

THRASHERS

HOUSE OF TERROR

Oct 6-8; 13-15; 20-22; 27-29; 31

Over One Mile of Holiday Lighted Displays!



Mount Pleasant
Festival of Lights

5:30-9:00 PM

Nov 17-20; 24-27; Dec 1-4; 8-11; 14-31



Join us for
BINGO in
Museum B
Thursday –
Sunday

from 1-5pm and Monday
from 9am-1pm. All proceeds
benefit the Old Threshers
Foundation Endowment.

OLDTHRESHERS.COM

Sept 14-17—Printers' Fair/Ladies of Letterpress

Thrashers House of Terror

Oct 6-8; 13-15; 20-22; 27-29; 31

Midwest Haunted Rails

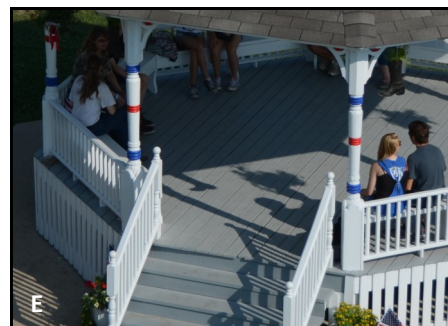
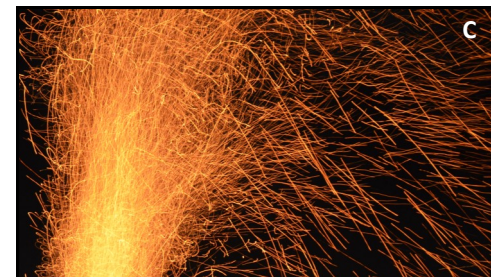
Oct 7-8; 14-15; 21-22; 28-29

Mt Pleasant Festival of Lights

Nov 17-20; 24-27; Dec 1-4; 8-11; 14-31

WHAT IS IT? WHERE IS IT?

Look at the photos below. Can you tell what it is? And where it might be found on the Old Threshers Grounds?



Look for the answers on page 5.

Threshers Chaff

Midwest Old Threshers Association
Mount Pleasant, Iowa

STEAM POWER HOUSE CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

By Bob Gilchrist

The first engine in what we call the Stationary Steam Power House area of Museum A, was actually donated two years before they had a place to put it.

Museum A was built in 1966, 50 years ago. In the far northeast corner of the building, they placed the Murray Corliss non-condensing steam engine. It was donated to the Association by Mrs. Eugene McCoid in memory of her father, the late R.B. Louder, president and founder of Iowa Malleable Iron in Fairfield.

The engine was used for generating all the power for overall operations and was in continuous operation for 54 years with only two, one-half day interruptions due to minor adjustments. It is the featured stationary steam engine for 2016.

In 1966, that first engine was powered by a traction steam engine sitting just outside what was then the new building.

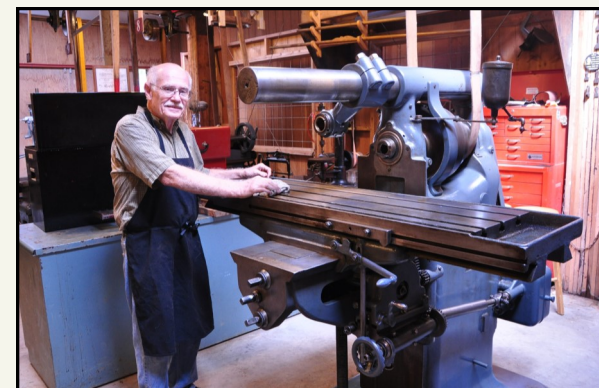
From that one engine, the Power House has continued to grow. The building has been added to twice. The first time was to add the wings and the other



Alice Rohrsen works to get the engines in Stationary Steam ready for the 2015 Reunion. The Stationary Steam Power House turns 50 years old this year.

Repeating the history of every engine in the Power House would take several pages. Some of the highlights include the Vim Engine, used to power the saw mill that made parts for whiskey barrels in the Hiram Walker Distillery; the Vilter-Corliss used to pump ammonia to the freezers in a packing plant in Albert Lea, Minn.; the Normal Engine from an orphanage in Normal, Ill; and the Mayville Engine from Mayville Junior High in Missouri. This engine was used to power a large fan that circulated air throughout the building. And the Mine Hoisting Engine from a coal mine in south central Iowa. The small but mighty engine was used to lift coal and workers to different levels of the mine.

These are just a few of the many engines in the Stationary Steam Power House. Come and see the collection demonstrated throughout the 5-day Reunion. These engines and ones just like them are what built industry in America and what made this country the greatest in the world.



