

# Friends of

## The Agricultural History Farm Park, Inc.

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 P.O. Box 5810  
 Derwood, MD 20855



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Maurice Ward

Dear Friends,

Spring marks the time that your board members and officers are gearing up for our annual Gas and Steam Engine show---and what a show this promises! It is our silver anniversary as this year's event will mark 25 years since our first show in 1998. Last year your board voted to have the event at the end of April, the first time we had a calendar change for this show. Your board has decided to continue with that change. Our event will be the last weekend in April: Saturday, the 29th and Sunday, the 30th.

As always the success of an event like this demands great teamwork. The contributions of board members, officers, volunteers, exhibitors, vendors, and of course the many members of our Friends group and their families are always keys to a successful show. It is our intention to have many of the same attractions that we have always featured: vintage agricultural equipment and engines of all types, blacksmith demonstrations, saw mill demonstrations, antique cars, kiddie tractor rides, tractor parades, food and music, hay rides, granary museum interpretation, and more.

This year we will be adding some new wrinkles: an emphasis on craft vendors with items hand-made by the vendors and the addition of pony rides---always a favorite with the young and old! As you can see, help will always be appreciated, whether it is providing a door prize, food preparation, manning a booth, driving a wagon, being a vendor or providing equipment for display. There is an opportunity for everybody to serve and have a great time as well....see you at the Farm!



We are excited to be hosting our **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gas and Steam Engine Show and 1<sup>st</sup> Craft Fair** on Saturday, April 29 and Sunday, April 30, 2023. It takes many volunteers to plan and stage this event. We have volunteer opportunities in many areas including advertising, food prep, table/booth set-up, general safety checks the days of the event, and clean-up following the event. Student Service Learning (SSL) hours may be earned by volunteering.

Contact Chris Suzich ([chrissuzich@comcast.net](mailto:chrissuzich@comcast.net)) if you are interested in helping on Saturday, April 29 and/or Sunday, April 30. Let him know if you have a volunteer job preference or specific day/hours you're able to help.

Contact Jean Phillips (301-785-8625 or [phllpsfarm@aol.com](mailto:phllpsfarm@aol.com)) if you're interested in reserving a craft fair booth.

## The Friends Corner – by Susan Morris

**Robert Andrew Russell**, age 82, of Bethesda, MD, died on November 26, 2022 at Suburban Hospital. Bob was born to Frank and Violet Russell, graduated from Walter Johnson High School, and served honorably for 3 years in the U.S. Army. He worked as an automobile mechanic for many years. Bob was a member of the Nation's Capitol Model T Ford Club for over 50 years and volunteered annually with the Montgomery County Fair's "Old Timers." Bob is survived by his brother, Bill (Becky), many friends and relatives.

Condolences to the family of **Raymond James Becraft, Jr.** (93) of Woodbine, MD who died on December 12, 2022 at Westgate Hills Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center in Baltimore. Ray was born on January 25, 1929 in Lisbon, MD, the son of Raymond James, Sr. and Sylvia Becraft. He was a lifelong farmer. Raymond leaves behind numerous nieces and nephews in Maryland and Oklahoma. Interment was at Jennings Chapel Cemetery in Woodbine, MD.

Healing best wishes to longtime Friends member, **Edward C. (Eddie) Gregg**, who was recently hospitalized but is now home and recuperating. We hope you're feeling much better, Eddie! *Happy Birthday* on Groundhog's Day, as well!

Honorary Charter Life Member, **Hugh Webb**, is home and doing well after hospital and rehab stays last fall. Cards or notes may be sent to: Hugh Webb, 20110 Woodfield Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20882. Keep up the great work, Hugh!

Kudos to **Leonard Deerkoski** who restored this beautiful sleigh at his home. If you know who donated the sleigh to the Friends of the Agricultural History Farm Park, please contact Susan Morris (see below). We are grateful for your generosity and for Leonard's skilled handiwork.



(before)



(after)

Contact Susan Morris ([skmorris1@verizon.net](mailto:skmorris1@verizon.net)) if you have items for future issues of the FAHFP Friends Corner.

