



South Lake County Agricultural Historical Society

Club Newsletter Volume 29 Number 1

February 2016

[www.slcahs.org](http://www.slcahs.org)

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PRESIDENT.....DAVE FRITZ  
1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT....GLORIA MILLER  
2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT...DAVE KLEINE  
3<sup>RD</sup> VICE PRESIDENT...IRENE DOTY  
SECRETARY..... SANDY MONROE  
TREASURER.....DONNA KOLLAKE  
ASSISTANT SECRETARYJULIE FRITZ  
ASSISTANT TREAS.....IRA KIRBY  
HISTORIAN.....KELLY MILLER  
REGISTRAR..... IRA BIGGS

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## **PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**

Spring is fast approaching and time to start planning the show in earnest. Over the winter months I have talked with several groups about displaying at our show. I would like to invite everyone to get their equipment ready to show this year. In the past, we have put on good shows; in 2016 it's time for a GREAT show. Which will take each and every member to step up to the plate and help out, whether it is working on an exhibit, helping in the pie kitchen, selling quilt or raffle tickets, working at the gate or any other variety of things that need to be done, before, during and after the show. We are also asking the membership to start talking to people about the show, to get people interested in the show and to come to the show. We have found that word of mouth is the best advertising. I'm proud to say that some of the hard work making money is going to be seen in a new building that will replace the old Grange building at the Lake County Fairgrounds. This building will carry our name and logo and show dates throughout the year. We are looking for a chairman to take care of a couple of new raffle items for this year. We have an Adirondack chair that was built and donated by Ralph Schneegas and a framed original watercolor picture of Ford Tractors. We would like for this to be a big success for the club. So be thinking of where you would like to volunteer during the show to make this show the biggest and the best we've ever had.

Dave Fritz

## BOARD CHATTER

At the beginning of the year, we start with our meetings again. The board meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00pm at the Crown Point Civic Center. All members are invited to attend, but be aware that only the board members and officers are able to make motions and vote on business that is brought up. Any member is allowed to bring up any business necessary and to add to the discussions.

Remember that all new purchases and business need to be brought up to the board before it goes to the membership. It was decided and voted on at the annual meeting that the size of the board would be decreased. This year, when the board members were done with their terms, their position on the advisory board was eliminated, decreasing the size of the board down to 12.

Since that time, Chris Burk resigned as Historian. We thanked her for her help and her service, but needed to replace her as an officer. Kelly Miller was nominated and voted in to replace her as historian. He accepted the position. Kelly has been instrumental in revising our website at [www.slcahs.org](http://www.slcahs.org) and revising our Facebook page. If you are interested in visiting our Facebook page and liking it, it is under **South Lake County Antique Farm and Tractor Club.** We have been struggling with our name and the name on the show booklet and Facebook page more represent what we do and who we are.

If you have any papers, pictures, or general stuff of the club's at your house and want to get rid of it, Kelly is the person to give it to. We are also trying to consolidate all of the club's stuff, paper, minutes, pictures and articles in one place and not so much in a lot of people's homes.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

With the beginning of the year, we have some new projects to work on as well.

The board and the club have been tossing around the suggestion that we ask the Street Rod Car club to show at the tractor show. They used to hold their annual car show at the fairgrounds in June, and have since moved to different grounds. This is still in the very early stages and it still needs a lot of research to see if it will go forward. Of course, the Winimac Old Car Club shows its cars on Sunday and the Highland Area Model A Club shows its cars on Saturday. Each of those clubs also hosts its summer picnic during our show in the Lion's Pavilion. We enjoy having the cars there and want them to continue that tradition. We are looking at a symbiotic relationship with the Street Rod Club; they welcome us with tractors to the car show on the square prior to our show.

