



"Preserving Family Farm History"

# Strong Family Farm

## 2019-2020 Annual Report



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# WELCOME MEMBERS!

**Our heartfelt welcome to our members. We hope that you are well. Thank you for your continued support of this project, particularly in these challenging times. We promise to keep going here at the farm!**



**-When the going gets tough, farmers get growing!**

## ***Our Mission -***

The mission of Strong Family Farm is to preserve a seven-generation farm and provide educational, historical, and agricultural experiences to adults and children in perpetuity.

With the increasing break-up and sale of family farms and farmland both in Connecticut and the rest of the country, it is imperative to save every farm possible, including the Strong Family Farm.



**Saying goodbye to a friend.** When Geraldine Risley married Norman R. Strong, the catalpa tree was the only tree in the yard. For 3 days a year, it was the most beautiful tree with white flowers slowly falling to the ground. It is amazing that it lasted for over 100 years through all the hurricanes and winter storms. Sadly, it was beyond time to come down. Life still lives in the stump as it has been converted to an herb garden on the farm. We miss its shade and beauty, but not its thousands of beans that had to be raked up during the spring volunteer workday.

## *A Word from our President*

Dear Fans and Supporters of Strong Family Farm-

Another year of success and progress for the Strong Family Farm! A wonderful and dedicated group of volunteers, led by the untiring Nancy Strong, has brought us further down our path. It is unbelievable! Nancy's leadership has created a healthy, focused, and energetic organization. However, this past year has had a curve ball thrown at the Strong Family Farm, as has the rest of the world.

- We have entered the fifth year of our Farm Store! Currently the store is our face to the community. It is open and doing very well.
- Many of our own events such as the Harvest Festival, the Chicken Run, the Civil War Kids' Camp and our other events are past their initial years, and they continue to provide enjoyment for attendees and activities that bring new visitors and, perhaps, inspire future farmers. However, this year we had to cancel them. Fortunately, we were able to hold the "Chicken Run" virtually! Many participants appreciated that they could still enjoy this event for another year!
- Our biggest news for this year is land, land, and more land. Strong Farm was reunited with the two parcels that were separated from the farm in prior years. Thanks to U.S., State and private farmland preservation grants, as well as private donations and the hard work of many people, we now have the original Strong Farm Red Barn and land on Route 30 and the open pasture parcel on West Road. This is great news. This addition will bring us back to our "heritage" and this land will always be preserved for agricultural use. We are currently discussing with a farmer the possibility of renovating the two parcels of land back into prime farmable fields.

We will continue to progress. When we do reopen our doors, let us remember what came before us and bring that strength, direction, focus, hard work, and thought into the future with us. We have an organization that we can be proud of, the Town can be proud of and, if I dare say, Norman Strong would be proud of, too. Truly, the Strong Family Farm has become the result of what has been sown before. We reap what we have sown and that continue to sow. We see the truth of this statement in the Strong Family Farm! Here is to a wonderful and vibrant future.

Brian Motola, President





## ***A Word from Executive Director Mary Millican***

To all at Strong Family Farm-

After experiencing all four seasons at Strong Family Farm, each one has brought challenges, accomplishments, continued learning experiences, and many touching moments. My first assignment as Executive Director was to implement the Raised Garden Bed Program (RGB). I am delighted to report that in its second year, the beds have all been adopted, and Dan Gallagher, Master Gardener, returned this year to host weekly classes and answer the gardeners' questions. Dan and I worked throughout the winter months to create an interesting and educational program, we are excited about the outcome as we watch happy gardeners attend weekly classes, engage with each other, and begin to harvest their crops.



Last summer I facilitated several Sundays where folks with a variety of backgrounds came to talk to our visitors. These events were not very well attended and after trial and error, the decision to focus on specific events was made. Dog Days of Summer in August and a Farm-To-Table dinner scheduled for September were two priorities. The on-going Vintage Tools and Treasures shop continues to receive positive feedback and attract a new audience. The main goal for activity and event planning is to have more people visit the Farm and engage the “next generation” of people to participate in ongoing Farm events and, in turn, introduce their children to the Farm so that the future of SFF is secure. Right now, there is a wonderful opportunity to capture the attention of millennials. They have proven to be a group who thrives on supporting local businesses and handmade products as well as wanting organic and locally grown produce.

