



FARM & RANCH CLUB FLASH

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OCTOBER 2007

PRESIDENT'S PEN

Breinn Richter

Fall is coming, I promise! Now is the time to harvest the fruits of this year's labor... Wouldn't it be fun to help some local farmers harvest their fruit? There are two farms in the DFW area that open their doors for families to enjoy the harvest season with some good 'ol fashioned pumpkin pickin'!

Hall's Pumpkin Farm in Grapevine dates back to 1929 when Jess Hall started with just a double-shovel plow and one mule. In 1930, he built his home that stands today on the road that bears his name, Hall-Johnson. Today, the Hall family lives on the 45 acres left that remain undeveloped. As one of the last working farms in the area, the family hopes to continue the tradition by maintaining the rural atmosphere and allowing the public to visit the farm and learn about farm life. Families can enjoy the mind-boggling corn maze, the super-fun hay rides, and the oh-so-educational pumpkin patch. The pumpkin patch is planted in intervals, allowing children to see the different growth stages, and they can pick their own pumpkin right off the vine. Hall Pumpkin Farm is open daily through October 31st. For more information and directions, visit their website at www.hallspumpkinfarm.com.

If you live south of the metroplex, take the family to the Mainstay Farm in Cleburne. In 1989, the Wilson family moved to the farm and began growing Christmas trees. It wasn't long until the family realized that pumpkins would make their farm even more fun and educational, and now they celebrate the season with their "Family Pumpkin Days". The farm is open every Saturday in October, and children (as well as adventurous parents) can enjoy the 3-story tree house, wooden maze, hay rides, face painting and exotic pumpkin patch. Get there in time for lunch...they have a grill and hand-dipped caramel apples for dessert! For more information, visit the Wilson's website at www.mainstayfarm.com.

When you visit the farms, impress your family with some fun pumpkin facts...

- ✂ Total US pumpkin production in 2006 was valued at \$101.3 million!
- ✂ The top pumpkin producing states are Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania and California.
- ✂ The largest pumpkin pie ever made was five feet in diameter and 350 pounds!
- ✂ Pumpkins are members of the vine crops family – cucurbits – and originated in Central America.
- ✂ Pumpkins range from less than 1 pound to over 1,000; the largest weighing in at 1,140 pounds!

Eighty percent of the pumpkin supply in the US is available in October, so get the family and head to the farm! What an opportunity for some hands-on agricultural education!

Breinn Richter

OCTOBER:

Shanna Weaver

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

12 Noon

TSCRA Brand Room

1301 West 7th Street, Fort Worth

Chicken Fried Steak - \$10.00

Speaker = Patricia Evans Clarrissimeaux of Delaney Vineyards, Grapevine, TX. She specializes in their sales, marketing and product distribution. This year, they are celebrating more than twenty years in the wine business. Jerry Delaney remains founder and sole owner of two operational vineyards and production wineries in the state of Texas. The winery is located in Grapevine, TX and the main vineyard is in Lamesa, TX.

October is "Texas Wine Month"! The Lone Star State is ranked as one of the top five wine-producing states in the nation with more than 100 wineries. Winemakers see October's slate of activities as an opportunity to promote Texas wine, reach new customers and build relationships with distributors, restaurants and retailers. From the dusty panhandle through the Hill Country and down to the Gulf Coast, wines are being made in three, distinct climates. Come find out more about the Texas Wine Industry.

CLUB NOTES:



Farm and Ranch Club members pose with Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples during the Dallas Agricultural Club's annual luncheon/meeting recently held during the State Fair of Texas.



FARM & RANCH CLUB MINUTES

Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Museum, Brand Room

September 25, 2007

39 MEMBERS AND GUESTS

CALL TO ORDER: President Breinn Richter

INVOCATION: Roman Aday

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS:

Hannah Tabor of the Cattlemen Magazine, Steve Brauer of Austin, Texas was visiting and it was noted Julie Porter is now with Lone Star Ag Credit.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

John Dickey of Comanche, Texas was selected as the recipient of the Bill King Award.

Shanna Weaver was re-appointed to the Tarrant County Jr. Livestock Scholarship Foundation.

Treasurer's Report was given by Rosalind Sullivan reporting an ending balance of \$7,163.26.

PROGRAM:

Tim Hogan, an artist specializing in wood carvings of animals from native woods explained his background and his process. Among other animals, Tim has created longhorns and white tail deer. He will be at this year's Stock Show. Tim's love of the outdoors is what led him to his passion for wood carving. Many of his projects are completed entirely from memory.

DOOR PRIZES:

Guest Drawing –Steve Bauer, free lunch

Member Drawings:

Trey White, gift basket from Jake Richter; Hugh Ross won a gift from Ritchey Brothers Auction.

Matt Brockman won a manicure set; Linda Arma nd won a thermos and John Merrill won a print - all kindly donated by Albert Ross.

ADJOURNED: Breinn Richter adjourned our meeting at 1:00PM