

Message from our General Manager, Dr. Tom Quarles

First of all, a big “Howdy” to you from the Brazos County Expo staff! We hope each of you have experienced a great start to the Spring, which is usually such a beautiful time of the year. Over the past few years, Spring has become such a busy time for the Expo and it just keeps getting better. Our focus is to always continue booking all of the new and returning events that we can possibly manage because we have the experience and expertise to make it all happen the way it should be done. Selling out of event space is the only limiting factor that can curtail the continued growth in booking more event business, on specific dates, in future years.

The Expo has just begun our Phase III construction project. This expansion will allow us to book larger events, multiple/larger events on the same days and will improve the quality of the facility for the many dirt type events that we have. The upgrade in both LED lighting and sound will have a major impact on the quality of the experience that our clientele have while they are at the Expo.

The results of our fourth annual economic impact study, which is for FY2016, have just been released and we are very pleased with the findings. The total economic impact, using a three year average, 2014-2016, to avoid any chance of a single year being skewed for one reason or another, was \$7,630,100 and 78 jobs. Just for information purposes, the total impact specifically for 2016, without including it in a three year average, was actually \$9,433,700 and 100 jobs. The three year average impact of \$7,630,100 represents a 20.8% output growth over the FY2015 three year average. In addition, the growth from FY2013 to FY2014 was 11.6% and the growth from FY2014 to FY2015 was 10.2%. Per the results of the last three economic impact studies combined, using the same and more conservative method of averaging the years, the total economic impact of the Expo has been 42.6%.

As always, I would like to encourage you to check our event calendar, on the Expo website, to be fully aware of the volume/type of events that we are having at the Expo. We have a modern facility, extremely capable staff and our cleanliness and customer service is second to none. We set the bar high here and therefore have high expectations of our staff. We always aim to please. My pledge is that we will not be outworked and will always provide the outstanding service and facility cleanliness that will make people want to come here and to subsequently come back again.

During the second quarter of FY17, January through April, the Expo was a very busy facility. We had a high quality Shriners Circus, Winter High Caliber Gun and Knife Trade Show, Texas High School Region 9 Rodeos (4 separate rodeo weekends), Texas Senior Pro Rodeo meeting, Sassy Shoe social event, Vista College graduation, Kubota University (corporate training-tractors), Extension Service Winter Crop meeting, 2017 OPAS Gala, Seth Broesche Memorial event (team roping, ranch rodeo, calf roping and barrel racing), Southwest Reigned Cow Horse Association event, TAMU Construction Science Career Fair, CSISD 50 Men Who Can Cook event, St. Joseph Catholic School Spring Bling Benefit, Brazos Valley Home & Garden Expo, US Team Roping Championships, Kubota University (corporate training-riding mowers), 2017 Hospice Happening, Texas Mounted Shooters “Freeze Out” event, 2017 BCS Chamber of Commerce Taste of Aggieland, 2017 40 Days For Life Benefit, Honoring Our Fallen Hero’s Benefit & Fundraiser, Brazos Valley Spring Bridal Show, BCYLS Rabbit validation, the Junior League Bargain Blitz, Mall Outlet Sale event, the Art of Helping Children Benefit, Kelly Kaminski “Run For Vegas” Barrel Racing event, the Junk Hippy Market, 2017 TAMU Collegiate Rodeo, Big Loop Big Money Team Roping Championships, 2017 BCS Chamber of Commerce Crawfish Boil, Aggiecon 48 Comic Convention, K-12 State Testing, and numerous other meetings, wedding receptions and parties.

The third quarter of FY17, April through June, offers a challenging three months loaded with some great events and opportunities for us to showcase our event facilities. Events booked include the Aggie Super Circuit Quarter Horse Show, the Premiere Market, the Brazos County Youth Livestock Show & Premium Auction, TAMU College of Education Career Fair, Texas Evacuation Safety Meeting, Gulf Coast Appaloosa Spring Fling, Four (4) TAMU Parents Weekend banquets, Every Victim Every Time Conference, TAMU Co-Sorority Formal, Superior Combative Martial Arts Championships, Rio Grande Valley Region Pony Club Show and Jumping Rally, Whitetails Unlimited Banquet, Aggie Transition Camp Gala, Spring High Caliber Gun & Knife Trade Show, Texas Senior Pro Rodeo, Piper Faust Memorial Barrel Race, Big Loop Big Money Team Roping Finals and Philipp Ranch Production Horse Sale, Aggie Relay for Life event, Multi State Championship Rough Stock Challenge, Houston Chapter API Cowboy Days, Dia Del Nino event, K-12 State Testing, Coach Blair Charity Banquet and Fundraiser, Texas Junior Livestock Association Camp & Show, Brazos County Relay for Life event, A&M Consolidated High School Prom, BCS Seniors Expo, Primo Hot Tub Show, Texas Special Olympics Equestrian, Texas Energy & Automation Management Solutions event, HYPE (Helping Youth Prepare for Employment) Career Fair, Bryan Market & Food Truck Festival, Central Texas Mini Horse Club Show, Texas Junior Simmental/Simbrah Association Show, Texas Junior Brahman Association Show, Texas Junior Brangus Breeders Association Show, (a second) Big Loop Big Money Team Roping event, District 9 4-H Horse Show, Brazos County A&M Club Coach's Night, and several other receptions and parties.

Please remember to visit our website, www.BrazosCountyExpo.com, to obtain more details/information regarding these and other events. And, remember that most of the livestock shows and horse shows are free to the public and are good events to bring children to.

Until next time, wishing all of you the best!