NEW NAME, SAME GREAT EXPERIENCE

Learn what the exciting new partnership with BASF means for our facility.

A NIGHT FOR THE MUSEUM GOES VIRTUAL


Photo by Drury Buxkemper
The FiberMax Center for Discovery is a private nonprofit museum located in Lubbock, Texas. Our Mission is to preserve the history of, tell the story of, and instill pride in American agriculture and values. We are not supported by the city, county, nor are we a part of the Texas Tech System. We rely on memberships, donations, grants and event rental income to operate. Thank you for your support.
2020 has been a trying year for all of us. This is the first year we’ve only done two newsletters. With events cancelled and visitor numbers reduced, we haven’t had as much content to cover.

We’ve all had to pivot how we do things during Covid-19. We held our first virtual gala and are finding new ways to engage with our supporters from a distance. We even have a new name, The FiberMax Center for Discovery, which you can read about more on page 4. We’re adding a new corporate membership level with lots of great benefits, and we’ve had a few staff changes too.

We can’t thank you enough for continuing to support us during this pandemic and all of the changes. Please remember we are open regular hours, sanitizing daily, and hoping to see you and your family soon, (in your most stylish mask of course).

From all of us here at the FiberMax Center for Discovery, we’re wishing you and your loved ones safe, healthy, and happy holidays.

Sincerely,
Lacee Hoelting

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“It is important to continue sharing the story of where our community’s food and fiber comes from. Texas represents roughly 60 percent of the cotton production in the U.S., and we are proud of the pivotal role Lubbock plays in this industry.”

Malin Westfall
BASF Head of US Cotton Business

On September 29, during our virtual program, a special message from BASF announced a new name for our facility. We are now the FiberMax Center for Discovery, where we celebrate agriculture heritage, education, and innovation.

While this name represents a new and exciting partnership with BASF, it also recognizes a decade-long relationship with FiberMax Cotton. The name comes with financial support, an upgraded FiberMax exhibit with the Seed to Store 360° virtual experience that will take visitors through a multi-stop tour of the cotton process. BASF’s support also gets us one step closer to our dream of an agricultural literacy wing, AgWorks.

Some may ask, “Why did you drop the word museum from the title?” As any organization grows, it changes. What started as the Lubbock County Historical Collection has grown to encompass 24 acres, more than 35,000 square feet of exhibit space, three holograms, a cotton stripper simulator, and multiple touch screens and interactives.

When we build the AgWorks wing, we will focus on education, highlighting careers and opportunities for students in the agriculture industry.

The Cambridge English dictionary defines a museum as a building where objects of historical, scientific, or artistic interest are kept. We want to be more than a building for our community, visitors, and supporters. Our facility is a place where people can engage, create, share, and connect with agriculture, and hopefully, always discover something new. Thus, it’s a center for discovery.

We welcome any questions you have in regards to the new name and we are so grateful for your continued support, especially during this unique time of social distancing and a pandemic. We are also grateful to BASF, Bayer CropScience, and all of the corporate sponsors who helped make our vision of a first-class agricultural education facility a reality.
A FEW NOTES ON THE NAME CHANGE

By 2021, this exhibit is getting a facelift, complete with a Seed to Store 360° virtual experience that will take visitors through a multi-stop tour of the cotton process. See pic below.

WAYS TO GIVE SMARTER AT THE END OF 2020

1. Deduct $300 without itemizing
   This year only! You can deduct $300 of charitable gifts without itemizing. The $300 limit is one per tax filing unit. (So, married couples filing jointly don’t get $600.) This must be a cash gift paid to an operating nonprofit. (So, not to a donor advised fund.)

2. Deduct up to 100% of your income
   This year only! You can deduct up to 100% of your adjusted gross income using charitable gifts of cash. These gifts must go to an operating nonprofit. (So, not to a donor advised fund.)

3. Combine a Roth conversion with a donation
   A Roth conversion moves money from a standard IRA into a Roth IRA. The benefit: all distributions from the Roth IRA are tax free. (Even distributions of future growth are tax free.) The downside: the money moved into the Roth IRA counts as immediate income.