John Wilson gets the Brown & Sharpe Milling Machine ready for the 2016 Reunion. The milling machine is part of the Wilke Exhibit in Museum A. The Wilke exhibit gets its power from the Stationary Steam Power House.

was to add the boiler room on the east end of the building after the placement of the Marshalltown Engine. Yes, the building was constructed around the huge engine that once pumped water in Marshalltown.

Take a Power House Tour Thursday-Sunday at 2 and 4pm and Monday at 10:30am and 2pm. Hear the Corliss Engine Lecture and Demonstration Thursday-Sunday at 10:30am and 3 pm and Monday at 10:30am and 2pm.

BEING PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER THAN YOURSELF!

Take a moment to sit back and think of the all the things you are a part of that make up your life - your family, kids, grandkids, your community, church groups, sports clubs, clubs and organizations, coffee clubs, national organizations, and even the Old Threshers Association. We all fit those things into our busy schedules and they become what we call life. We all give freely of our time, talents, skills, sometimes even our money and we are called volunteers!

“The Gift of Time is Priceless”

*Valuable is the work you do
Outstanding in how you always come through
Loyal, sincere and full of good cheer
Untiring in your efforts throughout the year
Notable are the contributions you make
Trustworthy in every project you take
Eager to reach your goal
Effective in the way you fulfill your role
Ready with a smile like a shining star
Special and wonderful – that’s what you are!! – Anonymous*

How does it make you feel to be a part of something bigger than yourself? All of that helps us make a difference in so many ways for those different groups and communities we are part of! It takes everyone to work together to make them all a success and helps ourselves feel good about ourselves and what we are doing.

“(NO ONE) can do everything but (EVERYONE) can do something” – Unknown

I believe that volunteers all know that the work is not going to be easy, but it’s going to be worth it in the end. Once again, an opportunity to get a dose of good, personal feelings back at the end of the service as a volunteer.

“Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth” Muhammad Ali

It is a proven fact that Old Threshers has the best volunteers by far. Whenever I’m asked to speak about Old Threshers, the volunteers are at the top the list in the discussion. I then have the warm fuzzy feelings again as I explain the impact that the volunteers have on our Association, our museums, our programs, and the Old Threshers Reunion.

*Volunteers are just ordinary people with extraordinary hearts.
They offer the gift of their time to teach, to listen, to help, to inspire, to build, to grow, to learn.
They expect no pay, yet the value of their work knows no limit.
They’ve known the unexpected joy of a simple hug.
They’ve planted tiny seeds of love in countless lives.
Volunteers are just ordinary people who reach out and take a hand and together, make a difference that lasts a lifetime.*

The true, heart felt dedication to this Association by its volunteers is amazing. I can only estimate the total number of volunteer hours given to Old Threshers since 1950. But we all can see the impact that those hours have had on the Association. Over all the years, for everything that has been changed, added, and expanded, have had a helping hand from the volunteers. The Old Threshers Association over the years has used the 3 Cs of life: CHOICES, CHANCES, and CHANGES to become the best of its kind. It has had to make choices to take chances or it would have never changed. Changes strengthen the Association and enable it to be viable more than six decades after its inception. I know that as volunteers, some of those choices, chances and changes caused bad feelings to arise, but we must work together to move forward and make Old Threshers the best that it can be.

I wish to THANK each and EVERY volunteer of the Midwest Old Threshers Association. Every volunteer is very special. You are not afraid to step in when you see the need. You are always willing to lend hand when you can. You are there to lift someone up who’s sinking. You share your talents, skills, and your time. You all seem to possess endless energy. You share a smile, a hand shake, and even a big Hello to the visitors and other volunteers.

Volunteers may be shocked to find, when the day of judgement nears, that there’s a special place in Heaven, set aside for volunteers. Furnished with big recliners, satin couches and footstools. Where there are no committee chairmen, no bake sales or rest area coffee to serve, no library duty or bulletin to assemble, there will be nothing to print, staple, fold, stuff in an envelope, no grass to mow and telephone lists will be outlawed. BUT a finger snap will bring cool drinks and gourmet dinners and rare treats fit for a king. You ask “Who’ll serve these privileged and work for all they’re worth?”

Why, all those who reaped the benefits and not once volunteered on Earth.

TO EACH AND EVERY VOLUNTEER, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Tang

FEATURED STEAM ENGINE

continued from page 7

home.

Currently, the family has six steam engines in operating condition.

Visitors will find them running the Sears Saw Mill located south of the Veneer Mill.

