

## Message from the General Manager

HOWDY AND...WOW!!!

What a way to kick off the first quarter of FY20! The Michelle Lynn Holsey Benefit and Cutting Horse Competition continues to grow each year which makes a huge contribution to our community in many ways. The event used 360 stalls per day, up from 260 last year and the week long show culminates on Saturday night with a banquet and live auction benefitting the foundation.

The 2019 Brazos Valley Fair and Rodeo was literally bigger and better than ever. For the first time in the fair's short history there was a kickoff weekend prior to the main fair. New and exciting events included a steak cook-off and a high school welding competition on Saturday and the much anticipated Red River Valley Tractor Pull on Sunday. All events were successful and the attendance for the tractor pull was 2500 plus. The weather was conducive and a great way to grow the fair and raise awareness for an event that gives back so much in the way of agriculture education and scholarships for the youth in Brazos and surrounding counties.

Ranch sortings, the Texas Fall Barrel Classic and Texas Junior High and High School Rodeos filled up the calendar in November. The Texas American Saddlebred Horse Show was back again in December with beautiful horses in riding and driving classes that are such a pleasure to watch. The annual Southern Classic livestock show brought us to the holiday season and the finish to another great year of events at the Expo.

The Expo Exhibit Hall/Ballrooms were host to the Antique Show and Southwest Electrical Meter Assn. in October bringing out-of-town guests for extended stays. The Education Career Fair, Ducks Unlimited Banquet, Agrilife Banquet, and the ever-popular and growing Chamber Ag Breakfast brought local producers and businesses together at the perfect time to celebrate the local producers and give thanks for our many blessings during the Thanksgiving holidays. The holiday season was on display with several Christmas festivities to bring 2019 to a close.

It is hard to believe we are in 2020 now and our busy schedule has begun with every weekend in January booked with multiple events. Well, here we go again, lots of exciting events to enjoy that are free to the public. Go to our website [www.brazoscountyexpo.com](http://www.brazoscountyexpo.com) and pick one for you and your family to come out and enjoy.

Enjoy what's left of the winter. I'll be back in the spring with another update!

Thank you,

Carl Kolbe, General Manager