Last year, we participated in the Crown Point Area Volunteer Fair. This is a gathering of people that need volunteers and a place for people that want to volunteer to meet and greet with the organizations that need them. The Crown Point High School and other area Schools, require each student to have 40 hours of volunteer time served prior to graduation. We did have some interested parties that gave us their name and contact information, but when the time came prior to the show, they didn't return emails, or phone calls and didn't show up at the show. We will discuss whether we feel it is worthwhile to do again. Incidentally, if you have children or grandchildren that are in high school and need volunteer hours, we are a good place to pick some up. We can use young help to set up the show, tear down the show and do general stuff during the show, help out in a variety of places.

## THE GRANGE BUILDING

Have you noticed that the Grange building at the Fairgrounds was torn down? The building was starting to disintegrate and needed to be replaced. The plans include redoing the floor of the building to bring it up to the same level as the road that is next to it and replace the shelter with a comparable building. Open sides, roof, cement floor and higher ceilings. Over the past 6 months, we have been approached by the commissioners about providing the financing to replace that shelter.

This is something that the board has been discussing during our meetings. We have discussed 10 foot ceilings to be able to get a tractor into it, whether it should have a metal (pole barn like) roof or shingle roof and the cost of it, who would build it and when would it be built.

Over the years, the club has donated many things to the fairgrounds as a reciprocal agreement for holding our shows there. We helped with the purchase of the fountain and the painting of the old bleachers by the lake most recently. The building of the shelter would possibly be our next project with the fairgrounds. We would have our name on it and instead of the "Grange Building" it will now be known as Farmer's Hall.

This project was approved by the board of advisors and by the general membership. The process has started and the builders have been contacted to set up a build date. So in the near future, please watch the fairgrounds for our new "Farmer's Hall!"

Speaking of the fairgrounds, how do you like the new fencing around it? It looks pretty nice if you ask me. The gates will be much nicer as well when they're done!

## DO YOU KNOW THE DATE?

Did you know that the club has a calendar? If you were at the show, you may have your picture in it. They calendars are a January to December calendar. The club is selling them for \$10 each. Each month has the dates for the meetings as well as the picnics, tractor ride and the Christmas Party. Never miss a date for the club again. Don't know how to get one? You can get them at the meetings of course. You can also contact a board member or officer as well and they can get one for you. We still have plenty left!

## SHOW RAFFLES

During the show we have some raffles that help us to finance the show. First we have a quilt raffle. Nettie Cilek has been the chairman of this raffle for a few years and does a great job. She usually gets an Amish made quilt that is hand quilted. You will also be getting tickets in the mail for this and have been for quite a few years. Please return the money or the tickets back to her, the unsold tickets can be sold during the show. We also have a raffle for some donated items. We have vendors in the flea market that are businesses and they often donate items to be raffled. In this raffle, which is located in the Show Pavilion, you purchase a ticket or multiple tickets and you place it in a bucket in front of the prize that you want to receive.

This year we are looking at doing another either raffle or silent auction. We have some items that are donated that are more expensive and need to be treated as such. In this endeavor we need a chairman to oversee this project. Both of the options have been discussed and no agreement has been reached as of now, but we have the opportunity to help with the expenses of the show with these items and they shouldn't be just given away.

## SHOW BOOKLETS

Once again, in January there are multiple things that the club needs to pursue. One of these is the creation of our show program or show booklet. This is a process that takes a couple of months to create and finish. One of the things that need to be done is the selling of the ad space in the booklet. Are you interested in purchasing an ad for your business? Do you know of a business that would be interested in placing an ad in our show booklet? We usually print 5000 booklets to give out during the show. Are you interested in contacting anyone regarding an ad in the show booklet? Please contact one of the board members.

One of the other things that need to be done is the rest of the show booklet. That means the schedule of events, the times that exhibits are running, the stops for the people mover, where the parking is and where the bathrooms are as well as where the porta potties are located. Some of this stuff is already done, but a lot of it needs to be updated yearly. Even though we proof read it, every year there is someone that brings up some mistakes after they are printed.

If you are interested in helping out with the show booklet or program please let someone on the board know. We would be more than happy to have the help. We will start working on this within the next couple of weeks.