As with most exhibitors, the Broadheads come here to see the people just as much as run their engine.

“When we were younger it was all about the engines,” says John, Jr.

“Now it’s about the people.” John says it’s nice to see the engines he grew up with continue to be operated by the next generation of engineers. He is one of those people passing on the appreciation of steam as his 20-year-old son and 18-year-old daughter.



The Broadheads -John, Jr., Helen, John and James, of Colchester, Ill. Not pictured—Julie and Jeff.

DOLL COLLECTION RECEIVES GRANT FOR NEW HOME

Midwest Old Threshers and the Bussey Doll Collection have received a large grant to aid in their endeavor of building a doll museum. At this time the dolls are housed just off the OT Gift Shop.

The new location is slated to be in Museum A next to the Foundation Room. Despite the generous grant, there is still a need for funding. The Association has applied for other grants and will hear back later in the fall. The Hawkeye Doll Club and The Pleasant Pickers have also donated to the doll museum fund. To find out more about the Bussell Doll Building Fund, see Glenna in the Bussey Doll Museum or call the Old Threshers office at 319-385-8937.

Midwest Old Threshers hosted the 14th Annual Bussey Doll Event in June, entitled “Viewing Victorian Childhood.” Many exhibits were on display featuring Victorian dolls, toys and photographs both in the doll room and in the program area. Many of the displays in

the doll room remain for Reunion visitors to enjoy.

Other programs given included “None but the Best, the Youth’s Companion During the

Victorian Years,” given by Donilee Popham. A video “She Walks in Beauty” was provided by the Hawkeye Doll Club member Rose Morrill.

**O B I T U A R I E S** *continued from page 10*

Allison Buckert, and Austin Buckert; and 3 great grandchildren: Luke and Mary Buckert, and Blair Buckert. Fred was preceded in death by his parents; a son and a daughter, David and Debbie; two brothers: Robert and Russell Buckert, and two sisters: Joyce Hartweg and Linda Moore.

Fred graduated from Hamilton High School in 1950, where he was active

in football and track. He played on several men’s softball leagues in Elvaston and Carthage. He served in the US Army, Korean War, 1953 – 1955. He was a member of Nauvoo American Legion Post and Hamilton VFW Post. Fred and Ruth have farmed in the Hamilton area since 1955. He had been a member of Midwest Old Threshers since 1963, and a member and past president of J. I. Case

Collectors Club. Fred served on the Farm Service Board for over 10 years and was a board member of Carthage Farm Bureau. He was a member of Hamilton Sports Boosters and had served as president. He was a founding member of Western Illinois Threshers and served as president for many years. Fred helped moved two log cabins onto the Threshers grounds and helped move the school house, train station, and

caboose. He also was instrumental in erecting and promoting the museums on the WIT grounds. Fred enjoyed visiting with friends and especially loved spending time with his family.

Memorials have been established for Western Illinois Threshers. Condolences can be left online for the family at www.lamportefuneralhome.com

O B I T U A R I E S

Cyril "C.J." Lehnhardt

Cyril "C.J." Lehnhardt, 92, of Coal Valley, Ill., died May 4, 2016, at home.

Cyril John Lehnhardt was born November 20, 1923, in Dubuque, Iowa, the son of Albert Henry and Bertha Clara (Bergmann) Lehnhardt. He graduated from Dubuque Senior High School. At age 19, he entered the U.S. Army 10th Mountain Division ski troop. During World War II, he was sent to the Po Valley and Apennine Mountains of Northern Italy, where he served not on skis, but on snowshoes. He married Doris Milne on March 15, 1958, in Moline, Illinois. She died August 27, 1991.

C.J. worked for seven years as a pattern maker in Dubuque and Chicago before being hired at John Deere Foundry in East Moline, where he worked mainly in the seeding division creating parts for planters. He was with John Deere for 31 years, retiring in 1986.

C.J. was a collector of various things, including trains, model tractors, and old switchman lanterns. He was a member of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club, Central Electric Rail Fans Association, Railway and Locomotive Historical Society, Antique Engine Tractor Association, and was a charter member of the Two-Cylinder club (now the Deere Valley Collectors Tractor Club) and the Iowa Chapter National Railroad Historical Society.

Active in the community, he was a member of Colona United Methodist Church, the Coal Valley Masonic Lodge #547, and was a charter member of the Coal Valley State Bank and the

Quad Cities Pattern Maker's Federal Credit Union. He served on the Board of Directors for the Blackhawk State Bank in Milan for 25 years, up to the age of 88.

