



South Lake County Agricultural Historical Society  
Club Newsletter Volume 31 Number 1  
February 2018 [www.slcahs.org](http://www.slcahs.org)

We have turned the corner into the new year, 2018 will be 34 years that this club has put on an excellent antique tractor and farm show. That is a long time to be doing what we are passionate about. It's longer than some of the members have been alive. That being said, we are in for a struggle this year. We are losing good volunteers to the march of time. As our members are aging, more of them are finding themselves unable to keep doing the volunteer work that they have in the past. Now is the time for YOU to SHINE! We are looking for people to pick up the reins of some of the committees. Without some of our 400 members help, our show that has been so excellent will surely suffer. Let's look at what you can do, how we can go forward with a new generation of volunteerism. Not all the open positions are physical. Some are as easy as making phone calls. Some are more organizational. The positions that are available are key positions, natural money makers for the club so that we can continue with our show. This is a good way to improve on your resume, show leadership skills and have fun while you are doing it. Are you interested in stepping up to the plate? Please give me a call at 219-448-6895. You can also contact any of the people on the board as well. Please look into your heart and see if you can't find time to shine and contribute to the excellence of our show. Perry McLemore

PRESIDENT.....PERRY MCLEMORE  
1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT.KELLY MILLER  
2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT...DAVE KLEINE  
SECRETARY..... SANDY MONROE  
TREASURER.....KIM PETERSON  
ASSISTANT SECRETARYJULIE FRITZ  
ASSISTANT TREAS...DONNA KOLLA  
HISTORIAN.....IAN MCLEMORE  
REGISTRAR.....IRENE DOTY

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IRA BIGGS  
DAVE FRITZ  
BILL WAITER  
HELEN MELCHER  
RUSS JANSMA  
GREG KLEINE  
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BELA ROBERTS  
DON BARMAN  
ALEX MAGIERA  
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CARL SAPPER  
DAVE FRITZ  
PETE MONIX  
JULIE FRITZ  
GEORGE MONIX  
DALE BIEKER  
DAVE FRITZ

## **BOARD CHATTER**

Since our last newsletter, there has been a lot happening with the club and the advisory board. We have been working on updating the bylaws and some of the most important changes have been to eliminate the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice president position and make the membership chairman the registrar as well. This person will keep track of who attends the meetings as well as keeping track of the membership rolls. Going along with that we have also eliminated the lifetime membership as of December 2017. If you currently hold a lifetime membership, nothing will change. We will not be offering a lifetime membership at this time. Our membership dates have also changed to make it more of a fiscal year. Memberships will now run from August 1 to July 31. This will make it easier to purchase and renew your memberships at the show. If you didn't renew your membership at the show in 2017, you won't be able to get into the show with that membership. The board will also be advising the general membership to suspend the scholarship that we give out to an FFA member. It also has defined some of the duties of the advisory board members. Each of the board members will be responsible to oversee a section of the show. They would then report to the 1<sup>st</sup> vice president who will be the show chairman. The show chairman and the board member will be there to oversee sections and resolve any questions or issues that pop up during the show. Each of the committee heads should report to their board members over their areas for resolution of problems.

## **INSURANCE SPEAK**

Recently we were contacted by our insurance company to renew our liability insurance and farm insurance. Our agent is Pinnacle Insurance Group in Crown Point. They gave us an insurance proposal for us to look at. I know that there are always questions about the club's insurance and just what is covered. Hopefully this will help. First, we need a policy to cover the buildings that we own on Reeder road and the contents. This is the easy part of insurance. This policy also covers our equipment if it isn't at the property, such as when we take it to the fairgrounds for the show. Our liability insurance is another thing altogether. Our insurance is in place to provide the club and ultimately our exhibitors and members insurance against any liabilities leveled against us. It doesn't cover the members themselves. Let me explain. If you as a member are injured at the show, lets use an example of getting a burn from a hot muffler. You would go to the hospital and give them your own insurance information and proceed with treatment. Our insurance wouldn't be expected to cover this. Our spectators though, after treatment, may ask us to cover that situation and our insurance would. If you as a member and in the grandstands and something catastrophic happens and injures multiple people because of something happening because of the show, then our club and club members and spectators would be covered in that situation. This also provides members liability insurance if someone injures themselves on your equipment.

