

## President's Message

It's with great pleasure that I welcome you to the "Historic Clark County Fair". 2018 will be the 71<sup>st</sup> annual fair and we have some really great acts and entertainment for your enjoyment. When I became a fair board member I really didn't realize what it takes to operate a fair as large and successful as we enjoy. The people of Clark County have a lovely venue thanks to the support of the Clark County Commissioners.

We have 15 hardworking board members who begin planning for next years fair immediately after the conclusion of the current fair. As President of the board I feel very fortunate for the dedicated staff which we have and for our Executive Director, Dean Blair. Dean is doing a remarkable job of selling our facilities for many new and exciting events with the hope of making the fairgrounds a year-round entertainment facility.

Recently we rebranded our facilities as "Champions Park" home of the Historic Clark County Fair. Springfield has long been known as the "Champion City" for several generations, and the new branding certainly fits what we do at the fairgrounds, considering we crown champions in livestock shows, pie baking, tractor and truck pulling, boat racing, and the list goes on. The Clark County Fair is about winning a champion ribbon, banner or trophy in your chosen event. The rebranding attracts people from across the country to look at our venue who might not consider bringing their event to a "fairgrounds". We are attracting diverse shows such as wine festivals, jewelry shows, train shows, dog shows, all of which bring tourism dollars to Clark County. With more events, we can continue to upgrade and improve the fair as we know it for our children and grandchildren.

We hope to see you at the fair. Why not try entering something in the fair and try to become a Champion!

Bill Agle  
President, Clark County Agricultural Society