C.J. is survived by nieces and nephews, Dr. Warren and Carla Schmidt of Oxford, Iowa, David Luz of Santa Fe, New Mexico, Debbie Arebalo of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Shelley and Rod Kirsch of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, Barbara and Barney Bishop, Richard Lehnhardt and Robert and Carol Lehnhardt all of Dubuque, Pamela Beauchamp of Moline, Illinois, Steven and Cindy Sim of East Moline, and Mary Ann Crimmins of East Moline; many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends that include Diane Beauchamp of Moline, and Jeraldine Clewell of Moline; and a special caregiver, Deborah Chokkalingam of Coal Valley. He was preceded in death by his wife, Doris; brothers, Kenneth and Donald Lehnhardt, sisters, Marcella Luz and Doris Lehnhardt, and nephews, Wayne Schmidt and Gary Lehnhardt.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made The Mayo Legacy Donation Group, 200 1st Street SW, Rochester, MN, 55902, of which he was a member and major benefactor.

Gerald LaForce

Gerald Avon LaForce, 78, of Hallsville, Mo., passed away May 26, 2016. Gerald was born on May 20, 1938 in Moberly, MO to the late Avon and Delphine (Greene)

LaForce.

Gerald was an entrepreneur who loved all of his jobs. He is survived by his children; David (Emily), Gary (Amy), Carla (Vint), and Tammy (Joe); his grandchildren; Katelyn McLane, Braden McLane, Ryan McLane, Kyle Wright, Aaron Wright, Erica Flannery and Sydney Mitchell; as well as many great and great-great grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his loving wife, Laurie LaForce and his sister, Kay Alexander. Memorials may be left to Redtop Christian Church or Hallsville Community Development Association.

Dorothy Martin

Dorothy Martin, 82, of Rural Marion, passed away Tuesday, July 19, 2016, at St. Luke's Hospital, Cedar Rapids.

Dorothy is survived by her husband, Paul; children, Rick (Faith) Martin of Alburnett, Paula Patterson of Marion, and Marilyn (Lee Johnson) Kriegel of Marion; seven grandchildren, Nick Olinger, Justin (Carrie) Martin, Brandon (Brooke) Kriegel, Elaine (Mike) Collet, Shannon Kriegel, Mattlock Martin, and Mitchell Martin; and 5 great-grandchildren, Montana, Riggs, Braydon, Jaxson, and Brady.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two daughters, Delva and Cindy; one grandson, Kory; and one brother, Ray.

Dorothy was born October 21, 1933, in Alburnett, the daughter of Glenn and Pauline (O'Kelly) Wagner. She

graduated from Alburnett High School in 1951. In 1951, she married Paul Martin in Alburnett. They were longtime farmers in the Alburnett/Marion area. Dorothy was a member of the Prairie Chapel United Methodist Church and the Alburnett Historical Society.

Memorials may be directed to Prairie Chapel United Methodist Church or the Alburnett Historical Society.

Fred Buckert

Fred A. Buckert, 83, of rural Hamilton, Ill., passed away July 22, 2016 at Blessing Hospital in Quincy. He was born on May 1, 1933 at the family farm, Hamilton, the son of Alvin and Marie Mitze Buckert. Fred and Ruth E. McBride were united in marriage on October 1, 1955 in Carthage, Illinois. She survives in Hamilton.

In addition to his wife, Ruth E. Buckert of Hamilton, he is survived by 4 sons: Kenny Buckert of Hamilton, IL, Danny (Karen) Buckert of Warsaw, IL; Alan (Lauri) Buckert of Mt. Pleasant, IA, and Richard (Gina) Buckert of Peoria, IL; a sister: Betty Harvey of West Point, IA and a brother: Larry (Cheryl) Buckert of Warsaw, IL; 8 grandchildren: Kyle (Alyssa) Buckert, Kevin (Jenifer) Buckert, Kristin (Gary) Ortmann, Jared Buckert, Jeremy Buckert, Amy Buckert,

Continued page 11

2016 GRANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT



Thursday, Sept 1
Country Gold



Friday, Sept 2
ERIC PASLAY



Kellie Pickler
Saturday, Sept 3

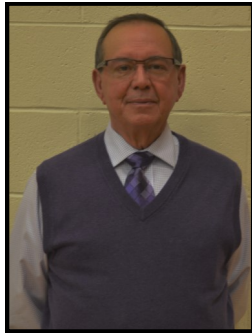


Tracy Lawrence
Sunday, Sept 4

BUY YOUR TICKETS ONLINE!
OLDTHRESHERS.COM



VISIT THE FOUNDATION ROOM DURING THE 2016 REUNION



Please come visit us in the Old Threshers Foundation Room during the 2016 Reunion! Our air-conditioned Foundation Room is located in Museum A near the gazebo which offers free family entertainment throughout each day. We welcome the opportunity to visit with you and give free (temporary) tattoos to all the kids (of any age!). Our new steam carousel horse tattoo was quite popular with kids at the 2016 Iowa State Fair.

