

# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FAIR

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### The Story of the 46<sup>th</sup> District Agricultural Association

The history of the Southern California Fair dates back to 1913 when the first Riverside County Fair was held at Chemawa Park. Over the next few years the fair changed locations and names, and in 1918 the Riverside County Fair Board was abolished, and the new Southern California Fair Association was created that included Board of Directors from all over the county. This lasted until 1926 when the Southern California Fair ceased due to financial reasons.

In 1927, State Legislature formed the 46<sup>th</sup> District Agricultural Association (46<sup>th</sup> DAA). During this year, the Southern California Fair was reintroduced to the public sponsored by the 46<sup>th</sup> DAA. The Festival was a flourishing event with more than 100,000 exhibits, a large agricultural show and livestock show. Other popular features at the Southern California Fair included frog jumping, aeronautical exhibits, horse and auto racing, auto shows, parades, chariot races and an air show. The air show at the Southern California Fair was the most dramatic event showcased by Roman C. Warren, Cowboy aviator, from Riverside, who had flown under the arch of the Rubidoux Bridge and recreated his feat by flying under an exact replica built just for the Fair. In 1927 and 1928 Warren flew under that replica 13 times at 125 mph and thrilled thousands of visitors at the Fair.

Then in 1931, the Board of Directors signed an agreement that would combine the Los Angeles County Fair with the Southern California Fair. Because of this, from 1931 to 1946 there was no official county fair in Riverside County. However, the 46<sup>th</sup> DAA sponsored one of the largest Turkey Shows in the country, in Hemet, California from 1936 through 1942.

In 1946, the 46<sup>th</sup> DAA sponsored the Farmers Fair & Festival. The annual event was held in Hemet until 1987, when it moved to the current location, at the Lake Perris Fairgrounds.

Gavin Newsom ..... Governor  
 Karen Ross..... Secretary, Dept. of Food & Agriculture

### Mission Statement

**“The Mission of the Southern California Fair & Event Center is to provide & promote agricultural activities, entertainment, education, recreation and service opportunities for all people in Riverside County”**

**Southern California Fair**  
**October 10<sup>th</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**Entry Deadline: September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**Exhibits theme: Busy Bee Crafters**