Sadly, due to COVID 19, the Board of Directors had to make some hard decisions and all the activities and events for the summer of 2020 have been cancelled. There are only a couple of volunteers to work with and as of June 30, 2020, I agreed with the decision to be laid off. I am still overseeing the Raised Bed Gardens with Dan on Wednesday evenings as a volunteer and this year we hope to have a fall crop.

All the planning for special events and activities have been logged into the Farm's computer and there are notes and contacts ready to go for next year. As this unexpected year comes to a close, the hope is to fine-tune all the plans that had to be cancelled, re-group, and come back stronger than ever in 2021.

Be well and safe as we navigate these uncharted waters.

Mary Millican

## ***The Year in Review***

Our nonprofit is in its 8<sup>th</sup> year of existence. The Strong family farm has already survived for over 150 years, through the challenges brought on by wars, disease, economic downturn. It will triumph over the coronavirus pandemic. We intend for the farm to be around for a long time.

In early 2020, we woke up, as you did, to the shocking new reality of a natural phenomenon, the coronavirus, for which no preparations could be made. Like the farmer who has to deal with the onset of a season of drought, a wildfire, a killing frost, his/her adaptation, flexibility, and optimism become the best survival skills. We are making sure that Strong Family Farm, Inc. survives COVID-19 through those same strategies.

Although it would have been easy to simply cancel programming and wait for clearing skies, we have not done that. The mission continues. More preservation work is being done on the farm. Safe, creative programming is on board. Our Connecticut only store is up and running, we are concentrating our energies on ensuring that families have safe, educational, and fun opportunities at the farm despite the disruption of most of our old routines as well as the loss of opportunities to socialize. The farm's motto is to keep open the barn doors to agricultural history, preservation, and create a special place to learn and have fun. We have added to the motto – first and foremost - to safely keep the barn doors open.

### ***The list of programs and activities from this year include:***

**‘LAND, LAND AND MORE LAND!’** as our President said. The biggest news for the farm is that in October, Strong Family Farm Inc. through hard work and perseverance along with community support took back ownership of the original farm pastures. This has been in the works for five long years by a group of community members committed to preserving farmland working with CT Farmland Trust. According to State Statutes, by receiving State grant funds from CT DEEP, 10% of the \$1 million to purchase the land had to come from the community. In 3 months through a direct mailing to all residents in Vernon, the \$50,000 needed beyond money granted by the Vernon Open Space Plan, a donation from Northern CT Land Trust, the Bafflin Foundation Grant was raised. This brought tears to Ann Letendre and Nancy Strong's eyes writing thank you letters to all who gave. Through the perseverance of Ann and Nancy as a team, and the support of so many, this was all made possible. It was very humbling experience for all of us. We are working to create a trail required by CT DEEP grant on both the 18 acres of West St. and 33 acres of Hartford Tpk. We are also working with the Perrachio family of Hytone Farm to be good tenants of the soil and bring the farmland back to prime agricultural production. This land will forever remain in agriculture through easements held by CT Farmland Trust.

**“Preserving our legacy. Protecting our future.”**

**Chicken Run** - The 7th annual Chicken Run and Walk, our biggest fundraiser, took place at the end of June. How did that happen during COVID-19? How do you run a race with scores of racers, family, and friends while keeping it safe? By having a “virtual race”. A virtual race consists of setting up the race course as usual and inviting runners to run at their convenience - safely, apart from others. If they could not get to the farm, they could run elsewhere and record their times. While dozens of races around New England were cancelled, SFF adapted, exercised flexibility, and held an event that runners, walkers, outdoorsy and even indoorsy friends and family could enjoy. We were grateful to have secured all our sponsors before the shutdown. Registrations were low, but SFF did well at this major farm fundraiser event. Some of the comments from the runners and walkers were:

*Thanks for the race. It was nice that even though you had to make it virtual, you still had the arrows up and the finish line and the water. We really enjoyed it. Here are some pics. – Lynn S.*

*Dear Friends,*

*I appreciated all your hard work organizing the Strong Family Farm Chicken Run and transforming it into a virtual race. It was also nice that you gave us the option to do the race at the farm or anywhere we chose. Thank you so much for everything. Have a wonderful and healthy summer.*

*Sincerely,  
Vicki Q.*

*Good morning.*

*Hope your virtual chicken run was a success. Our family enjoyed participating in various ways - see attached photos. The most important thing is that people came out and continue to support your and other local farms. – The Donohue family of 8 that participated in Waterbury, The Adirondacks, Ellington and Vernon!!!!*



**Farm Store** – The farm store opened - unlocked, stocked, and ready for business on June 17. SFF does not expect charity to keep it going. We are willing to work for the right to preserve this farm. The farm store, which offers only Connecticut grown and Connecticut made products, is a valuable tool to earn income for the farm so that the nonprofit's mission can be carried on year after year.

The community is responding. Sales are already up this year. We are working hard to help you support local agriculture and local small businesses. By coming to the store (following all of the pandemic recommended safety precautions), you tell us that you support our mission and our local farmers. Please think of the SFF farm history and the Connecticut farmers who keep on bringing us locally grown food despite the danger, the challenges, and the high costs of farming in our State.

Stop in for a Hosmer beverage, some yummy local fruits and vegetables, a Deep River potato chip snack, master canner Claudia Steele's delicious bread and butter pickles, fresh corn on the cob, some gelato, cheese from our newest partner, and Winterplace farms in Pomfret Center. To top it off Judy Olivieri back for her third season as our wonderful store manager.

As the store works to serve you, we also work to expand our message to the community, travelers, and vacationers that Connecticut is still an agriculturally productive and vibrant market place.

**“You have to pay attention or you are going to lose your family farms. If you don't stop at your local farm stand it won't be there tomorrow. So what are you going to do next time you go by a local farm? STOP!” -Neil Young**

**Farm Volunteer Work Days** – While we could not safely and effectively have organized, collective workdays this year, volunteers continue to provide much needed support to the farm. Last fall they helped support our Annual Harvest Festival and Scarecrow Contest. They cleaned and weeded, they counted and tallied, they built benches and stocked shelves, they weed whacked and planted, they painted, dusted, shoveled, and toiled. Today you will see the results of volunteer work that continues. The chickens are happy, the vegetables are growing, the farm is tidy, and events are being planned and executed. We could not do it without volunteers. Please think about a quiet hour or two at the farm, doing some volunteer work, safely. There is a weed with your name on it!

**“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.” Elizabeth Andrew**



This picture by Dan Villeneuve was taken on Easter Sunday. His son, Timmy, asked if he could come to the farm to sweep! It is now entered into a contest by CT Preservation. <http://www.gogophotocontest.com/connecticutpreservation>

**Backyard Chicken Program** (formerly *Adopt a Chicken*) – Thanks to MyPetChicken.com again this year; the chicks were on their way to the farm when the coronavirus news hit us. Farmers hatched these chicks, anticipating that they would find their farms. Despite the coronavirus, SFF was ready for them. The Backyard Chicken Program has both delighted and educated children and adults for the last 8 years – so there had to be a way to safely continue the program – assuming that there was still the interest. Guess what? Turns out that there is a lot of interest in chickens. According to chicken hatcheries around the country, nationally the coronavirus has created a huge interest in raising chickens. People are ordering chicks in unprecedented numbers to raise for eggs, meat, and companionship. (One of our former Board members had a house rooster who wore a diaper). Some people also reported ordering chicks as a hedge against increasing egg prices. Under the continued direction of Alexis Carmicheal, the founder of the program, we are at it again this year. Our farm chicks have been adopted (they remain on the farm) and the adopters safely see (and feel their chicks) as they grow into laying hens. Who knows? These program participants may become backyard chicken farmers too.

