



KANSAS TRACTOR CLUB

Issue No. 54 Spring 2026

New People; Renewed Beginnings

This time last year, the club existence was in question. With only the vice president to take on all the duties of the office, we didn't know which direction we were going.

With strong support from the existing members, it was clear that the club needed to continue. With nice turnouts at the Mid America Farm Expo, the May Tractor Drive, Tri-Rivers and Salina Street Fair parade, it was clear that the club would continue.

Our newly elected Club President, Terry Urban, work the phones, reaching out to members to encourage them to take officer positions. Robert Kittner and Pete White all work in tandem with Terry. I know there were others involved in this endeavor to keep the club moving forward and they all need to be applauded.

At the annual meeting we went from one person being President, Vice President and Treasure to All offices being filled. No one doing double duty.

You can read the minutes from the annual meeting on page 2 of this newsletter to review the list of new officers and board of directors.

There was a nice turnout of members and new members.

This years meeting was held at Tim Pestinger's place. We have had our annual meetings at this location for the past 3 years.

The club provided the meal. BBQ pork, sausage links and cole slaw from Hickory Hut with all the fixings and plateware. Tea and water was provided by Tim Pestinger. Members and friends began to arrive before 11 am to visit and pay the annual dues which were collected by Janice Jennsen and Julie Bilson.

The meal was served at noon with a opening prayer by Carol Viar. The meal was well received.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:45.

Special thanks to Janice for filling in as secretary and taking the minutes of not only of the annual meeting, but all of the board of directors meeting held throughout the year.

And thank you to all of the board of directors who went above and beyond to keep this club alive. I believe with the leaders we have now, the future of our club has a very bright future.



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Notes from Annual Meeting

The meeting was held at the Tim Pestinger Building on York St, Salina, Ks. After a noon lunch catered by The Hickory Hut, the meeting was called to order by Vice President Dan Helm. There were approximately 30 members and guests present.

Vice President Helm welcomed everyone and introduced the board members. He recapped events of 2025. First event was showing at the Mid America Farm Expo. The tractor drive from Solomon to Abilene was well attended with the highlight being a stop at Gail Rodda's farm to view several perfectly restored tractors, Ford model Ts, a model A and a buggy once owned by his grandfather. The Club had a nice group at the Saline Co. Fair Parade and Santa Fe Days.

Vice President Helm then presented the treasurer's report. Cost for today's meal and Pestinger building rent is \$864. Leaving a cash balance of \$2,275. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report. Motion passed.

Minutes of the 12/16/25 regular board meeting were read and approved.

The following nominations were made:

Terry Urban, President
Robert Knitter, Vice President
Raymond Bilson, Treasurer
Julie Bilson, Secretary

Board Members: Pete White; Ed Viar; Michael Boldenow; Dan Helm; Verle Amthauer
Motions were made and approved to accept all above nominations.

In new business, possible events to be considered by the Board of Directors are a tractor drive northwest of Salina and the Mid America Farm Expo. Dan Helm has received one application for the scholarship so far.

Arnold Baker from the Wells/Oakhill community explained the options available if the club is interested in a tractor pull.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m

2026 Member List

This is a list of current members. When you have finished reading this newsletter, please pass it on to a neighbor/friend so that may learn more about club and our activities. If we are missing someone from this list that is a member, please email Dan Helm at dhelm537@gmail.com.

<u>Leon Ball</u>	<u>Belleville</u>	<u>Bill Henry</u>	<u>Solomon</u>
<u>Don Benninga</u>	<u>Manhattan</u>	<u>Chuck Henry</u>	<u>Solomon</u>
<u>Richard Bowman</u>	<u>Salina</u>	<u>Alan James</u>	<u>McPherson</u>
<u>John Carson</u>	<u>Bennington</u>	<u>David Kratzer</u>	<u>Geneseo</u>
<u>Dan Helm</u>	<u>Salina</u>	<u>Roger & Patricia</u>	
<u>Wally Wolfe</u>	<u>Abilene</u>	<u>Landauer</u>	<u>Salina</u>
<u>Doug Degraff</u>	<u>Concordia</u>	<u>Raymond Bilson</u>	<u>Smolan</u>
<u>Ed Ball</u>	<u>Belleville</u>	<u>Ridge Johnson</u>	<u>Smolan</u>
<u>Evan Helm</u>	<u>Salina</u>	<u>Jerry May</u>	<u>Salina</u>
<u>Gary Boldenow</u>	<u>Salina</u>	<u>Ron Plymell</u>	<u>Assaria</u>
<u>Gary Wisbey</u>	<u>Salina</u>	<u>Galen Nelson</u>	<u>Wichita</u>
<u>Dennis Stolzenburg</u>	<u>Salina</u>	<u>Terry Urban</u>	<u>Salina</u>
<u>Janice Janssen</u>	<u>New Cambria</u>	<u>Leroy Quade</u>	<u>Salina</u>
<u>David Carson</u>	<u>Bennington</u>	<u>Jim Sekavec</u>	<u>Hoisington</u>
<u>Larry Sorenson</u>	<u>Hope</u>	<u>Robert Knitter</u>	<u>Clay Center</u>
<u>Paul McAfee</u>	<u>Salina</u>	<u>Ed & Carol Viar</u>	<u>Salina</u>
<u>Peter Martin</u>	<u>Salina</u>	<u>Galen Nelson</u>	<u>Wichita</u>
<u>Pete White</u>	<u>Salina</u>	<u>Verle Amthauer</u>	<u>Junction City</u>
		<u>Austin Anders—Chapman</u>	

