

## Dear Friends, Neighbors and Customers

The forecast for Saturday is literally, "Sunny and Beautiful."

Use MapQuest for directions.

Snake River Farm  
18251 62<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Becker, MN 55308

Email if you have questions.

The fall harvest is going as planned.

These fall days, especially the mornings are delightful.

The animals and I much prefer this cooler fall weather.

It has rained a little. A few showers and good morning dews.

Enough to keep the lowland grasses growing for the bison and cattle.

We are a foot or two short on rainfall but it is likely we can pick up most of that by spring.

Next year will be a new start.

The 2013 growing season is pretty much history.

I did plant small grains in parts of the hog pastures this week. A long shot but if we get enough warm weather, they will have grazing into November.

The wheat hogs are working out very well.

The Red Wattle piglets are growing fast.

Every morning when I come in from chores I tell Gail how well the hogs are doing.

I suppose she has heard enough of that.

The bison and cattle are all in better shape than I expected.

The lambs, which are at Sarah and Jordan's farm, look excellent. Much larger than last year at this time.

There will be fifteen, one month-old bunnies for kids to cuddle on Saturday.

The two rabbit does are quite productive. No doubt the buck deserves some credit too. I just do not see his role as all that challenging.

Apparently, we did a good job of keeping the animals cool and well fed through the heat and drought.

Cherry reminded me to rebuild the self-serve **compost** pile.

It is in the same location near the driveway at the woods end.

There will be a shovel. Bring your own containers.

The cranes and geese are flocking up.

I love the sounds those big birds make flying overhead on their way from the Refuge ponds to the corn fields.

Wild turkey numbers are the highest I have ever seen.

I see 20 to 50 turkeys each morning between the farmstead and the south pastures.

I intentionally spill a little grain when I grind hog feed. That brings the turkeys and sometimes cranes right into the farm yard.

Hope to see you Saturday.

Sunny and beautiful.

Best regards.

Tom

p.s. Did I mention that Gail retired?

Twenty eight years as the Becker Librarian.

Her last day there was a month ago and I do not believe she has had a spare minute yet.