

ALBERT CITY
THRESHERMEN
& COLLECTORS SHOW

August 8-10, 2025



2025 Official Show Guide

ALBERT CITY **THRESHERMEN** & COLLECTORS SHOW

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I'm convinced that the only things that get older at the Threshermen's Show are tractors and kids.

Having been taking annual show photos at Albert City since 2008, I sometimes feel in a unique position as an historical observer. Each year as I browse through my archives of show photos, I smile and laugh as I see photos of young kids who are now adults. I'm sure you've had a similar thought that somehow, everyone else keeps getting older except for yourself! That sure happens to me as I see the kids growing older. Can it really be, that along with the tractors, I too am aging?

The show is growing older, too! And it is aging in such a grand manner. New board members bring new ideas and last year's lessons turn into this year's new ideas.

It's an exciting year to welcome the 150 hp steam engine and seems fitting for it to sit for an audience in the new storage building. That building will be a welcome shelter for big old iron as it awaits a new show year.

It takes a lot of work and planning to host two international collector clubs plus their regional counterparts. As you enjoy the show, please take a moment to share your appreciation to the many volunteers who have given of their time and talents to put on such a great event.

As always, we appreciate those businesses who continue to contribute to the annual show with their support of this publication.

I offer my thanks to those who have shared their time, their talents and of course, their stories.

See you at the show.

Connie J Reinert

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Threshermen are Ready to Welcome Case Collectors

The Albert City Threshermen and Collectors Association invites you to the 54th annual show. The Association welcomes Case enthusiasts who will be bringing all models of tractors, implements, and other items.

Visitors and exhibitors will find many of the traditional hands-on activities during the three-day show.

The Threshermen's Tractor Ride will leave the grounds at 1 p.m. Thursday. The ride is open to all makes of tractors. The Wagon Train returns and it will be at the show grounds ahead of the show opening.

The huge Case 150 hp steam engine will make its debut appearance in Iowa for the weekend. They will give a talk about the engine each day, give rides and do a plowing demonstration each day.

Be sure to stop in at Freedom Hall to check out the new displays and memorabilia that have been organized by members of area veteran's service organizations.

The Civil War reenactment group, Army of the Southwest, will be demonstrating life in the period of the Civil War. Stop by to visit with them at the south end of the grounds.

Grandma's Farmhouse will have many displays to remind you of family life in the early to mid-1900s. There is a great line-up of musical entertainment under the shelter.

Case collectors are invited to enjoy an evening of food and friendship at the Saturday banquet being held at the Mara-

thon Community Center starting at 6 p.m.

Field demonstrations will include corn shelling, combining, baling, discing, raking and threshing – demonstrations done with both tractors and horses. A Year of Farming demonstration will be held daily at 1 p.m. and bleachers are provided.

Regularly scheduled exhibits include a toy show, carpenter shop, Grandpa's barn, craft vendors, stationary gas engines, vintage military vehicles, antique cars and trucks, Ridge Runners, blacksmith shop, broom factory, flour mill, saw mill, school house, farm house, Svenska Stuga, and many horse activities.

Kids can enjoy driving garden tractors both Friday and Saturday or they can try the pedal pull Saturday morning. There are old-fashioned games and face painting for kids each afternoon and of course the potato patch event is each afternoon.

All events are weather-permitting and may change. Please listen to announcements during the show.

The 54th show officially begins with Opening Ceremonies at 9 a.m. Friday. Admission for those 12 years and older is \$10 per day. A three-day pass can be purchased for \$20. Children 11 and under are admitted free.

A complete schedule of events and show grounds map can be found on pages 20-21.



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Case Collectors and Enthusiasts Return for the 2025 Annual Show

For the second time, the two international Case collector clubs will join together for their summer shows during the 2025 Show at Albert City. Show dates are August 8-9-10.

The **International J. I. Case Heritage Foundation, Inc.**, is a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of North Dakota. The Foundation serves an international membership, drawing primarily from North America where Case and associated enterprises and people have enjoyed a significant role in the evolution of the continent's agricultural and industrial heritage. Learn more at caseheritage.org.

The **J.I. Case Collectors' Association** was founded in 1985 by a group of people in the Midwest who were interested in preserving the agricultural heritage of the J.I. Case Company. Since its founding the J.I. Case Collectors' Assn. has become an international organization, with a large following in the U.S., but also a number of members in England, Australia and Canada. The organization hosts two conventions each year. Learn more at: jicasecollector.com.

Additional Case clubs planning to attend include the Mid-Iowa J.I. Case Collectors and the Northland Case Collectors.

The Mid-Iowa Case Collectors started in 2015 and currently have about 30 members. During this year's show, they will be organizing the Case Eagle Hitch demonstration. This demo is open to Eagle Hitch plows, discs or harrow implements.

The Northland Case Collectors are mainly from Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska. This year the club is celebrating their 25th anniversary. Learn more at www.northlandcase.com.

Also joining in the show will be the Illinois Case Collectors, The Missouri Screamin' Eagles and the Heartland Case Collectors.

The groups will hold a banquet Saturday evening at the Marathon Community Center. Friday evening will be a Fun Pull for Case tractors. There is no hook fee for this event that starts at 6 p.m.

The last time J.I. Case was featured here was in 2017 with 462 registered exhibits. The show hosted both international clubs and five regional clubs for the 175th anniversary of Case.

Upcoming features are an Old Power Round-up with Wheat Run in 2026 and the National Rumely Collectors in 2027.

Threshermen: you have built a great show over the years. Congratulations!

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Anderson-built Case 150 hp Steam Engine Exhibiting in 2025

The Albert City Threshermen & Collectors are proud to host Kory Anderson and his team as they bring their Case 150 hp steam engine to the 2025 show.

The Case Road Locomotive, as it was originally called, was designed in 1904 and first built in 1905 by the J.I. Case company in Racine, Wisc. The engine was designed for doing heavy freighting work pulling large loads over many miles to the next rail connection. The first engines were sold into mining, sawing, or grain handling operations. It was advertised that the Road Locomotive could be used at a savings of at least fifty percent over ox, mule, and horse teams performing the same work.

The J.I. Case Company built nine of these engines from 1905 through 1907 until they had realized the market was very limited for this size of an engine and the main transportation of goods would be handled by the railroad. The engineers and marketing team working in the fields with these engines then suggested to the executives that they scale the Road Locomotive down to an agricultural plowing tractor. The result was the design of the 110 hp Case steam plowing engine that became the most successful steam plowing tractor with over 700 engines sold.

The 150 Case RL weighs in fully loaded at 37 tons, and is 25 feet long, 14 feet wide, standing over 12 feet tall. The engine burns both wood and coal to maintain its operating pressure of 180 psi steam. The bunkers have a capacity for 3 tons of coal and the water tank will hold 600 gallons of water.

The journey of building the largest steam traction engine ever produced started in 2007 when Kory made a trip to Racine to gather information regarding the engine. As he uncovered information over the next few years, he started to engineer parts so that they could be produced. After building a business, resources, and acquiring an iron foundry over the next ten years Kory and team were ready to start the actual build of the engine.

Kory with his team of foundry workers, friends, mentors, and dad, Kevin Anderson, all coming together on this monumental project were able to complete the build of the engine in just 16 months.

The engine made its debut in 2018 at the Anderson's home show, the James Valley Threshing Show in Andover, South Dakota. It operates there each year and has also exhibited at shows in Wisconsin and Minnesota.



Length: 25 ft. – Width: 14 ft. – Height: 14 ft.



150 HP

Weight loaded: 35 tons
Boiler pressure: 180 PSI
Engine operating speed: 200 RPM
Flywheel: 50 inches
Boiler Barrel: 42 inch diameter
Speed Low: 2.64 mph
Speed High: 5.69 mph

Experience Some Rare Case Items



Tom Richter of Breese, Illinois plans to exhibit two of his Case crossmotors: a 1918 Case 10-20 three-wheel crossmotor (top photo) and a 1921 Case 10-18 shown in the bottom photo during the 2017 show. Tom says he will bring two Grand Detour plows to use with these crossmotors. Case purchased Grand Detour in 1919.



Ethan Lenz of Manson, Iowa owns this 1917 Case 12-25 and plans to once again exhibit as part of this year's show.



Chris and Mary Burbank of Minneapolis travel to six or seven threshing shows each year where they fire up their 1/3 scale 1915 Case 65 HP steam engine. This year, they plan to share it at the Threshermen and Collectors Show.

Don't Miss the Coverage of This Year's Case Show!

Lots of photos and stories coming up in the fall issue!

THE HERITAGE EAGLE

Connie J. Reinert, Editor

Membership to the J.I. Case Heritage Foundation includes four issues of THE HERITAGE EAGLE.

Membership in the Foundation is \$25 for one year, \$48 for two years for members living in the United States; \$30 (U.S. funds) per year for members in Canada; and \$40 (U.S. funds) per year for members living overseas.

Stop by the J.I. Case Heritage Foundation Booth in the Feature Building, send in your check or join online at caseheritage.org.

J.I. Case Heritage Foundation
P.O. Box 081156
Racine, WI 53408-1156

Gamm Returns to Albert City with 1923 Case Model X Touring Car

Larry Gamm and his family plan to exhibit a 1923 Case Model X Touring Car at this year's show. The car was exhibited at the 2017 feature by his mother and father, Wayne and Georgia Gamm of Bowling Green, Missouri. Larry joined them that year along with his wife and son.