This list will be update by next newsletter.



We have received scholarship applications from five different applicants this year. All high school seniors getting ready to start their new adventure this fall at a college in the state of Kansas.

All Scholarships received prior to April 1st will be review and graded by the Board of Directors with the announcement of the winner on or before April 15th.

If you know of someone who will be attending a college or trade school this fall working towards a degree in a Ag related field, please instruct the student to pull down the scholarship application from the Kansastractorclub.com web site. Carefully follow the directions on line and mail the application with other forms on or before April 1st of this year to the address on the form.

Mid America Farm Show

If you have lived in Kansas long enough, you have heard the saying, if you don't like the weather, wait a minute. That is what March has been like. It's 35 degrees and snowing on Monday and 90 + degrees on Thursday and back to 40 degrees to start a new week. That has been the swing of temperatures we have dealt with during the month of March.

So, getting good weather for the tractor show at the Mid America Farm Expo was going to one extreme or another. Fortunately, we got the upswing of the scale and had a beautiful day for showing tractors. The wind was a bit to deal with, but otherwise we would have been scrambling for shade.

We had 13 tractors on display Thursday, March 26 at Tonys Pizza Event Center, the host for the Mid America Farm Expo. The Kansas Tractor Club joined the 13 tractors from the International Club. 26 tractors attract numerous visitors.

Pete Martin displayed a new banner for the club, mounted high on his Allis Chalmers. Very colorful. We hope to see it on our endeavor in May, the Kansas Tractor Club tractor drive. All the club's officers were on hand, and I believe we signed up or renewed 5 members.

We have been adding events for 2026 to the calendar page on kansastractorclub.com web site. All of the names and phone numbers have been updated for the new officers and board of directors. If you need to reach out to any board member or officer, the web site under the list of officers is a great place to start.

New events are still being added to our calendar. Any event in Kansas can be added to the list even if it is not sponsored by the club. It has become a great source for anyone looking for an antique tractor event in the State of Kansas. Please submit you event to Dan Helm at dhelm537@gmail.com And be sure to check back often to see more details about the upcoming tractor drive the first Saturday in May.



We had a nice mix of Oliver's, Farmall's, John Deere, Ford, Garden tractors, and Gibson. The Gibson was a stick driven, 8 horsepower big garden tractor. The starter was a 5-foot pull rope. Unique tractor that was built in Colorado.



Board of Directors Minutes from March 3 Meeting

The meeting was held at Pete Martin's Building on E. Country Club, Salina, Ks. It was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Terry Urban. Other officers present: Robert Knitter, Raymond Bilson, Julie Bilson. The Board Members present: Verle Amthauer, Michael Boldenow, David Carson, Pete Martin, Pete White. Dan Helm and Ed Viar were absent.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting on 2-7-26 were read. Pete W made a motion and Raymond B seconded; approved the minutes as read.

Treasurer's report in February was \$ 2,275. There will be additional money from membership dues paid at the Annual Meeting. Motion made, seconded, and approved to have the President, Terry Urban, and Treasurer, Raymond Bilson, accepted as authorized signers on the checking account.

We discussed the opportunity to exhibit tractors at the Mid-America Farm Expo. After discussion Raymond B made a motion that our club members exhibit tractors at the Farm Expo. Seconded by Pete M; motion approved. This will be on Thursday, March 26, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.; parking lot location K 60-64. Contact Ed Viar or Terry Urban for questions.

