

Experience Our Agricultural Past
Hardin County Farm Museum, Eldora, Iowa



Eldora, IA 50627

PO Box 41

HARDIN COUNTY FARM MUSEUM





Hardin County Farm Museum

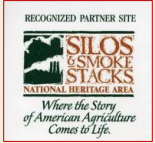
Experience Our Agricultural Past

203 N Washington Street

PO Box 41, Eldora, IA 50627

One Mile North of the Stoplight

Established 1998



2024 Newsletter

Volume 26

In This Issue:

- Notes from the Board – 2024
- A Lot to See in 2023
- Tractorcade 2023 & 2024
- Goose Creek School Memories
- Looking Forward to 2024
- 2024 Schedule

2024 Board Members

Jason Reinertson	515-231-2377
Lonnie Balvanz	641-751-0922
Shorty Reinertson	515-520-9660
Richelle Stowe	641-640-0487
Marilyn Reinertson	515-231-2379
Kyle Cook	641-751-5386
Westhenry Ioerger	641-640-7275

Board Meetings: 7:00 pm

First Tues. April – Nov in the Barn

Membership Dues:

\$20 per year

Like us on Facebook



We post our calendar, pictures, reminders, and updates.

Email us at:

hardincountymuseum
@heartofiowa.net

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

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

So Much More In 2024

2023 was a terrific year at the Hardin County Farm Museum and 2024 is lining up to be that and so much more!

Be sure to mark SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JULY 27 & 28, 2024, on your calendar. Plan now to attend and experience the Farm Museum come alive during the 2024 Threshing Festival and Power Show! This year we will be hosting the Mid Iowa JI Case Collectors Tractor Show.

There will be a large display of vintage Case tractors from all over central Iowa for you to see plus a variety of activities, displays, field demonstrations and entertainment for all ages to enjoy. We not only welcome Case tractors, but all makes & models of tractors, as well as engines, machinery and other unique items you'd like to bring to display. Breakfast and lunch will be served in the barn both days. Bring your friends and family and come enjoy two days of fun! There is no entry fee and no admission charge to the public. **You won't want to miss the last weekend of July at the Hardin County Farm Museum!**



Thank You:

- To all our supporters and volunteers – you are priceless
- For the monetary and display donations, memorials and Thrivent Choice Dollars sent our way
- To the Myron Kosanke family for the bench & planter
- To the Dean Kusserow family for the beautiful buggy
- To Church Women's United for the grant money used for the awning, school repairs and festival entertainment
- For an insurance claim that allowed us to put steel roofs on all the small outbuildings.

The Hardin County Farm Museum is going strong and it's because of all of you! We Thank You All! ~The Board



THERE WAS ALOT TO SEE IN 2023
2023 THRESHING FESTIVAL & POWER SHOW
 Featured Oliver, Hart-Parr, Cockshutt and White



And So Much More In Store for 2024
2024 THRESHING FESTIVAL AND POWER SHOW
 Featuring Case –Sat & Sun, July 27 & 28, 2024



2023 GREENBELT TRACTORCADE

Fifty-one drivers and one rider lined up in front of Larry's Station in New Providence for a group picture during the lunch break of the 2023 Greenbelt Tractorcade on Saturday, August 19th, 2023. The drivers enjoyed the 30 mile ride through the beautiful, scenic backroads following the Iowa River from the Farm Museum in Eldora south to Union, then headed west to New Providence. The driver's lunch was served inside the historical New Providence Soda Fountain by museum volunteers. After lunch and door prizes, the tractors followed a different scenic route winding through the countryside and ended up back at the Farm Museum midafternoon. It was a beautiful day for a tractor ride!

2024 Greenbelt Tractorcade

20th Annual Hardin County Farm Museum Fundraiser

Saturday, August 17, 2024

Come view the tractors before the ride!



Pancake Breakfast
7:00-9:30 am
in the Barn

- Tractors will leave on the ride at 10:00 AM
- Driver Check-in NE Corner of Barn from 7-9:30 am
- Questions, please call Jason Reinertson at 515-231-2377

Clip and Mail 2024 Registration Form

Pre-registration is requested by August 10th, 2024 to reserve your lunch

Cost per tractor/driver is \$40; per passenger is \$10; and includes breakfast, lunch, snack, and the ride.

