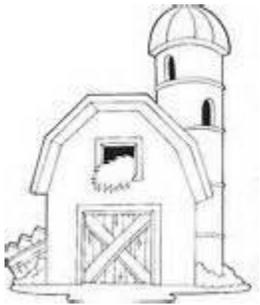
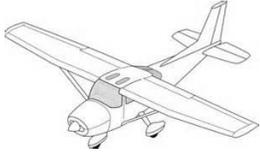


# Michigan Flying Farmers

Emily Wilcox, Editor

3685 Iosco Road

Dansville, MI 48819



## MICHIGAN FLYING FARMERS NEWSLETTER

May/June 2020

DEADLINE FOR THE JULY/AUGUST NEWSLETTER IS JUNE 25, 2020

### Michigan Flying Farmers 2019-2020 Officers

2020 President Gary Wilcox, 3685 Iosco Road, Dansville, MI 48819	517 521-4101
2020 Vice-President Don Renstchler, 4541 W. Ellsworth Rd., Ann Arbor, MI	734-665-3003
2019 Sec-Treas Duane Dysinger, 1533 Ellsworth Rd., Perry, MI 48872	517-625-3402

### Directors

2020 Emily Wilcox, 3685 Iosco Rd., Dansville, MI 48819	517-521-4101
Emily is Newsletter Editor - <a href="mailto:gew824@gmail.com">gew824@gmail.com</a>	
2018 Loyola Dysinger, 1533 Ellsworth Rd., Perry, MI 48872	517-625-3402
2019 Harold Sheathelm, 1191 Dietz Rd., Dansville, MI 48819	517-623-6394
2018 Mary Rentschler, 4541 W. Ellsworth Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103	734-665-3003
2018 Ed VanderKolk, 616 East St., Coopersville, MI 49404	616-997-9559
2019 Laurene Sheathelm, 1191 Dietz Rd., Dansville, MI 48819	517-623-6394

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 12, 2020: IFF Woman of the Year Day, Hilltop Inn, 928 NW Olesen ST., Pullman, WA 99163,  
Phone: 509-332-0928 - POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

July 21-24, 2020: 75th IFF Convention, Mitchell, SD - CANCELED

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### Gary's Gleanings

In the last couple of months life has changed a little, or has it really? Let me explain. We have been ordered by our governor to stay at home, except for critical necessities. We get used to our usual routines and it's hard to make adjustments. It's not easy, but it can be done. So why has life not changed? The lady that we bought our house from was born in the late 1800s. At age 7 she contracted a very contagious disease that required her to go to the hospital or be quarantined to one room in her house. She chose to stay in a small room in the far corner of the house. For an extended period of time (months) her mom was the only person allowed to bring her food and fresh clothing. Her mom took precautionary measures. No one else in their family of 11 came down with that disease. She lived to be an old lady. (P.S, That room is now our laundry room and closet!)

As far as the farming goes, the good news is we have more crops (corn and soybeans) planted now than we had planted last year by June 16! Now the bad news; last year the price of corn was over \$4.00 a bushel and now it is less than \$3.00 a bu. Also, we usually sell seven head of finished cattle every other week. For the last 7 weeks we have not been able to sell our fat cattle, because no one is buying. This past week they sparingly bought one load from us. They paid \$ .80 a pound for them. We need \$ .95 a pound to break even!

We are having unusually cold temperatures. Two days ago we tied the all time record for the coldest morning temperatures on that date, 25 degrees set back in 1894. Two days from now it is forecasted to be 29 degrees in the morning; the record for that date is 40 degrees. So we will definitely break the record for that day! It's a good thing I hadn't put my insulated coveralls away for summer. Looking forward to the end of the week when the weather is suppose to warm up to average temperatures of the high sixties.

We are sorry to hear of the passing away of Rose Mantey. I smile when remembering one incident involving Rose. Margaret Monte and Rose were junior advisors. They had the juniors do a skit during convention campaigning to be junior advisors for the next year. It was part fun, part humorous, and part hilarious. Good times remembering!

Our Michigan Chapter had another good time together when we met in Holt at the Delhi Café in March. It was really nice to see and visit with Ron and Betty Gromaski. Also attending were Don and Mary Rentschler, Duane and Loyola Dysinger, and Mary Cowles and her granddaughter Amanda.

We have decided to cancel our June fly-in at our place due to Covid 19. We will let everyone know when our next get-together will be. Also, the IFF Convention in Mitchell, South Dakota has been canceled this year. It was the right decision especially since some of the tours would not be open.

Emily and I hope and pray that you are all healthy and coping as well as possible with this unprecedented crisis we are all experiencing. We look forward to the time when conditions are safe so we can see all our Flying Farmer friends again.

## Duane Dysinger - MFF Secretary-Treasurer

LOCK DOWN! We have been in the house all the time. Once a week, we pick up a grocery order that is brought right to the car and loaded for us. We have been out in the yard a couple warm days. Real spring can't be too far behind. We have been seeing robins, flowers growing and some green grass. With the church closed, our "body clocks" aren't keeping the days straight. We really miss everyone and the fellowship.

Our March 7 MFF meeting at the Delhi Cafe in Holt was very nice. Ron and Bettie Gromaski came and they also rejoined our Michigan chapter. Our group had a really nice visit in private dining room. We talked over old times with a lot of memories.