Wayne passed away in 2003 and the car is now owned by his mother, Georgia Gamm.

The 1923 Case Model X is a 5 passenger touring car. There were only 1,366 of these cars manufactured. The first 1923 Case Model X had a serial number of 39441 and this car is #39448 so it was only the eighth Model X that was produced. It has a 122" wheelbase and weighs 2,900 pounds. It has a 6-cylinder Continental engine with an all-aluminum block. The engine has a 3-3/8" bore and a 4-1/2" stroke equating to a displacement of 241.4 cubic inches and produced 50 horsepower. It has a 3-speed manual transmission and vacuum fuel pump. It has a built in air compressor that runs off the transmission. The list price for this car was \$1,790.

Larry knows the history of the car quite well, and explained: "This car was sold new to Edward Ramseier in 1923. Mr. Ramseier was a J.I. Case dealer and farmer in Idalia, Colorado. My father purchased the car from Edward's son, Dean Ramseier, in 2006. Dean was 78 years old at that time. Dean told my dad that he was brought home from the hospital in this car when he was born in Denver in 1928.

"At the time my dad purchased the car, it was completely disassembled and piled in a garage at Dean's house near Wray, Colorado. Most of the car was there with only a few items missing that had to be replaced. Otherwise, the car was restored with all of its original parts. The car had never been owned by anyone outside of the Ramseier family until my dad was able to purchase it in 2006.

"We have shown this car at many threshing events where

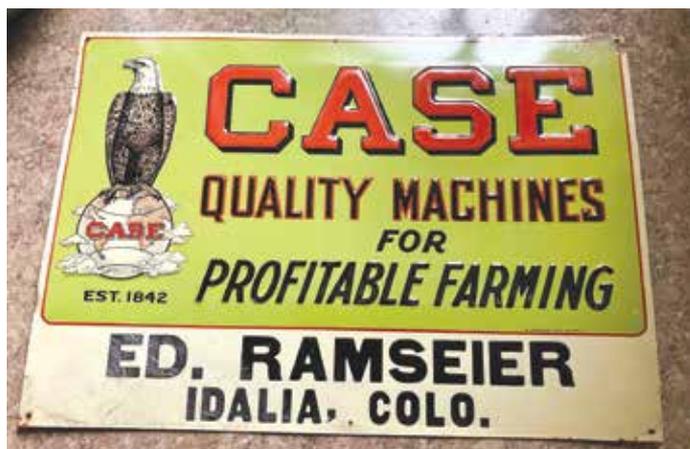


Wayne and Georgia Gamm as they exhibited their Case car at the Bowling Green Heritage Festival.

Case was featured and also at several local car shows in Missouri. In 2020, we hauled this car to the Tri-State Engine and Threshers Association show in Bird City, Kansas for display.

Members of the Ramseier family traveled from Colorado to attend the show and see the car that their forefathers had purchased new and kept in the family for over 80 years. It was our great honor to have the grandson of the original owner, Mark Ramseier, his wife Sherri, their son Gabe and wife all come to see the car that their grandfather/great grandfather bought new and held on to for eight decades. Mark was able to drive his grandfather's car in the parade one day at the show, hauling his wife, son, daughter-in-law and his unborn grandson in the car.

"There have now been five generations of the Ramseier family that have ridden in the car that their family purchased new. It was a very proud moment for my dad to be able to give that family the gift of driving that car in the parade. It was a precious moment that we will never forget! When my dad purchased the car from Dean in 2006, he promised him he would one day bring the car back to Colorado and give him a ride in the car that he first rode in coming home from the hospital as a new born in 1928. Sadly, that never got to happen because Dean passed away before the car was finished. It brought my dad great joy to be able to have Dean's son, Mark and his family, drive the car. Prior to seeing the car in 2020,



An original sign from the dealership that sold the car new in 1923. Photos by Larry Gamm.



At Bird City, Kansas in 2020, members of the family that purchased the car new are passengers in the car. Five generations of that family have now ridden in the car. Car owner Wayne Gamm is driving. The grandson, great grandson and great-great grandson of the original owner are in the car along with the wife of the great grandson.

Mark had never seen the car in one piece. For his entire life, it was just a heap of parts in his grandfathers garage. I believe he and his family enjoyed the opportunity to ride in the car immensely.”

Larry is a senior vice-president at a local bank in Bowling Green and operates a small farm raising Angus cattle, corn, soybeans, wheat and hay. Although that keeps him busy, he enjoys taking the car to exhibit at various events. He says most people have no idea that Case ever made a car and are also surprised to learn that a 1923 car has an aluminum block engine.

“I enjoy showing the car to other Case enthusiasts that appreciate the history of the J.I. Case Company,” he said. “It also draws a lot of attention at any of the other car shows that we take it to. It’s fun traveling around the Midwest to other threshing events and displaying the car and meeting lots of great Case people.

“This will be the first time we have shown the car without my dad. It was always his pride and joy to show the car at Case events around the Midwest and also at local car shows. He had last shown the car in August of 2023 and this will be the first time it has been started or out of its storage garage since that show.”

Like many families, the show will be a chance to reconnect with friends and family. Larry’s niece and family from Minnesota plan to meet up at the show as well.

There are many things to enjoy at the Threshermen and Collectors Show. Larry says, “I am really looking forward to a few of the grilled bacon and cheese sandwiches at the little grain bin food venue. Those things are awesome!”

According to Larry, Wayne Gamm collected everything and anything that Case manufactured. “He had an extensive collection of Case tractors, threshing machines, combines, hay equipment, tillage equipment, manuals and advertising mate-

rials and pedal tractors. He had several Case signs including a large neon dealership sign and a cast iron Case eagle that was a display piece at Case dealerships. He also owned a fully restored 1916 Case car. He had an auction in 2022 and sold his collection. The 1916 Case car sold at his auction holds the distinction of being the highest priced Case car ever sold. That car is now on display in a prestigious museum in Hershey, Pennsylvania reserved for Concours d’Elegance level vehicles. My son and I purchased a few pieces from dad’s collection including a ’52 DC, ’52 SC, ’53 SC, ’53 DC, ’38 RC (first tractor on our farm purchased by my grandfather to replace the draft horses), a VAH, VAC-14 and a 400B. I also have a 1984 Case 2594 that is still one of my primary tillage tractors on the farm.”

Cool Cars!



Steve Graber of Monticello, Wisc. plans to exhibit his 1914 Case 25-R 5-passenger touring car that was designed and built by the J.I. Case Threshing Machine Company of Racine, Wisconsin.

J.I. Case entered the automobile market in the early 20th century with the formation of the Case Motor Car Company in 1911. Based in Racine, Wisconsin, the company produced high-quality, luxury automobiles known for their engineering and durability.

Case cars featured advanced technology for the time, including four- and six-cylinder engines. Despite positive reviews, the cars were expensive, and sales never reached mass-market levels. Facing increasing competition from more affordable automakers like Ford, Case ceased automobile production in 1927 to focus on its core strength – agricultural and industrial equipment.



The 2024 show brought a record-breaking exhibitor turnout with 1,249 total exhibits registered. There was a total of 791 featured John Deere exhibits. There were 759 tractors, 73 garden-yard tractors, 142 implements, 99 antique autos, 11 antique trucks, 18 horses, 7 large gas/kerosene tractors, 41 stationary gas engines, 23 military exhibits, 22 crafters, and many vendors selling toys and farm related items. Total attendance at the show held Aug. 9-11 was 15,582. Registered at the campground were 84 camping units.

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Field Demonstrations are an Annual Highlight of Show

The annual show at Albert City is well-known for its hands-on and live field demonstrations. These activities offer collectors a chance to get out and use their equipment in the field and to demonstrate what farming was like in earlier years.

The Case 150 hp steam engine will be turning over dirt during its daily demonstrations out in the west field. Friday and Sunday times will be 1:30 p.m. with Saturday's demo at 2:30 following the Eagle Hitch demonstration.

One of the main events held since 2012 has been A Year of Farming Demonstration which takes spectators through the operations of a typical farm through the year.

Demonstrations will include plowing, discing, seeding, planting, cultivating, combining, baling and chopping. The tasks are typically done with the feature line of tractors and implements as much as possible. And, horses may also get in on the demonstration. This event will take place at 1 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

This year the board is planning to demonstrate hay operations which could include cutting, raking and baling of the crop, all done out in the west field.

Other field activities include threshing with steam power, plowing, cultivating, cross-check cultivating, corn shelling, corn picking, combining and baling.

Horse-drawn implements are used for discing, cultivating, binding, threshing and well-drilling.

All field activities take place weather permitting and additions or changes to the schedule are announced on the loud speaker system.



During the 2017 show, all eras of the J.I. Case line were represented during the daily field activities.



Steve Wacker Plans to Exhibit a 1927 Case 25-45 Crossmotor

Steve Wacker says he has always had a soft spot for the Case crossmotor tractors. Steve, who lives near Osmond, Neb., plans to exhibit his 25-45 crossmotor at this year's show.

"My grandfather and his brother bought a new 18-32 back in the mid-20s," explained Steve. "They farmed together for a few years, but I think they split apart and just sold the tractor and went on to buy their own tractors."

His great uncle went on to buy a John Deere but his grandfather bought a Case model L. My dad had a soft spot for the crossmotors, too. He owned a couple over the years but sold them years ago. One of those was a Case 22-40 that he sold to current owner Tom Richter of Breese, Ill.