The Foundation's souvenir smashing penny machine was also quite popular among the Iowa State Fair visitors and will be back in the Foundation Room for the reunion. You may choose from four different Lennis Moore designs – steam carousel, steam engine, trolley and tractor. Be sure to stop by and get your collectible souvenir.

BINGO is a new event being offered during the 2016 reunion; all proceeds benefit the Old Threshers Foundation endowment. So join the fun and test your luck at BINGO from 1:00 to 5:00 each afternoon (Thursday through Sunday) and 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Labor Day. BINGO will be located in the northeast corner of Museum B.

Providing financial support to Midwest Old Threshers is the sole purpose of the Foundation. Since it was established in 1986, the Foundation has transferred **OVER ONE MILLION** in earnings to Midwest Old Threshers to help fund over 150 projects, including steam engine, tractor and trolley car restoration, museum exhibits, trees and landscaping, antique dolls, campground electrical upgrades, trolley tracks, sound system, Log Village, North Village, Printers' Hall, showers & restrooms, welcome center, food pavilion and headquarter buildings for the tractor, gas engine and steam areas.

In addition, the Foundation has transferred over \$260,000 in contributions to Midwest Old Threshers from its new pass-through account. With the creation of this new donor option, contributions may be designated for specific needs and immediately be passed on to Midwest Old Threshers. Examples of pass-through donations include the Festival of Lights, Printers Hall, Drive-A-Tractor, steam carousel and the new antique car, truck and fire department exhibit – the last museum display designed by Lennis Moore.

All gifts to the Old Threshers Foundation, either as a long-term investment in the permanent endowment or as a short-term investment in the new pass-through account, qualify as charitable contributions to a non profit 501(c)(3) organization for Federal income, estate and gift tax purposes.

The Foundation Directors wish to extend condolences to the family of Marjorie S. Dane, who recently passed away. Marjorie, and her husband, George R. Dane, from Iowa City, Iowa, have been long-time supporters of Midwest Old Threshers and the Foundation. Last year the Marjorie S. Dane Family Trust established a restricted account in the Foundation's endowment to support school tours at Midwest Old Threshers. This year the family donated a computer to the Old Threshers campground, where the Dane Family campers reside during each reunion.

We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing everyone at the 2016 Reunion!

Alan D. Husinga, Executive Director

Continued from page 8

I asked if the brothers had other collecting interests besides steam engines. They agreed that they both liked antiques, but probably neither could really be called a collector!

Be sure to stop by the model steam area this year to visit with James and John, and the other model builders, to learn more about this remarkable hobby. Weather permitting, many of the models (including the 1914 ½ scale rear mount Advance) will proudly parade in the Cavalcade of Power along with their full-sized counterparts.

2016 Special Souvenir Button

For the past six years, Old Threshers has issued a Special Souvenir button. Due to the continuing popularity of these giant four-inch Souvenir buttons, Old Threshers has issued a limited quantity of the 2016 Souvenir buttons in the same format. This seventh giant button makes an interesting supplemental button for the core collection. Contact the Old Threshers' office for availability and pricing of this collectible button.

Official Supplements

The **2016 Volunteer** button coordinates with the color of the main **Souvenir** button. This button is a name window button featuring a turquoise, black, and white color scheme. The printing is black, and there is a gradation of the turquoise color from light near the name window to dark on the outer edge. This Volunteer button layout closely resembles the Volunteer buttons for 1991 and 1992. In mid-July, the **2016 Exhibitor/Staff** button was unavailable for examination. In past years, this oval name-window button has closely resembled the design of the Volunteer button. An attached coordinating ribbon will identify the main Old Threshers activity area of the wearer. Both of these supplemental buttons are earned for volunteer work at Old Threshers. Old Threshers has **never** sold these buttons. These supplemental buttons do, on occasion, show up in the secondary market, but collectors must hunt diligently for them. If you are interested in earning either or both of these volunteer buttons, contact the Old Threshers Office, the first step in becoming involved in Old Threshers' rewarding volunteer service.

The following charts summarize updated facts about the 2016 Old Threshers Button collection. Be sure to add this important information to your collector's guide.