Speaking of old times, Loyola and I have been reminiscing. Thinking of all the fun on Friday nights at the cabin....lots of stories from Ed and Harold. I can't forget Gert's homemade pancakes up there. Remember the MFF Christmas party auction when Harold auctioned off his own coat? Ona Russell drove all alone from Battle Creek to attend Christmas parties. Mary Cowles and granddaughter Amanda, also came from Grand Rapids, in spite of the weather. The canoe trip on the Rifle river near Alice and Ernie Thompsons yard....we tipped, I lost my sunglasses and Loyola borrowed dry clothes from Alice. The fly-in at Wilcoxs with home grown steaks. Sheathelms fly-in with bushels of really scrumptious muskmelons. VanderKolks bringing fresh blueberries from their area to share. Rentschlers fly-in and Mary's green beans had climbed a tall fence. Being a little short, she used a stepladder to pick them. We remember tours to Monteis seed corn business and the one at Schiffers Flying Service. These are just a few fun times. How about YOU writing and sending a memory to Emily! Please! Would be fun for all of us.

We also remember our 70th Anniversary Party with 15 very special Flying Farmer friends helping us celebrate. So thankful it was before this awful situation we are in now.

Darryl had to close his Mancinos. Things are working out for him now and he will be opening again Monday, April 27, with only delivery and take out orders.

Stay safe, be careful and travel only when necessary. Pray that this will end soon.

## Region III Director Report - Gary Wilcox

I received this message from IFF Secretary/Treasurer Colette Pierce. If you have a response to these questions that you want to share, contact me as soon as possible by calling 517-605-0512 or emailing me at [gew824@gmail.com](mailto:gew824@gmail.com) and I will pass it along to Colette.

"As your newest IFF officer I have taken on the task of creating questions for Region Directors to pose to their members regarding what is the current feeling, what direction do our members see IFF going?. My intention is to assemble information and feedback regarding how our membership wants us to proceed. Should we be actively seeking new members? I am asking you to pose these questions to your Chapter members in a timely manner, to have your results emailed back to me, by the end of May. A summary of answers to these questions will be shared during our AGM in Mitchell. To be sure, some time has passed since ways to attract members has been in the forefront . By posing these questions I am trying to determine a clear directive from our members on which direction you see IFF going.

Here are the questions I am hoping you can gather answers for. There are no right or wrong answers. No shame in yay or nay. I am asking you to put these questions to your members so that IFF can gauge what our membership is feeling, right now, at this time.

1. Do you think we should put energy into attracting a new generation of pilots.
2. Do you feel that IFF should maintain status quo and not worry about increasing membership?
3. Do you feel that a redesigned website would/should reflect the direction that IFF want to go?
4. Do you feel that we should let our organization wind down and not worry about attracting new pilots

In these hectic times thank you in advance for giving this matter some thought. It will be a challenge as we practice social distancing and can't gather in groups to get this done. I will say it again, there are no right or wrong answers. Please let us know your thoughts. Stay healthy, Colette Pierce, IFF Secretary/Treasurer"

Our sympathies go out to the family of Rose Mantey who passed away May 7th at her assisted living under hospice care. We all have fond memories of Rose and Ed and their children and grandchildren. I am sharing Rose's obituary that I found online:

Note from Editor:

I think this picture was taken at Rose's 90th Birthday Party that many of us attended.



## Rose F. Mantey

August 19, 1927 - May 7, 2020

Rose Frances Mantey of Fairgrove, age 92, passed away on Thursday, May 7, 2020 at Heritage Hill Assisted Living in Caro. Rose was born August 19, 1927 in Detroit, the daughter of the late John and Victoria (Wojtalik) Koral, moving on to Vassar and eventually Fairgrove with her family. She attended country school, Vassar school and at the age of 16, Rose graduated from Fairgrove High School as Valedictorian. Edgar Fritz Mantey lived across the road from Rose in Fairgrove. He became the love of her life and they were married on June 16, 1945 in Howe, Indiana by Rev. Rex Lahr. Rose was a devoted wife, loving mother, special grandmother and a blessed great-grandmother. She was a member of the Caro United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Women, a trustee and helped with special dinners, as well as a member of Caro Community Hospital Auxiliary, Michigan Flying Farmers since 1962, International Flying Farmers since 1962 (earning her "land-it" in 1977). Rose enjoyed reading, sewing/ crocheting, cooking, baking, traveling, and crossword and jigsaw puzzles. She loved attending activities that her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren participated in.

Left to cherish her memory are four children and their spouses, Coral Sue & Stuart Roller of Caro, Diana L. & Timothy Bauer of Reese, Donald E. Mantey of Fairgrove, Robert J. & Mary L. Mantey of Reese; nine grandchildren and their spouses, Kevin & Shelly Roller, Michelle Joslyn, Angela & Jonathan Bailey, Jordan Mantey, Casey & Bryant Haist, Taylor Mantey, Makenzi Mantey, Jacob & Marchand Bauer, Jenny & Jurgen Kanagalingam; sixteen great-grandchildren, Matthew, Kelsey, Isabella, Alexis, and Collin Roller, Isaac, Emma, and Luke Joslyn, Ethan, Makayla, and Parker Bailey, Kaden and Riley Haist, Celia Kanagalingam, Meredith and Leah Bauer. In addition to her parents, Rose was preceded in death by her husband, Edgar Mantey; one granddaughter, Tammy Nelson, son-in-law, Gregory Nelson, and two sisters, Helen Schack and Stef Hunter.

Private services will be held with burial to follow at Indianfields Township Cemetery. A memorial service will be held at the Caro United Methodist Church at a later date. Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider memorial contributions to the Caro United Methodist Church, the Fairgrove Library, Michigan Flying Farmers, Peace River Association in Punta Gorda, Florida, or the donor's favorite charity. The family was assisted with these arrangements by the Ransford Collon Funeral Home of Caro. Friends may share memories, thoughts and prayers online at [www.RansfordCollon.com](http://www.RansfordCollon.com).

