# Poor Farmer's RV**TOPORTION OF CONTRACTION OF CONTRACTICO OF CONTRACT**

## Tractor Show / Flea Market Weekend ...and what you need to know. June 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> 2023

Tractor Show Weekend has put Poor Farmer's on the map for many people. In some cases, folks only know us for our Tractor Shows and Flea Markets, usually because they aren't campers. Hey, nobody's perfect.

For years, we have been advertising that the flea market is from Thursday to Sunday and for years I have seen vendors close early on Sunday or even Saturday night. I have also heard many of those same vendors complain about the \$10 increase in our flea market spots a couple years ago. So, here's what I'll do. At 2pm on Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup>, I will drive around the flea market and hand a \$10 bill to all the flea market vendors who are still open and present.

Hopefully, this will encourage our vendors to stay open for those folks who couldn't make it on Saturday. It is also nice for us to be able to curb that rate increase for vendors who need it. I think this is a Win-Win.

Please remember, that our dumpsters are for household trash only, not for the stuff that you weren't able to sell. Also, if you are selling firearms of any kind, please make sure safety is paramount. That means bolt or trigger locks, and for Pete's sake make sure they are not loaded.

Other than that, just keep the roads clear for pedestrians and have a great time. Our tractor shows have been a staple in this community for almost fifty years (1977). Thousands of people over the years have pushed their tractor to the limit on our pull track or bought and sold many items in our flea market. Whatever their flavor was, they have done it here at Poor Farmer's and we are honored to host their traditions and heritage.









# Nothing but Love

Growing up in a Catholic family made for a good upbringing. As a young man I received some schooling on the basics of the Bible and the stories it contained. As I reached my teen years the stories from the Bible would seem more and more unbelievable. Noah's Ark, Adam and Eve, forty years in the desert being fed by mana from the sky; all these stories seemed to push the limits of reality.

In Marine Corps boot camp, I made sure to attend church every Sunday morning. It was either that or sit in a squad bay with your drill instructors... no brainer, right? That twelve weeks of church had more of an affect on my life than I realized. It gave me peace knowing that God has a plan for, not just me, but all of us. Even though I was never sent to fight, every ounce of training had its own risks to it, and in those times that were the most stressful, I knew God had a plan for me, which gave me the courage and confidence to complete whatever mission I was assigned.

Now, believing in God and believing in the Bible seemed to be two different things. My opinion, in my twenties, was that God was all knowing, all powerful, and all around us, and the Bible was just a book written by men with stories that were meant to be life lessons or even just fictional entertainment two thousand years ago, like Star Wars is today.

My faith in God grew once I became a father. Being responsible for other people is something I take very seriously, and who better to have on my side than God. The way I looked at it, he loved my boys even more than I did. From that point on I was silently praying for those things I thought my family needed and even though she was not specifically in my prayers, God sent me someone who would have the knowledge, skill and most of all, the faith to show me the side of God that I was missing... his word. That person is my good friend, Kathy Love.

I am not sure the exact day I met Kathy, but I remember meeting her. At first, I thought she was fake. I know that sounds harsh, but it isn't everyday you meet a person as devout and loving of God as Kathy. Many people will "Praise God" and throw out "God Bless Yous" to raise their stature or give a false impression of who they really are. It wasn't until later that I fully understood Kathy's love for God, as well as her love for all of us. A large part of that understanding happened through getting to know her husband and her family.

The two of them are perfect together. Their love for one another is of the highest degree and that love trickles down to the rest of their family tree as well. They have three sons, who are all tattooed, beer drinking, obsessed with golf men. Not what I expected from this God-fearing couple. However, all three of their sons are dedicated to their families in the exact way they were raised, and they all know and appreciate where those ethics and standards of love come from. Just another life lesson... Don't judge a book by its cover.

Speaking of books, let me get back to the Bible. As I said, growing up Catholic instilled some great values, along with having some great people as parents. Church itself though... boring! You sit, you stand, you kneel, you stand, you sit, then you shake some hands. Once you ate the little sliver of flat bread, you knew you are in the home stretch and church is about over. Needless to say, the By Mike Till

reading of the word was the time when I would think of baseball, riding bikes or that pretty girl sitting two rows in front of me. Like I said, the stories from the bible just didn't make sense to me.