## 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Gas and Steam Engine Show ~ 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Craft Fair

The 1<sup>st</sup> Friends Craft Fair will be conducted in partnership with the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Gas and Steam Engine Show. If you're interested in participating, contact Jean Phillips (PhllpsFarm@aol.com) to obtain a vendor application form. Then complete and mail your form and check to: Jean Phillips, 17409 Blackrock Rd, Germantown, MD 20874. NO yard sale items or commercial products. Items are to be handmade by the participating vendor. The Friends of the Farm Park reserve the right to ask any vendor to leave if their display is not G rated. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Vendor Spaces & Prices:

10' x 10' for \$40 (\$10 Friends of the Farm Park membership and \$30 craft fair fee)  
– postmarked by March 31, 2023.

Vendor fee is non-refundable after April 1, 2023.

The event is held rain or shine.

Items left overnight at the farm are at the vendors own risk; the venue and/or event coordinator are not liable for lost or missing items.

### Other Details:

Vendors will have two opportunities to set up:

Friday, April 28 – 3:00 – 6 PM

Saturday, April 29 – 7:00 to 9:00 AM

Displays must be removed immediately after the event closes at 3 PM on Sunday, April 30

Food and drinks will be available for purchase



### **Seeking scarecrow clothes!**

The Friends group runs a scarecrow-making booth at the October Harvest Festival. We can always use old clothing! Needed items, in any children's sizes or in adult small or medium sizes: (1) long sleeved "button-down" type shirts, (2) long pants, preferably with belt loops, (3) overalls, and (4) one piece jammies or sleepers.

Starting in August we will have a donations box at the farm or you may contact the Friends about your donations via telephone (voice mail: 301-670-4661) or via the website (<http://www.friendsofthefarmpark.org/>).

Thank you!

## Stepping Back in Time by Howard Williams

### Hay Trolley

Before the invention of hay balers all hay was stacked loose into barn lofts. The invention of the hay trolley greatly reduced the amount of hand labor involved with hay storage. The hay trolley in photo #1 was patented in 1882 by the Myers brothers of Ashland, Ohio and is in the granary tool museum collection.

Hay trolleys had a set of huge hooks that picked up the hay(see photos #3 and #4) Trolleys ran on a rail that was mounted in the top of the hay loft and ran from one end of the loft to the other. The rail extended through the barn door in each gable (see photo #2). A wagon load of loose hay was parked under the gable door.

The trolley was pulled to the end of the rail over the wagon. The hay hooks were locked open and lowered by a rope to the hay. The hooks were then closed and locked so that they grasped a large quantity of hay. The load of hay was lifted up to the hay trolley by a rope that was pulled by a horse, an ox, a mule, an electric motor, or a gasoline engine. The trolley was then pulled into the loft to the desired place and the hooks were unlocked by a rope thus dropping the load. Pitch forks were used to distribute the hay to the sides of the loft.



Photo 1



Photo 2

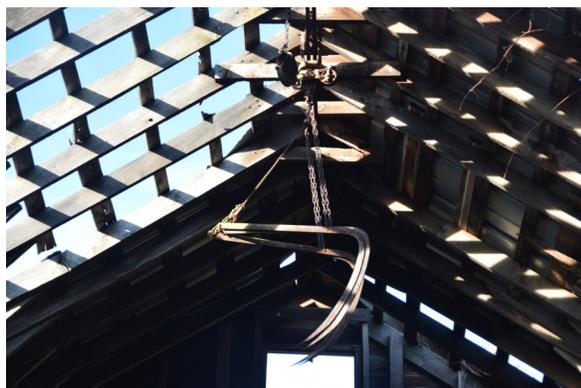


Photo 3



Photo 4

## Membership Dues and News – by Susan Morris

**Welcome to our newest Honorary Life Members, Denise, Liam and Clare Reed**, in memory of the late Friends President, Rex Reed. They join other Honorary Life Members: Hugh Webb, Bonnie and George Lawrence, the late Laura Ann Whirley, Henrietta Budd, and Mimi Stubbs. Thank you for your dedicated service over the years.

**Welcome, New Life Members!** Thank you to Maria and Kevin Dunn, Raymond C. Bjorklund, Derek Halverson, and Elizabeth (Liz) Bendo – our newest life members!

