

# Saginaw County Agricultural Society News

Supporting the Saginaw County Fair and Agriculture

Volume 2, Issue 1

November 2009

## Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Ag Society was held November 2. Copies of the Treasurer's report are available at the Fair office for those that were not in attendance and are interested in the report. The By-law changes were discussed and adopted as presented. President Newton covered the highlights for the year. (See the last newsletter for a partial listing.) Dean Newton, Jim Askins (nominated from the floor) and Pennie Tomac were reelected to the board. Newly elected board members are Jim Felix (nominated from the floor) and Eric Frahm. Future plans were also presented. (Please see separate article on page two.)

**Thank You** to the following individuals who have provided labor and equipment without charge this year: Mark Felton who has worked on the furnace and thermostats; Mike Hedrich for snow removal and moving the blocks at the grandstand; Tim Ebenhoeh for all the gravel he hauled; Don Everett for bulldozing work; Pat Dorr for all the trucking of the dirt and gravel. Thanks also to the many board members and other society members that have worked long hours to help get us through this past year.

Thanks to SVAA and especially Ralph and Marilyn Frahm for their support and help at the fair. SVAA installed fans in the Exhibit Hall this year. They have also paid for the advertising handout and flyers for Santa's Village.

Special Thanks to Donna Felton and Marilyn Frahm who have faithfully manned the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the year.

Special Thanks to Tom McDonagh who has graciously arranged without charge to us to have the walks paved from the train to the grounds to make it easier for the visitors. (New gates and pathways were installed so the train did not have to back into the siding)

Thank you to the Kiwanis for the materials and construction of new store fronts for Santa's Village.

## Santa's Village

*Turning the Exhibit Hall into North Pole U.S.A*



Santa's Village will soon be coming to the exhibit hall at the Saginaw County Fairgrounds. The Steam Train 1225 will depart from Owosso and make its way to the North Pole *aka Saginaw County Fairgrounds* twice each day to deliver passengers of young and old alike to experience the enchantment of the North Pole. Tickets (6 and older-\$ 9) are also available for those who would like to share the experience without riding the train.

Santa's Village features:

- **Christmas Magic Shows daily**
- **Holiday rides for the kids (and adults)**
- **Giant Slide (remember the Polar Express Slide?)**
- **Huge model Railroad Display**
- **Kris Kringle Carousel**
- **Holiday crafts for kids**
- **Food**
- **Free entertainment**
- **Visit with Santa**
- **Kris Kringle Mart including:**  
Ceramics; Jewelry Making and Christmas Wreaths; Bakery; Wooden Trains; Wood Crafts; Make Your Own Stuffed Animal; I Believe Store; Chocolate Candy; Hand Pulled Ribbon Candy and Candy Canes; Fleece Hats and Holiday Towel Sets; and Holiday Decorations
- Plan a visit to Santa's Village and create a special memory and tradition with the kids and grandkids.

Santa's Village runs 10:30 to 7:30 each day. ❏

# Help Needed



Anyone interested in helping with Santa's village is welcomed to help set up each Tuesday and Saturday morning starting about 9:30 am until the start of Santa's village. Help is needed with setting up Christmas trees, 'causing a snowstorm' (spreading the fake snow), putting up decorations, and stringing Christmas lights and other similar activities. The only requirement is a Holiday Spirit.

**Help** will also be needed during Santa's Village with different activities like: Letters to Santa and Kids' Crafts. Also help is needed to sweep the floors about 7:30 each day of the village and other cleaning chores. For more information about helping contact Bev or Dean Newton at 989-213-2950 or Francis or Sandy Sloan at 989-845-6202

## Calendar of Events

November 27-28-29	Santa's Village
December 5-6	Santa's Village
December 10	Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 pm
December 12-13	Santa's Village
December 19-20	Santa's Village

**Coming dates:**

February 6-7	Chesaning Model Airplane
February 21-22	Chesaning Business Expo
July 27 - 31	Saginaw County Fair

## Current Improvements:

Cement for a manure bunker has been poured through a generous donation from Mike Bryne and Bryne's Brown Swiss. We also received assistance from Mike Hedrich. Thank you for the donations and help.