For the past twelve years, my family has been attending Church in the Big Red Barn. Since then, Kathy has been helping me relate to God's word in a way that a guy in a robe just couldn't. She explains the reasoning behind the authors, adds in the certain circumstances that surrounded the story and above all, reinforces the fact that belief in the Lord is faith based. Nothing sends these messages deeper into my soul, than the manner Kathy delivers the word. She gives us all of her. She does it with so much enthusiasm and energy that it is difficult to not hear the word.

She loves our Lord as he is sitting right next to her. She speaks his word as he is whispering it in her ear just before she speaks. She is prophetic and she listens to those times when God is speaking to her, then she shares the experience with us. She is giving! During the first year I was here, I would give her money for her time in setting up the service, which she would give to someone she knew. Barry tells me all the time, that Kathy will know of someone in need and give money that was meant for other things, leaving them without.

After twelve years, there is one thing I know for certain, Kathy is the farthest from fake I have ever met. She is honest to an extreme. If you ask her if your shirt looks nice, don't expect her to pad your ego if it doesn't. She is caring. We have donated thousands of dollars from a "Joy Jar", that she created, to help anyone who may need it.

Above all else, Kathy is consistent. Some people may tell you they are devout Christians and proceed to NOT act like it; not Kathy, she will show you her faith with action. Like how she graciously sends us her devotions every morning, so we can share in the word every day. Honestly, sometimes I don't get a chance to read them or forget, but some I read more than once. Her constant love of God and love for us is unwavering. I have prayed with her for people who I didn't think deserved prayer, for her to explain that God loves us all and those who I think don't deserve prayer are the ones who need it most.

The Church in the Big Red barn meets once or twice a month, in the big shelter and on Facebook. I list the dates on our seasonal schedule, so you know when it is. Church usually lasts about an hour, sometimes Kathy needs a little more time and we are happy to oblige.

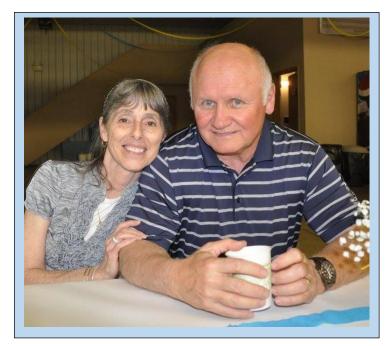
Recently, we had a young girl attend church on Memorial Day Weekend. She asked; Why are there so many people camping, but not that many people at church? Kathy told her that it would be nice if more people came to church to celebrate together, but we should pray for those who didn't come to share the word just the same. "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them" Matthew 18:20.

Kathy has devoted her life to The Father, The Son and the Holy Spirit. Delivering his word is her reason. She volunteers her time at a prison for juvenile girls and I couldn't even fathom the number of young women she has inspired through the Word. Along with her husband Barry, they are two of the nicest, most giving, incredibly understanding people I have ever had the pleasure of meeting and I thank God often for their friendship.

This week Kathy has undergone a very touchy surgery on her back. This is not the first time she has faced health issues. She is a cancer survivor and is regulated to a very strict diet. Even with these conditions, she still finds the strength to praise God, thank him for what she has and spread that grace to us. This past Sunday, she requested that we not ask God for anything, but to only praise him for what we have, no matter the situation. I took this as a personal mission and have been praising him ever since, no matter how hard it was.

I would like to break from that mission right now and ask that you all pray for Kathy's health and recovery. Ask God to heal her. Ask him to speak with her often, I promise she will hear him. While Kathy is recovering, I will be covering her duties by leading Church in the Big Red Barn. Don't worry, I will just be a mouthpiece, she will be organizing my talking points. It's cool, she knows my reading level.

June 11<sup>th</sup> is the next Church in the Big Red Barn. Kathy won't be there, but I need as many of you as possible to be there. Not only to see all the mistakes I make during the service, but also to show our support to Kathy, her family, and our church. I promise you will find *Nothing but Love*.



My Friends Barry and Kathy Love

#### **Big Shelter and Facebook:**

May 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> July 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> August 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> September 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them" Matthew 18:20.

### **Memorial Day Weekend Review**

If I could have dialed up the weather, it would have been exactly what it was... beautiful sunshine, cool breeze and dry campsites. Our bookable sites were completely booked and the overflow spots were pretty full. It set the stage for a perfect camping weekend. Complimenting the weather, was a list of campground activities that went off without a hitch. It all started with the Golf Cart Obstacle Course. We had a great time navigating the different challenges. The hardest of which was attempting to keep friendships together while instructing loved ones on how to drive blindfolded. Thankfully, we ended the activity with a parade and without injury.