Old Threshers staff and I were excited to publish a new collector's guide, **The Elusive '54, The Complete Guide to Old Threshers Button Collecting, third edition**, that was available for the first time at the 2015 reunion. The third edition has more detailed information, more detailed photos and captions, and for the first time, pictures in color! This edition includes *all officially issued Old Threshers buttons from 1950 through 2015*.

ENGINE PORTRAITS

	MODEL	OWNER
YEAR		
2016	1914 ½ Scale Rear Mount Advance Model	James & John Broadhead, Colchester, IL

MEMBERSHIP/SOUVENIR BUTTONS

DATE	SIZE (Dia.)	OBVERSE COLOR	REVERSE COLOR	PIN TYPE	MARKING	VALUE
2016	55 mm	3272C Turquoise. White Black	Silver	Silver L	–	\$1.00

EARLY BIRD/VOLUNTEER BUTTONS

DATE	SIZE (Dia.)	OBVERSE COLOR	REVERSE COLOR	PIN TYPE	MARKING	VALUE
2016	55 mm	3272C Turquoise. White	Silver	Silver L	–	Market, not sold by OT

EXHIBITOR/STAFF BUTTONS

DATE	SIZE (Dia.)	OBVERSE COLOR	REVERSE COLOR	PIN TYPE	MARKING	VALUE
2015	46mm by 71mm	266 Purple Black White	Silver	Silver L	–	Market, not sold by OT
2016	Likely will be: 46mm by 71mm	Likely will be: 3272C Turquoise.	Silver	Silver L	–	Market, not sold by OT

BUTTON COLLECTORS' UPDATE 2016

Fifteenth Annual Button Collectors' Forum

Button Collectors will assemble for the fifteenth consecutive year at Button Collectors' Forum during the 2016 Old Threshers Reunion. Forum will be held Sunday morning, September 6th, in Colfax School, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Just take the ground train to the south pedestrian gate near the trolley depot and the carousel. Walk south past the Campground Information building and straight to the little red schoolhouse. Arrive anytime, and stay as long as you like.

At approximately 10:00 a.m., Carolyn will give a short presentation on the Value of Old Threshers Buttons. This topic is always of interest to collectors, judging by the number of questions people ask every year at the Forum! This will be a valuable opportunity for everyone, particularly children and youth, to learn more about the unique aspects of Old Threshers button collecting.

This is an open-house event for Old Threshers button collectors of all ages. The serious collector and the merely curious are welcome to gather informally to learn from each other and swap stories about our interesting and rewarding hobby. Young collectors and new collectors are especially welcome.

The Forum provides an excellent opportunity to show off your collections and rare finds, or to ask questions about buttons in your own collection. We hope to have a selection of available collectable buttons for sale. Attending the forum, where you will find information on ways to collect OT buttons and have an opportunity to see the variety of supplies available, is an excellent way to get a good start on your new collection, or update your old one.

I get excited about this event that brings collectors together, and I look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones.

2016 Souvenir Button Design

This year's Reunion color theme is turquoise, black, and white. The *2016 Souvenir button* features a 1914 ½-scale rear-mount Advance steam traction engine owned by James and John Broadhead from Colchester, Illinois. They appear on the button proudly flanking their model engine! In addition to Ben Moore's engine art, the 2016 button contains the full reunion date, engine identification, and the names and hometown of the owners in the center design. "Old Threshers" and "Mt. Pleasant, Iowa" circle the central vignette. The engine portrait is signed this year. Get out your magnifier and see if you can find Ben's initials!

Old Threshers button art has not always included make and/or model of the engine portraits, or identification of the owners of the engines when those engines were featured on the buttons. This practice began in 1993 and was dropped for 1994. It resumed for 1995 through 2009. In recent years, this information has only been included in 2014 and 2016. I suspect that this practice has been followed since 1993 if space allowed in the engine design. After all, this is only a 1 ¾ - inch diameter circle available for detail!

The button also includes a turquoise gradation of color in the background—a visual technique that was started some years ago, and used frequently since. I think this background technique adds the illusion of depth to the intricate design, and I hope we will see this technique used often for future button art.

The 55 mm diameter button is constructed as many previous buttons have been—a plastic coated paper formed over a metal shell and held together by a silver color metal backing disk. The attached pin has the silver loop style catch. As of mid-July this year, no varieties have been reported. My sharp-eyed variety collectors, who keep me up to date on possible existing varieties for the current year, may find major or minor varieties closer to the reunion date.

2016 Engine of the Year

One only needs to scan down the list of Old Threshers Engine Portraits in "*The Elusive '54, The Complete Guide to Old Threshers Button Collecting*" third edition, to realize how active the McClure/Broadhead family has been at Old Threshers. I count seven featured engine portraits between 1958 and 2016!

