

April, 2019 Message from our General Manager, Carl Kolbe

HOWDY! Springtime in Texas is always welcome after a cold, wet winter. This year is no exception. So hopefully everyone is soaking in some much needed sunshine and enjoying the warmer temps.

As we transitioned into our busy spring event schedule from the winter season, here at the Expo, the region 9 High School and Junior High Rodeos continued with dates in January through the finals/awards banquet in March. Once again we will be hosting all Region 9 High School and several Junior High events in 2019/20. The Gulf Coast Appaloosa Horse Club had the first of their two shows for the year finishing out January. The size of their shows has made it possible to add a second date. The third annual Seth Broesche Memorial event has continued to grow having 4 different rodeo events. Ever increasing proceeds from the event provides scholarships for high school students. The month of March continues to be one of the busiest of the year. The La Compania Car Show and the Ben Hur Shrine Circus are two repeat events that bring large diverse crowds to the Expo and provide great family entertainment. It is the norm for us to have multiple events at the same time as the TAMU Collegiate Rodeo, Big Loop Team Roping and The Queens Dance kicked off the Brazos County Youth Livestock Show list of events all on the same weekend. A quick turnaround brought The Aggie Super Circuit to town with 400 horses for 6 days. As they moved out, another overnight turnaround brought 500 beautiful, talented equine athletes to town for the Diamonds and Dirt Barrel Horse Classic for 6 more days competing for a million dollars, plus, in cash and prizes. **For those two weeks there is an estimated 2 million dollars brought directly into Brazos County.**

Now you can understand what I mean when I say there is something for everyone at the Expo!! ...and most of it is free to the public.

Inside the Exhibit Hall/Ballroom several local annual events were back with continued success. The MSC Opas Gala and 50 Men Who Can Cook, two local fundraisers that are mainstays on our calendar. The Home and Garden Show and The Spring Bridal Show always attract local patrons interested in anything home improvement related or ideas for the perfect wedding. Brazos Valley Cares - Steak Your Support, provided another very important fundraising effort supporting United States Military veterans and their families.

As we turn the page, we continue with another cultural event in Dia Del Ninos, more team roping with API and The Equestrian Special Olympics of Texas reminds us what an important impact our equine partners can have on all who they come in contact with. Early to mid-summer, annually, has become cattle show season on our calendar. At some point beginning in May and continuing periodically through mid- August we will host Charolais , Simmental/Simbrah, Red Brangus, Brahman, Brangus, Santa Gertrudis and Beefmaster cattle shows. Added in that mix and finishing the quarter will be The District 9 4-H Horse Show and The Heritage Days Classic Horse Show. Some inside events coming up this quarter are The Coach Blair Charities Banquet, TAMU Science Olympiad, CHI-St Joseph's Medical Symposium, Texas A&M Foundation Women, Wealth and Wisdom Workshop and The Texas 4-H Roundup – Food Show.

As I close I want everyone to know that most events here at the Expo are free for the public to attend. You may come and go as you please with no fee for parking or admission. Please check our event calendar on the new Expo website www.brazoscountyexpo.com for all future events.

Best wishes,
Carl Kolbe