**“Chickens: the only animal you eat before they are born and after they are dead.”**

### **The Harvest Festival** –



It was another beautiful October day to have our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Festival. Over 400 people traveled through the farm enjoying the activities, some old and many were new that the volunteers dreamed up. We had a hard time finding a food truck to come, so volunteers stepped up to run the Town's food trailer to supply attendees and volunteers with food for the day. We had our Chicken Parade with our Backyard Chicken families marching and singing our SFF chicken song, we waved them goodbye as they chugged down the driveway in an antique truck to their new home at Driggs Farm where they are now happily laying eggs.

**“I am so glad that I live in a world where there is October.”**

**Raised Bed Gardening** – **Raised beds and traditional gardening. Wow!** This year our raised beds and traditional gardens are being “farmed” by eleven (11) community members. As you remember from last year, with a Connecticut Department of Agriculture Viability grant, vegetable gardening at the farm was increased by the design, building and installation of 16 raised bed and garden boxes. The grant from the Department of Agriculture allowed the farm to create handicap accessible, raised bed planters, designed to enable all members of the community to enjoy this activity. This growing season, with the help of Dan Gallagher and Mary Millican, weekly gardening techniques are taught to our co-op/ community gardeners. From the raised beds and our traditional vegetable garden plots, we are producing vegetables for both the community gardeners and the farm stand. We are once again well on the way to a healthy harvest this summer.

**“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.”**



**Community Service Host** – RHS Agricultural Science Technology Education program students have volunteered on the farm from our first year of existence. Norman Strong was on the original Advisory Board for this program and we are happy to still support it.

This year we say goodbye to Nicholas Polansky who has been with us throughout his high school years. We are all so proud of Nick and how he has blossomed at the farm. He has also recruited us all to be Joey Logano NASCAR fans! We will miss him and wish him the best in the future.



We still have Kristyne Bussiere who will be a senior this year and Jacob Niemczyk who is a sophomore volunteer at the farm. We try to have them come one at a time to make it easier to social distance on separate projects. Kristyne recently told her faculty advisor the best thing about being at the farm is that every time she comes there is a different project and not boring at all. Farm work never stops!

**“I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds – achievements won by the present and past generations of agriculturists; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.” – FFA Creed**

**Of Bees, Bats, Birds and Pollinators** – Under the guidance of Master Apiary Walter Moody, Jessica Donovan our RHS AgEd student is tending our bees. This year we had the first totally Strong Farm honey for sale at the farm store. We have two hives now thanks to a donation from member Linda Brown of her old hives. Jessica plans to work with a freshman this year so when she graduates, there will be another student to take on their care. This is a great model for the future of the farm’s bee’s care... Corina Horton, another RHS AgEd student, placed bat boxes on the farm and presented programs on bats at the farm and library. She graduated from RHS this year and achieved her Girl Scout Gold award. No big ceremonies, but we congratulate her and wish her all the best in her future.

**4-H Meetings Host Site** – We are so happy to still be hosting the “Hop-A-Long Gang” 4-H Club here at the farm. They came out to help us at our volunteer day and the Harvest Festival this past year. The number of members dwindles, but we have great faith that more young people will join. They have been busy practicing showmanship and working on their record books these past few meetings. Unfortunately, the 4-H Fair is closed to the public and they are figuring out alternative ways that these members can exhibit and be judged this year. SFF is proud to be their sponsor.

**“4-H: Unchanging values in an ever-changing world.”**



**Stepping Out!** - We did get out to Vernon Public Schools open houses and a couple community craft fairs this past year before the shut downs. We hope that our connection with Center Road School will continue through creative alternative ways as well as all the other community organizations. Last year when Channel 3 did a pop-up at Fox Hill in Rockville, SFF members and Clucky T. Rooster (Shauna Cote) showed up and let our presence be known with Scott Haney!

