

Grand Ma's Barnyard – Premier Exhibit at the Putnam County Fair

Grand Ma's Barnyard was created through the collaborative efforts of the Putnam County Fair, UT Putnam County Extension Service, UT Plant and Soil Sciences Department, Tennessee Technological University, Putnam County Farm Bureau, and the Middle Tennessee Antique Engine and Tractor Association.

How it starts ...

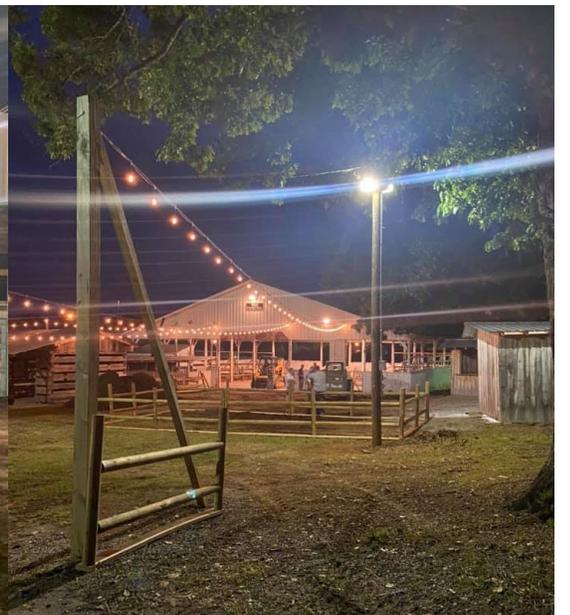
- It begins each year with an empty barn on the fairgrounds – the memory of the fair president, and the creativity of two families – the Jeremy Glascock and David Clouse families – several loads of animals from White County & the labor of the best fairground crew in the world.



- These are the before pictures ...



- Fair Board Members and the Fairground Crew work nights and weekends building the sheds, pens, and stalls; hauling shavings and gravel by the ton; stringing lights; adding equipment and running additional electricity to meet the needs of each exhibit.



- The Finished Barnyard – ready for Media Night and Opening Day



Doubled in size from 2019



Grand Ma's Barnyard incorporates Farmer for the Day and a petting zoo into a replica of a real Putnam County Barnyard in the 1940s and 1950s

Signage featured the story of the Real Grand Ma – Maude Chaffin Allen, 201 Allen Hollow Road, Cookeville, TN.

John Allen, President of the Putnam County Fair points to one of the signs telling the story of his Grand Ma's Barnyard which serves as the model for Grand Ma's Barnyard at the Fair.



The “Grand Ma’s Barnyard idea came from Fair Board President John Allen’s memory and brought to life by the Jeremy Glascock & David Clouse Families – both families were recognized during Opening Luncheon for their outstanding Fair support & it’s creation.



75 Farm Animals – Live Demonstrations – Working Blacksmith Shop – Quilting – Spinning -
Cast Iron Cooking Shed - Weaving and Making Homemade Soap in the Log Cabin –
Multiple Antique Engines and Tractors – Antique Hay Baler – A Real Out House –
Working Water Pump – Farrier Demonstrations – Plants Galore

With the expansion of Grand Ma’s Barnyard, we created a second entrance to help with the flow of traffic and to allow folks to enter directly from our concession stands area and coming out of the midway. All the antique tractors and engines filled this new space along with a new shed for chickens, turkeys, etc.



In addition to the wonderful array of farm animals – there were four major features in Grand Ma’s Barnyard –

- Susan Richardson, Fabric Artist, Spinner, Weaver
- Jimmy O’Reilly, the Angry Ironsmith
- The Middle Tennessee Antique Engines & Tractor Association
- David Clouse, Cast Iron Cooking in the Cornbread Shack

Leanna Marcy, 2021 Fairest of the Fair
cuddles one of the two-day old pigs
at Media Night in Grand Ma's Barnyard.



Some of the Other Live Demonstrations in Grand Ma's Barnyard



Antique Engines were turned on &
running, one of the demonstrations
in Grand Ma's Barnyard.

Live milking demonstrations
were given to guests by Junior
Fair Board Members during
the ten-day fair.



Three of our Junior Fair Board members moving loose hay to the antique baler to demonstrate how hay was baled before modern equipment.



The antique hay baler was one of the most popular antique pieces of farm equipment in this year's Grand Ma's Barnyard exhibit.



“I love the fair because of the people I get to know and love along the way. It’s so important right now to get out in the community and help as much as you can, and the fair is a perfect opportunity for that. This past year I met so many new people who have impacted my life for the better. I will never forget the memories I made with the Putnam County Fair. “

-Grace Rathunde, Treasurer, Junior Fair Board