



## HOW TO TRAIN A CHAMPION PULLING HORSE

By TJ Bishop

There are few things more thrilling than watching a champion team of draft horses make a prize-winning effort in a horse pull. But what goes into making that winning team? In order to find answers to these and other questions about pulling horses, I went straight to the horse's mouth (sorry I couldn't resist the bad pun) and spoke to long-time, prize-winning horse pulling competitor, Mr. Joe Miller, from Clark, Missouri.

If you've ever attended a pulling contest at Midwest Old Threshers, Mr. Miller is probably a familiar face. He and his wife, Fannie, have been active both pulling and volunteering in demonstrations for twenty-six years at the Reunion.

During those twenty-six years, the Millers, and their good friends the Harrises, had several years when they competed at the highest levels of competition. They would start in May and compete through October. It wasn't unusual to attend thirty-four pulls in one season, which



Joe Miller giving his team a work out during the Don Carlson Memorial Horse Pull.

meant that sometimes they were attending three events per week. They traveled throughout Missouri, Arkansas, Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska, Kansas, and Colorado.

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## RUSSELL ENGINE ADDED TO STEAM POWERHOUSE



You may be familiar with Russell traction steam engines, but did you know they made stationary steam engines too? The Russell & Company of Massillon, Ohio, are best known for manufacturing farm and railroad

machinery in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Most notably 18,000 steam tractors and stationary engines, plus 22,000 threshing machines.

In 1838 Nahum and Clement Russell started a general carpentry business in Massillon, Ohio. Their shop burned down two years later. On Jan. 1, 1842, the C.M. Russell & Co. was formed. This partnership between Charles M, Nahun and Clement worked on designing a

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## RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!



Terry McWilliams, CEO

I'm excited for this year's Reunion, which is right around the corner, September 1-5, 2022. I can't put into words how much we are looking forward to seeing everyone back in Mt. Pleasant for the Reunion and all the upcoming fall events. Over the last 18 months, Reunion plans have come together thanks to the hard work by the staff and Board of Directors. I get asked often "How long does it take to plan a Reunion?" We begin in late June or early July for the following year's Reunion in order to make it all happen.

The 2022 Old Threshers Reunion will be filled with all the great traditions that we all know and love to see and participant in. Set up starts when the museum doors blow open and the steam engines, tractors, wagons, and other pieces equipment hit the show grounds once again and prepare to come back to life. The campground opens and the little city within Mount Pleasant starts to grow. During Reunion set up time, the process goes step by step as other buildings are emptied and their contents set up, cleaned off and ready for the Reunion. Next, the outside items start to arrive including the big tents, lots of porta potties, and needed Reunion supplies. The look of the grounds changes almost by the hour. In the blink of an eye there are food operations coming to life to serve great meals to Reunion visitors. As the Reunion comes to life more and more each day, I can start to see the last 18 months of our work is ready to be shown off to the world.

Before I know it, we are lining up the entries in the Harvest Day Parade. When the sirens to go off on the lead police car, marking the 3:30pm start time, that makes it official for me each year – The Reunion is here! The parade is then followed up by a night under the lights in front of the grandstands with the horse pull.

Things turn quickly into the five days of the Old Threshers Reunion which, I will be honest, seem to fly by with long days and very short nights. During the Reunion, I rely on my staff very heavily to keep me on track and make sure I arrive at the next event I need to be at. I get reenergized each day by just watching the Reunion happen around us. I truly enjoy watching the event bring smiles to the visitors' faces as they enjoy the whole show - the families with young kids and their excitement, grandpa and grandma retelling their stories about something they saw and the number of things offered daily for them all to do.

I would be willing to bet that for each one of us, we would all describe the Old Threshers Reunion in a very different way when asked "What is the Old Threshers Reunion?" I always answer with, "you have to experience the Reunion to truly know what it is." That is what makes this place so special, its different for each person from the smell of steam engine smoke to a ride on the Smile Machine.

Thank you all for making new memories each year during the Old Threshers Reunion, see you soon!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry".