## Fair Date Change:

**\*\*\*\*\*The date of the Saginaw Fair has been changed to July 27-31. \*\*\*\*\***

After several months of debate and discussion the Board of Directors voted to change the date of the fair to July 27-July 31.

McDonagh Amusements approached the Board of Directors with the possibility of moving the fair dates. Their schedule has changed and they would not be able to supply us with a full set of carnival rides. By changing the date we will be able to have a better carnival show and rides.

The decision to move the dates did not come easy. The Board needed to decide whether the date was more important or keeping McDonagh as our amusement provider. The change in admission last year was successful and we decided that we need to follow up and continue with the changes that we started last year.

We all hope that this change will work to the good.

## Membership Dues

Dues are now due for 2010. The Board of Directors set the dues for 2010 at \$ 15.00. That will enable us to send out 4-5 newsletters per year to the membership. We feel that we need to communicate to the membership the needs and activities of the Ag Society if we are to be successful. By raising the dues by \$ 5.00 it will cover the cost to send out the newsletters. We will also send out the newsletters via e-mail but we have not received enough e-mail addresses to cover enough of the membership on a regular basis.

For those members that are lifetime members this increase does not apply. If any of those members wish to send a donation of \$ 5.00 to help with the cost of the newsletter it will be greatly appreciated.

It was also decided that we will offer the membership admission to the fair on all days that they wish to attend. The grandstand will also be available to the members. We are going to be looking for sponsors again for the grandstand activities. If you are in a position to help get grandstand sponsors please let us know. Without sponsors for the grandstand we cannot do this. There will be a \$ 7.00 charge to ride the amusement rides.

(Thanks to all the membership for their patience in working out bugs with the new admission price.)



# Giant Pumpkin Corner

Featuring pumpkin of course

## Pumpkin Muffins



2 cups sifted flour  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon ginger  
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg  
1/8 teaspoon ground cloves  
1/3 cup raisins (optional)  
1/3 cup butter, softened  
3/4 cup brown sugar  
1/4 cup molasses  
2 beaten eggs  
1 cup pumpkin  
1/2 cup milk

Sift together the flour, baking powder, salt and spices. Add the raisins and coat well. Cream the sugar, butter and molasses, add the milk, eggs, and pumpkin and blend well. Stir in the dry ingredients, blending only till moistened. Fill greased muffin pans 2/3's full. Bake at 375° F. For 16 to 18 minutes. Makes 12 to 15 large muffins.

### Board of Directors:

Newly elected:

Dean Newton	Jim Askins
Pennie Tomac	Eric Frahm
Jim Felix	

Current Board Members:

Lois Frederick	Teresa Kayden
Francis Sloan	Kim Wahl
Keith Frederick	Dick Born
Sara Engelhardt	Donna Felton
Terry Henne	Victor Ludu

### Current Officers:

President:	Dean Newton
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Francis Sloan
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Eric Frahm
Recording Secretary	Teresa Kayden
Treasurer	Pennie Tomac

### Contacting Us:

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## Future Plans

**RABBIT/POULTRY BARN** After the rains on Saturday it was very evident that we needed to do something about the rabbit and poultry tent. We would like to erect a new Rabbit and Poultry Building. It would be about 40' x 64'. Fundraisers will be planned for the near future. We are also taking donations with some donations already received.

### OTHER NEEDS

- We need to start looking at replacing our tractor. We currently need to baby the tractor greatly.
- The walkways on the bleachers need to be painted. We also need to look at adding more bleachers. Last year we had many standing and others that left on Friday night. We would like to get the kind of bleachers that fold up and move easier.
- Tables and chairs need to be updated. We do not have any tables that are newer than about 25 years old.

## Wish list

Since it is the season for Christmas lists we have a wish list also. We are looking for donations for the following items:

Lower Cabinets for the Kitchen

Kitchen Supplies such as:

Towels  
Dish clothes  
Paper plates  
Paper towels and a paper towel holder  
Plastic ware

Cleaning products

Colored paper

If you would like to donate any of these items they can be dropped off at the office Tuesday and Thursday 10 am to 2 pm.

If you would like to make a donation of money toward any of these items that would be appreciated also.