   However, this year only, up to 100% of income can be offset by charitable deductions. This includes income created by a Roth conversion. If you already have a multi-year charitable plan or pledge, donating it all this year and combining with a Roth conversion might make sense.

4. Make IRA gifts @ age 70½ +
   IRA accounts have no required minimum distribution (RMD) in 2020. But those age 70½ or older can still make gifts directly from an IRA to a nonprofit up to $100,000. This gift donates pre-tax dollars. The earned income is never taxed because it goes directly to the nonprofit.

5. Move your 401k/403b into an IRA rollover now to prepare for future IRA gifts
   RMDs will return next year for those age 72+. A qualified charitable distribution from your IRA or IRA rollover reduces RMD. It’s a great way to give!

   To do this with a 401(k) or 403(b), you must first convert the account into an IRA rollover. But conversion requires first taking any RMD from the 401(k) or 403(b). You must pay taxes on that distribution.

   You can avoid that by making the conversion this year. There are no RMDs in 2020. So, you can convert your 401(k) or 403(b) into an IRA rollover. And you can do it without paying any taxes, even if you are age 72+. Then, you’ll be set up to make future donations from your IRA rollover whenever you want.

6. IRA gifts @ age 59 ½ – 70½
   IRA withdrawals during this age create no penalties. But they are taxable. However, this year cash gifts can be deducted up to 100% of income. If you are already itemizing deductions this can help offset the tax impact from an IRA withdrawal.

7. IRA beneficiary v. gift in a will
   Many people like to include a charitable gift in their will to support a cause that has been important in their lives. One tax smart strategy is to leave part of an IRA, 401(k), or 403(b) account to a nonprofit. (It’s easy to change account beneficiaries by contacting the financial institution.)

   Continued on Page 20.
Gene Linn shares the history of a unique water pump he donated to the museum recently restored by Dan Taylor

I remember Wylie T. Booth as a kindly old man and my cousin’s grandfather. His home and farm was a showplace, where I made many childhood memories playing in the barns. His farm was 200 acres, which was big in that day. Later I learned he had lived there from 1888 to his death July 3, 1941.

The house was a one-story white structure on Oil Loop Road, about 2 miles east of the community of Oenaville, and 8 miles east of Temple, Texas. Here, the soil is black and heavy, a Houston Clay type, and there is very little underground water, no irrigation and almost no domestic water. The Booth house was guttered and gutters emptied into a cistern situated under the back porch.

The roof of the house extended over the porch, supported by posts, with a deck made of 2x6 yellow pine, and 18-24 inches above ground level. The gutters were between the ground and deck and the whole thing would have been sealed off to keep frogs, snakes, and other vermin out of the cistern. The cistern was undoubtedly built before the house, made of red brick and sealed with plaster.

The pump was mounted on the deck above the cistern. When a bucket of water was needed, a person went out the kitchen door, under the covered deck, and cranked up a bucket of water. No matter the weather, you could draw water, without going through the rain or walking through the sticky black gumbo mud.

While I was not related to the Booths, I have many memories at their home with my cousin cranking up water on the porch. I was 1899, the year the first patent for this type of chain pump was filed. The Star Pump Company continued making this type of water pump until 1950.
Not a “pump” in the stricter sense, as the machine actually lifts the water to the surface from the cistern. When the handle is turned, little buckets on a chain dip into the well, come up, and dump out into the spout. Turn the handle too fast and the buckets don’t have time to fill and flow is reduced. At a reasonable speed, you get a consistent flow of water.

These pumps are only good where the water source is close to the ground surface. If you would try them in a deep well, the weight of all of the water would make the handle impossible to crank.

This pump was a No. 50 model made by the Star Bucket Pump Company of St. Louis, Missouri. It could be ordered out of the Sears, Roebuck & Co. catalogue. Made of 24-gauge galvanized iron, measuring 40 inches high and 21 inches wide, it came with 25 feet of bucket chain and cost $26.55.

Come try the pump for yourself at the entrance to the museum.

