HARDIN COUNTY FARM MUSEUM

Experience Our Agricultural Past

203 N Washington Street, PO Box 41
Eldora, IA 50627

2020 Newsletter
Volume 22, Issue 1

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Board Members

Jason Reinertson	515-231-2377
Lonnie Balvanz	641-751-0922
David Higgason	641-858-5663
Shorty Reinertson	515-520-9660
Richelle Stowe	641-640-0487
Marilyn Reinertson	515-231-2379

Board Meetings: 7:00 pm
First Monday. Mar – Nov in the Barn

Membership Dues:
$20 per year

Visit our new Website at:
www.hardincountyfarmmusem.org

Email us at:
hardincountyfarmmuseum@heartofiowa.net

Like us on Facebook

The Hardin County Farm Museum Corp is an Iowa non-profit corporation under paragraph 501 (c) 3 of The Internal Revenue Service Code.

2020 IS GOING TO BE AMAZING!

2020 is here and the Hardin County Farm Museum is hitting the ground running! We are planning another great year and hope you will join us in our efforts to make it amazing!

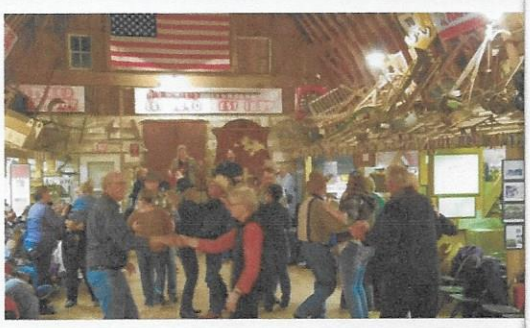
Our biggest news for 2020 is a TWO DAY Threshing Fest and Power Show on Saturday, July 25th AND Sunday, July 26th. Join us for events and field demonstrations both days. Tell your friends and family and neighbors to come out to the museum for some good old fashioned fun, better yet, bring them with you! There will be breakfast and lunch both days, threshing, baling, and corn shelling in the field, potato digging, petting barn, wagon rides, hymn sing, BINGO, and all the fun we can muster up!
NEW this year will be Cowboy Church, Boone Forks Forge, Houser's Old Iron, and Sunday Noon Dinner Fundraiser. Mark your calendars now! Don't miss the fun at this two day event!

To make our Power Show a success, we not only need people to come, but **we need your vintage tractors, trucks, wagons, implements, even jalopies to be on display during the Power Show.** We need you to bring yours and encourage your friends to bring theirs to make this show great! Help spread the word. We encourage you to fill out the **Registration Form** on page 5.

Please also take a moment to return your 2020 membership. Being a member shows your support for the ongoing efforts of the Hardin County Farm Museum. The continued financial support from our members and friends will ensure that the barn doors will stay open for future generations. The Hardin County Farm Museum is an Iowa not for profit corporation under paragraph 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Service Code. If you would like a receipt for your monetary donation, please indicate this on your donation envelope when returning it.

2019 IN REVIEW

- The Farm Museum barn hosted a number of fund raising meals including eight pancake breakfasts, one pancake supper, and two festival noon dinners. Thank you for faithfully attending.
- The Ellis Church was the setting for two beautiful weddings in 2020, both held during the month of June. Congratulations to Allen & Jenny and also to Rodney & Carrie!
- Parts of a movie were filmed in the Ellis Church in August. Arlen Daleske from New Providence played a star role. Yet to be released!
- Threshing Festival was a great day with threshing, baling, potato digging, pancakes, BINGO, music by the Backporch Pickers, vintage trucks on display, book discussion led by author Carol B, kids activities in the school, petting barn by Jamie, grilled hamburgers by the Hardin County Cattleman's Assn, Ellis Church hymn sing led by Liz and accompanied by former Ellis Church organist.
- For the third year in a row, the Fall Harvest in the field was rained out, but attendees enjoyed pancakes, the amazing harmony of the talented Preacher's Daughters in concert in the Ellis Church, a beautiful quilt display in the barn loft, an educational historical quilt presentation by The Quilt Guy Danny Steiber, a delicious Harvest Meal noon dinner, and kids activities in the schoolhouse,
- Our Greenbelt Tractorcade was bigger and better than ever! 48 tractor drivers plus 4 riders traveled by tractor to St Anthony and enjoyed lunch at Flatheads and door prizes.
- It was a gorgeous night for 40 plus dancers to dance the night away to the live music of The Vinyl Frontier Band during the Harvest Moon Family Barn Dance.
- Our facility rentals this year included two weddings, a graduation reception, a family reunion, a class reunion, and the filming of a movie.