**Memorial Fence** -The new fence and gates were finally put up in November after the Scarecrow Contest was done. It is beautiful and defines the farm! Much thanks to our great volunteer this year, Chris Sickler for taking down the old fence (and for all the help he gave us during the whole farm season). The plaques are going up as this is being printed, so if you have ordered a plaque, take a walk and see if you can find your plaque. There are many, many more rails and some posts yet to donate. It is a great way to honor and memorialize people we cherish. This year we have two to put up honoring the Strong family for their connections to the Tolland County Home children who lived next door.



**Memorial Orchard** – Our young orchard is bearing its first fruits. This year we were lucky to secure Taylor Nicholas, a veteran and UConn Plant Science student to adopt the orchard and give it the attention it has long needed. We also received a donation from our former neighbors, the Quinby family, to support all that Taylor needs to do to rejuvenate the orchard. Taylor has done soil samples and created organic elixirs to help the orchard grow strong. We do have a few trees to replace and Taylor will be sure they will thrive. Thank you, Taylor!

**The Big Yellow Barn** – Thanks to the matching grant from the 1772 Foundation, the barn got a new coat of paint this past summer and looks wonderful for a 100 year old barn. Norman Strong took pride in the barn and always insisted that it had a fresh coat of paint when needed. While we were at it, we put up new signs on the front of the barn and the store. We are constantly looking for grants to help with stabilization and other projects so we can get a certificate of occupancy in order to rent out the barn for events. We thank Tom Barnas, master painter, for all the touch up painting projects he has performed since our beginning.

### ***Near future:***

**Farm Animal Visit and Drawing Contest** Now for something a little different. Over the last couple of summers, the farm has been having “animals on the farm” days, typically on Sunday afternoons. These were free events designed to encourage families to relax at the farm for a few minutes while being introduced to an amazing collection of farm animals. Where else do you see farm animals these days? At UConn, the cows are in the barn and the barns are closed to the public. We couldn’t let our farm animal program go away this year even though there are additional hurdles to hosting such an event. For example, the CT Department of Agriculture put out new rules for farm stands during the coronavirus pandemic. No other activities can go on at farm with farm stands/stores while the stores are open.

So, we thought of something different. In August we are planning a farm animal visit, that will be with eyes only and will not involve touching of the animals, this event followed by a farm animal drawing contest. Come to the farm. For a modest admission, have a cool beverage, see farm animals, sit and draw or color one, and/or take your drawing home to finish. Then, enter your drawing in our farm animal best artist or best dressed farm animal contest on-line. Your drawing will be posted and winners in various categories and age groups will be announced. Fun for all ages!

**Scarecrow Contest** – For kids, business, and adults alike, we need to look forward to something special this coming fall. Last fall’s scarecrow contest was a huge hit with 19 amazing scarecrows and it attracted hundreds of viewers to see the creations atop the SFF fence posts. Come October 2020 the contest, now in its 9th year of fun, promises to be another safe, SFF community activity. This year we will ask the contestants to video themselves setting up their scarecrows and telling the story of their creations. We will post these videos on the SFF website. While the scarecrows are out on display along West Street and Peterson Road at the edge of the farm, people can drive, walk, and bicycle past them. Ribbons will be awarded to the creators while the rest of us get to enjoy the scarecrows for several weeks. Start planning your entry now! We need this event more than ever. It raises spirits and delights viewers. It is a community activity open to everyone. Let us see if we can get a scarecrow on every available fence post this fall.

“I’ll miss you most of all scarecrow!” -L. Frank Baum

**Promoting CT Grown and Agriculture Grant.** - Thanks to Liz Bologna, our PR specialist, we are increasingly using social media to tell the SFF story, advertise our programs, and promote our farm store. Hard work was done during April for a matching CT Department of Agriculture Viability Grant to promote agriculture and the value of CT Grown. It includes plans to redesign our website, develop a traveling display to be shared with RHS AgEd and our 4-Hers that will be housed at the farm promoting agriculture, among other exciting projects. We have not heard yet, but are keeping our fingers crossed. We had excellent proofreaders that gave great input and many letters of support. In this era, if you are not available to the community electronically, you will have missed the chance to promote and provide opportunities for fun and learning. We at SFF are trying to stay ahead of the curve!

