On December 9, despite the 8.5 inch snow that blanketed Lubbock and surrounding areas the day before, Santa made his way to the museum for our fourth annual Farm Charm Kids Christmas party.

Staff and volunteers arrived early to get set up. A special thank you to Clay Hoelting and Carl Pepper who cleared the road, parking lot, and sidewalks just in time for Santa’s sleigh.

Though we were all worried about weather keeping people away, as 2:00 pm rolled around, guests filed in.

“We will be there each year to enjoy the event, and to see Santa. It’s a family tradition now,” said Jessica DuBose, whose daughter first had a picture with Santa at the museum when she was still a newborn.

As for the man of the hour, Santa Claus was tucked away in the general store exhibit-turned Santa’s Workshop, located in Brazell Hall. The line was short and each child had the opportunity to spend a little quality time with Santa and tell him their Christmas wishes. Santa’s trip to the museum was made possible by Hurst Farm Supply, a long time supporter. Families were able to purchase their Christmas photo with Santa in Grace’s General Store.

After Santa, children and their families snacked on reindeer food, hot chocolate, Christmas cookies, and apple cider.

Many were transformed into their favorite cartoon or Christmas character by the very talented Brittani McDonald. Face painting was free for each child thanks to Becknell Wholesale’s sponsorship. Each child could color Christmas artwork, or make their own ornament to take home.

Several options of ornaments were available thanks to Elaine Johnson, one of our most artsy and creative volunteers. Choices ranged from foam reindeer to mason jar lids decorated with colorful paper and stickers.

Every room danced with Christmas music and the Plains Cotton Growers Conference Center was playing classic Christmas movies on the big screen.

Even with the weather, we have approximately 65 kids in attendance, with total attendance at just over 100. A few even braved the cold for tractor rides with Jim Johnson.

The crowd was smaller this year, but we would have hosted the event even if just one child had showed up.

Story continues on next page.
That is the spirit of Christmas and why this is a favorite event for many of our staff and volunteers.

All proceeds from the event will go toward the pedal tractor exhibit in the AgWorks agriculture literacy wing, in memory of Garett and Avery Contreras.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of our volunteers who came out to help with the event: Lubbock County 4-H, Stanley Young, Felicia Fillingim, Dan and Linda Taylor, Jim and Elaine Johnson, Lionel and Liz Patterson, Mary Belew and her sweet granddaughters, Kate and Caroline Munson.

Thank you to Hurst Farm Supply, Becknell Wholesale, and Dan and Linda Taylor for being sponsors for the event.

Story by Kirby Phillips
Photos by Lacee Hoelting and Kayla Pepper

"My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: Loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?"

- Bob Hope

“Give the Gift of Museum Membership this Christmas. From now until December 31, members can purchase gift memberships at half price, just $25. These may be purchased on the website or in person. A welcome letter will be sent to the recipient notifying them of your gift.”
The South Plains Antique Tractor Association’s (SPATA) 16th Annual Antique Tractor and Engine Show was held October 13-14 at the Bayer Museum of Agriculture.

Tractor club president Lionel Patterson helped advertise the show by appearing on Look Around Lubbock on Fox 34. Rodney Randolph and Kevin Randolph did the “I Beat Pete” challenge this year on KCBD, where the Randolphs took on Pete in a tractor jousting contest.

This was the first year the show was held on the second weekend in October, rather than the third, to avoid Tech’s Homecoming weekend.

Attendance was good both days, with tractor games on Saturday and the Parade of Power on Saturday and Sunday. A good number of visitors bid in the silent auction. With 26 items from 14 donors, a total of $1,195.00 was made by the auction and donated to Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Southwest.

The New Deal Band boosters kept people fed at the concession stand and Morton FFA sent student volunteers to help with the show. Museum volunteer JT Drake was the lucky winner of this year’s raffle tractor, a John Deere 420.

We want to congratulate the South Plains Antique Tractor Association on another successful show and thanks them for their continued support. Please look above for a complete list of tractor game and show award winners.

Story by Lacee Hoelting, Photos by Kayla Pepper

QUARTERLY VOLUNTEERS CONT’:
Larry Work
D’Lene Wylie
Kaye Wylie
Stanley Young

HOLIDAY GIFT MEMBERSHIPS:
Mike & Holly Metzig for:
Alex Gross
Robert Hudson
Dan & Linda Taylor for:
Ben Dammers
Brad Johnson
Brennen Johnson
Steve Trowbridge for:
Trace Vaughn
Travis Vaughn
Woolam Gin for:
Jeremy Brown
Kevin Furlow
Randy & Donelle Hensley
Brent & Brailie Hensley
James Holdren
Jackie Stidham
Jack Scott
Why December 25th?
In the Western world, the birthday of Jesus Christ has been celebrated on December 25th since AD 336, replacing an earlier date of January 6th. The church in Rome began formally celebrating Christmas on December 25 in 336, during the reign of the emperor Constantine. As Constantine had made Christianity the effective religion of the empire, some speculated that choosing this date had the political motive of weakening the established pagan celebrations.

