

Colorado County Fair Honorary Lifetime Directors



TOM NORTHRUP
Honorary Lifetime Director



BUTCH STRUNK
Honorary Lifetime Director



T. J. SMITH
Honorary Lifetime Director



KATIE NORTHRUP
Honorary Lifetime Director



LEON DITTMAR, JR.
Honorary Lifetime Director



VERNA NELL DITTMAR
Honorary Lifetime Director



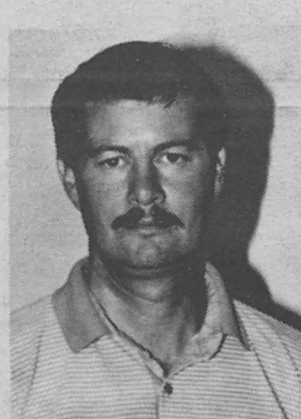
JEROME WICKE
Honorary Lifetime Director



LYNDA APPELT EVANS
Honorary Lifetime Director



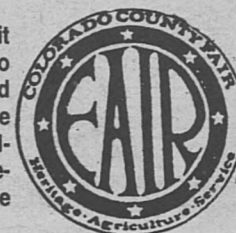
PATSY WARSCHAK
Honorary Lifetime Director



GERALD TROJACEK
Honorary Lifetime Director

*Thanks Colorado County
For Supporting Our 2001 Fair!*

The Colorado County Fair is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the improvement of the livestock and poultry industries, development of the homemaking, artistic and creative talents of young and old alike, and the preserving of our rich heritage for future generations.



**The 2001 Colorado County
Fair Association**

Parade Marshals

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Executive Director in 1997. The Colorado County Fair Association bestowed Honorary Lifetime Directorships on Leon and Verna Nell in 1998.

Being involved in the Fair Association from its infancy has offered the Dittmars a chance to be involved in virtually every aspect of the Fair. Verna Nell has worked on the Public Relations, Fair Queen, Commercial Booths, Clean-up, Program Distribution, Ticket Sales and Gate Set Up Committees; and, has chaired the Entertainment and Advertising Committees. She served on the Speaker's Committee, giving many speeches in promotion of the Fair. Verna Nell currently chairs the Life Membership Committee, the committee formed to collect seed money for the new Fair Grounds. Leon has served on the Public Relations, Beverage Concession, Grounds, and Set-Up Committees; and has chaired the Carnival and Commercial Booths Committees. He continues to take an active role in promoting the continued growth and success of the Colorado County Fair. The Dittmars are Founder's Club Members of the Colorado County Ag Complex. Leon is past-Treasurer for this group, served on its Board for five years and worked on the site planning committee, which secured the current Ag Complex facility.

Leon and Verna Nell are both

4th generation Colorado County citizens. Leon was raised in the Bernardo area and attended Bretschneider School, and Verna Nell was raised in the Mentz area and attended Mentz Elementary and Columbus High School. They moved to Columbus after they married in 1957. They are active members of the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Columbus and have made public service and volunteerism a cornerstone of their relationship and family life.

At St. Paul Church, they have served as Church Council Members, Ushers, Youth Sponsors and various committee members and chairpersons; Verna Nell was active in the Sunday School program for 20 years, the Altar Guild Society, and currently does volunteer bookkeeping for the Church. They are active in the Colorado County German Society, where Verna Nell currently serves as President, and the Texas Sportsman's Association, where Verna Nell currently serves as Secretary. They have been instrumental in helping to grow the Colorado County Republican Club and Colorado County Republican Party, where Verna Nell currently serves as Treasurer. These groups have hosted current President George W. Bush in Columbus on two occasions.

Leon is a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in active duty from 1953-1955. He served in the National Guard from 1955-1990, retiring with the rank of SFC. He was a carpenter in Columbus from

1955-1967, and became shop manager for Texas Manufactured Marble Inc. in 1967. Leon and his family purchased Texas Manufactured Marble in 1984, where he worked until his retirement in 1998, selling his share to his son. Leon has been an active Rancher his entire adult life and currently raises Commercial Black Brangus cattle. He served as a Columbus Volunteer Fireman for 20 years, Columbus City Councilman for 6 years, and was a member of the last Colorado County School Board. He was instrumental in renovating the Columbus Legion Hall into the Veteran Community Center, and received the Rotary Club's Soil Conservation Award in 1981. He is an Honorary Chapter Farmer of the Columbus FFA, a past member of the Young Farmers Group of Colorado County and Columbus Noon Lions Club, and a past Columbus Little League Manager. He is a current member of Ducks Unlimited, National Rifle Association, American Legion, and a Lifetime member of the Texas National Guard.

Verna Nell has enjoyed a professional career that includes working for the Colorado County Abstract Company, Drymalla Construction Co., and Miller & Allen Attorneys at Law. She worked for the Colorado County Federal Savings & Loan Association for 25 years, serving as executive secretary for 15 of those years. She joined the family business in 1989, working as office manager until

her retirement in 1998. She was recognized as Employee of the Year by the Columbus Chamber of Commerce in 1976. Verna Nell was instrumental in bringing the Red Cross Swim Program to Columbus when her children needed to learn to swim. She is a past President of the Columbus Young Homemakers Club, and served on the Auxiliaries of the Columbus Volunteer Fire Department and the American Legion. She is a charter member of the Columbus Pilot Club, and has served as the club's President, Vice President and Director. She was the 1997 Pilot Club Sweetheart and still works on various committees of the club.

Since retirement in 1998, Leon and Verna Nell have continued working with their many volunteer organizations and enjoy more time for their grandchildren and hobbies. Verna Nell spends time sewing, gardening, reading, and is starting a genealogical research project on her family. Leon spends time hunting with his son Dwight in Colorado and continues his ranching business. They both love to travel and spend time working and relaxing at the ranch in West Texas.

Leon and Verna Nell are close to their three grown children and enjoy spoiling their grandchildren. Son Dusty and his wife Dawn live in Columbus with their children Austen and Regan. Dusty owns and manages Texas Manufactured Marble, Inc. and Dawn is in her 2nd year of study at South Texas

College of Law. Son Dwight and his wife Chris live in Fort Morgan, Colorado. Dwight is the Rocky Mountain Regional Sales Manager for Murphy, Inc. and Chris began studies in Medical Records Technology at Morgan Community College this Summer. Daughter Sondra and her husband, Dr. Bob Salchak, live in Sugarland with their sons Andy and John. Sondra is a Certified Public Accountant and works part-time for Coral Engineering. Bob owns and practices optometry at Colony Eye Care Center in Sugarland.

The Dittmars are honored to be this year's Fair Parade Marshals, and hope everyone will come out and enjoy a great time at the Fair!

Memorial Fund Donations

The Colorado County Fair appreciates those who have donated to the Memorial Fund in memory of loved ones. Give a memorial that will live on through the Colorado County Fair. Mail donations to Colorado County Fair, P.O. Box 506, Columbus, Texas 78934. Your memorial may be designated to either scholarship purposes or building projects.