There is a Spring Tractor Drive planned in a rolling hills route in the Culver area on May 2. Pete W and Michael B explained the information. Jerry May & Michael have the route planned. At the setup location donuts and coffee will be provided. There will be a sack lunch at the park. Michael B will make arrangements for a porta potty. Need someone in a pickup to follow with tools. Discussed waivers needed for all participants. Secretary will check for the Waivers signed Febr. 7 when membership dues were paid. David C made the motion not to charge for the May 2 Tractor Drive; Pete W seconded the motion; approved. In advertisements need to include "weather permitting." Flyers could be placed in the three farm stores and at the Mid-America Farm Expo. There was a brief discussion on prizes awarded in the past at tractor shows; no decision made.

Michael B offered to call members to remind them of the tractor club events—Tractor Show at the Mid-America Farm Expo, Tractor Drive, and future events. He believes a personal call made to members is more effective.

Discussed reviewing the previous year's expenses to

determine the direction/plans for the club and the money in the bank account. The Domain cost is \$ 200. This information will be available at the next board meeting.

Scholarship Application – Robert K needs an application; he will check the website for a copy.

Facebook and Website and updates – check with Dan Helm to see if he will want to work on these sources.

It was suggested by Michael B to have a Tractor Club Banner; discussion followed. He will work on a banner and obtain price, size, etc., and get with Terry U/board.

Raymond B suggested to put information about other events on the Website; this was tabled.

Dan Helm provided information about an invitation to drive tractors in the Sylvan Grove 150th Parade Celebration on May 23, 2026 and an Entry Form. No action taken.

Robert K. was approached by someone from the Flint Hills Club to get two clubs to host an event together.

In the past the tractor club has had items to give away at the tractor shows (catalogs, caps, t-shirts, etc.). Michael B will contact Steiner Tractor to see if the company would donate items to our club.

Terry U brought up the discounts with our Tractor Club Memberships. One question is whether the list on the website is current. He will contact a few places before the next meeting.

Another question was brought up – does the club have insurance? Any limits?

Pete W made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mike B seconded; approved.

***Editors Note:
Annual fee for Kansastractorclub.com Domain name is 29.95***



New Banner for the Kansas Tractor Club

Board of Director member, Michael Boldenow purchased a new banner for the club. It is a little bigger than the previous banner, but full of great color and a few old tractors that were widely used throughout the United States and several countries around the world between 1940 and 1960.

The new banner was on displayed during the Mid America Farm Expo tractor show March 26. Many Members and non-members committed favorably of the new banner.

Please look for the Banner at the next show or parade.



Tractor Drive

The tractor drive route has been set

Mark your calendars for May 2nd! It is time for the Kansas Tractor Club Spring Tractor drive. Since 2012 the club has sponsored a tractor drive on the first Saturday in May. This is the time to dust off your old tractors, check the tire pressure, top off the oil and fire up your favorite tractor. We would like as many members and guest drivers as possible to join us at the Central Kansas Flywheels on Diamond Drive in Salina. Diamond Drive is the first street to the west just north of the interstate 70 on 9th street.

If you are not a member, you are still welcome to bring your tractor and join the drive. Non-members are to sign a waiver before the drive begins.

This year's drive will begin at the Central Kansas Flywheels on Diamond Drive in Salina. It will proceed northwest towards Culver, Kansas. The morning drive is a little over 12 miles and after lunch the return trip is just under 25 miles. There will be breaks taken in both morning and afternoon drives.

You will need to bring a sack lunch. Our lunch break will be at Ribbie Park in Culver. Water will be supplied by the club, and a bathroom will be in tow along the route.

We have had several drives over the year beginning at this location and there has always been a good turnout of tractors.

Some items to keep in mind for the drive.

1. Tractor must be able to maintain a 10 mph minimum speed.
2. A secure seat must be available if someone is riding along. No standing on hitch or next to fender.
3. If the tractor in front of you is too slow, pass. We need to keep the line tight.
4. If a tractor breaks down during the drive, you should continue. We have people following in vehicles that will assist the down tractor.

You may want to top off the full tank and make sure the hydraulic oil are top off as well. We don't anyone to run out of gas. Hope to see many of you there.



Kansas Tractor Club Newsletter

Kansas Tractor Club

330 S. 9th

Salina, KS 67401

To:



Organization

List of Officers

President

Terry Urban

Vice President

Robert Kittner

Secretary/Treasurer

Julie Bilson / Raymond Bilson

Board of Directors

Michael Boldenow

Dan Helm— Ed Viar

Peter Martin—David Carson

Verle Amthauer—Pete White



Be sure to check out

**kansastractorclub.com regularly for
upcoming events.**

**Next newsletter publication will be
mailed July, 2026**

**If you would like to submit a story and/
or pictures for the KTC newsletter,
please send it to dhelm537@gmail.com**