Other Celebrations
There were mid-winter festivals in ancient Babylon and Egypt, and Germanic fertility festivals also took place at this time. The birth of the ancient sun-god Attis in Phrygia was celebrated on December 25th, as was the birth of the Persian sun-god, Mithras. The Romans celebrated Saturnalia, a festival dedicated to Saturn, the god of peace and plenty, that ran from the 17th to 24th of December. Public gathering places were decorated with flowers, gifts and candles were exchanged and the population, slaves and masters alike, celebrated the occasion with great enthusiasm. In Scandinavia, a period of festivities known as Yule contributed another impetus to celebration, as opposed to spirituality. As Winter ended the growing season, the opportunity of enjoying the Summer’s bounty encouraged much feasting and merriment.

Greenery
The Celtic culture of the British Isles revered all green plants, but particularly mistletoe and holly. These were important symbols of fertility and were used for decorating their homes and altars. The Pagans used Evergreen branches as a reminder that spring would come again. Romans placed them around temples to honor Saturn, the god of agriculture. But the first time the evergreen was used as a Christmas tree was either in Tallinn, Estonia, or Riga, Latvia (each city says it is the true home of the first Christmas tree). In the 16th century, German Christians brought the trees inside their homes as a symbol of everlasting life. When news spread that Queen Victoria had her German husband Prince Albert set up a Christmas tree in their palace, the practice suddenly became the height of interior design in England and America.

Saint Nick
Saints Days have also contributed to our Christmas celebrations. A prominent figure in today’s Christmas is Saint Nicholas who for centuries has been honored on December 6th. One of the forerunners of Santa Claus, St. Nicholas was born circa 280 in Patara, Lycia, an area that is part of present-day Turkey. He lost both of his parents as a young man and reportedly used his inheritance to help the poor and sick.

Milk & Cookies for Santa
This tradition hasn’t changed all that much since it began in medieval Germany. During Yule season, children left out food at night in hopes of getting presents from a different white-bearded guy—Odin, the all-powerful Norse god who traveled on his eight-legged horse Sleipner. The American custom we know today started during the Great Depression. Parents used it as a way to teach their kids that even when money was tight, they still had to be considerate of others and show gratitude for the blessings in their lives.

Feasting
Ancient peoples gathered around the winter solstice to feast before cold weather wiped away their crops. Plus, the wine and beer that had been fermenting since the spring were finally ready to drink. Christmas replaced these solstice celebrations by the Middle Ages, but the feasting continued—with the all-important addition of desserts. Bakers brought out expensive ingredients like butter, lard, and sugar for such festive occasions, and they started experimenting with spices like nutmeg and cinnamon.

Broccoli Polonaise
Ingredients:
- 1 pound fresh broccoli spears
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup seasoned fine dry bread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon grated lemon rind
- 1/4 teaspoon ground red pepper (cayenne)
- 1/4 cup hard-cooked eggs, finely chopped

*Broccoli polonaise is a traditional Polish dish of roasted or sautéed broccoli, often served with a creamy or cheese-based sauce. It is a popular dish in Polish cuisine, particularly during the Christmas season.*

Instructions:
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. Cut broccoli into 1-inch pieces and place in a large roasting pan. Toss with 1 tablespoon of the butter to coat evenly. Bake, uncovered, for 15 minutes in the preheated oven, until the broccoli is tender.
3. While the broccoli is roasting, melt the remaining 1 tablespoon of butter in a small saucepan over medium heat. Stir in the bread crumbs, parsley, lemon rind, red pepper, and eggs. Cook until the eggs are cooked through and the bread crumbs are golden brown.
4. Spread the bread crumb mixture over the roasted broccoli. Bake for an additional 5 minutes, or until the bread crumbs are golden brown.
5. Serve with a dollop of sour cream or greek yogurt for a delicious and creamy topping.

Story and recipe from "An Old Fashioned Christmas." Additional text from Reader’s Digest. Whip up this old fashioned broccoli polonaise to serve at your holiday dinner! www.anoldfashionedchristmas.com
Giving Tuesday Unites the Region for a Good Cause

We give thanks on Thanksgiving, shop at stores on Black Friday, and browse the web on Cyber Monday. Now, we have a day dedicated to giving back and making our world and community a better place through Giving Tuesday.