## **Ultimate destination:**

**Hay barn** - The hay barn, the largest section is still in the process of being finished to obtain a certificate of occupancy. A large door will be added to the back of the hay barn, allowing the barn to be flooded with light when opened, along with adding stabilization to the west wall. It is envisioned that the new door will have a descending set of stone stairs, which will lead into a large stone landscaped terrace with room for dining and gathering. The barn will be available for weddings and other formal and informal events. It can also host farm-to-table dinners and other dining experiences

**Commercial kitchen** – At the opposite end of the hay barn is an existing chicken house shed row. It will become a commercial kitchen with a classroom and restrooms. The commercial kitchen will be used by the community allowing them do canning, make jams, and produce other marketable products. This can be for farm sales, home consumption, or other commercial uses. Workshops and classes will be held in the kitchen and the classroom. The kitchen will also serve as the staging area for farm dining experiences and/or for caterers to support other events.

**Landscaping and gardens** – As you will notice, the six acres of farmland is slowly being transformed into both commercially viable gardens, beautiful native wildflower, and cultivated flower landscapes. A memorial orchard now stands at the west end of the field. A pond might be carved and landscaped from the lowland section of the pasture to attract native birds. Walking paths, sitting areas and livestock viewing areas will be added so that the entire property can become a destination, natural experience. Tall plantings on the edges of the pasture will camouflage the outside structures to make the property picture perfect.

**Infrastructure** – A new electrical system was needed at the barn to accommodate all of the new projects. A commercial meter and wiring were installed, paving the way for future electrical and plumbing projects. The next infrastructure will likely be water and sewage for visitor restrooms and a commercial kitchen.

**Museum Area** – We envision a Strong farm museum to be in the dairy barn. This will trace the history of the “family farm” from its beginnings in 1878 to present day. The story is similar story of all family farms, which started as a way of self-preservation and in the 1940s grew to feed all the community.

**Old Garage** – A vision of having this 1920s garage (where the hired hand and Norman Strong slept upstairs) turned into a library/office/handicapped bathroom and upstairs apartment totally off the grid!

**“Believe you can and you are halfway there.” -Theodore Roosevelt**



## **Board Members – 2019-20**

**The Board of Directors is looking for individuals who feel strongly about our work, to serve with the members of the Board on the Steering Committee, Programming Committee, Building/Grounds Committee, Garden Committee, Store Committee, Marketing/Publicity Committee and Fundraising Committee. If you are interested in joining any of these committees, please call or email [info@strongfarm.org](mailto:info@strongfarm.org) for more details.**

### Board of Directors 2019-20

- President: Brian Motola
- Vice President: Wendy Wanchak
- Treasurer: Claudia Steele
- Secretary: Nancy Strong

### Board members at large:

- Michael Nelson
- William Nicholson
- Ellen Marmer
- Carl Schaefer

Executive Director – Mary Millican

### Steering Committee:

- Richard Steele
- Lori Sanchez
- Judy Oliviera
- Alexis Carmicheal
- Lynn Johnson
- Loyd Johnson
- Ellie Swan
- Lisa Moody
- Theona Wheelock
- Katie R. Napolitan
- Kris Veins

## **2020-21 -**

Sadly, we are saying goodbye this coming year to Wil Nicholson who is stepping down from the BOD, but promises not from volunteering at the farm with his family. Wil has been with us from the beginning and will be missed.

We welcome Katie Riordan Napolitan to the BOD. A life-long time 4-Her, Katie has been a great volunteer for many years and is always here when we need her. She has had many adventures on the farm such as being locked into the chicken coop with Nancy and taking down the sunflowers with her car. Katie works for the Indian Valley Family YMCA as the School Age Programs Director and we look forward to her input into the direction of the farm and its programs.

With the cancelling of programming at the farm this summer, our Executive Director Mary Millican has graciously agreed to be laid off from her position at the farm. She is still volunteering to run the garden program and monitor the Vintage Shop next to farm store, so we will see her around.

