalf. They have always carried our messages honestly and effectively! ■

Our ears don't just hold up our hats! Highlights of our first confidential surveys of Fairgrounds Users

At the direction of the BADAS Board, two surveys were completed with users of the Equine Cross Country Course and *Gerry Patsula Community Gardens* (GPCG) to identify issues and solutions.

Decisions made based on feedback from the surveys included:

1. New footing material spread on the outdoor show rings.
2. Purchase of an arena groomer to help ensure consistent depth.
3. New, itemized maintenance schedule for cross country course.
4. Several new volunteer positions to help manage the GPCG.
5. Ten new volunteers from these user groups to help out at fund raising events need to keep the Fairgrounds open and accessible.

Thanks very much for the feedback! ■

NEW Gerry Patsula Community Gardens (GPCG) Coordinator!

Long term interests in agriculture, the *Gerry Patsula Community Gardens* (GPCG) and community service are just some of the outstanding qualities of Charles Fensky, our new GPCG Coordinator. Charles and his family have been with the GPCG for over five years and felt it was time to step up upon hearing that Linda Robinson would be stepping back from managing the GPCG. Along with Charles, several other gardeners also expressed their interest in the position so Linda and Debbie Nyman really did the work of many people! You can reach Charles via the Gardens email account – badasgardens@live.ca. Find out more on the 2012 garden plot registration process at www.beaumontagsociety.com, Facilities & Bookings page. ■

Ag Society Sponsors & Donors

Please visit our website (www.beaumontagsociety.com) and the Friends and Sponsors page to see the huge support that BADAS enjoys from individuals and businesses in our District. Like it says – Many have been doing it for a very long time!

For information on our graduated sponsorship levels, please see our website under Promotional Opportunities. There's no such thing as too small a donation to BADAS! And, of course, the Contact and Join Us page is well worth a visit before leaving to attend another great event at the Fairgrounds.

Clearwater Valley Pony Club's ongoing support for maintenance and operation of the Fairgrounds is greatly appreciated. CVPC has been a major supporter and user of the Fairgrounds for many years.

Special thanks this year to the Klondike Chapter of the Alberta Carriage Driving Association for bringing their Members out for a work-bee this past summer. Every time a user or community group helps out with maintenance of the Fairgrounds, the smiles are a bit brighter on the family members of a BADAS Director. ■

Thanks for the Memories!

As we approach the New Year, BADAS looks back fondly on many good memories provided by several Directors who will be stepping back from the Board or moving on to new adventures.

Heading the list is Linda Robinson, the only GPCG Gardens Coordinator that we have ever known. Linda was the Champion on this project right out of the gate ten years ago. It is thanks to her vision and effort that 28+ plots are available each year. Like any great leader, she quickly recruited a trusted helper in Debbie Nyman. Known as the 'Silent Partner', successive Boards of Directors have yet to actually meet Debbie and thank her in person!

A more permanent good-bye goes to Director Phil Marquis, his Personal Trainer Debra and the rest of the family as they move on out of the Province. Phil was an active Board member, volunteer and Champion for our efforts to develop an emergency response plan.

Secretary Sandee Horneman is stepping down this year after keeping timely records of the monthly Board meetings and annual bookings at the Fairgrounds for the past few years. And her contributions went well beyond those activities to include involving her entire family in many successful events hosted by BADAS.

And last but far from least is a tip of the hat to departing Treasurer John Bryson. In addition to keeping the books for several years, John was a ready volunteer bringing his time, talent and equipment to many activities in support of BADAS and the Fairgrounds. But it's his quiet humour and quick wit that will be missed the most! ■

MAJOR EVENTS IN 2012 -

* DETAILS ON THE BADAS WEBSITE *

JANUARY 6 - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

MAY 18 - CROSS-COUNTRY & STADIUM JUMPING CLINICS

MAY 19-20 - BEAUMONT DERBY (THIRD ANNUAL)

JUNE 2-3 - BEAUMONT HORSE TRIALS

JUNE 8-10 - TOWN AND COUNTRY DAZE WEEKEND

JUNE 10 - BADAS 4-H & OPEN HORSE SHOW

AUGUST 11-12 - KLONDIKE CARRIAGE CLASSIC

AUGUST 31, SEPT. 1 & 2 - YOUTH@THEBLUES AND

BEAUMONT BLUES FESTIVAL ■

Treasurer's Report & Budget

The Treasurer's report for fiscal year 2010-11, compiled prior to the accountant's review, is provided below. The general budget for 2011-12 is also presented. A financial report (Actual, 2010-11; budget, 2011-12) on Fairground Development and a budget (2011-12) for Fairground Operations are also presented. The budgets are presented for approval at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Jan. 6, 2012. Review engagement year-end financial statements provided by an accountant will also be presented at the AGM.