In the fall of 2023, he put out a social media want ad for a Case crossmotor 18-32 or larger. Before long, he received a photo of a 1927 crossmotor that sat in Michigan.

It turned out, the owner of the crossmotor was living in Pennsylvania and was working to settle a family estate in Michigan. After getting a few more photos and learning that the motor wasn't stuck and that it had always been stored in a shed he was tickled pink to bring the tractor home.

"I had a guy go through the oiler for me, and that was pretty much it. It is a really nice running, driving, working tractor. It is one of the last 25-45 models and it is called a T-model.

"The tractor doesn't have a lot of wear. I am guessing it did a lot of belt work. I think the previous owners took very good care of it. It came with a full set of Case wrenches. I also have the original toolbox from my grandfather's 18-32 that I will probably add to it at some point.

Steve enjoys taking the tractor to local shows and will even start it up and drive it up and down the driveway.

"This is just something different. When people see it, some think it is a steam engine. Others comment on how the engine



Steve Wacker is the proud owner of this Case crossmotor. The Case 25-45 weighs 10,065 pounds. It is 90 inches tall, 153 inches long and 82.5 inches wide.

sits kind of funky. They are a big, heavy machine."

Steve is hoping to find a set of lugs or perhaps get some made for the wheels on the tractor. That will make it easier to take the tractor out to the field during the show to tackle some plowing.

Steve's dad, Lyle was a collector early on. After getting out of the service in 1952, he wanted to get a steam engine. Lyle and his dad found a Case 65 engine and did a complete restoration on the engine.

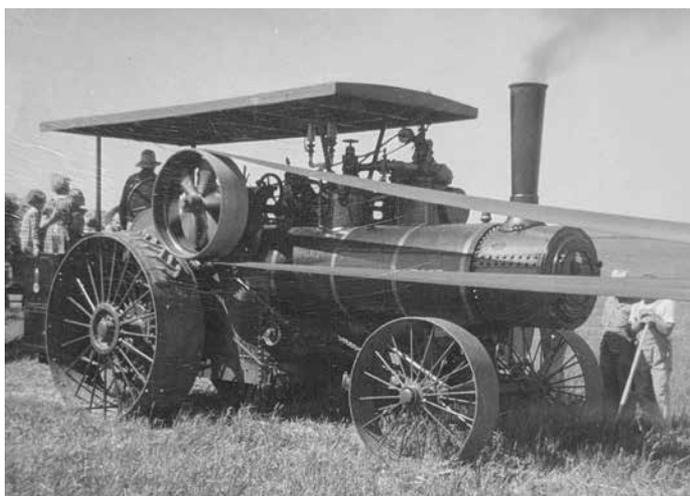
"I think back to those years when everything was done by hand. No sand-blasting, no power washer. Everything was done by hand and was a lot of work."

"The neighbors thought he was half crazy, but they used it. My dad thoroughly enjoyed it, so he started looking for other items and started buying some prairie tractors. In those years this stuff was cheap. I think he told me they paid \$500 for the steam engine."

When Steve's grandfather passed away in 1984, the Case steam engine that his dad restored was purchased by a guy who donated it to the local historical society. It is still used for threshing each fall.

Steve's grandfather owned different makes of tractors. He had a new Hart-Parr tractor that Steve now owns. He bought a Case 18-32, an L, LA, 830 and 870 Case. Steve's dad was always a Case guy having the 630 and 930 that he bought new. He also owned an SC, DC and VAC that were used on the farm when Steve was a kid.

"My dad also liked Allis-Chalmers and had a number of those as well. I remember cultivating corn with that 630 when I was probably ten years old. I have always been around those things. My dad enjoyed restoring that steam engine so much that he repainted the Case LA in 1956. He put the fender and hood decals of a model 500 because he liked the color better. The LA decals would have been black, but the



The Case 65 hp steam engine that was owned and restored by Lyle Wacker. Steve estimates this photo was taken in about 1954.



Steve's grandfather once owned this 1946 Case LA. Steve's father bought the Case 630 new, but it was sold in 2013. Steve kept in contact with the new owner and was able to buy it back just a few years ago. The Case 930 was also his dad's and it was their big tractor on the farm.

500 had yellow and he thought they were more attractive.

"As I was growing up, my dad was always trying to restore or paint something and I caught that bug, too."

Steve went to school to be an auto mechanic. He worked 18 years at the local Chevy dealership. When he wasn't working in town, he was restoring something for himself or others. After the dealership was closed, he decided to make a business of his tractor restoration work. He also rented more farm ground and enjoys a happy balance between farming and restoration seasons.

Steve and his wife Kristine have three daughters. The oldest one is an engineer in the engine department of the Case combine factory in Grand Island. She digs the old stuff, as does the youngest daughter. But, for his middle daughter, old tractors are not her thing.

Collectors may think about decals when they hear the name Lyle or Steve Wacker. Lyle started a decal business in the mid 1970s and operated it until about 2013 when Steve took it over. The focus was mostly on Case and Allis-Chalmers. Lyle passed away in 2014 but Steve still offers decals.

Look for this unique Case tractor at this year's show and enjoy a visit with Steve about its history and the unique features of a Case crossmotor.

The J.I. Case Company was proud of its Eagle emblem and on this crossmotor, it can be found on many of the tractor's components.

The emblem was known as "Old Abe," and became one of the most recognizable trademarks in American agriculture. It was introduced in the 1860s, and was inspired by a real bald eagle that served as the mascot for a Wisconsin Civil War regiment. Perched atop a globe, Old Abe symbolized strength, freedom, and the company's growing global reach. The emblem was officially adopted in 1865.



The serial number tag from the 1927 Case 25-45 crossmotor.





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Albert City Invites You to Stop By and Visit



Anyone wishing to take a short break from the action on the show grounds is invited to visit Albert City for some air-conditioning and shopping!
 Enjoy shopping at the downtown stores for antiques, gifts, hand-crafted items and home decor. Take a break for a warm or iced beverage or slip into the air-conditioned library for a break from the action.



Located just north of downtown in Albert City visitors will find the Albert City Museum. The complex includes six buildings with about every type of historical artifact on display. The Museum was chartered in 1974 and opened for business on July 4, 1976 with just the house. It was one of the first homes built in town. Visitors can walk through the house and see it as it would have appeared over 100 years ago. The Depot building was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. Other buildings to enjoy include the Heritage House, Anderson Mercantile, Country School, and Freight Room that holds a rare collection of restored cars.

ENJOY!

We are located in downtown Albert City and invite you to stop in for a visit.



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City of Albert City

Worth the visit: Buena Vista County Freedom Rock in Albert City

The Buena Vista County Freedom Rock is located in downtown Albert City and for anyone visiting the area, is definitely worth checking it out.

As a way to thank service men and women, Ray “Bubba” Sorenson put his artistic talents to work painting a Freedom Rock in every Iowa county. His main goal was to honor those who have served this country.

Painted on the broad side of the rock facing the street is “Rosie The Riveter.” Ed Sundholm owned a dairy farm two miles west of Albert City. In 1924, he was also busy starting Superior Manufacturing where he designed and patented grease guns along with other products.

As the U.S. went into WWII, young men enlisted by the tens of thousands. To support their sons, brothers and husbands, and to help keep the country running smoothly, women across the country joined the labor force. Ed Sundholm converted his manufacturing company from making grease guns to 20-mm shell casings, shell primers and bomb parts. Local women joined in helping to push his work force to 300.

On the opposite side is Edmund Bristol Gregory, a Storm Lake native. Gregory graduated from the U.S. Military Academy and rose to the office of Quartermaster General during



WWII. He was responsible for development, procurement, and distribution of billions of dollars worth of supplies and equipment as well as training thousands of quartermaster soldiers and civilian personnel.

Bubba, in keeping with his own tradition, draped a flag over the top of the rock. A bald eagle faces the street.

For fun, Bubba often hides the names or initials of his wife, Maria and children, Independence and Michael in the paintings.

Notice the ten rock seats that surround the rock, each representing a town in Buena Vista County.

New Storage Building Ready for the 2025 Season and Beyond

In time, a new building on the show grounds will store and protect what could be large and rare pieces of antique tractors and machinery.

The Jerred D. Ruble Family Charitable Foundation provided funds for the building. The Foundation's namesake would approve of providing this space and protection for such items that he was so passionate about.

Jerred and his wife, Eileen lived in Hanlontown, Iowa where he held an annual threshing bee. Later, that event moved to Forest City where he shared his passion and much of his tractor collection during the annual Steam Threshing Festival and the annual Steam School at Heritage Park.

The couple were active volunteers at Heritage Park and along with collecting rare machinery, they enjoyed participating in various shows where they could use the equipment and share its history.

In 2012, Jerred brought an 1893 Minneapolis steam engine to the Threshermen and Collectors Show. Other years he exhibited his Case 12-25 and in 2017, brought both of his Case 110 hp steam engines. He was not loyal to any one brand or style of tractor. Instead, he loved the rare, the unusual and the unknown and believed in saving and sharing what history would otherwise leave aside. He was well-known for his large collection of steam engines and other rare machines.

Eileen and Jerred were married in 2002, and Eileen caught the collector bug. She enjoyed owning a Massey-Harris 44 Special that was just like her dads. She owned a General Ordinance tractor that was one of only six known to exist; owned a 1/3-scale Garr Scott steam engine and a Dishpan Fairbanks Morse gas engine. She was also the proud owner of a Hart-Parr 30-60 that she exhibited at Albert City in 2015. "We eat, drink and sleep tractors and steam engines," she once told me. "We really like having what is rare and unusual. The reward of this hobby really is the wonderful people that we meet."