**“A Board can be harmonized through leadership, humility, insightful business understanding, a trustful culture and learning agility.” -Pearl Zhu**

## Financial Statement:

We always thank all who support the farm by generously giving their time and financial support. We would not be where we are today without all the support in so many ways. This year we were honored to be awarded income from many special sources that are noted below and we have done work on the barn and finally put the new fence in.

3:25 PM  
07/09/20  
Accrual Basis

### Strong Family Farm Statement of Financial Position As of June 30, 2020

	Jun 30, 2020	Jun 30, 2019
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Checking/Savings</b>		
Paypal Strong Family Farm	1,407.51	1,813.80
People's United Bank	82,673.74	36,262.00
Petty Cash	114.90	114.90
Special Checking - Pastures	9,248.68	0.00
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>93,444.83</u>	<u>38,190.70</u>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>		
Total Accounts Receivable	-307.00	-292.00
<b>Other Current Assets</b>		
12000 · Undeposited Funds	25.00	89.05
12100 · Inventory Asset	552.02	552.02
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<u>577.02</u>	<u>641.07</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>93,714.85</u>	<u>38,539.77</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><b>93,714.85</b></u>	<u><b>38,539.77</b></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
<b>Liabilities - payroll</b>		
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>218.22</u>	<u>864.01</u>
<b>Equity</b>		
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	39,295.66	39,295.66
32000 · Retained Earnings	-1,619.90	17,545.47
Net Income	55,820.87	-19,165.37
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>93,496.63</u>	<u>37,675.76</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><b>93,714.85</b></u>	<u><b>38,539.77</b></u>
Notes -		
Large income this year -		
Anonymous donation	76,000	
Dept of Ag Viability Grant 2018	26,000	
In Faith Foundation/Thrivent	14,000	
1772 Grant	9,000	
Major Expenses-		
Barn Painting & Siding Repair	19,000	
New Fence & Gates	11,000	
Payroll	30,000	

## **Members**

Pam Abbott  
Beth Quinby Andresen\*  
George & Joan Apel  
Fred & Cheri Arzt  
Tom & Donna Barnas  
Carol Barry  
Charlotte Benson  
June Bray  
Carol Brennen  
Linda Brown  
Paul Brown  
Carol Burke\*  
Barbara Campbell  
Helen Campbell  
Carol Chappel  
Nancy Choma  
Richard & Julie Clay\*  
Thomasina Clemons  
Tom Connelly  
Stan & Julie Culy  
Mary DalPorto  
Robert & Linda Danehy  
Dottie Davies  
David & Janet Dexter  
Nancy Taylor Dunn  
Kate & Alex Fowler  
Cynthia Ferguson  
Mary Gelezunas  
Gordon Gibson  
Ginny Gingras  
Daryl and Eric Gottier  
Barbara Greenleaf  
William & Diane Gutzmer  
Susan Ham  
Judy Hany  
Phil & Cindy Hays  
Cheryl Hazen  
Virginia Hickton

John & Marcia Horan  
Nancy & Richard Huebner  
Donald Houlberg family  
Bob & Lorraine Hurd  
Charles Iadaresta  
Kurt & Ann Johnson  
Lynn & Loyd Johnson  
Joyce Jordan & David Conant  
Barbara & Richard Jubinville  
Beverly Kelly  
Judy & Russel Kelly, Jr.  
Chris Kunz  
Robert & Suzanne Langone  
Daniel Leblanc  
Paige & Joe Leblanc  
Ann & Bob Letendre  
Bob & Kathy Lyle  
Jean & Bruce Luddy  
Steve & Candy Malinoski  
Ellen Marmer  
Karen Meehan  
Gail Meyers/Ed Jaworski  
Mary Ann Mierzwa  
Lisa Moody  
Walter and Erin Moody  
Meredith & David Moseley  
Brian & Penny Motola  
Barbara Muldoon  
Jan & Tony Muro  
David Murphy  
Mike Nelson family  
Ann & Rich Nevelos  
Frank & Claire Niederwerfer  
Karl & Sue Niederwerfer  
Merrilyn Niederwerfer Cummings  
Janice Peacock  
Lisa Perrone  
Becky & Ross Person