Please mail registration & check to: Hardin County Farm Museum, PO Box 41, Eldora, IA 50627

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Owners, drivers and passengers accept full liability for injury or loss to themselves or property while participating in the Greenbelt Tractorcade. The Hardin County Farm Museum Corporation is expressly released from all claims of loss, liability and injury. Hardin County Farm Museum Corp is an Iowa non-profit corporation under paragraph 501 (c) 3 of The Internal Revenue Service Code

Signature of Driver _____ Date _____

Signature of Buddy Seat Rider _____ Date _____

Signature of Tractor Owner _____ Date _____

Memories of Goose Creek School No. 4

The Hardin County Farm Museum is fortunate to be the home to many historical items, both big and small. On the bigger side of things, there are several noteworthy buildings on the grounds including the original Goose Creek School. The schoolhouse found a permanent home at the museum in 2000 when it was moved there. A foundation was poured and repairs made so it could be opened to the public. The school has been fully refurnished with donated items and even has the original teacher's desk and blackboards. It is truly a gem and the Hardin County Farm Museum is very lucky to have this schoolhouse as part of its collection.



If only the walls of the Goose Creek School could talk, think of all the stories it could tell of the hundreds of students who came through its door every morning for 71 years. Built in 1882, Goose Creek School No. 4 was located seven miles southwest of Eldora in the NW 1/4 of Section 20 Pleasant Township. It was built above the south bank of Goose Creek, a beautiful, small meandering creek that empties into the South Fork of the Iowa River. This one room school house holds many memories for its former students. We are fortunate to share the memories of Goose Creek School student, Laura Ziesman Lange. She attended this schoolhouse from her kindergarten year, 1927, through her eighth grade graduation in 1936. Laura was born in 1922 on the family farm just north of the schoolhouse. across the timber where Goose Creek still runs today. Laura is now 102 years young, still lives on her own, and has vivid memories as clear as the days when she attended Goose Creek School. She reminisces about walking to school with her brother Albert, who was two years older, and as a kindergartener, she was very happy to have him to walk with. Soon sister Reba, who was two years younger, joined in. Laura said they walked

to school no matter what the weather was. If it was cold, they put more clothes on to keep warm. They were lucky and only had a little over a quarter mile to walk on the dirt road while some of the students walked up to two miles. The two sisters always walked on the road and didn't cut through the timber. But Laura remembers several instances when Albert ran late doing his chores, so he would climb over the fence. jump across Goose Creek, run up the hills of the timber, and get to the door of the one room school just at the last possible second so he wouldn't be tardy!



The best part of school for Laura was getting to see the other kids. There wasn't a lot of socializing at that time, so going to school and church were the only chances she would get to be with other kids. She fondly looks back on the close knit neighborhood, and can still name every family that lived there at that time. Since her family farm was close to the school, it was right in the middle of all the school family's farms. There were the Strucks, the Wassons, the Boodys, the Hubbards, the Clarks, and the Bahrs, among others. She has remained friends with many generations of these families all of her life.

The teachers during the time Laura went to school were young ladies who had to be at least 18 years old and unmarried. Laura still remembers her teachers fondly. Her first grade teacher was Miss Ziesman (Helen Cable), and her fifth grade teacher was Miss Kusserow (Agnes Dobbrunz). Laura added that the teachers would room with a family that lived close by during the week, and even her family had teachers room with them for a time. She recalls students took their studies very seriously and were mostly well behaved. They knew if there were shenanigans that they would not only be reprimanded at school, but also pay the consequences at home. Laura said the teacher would work with one age group of students at a time while the others did their studies. She said all their work was done at school and they did not bring work home. She recalls that the school day went from 9:00 – 4:00 with a one hour break over the noon hour. In the winter Laura remembers having a 30 minute lunch so that they could get home before dark in order to get their barn chores done. She fondly recalls lunch in the winter. Normally students would bring a metal lunch pail with goodies from home that would include a jelly sandwich. But in the winter when the teacher had the stove stoked with wood or corn cobs to heat the one room school, Laura recalls the students brought jars of home canned soup or home canned meat, placed them in a porcelain bowl full of water on top of the black iron stove, and as the water boiled it would heat their canning jar lunch. Laura joked that was the best “hot lunch”. ☺