Jerred and Eileen Ruble driving the Case 110 hp steam engine during a Threshermen's Parade in 2017.

Jerred passed away Feb. 18, 2022.
Eileen passed away Feb. 24, 2022.

The Jerred D. Ruble Family Charitable Foundation was formed in 2010. It is dedicated to the preservation of America's agricultural heritage through the collection, conservation, and exhibition of historically significant agricultural equipment and memorabilia. The Foundation serves charitable, educational, and cultural purposes.

If the building is as strong as the Ruble passion, it will be protecting farm history for many, many years to come.



A new storage building stands ready to accommodate large tractors and machinery. The new building is 70' x 120' and it will be used to expand storage of large, rare tractors and machinery. Appreciation goes to the Jerred D. Ruble Family Charitable Foundation for the funds to make this new building possible.

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Spencer Family Plans to Share Extensive Toy Collection at Show

Earlier this year, the National Farm Toy Museum in Dyersville, Iowa closed out its special exhibit devoted to the J.I. Case Company. The exhibit opened in early 2024.

Much of that exhibit was made possible through the items on loan from the extensive collection of pedal tractors and scale machinery owned by Matthew Spencer and his dad, Craig of Gridley, Ill.

When the Board of Directors of the museum were looking to fill a display recognizing the history of J. I. Case, the Spencers were contacted for help.

“The museum does a three-year rotation of tractor company histories,” said Matthew. “Ertl has been known for not making a lot of Case toys, so they reached out to collectors to fill up the display.”

According to him, after getting the request from the museum, they loaded an 18-foot trailer and headed to Dyersville. The museum tagged each item and arranged them for display.

“I have always enjoyed sharing my personal collection and my father is the same way,” he said. “And this gave us more space so they are not all filling up the house.”

The senior Spencer has been collecting antique Case trac-



The Spencers own this Case 30 Pleasure King, a 1950s Model C-63. The narrow-front pedal tractor was the first Case pedal tractor manufactured by Ertl.

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This large 8' x 8' display case holds an assortment of tractors and machinery including this Spirit of '76 made by Turner Welding of Hokes Bluff, Ala. Matthew Spencer says it is the newest pedal tractor made. This is number 4 of 12 made. This display includes a Case 1200 made of wood and another made of metal. There is also a hand-made two-row double-elevator corn picker and a 504 Turbo.



An AgriKing 1070 original Ertl casting and a hand-made six bottom plow owned by the Spencers.



A Case VAC reproduction casting with a hand-made one-row corn picker.

tors all his life and now has about 40. It was Matthew's uncle that got him started collecting toys. Now, he and his dad enjoy a farm toy business.

Most of the items that were on display at Dyersville will be on exhibit in the feature building during the 2025 show.

The Spencers have gathered up every model of Case manufactured by Eska and Ertl.

The Eska Company was a prominent American toy manufacturer based in Dubuque, Iowa, best known for its high-quality die-cast farm toy replicas. Founded in the late 1940s by Fred Ertl Sr., Eska originally operated under the name "Ertl Company," but after Fred left to start his own business, the remaining partners continued under the Eska name. During the 1950s and early 1960s, Eska became widely recognized for producing miniature replicas of tractors and implements from major farm equipment companies like John Deere, Case, and Ford. These toys were highly detailed and made primarily of metal, making them popular both as children's playthings and as collector's items. Eska's products were often sold through implement dealers alongside real farm equipment. By the mid-1960s, as competition increased and market conditions changed, Eska's toy production tapered off, and eventually, the company ceased operations. Today, vintage Eska toys are highly sought after by collectors for their craftsmanship and nostalgic value.

The Ertl Company was founded in 1945 by Fred Ertl Sr. in Dubuque, Iowa, after he began casting toy tractor parts in his basement using leftover aluminum from his job at a local foundry. Recognizing a demand for durable farm toy replicas, he officially launched the Ertl Company, which quickly grew in popularity for its high-quality die-cast metal farm toys. Early on, Ertl secured licensing agreements with major agricultural equipment manufacturers such as John Deere, Case, and International Harvester, allowing the company to produce realistic miniature versions of real machinery. In 1959, the company moved to Dyersville, Iowa, which remains the home of the Ertl brand today. Ertl expanded its product line over the decades to include toys based on television shows, movies, and other vehicle models, including NASCAR die-casts and brands like Thomas the Tank Engine. The company changed ownership several times and eventually became part of RC2 Corporation, which was acquired by TOMY International in 2011. Ertl continues to produce detailed replicas for both play and display.

Now that Case models are no longer being manufactured, the Spencers have gone to buying hand-made toys including 64th scale and custom 16th scale models.

Matthew says he buys any brand of toy tractor, but he sells non-Case items so he can afford to buy the J. I. Case.

He is willing to travel to get the toys that he wants. They have now branched into buying literature that doesn't take up as much room as the toys and is easier to haul.

Stop by the feature building and check out this beautiful display of toys and share your appreciation with the Spencer family for bringing it to Albert City.

Volunteers Mark and Julie Treinen named Threshermen Parade Marshals

Potato - Patata. However you say it, the Treinens will serve them baked. Mark and Julie have been volunteering at the Snack Stand at the Threshermen and Collectors Show for over 30 years.

They've baked a lot of potatoes over those years and they serve them topped with a choice of ham, bacon bits, sour cream, butter, shredded cheese, taco meat, onions and even sauerkraut.

During a 3-day weekend visitors eat up over 300 pounds of the fluffy potatoes.

Their volunteer work started before the Snack Stand with Mark parking cars and Julie helping in the main Threshermen's Cafe.

"I worked at the Cafe with MaryAnn Sundblad until Sharon Iehl wanted to retire from the Snack Stand," said Julie. "I have been doing that with Mark and other family members and friends."



She recalls when they first started, there were dirt floors. They were covered in concrete about 12 years ago. At one time, the Snack Stand used the soda fountain from the Peterson Drug Store.

Mark drives truck for Heil Trucking so he typically gets to the show grounds to help on Friday evening. Julie, who works part-time at a daycare in Laurens, arrives earlier in the week to help prepare the stand and get everything set up for the big weekend. When the show closes, she will clean up and put things away for the next year.

She looks forward to visiting with all the people who stop by the stand for a potato or other item. If she gets out of the food stand she enjoys walking through all of the crafts and going out to watch the machinery in the field.

Along with the baked potatoes, they serve hot dogs, Polish sausage, nachos, snow

cones and drinks.

"I like being out there. It's a chance to be away from town for a weekend. And, I like spending time with my family while we are working together."

They rely on additional help and family members have been loyal in filling up the spots on the crew. She enjoys working with younger volunteers with some who are now returning as adults.

"I think it started out as a stand where kids would have something to do," she said. "Now those kids are adults and they still come back to help."

Julie says they were proud to be named as the Parade Marshals after their years of volunteering. She is looking forward to being in the parade, but Mark will likely not make it in time for the Friday evening parade.



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Larry Maasdam Named the 2025 Feature Parade Marshal

Larry Maasdam of Clarion, Iowa started collecting toys in the late 1970s. He now has thousands of toys of all makes and models on display at his home and in a large display area at the Heartland Museum in Clarion.

Not only does he have a huge toy collection, but he also collects antique machinery, many that fall into the line of J.I. Case.

In 2017, he brought several from his collection, including an 830 high-crop propane tractor, 400 high crop propane tractor, 730 high crop gas tractor, a DCS propane and gas model tractor, a CC S high crop gas tractor, plus an RC, R, 730 gas and 930 propane Case-o-matic tractor.

He didn't start collecting tractors until about 1990. Larry enjoys both restored and unrestored tractors. His first tractor purchase was a John Deere 60. His specialty tractor is a high crop model and he has about 90 in all makes. "I guess I have a little bit of everything," said Larry.

Larry has a long history in the construction business specializing in trenching. The Vermeer trencher was invented by his father. At the age of 17, Larry bought his first Cat and farmed. In the mid-60's he went into full-time construction with a focus on drainage and trenches. Over a period of 29 years he worked for five major contractors doing interstate work all over the state. In 2000, he started to cut back to doing more local jobs.

"I got along real well with the DOT," said Larry. "I did the work on the freeways from Des Moines to Clear Lake and from Iowa City to Waterloo. Those jobs could take about a year to complete. I had 12 to 15 guys working for me."

Larry lost his first wife in 1988. He is now married to Melanie and together they have two sons and two daughters. Larry lost two sons, both in tragic accidents. He has six grand kids and two great-grand kids.

Larry enjoys going to tractor and toy shows and exhibits tractors at many events.

Much of Larry's collection is displayed at the Heartland Museum where he takes responsibility for the large collection of farm machinery displays.

He enjoys reading and tries to get every magazine related to antique machinery, toys and equipment.



Larry Maasdam driving a Case 800 high crop LP tractor in the feature parade of the 2017 Threshermen and Collectors Show.

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Creating a Future by Holding on to a Steam Engine from the Past



Dahlstrom's 1912 Case 75 hp steam traction engine gets some tinkering as it is belted up to a Baker fan during the 2024 show.

While most young people fantasize about someday owning a fancy car or a shiny big truck, Aaron Dahlstrom and his older brother, Brandon fantasized of one day owning a steam engine.