## MORE INSURANCE

We also made sure that our carrier mentions some specific parts of the show that carry more "exposure" on our part. These are the kiddie tractor ride, the bounce house and the petting zoo. The liability also includes our participation in any of the parades that we participate in, other shows that the club participates in and takes equipment to and it also covers our Fall Tractor Ride.

So, when it comes to insurance coverage, we are covered for liability insurance for our spectators. Our members are not covered specifically but our MEMBER's equipment and you would be covered if someone tries to sue because of a piece of equipment. If you choose not to become a member and exhibit, you can bring us a certificate of insurance showing us as an additional insured. As an exhibitor, you should also check with your own insurer and see if your equipment is covered, if it's covered if you take it off your own property and what kind of liability its covered for.

This information isn't to scare anyone and it's not to scare you away from showing your equipment, but after speaking with our insurance agent we have learned a lot about it. Most of us assume that "we are covered by the club insurance". But we aren't sure exactly what that means. Is it us personally, our equipment, if we are hurt or our spectators are hurt. If you are exhibiting your equipment, whether at our show or any other ones, you should consider visiting your own agent and seeing just what is covered by your own insurance and what isn't. In today's world, its better to be safe than sorry!

## IMPORTANT DATES

All our important dates are available in our handy dandy calendar that is available at the meetings. Or contact a board member to obtain information on how to acquire one for only \$10. Our **membership meetings** are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00pm at the Crown Point Civic Center. The **Advisory Board meetings** are on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00pm also in the Crown Point Civic Center. We will hold our annual **Spring Picnic** at the 4-H Annex building on May 19 at noon. Our **Fall Octoberfest** will be on October 20 at noon also at the 4-H Annex building. We will be holding our annual post show meeting at the Farmer's Hall on July 23 at 7:00pm. The date of our 3<sup>rd</sup> **Annual Tractor Ride** will be held on September 8 at 8am. The annual **Christmas party** will be held on December 1, 2018. This year the last date to purchase tickets for the Christmas party will be on October 20<sup>th</sup>, the date of our Fall Octoberfest Picnic.

The most important date of all of them is the **Annual Farm show**. That will be on July 13, 14 and 15. We will be featuring John Deere Tractors, Garden Tractors and Gas Engines. All types of tractors are welcome and don't forget the best way to advertise our show is by word of mouth. So please, talk about our show. Why do you come to the show, what do you enjoy and talk to your friends about it?

Do you know someone in high school? If they need volunteer hours, this is the perfect way to get them. There are many opportunities for them to get as many hours as they want, including all 40 of them in one weekend!

## **SHOW STUFF!**

This year we are starting out our show year at a deficit and we need your help. Now in the past, I have often asked for help for the show and have really had no specific response. Or at least no one has called and volunteered for any positions. This year though, we really need some help, or the show really won't go on. We have some very key positions that need to be filled. Some of our key people that have worked very hard over the years making our show successful, but now due to age and health issues are not able to continue. They can help, but not oversee and do as much as they did before. We have over 400 members in the club, we would love to see more members be active at the show. Now is your opportunity! If you are interested in any of these committees, please feel free to call Perry at 219-488-6895. You could also email us at [lovesdeere@comcast.net](mailto:lovesdeere@comcast.net) or send a message to our Facebook page.

Just where do we need help? We need someone to oversee the fencing we put up in the middle of the fairgrounds. There are plenty of people to help, would one of you oversee it? We need someone to take over getting fire extinguishers, getting them put out at the show (there is a list of where they go) and pick them up and return them after the show. We need some one to oversee camping and camping fees. We need to have someone that is interested in taking over the sound system during the show. That doesn't interest you? How about keeping track of the 4x8 signs that we put up, changing the