Written by Gene Linn and edited for space by Lacee Hoelting

Left: Gene and the mechanical boll weevil catcher in Brazell Hall. Right: Mr. Booth on the left, the original owner of the chain pump.
Invitations went out at the end of May and we crossed our fingers and said a prayer that the novel Corona virus would be gone in time for our signature fundraiser. We had already cancelled Party on the Prairie, and worked from home after a forced shutdown of the museum for 11 weeks. As we watched the news, consulted experts, and listened in on zoom calls and conferences, our fundraiser committee made the difficult decision at the end of June to cancel our in-person A Night for the Museum gala. In the words of Matt Rush, one of our past speakers, “Sometimes in ag, we get hailed out, and we are forced to pivot.” So pivot we did.

We pushed our event date out a month and communicated to our sponsors that this year’s fundraiser was going virtual. On Sept. 29, we would broadcast an hour long program online and on Fox 34 News Now. We tried to take the best parts of our in-person event and include them in the virtual presentation.

From the first phone call, our keynote speaker Andrew McCrea, host of American Countryside was on board. Lone Prairie provided music for the program and Don
Caldwell provided some amazing talent, Blackwater Draw, to sing the national anthem.

Since it was the 10th year for a Night for the Museum, Bob Phillips, the Texas Country Reporter, and Congressman Jodey Arrington both recorded special messages for our audience. The amazing team at Fox 34 helped us put it all together and we would recommend them to anyone.

That was just the day of the event. We had a whole month of online promotion to get people excited. Sponsors at the $3,000.00 level and higher got a new perk, a promotional video produced by the museum staff and pushed on social media. Recording interviews with different companies allowed us to say thank you in person and get to know everyone a little better. When we were running short on time, an amazing group of people signed up to help. We want to thank Jerry Fletcher, Taylor Hicklen, Anwen Pope, Mary Jane Buerkle and Jennifer Blackburn for being our unplanned video production unit.

We were also able to recognize these higher sponsors by hosting a small, socially distanced dinner at the museum with the help of Jeanna’s Feedbag, Raider Red Meats, (continued on next page)
(Cont. from previous page)
and English Newsom Cellars a week before the virtual program. Keynote speakers from past years also put together video updates and messages of encouragement to air on social media.
This year’s event included our first virtual scavenger hunt, an idea borrowed from Texas FFA, and put together by Hunter Harris, an agriculture communications major at Texas Tech.
Since we couldn’t have a meal together, United Supermarkets and Libby Linker helped us put together amazing gift baskets representative of West Texas agriculture and locally made products. United and our board members worked together to deliver the goodies to all of our sponsors in the days leading up to the program. We also received in-kind donations for the gift baskets from Fairlife, Cotton Incorporated, Panhandle Popcorn, and BASF FiberMax.
It wouldn’t be A Night for the Museum without an amazing set of items in the silent auction. This year’s auction was sponsored by Gicon Pumps and featured over 100 items donated by local businesses. The online auction opened two weeks before the virtual program and set a new record with 1,012 bids resulting in more than $18,000.00 raised for the museum.
We weren’t the first non-profit that Covid-19 forced to take a gala virtual and we won’t be the last. A pandemic can be scary, leaving you unsure of the future. While we’re not out of the woods yet, your encouragement and support keeps us going and the money raised from this virtual event, more than $160,000.00 will keep us going financially as we weather this storm.
Thank you to every single sponsor, volunteer, staff member and vendor that made this event come together.

Written by Lacee Hoelting

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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Lubbock County Farm Bureau

Beautiful gift baskets representative of Texas agriculture and locally made products were delivered to each sponsor.
South Plains Compost, Inc.
South Plains Electric Co-op
South Plains Equipment
Stanley M. Young Street Gin
Dale & Cheryl Swinburn (2 Tables)
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Tule Creek Gin
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West Texas A&M University
Western Equipment (2 Tables)
Willingham Southwest Gin
Windstar, Inc.
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Companies who Provided Items for Sponsor Gift Baskets:
- BASF FiberMax
- Cotton Incorporated
- Panhandle Popcorn
- Select Dairy
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Wine Sponsor:
- English-Newsom Cellars

Virtual Scavenger Hunt Yeti Sponsors:
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- Lubbock Cotton Growers
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- Petersburg Co-op Gin
- West Texas Investments
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Sponsor Spotlight Video Editing:
- Jerry Fletcher
- Taylor Hicklen Communications

Auction Item Donors
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- Box of Rain Floral
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- Capital Farm Credit
- Caprock Irrigation
- Carl Pepper Farm
- Carpet Tech
- Chick-fil-A
- Chuy’s
- Cook’s Garage
- Cowboy Pitstop
- Dale & Cheryl Swinburn
- Wellington State Bank

Staff, volunteers and major sponsors all went home with a bottle of wine courtesy of English Newsom Cellars.
Hello everyone! My name is Kayla van Zielst and I am the new Museum and Marketing Coordinator here at the museum.

