

# 10 Bucks, 10 Bucks, 10 Bucks, 10 Bucks!

By: Andy Pocock

Ten bucks is ten bucks, but ten bucks ten times is a free membership in the GOSA. That's right, I said FREE! The board has approved a program whereby any member of the GOSA who signs a new member in 2008 will receive ten dollars off their 2009 dues. Sign ten members and your dues are FREE! But wait there's more! Sign more than ten members and you will receive a ten dollar rebate for each additional member you sign. Let me help you with the math, sign fifteen members and your dues are ZERO DOLLARS and your rebate is FIFTY DOLLARS. I know this is shocking so take a deep breath and read the last paragraph again.

Got it? Good! It's time to get proactive. If you belong to this organization you must believe it is worthwhile, so start spreading the word. There are literally thousands of operators working in this state and yet our membership hovers around 350 to 400 year in and year out. One of the first questions a legislator will ask about an organization is "How many members?". There is strength in numbers, the industry is changing and we need to grow our numbers in order to remain influential and to protect our livelihood.

On at least two occasions in the past the GOSA has successfully fought to prevent the ELIMINATION OF GAMES CONCESSIONS at county fairs in Ohio. WOW! How different would our industry be for almost half of our current members and hundreds of other operators in Ohio without the efforts of the GOSA all those years ago. In recent memory air screens in food trailers were proposed and the GOSA was involved in that fight, saving many hundreds of operators untold thousands of dollars. The GOSA has a seat on the Governor's Ride Safety Advisory Committee. This gives us a direct line of communication to the Governor and other lawmakers when ride companies are threatened with unworkable electrical regulations such as those proposed in the wake of the Lake County tragedy a few years ago. People who work in this state and don't belong to the GOSA are benefiting from these efforts, a reminder from an active member may be all that is needed to bring them onboard!

We are currently monitoring several issues in Columbus and have had success in preserving "build ups" for another year thanks to the hard work of our Games Committee and The Towner Policy Group. HB 246 is still in play and we are keeping tabs on it as well so we are ready to be part of the legislative process if necessary.

Other developments in Health and Sanitation and some exciting social events appearing elsewhere in this newsletter are even more reasons to take advantage of this great opportunity and save or even make some money while promoting The Greater Ohio Showmen's Association!

Membership packets are being assembled now, so if you need promotional materials to hand out, contact Membership Chairman Kevin Pope or Secretary/Treasurer Suzanne Guinsler. Thanks for your support.