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Gib Gosser Named Executive of the Year

SPRINGFIELD, MO — December 9, 2013 — Wednesday at the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) 123rd Annual Convention, held Dec. 8-12, at the Paris Hotel in Las Vegas, Gibson “Gib” Gosser, executive secretary of the Kentucky Association of Fairs & Horse Shows was named the Federation of State and Provincial Fair Association’s Executive of the Year. The Executive of the Year Award goes to an association executive who has been in this position for at least five years. They have to be recommended by their association and are judged on their participation and involvement in their local, state, and the Federation of State & Provincial Associations of Fairs.

Gosser’s love of fairs began when he was a child, attending the Kentucky State Fair to see Roy Rogers. Since then, he has served fairs in various capacities on the state and local level. Gosser has served in his current position with the Kentucky Association of Fairs & Horse Shows for the past 12 years. Prior to becoming executive secretary, he served as director, vice president, and president of the Kentucky Association of Fairs & Horse Shows. For the past 24 years, Gosser has served as Kentucky Association of Fairs & Horse Shows representative to the Kentucky State Fair Board, strengthening the relationship between the two organizations. Gosser has improved the accessibility of the Kentucky Association of Fairs & Horse Shows to county fairs by streamlining the application process for membership. In 1998, Gosser was inducted into the Kentucky Association of Fairs & Horse Shows Hall of Fame.

Gosser has helped improve the programming and develop the grounds at his local fair, the Pulaski County Fair in Somerset, Ky. When he served as chair of the fair in 1978, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture recognized the Pulaski County Fair as the Most Progressive Fair. He has served in multiple capacities at the fair from working in the ticket booth to ultimately serving as fair board president.

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