You may recognize me from my previous time spent at the museum as an intern from 2018-2019. I am so excited to be here full-time and am looking forward to reconnecting with/meeting you all.

A few facts about myself is that I got married on July 11th to Andrew, who I met here at the museum at the 2018 SPATA Tractor Show, I recently adopted a puppy named Ranger from the pound, and I enjoy photographing anything related to agriculture.

I look forward to seeing you all at the museum and am so grateful to Lacee and the board for giving me this opportunity.
We give thanks on Thanksgiving, shop at stores on Black Friday, and browse the web on CyberMonday. Now, we have a day dedicated to giving back and making our world and community a better place through Giving Tuesday.

On #GivingTuesday, participating nonprofits in Lubbock and the South Plains will take part in #GivingTuesdayWTX. This is an opportunity for nonprofits, families, businesses, media, and individuals in our community to come together for one common purpose: To celebrate generosity and to give locally.

The FiberMax Center for Discovery is participating in #GivingTuesdayWTX and every donation will be maximized through amplification dollars.

Your donation will go a long way in helping us meet our goal of $5,000.00 during this 24-hour period. Donations will be earmarked for youth programming like summer movie nights and agriculture education kits for teachers based on cotton production.

This is a chance for you to make a real difference in the community.

Visit our page by scanning the code above to learn more and to help Lubbock and the South Plains give big.

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go..."

-Dr. Seuss

The first day of school is full of eager anticipation of what the upcoming year may hold along with the excitement of meeting new friends and a hint of nervousness of the unknown as growing up and education continues.

To help celebrate the start of the new year, the museum asked parents to post their child's first day of school picture on Facebook for a chance to win a prize pack that included the book "Tractor Mac School Day", a tractor themed version of checkers, a drawing pad, and a taco garden growing kit.

Each entry was put in a hat and the name drawn was Case Harper. We send our best wishes to every teacher and student as they are in the midst of navigating through this pandemic.
25 YEARS

THE SOUTH PLAINS ANTIQUE TRACTOR ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF COMING TOGETHER TO PROMOTE HISTORY AND A LOVE OF TRACTORS

Group picture of club members showing tractors at the Farmer Stockman Show, which ended in 2002.

Left: 2020 Tractor Raffle winner, Perry Strickland. Right: Red Rivers takes children around an early tractor show at the old museum location.
Formed in April 1995, their first unofficial meeting was held at Rodney and Sheila Randolph’s house. In addition to the Randolphs, Jerry Pevahouse, Toby Wetzel, Steve and Lisa Zint, and Bryan Long were the charter members of the new club.

Club officers were elected at the first official meeting held in Levelland, with Jerry as president, Toby as vice president, Rodney as treasurer, and Lisa as secretary. Bylaws were written and adopted in May 1995.

For eight years, the club attended the annual Farmer-Stockman Ag show held in Lubbock in a field on east 50th Street. At one time, it was the largest outdoor demonstration show in the southwestern U.S. Club members would take their tractors and set them up for display. Visitors could see the new farm equipment and tractors and compare them to the “Old Tractors” and reminisce. Some years the club would have as many 30 to 40 tractors on display, from “Poppin’ Johnnies” to steam tractors.

When the Farmer Stockman show ended in 2002, the club began having their own Antique Tractor and Engine Show, which they’ve successfully held for 17 years.

The club’s love of agricultural history made them a natural partner to the museum. For four years SPATA raised money by selling chances on a pedal tractor. Money raised by the Pedal Tractor Raffle was donated to the museum of around $700.00.

