



www.dreibelbisfarm.org

March Newsletter 2017

New option for supporting the historic Dreibelbis farm.

There's a new way folks can help us at the Dreibelbis Historic Farm. If you happen to invest funds with or own an insurance policy from Thrivent Financial, you can recommend where some of Thrivent Financial's charitable outreach funds go with Thrivent Choice®. Since 2010, more than \$330 million has been distributed to churches and nonprofits nationwide. Thrivent members may direct Choice Dollars to enrolled charities. As a community non-profit historical organization, the Dreibelbis Farm Historical Society Inc. now qualifies to receive such funds.

Sadly, many available Choice Dollars never reach any charity. Why? Because many Thrivent Financial members neglect to donate them. If you have funds invested with Thrivent or own a Thrivent insurance policy, we encourage you to find out if you have Choice Dollars available for donation. If so, please consider directing some or all to the Dreibelbis Historic Farm. You'll need to register on Thrivent.com. Then, follow this procedure:

1. Click on My Thrivent on the upper ribbon menu.
2. Under "My Member Network & Benefits", locate Thrivent Choice. You'll see how many dollars you may currently direct.
3. Immediately under that dollar figure, click on "Direct Choice Dollars."
4. A Choice Dollar Menu will appear. In the center of the page find "Direct to a new organization" with a box underneath it.
5. In that box, type Dreibelbis Farm Historical Society Inc and hit "Search" Choose "Direct All" or enter an amount and click "Direct Now." Follow the prompts on the confirmation page to direct Choice Dollars.

Don't worry if you don't use a computer for such things! You can use your phone:

1. Call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice."
2. Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or 2 to hear Thrivent Choice program Terms and Conditions. (If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth.)

A representative will work with you to direct Choice Dollars.

The deadline for directing 2016 Thrivent Choice Dollars is March 31st. To learn more about Thrivent Choice, visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice. Or call Thrivent at 800-847-4836, and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted.

The Historic Dreibelbis Farm is located on Route 143 south of the village of Virginville. GPS Address: 356 Hard Hill Road, Hamburg, PA. To fulfill our mission to preserve and protect the historic Dreibelbis farm and to make it available to the public for educational, historical, and environmental purposes we host several events each year.

Why Didn't We Harvest Ice in 2017?

Our fourth Ice Harvest Demonstration was held on Saturday, February 11th.

Though we showed all the tools and techniques, warm temps kept the ice pond liquid. The "new for 2017" refreshments and horse-drawn wagon rides were a big hit for our nearly 60 visitors!

See photos from Ice Harvest 2017 on page 2!



Check your email for dates and details about up-coming Spring Peeper Walk and Wildflower Walk programs, as well as an opportunity to help out at our Spring Fix-up and Clean out Day.

Oh, darn. we just finished cleaning out the wood duck nesting boxes! Be sure to volunteer for Spring Fix-up Day!



For more information about the farm, visit www.Dreibelbisfarm.org, "Historic Dreibelbis Farm" on Facebook or contact Mark Dreibelbis at (610) 488-7896.

Ice Harvest 2017 (with no ice) at the historic Dreibelbis Farm.



Mark Dreibelbis presents the history of ice harvesting, as practiced by local Pennsylvania-German farmers.



With no ice to haul, Steve Burkholder's magnificent Percheron draft horses helped some visitors see the snowy back lanes of the farm.



Eric Dreibelbis explains how we would have marked, chiseled, and sawed the ice.... if Mother Nature had obliged.

(Thanks to the Reading Eagle for sharing two of these photos.)

The mission of the Dreibelbis Farm Historical Society is to preserve and protect the historic Dreibelbis farm and to make it available to the public for educational, historical, and environmental purposes. Financial contributions are always welcome and may be deductible for Income tax purposes.