

A family, a farm, and a rich history:

Hay Press barn

The Meyer Family Farm



The Meyer Family

For Bob and Debbie Meyer, life on their farm in Vevay, Indiana, has always been about more than just land; it's about family, history and the future. They bought the farm when Bob was just 31 years old, and with five children to raise, it was hectic at times. But Bob always believed that the farm would help keep the family close, even as the kids grew older and started their own lives.

The farm, now spanning 460 acres, wasn't always that large. Over the years, Bob and Debbie worked hard to buy the surrounding land, slowly piecing it together to preserve their family's legacy. "We pieced this farm together," Bob said, reflecting on how the farm has grown and evolved.

Raising five kids on a farm wasn't without its challenges, but it was a labor of love. "We didn't get into cutting hay and cattle until later," Debbie explained. "We heated with wood, so the kids helped a lot carrying firewood. When they were old enough, they cut and stacked it, and they dug fence posts." For Bob and Debbie, the farm was about more than just work; it was about teaching their children responsibility and keeping the family connected.

One of the standout features of the farm is the historic Hay Press barn, which predates the Civil War. The barn is one of the few left in the state, and Bob and Debbie have worked hard to preserve it. "We've done our best to preserve it. The previous owner started the restoration, and we've tweaked some things since then," Bob says. The barn has special meaning to the family. One of their sons even had his wedding reception there, adding another layer of personal history to this already significant building.



Wedding reception in the Hay Press barn

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Throughout all of their hard work, Bob's career as a Delta pilot in the military helped provide for the family. However, he chose to stay at a rank that allowed him to pick his hours. "It was a sacrifice," Bob explained, "but I could make it to my kids' events and be around more. It was less pay, but we always put family first." Bob's dedication to his family was clear and he made it known to his children: "We will only leave this farm in a box." He hopes that his children and many grandchildren will enjoy the farm long after he and Debbie are gone, and that the land stays together for future generations.



The first stone home on the property

The history of the land is rich with stories, and Bob and Debbie have spent years learning about the people who lived there before them. One of the oldest stories they heard was about a Mason from Switzerland who came to the area with his four boys. One of his sons later bought the property and built a beautiful stone home on the land. They also learned of an old single-room schoolhouse on the property that one of their neighbors had attended. The most intriguing tale is of an old man with only one arm who lived in a stone house by the creek. He lost his other arm in the Civil War, and his story adds yet another layer of history to the property.

Bob and Debbie's dream of building a house in the middle of their property became a reality just six years ago when they began the construction of their new home. The couple's connection to the land and its history is unwavering, and they are proud to continue the legacy of their farm while ensuring that future generations will have the opportunity to experience the same sense of family and history they cherish today.

SEI REMC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Scot Cunningham

As our Network Coordinator, Scot Cunningham has dedicated four years full-time and seven years as a part-time contractor to Southeastern Indiana REMC. He plays a key role in ensuring cybersecurity, managing server administration, overseeing backup and recovery and maintaining internal websites, all while developing custom scripts and programming solutions to keep our cooperative secure and running smoothly.

Scot's passion for technology shines through in everything he does. "I love everything about my job," he says. "It's been my career for over 40 years, and I'll retire when I'm not having fun anymore." His dedication ensures our cooperative stays connected and protected.

Outside of work, Scot is known for his love of running and music. A self-described "fastest old guy" in local races, he enjoys playing guitar, blues harmonica, and trombone, along with dabbling in the ukulele and mandolin. Scot also cherishes summer concerts with his grown children and relaxing beach vacations with his wife, two children, and three grandchildren.

Thank you, Scot, for your incredible service and dedication throughout the years.