

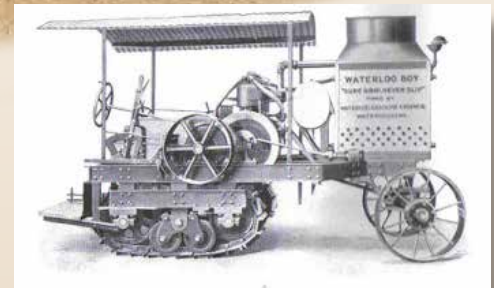


Threshermen Times

ALBERT CITY THRESHERMEN & COLLECTORS

SPRING 2024

The Year of John Deere!



The Threshermen invite you for The Year of John Deere! It's the 53rd annual show featuring John Deere and highlighting the New Generation tractors which were introduced in the 1960s. There will also be a special showcase of styled and unstyled tractors that will be on exhibit and doing field demonstrations.

Dates for this year's show are August 9-11, 2024.

The John Deere New Generation tractors were introduced in 1960. Many traditionalists couldn't believe the company would leave behind the two-cylinder that had always been their trademark. Farmers were asking for more power and the first New Generation tractor to hit the market was a 4010. Its power came from an inline six-cylinder engine with gasoline, LPG and diesel versions offered with up to 75 horsepower.

An ad for the New Generation John Deere engines claimed to have bigger, heavier rotating parts that would move through tough jobs without hesitation.

There will be a Great Green Gathering on Friday evening August 9. This is a social and dinner and everyone is welcome, especially those with an interest in John Deere. Social hour

with a cash bar starts at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. There will be a short program. This will be at the Marathon Community Center, just four miles north of the show site. Cost is \$24 per person. Reservations and payment are required before August 1. Reservations can be made online or mailing payment to the Albert City Threshermen & Collectors, PO Box 333, Albert City, IA 50510.

This year's show is being organized by the Northwest Iowa Tractor Collectors. This group was started as the Northwest Iowa Two-Cylinder Club in 1991. It last organized the John Deere feature in 2014 with 350 registered exhibits. In 2008, the John Deere feature brought over 200 registered exhibits.

For more information about the feature or about the Northwest Iowa Tractor Collectors, contact President Bob Nepl at 712-221-9211.

Looking Back: 1974

In 1974, Albert City was celebrating its Diamond Jubilee. In conjunction with the celebration, the threshing bee was held on the east edge of town, July 18, 19 and 20.



This was the first year for admission buttons and the button featured Harry Swanson and his 20-60 Aultman-Taylor steam engine.

First-time features included oat cutting with draft horses, a 30-60 Aultman-Taylor gas tractor owned by Mark Erickson (from California at the time), the Reeves sawmill operated by Keith and Karl Sundblad, pioneer crafts, and a horse-powered sweep grinder restored by Bill Shold of rural Albert City.

A total of 12 acres of oats were threshed.

The Albert City Appeal Diamond Jubilee issue, dated July 18, 1974 interviewed Karl Lind to learn more about the threshing bee.

He was asked how long he had an interest in antique farm machinery:

"I guess I was about 14 when a neighbor of ours had a Model T Ford for sale, and I wanted it so bad I could nearly taste it. The price was \$25 and my dad said if I could earn that during the summer, I could spend it on the car. Well, I did and in fact it took \$37.50 for the car, the license, a used battery and some used tires. I still have that car, too.

"Returning to the farm and particularly moving to a community as fine as Albert City are two of the best things I've done with my life," said Karl.

Later that year, the Albert City Threshermen and Collector's Association was formally organized December 11.

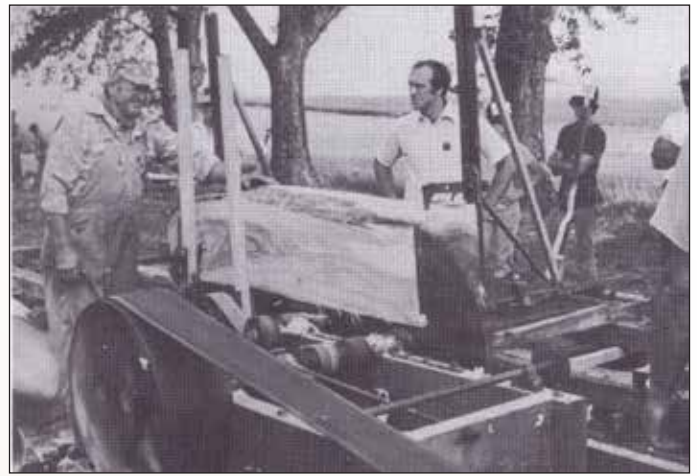


Mark Erickson with the 1918 30-60 Aultman-Taylor that did threshing in the area in the 20s and 30s.

buy that tractor from me but I didn't want to sell it. Instead we arranged to take it to Albert City for the show. I had not heard of the show before, and it turned out that I was able to get a flight

Mark Erickson recalls attending the show in 1974 and exhibiting the 30-60 Aultman-Taylor.

