

Bee Family Centennial Farm Museum

2011 Annual Report

The Bee Family Centennial Farm Museum is a 501c(3) nonprofit organization established in 2005 to preserve the architecture and artifacts of the Bee Farm while educating the public on farming life and methods past and present. The farming history of Northern Colorado will be shared with others in a traditional, engaging and authentic way.

2011 Board Members

President: Eva Wallace, Secretary: Cindy Harris, Treasurer: Liz Harrison, Lesley Drayton, David Harrison

We are getting many good comments on our new web site. A Power Point of the agricultural history of Larimer County has also been prepared. With it and the presentation of what the museum offers, and our DVD we have material put together for group presentations. A "Friends of the Farm" brochure was made to encourage visitors to become 'friends'.

Visitors

The farm museum is open on Fridays and Saturdays from 9 am to 4 pm. This year there were 57 Friday and Saturday visitors. We hosted 12 children's groups for a total of 444, and 5 adult groups with a total of 147. There were 210 visitors for 3 special events, making a total of 858 visitors for 2011.

Groups

Groups this year included the Fort Collins Senior Center, Commerce City Senior Center, a quilt club and PSD Base Camp.

Events hosted

We hosted the Larimer County Farmers Union on June 11. Several local farmers attended and the potluck was enjoyed by everyone. On June 22 The Colorado Foundation for Agriculture brought their Summer Ag Institute teachers here to meet their host families. A wonderful dinner was served by the Colorado Dairy Women.

Events participated in

We loaded up the egg gathering and corn grinding children's activities and went to the Victorian Sunday in the Library Park on June 12. It was a fun day and many children enjoyed grinding corn for the pig and we handed out brochures. On July 4th Bob was a blacksmith for the parade in Wellington. After the parade we took the same activities as the Victorian Sunday to the Avery House and participated in their July 4th event. In Oct we attended Rice Elementary School's Raptor Rodeo and the children enjoyed the same items.

Special Events

This year we held three events. The Friends and Contributor Appreciation Day was held May 7th and 30 people attended. There was special music performed by friends of Bob and LeeAnn and gifts of seed packets were passed out. Light refreshments were served of packaged breads and lemonade.

The June 25th Pioneer Living Day was attended by about 50 people. Jenny Hubbard gave spinning and carding demonstrations, Larry Hilberg brought his life size draft horse models, Paul Carstensen did blacksmith demonstrations, and Dave Arko and Cindy Kelly did sheep herding demonstrations. We had ice cream cups, a photo booth, trolley rides, food preparation demonstrations, and historic clothing exhibits to add to the fun day.

The Vintage Baseball Game was held on Sept 17. In spite of a little rain the Wellington Buzzards beat the Berthoud Blues 27 to 6. The Nash Car Club brought their cars and the Cub Scouts sold concessions. We also enjoyed music played by Kenyon Scheurman and his group.

Volunteers

Joan Henderson agreed to be our volunteer tour guide coordinator. We have 9 people that have helped with tours for a total of 13 volunteers. About 1700 volunteer hours were given for tours, administration, maintenance, meetings, marketing, and design work, as well as those who participated in special events and volunteer groups.

We had two volunteer groups this year.

Education

Exhibits on 'how to stack hay' and 'how tall are you in hands' were added. We also purchased little cat combs so kids could do wool carding.

The livestock are a major draw for the farm. This year there were 5 beef animals, including two calves, a new Jersey steer, sheep from last year, Oreo the pig, two turkeys, and chickens including 4 new Columbian Rocks.

Collection

We cataloged 212 more items consisting of maps, farm booklets, newspapers, etc. We had two donations, a beet knife and doll bed. United Way volunteers put linseed oil on the wood of the outdoor farm equipment.

Maintenance

Volunteers scraped the eaves of the milk barn and did linseed oil.

Gift Shop

The Pioneer Association placed on consignment their Cookbook and WW 11 Prisoner of War book. Items that we bought for prizes were added to the gift shop and items made by two volunteers.

List of Donors

Township \$1000 and up
Bill and Sylvia Dean

Rich and Liz Harrison

Section \$500-\$1000

Quarter Section \$250-\$500
Adam Thomas and Cheri Yost

North Forty \$100-\$250
Jennifer Lowry and John Steininger
Bill and Ruth Dean
Richard and Joan Bowen
A E Design Associates
Larimer County Natural Resources

Tom and Eileen Boardman
Gordon Hazard
J j Farrell
Loren Maxey
Dean and Eva Wallace

Acre \$50-\$100
Bob and LeeAnn Bee
Gilsdorf Garage
Ralph and Mary Bender
Richard and Diana Freeman
Craig and Angie Biehl

James and Nadine Hunt
John and Elsie Boxberger
Marvin and Cindy Becker
Walmart #2729

Half Acre \$0-\$50
Jack and Ann Fenwick
Matt and Charla Lacy
Gil and Margareth Merrill
Berte Baker
Northern Colorado Feeders Supply
David and Lily Weber
Doug Ernest
Jon and Sue Stephens
Norm and Donna Brown
Roger and Sharon Chilson
Donna Hoffecker

Lesley Drayton
Gail Meisner
Paula Morehouse
King Soopers
Darlene Stockton
Dale Peterson
Fred and Joan Henderson
Jack and Jan Pelnar
Mark and Crystal Ballman
George and Nancy Wallace
David and Carol Budge

Friends

Individual
Donna Hoffecker
Cindy Harris
Doug Ernest

Barb Willson
Gail Meisner

Senior Family

Fred and Joan Henderson
Norm and Donna Brown
Roger and Sharon Chilson
Carol Gregston
Jack and Ann Fenwick
James and Nadine Hunt

Ralph and Mary Bender
Kate Stieben Family
Francoise Smith
John and Jan Peelnar
Paula Morehouse
David and Lily Weber

Family

George and Nancy Wallace
Jared and Rebecca Orsi
Matt and Charla Lacy

Dick and Joan Bowen
Lesley Drayton
Tracy Hernandez

Business

Val Manning – Rancho Terra Norte
John and Sarah Eckberg – Jolly Ridge Horse Farm
Marvin Becker