## FEATURED FOR 2022



### Garden Tractor

1973 Oliver 125 Hydrostatic

Owned by: Gary Spitznogle of Wapello, IA

Gary Spitznogle bought his 1973 Oliver 125 hydrostatic garden tractor at a sale north of Columbus Junction, IA. He did a lot of cosmetic work to it, but mechanically it was in good shape. Gary has been exhibiting at Old Threshers since 1984. He collects Oliver tractors and has 50-60. He has exhibited up to 40. The Oliver 125 is his only garden tractor. His grandson helps him get the tractors back and forth to Mount Pleasant.

### Tractor

1953 Oliver 66

Owned by: Kenny & Teresa Grimm of Goose Lake, IA

This year's featured gas tractor is truly a part of the family. The 1953 Oliver 66 belongs to the Grimm family of Goose Lake, IA. Kenny Grimm's father and grandfather bought the tractor when it was almost brand new. Its previous owner traded it in for an International after only having owned it for six months. Part of the Grimm family now, the Oliver 66 hardly had a day of rest. Used to spread manure, operate a hay rake, an elevator and used as a feeder tractor, the tractor more than earned its overhaul and restoration in 2005. Kenny's dad was able to take the newly restored tractor on the WMT tractor drive that same summer. Sadly, he was diagnosed with leukemia shortly after the drive and died later that year, but what a great experience for him. The Grimms are an Oliver family for sure. Kenny worked in an Oliver dealership in high school and now owns 20 tractors from the manufacturer. He has attended the Old Threshers Reunion on and off for the last 30 years. Not all his tractors are green and white, he also owns a Minneapolis Moline and Allis Chalmers as well as a few orphans. Kenny will exhibit a couple of tractors at this year's Reunion. However, if you think you are seeing double, maybe you are. Kenny has a carbon copy of this year's featured engine stored year round in the OT Heritage Museums. You may see him using it to get things done around Tractorland. Kenny and his wife, Teresa arrive in time each year to set up their camper and help set up for the show. They also stick around when it is over and help put things away. Look for Kenny and Teresa as well as their kids and grandkids at the 2022 Old Threshers Reunion.



### Traction Steam Engines

A Colean Collection

Owned by: Larry Nelson of Muscatine, IA

Larry Nelson owns a collection of three Colean engines out of the five Colean engines reported to still exist. Larry will be displaying all three of his engines this year (a 30 hp, a 25 hp, and an 18 hp) — quite a remarkable collection, indeed! When Larry found his first engine in 1981, the 18 hp, he knew he liked the looks of it; but he was unaware that it was so rare. Larry found his engines in Minnesota, Missouri, and North Dakota. He estimated that it took him about 1500 hours to restore an engine. He participates in many of the steam power demonstrations in the steam area during the Reunion.

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## FEATURED FOR 2022 CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3



### Antique Truck

1947 Dodge WDX 1 Ton Powerwagon

Owned by: Clint and Martie Dixon of Reynolds, IL

Promoted by Dodge as the “Do Everything Vehicle,” this year’s featured truck is a workhorse. The 1947 Dodge WDX 1-ton Powerwagon has its roots deeply planted in military history. It is the civilian version of the T-214 Dodge truck designated as the WC series. Considered a workhorse in both the military and civilian worlds, one really must see it in person. In 1980, Clint Dixon saw an ad for the truck in Old Cars Weekly and made the trip to Sibley, IA. Mechanically, the truck was in great shape, it just needed cosmetic work. With the exception of the bumpers, the green paint is original. Dixon also owns a 1984 flatbed

Powerwagon. He and his wife, Martie, can be seen taking either of the trucks to the local home improvement store to pick up landscaping supplies and other big loads. The Dixons have exhibited at OT since 2004 and are honored to have the 2022 Featured Truck and look forward to talking to people who attend the Reunion from all over the world.