"At the time, I was serving in the Air Force in Sacramento. Karl Lind and Keith Sundblad tried to



Karl Sundblad, with son Dick demonstrating the sawmill for the first time in 1974.

back to come to the show for the first time," he said. "That's what got me started. I really enjoyed it partly because the original owner of the tractor, Harry Swanson, was there.

"The next year I brought my family and they have come back every year for the show. Albert City was my mother's home town, (Bena Kischer, daughter of George).

"I think I missed one year in the 80s, but my son was there so we have been represented as a family every year."

Mark thinks the show is a family tradition and that keeps much of his family returning each year. His son, Chris and boys come each year and he says the boys have become gear heads. His daughter Lisa and family live in California, which has made it a little more difficult for them to participate annually.

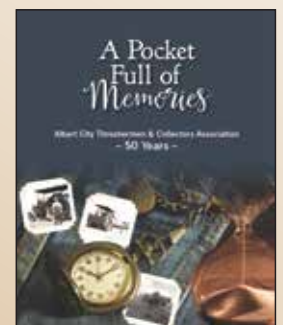
"Probably having both my kids there in 1975 when they were very young is a special memory," he said. "That was when we found out Lisa was allergic to straw. She played in it that day and that night she was sick as can be. Getting my kids involved was a big deal and they both appreciate my mother's history in town. And, of course, the friendships I've made over the years is also special. I will go as long as I am physically able to."

Mark and his family do regular maintenance on the 30-60 to keep it in running order for the show. They also exhibit several other family John Deere tractors. "It can be quite a bit of work to do it right, but in my opinion, there is no point of having it there if you don't have it running, in my case, out in the field or on a threshing machine. It is meaningful to show people the history of the tractor and what it did.

"I remember when we bought that tractor. It was in 1959 and my dad thought we should visit Harry and see about buying it. We went over there and later that day, I drove it the 15 miles home."

This story is just one of the many in *A Pocket Full of Memories* – 50 year history available for \$20. The book is filled with photos, first-hand accounts and lots of story telling of every annual show.

Get your copy today by purchasing on the website or calling the show office at 712-843-2076.





Bill Shold demonstrates a restored horse-powered sweep grinder once used by his grandfather.

Volunteers: Please Register

New for this year, we are asking volunteers to register before the show or upon arrival at the show.

We would like to provide all of our volunteers with a “Volunteer” ribbon to wear. In a small way, this will show recognition of our volunteers and remind those attending the show how many volunteers it takes to do the show.

Even if you are unable to volunteer at the show, but volunteer other times in the year, we encourage you to register and wear a ribbon.

The registration form can be found on the website, or give Emily a call at the office, 712-843-2076. Ribbons will be available to pickup at the Registration building. Thank you!

The 2024 Poster/Brochure is now available. If you would like some for yourself or to assist in distribution, please call Emily at 712-843-2076.

Send your 2024 membership in soon!

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

Couples Membership (\$35): _____

Single Membership (\$25): _____

Mail to: Albert City Threshermen & Collectors, PO Box 333, Albert City, IA 50510

Memberships to the Association are a great value! Your season pass is included with your annual dues!

A couples membership is just \$35 and includes two season passes. A single membership is just \$25 and includes one season pass.

ALBERT CITY, IA THRESHERMEN AND COLLECTORS SHOW

P.O. Box 333 • Albert City, Iowa 50510
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Contact us: _____

By Mail: P.O. Box 333, Albert City, Iowa 50510

Our Site: 5015 210th Ave., Albert City, IA

By Phone: 712-843-2076

By E-mail: info@albertcitythreshermen.com

On the web: www.albertcitythreshermen.com

On FB: www.facebook.com/ACThreshermen



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Please note, if your mailing label is dated 2023, this is the last newsletter you will receive. Please consider renewing your membership for 2024.

New Board Members



Two new board members were elected last December to fill the spots of retiring members Mike Rebhuhn and Norm Hanson. Join us as we welcome Grant Stein and Loren Booth to the board. Board member terms are three years.

Board president is Gary Sundblad, vice president is Grant Stein, treasurer is Angie Smith and secretary is Branden Otto.

Emily Bonin is the office secretary. The office phone number is still 712-843-2076 and the email address is info@albertcitythreshermen.com.

Grant Money Appreciated!

Thanks to the Buena Vista County Community Foundation for a grant award in the amount of \$11,711. These funds helped us to put new siding on Grandpa's Barn last summer.



Upcoming Show Features

Always the second full weekend of August.

2025: International J.I. Case Collectors and
J.I. Case Heritage Foundation

2026: Old Power Round-up with Wheat Run

2027: National Rumely Collectors Show