During the years Laura attended Goose Creek School, the school had no electricity and no running water. Bathrooms were two outhouses. Water was fetched from the nearby Wasson farm to the west. She said two students would walk every morning carrying a water bucket with a lid to fill with fresh water from the neighbor’s well. They would take turns carrying the full bucket back and pour it into the stoneware water crock that had a spigot for dispensing the drinking water. Each student brought an aluminum or porcelain cup from home on Mondays, hung it on a hook by the water crock, and this would be their drinking cup for the week.



Goose Creek School 1935/36

Back: Reba Ziesman, age 11; **Laura Ziesman, age 13**, Clarence Struck, age 14; John Wehrman, age 16;
Front: Gertrude Struck, age 7; John Wasson, age 8; Betty Lou Hubbard, age 5; Wendell Clark, age 11; Joseph Hubbard, age 12. Teacher was Miss Sievert

Laura recalls that sometimes the younger students would complete two grades in one year as was the case with her younger sister Reba. So when Laura graduated eighth grade in May of 1936 at the age of 14, so did her sister Reba, who was only 12. Laura remembers taking her graduation exam and was very proud to get her 8th grade diploma from the Goose Creek School.



After graduation Laura went to work for many neighboring families helping care for their newborn babies. Laura was married in November of 1943, was a hard working farm wife, and is a devoted mother of five children, ten grandchildren, thirteen great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

Many thanks to Laura Lange for reflecting back on her Goose Creek School days and sharing her memories with us. This picture of Laura was taken the week of her 102nd birthday in February. She is truly one remarkable and blessed lady who has seen many, many changes during her lifetime! ☺



Serving 7:00 – 9:30 am in the Barn

2024 Pancake Breakfasts

May 4 July 27 & 28

June 1 August 17

July 6 September 7

2024 Harvest Moon Family

SOUP SUPPER & BARN DANCE

Saturday, October 5, 2024

Supper served 5:00-7:00 pm

Dance 7:00-10:00 pm in the Barn Loft

Dance to Live Country Music

☺ TOP 10 LIST ☺

How YOU Show Support
For The Farm Museum

10. Yearly Memberships
9. Monetary Donations
8. Thoughtful Memorials
7. Thrivent Dollars
6. Enjoying Pancakes
5. Attending Events
4. Making Homemade Pie
3. Driving a Tractor
2. Donating Display Items
1. Sharing a PASSION TO PRESERVE OUR PAST

☺ Thank YOU ☺

The Hardin County Farm Museum is available
to rent for all types of gatherings:
meetings, parties, family reunions, graduations,
class reunions, weddings, receptions, church services.
Contact us for more info about renting our facilities.

Ready for Renting



Hardin County Farm Museum

Experience our Agricultural Past

2024 SATURDAY PANCAKE BREAKFASTS

Free Will Donation
Serving 7 - 9:30 a.m.

- May 4
- June 1
- July 6
- July 27 & 28
- August 17
- September 7



Hardin County Farm Museum

203 N Washington St • PO Box 41, Eldora, IA 50627 • One mile north of the stoplight
hardincountymuseum@heartofiowa.net • email: www.hardincountymuseum.org

THRESHING FESTIVAL AND POWER SHOW

Saturday, July 27 and Sunday, July 28, 2024

OLD FASHIONED FUN

- All makes tractors, engines, trucks, and public welcome!
- Ongoing Activities for all ages both days



FEATURING
Mid-Iowa J.I. Case Collectors



GREENBELT TRACTORCADE

Saturday, August 17, 2024

Pancakes 7 - 9:30 a.m.

Tractors leave at 10 a.m.

HARVEST MOON PANCAKE SUPPER & BARN DANCE



Saturday, October 5, 2024
Fundraiser Supper 5 - 7 p.m.
Barn Dance 7 - 10 p.m.



*Open first Saturday -
May - October 7a-3p or by appt.*