

ReStore

...the rural heritage of Collin County

Fall 2011



An Autumn Welcome from the
Collin County Farm Museum
at Myers Park and Event Center
7117 County Road 166
McKinney, TX 75071

ReStore

The Oxford English Dictionary has two definitions for “**restore**”:

1) *To store again...*

Many artifacts at the Farm Museum were once stored by donors in dusty barns, tucked away in sheds or displayed on shelves. Through donations, the Farm Museum collects these artifacts and **restores** them within the collections facility and exhibits. Thus, the artifact’s history is preserved and available for educating the public.

2) *To bring back...*

Through the generous contribution of Farm Museum volunteers’ time and knowledge, artifacts are systematically **restored** to their former glory through five project based restoration exhibits.



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Cover Page Image: Historic McKinney, Texas - Source: Preservation McKinney

If you have historic photographs to share, please contact the Collin County Farm Museum.



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During the month of **October:**

- ✓ The Traveling Trunk Program is available for use in school classrooms and home schools (continued page 5).
- ✓ The research and construction of the "Rural Sound" traveling exhibit begins (continued page 6).



During the month of **December:**

- ✓ The Farm Museum staff and volunteers are focusing on inventorying and cataloging the collections (continued page 6).



During the month of **November:**

- ✓ The "Rural Sound" traveling exhibit is available for schools, museums & libraries (continued page 6).
- ✓ The "Evolution of Wheat Harvesting" exhibit opens at the Farm Museum (continued page 6).

Updates:

- ✓ Collin County Farm Museum and Myers Park & Event Center's new website has launched. Visit us at www.myersinfo.com
- ✓ Fun on the Farm program kicks off the Farm Museum's educational programs (continued page 4).

P LANNING YOUR VISIT...

Hours of Operation:

- Open Wednesday & Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Additional hours by appointment only
- For more information or to [schedule a tour](#), please contact [Jennifer Rogers](#), at 972-548-5752.

Entrance Fees:

\$3 per Adult/Senior
 \$2 per Youth (ages 6-16)
 Children under 6 y.o. are FREE

Group Rates:

*for 10 or more people
 \$2 per Adult/Senior
 \$1 per Youth (ages 6-16)
 Children under 6 y.o. are FREE

School Rates:

\$1 per Teacher/Chaperone
 \$1 per Student



WHAT TO DO?



Fun on the Farm has moved to Myers Park and Event Center's Show Barn, a 57,000 sq.ft. indoor facility with restrooms, parking and picnic areas. Adults and children explore a variety of subjects ranging from Canine Safety, The Fiber of Our Lives (wool and cotton), Farm Animals and Farm Economics. This program is available to *Schools (21 Science TEKS for Kindergarten & 1st grade), Home Schools, Church groups, Scout Troops, etc... and utilizes hands-on learning and demonstrations by professionals in a safe environment for kids (...not goats) for ages 5 and up.

ReStore Exhibit

Restoring History... The Collin County Farm Museum is dedicated to restoring historic artifacts from 1840 to 1960. On Wednesdays and Saturdays, visitors to the museum are able to witness the restoration process. The volunteers have completed four projects to date and are working on two more.



International Harvester Hay Rake
c. 1900 (Obj. Id# 1987.08.001)
Donated by Vernae Minniear



Oliver Cultivator c. 1910
(Obj. Id# 1987.11.001)
Donated by Weldon Hughes



International Harvester Hay Rake
c. 1900 (Obj. Id# 1987.08.001)
Donated by Vernae Minniear



International Harvester Sickle
Mower #9, c. 1940
(Obj. Id# L1996.06.001)
Loaned by Brian Griggs

These completed restoration projects are placed throughout the Myers Park and Event Center. A walking trail with exhibit panels is being developed to guide visitors through the outdoor exhibits as well as the different gardens located in the park.

The two current restoration projects are the Massey Harris tractor and the Ford truck.



Massey Harris tractor, Model 44, c. 1948
(Obj. Id# 2010.01.002)
Donated by Billie Cox



Ford truck, c. 1947
(Obj. Id# 2010.01.001a)
Donated by Billie Cox





ALL TIED UP... CAN'T
COME TO THE MUSEUM?



LET US TRAVEL TO
YOU!