### Antique Car

1951 Ford Convertible

Owned by: Gladys Parish of Wapello, IA

Gladys Parish and her husband bought their 1951 Ford convertible in Mediapolis, IA in 1981. The extensive restoration process took three years. They first showed the car at the 1984 Reunion. Gladys jokes that it is ready for another restoration. Her grandson makes sure the dust does not have time to settle on the collector’s item. Gladys has been a member of the Southeast Iowa Car Club since 1961. She is also the proud owner of a 1905 Oldsmobile curved dash and a 1900 Chicago. She hopes to bring all three cars to the 2022 Reunion. As is the case with featured items, work on the 1951 Ford will continue right up until show time making sure it is at its best.



### Antique Gas Engine

2 HP Dempster

Owned by: Mike & Pat Dietze of Waverly, NE

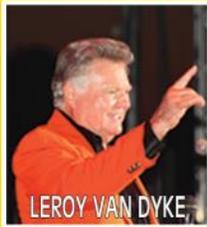


Years ago, Mike Dietze was wearing a Dempster t-shirt during an OT Reunion. A man approached him and asked if he knew anything about the engines and if he was interested in buying a vertical Dempster gas engine. Mike was intrigued and said yes. Later that year, he and his wife, Pat, left home in eastern Nebraska and made the trip to Colorado. After a very odd encounter with its owner and a quick cash deal, they headed home with a new treasure. This would be his second engine. He purchased the first in his collection in the fall of 1976. He now has a total of 14 Dempster engines as well as other manufacturers. He is always looking

for the elusive, hard to find, engine. An exhibitor since 1977, Mike is looking forward to talking to people about his engines and the comradery that comes with being at the Old Threshers Reunion. For Mike and Pat, OT is a family affair as his brother and daughter and her family all exhibit gas engines.



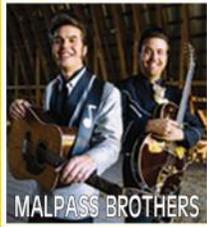
# REUNION GRANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT



LEROY VAN DYKE



JIMMY FORTUNE



MALPASS BROTHERS

## COUNTRY GOLD TOUR

THURSDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 1



BELLAMY  
BROTHERS  
FRIDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 2



MADDIE & TAE  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3



RUSSELL DICKERSON  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

**FREE WITH REUNION GATE ADMISSION**

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A HORSE AREA VOLUNTEER—PART II

By TJ Bishop

Hello! I trust everyone is having a great summer. I hope you're ready to learn more about a day in the life of an Old Threshers Horse Area Volunteer.

When we last left our volunteers, they had just listened to the "Good Morning Threshers" announcement. They and their teams were headed to the infield, which is the area directly to the south of the main grandstand stage.

The horse area demonstrates horse-powered corn shelling, grinding grain, elevating corn into a crib, threshing with both large and small threshing machines, baling, tedding, raking, hay stacking, sawmilling, crosscut sawing, well drilling, and stump pulling. That's a lot of activity to pack into two hours! (Demonstrations are Thursday—Sunday from 9 to 11 am and 2 to 4 pm, and Monday 9 am to 2:30 pm.)

Then it's back to the barns to water the horses and let both horses and humans take a short break. Wow, that break went awfully fast! It's time to hitch the horses and participate in the noon Cavalcade of Power. The grandstand crowd loves to learn about the horses, the teamsters and their families,



**Time for the Cavalcade of Power.**

and the different buggies, wagons, and farm implements. Once more the horses head back to the barns, this time to be unharnessed, offered both feed and water, and have a good rest. After the horses are cared for the humans enjoy their lunch, a cool drink, and hopefully, a bit of relaxing in the shade.

The time for resting and recuperating passes quickly, and it's soon one o'clock and time to water horses again, brush off the dried sweat and dust, and harness back up for the two o'clock infield demonstrations.