In 2007, the club upgraded their raffle from a toy tractor to an antique tractor, drawing the winner each year at the tractor show held on the museum grounds in October.

To date, the club has donated just shy of $140,000.00 in raffle proceeds to the museum. The funds have been used to for interactive kiosks, repairs, murals, and general operating support. The club and the museum have also partnered on a tractor calendar the last few years, which is given to show sponsors and certain levels of museum membership, with extras being sold in the museum’s general store.

SPATA received their own 501(c)3 nonprofit designation making it more beneficial for local businesses to support their tractor show and raffle.

As the show has grown over the years, the members of the club have used the growth to add the Boys Ranch and Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Southwest to the list of nonprofits they support.

The FiberMax Center for Discovery would like to congratulate the South Plains Antique Tractor Association on their 25th Anniversary and thank them for their continued support. The 2020 SPATA Antique Tractor and Engine Show was cancelled due to the virus, but we look forward to seeing them back at the Discovery Center in 2021.
Memorials and Honorariums
REMEMBERING THOSE SPECIAL TO US

DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF
Layne Adams by Calvin & Sandra Lemon & Family
Lonnie Arthur by AgTexas Farm Credit Services
Lonnie Arthur by Joe Anthony
Lonnie Arthur by Yvonne Ashley
Lonnie Arthur by Cotton Incorporated
Lonnie Arthur by Crosby County Ag Committee
Lonnie Arthur by Cindy & Buster Maloney
Lonnie Arthur by Craig & Ann McDonald
Lonnie Arthur by Bryan & Robyn Patterson
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Lonnie Arthur by Rainwater Crop Insurance
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Lonnie Arthur by South Plains Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
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Kirby Phillips by Ron & Donna Chandler
Ron Harkey by Barry Evans
Red Rivers by Joe Anthony
Red Rivers by Lee Leonard
Wesley Sanders by Dan & Linda Taylor

For the convenience of our members and readers, we have memorial and honorarium forms available to print online. You can pay and submit through our website or print and mail with payment to:

FiberMax Center for Discovery
1121 Canyon Lake Drive
Lubbock, TX 79403

www.agriculturehistory.org/donate
When Covid-19 limits cancelled Party on the Prairie, staff, board and donors pivoted plans and funds to feed our first responders instead.

“How do we continue to be a resource to our community when our museum is closed to the public,” Lacee Hoelting, director of the FiberMax Center for Discovery, asked her board.

Together, they came up with the idea for the Farmers Feeding the Front Lines event, held April 25, 2020. It took the place of the museum’s Party on the Prairie, which was canceled, like many events, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We called a few of the Party on the Prairie sponsors and volunteers and asked if they would help us put on a different type of event, some way to give back, and like always, the agriculture community had our back,” said Hoelting.

Sponsors AgTexas Farm Credit and Jeana’s Feedbag of Levelland led the effort with the help of 31 individual volunteers and the museum’s five staff members. The group cooked, served, handed-out, and delivered meals to 360 of Lubbock’s fire fighters, police, sheriffs, and paramedics during the evening shift. Additional food was delivered to emergency rooms and Wolfforth EMS. Many meals were picked up curbside at the museum or delivered to stations by volunteers with minimal contact.

"From AgTexas buying the meat to a local farm family sewing and donating masks for volunteers to wear, it’s exciting to see neighbors helping neighbors. Being able to utilize our museum to coordinate this appreciation event helps us all feel connected," said Hoelting.

Many individual donations came in to help the effort totaling $4,300.00. Remaining funds are earmarked to show appreciation to our first responders in the future.

Volunteers for the event are listed in the table of contents along with our regular monthly volunteers. Thank you to everyone that made this event possible and we especially want to thank our first responders and hospital workers that are on the front lines of this pandemic everyday.

