

Bee Family Centennial Farm Museum

2019 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.

2019 Board Members

The Officers for this year remained the same with, President: David Harrison, Vice President: Ginger Montgomery, Secretary/Treasurer: Liz Harrison. Adam Thomas was also on the board. Erin Barkey did not attend any meetings this year and is no longer on the board.

Visitors

The farm museum is open from May through October on Fridays and Saturdays from 9:00 to 4:00, and for groups of 10 or more by appointment. This year we had 763 total visitors. There were 261 Friday and Saturday visitors, 245 visitors from 8 children's groups, and 46 from 4 adult groups. Special Events were attended by 211. We did do a Groupon deal this year, but attendance was still down. The weather was a big factor. Harmony pre-school canceled in May and two children's groups canceled in Oct. due to weather.

Groups

Liberty Commons school brought their three second grades to the farm again this year. The CFA teachers group held their meetings in Greeley this year and we did not have any other dinners, which accounts for some of the decline in attendance. Three classes from the CSU History Dept visited in October.

Events participated in

David and Liz passed out fliers at the Wellington 4th of July Parade.

Liz attended the Charitable Giving Agency Fair at Hewlett Packard in Nov.

Meg Dunn wrote an article for the Senior Voice paper about Al and Lizzie Morse and the Timber Culture Act.

The Rocky Mountain Collegian did a nice article on Pioneer Living Day.

Special Events

The 'Spring on the Farm' event was held on May 4th. The baby animals were the main attraction and we let visitors use the hand tools to work up the garden. Cookies and lemonade were served.

The theme for Pioneer Living Day on September 21 was Pioneer games. The Model A Antique Car Club brought 5 cars. Spinning, miniature hay stacking, and driving horses (bicycles) were also presented. Cake and ice cream was served to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the farm. We also had trolley rides around the farm. We had volunteers from the CSU History Club that helped and the Rocky Ridge 4-H Club helped with the games. David made a brochure again and a sack lunch was served to the presenters and volunteers. Items for a silent auction were donated by CFA and Farm Bureau. We were able to raise about \$600.

Volunteers

Over 1,700 volunteer hours were again given by 7 people to operate the farm museum.

Liz and Rich did tours for our Friday and Saturday visitors and Lee Ann, and Bob helped with groups.

Other volunteers helped with Special Events.

Education

LeeAnn donated some nice animal pictures with fun facts about them, which are displayed in the milk barn. A antique hardware cabinet with 98 drawers was donated this fall. We put little animals, fruits, vegetables, and other mic farm things in it for kids to explore. We did not have a garden this year, just the perennial plants.

Animals

We had 2 calves this spring. Hot chocolate, the milk cow, had her calf which we left on her. We had some problems milking and only milked her for about 7 weeks. We sold one steer in August and sold Hot Chocolate and her calf the end of October. We got two lambs, but one over ate and died. The pig did well and brought a good price when it was sold. Eight baby chicks and 3 turkeys were bought this spring, but something got one of the turkeys. Jacob the bull was purchased in April.

Collection

The hardware cabinet was donated.

Maintenance

There was a bad hail July 5th which broke some screens and required touch up painting on the south sides of most of the buildings. It also knocked off a lot of leaves. Liz's grandson Parker helped with the mowing and yard work this summer. David repainted the main sign. The trolley was repainted this spring by students from the CSU Unity program. We purchased a new hand washing station since we couldn't get parts for the old one.

Gift Shop

The Pioneer Association had their books in the shop again, but they have joined Historic Larimer County and would like to donate their extra books to us. We also had the children's items, promotional items, and crafts.

Donors for 2019-2020

Township \$1000 and up

Bill and Sylvia Dean
Rich and Liz Harrison
Bob and LeeAnn Bee

Section \$500-\$1000

Larimer County Farm Bureau

Quarter Section \$250-\$500

Adam Thomas and Cheri Yost
Nick and Danielle Bee

North Forty \$100-\$249

Carol Gregston
Richard and Joan Bowen
Michael Welsh
Bob and Janet Winter

Jennifer Lowry
Loren Maxey
Amy Rasplicka
Cathy Weir
Dr Chad and Sarah McMahan

Acre \$50-\$99

Ralph Houdeshell
David and Carol Budge
Ralph and Mary Bender
Marvin and Cindy Becker

Half Acre \$0-\$49

Norm and Donna Brown
John and Marion Stencil
Mike and Sharon Matsuda
Roger and Sharon Chilson
Wayne Sundberg and Joan Day

Friends' of the Bee Farm 2019

Individual

Joyce Bennett
Nancy Day
Paula Morehouse

Senior Family

Ralph and Sonia Houdeshell
John and Marion Stencil
Ralph and Mary Bender
Barb Wilson
Tom Boardman
Norm and Donna Brown
Carol Tunner

Family

Roger and Sharon Chilson

Business

Dennis and Jean Lamm
Bender Family Farms