James and John Broadhead were "town boys" growing up, but both sets of grandparents had farms, and the brothers have very happy memories of frequent visits to their grandparents' farms. They say their favorite memories are the threshing reunions at Grandpa McClure's farm.

The brothers decided they wanted a model engine. They had friends who built models, and thought, "If they can build models, maybe we can do it, too!" They wanted to build a model together, and decided to use one of their granddad's engines as a pattern. They began their project in 1994, and the first fire was in 2004.

Since they were children, the brothers have always liked working together as a team and they divided the welding and machine work pretty equally between them. According to John, "The biggest problem we encountered was machining the engine frame after fabrication. It took twice as long to build fixtures and boring bar than it did to machine it."



OT WELCOMES NEW SWEET 16 COORDINATOR



Danielle Davison, new Sweet 16 Coordinator, is looking forward to this year's Reunion. Fifteen girls will participate in the program.

Danielle says there are many benefits to being a part of Sweet 16.

"The girls will have an opportunity to talk to many generations of people and to be a part of something bigger than themselves."

Volunteering develops good work skills and the girls will have plenty of opportunity for that as they have signed up to work at many places around the grounds.

Danielle emphasizes that the Sweet 16 program is not a beauty pageant. Girls are not judged on their looks or attire.

"We will have six secret judges who will observe them as they volunteer and three people who will interview the

candidates," explains Danielle. "None of the judges are local."

Each candidate will have to make a presentation during their interview explaining why Old Threshers is important. All the judges will use a numeric scoring system, the girl with the highest score will be crowned Miss Sweet 16. There will be 1st and 2nd runner up as well as Ms. Volunteer.

"We want the girls to take away a love of Old Threshers and the desire to come back and volunteer," says Danielle. "The experience will look great on a resume."

Old Threshers is looking for the addresses of past Sweet 16 participants as well as photos. If you have any to share contact Danielle at danielle.lynn.davidson@gmail.com.

Miss Sweet 16 crowning will be Sunday at 11 am at the Family Tent.

CAR AREA SPECIALTY TENT TO FILL WITH VOLKSWAGENS

The Antique Car Area Specialty Tent will feature Volkswagen this year. There are 15 vehicles set to be on display. So far there are dune buggies, convertibles, sedans, busses and Type 3.

Teresa Carver says they would welcome more. "I'd love to have a Karmann Ghia or a Thing," says Teresa.

If you have a VW circa 1979 or older to exhibit contact the office and they will put you in touch with the Antique Car Area. Also on display will be toys, trinkets, story boards and anything VW.



WHAT IS IT? WHERE IS IT?

Look on page 12 for this new feature of *The Chaff*. There are pictures of things that can be found around the Old Threshers Grounds. Can you identify what they are and where one can find them? The answers are found below.

- A:** Let's make some rope! Visitors to the Log Village can try their hand at making rope **B:** The distinctive big wheel of a traction steam engine **C:** Visit the demonstration area after dark and watch the sparks fly from traction steam engines. **D:** Visit the Gas Tractor Area and the many models of Case tractors. **E:** Take a seat in the gazebo in the North Village and watch the trains go by. **F:** Take a ride around the Old Threshers Campground on a historic trolley.

FEATURED TRACTOR

Eric Hosette and his family have the featured tractor this year. Inherited in 2008 from his grandfather, Dick Grimm, the 1951 Case DC underwent a full restoration and was first exhibited at the 2010 Reunion. "It needed everything," said Eric. Tires, engine work, and new paint were some of the things on his to do list.

When the firefighter from Clinton learned that he was selected as Featured Tractor for 2016, he was surprised and very excited. "It was very unexpected," said Eric. "It's been a whirlwind since then." Since the 2015 Reunion, Eric has gone over the tractor and done a little work as well as paint touch up making it ready to show.

Eric has attended Old Threshers for as long as he can remember. He started to volunteer in 2004. He and his wife, Kelly, and daughter, Addy, come down to Mt. Pleasant the weekend before the Reunion to help get ready for the show. They enjoy talking to people and hearing what they have to



share about their history and past experiences at Old Threshers. Seeing old friends and making new friends add to the experience.

FEATURED GARDEN TRACTOR

Ruth and the late Fred Buckert of Hamilton, Ill., have the featured garden tractor this year. Case first manufactured a garden tractor in 1965 after buying out Colt Manufacturing in 1964. Its first model was the Case 130. Case manufactured its garden tractors in Wisconsin until 1983 when Case's Outdoor Power Equipment Division was sold to Ingersoll Equipment. Ingersoll still manufactures tractors today.

