

## VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT



### VONNIE ARENS

- **How many years have you been a volunteer?**

This will be my 4<sup>th</sup> year as a volunteer.

- **What is your favorite volunteer position?**

I enjoy being a site host or greeter, where I have the opportunity to meet people and help answer questions they might have or to encourage them to experience exhibits, displays or vendors they may otherwise miss out on.

- **Why do you volunteer?**

Volunteering is a way to help make an event, such as the State Fair, a more productive service for others. Not only is it a way to provide that help, for me it's personally rewarding.

- **What is the best fair food?**

I enjoy several dishes found at Cactus Jack's Chuck Wagon.

- **What are you most excited about for the 2026 State Fair?**

I am looking forward to this year's Fair, to reunite with other volunteers and to see what's "new" at the Fair in general. In particular, I am eager to check out the daily goings on at the Birthing Barn! Nothing says "State Fair" like the signs of new life in that building!

## 2026 AKSARBEN STOCK SHOW

It takes a community to create an unforgettable event! The Aksarben Stock Show returns to Grand Island September 24th–27th, bringing together exhibitors, families, and visitors from across the region.

Interested in lending a hand and being part of the experience? We'd love to have you join our volunteer team! Find available opportunities and sign up at [www.statefairvolunteer.org](http://www.statefairvolunteer.org).

## LAST CALL FOR 250!

Time is almost up to leave your legacy on the Nebraska State Fairgrounds as part of the 1868 Foundation's "250 for 250" initiative. A limited number of leadership donors will receive permanent recognition on the America 250 installation at the Fairgrounds through a \$10,000 commitment, payable over four years. This bronze feature, unveiled on opening day of the 2026 Nebraska State Fair, will stand as a lasting tribute to those who helped shape the future of the Fair while honoring our nation's historic milestone. The deadline to be included is approaching quickly, now is the moment to step forward, be recognized, and be remembered. To get involved contact Lindsey at [lkoepke@statefair.org](mailto:lkoepke@statefair.org) or 402.432.1393. For more information visit [1868foundation.org](http://1868foundation.org)