Our Newest Addition

One last picture with the John Deere before donating it to the Farm Museum. Pictured are Denny Held, his son Jay Held, and his grandson all of Hubbard.

In August 2019, the Hardin County Farm Museum received a welcome donation from the Denny Held family of Hubbard. The Helds donated their fully restored 1966 gas powered John Deere 4020. This is a work horse tractor that will be used by museum volunteers when farming and during demonstrations. It is definitely a show stopper and will be a great tractor to put to work. Thank you to the Held family for donating this awesome tractor to the museum.

www.hardincountyfarmmuseum.org

The Hardin County Farm Museum has a new website thanks to 11 year old James Lockie of Ankeny. James recently created the website and will keep information updated throughout the year. Website users will be able to read about the Farm Museum, print schedules of upcoming events, see pictures, watch videos, print off Tractorcade registrations, and send us a message.

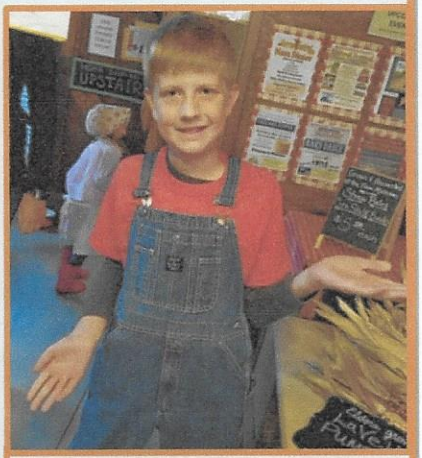
James, a fifth grader, has been an avid visitor and volunteer at the Farm Museum all of his eleven years. One of his best memories is playing in the Goose Creek Schoolhouse with his cousins. His best experience at the Farm Museum would have to be watching the "awesome potato picker" turn over the ground so that he could pick up potatoes to take home, which became French fries for dinner. ☺

Along with his knack for technology, James has many talents. He was recently the top awardee at the State Tech Fair for his grain marketing software, state champion in LEGO League, and first place in Quiz Bowl. He volunteers at church, plays piano & baritone, and in his free time he enjoys playing basketball and camping.

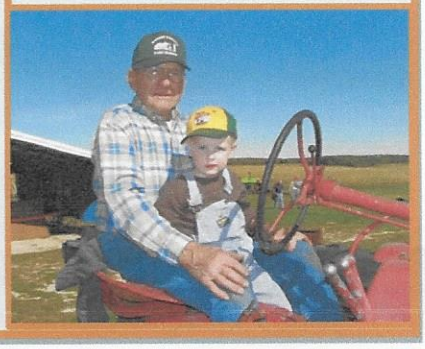
James' family has ties to farming in Hardin County that date back to 1893, when his great, great, great grandfather came from Germany and settled on a farm west of Eldora. This same land is still being farmed by his relatives today. James also has ties to agriculture through family that settled in Bremer and Mitchell counties. He especially enjoys visiting and helping on his grandparents' farm near Waverly.

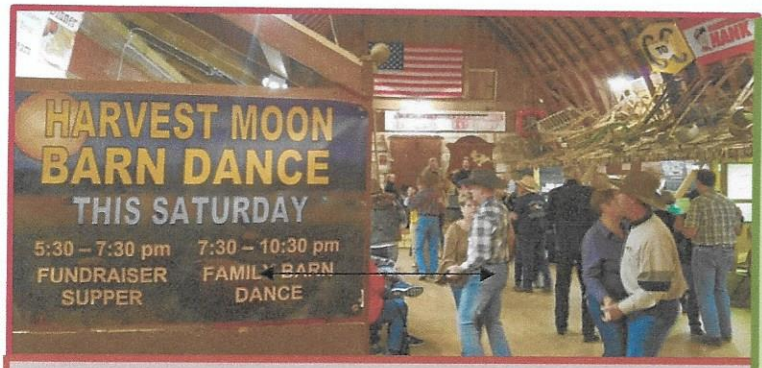
Thank you, James, for using your knowledge of technology and your love for the Farm Museum to help us promote the Hardin County Farm Museum through our new website.

