



Spreading the.....

# Farm Museum Newsletter

**ST. CLAIR COUNTY FARM MUSEUM**  
 "PRESERVING A BIT OF YESTERDAY FOR TOMORROW"

## AROUND THE MUSEUM

### Elections

Elections were held at the November membership meeting with seven members on the ballot and five to be elected. Keith Barnhart, Melissa Wilson and Terry Dunn were seeing reelection and two additional seats were to be filled to bring the Board of Directors number up to ten. Both Melissa and Keith were reelected and returnees to the board were Bill and Kim Schultz. Newly elected to the BOD was Aric

Vantroostenberghe. Thanks go out to Jolee Vantroostenberghe who was unsuccessful in the election and to Terry Dunn for his many years of serving on the Board.

After the membership meeting, a BOD meeting was convened to select the officers. Kyle Slifco was elected President, Melissa Wilson was elected Vice President, Bill Schultz returns as Treasurer and Linda Taylor remains Secretary. Congratulations to all on their election.

### Committees

Several committees are being formed to diversify the operations of the Museum and members of the committees are being sought. The committees include, Fall Harvest Days, Bylaws, Farming, Concession, Administration of Assets, Raffle, Sawmill, Community Outreach, Equipment, and Remembrance. If any member is interested in working on one or more of these committees, please let one of the board members know.



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Aric Vantroostenberghe has only been a member of the Museum for two years but his presence at the Fall Harvest Days show has been known for many more. Wanting to preserve the past ways of doing things and helping to show other people these methods are the main reasons Aric became a member. Recently elected to the Museum Board of Directors, he enjoys working with other members who share similar interests, helping to preserve history. The membership fits well with his family and their interests. Wife, JoLee and their four daughters are often seen helping at various events.

Arics day job is an assembly supervisor at MAG Automotive, LLC where he has been responsible for construction of metal cutting machines for

twenty five years. In his spare time Arics hobbies include working in his machine shop, working on old tractors and basically tinkering. Since being a member of the Museum Aric has taken on the task of repairing the mothballed Fordson tractor to a running condition so it could be used for demonstrations such as plow day. He enjoys volunteering at all the events at the Museum but especially enjoys working on equipment and operating the sawmill. Especially fond of the Massey Harris Red tractors, Aric enjoys all brands of tractors; words heard by many of the "tinkerers" at the Museum.

We are glad to have Aric as a member and congratulate him on election to the Board.

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# THANK YOU

## Ford Truck is Back Home



Thank you to Mark Pederson of St. Clair Collision for his continued work on the former Medical Center Ford truck. The truck was recently returned to the Farm Museum with body work completed. The next step is to complete the rebuild of the bed with recently planed oak lumber. We hope to soon see the truck back on the road again. Thank you to Terry Dunn for facilitating this effort.

## Breakfast with Santa

Thank you to all of the members and volunteers who helped to make

this years Santa Breakfast a huge success. Judging by all of the smiles, everyone had an enjoyable time.

## Sperry's Santa Parade



Thank you to all involved in the Sperry's Santa Parade especially Kyle Slifco and Tommy Wilson for their efforts in decorating and transporting the Rumely Oil Pull and driving it through downtown Port Huron.

## Steam School

Thank you to members Kyle Slifco, Tommy Wilson and Matt Ballard for attending and completing the training at the steam school in Wisconsin. All three



are in the process of becoming certified in the operation of steam engines. Although it is not currently a requirement in the State of Michigan, many feel that it is only a matter of time before everyone who operates a steam engine will need to be certified. Thank you for being ahead of the game.

## Acquisitions

The museum recently acquired two "new" tractors. A 1938-1948 WC Allis Chalmers donated by Sandra Ball and the purchase of a 1956 - 1958 Farmall 130 with a cultivator. We are looking forward to putting these to work.

### Membership Meetings

- January 20, 2026
- February 17, 2026
- March 17, 2026

### Board Meetings

- January 7, 2026
- February 4, 2026
- March 4, 2026

Keeping in touch with the Museum happenings has never been easier. Information can be found on the Museum Facebook page or on the Museum's web site. As always, please consider joining us at one of our events.

## UPCOMING & PAST EVENTS

### Sleigh Days

With the snow and cold comes the thoughts of sleigh rides at the Museum. The exact date will be set for some weekends from January to March depending on snow conditions. Announcements will be published on both Facebook and the Museum website.



Sleigh Day 2025

### Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

Mark your calendar for the annual Breakfast with the Easter Bunny which will be held this year on March 29th.

Help is always needed for fund raising events such as this. Many roles need to be covered including, set-up, cooking, decorating, serving food, helping with the bake sale and possibly raffles, kids activity area, the egg hunts, and clean up. If you can give a bit of your time to help, your presence will definitely be appreciated. Hope to see you there.

# PUMPKIN FEST & CORN MAZE 2025



Blake shows off his pumpkin creation



The Rumely awaits passengers



Joann serves up goodies at Melanie's Diner



Beth demonstrates spinning



Gaige helps with corn shelling



Dennis drives visitors to the patch



Activities for youngsters



Dianne greets visitors

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STCLAIRCOUNTYFARMMUSEUM.ORG



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**S T . C L A I R C O U N T Y  
F A R M M U S E U M**

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**Museum Board**

Kyle Slifco, President  
Melissa Wilson, V. President  
Linda Taylor, Secretary  
Bill Schultz, Treasurer  
Aric Vantroostenberghe

Keith Barnhart  
Fred Peasley  
Kim Schultz  
MattBallard  
Yvonne Markel

The mission of the St. Clair County Farm Museum is to provide an understanding of our heritage, add to our areas cultural base and enhance regional tourism. This is achieved by acquiring, preserving and presenting agricultural and domestic equipment and related artifacts in structures and settings which will portray the origin and evolution of farming and rural living from when the area was first settled until about 1960.

The museum is a 501c3 charitable non profit organization which is operated entirely by volunteers. The museum always welcomes new volunteers to join us in achieving our mission. An agricultural background is not a requirement to become a member. Please join us at our meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm in the Community Building at Goodells County Park.



St. Clair County Farm Museum  
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