Next, Angela Albright hosted the cornhole event. She had 28 participants, and three young men came out on top. 1<sup>st</sup> Dustin Gray, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cody Adkins and 3<sup>rd</sup> Andrew Holbein. Angela raised \$45 for the SARs Search and Rescue Dogs. Don't forget to tip them well this weekend at the gate.



For dinner, Steve (Dad) made enough chili for small country... like Chile. There were some very good side dishes and desserts that campers brought, not to mention the abundance of cookies. Thanks Tammy!

After the chili, we packed the house with a Blind Quarter Auction. I first thought the chili would cause some problems, but we had the windows open. We had a lot of great comments on the quarter auction format that we used. It was nice to see so much participation in the event. Sunday, we had Church in the Big Red Barn where we gave praise to the Lord. At two we had our poker run which Adam Gunn won with 8's over 7's. It's funny, everyone had a great time at the poker run and only a few could tell you what 8's over 7's even means. We finished our Sunday with Karaoke, we had so many good singers there, that someone even asked for an autograph. From Ashley, not me.

On Memorial Day we gathered the crew and took almost forty people on golf carts, along with our float, to the Fletcher parade. It was a great weekend and fun for all. I don't think anyone had more fun than Owen though. Owen is a young man who had a dream of winning a bike at the blind auction. That dream was fulfilled when I drew the winning chip with his dad's number on it. He was ready to ride that bike home right then. At the poker run, he bragged to me that he made the basketball in the basket and his dad didn't. When I asked him how long before he was going to be big enough to ride his new bike, he told me, with the most adult demeanor, "Probably in about a year." I love kids.

Thanks to all who joined us for Memorial Day. Please keep in mind the reason we do this is to be able to take time to remember those who have given the greatest sacrifice possible for our freedom... their lives. God Bless you all.

Join us <u>Saturday, June 17th</u> for this fun filled race around the campground.

THE AMAZING

Team up with 3 of your best buddies and form a team of 4 to find clues all about our beloved campground. Each clue will lead you to the next location of the race!

At each stop you and your entire team will snap a selfie at that location and you will receive the next clue.

Along the way you will come across some challenges you must complete to move on. Each team member must compete in at least one challenge to win.

Be the first team to find all the clues, finish the challenges and cross the finish line to take home the 'W"!!

This is open to everyone. Please no golf carts but winning spirits are always welcome!



7211 N. Lostcreek-Shelby Rd Fletcher, Oh 45326 (937)368-2449 WWW.poorfarmerrvs.com

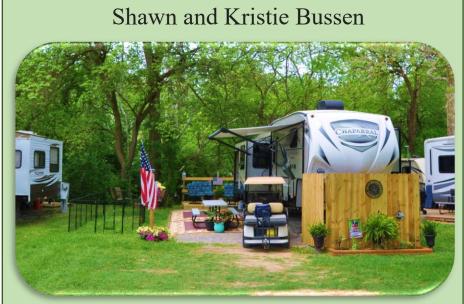


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A picture is worth a thousand words.





Site of the Month belongs to site #501, Shawn and Kristie Bussen. Shawn and Kristie have worked hard to create a beautiful oasis of relaxation and party palace all rolled into one. They have a modest garden in the front and a welcoming seating area in the back. Their Coachmen Chaparral Fifth Wheel is flanked by our Stars and Stripes which watches over their outside eating area. Thank you, Shawn and Kristie, for all the hard work you put into your campsite. To thank you for your efforts we would like to award you with free dumps for the month of June.

## Guess the Year

- Hewlett-Packard is founded by Bill Hewlett and Dave Packard in a garage in Palo Alto, California.
- Timely Comics (later Marvel) founded by American publisher Martin Goodman in New York.
- 1st nuclear fission experiment (splitting of a uranium atom) in the US, in basement of Pupin Hall, Columbia University by a team including Enrico Fermi.
- Billboard Magazine introduces hillbilly (country) music chart.
- Membership of Hitler Youth becomes obligatory.
- Boston Red Sox Ted Williams hits his 1st HR.
- Batman first appears in Detective Comics #27.
- Baseball Hall of Fame is dedicated in Cooperstown, New York.
  - 1st German air attack on Great Britain in WW II.