Written by Lacee Hoelting, Photos by Kirby Phillips
THANK YOU TO THE DONORS THAT MADE THIS EVENT POSSIBLE

Bill and Linda Adams
Klattenhoff Bridges
Mary Ann Bridges
Joe and Ginger Brown
Doyle and Cindy Buxkemper
Ron and Donna Chandler
Vic and Judy Coker
David and Jill Doerfert
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John and Quita Melcher
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Virgil and LaDene Rickel
Billy and Sharon Shofner
Martin and Robin Stoerner
LaVerne Stolle
Dan and Linda Taylor
Brett Underwood/ Trinity Cotton Co.
Judine Wilks
Matt Williams
Larry and Patti Work
Stanley Young
The South Plains was hit with an early freeze and ice storm on October 27th and 28th. This beautiful photo from the storm was submitted to us on Facebook by Connie Fullwood Hobbs.

OCTOBER ICE STORM
The ice storm created a beautiful scene here at the museum. This view was captured by Grace Baxter as she braved the cold with her camera.

IT’S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS...IN OCTOBER

We wanted to take a second and thank Kirby Phillips for her seven years of service to the museum, first as an intern and then as our museum and marketing coordinator. We wish her and Clay the best of luck in their move back home to Lampasas. Be sure to look up Ever Peach, her floral business, on Facebook.

THANK YOU & BEST WISHES TO KIRBY
When you think of fall, what do you associate with it? Perhaps it is a warm mug of apple cider, going through the corn maize with friends, or a much-welcomed break from the West Texas heat.

When I think of fall what comes to my mind is that it’s finally pumpkin season! There are pumpkins to use as décor both indoors and out, pumpkin pie and pumpkin flavored drinks are back on menus, and of course there are pumpkins to carve or paint.

Unfortunately, covid has changed the way we do a lot of things, but thankfully we still have the joys of the new season. In order to help celebrate fall and pumpkin season, the museum put together farm animal decorating kits that allowed one to take home a craft project and have some fun. The farm animals to choose from were a rooster, pig or cow, and they were all made out of mini-pumpkins.

Holiday Harvest is a beloved annual event that was started at the museum by Kirby Phillips. This event brings in vendors to sell their products while museum members and guests are invited to Christmas shop.

As has been the story with many gatherings this year, Holiday Harvest was cancelled due to the threat of Covid-19.

In place of this gathering, we will be doing something new called the 12 Days of Holiday Harvest on social media. Starting November 28 and ending December 12, make sure and watch the FiberMax Center for Discovery Facebook and Instagram account to see a new vendor takeover each day. These vendors will tell us about their products and let us know how we can purchase their items in hopes that people will shop locally this Christmas. Each day there will be a fun giveaway or coupon code offered so you don’t want to miss out!

Vendors Include:

- Mosaic Sandwich & Coffee Co.
- Cotton Row Clothier
- Defaid Emporium
- The Drug Store, Haskell, TX
- Homestead Cotton Co.
- Hoot-n-Annie Pecans
- Farmhouse Vineyards
- Laura Lewis Fine Artist
- Kelle B Jammin’
- Horned Toad Beard Co.
- Lace, Leather, and Grace
- Wild West Vintage Decor

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The Invention

Doug Shores of Stephenville, formally a Harris County extension agent, donated a unique pair of antique sheep shears to the museum.

The first mechanized sheep shearing machine was patented in March of 1877 by Frederick Wolseley. These early machines were driven by horse-power and then stationary power units.

Prior to this innovation, farmers and laborers alike used clipping shears that resembled scissors to cut off the sheep’s fleece, which was very time-consuming. In addition to relieving the shearer’s hand of the cutting effort, the machine clipped the wool at its full length, increasing its value. It also helped remove the wool in a fleece instead of chopping it into small pieces like the shears.

Patented in 1907, these Stewart Sheep Shears further improved the labor of shearing. While the Stewart shear blades and handle resemble today’s common electric powered shears, it is the mechanical power source and flexible shaft cable that made this model unique. The shaft attaches from the shears to a wheel with a hand crank positioned on a base stand. The gears inside the shaft roll together when the hand crank is used, moving the blades and cohesively shearing the sheep more efficiently than with scissors.

Stewart’s company produced sheep shears like these until 1936. The first commercially available electric shears were made by Andis & Oster in 1921.

The Inventor

John K. Stewart was an ambitious man. During his short life of just 45 years, he acquired 82...
An artifact donation encourages us to explore the history of the sheep industry.

