



South Lake County Agricultural Historical Society
Club Newsletter Volume 29 Number 2
May 2016 www.slcahs.org

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The crops are in and growing well and the wheat is starting to get that golden tinge. People have been working hard on our workdays on the first Monday of the month at 5:30pm and the 3rd Saturdays at 9:00am. We have been getting the equipment ready for the show. We have been collecting logs for the sawmill, and still need a couple. At the time of this writing, there is 4 weeks before the show and it's time to get your show pieces out and dusted off. The 4th of July parade in Crown Point is coming up, if you want to be in the parade, let me know so we can get you in the parade program. Our building is finally up at the Fairgrounds and with the new addition of the 12 x 100 deck it is now the premier open shelter in the fairgrounds replacing the old Grange building. We are looking for lots of volunteers to help run the equipment, man the gates and help all through the show. With your help, we will be able to put on one of our best shows. While at the show, stop by the information booth and check out the great homemade chairs and hope chest donated by Ralph Schneegas and the original watercolor painting and the piece donated by the blacksmiths that we will be having on a silent auction. Come down and place your bid!
Dave Fritz

BOARD CHATTER

The board of advisors meets at the Crown Point Civic center on the 4th Monday of every month. The meetings are held at 7:00pm. All members are welcome to attend but only board members are allowed to vote and make motions during the meetings.

We are currently working on the show, of course. During our meetings we are discussing the best course of advertising. We are continuing with radio advertising on 105.5FM and 107.3FM. We will also be giving away packets of tickets for the show. These will be in addition to our advertising on the radio.

We also discussed the newspaper and print advertising. Be on the lookout for our various ads in publications like the Family Flyer and the Auto/RV Trader magazine.

We have found though that our best advertising is actually **YOU!** When you are talking to friends, neighbors and co-workers, make sure you mention the upcoming show. Tell them a little bit about the show, why you like it, what you do there and how affordable it really is. For only \$5, you get a full day of entertainment. It costs much more to get into a movie for less than 2 hours of entertainment.

We also have been working on T-shirt designs and yard sign designs. All of these things are important to draw people to the show. They are all costly to implement but each way that we can impact someone to attend our show is important.



SPEAKING OF SIGNS

We will be once again having yard signs available. These are the little signs to put in your yard like the politicians do. They cannot be placed in the parkways and public places. If you are interested in having a sign for your yard, please see a board member or come to a meeting. This is an easy way to help the club without getting too involved. We are changing our signs to a yellow, black and red scheme to be better seen on the roadways. We are able to put out our signs about a month away from the show, so at the beginning of the month.

If you are in a position that your house is on a main street with lots of traffic, consider putting a large 4 x 8 sign or banner in your yard for the month of June. There are signs available to be put up, either you can put it up or if you are unable to, let us know and we can put one up on your place. Again, they can't be put in the parkway and need to be on private property. We are transitioning to easier to put up signs, they aren't as heavy or difficult as they used to be.

Be looking for our signs up at the beginning of the month of June. If you have a 4 x 8 sign that goes in your yard already, you can pick it up and get directions for installation on June 6 at 5:30pm at the club buildings. The signs will be distributed then.

The signs are the second best way of advertising the show, let's get all of them up and spread around to get the people interested in attending our show!

PARADES

Did you know that as a club we participate in a bunch of area parades? The Lansing Good Neighbor parade was last weekend. But you still can participate in the Crown Point 4th of July parade or the Lowell Labor Day Parade. We also have a tractor in the Valparaiso Popcorn Parade.

What? You have never participated in the parades but you are interested? Here is what you do.... For the Crown Point parade we need to pre-register so in order for your tractor to be judged and announced, we need to know by the 10 of June if you are interested. Please call Dave Fritz at 219-662-9204 and let him know you want to be in the parade and what you will be riding on. The Lowell Labor Day parade is less stringent, we would like to know ahead of time just whom is planning on being in the parade and we can meet at the line up site. With the parade, there is to be no candy thrown. We always have a great turn out for the Crown Point parade and have a lot of fun. It also is a good way to advertise for the show which is usually the next weekend. Come out and join us this year!

DUES ARE DUE A DOO

If you haven't paid your dues for 2016, they are due to be paid. On the last page of this newsletter there is a membership form that you can use for renewal. Why wait until the show, when you are so excited, you may forget. Send your form in now.

Speaking of dues, there are about 350 members in the club. Are you one of the Inactive members that pays dues to get into the show for free or because you exhibit? Consider helping out at the show. There are plenty of places to help, you will see later in the newsletter. This is your club, become more involved!

FARMER'S HALL

In the last newsletter, we said that we were going to fund the building of a new building at the Lake County Fairgrounds.

If you haven't been by the fairgrounds lately, the building has finally been put up, after being held up by the state building inspectors. It is replacing the old Grange building at the fairgrounds, or the building that houses our garden tractor exhibits during the show.

Over the course of the past couple of months, it was decided to call it "Farmer's Hall" and we will have signage on it promoting our club. They put the cement in on Friday the 13th; hopefully it will be lucky for us. They are modifying the edge that is against the roadway so there isn't a ditch to make it more handicapped accessible. There is supposed to be a deck on the outside for a grill to be on as well.

On the Saturday of the show, just prior to the parade we will have a dedication ceremony for the building.

HORSES AND DOGS

During the show, we are planning on a couple of new demonstrations. We decided not to have the square dancing tractors again this year. Instead, on Saturday, we will have a horse harnessing demonstration in the arena. They will be demonstrating how to harness a draft horse to work with equipment. We won't be using the equipment but will demo how it was hooked up. That should be very interesting!