The Dahlstroms grew up on a farm not far from the Threshermen & Collectors Show near Albert City. As soon as they could walk, they were going to the show.

“When we were probably about ten years old, we just gravitated towards the steam engines,” Aaron said. “There was an Aultman-Taylor engine there at the time and later a Rumely. Whoever would let us hang around their engine, that is where we were.”

The Dahlstroms built friendships and learned how to operate the big iron over the years. They left for college and lived in different places.

When Aaron moved back, he picked up where he left off and jumped on the engines, running them whenever he could. Both he and Brandon attended steam schools to sharpen their skills all the while looking for an engine that was a good fit.

“We had been seriously looking for about four years. We lost out on a couple of auctions. Then, we found this engine in

Alberta, Canada and it fit the criteria of what we were looking for.”

The engine is a Case 75 hp steam traction engine. It will be one of the engines working at the 2025 Heritage Foundation Expo coming to Albert City next August.

Aaron now lives on his family's home farm with his wife, Marisa and two sons, Otto and Ole.

Otto is 6 years old and Ole is 3. “Otto was named after my great-grandfather Otto Johnson who immigrated from Sweden at the age of 19,” explained Aaron. “Olen was just kind of a Swedish-sounding name. We just call him Ole.

“The boys are a little young yet to understand the engine. Otto likes being on the engine but it doesn't quite resonate with him. I wanted to get one now so they could grow up with it. It is an investment for them as much as anything.”

Aaron is a row-crop farmer and serves in the Missouri Air Guard with a side job selling insurance. Marisa is a quality assurance manager at the feed mill in nearby Newell.

Brandon just moved to Charleston, South Carolina and is serving in active duty Air Force.

“Marisa was extremely supportive of purchasing the en-

gine,” Aaron said. “She had heard me talking about it since we were dating and she knew it would happen some day. She enjoys seeing the boys have it and has been nothing but supportive.”

The Dahlstrom engine had its local debut at the show in Albert City in August 2024. The engine had not run for 20 years.

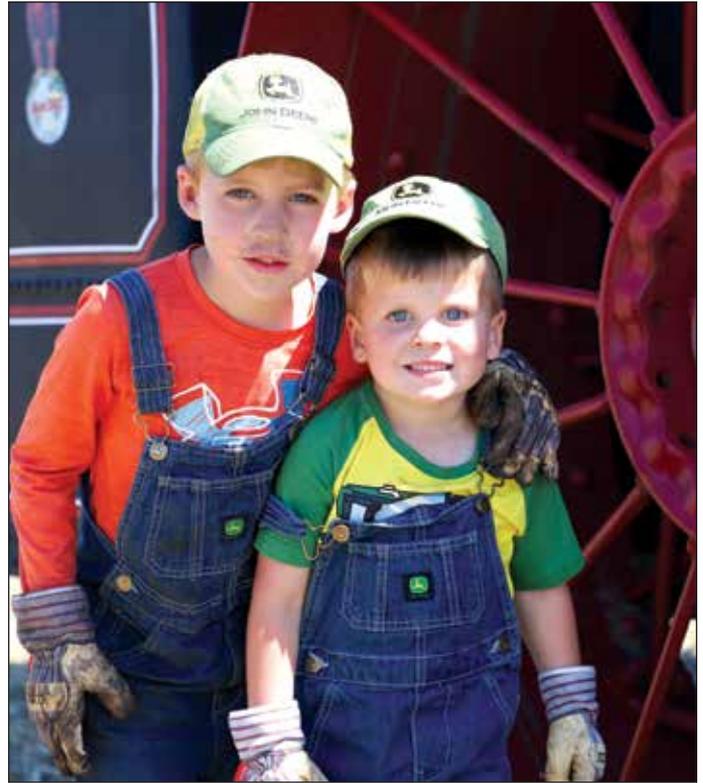
“For the most part, it was ready. We had new gears cast for it and on its way from Canada it was dropped off at Jim Briden’s shop in Fargo. He mounted the gears and gave it a look over. We got it back just a few days before the show.

“The day before the show, we discovered it needed some minor tinkering. We did run it on the sawmill and thresher. But, mostly we worked on making adjustments and breaking it in.”

For the Dahlstroms, it was their dream come true. “I was kind of relieved that we didn’t have to search anymore. We spent a lot of time making adjustments, and it felt good to be able to make repairs and adjustments on an engine without asking permission.”

Along the way, the Dahlstroms have had good help from other steam engineers like Doug Miller, Shawn Frederickson and Bill Collins. They not only shared their experience and knowledge, but were willing to let the Dahlstroms get hands-on experience with other engines.

“We are looking forward to the 2025 show. Hopefully we will have the kinks worked out and get it fired up and use it during the show. And, if needed, we should have lots of Case guys to consult with.”



Thanks to their parents, Otto and Ole Dahlstrom of Albert City, Iowa will grow up with a 1912 steam engine. Look for them at this year’s Threshermen & Collectors Show.

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Annual Quilts of Valor Presentation Recognizes Area Veterans

For eight years, volunteers have presented Quilts of Valor during the Threshermen's Show. Sandra Otto is a quilter and organizer of the annual event.

"The mission of Quilts of Valor is to honor our service members and veterans who have been touched by war with Quilts of Valor, and we feel all service personnel have been touched by war," she explained.

It is a national organization founded in 2003 by "Blue Star" mom Catherine Roberts literally with a dream. Catherine's son Nate was deployed in Iraq. She said she was "ten seconds away from panic" twenty-four hours a day.

She had a dream as vivid as real life. In her words she said, "I saw a young man sitting on the side of his bed in the middle of the night, hunched over. The overall feeling was one of utter despair. Then, as if viewing a movie, I saw him in the next scene wrapped in a quilt. His whole demeanor changed from one of despair to one of hope and wellbeing. The quilt had made this dramatic change. The message of my dream was: Quilts = Healing."

Since then, over 354,712 Quilts of Valor have been awarded in the United States, and in Germany, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Sandra tells the veterans, "On each quilt is a label that tells a little about it. As of today, the story of this quilt becomes your story. We hope you will keep this quilt with you, use it and be comforted by it, as a reminder that there are thousands of women and men across these lands that are forever in your debt.

"Though we may never know the depth of your sacrifice to protect and defend the United States of America, as an expression of gratitude from a grateful nation, we are humbled to be awarding you a Quilt of Valor."

At the presentation in 2024, four veterans were honored:

Darwin McConkey enlisted in the U.S. Army Oct. 2, 1951. He left the Bradford Hotel on to Chicago. He was assigned to the Infantry, 9th Regiment, 2nd Division. He spent 10-1/2 months on the front lines in Korea, including Old Baldy Hill and the taking of Ch'ongch'on, after a landing at Inchon Beach, then being moved to multiple other locations in Korea. After leaving Korea, he was stationed at Camp Carson, Colorado for two months prior to his discharge in July 1953. Darwin's badges and other awards: three Combat Battle Stars, Korean Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, Infantry Combat Badge, Sharpshooter (carbine and pistol) and the 50th Anniversary Korean War Service. Darwin was also honored to receive a flag from Governor Ray that flew over the capital. Probably the most unique tribute to his service is the fact that his grandson has the list of his grandpa's medals tattooed on his chest.

Richard Haldin was born and raised in the Sioux Rapids area. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in November 1969, serving with the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, Kelo Company. He went to basic in San Diego, Infantry Training at Camp



Presented with quilts in 2024 were: Darwin McConkey, Richard Haldin, Darrell Schnetter and Richard Hogrefe.

Pendleton, California. His military occupation specialty was 0311, a Rifleman. From there he was sent to serve in Vietnam. After his service in Vietnam, he returned to California where he participated in beach landings with the Navy, making Assault Landings.

Medals and awards received include the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Citations Vietnam Service, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal. Upon completion of his three-year enlistment in December 1972, he returned home to Sioux Rapids.

Darrell Schnetter enlisted in the Army National Guard on Aug. 18, 1969. He was stationed at Det 1 HHB 1-194 FA in Storm Lake. He entered basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri on Jan. 11, 1970. He spent his 21st birthday in the reception center. He stayed in Fort Leonard Wood for his AIT which was TacticalWire Operations Specialist, which included pole climbing, radios, along with laying wire. As Corporal he ran 1 of 3 wire teams in the headquarters battery. He was promoted March 13, 1973, becoming SGT in charge of the 3 wire teams in Headquarters battery. On June 9, 1974 he was promoted to SSGT and was Battalion Communications Chief for the 6 wire teams in the battalion. He remained there until the end of service on Aug. 17, 1975, ending six years of service.

Richard Hogrefe was drafted into the U.S. Army and entered service on March 24, 1971. After Basic Training he received 8 weeks of Infantry Training in Fort Polk, Louisiana and three weeks of APC Tank Drivers School in Fort Knox, Kentucky. On Sept. 10, 1971, he was sent to Vietnam and served with 23rd Infantry Division until Oct. 18, 1971. He was then transferred to F Troop 17th Cav Tank Division where he served until March 24, 1972, when the Division was deployed back to United States. He was the driver of an APC Tank on several missions in the Da Nang area. He received an Honorable Discharge on April 4, 1972, with a rank of SP4. Medals and awards received include the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal and the Vietnam Campaign Medal, and a Sharpshooter Medal.

Freedom Hall Honors Members of Service with Military Displays

Volunteers from the area service organizations work throughout the year to update and expand on the various military displays at Freedom Hall.