NEW The Collin County Farm Museum presents the TEKS aligned Traveling Trunk Program. The trunks are divided into three unique subjects: #1. Food from the Farm, #2. Wool & Cotton, #3. Home on the Farm. Each trunk comes with a Teacher's Notebook and a wide selection of grade appropriate activities and instructions (K – 5th Grade), as well as supplementary supplies needed to complete selected activities. The learning activities include class subjects, such as: science, history, math, creative writing, reading comprehension and art.

Starting Friday, October 21, 2011, the Traveling Trunks are available for pick-up or delivery. Fridays are check-in and check-out days. Teachers have the option of renting a box for 1 or 2 weeks. Teachers can also checkout up to 2 traveling trunks.

FEE:

\$0.00/Pick-up or

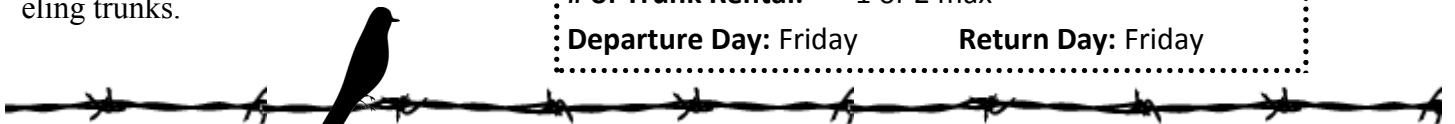
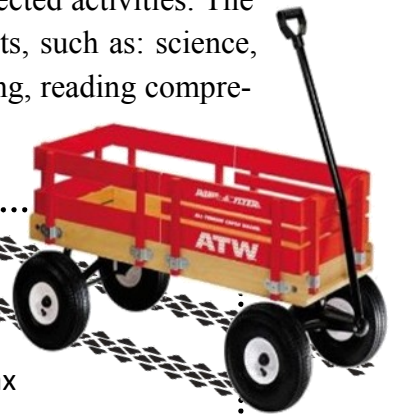
\$20.00/delivery

Length of Rental: 1 or 2 weeks max

of Trunk Rental: 1 or 2 max

Departure Day: Friday

Return Day: Friday



Traveling Exhibits

Collin County libraries, museums, nonprofit and for profit organizations, events as well as schools may reserve a freestanding traveling exhibit to share on site with your patrons. Two exhibits are available for reservation now and a third exhibit is scheduled for release in November.

***The Traveling Salesman exhibit** tells the story of rural traveling salesmen during the 1880s and early 1900s. The traveling salesmen were a common sight in Collin County and an integral part of its rural heritage. This exhibit explores the life of a traveling salesman through historical photographs. Additionally, the exhibit reveals the various wares a traveling salesman hawked, including medicines.

***The Home Demonstration Club exhibit** is a pictorial exploration of early 1900s Home Demonstration Clubs which initiated a revival in rural traditions. This exhibit explores the variety of the club's original activities, including canning, clothing, and cooking. The exhibit also examines the club's later development into home management, yard improvement and livestock management.

*The Rural Sound exhibit is scheduled for release in November. This exhibit will feature some of the museum's phonographs and historic radios accompanied by historic pictures and an audio playbook.



For more information or to reserve the use of a traveling exhibit, please contact us at ccfm@co.collin.tx.us



**DONATE YOUR
TIME...!**

The Collin County Farm Museum has a variety of projects and events throughout the year which require the help of volunteers. Currently, our most popular volunteer project is the ReStore Exhibit. Here, volunteers of various levels of skills and experience restore historic farm vehicles and equipment.



The Collin County Farm Museum is looking to welcome more Volunteers. Remember, we don't just restore our historic tractors and vehicles... We drive them too!

****Upcoming Projects** include the "Rural Sound" traveling exhibit and the "Evolution of Wheat Harvesting" exhibit, which requires researching several of our phonographs and radios, as well as developing audio interactive for the exhibit. Contact ccfm@co.collin.tx.us if you are interested in helping.

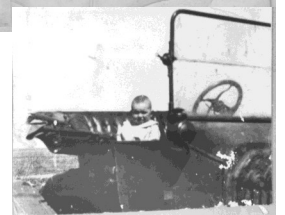


Collin County Farm Museum
is now on...

facebook.