We also will be having the Crown Point K-9 dogs and their handlers doing some demos each day at the show prior to the parade. They have a new dog and a seasoned veteran and are willing to show off to the public at our show, make sure you catch one of the demonstrations!

WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

The club has a couple of ways to stay in the digital age. We have a website complete with information about the club, pictures from past shows, forms for flea market spaces and newsletters as well as information about the show. It can be accessed at www.slcahs.org.

We also have a Facebook page under South Lake County Antique Farm and Tractor Club. Make sure you Like our page and share our information with your friends.

Both of these are to get information out about the show. We boost our Facebook advertising about a month prior to the show so it will show up in newsfeeds.

Kelly Miller does a great job in keeping both of these pages current and active. Check us out **Digitally!**

BUILDING WORKDAYS

Can't always help at the show, but want to participate? We have workdays at the club buildings. Most of the year workdays are held on the 3rd Saturdays of the month at 9am. We have recently added the 1st Monday of the month at 5:30pm as well to complete the work that needs to be done prior to the show. There are signs that need to be fixed, wagons to be worked on, and equipment that needs to be readied for the show. Closer to show time, will be wheat time, we will need to harvest, shock and get the wheat on the wagons for the show. If you are interested in helping on a workday, please show up at the buildings. Don't know where they are? They are on Reeder Road by the S curve. You can also call Dave Fritz at 219-662-9204 for more information.



T-SHIRTS AND RAFFLES

What is going on with the T-shirts this year? Kelly Miller has put together not one but two different t-shirt designs. There will be one for the show like in the past. We are trying not to have any left-over shirts so you will want to get your show shirts as soon as you think about it. We are not ordering as many as we have in the past, so quantities will be limited.

That being said, he put together a generic club shirt design. It is a great design and it is similar to what is on our Facebook page. The design is an updated modern take on our antique club. They will be available in two different colors and they should be available at the show for sale. We are currently working on new caps as well but haven't decided on anything yet for that, they should be available at the show though.

In the last newsletter, I talked about our raffles. We will still have the quilt raffle, you should be looking for ticket coming to your mailbox soon. We will also have the vendor raffle. That is located in the show pavilion. In that raffle, you purchase tickets and place them in a bucket in front of the item or items you would like to win.

We also have a hope chest and Adirondack chairs that Ralph Schneegas made and the framed original water color picture of Ford tractors that we will be holding a Silent Auction for. They will be available to see and you can place your bid and watch over it during the weekend if you are interested in a piece.

All of these things are to help the club earn money to put on the show. Please help to support them. If you get tickets in the mail for the quilt, please purchase them or send them back to be sold at the show.

VOLUNTEERISM

This is my annual column about helping at the show. We have 350 members in this club and there is a core membership of about 50 people that do the majority of the work at the show. We truly appreciate the hours that are put in at the show and would like to thank everyone that helps. We still need more volunteers though.

If you are saying to yourself, I'm just not able to work that hard anymore, I can't stand or walk very far, surely there isn't anything that I can do. You would be wrong! The information booth needs help; you would be selling tickets or answering questions about the show and sitting out of the sun while doing it. Registration and salable items are also places that you can sit while working. You could sell quilt tickets again inside the building. You could be helping with tickets for the kiddie ride or you could help in the Kiddie Korral with crafts for young children.

Are you able to move around well enough? There are places as well to work, such as the gate. We need people at the gate most of the time, but especially on Saturday after 3pm for the people coming in for the tractor pulls or pork chop dinner. The pie booth will need workers; those are 2 hour shifts only and range from 7am to 7pm. We can use help with the pork chop dinner, helping to cook, set up and clean up.

More able bodied and strong? We can always use help on the sawmill, threshing machine, sheller and shredder and rock crusher. We need help setting up the show on Wednesday and Thursday as well as cleaning up the show on Monday. Do you know a group of young people looking for volunteer hours, we can help with that. We need to pick up the fairgrounds on Monday and take down all the signs that we put up for the show as well as clean up the sawdust, wheat and corn.

IT'S PIE TIME AGAIN

Once again it's about time to starting thinking about pies. I will once again be sending out post cards to people to remind them to make pies. We are asking for 4 pies, in disposable tins and they need to be fruit or nut pies. Get looking for your recipes. The thing I hear the most is "I can't make a good pie crust!" Then buy the premade crust! Did you know that 10 lbs of flour will make 12 recipes of pie crust? If you don't get a postcard you can still bring pies! We will also be looking for people to help volunteer in the pie booth. This is a great place for teens to get started at the show, it teaches confidence and money skills and it's a safe and fun place to work.

SET UP AND CLEAN UP

Here is what I know! We need lots of people to help set up the show, we usually have about 35-40 people helping, but can always use more. We need help hauling stuff from the buildings, equipment, wagons etc. We need people that can lift, so your kids and grandkids that are in football are great candidates. I also know that on Monday when we are all tired and crabby from the show weekend then we need to put everything back to where it came from. On that day, we usually only have about 20 people. We need to clean the bleachers, the buildings and clean up after the wheat, corn and sawdust.

Here is the good part...the club provides the food for the workers on both of those days. It's all the food and drink you want to eat! Once again, if you know any high school students that need volunteer hours, there are plenty to be had. They can get all 40 hours in one weekend if they want to. If you have questions about any volunteer position, please call Dave Fritz.

South Lake County Agricultural Historical Society

P.O. Box 847

Crown Point, IN 46308

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

South Lake County Agricultural Historical Society
Membership Application

Name _____ Spouse _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Yearly Dues \$10.00 _____ Lifetime \$150 minus age _____

Please note: Yearly Dues are due by April 1

Please make checks payable to South Lake County Agricultural Historical Society.

Return this form to:

South Lake County Agricultural Historical Society

PO BOX 847

Crown Point, IN 46308

