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**Padre says:**

*“Some minds  
are like  
concrete,  
thoroughly  
mixed up and  
permanently  
set.”*

**Topeka Farm Show Celebrates 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary With 580 WIBW As Sponsor**

It's in the history books.

For 25 years, the Topeka Farm Show has been a major event attracting farmers and ranchers from throughout the Midwest to Kansas' capital city to see the latest innovations for the state and nation's most essential industry.

“Our silver anniversary show featured 550 booths, representing more than 300 companies from throughout the nation, offering about as many different kinds of agricultural products. It was a tremendous success,” evaluated Steve Guenther, show director for Tradexpos, Topeka Farm Show producers from Austin, Minnesota.



“Tradexpos owner Jack Thill saw the potential for a show in the then-new Kansas Expocentre in Topeka several years before starting it. Tradexpos had a special beef show a year earlier, following trends of what had been the Mid-America Fair for more than a half century, and decided to go ahead and develop a complete farm show the next year,” Guenther said.

“It has continued to grow, and attendance this year was 29,453,” according to Guenther. “In talking to exhibitors during move out, all sales were great with several companies setting new sales records for the show.”



“The Topeka Farm Show is a tremendous success story, and 580 WIBW is proud to have cooperated in sponsorship from the beginning. Agriculture is the key industry in Kansas, and to have the show here in the state's capital emphasizes the importance of that industry,” said Kelly Lenz (with Guenther top right), 580 WIBW Farm Director, at a special anniversary party for this year's exhibitors.

Guenther expressed appreciation to the Topeka Farm Show exhibitors, and acknowledged that some businesses have been a part of the show since its beginning.

H.R. Cook, general manager of the Kansas Expocentre, spoke to the group during the evening anniversary supper, and emphasized that the Topeka Farm Show is not only one of the largest and most important annual activities at the Expocentre, but very important to the city and state as well.

“The economic impact of the Topeka Farm Show is very significant to the Kansas Expocentre, and all of Topeka,” Cook admitted as he presented an appreciation plaque to Guenther (above left).

Don Ankrom, Salem, Nebraska, won the drawing among all Topeka Farm Show registrants for enough Midland Roundup Ready 2 Yield soybean seed, with a value of \$2,900, to plant 50 acres.

“More than 1,000 people signed up at the 580 WIBW booth during the show. Winner of the Ariat boots donated by Roy Frey Western Lifestyles was Elaine Berger of Barnes,” said Lenz, who visited with attendees and did live interviews at the show, along with Greg Akagi and Dan Johnson of the 580 WIBW Farm Department.

A dedicated Tradexpos staff (shown right), including Guenther, Betty Mullenbach, Deb Goldberg, Fred Cline and John Thill, assisted throughout the 25<sup>th</sup> edition of the Topeka Farm Show.

The 2015 Topeka Farm Show is set for the Kansas Expocentre on January 6-7-8, according to Guenther. Information is available at [www.tradexpos.com](http://www.tradexpos.com).