Be sure and check out the website at
www.hardincountyfarmmuseum.org



Above: James Lockie now, age 11, at Fall Festival 2019.
Below: James at age 3, during Fall Festival 2011 with his great grandpa..





Plan now to attend the 2020

HARVEST MOON BARN DANCE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD, 2020

FUNDRAISER SUPPER
5:00 ~ 7:00

BARN DANCE
7:00 ~ 10:00

Featuring the live music of The Vinyl Frontier

The Iowa Ride

Tuesday, July 14th, 2020

Plans are underway to feed and host bikers overnight at the Farm Museum. Please contact us to get on our volunteer list.

Be sure to check out
the new items at
THE FARMSTORE

Here you will find
Farm Museum logo hats, tshirts and aprons
and unique Iowa farm theme
gifts and souvenirs for all ages.

THE FARMSTORE
In the entry of the barn
at the Hardin County Farm Museum

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Please remember to choose the Hardin County Farm Museum when choosing where your Thrivent Choice Dollars go. We thank those who already do, and we thank those who choose us in the future! These funds help us out tremendously as the costs to run the Farm Museum continue to rise. All funds given go to the upkeep of the museum buildings and to the festivals and programs that we present throughout the season. Thank you for choosing the Hardin County Farm Museum!

2020 POWER SHOW REGISTRATION

TWO DAY SHOW JULY 25 & 26, 2020

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR TRACTOR, TRUCK, OR IMPLEMENT
INFO WILL BE ON YOUR EXHIBITOR SIGN FOR THE SHOW

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM REGISTERED:

YEAR _____ MAKE _____

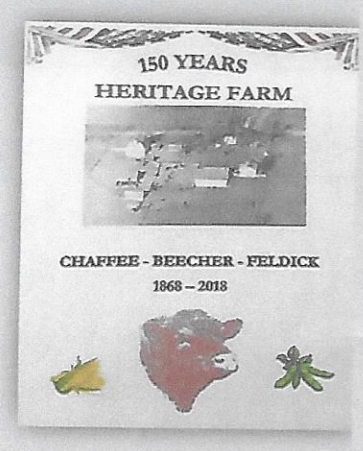
MODEL _____

HISTORY/INFO/STORY ABOUT ITEM EXHIBITED:

_____

_____

_____



Hardin County Heritage Farm– 150 Years

The Farm Museum received a copy of a wonderful family history binder from Beth Beecher Feldick who grew up on the Chaffee/Beecher family farm west of Union and now lives near Buffalo Center. Beth has compiled herfamily history dating back to 1868 when the Chaffee/Beecher ancestors settled in Hardin County, Iowa. This farm has received the distinguished honor of being named a Heritage Farm because it has been in the same family for more than 150 years. Many of you may remember Beth's father, Loyd Beecher, of Union, who started the FFA program in the Eldora High School in 1939 and taught for several years before returning to the family farm west of Union. Loyd and his wife Rexine, (Wardman from Gifford) raised a "select" herd of Purebred Polled Shorthorn Cattle and were very instrumental in implementing many new soil conservation practices on their family farm.

The Chaffee/Beecher family farm dates back to the dreams of a Civil War soldier, Edward B. Chaffee from Bradford County, PA and his sweetheart, Antoinette Beecher (Loyd Beecher's aunt). Edward Chaffee enlisted in the Union Army August 6, 1862 at the age of 25, and was engaged in over 21 battles and fought with Ulysses S Grant against Robert E Lee in several of those battles. He was seriously injured in his last battle. After his recuperation and discharge in 1865 when the war ended, Edward and Antoinette were married Oct 15, 1866. Ed Chaffee's intense pioneer spirit persevered and his dream of bringing his new wife to Iowa became a reality April 29, 1867 when they arrived in Hardin County – by team and wagon. They were among the first actual settlers who came to Union and the first to break the sod on the 40 acre farm they purchased on Feb 22, 1868, west of Union for $300. Thus began the 150 year history of the Chaffee/Beecher farm. The farm was named a Century farm in 1977 and a Heritage Farm in 2018 and is still owned by Beth and her family today.

Beth has written and told her family story in a most attractive way. She has written about each ancestor including interesting facts and stories. She has filled the family history binder with copies of vintage photos, Civil War documents, deeds, wedding pictures and certificates, newspaper articles, birth and death certificates, teacher certificates, awards and accomplishments.

