

## Message from our General Manager, Dr. Tom Quarles

Wow! Here we go again. Old man winter is staring us in the face! I think that we would all agree that it is certainly a blessing to be here to experience it. The Expo staff wants to wish each of you a belated Merry Christmas and we hope you have a happy and prosperous New Year!

The Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo, held in late October, proved to be very successful again this year and continues to get bigger and better each year. We are really pleased with the direction that it is going and the tremendous progress that has been made. It has now been four years in the making and, based on the financial results of the 2015 Fair, we will be funding seven college scholarships including five to the overall champion livestock show winners and two to outstanding 4-H Club members who will be graduating high school seniors in the Brazos Valley this academic year. For all those that live in the Brazos Valley, please attend and support the 2016 Fair, to be held October 21-23, 2016. You will glad that you did! Please remember that your attendance and much of your subsequent financial support is reinvested back into the youth of the Brazos Valley.

The Expo has a very challenging and exciting schedule facing us this winter and spring with a wide variety of events that have been booked, including the Brazos County Youth Livestock Show, regional livestock shows, regional/state horse shows, large team roping events, large barrel racing events, trade shows, large banquets, conferences, large charity fund raising events, educational programs, wedding receptions and many other types of events.

During the first quarter of FY16, the Expo was literally “blowing and going”. From October through December, we had the Extension Service Pizza Ranch, Special Olympics of Texas Athlete’s Village, STX Comic Con, Texas Transportation Institute Conference/Meeting and Fajita Fest, the Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo, B-CS Chamber of Commerce Youth to Career Fair, Texas A&M Trophy Hunters Banquet and Fund Raiser, Texas A&M Class of ’80 Reunion, Lil Wranglers Barn Dance & Fundraiser, Shriners Halloween event, CAP Equipment Auction, Texas High School Rodeo, TAMU College of Education Career Fair, Brazos County Extension Banquet, Texas A&M Ducks Unlimited Banquet and Fundraiser, Canine Barn Hunt Trials Event, B-CS CVB Meeting Planners Showcase, B-CS Chamber of Commerce/Ag Council Agriculture Breakfast, Big Loop Big Money Team Roping Event, S-Con Christmas Party, Junior League Ball, Texas American Saddle Horse Show, Texas Quarter Horse Association Clinic and Show, Southern Classic Livestock Show, Britt Rice Christmas Luncheon and Meeting, Bryan Baking Christmas Party and numerous other private events and wedding receptions.

Please check the event calendar, on our website, [www.BrazosCountyExpo.com](http://www.BrazosCountyExpo.com), to see the remaining FY2016 events coming to the Expo.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone one at this year’s Brazos County Youth Livestock Show and Premium Auction! This event will be an excellent opportunity for everyone to see the Brazos County youth showcase their livestock, agricultural mechanics projects and Consumer Science projects. All of these young people have worked hard all year and have a lot of time and money invested in their chosen projects. Not only will this event showcase the Brazos County youth and their projects, but it will provide an excellent opportunity to educate younger children about agriculture and will also help to further shape/develop the lives of those competing/participating. The Show is all about educating our young people. As adults, our support will always be important in their future growth and development.

Wishing all of you the very best!