The demonstrations for the afternoon show are the same as for the morning, but there are always new faces in the crowd, or someone who wants to see what they might have missed during the morning's demonstrations. Plus, it's always fun to see how much higher the haystack will get!

and the different buggies, wagons, and farm implements. Once more the horses head back to the barns, this time to be unharnessed, offered both feed and water, and have a good rest. After the horses are cared for the humans enjoy their lunch, a cool drink, and

After the last bundle is threshed, the last bale made, and the last log sawed, the tired horses and teamsters walk back to the barns. Harnesses will be removed, horses will be brushed, stalls will be cleaned, hay will be pitched into mangers, and horses will be watered. Finally, the teamsters can sit down, catch their breath, and enjoy their own cool drink of water.



**Keeping the stalls clean is a daily chore for horse exhibitors during the OT Reunion.**

But the day isn't over yet for the hardworking Horse Area Volunteers! After the evening meal, the horse stalls will need to have the manure cleaned out again, and hauled to the manure spreader, and fresh bedding added. Those gentle giants need a soft, clean place to rest in order to be ready for another day of work! Fresh hay is forked into the mangers, feed buckets are filled with grain, and fresh water is offered. The average work horse eats between 50 to 70 pounds of hay, so those mangers must be full! Doing evening chores usually takes at least a couple of hours.

By now it's well into the evening hours. Our tired, grubby Horse Area Volunteers have hopefully had time to shower and change into fresh clothes so they can enjoy the grandstand concert or have fun dancing at the dance barn.

One more check of the horses after the evening's fun, to make sure mangers are full of hay, no horse needs water, and everything is safe and sound, before heading off to a well-earned rest. Soon alarm clocks will ring, and it will be time to start another day in the life of an Old Threshers Horse Area Volunteer.

## MIDWEST ELECTRIC RAILWAY HAD A BUSY SUMMER



### From the Trolley Line

By Debbie Imhoff and Wes Bender

The trolley area started off strong this summer with two big events at the beginning of June. The first weekend of June consisted of Trolley School. We had 19 participants and 10 volunteers. Participants attended a slideshow describing the history

of Midwest Electric, then they were able to practice the roles of conductor and motorman. After lunch they were able to go into the maintenance pit and look under the streetcar and ask questions about upkeep of the streetcars. We also discussed volunteer opportunities. It was fun and encouraging to see the excitement of the participants.

The second weekend in June we hosted the CJ Group. There were 46 CJ members who attended. They enjoyed a day of operating and riding our streetcars and visiting with volunteers/friends. We had 10 volunteers who helped with this event.

*Midwest Electric historian Wes Bender gives some history about the CJ Group that we are able to host every year.*

In 1960, the National Railway Historical Society (NRHS), Iowa Chapter, created the Iowa Railway Historical Museum on the Southern Iowa Railway. This was an active traction line running between Centerville and Moravia. The museum also had a collection of retired electric railway equipment to operate. Members of the museum knew others who enjoyed

the operation of the electric equipment, so once a year they chartered the line for the day to do this. This began an annual event where these trolley fans had a chance to come ride and even operate the cars. Once the railway moved to Mt Pleasant the charter event continued at the Midwest Electric Railway, managed by CJ (Cyril John) Lehnhardt. Over the years the charter group was fondly called the "CJ Group." Sadly, CJ Lehnhardt passed away, but thankfully the torch was passed. Our volunteers always look forward to the CJ Group because they have a wealth of knowledge about traction and they have made

significant contributions for the restoration of our Car 320 and 381. We are pleased that the group has set a date for their charter next year.



**There were 19 participants and 10 volunteers helping at this year's Trolley School.**

## PULLING HORSE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Joe shared with me his thoughts about how he prefers to train and care for his pulling horses. As he pointed out, there are as many different ways of training as there are numbers of pulling horse competitors. This is just how he likes to do things.

Joe and Fannie prefer to wait until a horse is five or six years of age, before they begin training it as a competition pulling horse. They feel this allows the horse to reach both physical and mental maturity. They prefer to use geldings, rather than mares, because geldings tend to be a bit less moody, and a bit stronger.