The Buckert Family is known for its collection of Case tractors, so it just made sense to keep the collection going with garden tractors. Operating a garden tractor is relatively easy. Fred saw this as a way for the grandchildren to get involved.

This year's featured garden tractor underwent a total restoration in 2006 from new tires to a new paint job to an engine rebuild. The Case 130 is just one of 50 garden tractors in the Buckert's collection, 25 of which are Case. About 1/3 of their collection has been restored.

Son Alan said they have attempted to acquire all the



different models of Case garden tractors as well as the implements as Case was known for its implements. They will have several on display like a seed planter, bar mower, snow blade, cabs, lawn sweeps, cultivators and plows.

FEATURED TRUCK

This year's featured truck is a 1947 Mack E.F. owed by Mike Harbison, Sr. of Morning Sun. This is the 3rd year the truck has been on display at Old Threshers. Bought at auction in 2011, Mike restored the truck in time for the 2013 Reunion. He has 150 Macks in his collection and has exhibited at Old Threshers for at least 20 years. He likes to bring something different every year. Out of the 150, there are 6 that are "show worthy."

Mike says it's hard to pick a favorite as he is a self-proclaimed truck-a-holic. But his 1947 E.F. is probably at the top of the list.

Mike is a third generation truck driver operating Harbison Livestock. The business, started by his grandfather, hauls livestock and grain.

This is the first time he has had one of his collection featured and was absolutely "tickled" to be chosen and is very excited. Visiting with people who attend Old Threshers is a highlight for Mike. He enjoys hearing the stories from those



who have had trucks like his and talking to people who have never seen one. Mike will be joined by his wife, three children and grandson throughout the Reunion.

FEATURED CAR

Garry Jr., says his grandfather literally dug it out of the dirt. Cars were first exhibited at Old Threshers in the mid-1950s. Garry, Jr., is sure his grandfather brought this car to the early days of Old Threshers.

Kenneth died in 1998, passing the car onto his son. The Buick underwent a complete off-body restoration in 2015 by Midwest Rod and Restoration in Wapello. Garry, Sr., was on his way to Wapello to see the body reunited with the frame when he was involved in a fatal car accident. The family made sure the restoration was completed. The PreWar Buick will have visitors' attention at this year's Reunion.

The Seyb family enjoys visiting with old friends and meeting new ones who visit the Antique Car Area.

"It means a lot to this family to have this be the featured car," says Garry, Jr. "Dad is surely smiling down on us."

Garry, Jr., will be joined by his mother, two brothers, three sisters and Garry, Sr's., grandkids as the piece of automotive history takes the spotlight.



Charlotte and the late Garry Seyb, Sr., of Donnellson own this year's featured car. The 1915 Buick Touring Car has been in the family for several generations. This car is truly a native of southeast Iowa, Garry's father, Kenneth, bought the car near Donnellson just after WWII. Grandson,

FEATURED GAS ENGINE

The Gas Engine Area is featuring any vertical style



engine this year. Ike and Carol Lockridge of Rogers, AR, will be center stage with their 1903 Stover & Fairbanks 2 HP Type T. Ike bought the engine from Duane

Walker of Kansas. It needed a complete restoration. "It takes a whole community to rebuild an engine," says Ike. He expected it to take up to five years to find all the parts he needed but a man in Minnesota had just what he was looking for.

Ike and his son, Rick, buy engines that are in need of repair. You won't find any with fancy paint jobs as their goal is to make them run and run well. Ike also has a 3 and 4 HP Stover. Ike says if it wasn't for the gas engine community he would not be able to restore his engines. "I never hesitate buying anything broken or beyond my knowledge, because I know these guys will have an answer."

Ike and Carol are from Davenport but moved to Arkansas in 1985. They have been attending Old Threshers since 2009.

FEATURED STEAM ENGINE

John, Jr. and James Broadhead own this year's featured steam engine. The 1/2 scale rear-mount Advance is just one of many engines exhibited by the family.

John has been coming to Old Threshers since he was 2 months old. Both brothers grew up around Old Threshers and other steam shows in the area. First working with model engines when they were young, as they grew bigger, so did the size of their toys. The family has exhibited as many as 7 engines at Old Threshers.

John and James' mother, Helen, grew up around Old Threshers as well. Her father, Neal McClure, began exhibiting at the second Reunion operating an engine and separator.

Neal's first engine was a 1923 Minneapolis bought new along with a separator. Helen remembers it being delivered by train to Colchester where her dad steamed it up and drove it

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