

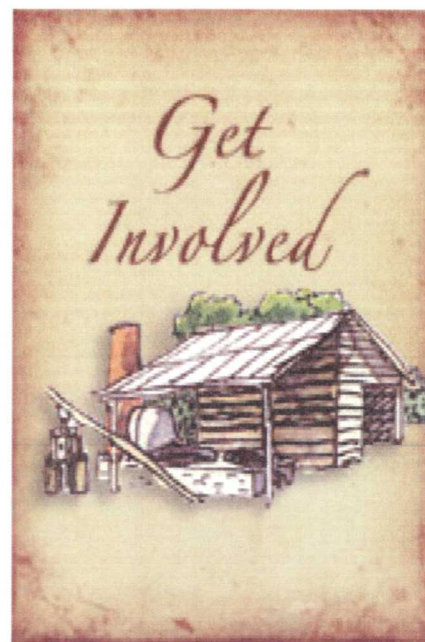
Dudley Farm Journal

President's Corner

This winter continues to be a very active time at the farm. Ashley Pass has started her duties as Park Service Specialist, Andy Woolum, Asst. Park Manager will be spending his time at the farm for a while to help Ashley settle into her new position and David Riker will be working out of O'Leno gaining valuable fire training. Please be sure and introduce yourself to Ashley and Andy if you haven't already.

The pavilion building committee had its initial meeting, the Docents had a great meeting this month, and the commissary shop has really taken off. The District 2 CSO meeting will be January 30th. February 5th and 6th will be Plow Days for with the Plowmen and their teams. The antique tractor club will be plowing February 28. It is also time to start planning for Evening at Dudley that will be April 18th. Be sure and put these events on your calendar.

All this activity would not be possible without the loyal support of all of you dedicated volunteers. A big THANK YOU to each of you for the devotion you have for Dudley Farm. Jim



MEMBERSHIP CORNER

January-February----Anne Leivonen Hair

Renewal forms will be mailed soon---we urge all to **RENEW** their memberships for Year 2010. Also please update your information--phone #, e-mail address, etc.

Dues are the same as last year: Family is \$30.00. Individual is \$20.00. We also have Individual LIFE MEMBERSHIPS for \$350.00.

We **WELCOME** our newest members: Lanny & Lynn Bishop, June & Ken Hornby, Cheryl "Cherie" & George Schneider (Fiona, Brent, Holly & Sean), Shirl Johnson, Dr. Dawn Miller, Charles Ulmschneider

DONATIONS:

\$0 to \$24 June & Ken Hornby, Robert & Linda Kasicki, Albert & Marti Krause and Ronald & Yvonne Will.

\$50 to \$74 Diane & Roger Johnson in Honor of John & Dinh Swanson, Gale & Virginia Ford, James & Joyce Williams

\$75 to \$99 Susan Harris

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Dear CSO Members and Park Volunteers,

I would like to inform you all of the staffing changes afoot at Dudley Farm and some other park issues. Please join me in welcoming Ashley Pass as the new Park Service Specialist at the farm to replace Sally Morrison. She is thrilled to be at Dudley Farm after spending years on the fringe of farm operations as an AmeriCorps member and more recently as the AmeriCorps North Team Coordinator based at O'Leno State Park. Many of you may have met her in the past during her many projects and duties at Dudley. She is a hard worker and willing to absorb all the specific knowledge that each one of you has about your duties and interests in the park. That being said please schedule an appointment with her so as not to overwhelm her as she gets ready for Plow Days. Some of you may also have noticed the temporary addition of Assistant Park Manager Andy Woolum to the staff at Dudley. Andy is to be at the park over the next few months to 1) help Ashley get established in her new role, 2) streamline any park procedures if needed, and 3) allow Park Ranger David Riker the ability to a) learn park procedures at O'Leno and b) help with both parks' prescribed fire program while PFTC Teams are in Florida. Though this change may effect day to day operations at both parks the advantages to both are great. On other fronts, the Collections Group is progressing with their documentation and photographing the Dudley Family items. This project has been slow and time consuming but will pay off in the end. Our intention is to have all items listed for park records, displayed in a rotating fashion within the Visitor Center, and also to one day allow approved researchers to study these items within the confines of the Collections Building under supervision. Stephen and Ashley have met with Toby from the "Plowmen" to prepare our fields for this year at Plow Days. They have already agreed to the limits of this preparation. Stephen and Ashley are also planning to meet Steve Myers of the Antique Tractor Club in Newberry to plan their preparations and planting of an area between the Hodge Barn and SR 26. This should allow the tractor club to maintain an additional corn patch without adversely affecting interpretation at the Farmstead. On a less than positive note, it has become apparent that we have had a "gossip" problem at the park. Please remember that unsubstantiated rumors are just that... unsubstantiated rumors and can hurt another person as well as drag the spreader into the problem. If there is something "foul" that anyone witnesses at the park it is their duty to report this activity to Park Management in the form of Andy or I. Please remember that gossip makes all parties involved look unseemly and to rise above the temptation.