Written by Grace Baxter

Stewart was drawn to Chicago by the Union Stock Yards. The place that would become the center of the American meatpacking industry, was established in 1865 following the Civil War. The westward expansion of five different railroads through Chicago drove business up exponentially.

Several small and independently owned stockyards across the city began merging with various railroad companies, like one owned by the patriarch of the Vanderbilt family, Cornelius Vanderbilt.

The Union Stock Yards were further developed by these companies, consolidating operations in the harvesting of livestock. The first president and founder of the company, Timothy Blackstone, had a vision for “The Yards” not only to provide a cultural experience, but to also support the growing community of brokers and merchants around the livestock industry.

Union Stock Yards eventually spanned 375 acres and could hold up to 75,000 hogs, 21,000 head of cattle and 22,000 sheep at one time with over 2,000 separate pens.

The Industry

The first sheep were brought to North America in 1493 on Columbus’s second voyage. Domesticated sheep were used by colonists primarily for wool and to a lesser extent, meat. The wool industry expanded into the western territories as populations migrated. Many sheep farmers crossbred Delaines and Rambouillets in their flocks during and after the 1890s to secure more saleable carcasses to supplement low wool prices.

The crossbreeding trend continued into the 1900s producing animals that could provide both quality mutton and fleece. 1942 showed a record high number of sheep in the U.S. at 56 million head, but the demand for wool has declined since the mid-1940s with the advent of synthetic fibers.

Today, the top states for wool production are Texas, California, Wyoming, Colorado and Utah.
NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS
THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR MUSEUM
APRIL THRU NOVEMBER. *denotes new membership

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS*

AgTexas Farm Credit Services
Becknell Wholesale Co.
Brady & Hamilton LLP
Capital Farm Credit
City Bank
Fox 34 News
Gicon Pumps & Equipment
Happy State Bank
Hurst Farm Supply, Inc.
Lubbock County Expo Center
Lee Lewis Construction, Inc.
Lone Star State Bank
Lyntegar Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Massey Irrigation
Mullin, Hoard, & Brown LLP
Samuel Jackson Inc.
Select Milk Producers
South Plains Valley Irrigation, Inc.
TCT Equipment
Texas Farm Bureau
United Supermarkets

*SOD BUSTER*

Citizens Co-op Gin Shallowater
D&M Farms/Matt & Dianne Farmer
Craig & Ann McDonald
D. Williams & Co., P.C.
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Louder
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Sod Buster Continued...
Texas Tech University-College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources
Larry & Patti Work

Crew Boss

Dr. Terry & Cindy Carpenter
Ron & Donna Chandler
Brad & Davon Cook
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TXCOT Coop Gins, Inc.
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Proctor Farms
Jim & Linda Risley
Clint & Elaina Robinson
Wayne & Beverly Rush
Wayne & Mary Schilling
Mark Schoepf
Schoepf Farms Partnership
Eddie & Jennifer Smith
John Speck
Dan & Linda Taylor
Idris Traylor Jr., Ph. D.*
Tri-Star Chemical
Leland & Barbara White
Whitney Farms, Ltd.
Judine Wilks
Raymond & Jenny Witte
Mike & Tina Wright
Yoakum County Farm Bureau

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Leland & Barbara White
Whitney Farms, Ltd.
Judine Wilks
Raymond & Jenny Witte
Mike & Tina Wright
Yoakum County Farm Bureau

* A new corporate membership level was approved in Nov. 2020, which includes a 25% discount on rentals and a Corporate Saturday. Call to learn more.

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**Complimentary Memberships**

Jerry Fletcher*

**Endowment Fund**

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Terry & Tricia Campbell
Vic & Judy Coker
Crosby County Farm Bureau
Armin & Laurel Johnson
Sally Murray
Tony & Beth Newton
Mary & Steve Owen
Alfred & Terri Velasquez

**In-Kind Donations**

Jim & Elaine Johnson
Lubbock Electric Company
Lubbock County Precinct #4
Meers Pest Control
Register’s Mobile Wash Service/
David Register
Red Rivers
T & S Produce
Due to Covid-19, we will have our membership meeting via zoom on December 14 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm. Formal Invitation will be both mailed and emailed to current members. We hate not meeting in person, but we hope you will join us for updates, board member elections, and financials overview.