dates, and making sure that they are given out and returned. We also need someone to oversee the banners that are hung at the fairgrounds during the show, helping to put them up and making sure they are taken down on Sunday or Monday morning. We also need someone to oversee the gates. The past couple of years, Ira and Sharon Kirby have been in that position, but they are unable to continue in that capacity. This is a good opportunity for a husband and wife or a couple to do. We also will need someone to take over providing the meals for the set-up day and tear down day. We need someone to be the contact person for the boy scouts and girl scouts and arrange for the opening ceremonies. So, you can see there are some very important positions that need help. There are lots of people willing to help you, but few people that are willing to oversee these positions. Usually you just need to make a couple of decisions, or contact a couple of people, so take a leap outside of your box and contribute to the show in a whole new way. Some of these opportunities are even done prior to the show and not during the show. Without our members participating we will no longer be able to continue with the show. There is only a small percentage of club members that are taking on the positions that result in a great show. I would hate to see it disappear.

Please call, or email, or Facebook us with your response to this appeal. We welcome any help at any time.

## **BIG CHANGES COMING**

One of the changes that is coming is with the pie booth. Julie has decided that after 30 years that she would not oversee the pie booth any more. We are looking for someone to take on overseeing the pie booth. During the past month or so, the disposition of the pie booth has been discussed frequently. It was decided that we would continue to have the pie booth, but not serve breakfast or chili there. We will continue to have pies and drinks and we will continue to ask our members to provide pies for us. This is one of our biggest money makers for the club thanks to the members donating pies and for all the people that purchase from the pie booth. We have a food vendor that is willing to provide breakfast, including omelets and biscuits and gravy. Our plan now is to have her located where Spuds and Moo have been in the past, or in the building depending on her preference. This will be a big change in the show pavilion, the pie booth provides a central hub for the show, places to sit and congregate and contributes to the pork chop dinner and everything in that building. Most of the organization is done, there just needs to be some oversight and some prep work prior to the show, contacting people to volunteer to man the pie booth and ordering supplies. This is a great opportunity for someone young to develop great skills. If this is something that you think you would be great at or even good at please call Perry at 219-488-6895 or Julie at 219-662-9204.

## **MORE HELP NEEDED**

Are you involved with the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts? We need someone to contact them for help and set up times for them to help with the flag raising. If you choose to help in any of the areas that we've talked about, you won't be going in cold. The foot work is done to a certain extent. Phone numbers and contacts are there and any help that is needed will be given. Have you helped set up the fencing in the center of the fairgrounds before? We are looking for someone to coordinate that as well. We need to make sure that it goes smoothly. Have you ever wanted to run the dyno to test tractors? We are looking for that as well. Making sure the dyno is ready to go and using it at the show is something that is always interesting.

## **SUMMER PARADES**

Are you interested in participating in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Crown Point or Beecher? Would you be interested in participating in the Good Neighbor Parade in Lansing on May 5. All the parades that we participate in need some preparation work. If you are interested in participating, please contact Dave Fritz at 219-662-9204 for Crown Point, and Bill Wiater for Beecher at 219-779-5965. Applications need to be in early so if you would like to be in the parades, please let them now prior to June 1. If you are interested in Lansing, call Dave by April 10. Parades are fun! Enjoy your tractors! Advertise!

Over the past year we have been looking at our bylaws and updating them. We are in the process of getting them ready to send to the secretary of state. Some of the bylaws needed to be updated due to changes that we have made along the way with things like officer's duties and memberships. After the end of 2017 we will no longer be offering a lifetime membership. We have changed the date that the membership is due, from April 1 (that it currently is) to August 1. That way your membership will be current for the show and you can purchase your next year's membership at the show, making it more convenient for everyone. If you haven't renewed your membership at the show, you are probably no longer a member in good standing. When you come to the show in July, your membership card will be expired, and you will need to pay at the gate. When you renew your membership, you will get your entry fee off your new membership. So, take care of it now while you are thinking about it. Fill out the membership application below and mail it in. While you are filling out the application, consider how you can help at the show. Can you volunteer a couple of hours or can you make phone calls for the club? Do you have children or grandchildren that need service hours? The show is an excellent way for them to earn their high school hours.

South Lake County Agricultural Historical Society  
Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Yearly Dues \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note: Yearly Dues are due by August 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