The Chaffee/Beecher 150 Year Family Heritage Farm binder will be on display upstairs in the barn loft for all to enjoy. Be sure to take the time to look through this interestingly detailed history of one of Hardin County's Heritage farm families. May it encourage you to record and tell your family story! ☺

The Wedding Venue with Historic Charm

Hardin County Farm Museum
Eldora, Iowa
Contact hardincountyfarmmuseum@heartofiowa.net
to request more information about planning your unique wedding

hardincountyfarmmuseum@heartofiowa.net
email: www.hardincountyfarmmuseum.org

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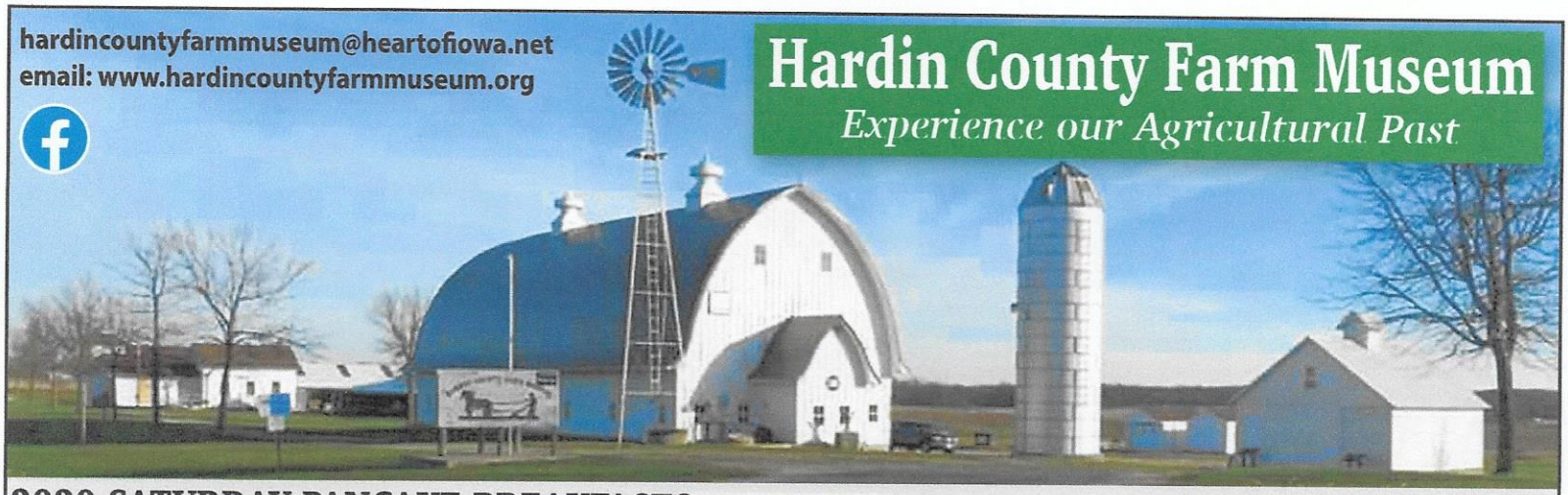

2020 SATURDAY PANCAKE BREAKFASTS

ALL YOU CAN EAT – Free Will Donation
Serving 7:00 – 9:30 am

- **April 4**
- **May 2**
- **June 6**
- **July 4**
- **July 25**
- **August 15**
- **September 5**

GREENBELT TRACTORCADE
Saturday, August 15
Pancakes 7 - 9:30 am
Tractors leave at 9:30 am

HARVEST MOON BARN DANCE
Saturday, October 3
Fundraiser Supper 5 - 7 pm
Barn Dance 7 - 10 pm

TWO-DAY THRESHING AND POWER SHOW

Saturday, July 25 and Sunday, July 26, 2020

OLD FASHIONED FUN

- **Serving Breakfast 7-9:30 - Saturday & Sunday**
- **Ongoing Activities 9-3 for All Ages - Saturday & Sunday**
- **Hymn Sing - Saturday**
- **Cowboy Church - Sunday**

Threshers' Meal Fundraiser Sunday, 11a-2p

Hardin County Farm Museum

203 N Washington St • PO Box 41, Eldora, IA 50627
One mile north of the stoplight
Open first Saturday - April - October 7a-3p or by appt.