Treasurer's Report

GENERAL ACCOUNT:	ACTUAL (\$)	BUDGET (\$)
Revenue:		
Interest	10	25
AARD Annual Op Grants	21,742	22,000
Farm Safety Grant	0	0
Leduc County Op. Grant	2,550	2,600
Town Beaumont Op. Grant	0	2,500
Cap Funding Strategy Grants	0	25,000
Capital Reserves (A-R Barn)	0	200,000
Casino Income	0	15,000
Membership	424	1,000
Facility Rentals	12,836	15,000
Fundraisers/Special Events	3,491	5,000
Sponsorship/Contributions	3,500	3,000
Donations (cash)	94	0
Revenue Subtotals	\$44,647	\$291,125
<i>Bank balances</i>		29,562
<i>Short-term financing (LOC)</i>		0
Revenue TOTALS		\$320,687
Expenses:		
Fairground Operations	9,870	11,750
Office Supplies/Postage	270	300
Telephone	1,613	600
Website Maintenance	415	425
Advertising & promotion	0	250
Feasibility study	2,938	0
Capital Funding Strategy	0	30,000
Bank Charges	15	25
Edu/Aware/Leadership	0	500
Courses & Seminars	2,397	100
Land Mtg Interest	150	0
BRREA Loan Interest	112	100
Town & Country Daze	341	1,200
Membership (AAAS)	200	200
Contract Staff	1,378	10,000
Accounting Fees	720	800
Donations	0	100
Insurance (liab./prop.)	2,144	2,000
Fundraiser/Event Expenses	217	3,000
Volunteer Expenses	0	250
AAAS Convention/Mtgs	1,464	1,750
Long-service awards	362	350
Miscellaneous	92	100
Expenses Subtotals	\$24,698	\$63,800
<i>Fairgrounds Development</i>	10,389	87,660
<i>Loan principal payments</i>	9,320	922
Expenses TOTALS	\$44,407	\$152,382
Budget – Revenue less Expenses		\$168,305

BANK BALANCES AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2011:

General Account (Chequing)	23,311
Plan 24 Account	591
Casino Account	5,660
Total	\$29,562



Photo Credit: Rich Kylo Images

Fairground Development Financial Report

	Actual	Budget
Electrical – complete Phase 1	0	1,660
Front entrance	0	12,000
Maintenance equip't (arena groomer)	0	4,000
Paddock (fencing) & Roads	0	22,000
New sand & spreading	10,389	0
Stabling (Pole Barn)	0	0
Tractor (85-100 hp)	0	38,000
Fencing (perimeter)	0	10,000
TOTALS	10,389	\$87,660

Note. We are committed to spend about \$27,660 of current reserves on Fairground Development in order to clear the active AIP (pole barn) grant and Casino account, as follows:

- \$5,660 (Casino acc't) on electrical and arena groomer
- \$22,000 (AIP grant) on gravel for paddock area and road

These accounts must be cleared before we can apply for new grants or participate in our next Casino event (possibly third quarter of 2012).



Photo Credit: Zyre Aubrey-Hebert

Fairground Operations Budget

Projected Fairgrounds Operations Expenses:

Property Taxes	250
Utilities (power, water, gas, sewer)	4,000
Instructors – clinics/schooling	0
Maintenance and Repairs	6,500
Supplies and Sundries	1,000
Total	\$11,750

BEAUMONT & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SPECIAL FEATURED SPEAKER:

YOU!

BADAS is moving forward in the development of a large agri-recreational barn to support the continued development of programs for agricultural, recreational and cultural groups in our District. To encourage input and participation from community groups, we will be holding a relaxed AGM this year with an emphasis on pleasure over business. Please join us at Blackjack's Roadhouse in the Loft and share your group's views with us!

AGM & Social Get-Together – Details

Date: Friday, January 6, 2012
Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Blackjacks Roadhouse, Nisku
Email: beaumontagsociety@live.ca

Note:

Blackjacks Roadhouse and Games Room is located at the 'red balloon' on the Google map.

Address:

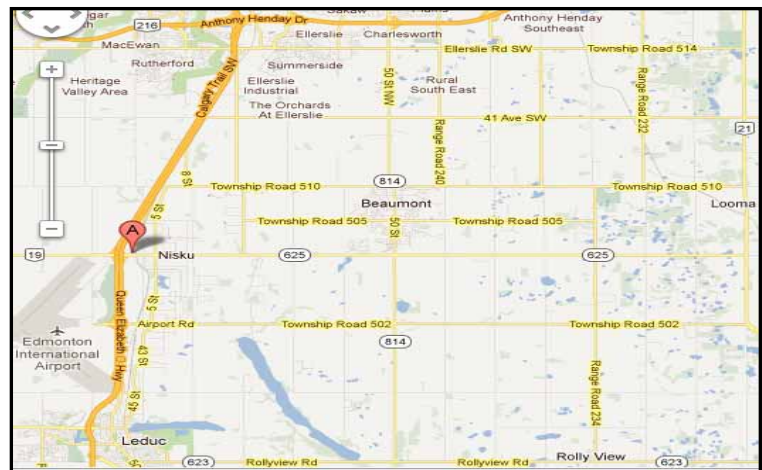
- 2110 Sparrow Drive
- Nisku, AB T9E 8A2

Phone:

- (780) 955-2336

Website:

- blackjacksroadhouse.com



YUMMY - Light refreshments will be served!