There are over 24 vintage military vehicles in the building. Other displays include uniforms, photos, weapons, and other memorabilia. Each includes a detailed explanation of who manufactured it, the features, use and costs.

Stop and see the 944 Cushman Model 53 Airborne Scooter with a 1944 M-3A4 General Purpose Utility Hand Cart. In the later stages of World War II in Europe, Allied paratroopers used these scooters to maintain contact between units, increase their mobility and haul small loads.

Other displays that visitors will want to see include a replica of a 16-inch projectile that would have been shot from a USS battleship, the “super-heavy” 2,700 pound APC (Armor Piercing, Capped) Mark 8 shell. Large caliber guns were designed to fire two different 16 inch shells: an armor piercing round for anti-ship and anti-structure work, and a high explosive round designed for use against unarmored targets and shore bombardment.

Check out the Clinometer on display. Clinometers are used for measuring list of a ship on still water and the roll in rough water. The angle of list is the degree to which a ship leans or tilts to either port or starboard. The vessel is stable, but the distribution of weight aboard (often caused by uneven loading or flooding) causes it to heel to one side.

Also on display are a 5-inch projectile, Zippo Lighters, a battle lantern, Navy dress uniforms and teak wood from the Battleship USS New Jersey.

Freedom Hall opened in 2014 and was designed to honor all members of service, both past and present. The 64' x 128' building and all related items were made possible thanks to generous donors and volunteers who have covered all expenses.

In 2015, volunteers added more display space and a collection of military patches. That year they featured items from WWI.

In 2016, the display case for the Navy Target Kite was pur-



chased along with two additional display cases. Volunteers created a flag display along the road for show days. The flags, poles and materials were purchased with funds from the Sundholm Foundation.

Veterans take turns staffing the building in an effort to answer questions. Freedom Hall is also open Memorial Day, Veterans Day and other times by appointment. For additional information, contact Garland Otto at 712-843-5761, Woody Wenell at 712-843-5328 or Ron White at 712-289-2251.



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Enjoy the Threshermen's Tractor Ride Thursday

The annual Threshermen's Tractor Ride will leave the show grounds Thursday, Aug. 7 at 1 p.m. The ride is open to all makes, ages and models of tractors (and riders). This is the 11th year for the ride, which has brought as many as 50 participants.

Enjoy lunch from the Threshermen's Cafe before heading out on the ride.

The tractor ride will head to Albert City for a visit at the Albert City Historical Museum, which is a large six-building complex.

Next, riders will head to L M & O Railroad Museum in Marathon. The museum features a depot from Pochahontas that is fully outfitted including the tools, ticketing and passenger areas. There is 1,000 feet of train track with working lights and switches. Visitors can actually take a ride around the track.

The museum includes an all-wood executive car from the 1880s and much memorabilia from Marathon including an original ice house and shoe shop.

Participants will get a coupon to enjoy some Threshermen's homemade ice cream during the show. The ride is typically back to the grounds at about 4 p.m.



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Darrel Kleinjan Plans to Exhibit Rare 1930s Case Old Iron

Darrel Kleinjan has a knack for taking a pile of old iron bones and bringing it back to life.

This year, he plans to bring as many as five of his rare Case items to exhibit during the show. All of them are from the 1930s and most are the last of any known to exist.

Darrel and his wife, Tracy live on a farm near Volga, South Dakota. It's the farm that his grandfather bought in the mid-1930s. Darrel grew up here when his father took over the farm and he bought it from his father.

The family raised row crops and beef cows and made a comfortable life on the farm that was made from an 1800's tree claim. An original apple tree and some walnut trees still stand from the initial planting of trees.

The Timber Culture Act of 1873 allowed people to claim 160 acres of federal land if they agreed to plant and cultivate 40 acres of trees. That amount was later reduced to 10 acres. In Minnesota, over a million acres were claimed under the act with about 25,000 acres dedicated to tree planting.

The original shack is still part of the house although a kitchen and living areas were added. The path from a long-ago wagon trail can still be seen crossing through the farm.

It is a fitting home then, for some old iron from the 1930s. Darrel likes the big old iron and even more so when it is rare. He says he doesn't actually look for anything, but knows what he wants when he sees it.

Darrel likes to get old and odd stuff that nobody else has. It started out when he found a Case crawler and got it running.

"All of these were basket cases with stuck engines and other problems. I have basically stumbled upon them or buddies that know I am interested in collecting this kind of stuff let me know of them."

"My grandpa would have had horses, but the first Case tractor he had was an early 9-18 crossmotor," he said. "My dad



Darrel Kleinjan stands near his favorite piece of Case old iron.

could remember it sitting in the trees. Then it was scrapped for the war effort.

"I grew up on SC and DC Case tractors. I used an SC for raking hay and then a DC. Dad got a 830, 930 and then a 2090 and 2394. That's my newest tractor and it's still an antique."

An early 1930 Case CC has a mounted cultivator. Darrel says it has a unique steering configuration that still exists on perhaps only five of these tractors.

"The gear casting would break. The unit was recalled and a new configuration was made. The cultivator is set for 42-inch rows as this would have been what they used after horses."

When Darrel found the 1930 Case crawler in Indiana, the hood, gas tank, engine and steering linkage were all gone.



A 1932 Wehr road roller mounted on a Case model C tractor.



From the mid-1930s, a Wehr One Man Road Grader built on a Case model CI.



A 1930 Case CC with attached cultivator with a unique steering gear. It also has axle extensions and fenders.

But, he found a way to put it all back together. He took parts from another crawler and used them as patterns to have new parts cast.

A Koehring Wheel Dumptor model 70-5 was made in Milwaukee, Wisc. and it has a Case L engine.

The machine would have been used in building roads up in the mountains. It goes 20 miles an hour in either forward or reverse. There are no hydraulics, but a carefully balanced rocker system for unloading. Darrel believes this is the only one left that is in running condition.

The rubber over the wheels shows a hard work life. When he found it the engine was full of mice.

The Wehr company from Milwaukee used Case tractors for their road rollers. Darrel snagged a 1932 model from west of St. Louis. "It is the only one like it I have ever seen. I have heard rumors there may be one on the east coast but I haven't been able to confirm it."

It's the Wehr One Man Road Grader that Darrel believes will get the most attention while on exhibit. Built on a Case model C, it has the seat on top of the radiator which is unusual. It was once used by the town of Craig, Neb. and the surrounding township and somehow avoided being scrapped for the war effort.



From 1934, a Koehring Wheel Dumptor model 70-5 with a Case L engine.



A 1930 Case CD crawler, one of three known to exist.

Along with old iron, Darrel also has gathered up other rare finds related to Case. From watch fobs, to wrench sets, hub caps, cast iron Case Eagles. There are many treasures to find on this old farm.

"I've been fixing things all my life, that's just the story of my life ever since I was a kid," said Darrel. He has put those skills to good use to bring back some rare Case old iron. Find him at this year's show and enjoy learning more about these rare pieces.



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Old Power is New Feature for the 2026 Threshermen's Show

An all new feature concept is planned for the 55th annual Threshermen & Collectors Show set for August 6-9 2026.

According to Director Brady Bonin, the idea has been developing over several years to do a unique feature event like this.

It will highlight the big power used on the farm through the 1930s.

Visitors to the show can expect to see big and small steam engines, huge prairie tractors and of course, horse power.

"We are organizing about 20 combines that will do a demonstration of a wheat run," said Bonin.

"The show is going to be stretched to four days, starting Thursday and running through Sunday.

"We plan to have seven to 10 separators doing threshing all four days. There will be big plow days Friday through Sunday."

What is unique to this show is that all makes will be a part of the feature rather than the typical focus of just one make of machinery.

From the late 1800s to the 1930s, farming machinery underwent a dramatic transformation that reshaped agriculture and rural life. In the late 19th century, horse-drawn implements such as plows, harrows, and seed drills were widely used. The mechanical reaper and grain binder allowed farmers to harvest crops faster and with less labor.

By the early 20th century, gasoline-powered tractors began replacing horses and big prairie tractors were used to bust up the Midwest sod. These machines reduced the physical burden on farmers and significantly boosted productivity. The 1920s and 1930s saw further advancements in combines, threshers, and corn pickers, which allowed for greater efficiency and larger farm operations. This era laid the groundwork for the modern, mechanized farming that would dominate the Midwest in the decades to come.

See this history come to life at the 55th annual Threshermen & Collectors Show.

Upcoming features include the National Rumely Collectors Show in 2027.

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Association Launches New Website

This year marks the 54th annual show. For about 20 of those years, the Association has had a website to promote the show and connect with members, friends and guests.

The site has taken on its fourth revision in all those years. This one makes the site more user friendly and compatible with the various types of devices being used today.

The site still has the convenient registration forms, show details and of course, an archive of show information dating back to 2010.

The website is an important part of the promotional toolbox for the Association. During the winter months, over 1,000 people visit the site each month. But, come July and August the site will see over 6,500 visitors. It is one place where anyone in the world can learn about the show, view photos and information about exhibits and demonstrations, get a schedule of events or register and exhibit.

Check it out: www.albertcitythreshermen.com



2025 Show Toy is Case 1070

This is the eleventh year for the Threshermen collectible toy tractor sale. This year's tractor is a Case 1070 with duals, 1/16 scale die cast.

Each toy tractor includes a serial number. The #10 tractor is donated by Le Mars Toy Store and will be included as a prize in the large tractor raffle. With the purchase of a ticket for that raffle, buyers are automatically included for a chance to win this toy tractor.