## MEMBERSHIPS

Don't forget that your membership for the club is due. The form is connected to the newsletter. If you want to receive the newsletter by email, please provide your email address. If you would like to receive your newsletter by mail, please inform us of that as well. The newsletter is posted to the website as well under [www.slcahs.org](http://www.slcahs.org).

## EXTRA ACTIVITIES

The club does have some extra activities besides the show. We have a spring picnic that will be held on May 7 at the 4-H Annex building at the fairgrounds. This is usually a pot luck picnic with the drinks provided by the club.

We hold a Harvest picnic as well at the 4-H annex building at the fairgrounds in October. This also is a pot luck picnic. At both events there is some fabulous food.

Our Christmas Party is at the 4-H building at the fairgrounds and is usually held on the first Saturday of December. It's a catered dinner and we have some fun gifts that are given away, pop and drink mixers are provided by the club and if you would like alcohol to drink, please bring your own.

The club participates in 3 area parades during the summer and as a club member you are invited to participate as well. We are in the Lansing Good Neighbor Parade on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of May, this year the 7<sup>th</sup> of May. We also participate in the Crown Point 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and the Lowell Labor Day parade. If you are interested in being in the parades, please contact a board member or Dave Fritz at 219-662-9204. You need to be registered about a month prior to the parade.

The parades that we enter are a lot of fun. Not only do you see a lot of people that you know, but most everyone watching the parades are happy, nice and welcoming. The parades are also a very nice and fun way to get our name out there and have some advertising for the show. We take a wagon with us with our billboard signs on it for people to look at. In the past we have also handed out literature about the show. If you don't have a tractor and want to help in the parade, you can hand out flyers along the way. No candy though!

## STEAM SAWMILL

What do you love about the show? The smells, the pies, the tractors, the gas engines, the ice cream, the train set up, the cars, the blacksmiths, the garden tractors, the sawmill, the threshing machine, the rock crusher, the Letz Mills, the kiddy tractor pulls, the quilt raffle, the fun, the flea market, the warm weather or the food. Everyone has something about the show that they love. A lot of people love to watch the sawmill exhibit, but we get asked a lot about why we don't have any steam engines on the Sawmill. This year the board members and the club members asked that we put the steam engines to work and for them to power the Sawmill. This will take a little adaption to the Sawmill to run with a belt drive again, but it has in the past and it will again. So, when show time comes around, make your way back by the covered bridge and see the steam and sawmill combination in action!

## FEATURE TRACTOR

Did I tell you that the 2016 show will be held at the Lake County Fairgrounds on July 8, 9 and 10<sup>th</sup>? Remember if you are an exhibitor or vendor or worker you should be using Gate 6 at the Fairgrounds. That gate is in the northwest corner of the Fairgrounds. We want our customers to use Gate 1.

This year we are featuring Ford products. We usually have a nice display of Ford Tractors in large part due to the Ford Collector's Club in the area. Ford tractors were a big part of the country's history. If you have some Ford equipment, think about getting it out, dusting it off and bringing it to the show and show it off to everyone else.

## THE TRACTOR RIDE

Last year we had our 1<sup>st</sup> annual Tractor Drive. It was about a 16 mile ride through south Lake County. It started from our club buildings and ended at the club buildings with a stopover at Buckley Homestead. There are some of our members that have gone on other Tractor Drives in Illinois and Indiana and wanted to start one of our own. We would like to make it bigger this year.

Are you interested in participating in this ride? There are some things that you need to get into place first.

1. Your tractor must be able to go at least 10 miles per hour.
2. You must have liability insurance on your tractor. Even though the club carries insurance for this, you need to have your own insurance as well.
3. You must have a slow moving vehicle sign displayed on your tractor.

We have a support vehicle following the tractors in case someone breaks down along the ride. Food is provided, with coffee and donuts in the morning and last year we had a hot dog dinner after the ride. There were picture opportunities for the drivers at Buckley Homestead.

This year the drive is scheduled for September 10, rain or shine, starting at around 8am. There is a form to fill out prior to the drive, if you are interested, please contact a board member or Dave Fritz for more information.

That's all for this newsletter! Happy Tractor Days ahead for all of you!

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