Why is this smart? Because heirs pay income taxes on this money. Starting this year, heirs (except spouses) must take out all funds (and pay taxes) within 10 years of inheriting. But any part left to a nonprofit avoids these taxes. So, if you’re leaving anything to a nonprofit, use these accounts first.

8. Make a charitable swap: Give appreciated investments WITHOUT changing your portfolio

Donating appreciated assets creates TWO tax benefits. The tax deduction is the same size as a gift of cash. (The asset must have been owned for a year or more.) PLUS, you avoid paying capital gains tax.

With a charitable swap, you donate old shares of stock and immediately purchase new shares in the same company. Your portfolio doesn’t change. But the capital gain is removed. (There is no waiting period. Why? Because this is gain property not loss property. So, the “wash sale” rule doesn’t apply.)

9. Take an immediate deduction for donating inheritance rights to homes or farmland

Many people like to include a charitable gift in their will. But you can donate the inheritance rights to farmland or a home using a special deed instead. Doing this creates an immediate income tax deduction. Right now, these deductions are large because interest rates are low.

Example: A 55-year-old donor deeds the inheritance rights to $100,000 of farmland before the end of 2020. The donor gets an immediate income tax deduction of $90,371. The donor keeps the right to use the property for the rest of his life. It’s deductible because, unlike a will, the donor can’t change his mind once the gift is made.

10. Bunch gifts with a donor advised fund

The 2018 tax law created much higher standard deductions. Fewer people can use charitable deductions because they aren’t itemizing. One way around that is to “bunch” charitable gifts.

Example: A donor puts 5 years’ worth of donations into a donor advised fund. The donor takes a tax deduction for the entire amount in that year. Because the deduction is so large, the donor itemizes in that year. In later years, the donor makes gifts to charities from the fund. This creates no tax deduction. But in those years the donor takes the standard deduction instead of itemizing.

Remember: These are just a few ideas to discuss with your tax advisor. They may not apply in your situation.

Written and Published on LinkedIn by Russell James, J.D., Ph. D., CFP, Professor of Charitable Financial Planning at Texas Tech University.

WAYS TO GIVE SMARTER AT THE END OF 2020
continued from page 5

VIRTUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING DEC. 14

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Written and Published on LinkedIn by Russell James, J.D., Ph. D., CFP, Professor of Charitable Financial Planning at Texas Tech University.
During the Holidays:
Be present.
Let the day flow with grace.
Expect joy & be positive.
Serve with compassion.
Speak only kindness.
Impart only love.
Never forget you’re not alone.
Give thanks for everything.
See goodness in others.

- Mary Davis

"Twas the night before harvest when all thru the barn, not a tractor was missing, all ready to farm. All the jackets were hung by the front door with care, because everyone knew the cold would soon be there.

Then to what should my wondering eyes should appear, It wasn’t a sleigh, but still had a Dear. A little old farmer so lively and quick, I knew in a moment the cotton was ready to pick.

And more rapid than spring dirt storms his helpers all came And he shouted "On Johnny" and each tractor by name.

And so out to the field the tractors soon flew with a boll buggy and builder and the little farmer too.

Up on the tractor with a leap and a bound, he was dressed in his overalls with excitement all around.

He spoke not a word but went straight to his work And built all the modules then turned with a jerk.

And as he finished the very last row, then giving a nod to the gin he did go But I heard him exclaim as he rolled out of sight "Blessed harvest to all and to all a goodnight!"

Kayla Pepper

Words That Inspire Us

SAVE THE DATE

Holiday Closure
The museum will be closed Nov. 26, 27, Dec. 24, 25, 26, and Jan. 1 for the holidays.

Volunteer Breakfast (tentative)
December 14 at 9:00 am

GIVING TUESDAY WTX
NOW THROUGH MIDNIGHT DEC. 1 YOU CAN DONATE TO FIBERMAX CENTER FOR DISCOVERY

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND SAFE NEW YEAR!

THE PLOW, VOL. 19, ISS. 2 | 27
NO REST UNTIL THE HARVEST IS FINISHED

Photo: Andrew van Zelst