When competing regularly the Millers work their horses for two hours per night, seven days a week, pulling moderately heavy loads over long distances. This allows their horses to build up both muscle tone and lung capacity. They also use their horses for farm work, and logging, giving the horses a variety of jobs. They want their horses to enjoy their work whether it's day to day farm work or competing at a national pulling contest.

Pulling those loads without slipping requires special shoes with a cleat, or caulk, on the front and back of the shoe. Regular draft horseshoes lack these caulks and are flat on the bottom. Since a horse's hoof is like a human fingernail and continually grows, these shoes must be replaced every six weeks. Joe shoes his own horses, and the horses of many other people.

The hard work of training and pulling takes a tremendous

amount of energy. When Joe and Fannie are competing with their horses, they feed them three times a day, a half bale or more of hay and a little over a gallon and a half of grain per feeding, plus all the water the horse cares to drink.

As with any other competitive horse, they must be stalled during the hottest part of the day and let out to exercise in the cool of the evening. Stalls must be cleaned and bedded. And, of course, the horses must be brushed daily, and have the dirt, manure, and any sticks or stones cleaned from their hooves.

Caring for pulling horses is a job that requires hard work and attention to detail three hundred and sixty-five days a year. But, as the Miller family will assure you, all that hard work pays off when your horses pull the heaviest load the furthest distance and you take home the first-place prize.

Come see the Millers, and many other wonderful competitors, at the Don Carlson Memorial Horse Pull August 31, 2022, 7pm, on the Midwest Old Threshers grounds, in front of the grandstand.



**2022 Featured Horse "Haflinger"**

## Button Collectors' Update 2022

Carolyn Sidebottom  
Plymouth, Minnesota

COVID-19 is still trying to interfere with our plans to meet for Button Collectors Forum in Colfax School located just south of Campground Hospitality and the Theater Museum on the Old Threshers' grounds! However, let's be smart and spoil COVID's plans. Mark your Old Threshers' daily schedule for the beginning program time. I will be opening the building about an hour earlier to set up for the meeting and to welcome old friends and newcomers. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available for our use if desired. Although safety is still our highest priority, you don't need to worry about providing your own supplies. I will make sure to have safety supplies available for everyone at the forum who wants them.

Button Collectors should also not worry about acquiring the 2020 Reunion button to fill the cancelled Reunion space in your collections. Old Threshers **did receive the button shipment for the cancelled Reunion in 2020**. Those buttons are available from Old Threshers for \$1.50 while supplies last. You may contact Old Threshers or go on their website to order the **2020** button.

### 2022 Souvenir Button Design



This year's Reunion color theme for buttons is Pantone 012C Yellow, Black, and White. The **2022 Souvenir button** features the 1908 30 HP Colean engine owned by Larry Nelson from Muscatine, Iowa. Larry owns a collection of three Colean engines out of the five Colean engines reported to still exist. You may have noticed the phrase, "A Colean

collection" on the button and some of this year's literature. Larry will be displaying all three of his engines this year (a 30 hp, a 25 hp, and an 18 hp) — quite a remarkable collection, indeed! When Larry found his first engine in 1981, the 18 hp, he knew he liked the looks of it; but he was unaware that it was so rare. Larry found his engines in Minnesota, Missouri, and North Dakota. He estimated that it took him about 1500 hours to restore an engine.

The Colean Mfg. Co. built steam engines between 1904 and 1908. By the time the Colean company went into business, gas tractor technology was surpassing the steam traction engine for farm work. Gas tractors required smaller crews and needed fewer supplies than were required to maintain steam power. Gas tractors were faster and easier to start up and were easier to shut down! Steam power in the field simply couldn't compete with the new machinery. The Colean Mfg. Co. was

forced into bankruptcy in 1908.

Larry likes to demonstrate his engines running. He participates in many of the Steam Power exhibits in the steam area during the reunion.

### 2022 Button Design Artist

Steven Paul Mendenhall, a native of Mount Pleasant, is the artistic designer of the 2022 button. Steve has been involved in many Old Threshers areas and programs since 1985. He is the long-time digital layout designer of the Old Threshers button. This is Steve's second year as the major designer of the Old Threshers button, designing both the engine portrait and the button layout. He has been a member of the Old Threshers button design team since 1987.