One hundred tractors are available for the annual toy raffle.

In addition to the raffle tractor, there is a garden shed raffle. It is a 10x16 garden shed. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the show. Tickets are 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20. The winner will have the choice of the garden shed or a cash option of \$2,500. If the winner selects the shed, they are responsible for moving it.



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Golf cart/UTV policy

Golf carts are available to rent during the show. Reservations must be made by calling Northland Auto & Marine at 712-852-3232 on July 15 or July 16.

Anyone wishing to use their own golf cart or side-by-side on the show grounds must purchase a permit and adhere to the rules set in place by the Albert City Threshermen Board of Directors.

Permit cost is \$100 for the weekend or \$50 for the day.

Handicap permit is free (must provide matching valid handicap driving permit & photo ID).

Permits must be purchased from the Registration building located on the north end of the showgrounds or in the parking lot located east of the showgrounds. Or, purchase your permit online ahead of time by clicking on the Merchandise tab. Only cash or check will be accepted at the showgrounds for the permits.

Rules:

- Operators must be 18+ and have a valid driver's license.
- Proof of insurance is required.
- Speed limit is 5 mph.
- Golf carts or side-by-side vehicles may not be used to enter into buildings.
- May not transport more individuals than the number of seats available.
- No ATVs or 4-wheelers allowed.

In situations where questions arise relative to any aspect of these rules or rules are not followed, the Board of Directors shall be responsible for all final decisions.

Catch a ride on a trolley



In an effort to make sure all guests can get around comfortably to the many activities on the grounds, the Threshermen provide trolleys to carry passengers around the grounds and to the field.

On-site camping available

Primitive campsites are available on the show grounds for \$10 a night and reservations may be made before the show by filling out a Primitive Camping Registration Form. (No camping is allowed in the main parking area.) Camping at these sites is available beginning on Saturday, August 2, until Monday, August 11. You must pay for every night your camper is parked at the campsite. If you have a generator, you will need to park along the north fence. Generators must be off by 10 p.m. - this will be strictly enforced. If you have a medical reason that requires you to keep your generator/inverter running, we ask you to park towards the east of the campgrounds.

Electrical with water and electrical only campsites are full for the 2025 show. If you'd like to be on the waiting list in case of a cancellation, please email us at acthreshermen@gmail.com. Camping at these sites is available beginning on Sat., August 2 until Monday, August 11. It is a \$200 flat fee to camp at the electrical with water sites and \$150 flat fee for electrical sites (no matter how many of these nights you stay).

Please see the Campground Host upon arriving. Campground Rules are available online, as well as at the campground. For more information, please call the show office at 712-843-2076.

Visit the Albert City Historical Museum while in town

The Albert City Historical Museum is located at 212 North Second Street and features six buildings packed with historical items from the Albert City area.

During Threshermen's weekend, the museum is open Friday from 1 to 5 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

Regular hours are Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. during the summer. Or make an appointment to visit anytime by calling, 712-843-5858 or 712-843-5684. Admission for adults is \$5.

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Share your skills in these show contests

The Flower Power contest will take place during the 2025 show. Drop off your containers of flowers on the south side of the farmhouse either Wed. August 6, until 5 p.m. or Thurs., August 7, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon. Cut-off for registering is Thursday at 12 p.m. Judging will take place Thursday afternoon and winners will be announced on Friday.

There will be two categories: buckets and other containers. Buckets do not need to be 5-gallon buckets. Age divisions are 8 and under, ages 9-12, ages 13-18, and 18 and over. If you have any questions, please call or text Denise Huskamp at 712-730-0857.

There will also be a Flower Power Coloring Contest. Pick up the sheet at a local business or during the show on Friday in the children's play area. Turn them in to the Broom House before 4:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 8. Winners will be announced Saturday morning.

Saturday morning is the Cinnamon Roll contest. Bring at least three cinnamon rolls to the main lunch stand by 9 a.m. for judging. Prizes this year are sponsored by United Bank of Iowa: \$500 for 1st place, \$50 for 2nd place and \$25 for 3rd place.

Sunday is the Bring Your Pie to Church contest. Bring your homemade double-crust pie to the main lunch stand by 9 a.m. for judging. Pies will be judged and the winner announced at the end of the church service. Fareway is sponsoring the contest this year, and will be providing \$500, \$50 and \$25 in grocery cards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Get your Tickets for the 2025 Raffle



The Albert City Threshermen and Collectors are holding two raffles this year as a fundraiser.

The tractor raffle is a 1948 Case DC-4. A 10' x 16' garden shed (or \$2,500 cash) will also be up for raffle. Tickets for either are \$5 each or 5 for \$20, and can be purchased from board members or during the show. Look for the raffle display in the feature area.

A second prize in the tractor raffle is for the #10 Case toy tractor. The drawing for all raffle items will be at 4 p.m. Sunday before the Threshermen parade and you need not be present to win.

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Army of the Southwest will bring Civil War Era to life

The Army of the Southwest will return with an encampment that demonstrates the period of the 1860s. The Army of the Southwest is an organization of Iowa Civil War Reenactors and living history enthusiasts dedicated to educating people of all ages about the Civil War. They do this through reenactments, school programs and historical events.

The non-profit organization includes over 40 members from throughout Iowa. The unit consists of Confederate and Union infantry, artillery and cavalry. In addition, there is a strong group of period civilians.

Like most things on the show grounds, the encampment provides a chance for hands-on activities and close-up demonstrations. While at the show, the members are dressed and living in the period the entire time.

Members of the organization recreate camp life by living in period tents and when time allows, they prepare food over a campfire and eat as the soldiers did during the war.

Visitors can expect to see arms, photos, diagrams and drawings at the encampment. Participants are very knowledgeable and are eager to share and visit with guests.



Members will arrive on Thursday and Friday. The encampment is located at the southeast end of the show grounds and the area is open with displays throughout the day.

Learn more about the Army of the Southwest by visiting their website at www.armysw.com.

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Enjoy the Sweet Corn Feed and Greased Pig Contest set for Friday

The Sweet Corn Feed and Greased Pig Contest will return for the fourth year. Both events take place Friday, Aug. 8.

The Sweet Corn Feed will be held at the Feed Bunk from 5 to 6:30 p.m. All-you-can-eat sweet corn, hamburgers and drinks are all available for purchase.

The Greased Pig Contest will start at 7 p.m. There will be four age groups, age 5-8, age 9-12, age 13-17 (2-person team) and over age 18 (2-person team). Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, 3rd places in all groups. Advance registration is required and can be done by visiting www.albertcitythreshermen.com.



A good neighbor to the Albert City Threshermen and Collectors Show.

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Enjoy a Variety of Musical Entertainment under the Shelter

As has been the tradition, the annual Threshermen Show offers a great line-up of entertainment and unique talent for the 54th annual show.

The entertainment will feature big band, acoustic, jazz, rock and piano all performing under the entertainment shelter. The entertainment line-up includes:



Sentimental Swing will perform Friday from 9:15 to 10 a.m. and again from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Enjoy the music of the Big Band era as you listen to this orchestra that started in 2000 and played regularly at the Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake and the Laramar Ballroom in Fort Dodge.

The **Jacob Austin Band** includes Jacob, his father and mother. They play traditional country, ballads, gospel music, oldies and show tunes as well as original material. They will perform from 2 to 4 p.m. Friday.



South 71 returns to the Threshermen's Stage and will perform Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. They are an acoustic trio with second to none vocals and expert guitar and flute playing country, rock, folk and original music.

William Lawson will perform from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday. William plays mandolin, guitar, banjo and dobro.



The Bill Riley Talent Search will be held Saturday evening starting at 6 p.m. Contestants will compete for a chance to perform at the 2026 State Fair Talent Search.

Sunday entertainment starts at 12 noon with the **Albert City Community Band**.

Manuel Zarzoso will perform from 2 to 3 p.m. and **Jennifer Schaff** will close out the afternoon from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. with a selection of piano music.

Congratulations

Albert City Threshermen & Collectors on your 54th Year!

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Case Eagle Hitch Demonstration Set for Saturday Afternoon

At the Case 175th Anniversary Show in 2017, Stan Borton was on a mission. He wanted to demonstrate the Eagle Hitch plow and tractors and get as many in the field plowing as possible. He ended the afternoon with 18 tractors and 48 plow bottoms in the field.

For the 2025 show coming up August 8-10, he is ready to do it all over again. Although he hopes to have even more tractors and plows with plans to have expanded field area to get in more plowing. The demonstration will also be open to Eagle Hitch discs or harrow implements.

The activity is being organized by members of the Mid-Iowa Case Collectors Club and anyone interested in participating or who may need more information can contact Borton at 641-750-7002.

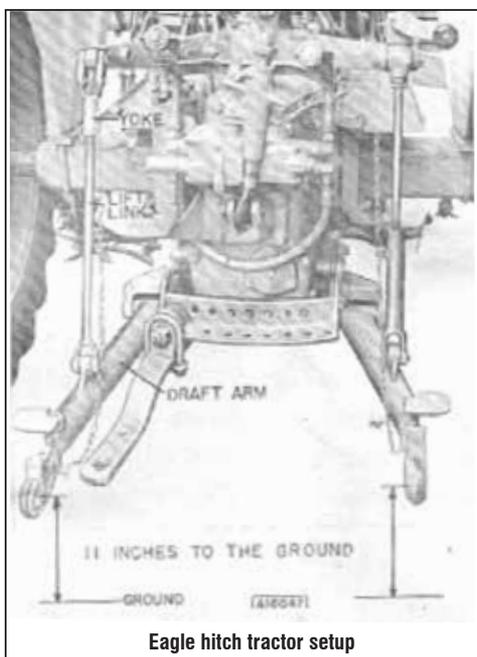
In the 1940s, the Ferguson system 3-point hitch was gaining sales on smaller tractors. Leon Clausen at Case did not like the idea of the 3-point hitch and especially did not like the draft sensing that allowed it to raise and lower according to field conditions. He finally relented and allowed the Rock Island engineers to design a hitch to be a part of the VAC. In 1949, the Eagle Hitch was introduced on the VAC. Clausen insisted it be operator controlled so there was no draft sensing built onto the hitch.