Please continue your much appreciated hard work and support of the farm and park. Your care and attention shows throughout the park to any visitor. Thank you for all that you have done to make Dudley Farm Historic State Park all that it is.

Morgan Tyrone, Park Manager

2nd Saturday's at Dudley Farm

On the 2nd Saturday of each month come and join us for a tour of the Old Farmhouse location. This area of the farm is only open to the public during this time for the guided tour. The tour begins at 10:00 am, it is a nature hike, water and closed toed shoes are recommended. Ladies will be demonstrating crafts and skills, such as quilting from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.. There will be children's activities each Saturday lead by Stephanie and music on the porch.

Please call (352) 472-1142 for more details.

Special Events Roundup

Wow, Cane Day Dec. 5 sure was interesting this year. Many visitors decided to stay home and not face rain, cold temperatures and mud, but the 800 or so brave folks who came out to the farm were rewarded with sunshine starting about noon. The rain stopped and the temperature actually went up a few degrees. We had a number of volunteers call to cancel and a few of the vendors just plain did not show up, which was discouraging to the Cane Day committee but our net receipts for the day still totaled over \$5,300 with some donations from food vendors still to arrive. Of course these dollars are just one aspect of this event and we are more interested in folks having a good time. The Dudley products table sold out of cane syrup, as usual, but we've had another boil and syrup is for sale in the commissary on Wed. Sat. and Sun., along with grits and meal. Speaking of the commissary, if you haven't been in there in a while you need to check it out as we have quite a number of unique items for sale, including childhood toys. Our chickens are even participating with rather a large number of eggs.

February will bring back Plow Days [5th & 6th from 10-2] and we're at work on making this the best one ever. If you haven't been out to see these plowmen work the fields with their draft horses and mules you need to mark your calendar to make this event. Remember, it's free if you're a member of The Friends of Dudley Farm!

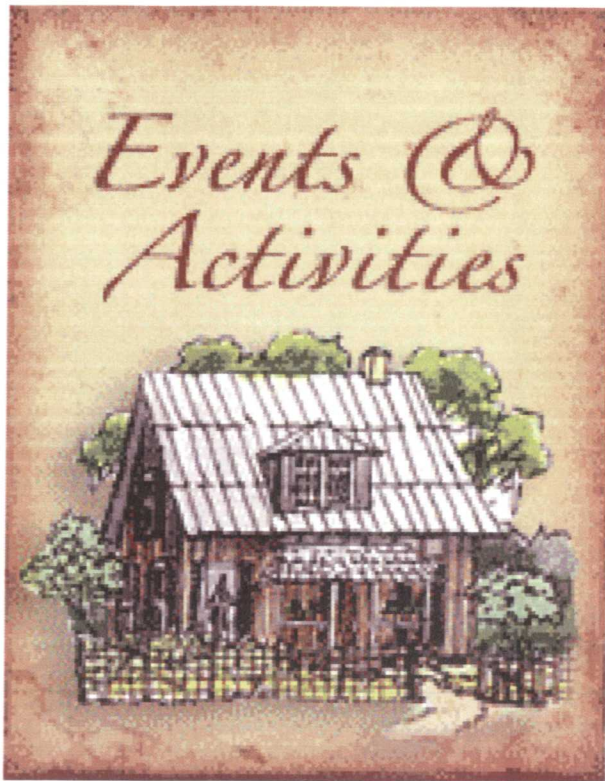


A Thank You Letter from Home

From Sally

Writing from my family's homestead some 150 miles south of Dudley Farm, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you. Thank you for the cherished friendships and many good working relationships. So many of you gave me the generous gifts of your time and thoughts; others helped with planning and packing; sorting and moving; fixing things. I greatly appreciate the thoughtful gifts of advice and the monetary help for retirement fix-up of my Cross Creek place.

Right now I'm privileged to be living at my family's homestead caring for my 90 year old parents. I'm honored to receive the lifetime membership in Friends of Dudley Farm. Thank you to the CSO board for your dedication. All best wishes to Ashley and the staff and all of you for New Year 2010!!



2nd Saturday of Each Month—Old
Farmstead Tour, children's crafts
and music!! Everyone Come!!!

Feb. 5th & 6th—Plow Days

Feb. 27th—Antique Tractor Plow Day

April 18th—Evening at Dudley
17th

June 12th—Ice Cream Social

Oct. 2nd—Quilt Show

Friends of Dudley Farm State Park, Inc.
P. O. Box 245
Newberry, FL 32669