*Is Steve's work signed this year? Yes, I think so, but you might need a magnifying glass, or maybe the giant Souvenir button to find it!—CS*

After the engine portrait had been finalized, Steve took the reduced portrait and digitally fit the identification information around the engine. Everything fits in beautifully!

Steve is a self-taught digital designer. He began honing his skills when the computer was just beginning to be recognized as a useful design tool. Last year, Steve said he estimated that the 2021 button design took around 10 hours to produce. *(Hmm—I thought it would take longer!—CS)*

The exceptional skills of Old Threshers button design artists ensures that our Old Threshers buttons are created with a very high standard of design quality rarely present in similar event pin-backs. The hours the artists spend on the button project continue to be noticed and appreciated among the many Old Threshers visitors and button collectors. I think this is one of the reasons button collecting is so popular with Old Threshers attendees.

The 56 mm diameter button is constructed as many previous buttons have been—a plastic coated paper formed over a metal shell and held together by a silver-colored metal backing disk. The attached silver-colored pin has the loop style catch.

No varieties of the 2021 button have been reported, and as of late May 2022, no varieties of this year's button have been discovered. Our group's sharp-eyed variety collectors, who keep me up to date on possible existing varieties for the current year, may find major or minor varieties closer to the reunion date, or during the reunion.

### 2022 Engine of the Year Special Souvenir Button

Due to the continuing popularity of the giant four-inch buttons, Old Threshers has issued a *limited quantity* of the 2022 Souvenir buttons in that same format. This thirteenth "giant

# BUTTONS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

button” makes an interesting supplemental button for the core collection. It also allows one to view the artwork in more detail. This giant button has limited availability from the Old Threshers Office and Gift Shop while supplies last.

### Official Supplements



The **10-hour Volunteer** button for 2022 coordinates with the colors of the main **Souvenir** button

(yellow, black, and white) The button measures 56 mm or 2.2 inches in diameter.. This button is given by Old Threshers to those individuals who have completed (or will complete) their 10-hour volunteer commitment to Old Threshers prior to the opening of the reunion. I don't get involved in the details of these Old Threshers programs, but someone at the Old Threshers office can give you more information on how to apply for this volunteer program. Old Threshers is **always** looking for volunteers to help prepare for the Reunion.

There was **NO** Exhibitor/Staff name-window button and ribbon for 2020. These are awarded to volunteers who work during the Reunion. Perhaps you can find a clever space filler for this item missing from your collection. I made a placeholder sign for my collection that says, "2020 Exhibitor/Staff Button and Ribbon is permanently "Out to Lunch!" Both the **Volunteer Button** and the **E/S Button and Ribbon** are earned for volunteer work at Old Threshers, and tend to remain in the collections of the individuals who earned them. Old Threshers has **never sold either of these buttons**. These supplemental buttons do, on occasion, show up in the secondary market; but collectors must hunt diligently for them. If you are interested in earning either or both of

these volunteer buttons, contact the Old Threshers Office, the first step in becoming involved in Old Threshers rewarding volunteer service.

### Updates:

The following charts summarize updated facts about the 2022 Old Threshers Button collections. Be sure to add this important information to the inventory charts in your copy of *The Elusive '54, The Complete Guide to Old Threshers Button Collecting, third edition*.