It worked and was a success. In 1952, it was introduced on the Racine-built SC and DC. The hitch had a unique claw that allowed the operator to release the claw, back up, raise the hitch, and pull forward to latch – all without leaving the tractor seat. They could then hook up the top



link and be ready to go.

The Eagle Hitch was continued on the two-tone row crop tractors until 1964. By that time, Leon Clausen was not with Case and the new management allowed a draft-sensing system to be designed which was introduced with the Comfort King line of tractors. The Eagle Hitch served very well from 1949 to 1964 – 15 years in all.



Eagle hitch tractor setup



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Meet the Threshermen & Collectors Board

Karl Lind

Is a co-founder. Works primarily with military, antique tractors, vehicles and field events. Enjoys bringing memories of the past to the present.



Gary Sundblad

serves as the Board President and has served on the board 15 years. He oversees promotions, website, flowers, registration, store, entertainment, traffic control, tickets/parking and upcoming features.



Branden Otto

Is serving his seventh year on the board. He oversees security, parade, first aid, Freedom Hall, antique cars, small gas engines, flour mill, golf carts, insurance, sound/electrical and tractor ride.



Angie Smith

Is serving her sixth year. She oversees tractor pull, Svenska Stuga, insurance, Mother's Room, tickets/parking, garbage, farm house, and grants/fundraising.



Randy Koenig

Is serving his sixth year. He oversees the Army of the SW, post pounding, sanitation, school house, shingle mill, tree maintenance/planting.



Don Jackson

Is serving his third year. He oversees the mechanics, ear corn/shelling, scale-size equipment, diesel engine, parade, tractor raffle, area parades.



Loren Booth

In his second year, he oversees craft/toy/ other vendors, Gas Station, mechanics, parade, building & grounds maintenance, radios, and signs.



Grant Stein

Is serving his second year. He oversees steam and prairie tractors, camping, fuel, feature building, threshing, trolleys, UTV permits, grants/fundraising.



Jim Nelson

Is in his first year of board service, (this time around). He oversees the blacksmith shop, Corliss engine, crop ground, tree maintenance/planting.



Brady Bonin

Is serving his first year on the board. He works with the building & grounds maintenance, crop ground, parade, straw sales, field activities, feature building.



Peter Huskamp

In his first year, he oversees the broom building, children's games, dyno, garden tractors and hay sales.



Travis Mullenger

Is serving his first year. He oversees big tractors & steam engines, crop ground, mechanics, and tractors.



Tyler Wiseman

In his first year, he oversees food board, Grandpa's Barn, horses, potato patch, Ridge Runners, saw mill, well drilling.

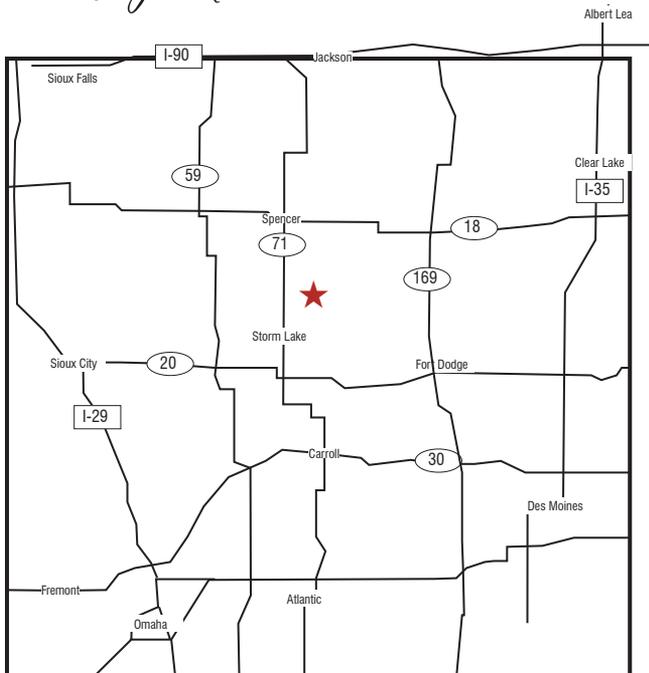


Emily Bonin

Serves as executive secretary and is in her fourth year of doing so.



How to find us:



Located 2 miles west and 1/2 mile north of Albert City, Iowa on Hwy. M54

Become a Member:

If you are a current member of the association and already have a 2025 membership card, please present that at the gate to gain free admittance to the show. Membership monies received at the Registration Office during the 2025 show will be applied to the 2026 year.

Membership amounts are \$25 for a single and \$35 for a couple. This is a great value if you plan to attend the show every day! Members are invited to the annual meeting the first Saturday in December where a delicious catered meal is served before the business meeting.

Contact us: _____

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

Our site location: 5015 210th Ave., Albert City, IA

By phone or fax: 712-843-2076

By e-mail: info@albertcitythreshermen.com

On the web: www.albertcitythreshermen.com

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Visitors: In Iowa, a new hands-free driving law took effect on July 1, 2025, prohibiting drivers from holding a cell phone or other electronic device while operating a vehicle.

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- 
- 1831 Cyrus Hall McCormick invents the mechanical reaper
1831 Cyrus Hall McCormick demonstrates his reaper at Steele's Tavern, VA
1842 Jerome Increase Case establishes Racine Threshing Machine Works in Racine, WI
1848 Cyrus Hall McCormick establishes McCormick Harvesting Machine Co. in Chicago, IL
1851 McCormick's Reaper earns a Gold Medal in London, England and enters European market
1863 Jerome Case establishes J.I. Case and Company with 3 partners: Erskine, Baker, and Bull
1869 J.I. Case & Company produces the first steam engine tractor (Old No. 1) now at Smithsonian
1871 The Great Chicago Fire destroys McCormick factory, rebuilds calling it McCormick Works
1874 McCormick adds a mechanized steel binder and begins manufacturing in 1877
1876 Case builds the first self-propelled traction steam engine but still horse steering controlled
1880 J.I. Case Threshing Company incorporates and dissolves partnership
1882 McCormick builds the first McCormick Daisy Reaper
1884 Jerome Case makes his famous trip to a farm, burning a faulty thresher and replacing it free
1886 Case becomes the largest worldwide manufacturer of steam engines
1892 Case builds first gasoline tractor, the Paterson Tractor, but it was not successful
1902 International Harvester Company is founded from 4 companies with 90% binder market share
1905 First IHC Friction Drive tractor made from stationary gas engine and a Morton Chassis
1910 IHC introduces the Titan tractor – named after the Greek mythological figure – size and strength
1911 Case releases the first gasoline tractor – the 30 – 60
1919 IHC develops the first commercial PTO (power takeoff)
1923 Bert Benjamin builds first successful row crop tractor, the Farmall Regular
1936 Harvester Red #50 is adopted for all IHC tractors, crawlers, and power units
1939 IHC introduces the second generation Farmall – the Letter Series (A, B, H, and M)
1943 IHC builds first successful cotton picker (Old Red), mounted on Farmall H now at Smithsonian
1954 IHC replaces the Letter Series with the new Number Series Farmall
1958 John Steiger and sons build the first Steiger tractor in their barn at Red Lake Falls, MN at 15,000#s
1958 Loren Tyler founds Tyler Mfg. and produces pull type dry spreaders and anhydrous applicators
1962 IHC introduces Farmall and International 706 and 806 models
1963 Case has 125 distributorships and subsidiaries in the world with 20% of US production exported
1963 The Steiger family begins commercial tractor production selling 5 units painted light green
1965 IHC introduces the Farmall and International 1206 – first row crop tractor over 100 horse power
1969 Case's Old Abe logo is replaced with new more modern logo
1971 IHC launches the International Farmall 66 series, powered by a new V-8 engine
1974 Case's Ag Equipment Division changes colors to Power Red and Power White
1977 IHC introduces the Axial-Flow rotary combine – the 1440 and 1460 models after spending \$56 million
1980 IHC introduces the 2+2 row crop articulated tractor with the driver seated on the rear half of tractor
1982 The Steiger Panther 2000 is introduced with industry first 12 speed power shift and PFC hydraulics
1983 Case changes colors of 94 series tractors to black and white after government banned lead paints
1984 Case introduces the 94 series 4WD including the company's most powerful 4994 at 400 gross engine hp
1985 Case acquires International Harvester becoming Case IH – the second largest farm equipment manufacturer
1986 Case IH buys Steiger Tractor after they filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy
1988 Case IH introduces their first tractor series (Magnum) under the combined engineering of IHC and Case
1996 Case IH introduces the Quadtrac tractor having 360 hp with 4 independent tracks
1999 Case IH becomes part of CNH – owned by Fiat of Italy who also owns New Holland farm equipment

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