**Welcome, New Members!** We welcome Summer and Todd Coombs (#1724), Melinda and John Hanson (#1725), Bill Phillips (#1726), the Albert Foundation, Inc. (#1727), Samantha Bateman (#1728), Heidi Bahr-Karchnak, Chris and Harlow Karchnak (#1729), David, Claire and Dorothy Benack (#1730), and Elizabeth, Travis, Gabrielle and Christopher Reeves (#1731) to the Friends of the Agricultural History Farm Park.

**Mailing Label Abbreviations:** I=Individual, F=Family, O=Organization, B=Business, C=Charter Member, LIFE=Life Member; HLIFE=Honorary Life Member. If your dues are current, your label should look like this: Example: I23 or LIFE.

**Will this be your last newsletter?** Please check your mailing label. If it shows the year **2023** (or beyond) or LIFE on the label, your dues are current. If not, please take the time to renew. The Membership Application may be found in the December 2022 newsletter or on the Friends website. Complete and mail your membership application and check (payable to Friends of the Agricultural History Farm Park, Inc.) to: Treasurer, P.O. Box 5810, Derwood, MD 20855 or use PayPal: [contribute@friendsofthefarmpark.org](mailto:contribute@friendsofthefarmpark.org).

⇒ **IMPORTANT:** please include your Email Address, if available. We will never share your email addresses with outside groups but we do need to quickly communicate with our Friends, upon occasion (e.g., bad weather, emergencies). Also, please note any additions or corrections to your contact information.

⇒ **NOTE:** If you're willing to receive future Friends newsletters electronically (i.e., via email), please notify Susan Morris ([skmorris1@verizon.net](mailto:skmorris1@verizon.net)). Thank you!

**Special thanks** to Daryl J. Hultquist, the Heard family, James Pope, and Carol Anne Robertson for recent donations to the Friends of the Agricultural History Farm Park. We thank ALL who have donated equipment, financial gifts, skills, and time.

If you have questions about your membership dues status, want a Friends membership card, or need to update your contact information, please contact Membership Chair, Susan Morris ([skmorris1@verizon.net](mailto:skmorris1@verizon.net) or 301-482-0439). 

If you have questions about your dues payment or other financial issue (e.g., missing check, desire to make a memorial contribution or donation, need a receipt, etc), please contact Treasurer, Debbie Lee ([dalee1948@aol.com](mailto:dalee1948@aol.com) or 301-646-4961).

Welcome to **Shelby Smith**, the new Northern Parks Division's Park Manager I. Her territory will include the Agricultural History Farm Park. Shelby has a background in park maintenance and management and has been employed with Maryland State Park Service for over 8 years. She served in a variety of roles in her time with Maryland State Parks including Lead Interpretive Ranger, Volunteer Coordinator, and Boat Center Manager. Her last 5 years were spent at Seneca Creek and Patuxent River State Parks assisting with park trail development projects, critical maintenance and planning, and nature center exhibit improvement. Shelby holds a bachelor's degree from Salisbury University in Environmental Science with minors in Biology and Outdoor Education.

Friends of the Agricultural  
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Please advise of any  
incorrect names, spelling or address  
and report damaged mailings by  
calling the VOICEMAIL line -  
**301-670-4661**

**Keep Up to Date! Visit the Friend's Website**  
**<http://www.friendsofthefarmpark.org/>**  
(Use password **aghpletmein** to access member only information)

### **Dates to Remember**

25th Annual Gas and Steam Show - Saturday, April 29 and Sunday, April 30

Montgomery County Agricultural Fair - August 11—19, 2023

Bluegrass on the Farm - September 9, 2023

Harvest Festival - October 7, 2023

Newsletter articles are due by May 15 for the June 2023 newsletter.  
Send to Kendra and John Wells—[kendrawells@gmail.com](mailto:kendrawells@gmail.com)  
14318 Woodcrest Drive, Rockville, MD 20853

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Friends of the Agricultural History Farm Park, Inc.  
President: Maurice Ward, Vice President: Chris Suzich, Secretary: Anita Campbell, Treasurer: Deborah Lee  
Other Board Members: Robert Lee "Bobby" Allnutt, Jean Phillips, and Howard Williams