The idea behind #GivingTuesday is simply to bring people and communities together to donate through an easily accessible platform: the internet.

The #GivingTuesdayLBK campaign was brought to Lubbock in 2015, and has raised nearly $1 million for more than sixty local charities including the Bayer Museum of Agriculture. This year’s campaign as a whole raised $269,500, and through the generosity of our donors, the museum raised nearly 5 percent of that total.

We received $11,763.44 total donations during the campaign. Through amplification dollars donated by United Supermarkets and The Community Foundation of West Texas, we received an additional $1,173.77.

All of the funds raised during the campaign will go toward the Agricultural Literacy Wing and educational programming at the museum.

Thank you to everyone that donated and helped spread the word. Our museum was in the top five charities based on dollars raised during the campaign. Please mark your calendars for next year’s #GivingTuesdayLBK on November 30, 2019.

Story by Lacee Hoelting

Volunteer Breakfast Allows Staff and Board to Say Thank You

Our annual volunteer breakfast was held at the museum Monday, December 17. We had a crowd of 30 volunteers, staff, and board members. The crowd met at 9:00 a.m. to feast on all the traditional breakfast fixings, listened to Christmas music, and enjoyed each other’s company. Lacee Hoelting and Dan Taylor thanked everyone in attendance and Lacee asked each guest to introduce themselves and state their favorite holiday food.

Thank you to Stanley Young for preparing the lovely meal. We want to again say thank you to all of our volunteers. The museum would not be possible without the hard work of the men and women who give their time to this place.
For the convenience of our members and readers, we now have memorial and honorarium forms available to print online. You can pay and submit through our website or print and mail with payment to:

Bayer Museum of Agriculture
PO Box 505
Lubbock, TX 79408

www.agriculturehistory.org/donate

**IN MEMORY OF...**
Bob & Billie Anderson by Kristofer & Katie Verett
Garret Contreras by Doyle & Cynthia Buxkemper
Louise Cranford by South Plains Valley Irrigation
David Gandy by Dan & Linda Taylor
Leon “Jim” Gilbert by Dan & Linda Taylor
Glenn McCandless by Hurst Farm Supply
Ralph & Billye McLaughlin by Verett Farms Inc.
Randall Pernell by Dan & Linda Taylor
Jack & Johnnie Robertson by Steve & Patricia Verett
Harold Sanders by Woolam Gin
David Seim by Mullin Hoard Brown LLP - David Langston
Cary Stennett by Stanley Young
Cary Stennett by Steve & Gayle Trowbridge
Cary Stennett by Calvin & Sandra Lemon

**IN HONOR OF...**
Dan & Sarah Apple by Verett Farms Inc.
Gene & Ramona McLaughlin by Verett Farms Inc.
Bart & Tami Roye by Kristofer & Katie Verett
Eddie & Nancille Verett by Kristofer & Katie Verett
Bob & Betty Wideman by Steve & Patricia Verett
Jeanette Wilson by Kristofer & Katie Verett

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**SAVE THE DATE**
December 25-26 and January 1
- Museum closed for Holidays

Sunday, January 20, 2019
- Know someone planning a wedding? The Bayer Museum of Agriculture will have a booth at the Lubbock Bridal show this year! Come see us at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center.

Saturday, January 26, 2019
- BMA Annual Chili Feed from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
The holidays are a fun time of year to celebrate family, friends, togetherness, and give gifts to the ones you love.

To help find those gifts, the museum hosted our second Holiday Harvest Shopping Day at the museum in November.

The Sunday afternoon boasted 30 vendors from all around the Lubbock area, selling everything from baked goods, boutique clothing, and handmade soap, to infused cottonseed oil, children’s books, holiday decorations, and t-shirts made from local cotton.

Guests arrived at the door and paid admission to walk around the booths and shop, snack on appetizers prepared by Stanley Young, and sip delicious local wine generously donated by English Newsom Cellars.

The event drew a crowd of approximately 120 shoppers. The museum and Grace’s General store were also open during the event.

We would like to thank everyone who helped make the event possible: English Newsom Cellars, Stanley Young, Dan and Linda Taylor, Linda King, Jeana Kauffman, and all of the museum staff.
HOURS:
The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Facility rentals and special tours are available upon request.

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Don’t Miss the

ANNUAL CHILI FEED

Held at the Bayer Museum of Agriculture
Only $5 a person for all the chili and fixings you can eat.
Bring a friend and help us kick off another great year!