Tell your friends to "Like" the page because the 100th person to "Like" the Collin County Farm Museum's Facebook page wins a FREE ride in the museum's 1911 Ford Model T. The 100th person also has the option of inviting two friends and/or family along for the ride. Additionally, their picture will appear in the ReStore Newsletter mimicking poses from historic photographs.





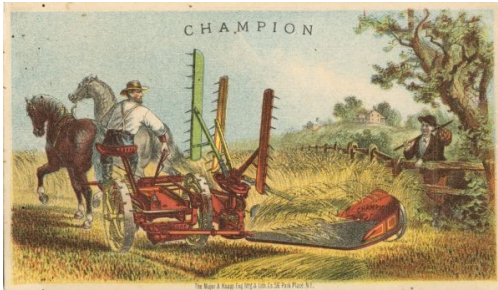
EVOLUTIONIZING THE HARVEST...

There are three separate operations to harvesting wheat: reaping, threshing and winnowing. The earliest form of reaping tool was *scythe*. A scythe consists of a wooden shaft with a long curved blade attached to the lower end. Using the scythe is called “mowing,” the same word we use for cutting grass with machinery.



Mowing is done by holding the top handle in the left hand and the central one in the right, with the arms straight, the blade parallel to the ground and very close to it, and the body twisted to the right. The body is then twisted steadily to the left, moving the scythe blade along its length in a long arc from right to left, ending in front of the mower, thus depositing the cut grass to the left. Mowing proceeds with a steady rhythm, stopping at frequent intervals to sharpen the blade.

The scythe was invented around 500 B.C. and continued to be used through the 1800s before it was replaced by the inventions of mechanized reapers and mowers bringing an end to a centuries old agricultural tradition. Mechanized *reaping* is usually distinguished from mechanized *mowing*, which uses similar implements, but is the traditional term for cutting grass for hay, rather than reaping crops.



Reapers cut the grain, then pushed the grain off the table into small piles with a revolving rake. These piles were then collected to make sheaves, or bundles of wheat. Following the invention of reapers came its revolutionizing descendant the grain binder in the 1870s. The *grain binder* not only cut the grain, but it also formed them into a sheaf (bundle of grain) which was tied with wire or twine, then dropped to the side to be collected later.

After reaping, the grain part needs separating from the straw or hay. In the 1830s threshing machines were used to separate the grain from the sheaves and the chaff. The next step is winnowing, which separates the edible grain from the inedible chaff, or protective coating around the grain.



During the 1920s another mechanized tool revolutionized wheat harvest combine the operation of reaping, threshing and winnowing. These machines were called combines. The word “combine” is a abridgement of the term, “combined harvester-thresher.” This machine proceeded to reshape the agricultural traditions of harvesting grain. Today, the harvest is completely mechanized by the combine.

The “Revolutionizing the Harvest” exhibit is under construction. If you are interested in helping plan the exhibit, please contact ccfm@cc.collin.tx.us





Collin County Farm Museum Log Book

Admissions:

- ✓ Adult Admission = \$3.00
- ✓ Senior Admission = \$3.00
- ✓ Youth Admission = \$2.00

Group Rates:

- ✓ Adult Admission = \$2.00
- ✓ Senior Admission = \$2.00
- ✓ Youth Admission = \$1.00

School Rates:

- ✓ Teacher/Chaperone = \$1.00
- ✓ Student = \$1.00

Traveling Exhibits:

*Fee = \$300 + Freight
 (*This fee may be waived pending scholarship application for schools, libraries, non-profits and municipalities.)

Annual Report

11,516 is the number of visitors who participated in visiting , out-reach programs, museum special events, tours, summer camp and traveling exhibits.

The Collin County Farm Museum's restoration volunteers also completed 4 historic artifacts.

Additionally, 3 new education programs were successfully implemented and 2 exhibits completed.

7 new historic objects were added to the collection, including the 1898 Physician's Buggy.

We are looking forward to developing more programs, exhibits and events for next year!

ReStore

Get involved with

Vehicle Maintenance Volunteers &
 Public Program Volunteers



Name:

Address:

Phone #:

Email:

- ☐ Check any of the following:
- ☐ Interested in restoring history.
- ☐ Interested in developing programs.