

2014 Fair Dedication – Rod Biehler

The Allegany County Agricultural Society is pleased to announce that their 2014 Fair is dedicated to Rod Biehler who is currently General Manager of Pembroke Pines' WZKZ 101.9 and WQRW 93.5 radio stations. The Fair Board is honoring Rod for his many years of promoting our yearly Fair and for his willingness to volunteer as the announcer at numerous events. Rod has also helped to publicize County tourism attractions and has become the Tourism Committee Chairman for the Greater Allegany County Chamber of Commerce. Public awareness of what Allegany County has to offer has been greatly enhanced through Rod's efforts and promotions.

Mr. Biehler was born on May 13th, 1947, the only child of Walter and Marie Biehler in Eldred, Pennsylvania. He attended Otto-Eldred School and graduated from High School in 1965. When he was a little kid, his uncles, who were race car drivers, used to hide him in the back of their car so he could get into the pits at the Roulette Track where they raced. Those experiences furthered his love of racing, something that to this day, he is very much involved with.

Following his graduation from High School, Rod decided to attend the Career Academy of Broadcasting in Washington, D.C. From this, he graduated as the top student in his class of thirty and then received three job offers in his hometown area: Kane, PA, Coudersport, PA, and in Wellsville, NY. Rod decided to accept the job at the Wellsville AM Station and started work in February, 1966. One of his most memorable experiences occurred during the Flood of 1972 very shortly after the birth of his son. Because of the high water, Rod couldn't get home to his wife and new born son for two days. Rod stayed with the Wellsville AM Station until 1999 at which time he decided to take a year off from broadcasting. Shortly thereafter, Bob Pfuntner decided to start a new radio station in Wellsville. Rod joined the staff along with Bob Weigand and he's been there ever since.

In addition to radio, Rod has a great interest in auto racing. The Olean Center mall stock car show and another stock car show outside in April at Wellsville's Riverwalk are organized and promoted by Rod. As for announcing, Rod has done this at every track in Western New York except for Lancaster Speedway. He's also raced officially himself and even won – which he says was fun. He wasn't as good at racing go-karts though. He says he finished third once – in a field of three.

Rod is married to Joan and has two biological children – Walter who was tragically killed in an automobile accident, and a daughter Gina who resides near Houghton. He also has two step children- Stacy who lives in Eldred and Jonathan who lives in Columbus, PA. Between them, Rod and Joan have nine (9) grandchildren. In his "spare time" Rod has a trophy business which he runs out of his home. Rod enjoys fishing, hunting, attending many, many sports events our granddaughter participates in (volleyball, basketball, softball, and track) and travelling.

Congratulations to Rod Biehler from the Allegany Agricultural Society on all your achievements and for making Allegany County and Western New York and Pennsylvania vital and interesting places to live.