Eileen & Dick Phelps  
Wayne & Julie Polansky family  
Dick & Barbara Quinby\*  
Richard Jr. & Lisa Quinby\*  
Wayne Reiske  
Jaime Rizner  
Rachel Rizner-Huntley  
Chris & Sue Robare  
Rockville Community Alliance  
Jon Roe  
Lori Sanchez  
Carl & Polly Schaefer  
Tom Schirmer & family  
Paul Shimer  
Ed & Carole Slattery  
Peg Sorensen  
Rose Spafford  
Richard & Claudia Steele  
Nancy Steffens  
Catherine Steinnagel  
Nancy Strong\*  
Elly Swan  
Lynn & Tom Sweet  
Nancy Traut  
Beth Villodas  
Wendy Wanchak\*  
Doreen Ward  
Nancy Weissmuller  
Steven Westerberg Family  
Theona Wheelock  
Dan, Isa, Lydia & Liam Whelton  
Nancy Skinner Whitman  
John Wraight  
Joanne Wright

**\*Blue Ribbon Life Members**

**AND MANY THANKS TO THE 500+ WHO DONATED TO SAVE THE STRONG FARM PASTURES!**

**-Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.-**

## Special Thanks to our faithful SFF Volunteers!

All the BOD & Steering Committee members  
 Michalina Pietras, CPA  
 Joshua Eagan, VP & Center Road School Families  
 Jane Seymour CT DEEP  
 Cathy Testa – Container Crazy CT  
 Laurie Sanchez and her special chickens/books  
 Judy Hany – Chicken Promotion & Supporter  
 Kris Viens and family & Girl Scout Troop  
 Dave, Bill and Diane Gutzmer  
 Carl Schaefer and all weed whackers  
 Jon Roe and Vernon Volunteers Collaborative  
 Theona Wheelock and Nancy Rowe Huebner  
 Vernon Police Department  
 Vernon Police Explorers  
 Vernon Community Emergency Response Team  
 Gypsy Hearts  
 Dan Gallagher, Garden Program Coordinator  
 Bill Daugherty, Builder  
 Robert Hurd, Architect  
 All at CT Dept. of Agriculture  
 SFF Proof Readers esp. Barbara Muldoon  
 Liz Bologna - Marketing specialist  
 Dan Gallagher – Master Gardener  
 Walt Moody – Walt's Bees  
 All SFF AgEd students  
 Josh Virkler – LuAnn's Bakery  
 David Murphy – dahlia man  
 Clucky T. Rooster Shawna Cote  
 Roger Barker and Mike Lewis  
 Chris Sickler – Volunteer Extraordinaire  
 Tom Barnas – painter extraordinaire  
 Richard and Claudia Steele  
 Frank Niederwerfer & Civil War re-enactors  
 Ann Johnson for graphic assistance & support  
 Loyd Johnson, Plumber/Gardener, and Lynn  
 Katie Riordan Napolitan  
 RHS AgEd former/present SFF students & parents  
 Nicholas Taylor & Christina Martin  
 Ruchin & Associates  
 Ruth Morrison-making the farm look great in C-19  
 All our Harvest Festival vendors and volunteers!!!!

### Our Farmer Friends

Hop-A-Long 4-H Club  
 RHS Ag.Ed. Department & Students  
 Aussakita Acres Farm – D.J, Tracey and Bob  
 Burbank Bend Farm - Adam  
 Driggs Hill Farm – Amy, John, Carley & Pepe  
 Smyth's Trinity Farm  
 The Farmer's Cow & Hytone Farm  
 Schaub Family Farm

### Farm Photographers

Dan Villeneuve  
 Andre Garant  
 Community Voice Channel  
 Mike Nelson and Ron Sperry

Thanks to all our 7th Annual Virtual Chicken Run Sponsors and The Last Mile race organizers and those registering to run or walk. You made this year a success!!



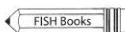
Penny and Brian Motola

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AND A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OTHERS WHO HELPED MAKE OUR YEAR A SUCCESS!



"Where flowers bloom so does hope." – Lady Bird Johnson