



**YOUNG MEN'S BUSINESS LEAGUE
PROJECTS AND COMMITTEES
FOR 2009**

Henry Gaus, President

General Division, Malcolm Ray, 1st Vice President

SOUTH TEXAS STATE FAIR, Donnie Warner, Chairman. The 66th annual South Texas State Fair under sponsorship of the Young Men's Business League is set for **March 26th – April 5th** at Beaumont's Ford Park. More than 600 YMBL members will be involved in the production of this huge event. In 2007 some 350,000 people from S.E. Texas and S.W. Louisiana attended the Fair. The Fair offers hundreds of commercial exhibits, food concessions outstanding livestock and poultry shows and new and exciting attractions for the entire family which include a PRCA Sanctioned Rodeo. For 63 years the YMBL Rodeo has been well respected by rodeo fans in the southwest, the YMBL Rodeo always offers plenty of thrills, spills and action. Scheduled for **April 2, 3, 4** in the Ford Park Arena, this event will feature the finest stock in the world, and a majority of the PRCA's world champion cowboys and cowgirls will come to Beaumont to compete.

FAIR BUYERS COMMITTEE, Chuck Kiker, Chairman. Sometimes known as the Fair Auction Committee, the committee's primary function is to contact local and area businesses as well as other interested individuals to underwrite the annual South Texas State Fair's two-day Junior Livestock and Poultry Auctions. In 2007, more than \$500,000.00 was raised through bids for those youngsters whose animals competed in the Junior Shows at the Fair, and then qualified to be sold at the Auction. Dates: **March 31st and April 1st**.

YMBL HAROLD ENGSTROM MEMORIAL SPECIAL KIDS DAY RODEO, Harold Williams, Chairman. Named after the late Judge Harold Engstrom who started this event, the primary responsibility of the committee is to organize and stage the annual Special Kids Day at the YMBL Rodeo. Hundreds of mentally and or physically challenged youngsters from the area are invited to attend this special outing, usually held before the YMBL Rodeo opens.

YMBL CHUTE-OUT BULLRIDE, Jim Ferrell, Chairman

Membership Division, Mark McAdams, 2nd Vice President

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE, Mitch Macon & Bill Collins, Chairmen. The lifeblood of any volunteer organization is membership and this committee will begin its work in late December signing new members and encouraging current members to pay their dues early to ensure their place on the membership rolls and projects during the coming year.

MEMBERS WELCOME / FAIR WORKERS PARTY, Jay Hillin, Chairman. This great get-together of all YMBL members is held right before the South Texas State Fair. This event is designed to acquaint new YMBLers with the organization's many civic projects, impress upon them the important role the YMBL plays in the growth and prosperity of the community and it also gives members an opportunity to volunteer for assignments at the Fair. Dinner is served and door prizes are awarded to lucky ticket holders. In addition there is a short program of introductions.

SALTWATER FISHING TOURNAMENT, Dohn LaBiche, Chairman. This Fishing Tournament has proven to be a popular outing with valuable prizes offered to the better fishermen and a lot of fun and fellowship for the taking by all YMBLers who enter. The Saltwater tourney has been headquartered at or near Bolivar in the past and is limited to the waters in and around Galveston Bay. It is a one-day tournament usually held in Late July or early August.

GOLF TOURNAMENT, Chuck Kalkbrenner, Chairman. Golfers, who enjoy outstanding golf courses, good fellowship, excellent food and refreshments as well as a valuable assortment of prizes, always look forward to this exciting membership activity. Usually, play is limited to the first 200 members who sign up for the tournament. Format for the tournament is geared to give everyone a chance to win and a Florida Scramble program is normally followed. It is a one-day tournament usually held in the Fall.

MEMBERSHIP PROJECT, Malcolm Ray, Chairman.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT, Simon Lightfoot, Chairman. This event, which is for all YMBL members and their immediate family, is a special "Thank You" for all they do in making YMBL projects and activities successful.

Youth Division, Larry Price, 3rd Vice President

YMBL/BISD INVITATIONAL RELAYS, Andy Foote, Chairman. Relays for area high school boys and girls conducted with the Beaumont Independent School District usually held the first weekend in March of each year at Durley Stadium on the campus of Westbrook High School.

JUNIOR GOLF TOURNAMENT, Mitch McCurley, Chairman. Another great youth project, sanctioned by the STPGA, the tournament is open to all junior golfers who are members of the STPGA and will be played on one or more local courses. Interest in golf is at an all-time high throughout the U.S., and more junior events of this type are being held each year.

BABE ZAHARIAS RELAYS, Roger Hightower, Chairman. This track and field meet, where every participant is a winner, is designed for those youngsters from the area who cannot participate in regular sporting activities because of a mental or physical handicap. The Zaharias attracts some 3000 participants each year from the surrounding ten county area.

GIRL'S VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT, Jay Johnson, Chairman. This high school tournament for girls has an excellent reputation throughout the state and in past tournaments; many of the winning teams have gone on to gain state championships. Set for an early September date, the meet is traditionally staged at Lamar University. These young ladies play exciting and fast volleyball and fans are invited to see all the games.

YMBL/BISD SOUTH TEXAS SHOOT-OUT, Deral Ellerbee, Chairman. Some of the most exciting high school basketball in this part of the country will be played during this three-day tourney. Set for an early December date usually at Lamar University, the tournament is expected to draw some of the best teams in Texas and Louisiana. The tournament, one the YMBL began in 1952, is one of the YMBL's oldest continuing projects and is also one of the state's most prestigious high school events. The tourney's format features brackets for small schools and for the larger schools.

Civic Division, Clint Lewis, Treasurer

YMBL LADIES NIGHT, Ken Dollinger, Chairman. Since 1947, when the late Cliff H. LeBlanc, Sr., was YMBL president and originator of Ladies Night, this banquet has paid tribute to the wives of YMBL members and has been a thank you to the ladies for allowing their husbands time away from home and family to work on YMBL projects and activities. The event always offers fine food and entertainment and a real "night out" for the ladies.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, Larry Price, Chairman. This committee is involved in promoting the YMBL and its various projects. The committee also encourages community involvement in YMBL projects throughout Southeast Texas. This committee also oversees the YMBL Scholarship program as a primary assignment. With eight annual student grants valued at a combined total of over \$70,000.00 over a four year period of study, the YMBL scholarship program as well as two endowed scholarships at Lamar University - one in Athletics and the other a Masters Degree program in the School of Business - are heavy responsibilities for this committee.

Other committee responsibilities include selecting young ladies to represent the YMBL in the annual Neches River Festival; and, the distribution of food baskets at Christmas time.

FEAST OF SHARING, Jimmy Ward, Chairman. This committee is responsible for providing assistance to HEB in the planning and execution of their Annual HEB Feast of Sharing, which is designed to provide guests with a traditional holiday dinner, live musical entertainment and children's activities.

YMBL EQUIPMENT INVENTORY, Mark McAdams, Chairman. This committee is charged with the responsibility of labeling, inventorying and maintaining all YMBL owned equipment. An additional responsibility of the committee will be to handle all aspects of loaning out YMBL equipment, when necessary.

FORD PARK IMPROVEMENTS, Clint Lewis, Chairman. This committee is charged with overseeing improvements needed to stage the annual South Texas State Fair, and to do any maintenance work to the facilities and plan any new construction in coordination with Jefferson County in accordance with the lease agreement the YMBL has with the County.