#### ENGINE PORTRAITS

YEAR	MODEL	OWNER
2022	1908 30 HP Colean	Larry Nelson, Muscatine, Iowa

#### MEMBERSHIP/SOUVENIR BUTTONS

DATE	SIZE (Dia.)	OBVERSE COLOR	REVERSE COLOR	PIN TYPE	MARKING	VALUE
2022	56 mm	012C Yellow Black White	Silver	Silver L	None	\$1.00

#### EARLY BIRD/VOLUNTEER BUTTONS

DATE	SIZE (Dia.)	OBVERSE COLOR	REVERSE COLOR	PIN TYPE	MARKING	VALUE
2022	56 mm	012C Yellow Black White	Silver	Silver L	None	Market, Not Sold by OT

#### EXHIBITOR/STAFF BUTTONS

DATE	SIZE (Dia.)	OBVERSE COLOR	REVERSE COLOR	PIN TYPE	MARKING	VALUE
2021	46 mm by 71 mm	234C Pink Black White	Silver	Silver L	None	Market, Not Sold by OT
2022	Likely Will be  46 mm by 71 mm	Likely Will be  012C Yellow Black White	Likely Will be  Silver	Likely Will be  Silver L	Likely Will be  None	Market, Not Sold by OT

# 2022 SWEET 16 PARTICIPANTS

## Tyi-Alicyn Alter

**Mt. Pleasant, Iowa**

**Parents: Angie and Linc Alter**



Tyi is involved in FFA, 4-H, softball, high school track and band. She also enjoys showing cattle and kayaking. Tyi performs in the Mt. Pleasant

Panther Marching Band. She also helps serve food at the Pork Producers tent for the FFA.

Tyi would like to help people and feels that the Sweet 16 experience will help her break out of her shell and be the best person she can be. She also wants to give back to her community.

## Addison Bentler

**Salem, Iowa**

**Parents: Don and Tonya Bentler**



Addison is involved with symphonic band, choir, jazz band, show choir and color guard. Outside of school she spends her time babysitting, running, reading, and spending

time with family. Over the years, Addison and her family have spent time collecting and delivering donations to the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital.

Over the years, Addison and her family has made a tradition of driving her great-grandfather's tractor through the Cavalcade of Power. She has also performed with the Mt. Pleasant High School Marching Band in front of the grandstand.

Miss Sweet 16 gives a person the opportunity to meet and communicate with new people. It would be rewarding and a great honor to represent the community. Since going to Old Threshers at a very young age, Addison has always looked up to the girls who have participated in the event. Now it would be fulfilling and rewarding to be the same inspiration to the younger girls.

## Makenzie Blackford

**Norwalk, Iowa**

**Parents: Andrew and April Blackford**



Makenzie is involved with volleyball, Indianola Show Choir, tennis, and she loves to bake. She works at a cute bakery in town and loves it there.

Makenzie has been involved in the Cavalcade of Power with her family. The real reason Makenzie wants to be the next Miss Sweet 16 is because she wants to be a great role model to all the little kids that go to the Reunion and to show them that there are good people in the world.

## Megan Borders

**Mt. Pleasant, Iowa**

**Parents: Mike and Sara Borders**



Megan is active in volleyball and shooting trap for the Mt. Pleasant Panthers. She enjoys hanging out with family and friends. Megan enjoys

volunteering in the community like the Daddy Daughter Dance and Thrashers House of Terror. Megan has volunteered many hours throughout the years at Old Threshers. She has worked the front gates, ground trains, information booths, helped with office work and helped stock souvenirs. Ever since Megan was a little girl, she has wanted to be a part of this great experience. She is looking forward to meeting new friends and being a bigger part of Old Threshers and the Old Threshers' family.

## Bailey DeHart

**Mt Pleasant, Iowa**

**Parents: Amy DeHart and Doug DeHart**

Bailey enjoys reading, camping, and walking around town. She is a member of the E3 Youth Center and has been a



wrestling cheerleader for 2 years.

Bailey has come to Old Threshers every year but has not had the opportunity to volunteer. She is looking forward to

this year so she can actively participant in it.

Bailey would like to be the next Miss Sweet 16 because it is a tradition in Mt. Pleasant. Her mother was also a participant.

## Josie Gilmore

**Mt. Pleasant, Iowa**

**Parents: Julie and Jeff Gilmore**



Josie is involved with football cheerleading, competition cheer, dance team, color guard, basketball cheer, show choir and track.

Josie volunteers at the First United Methodist Church tent and performs for the Mt. Pleasant Marching band on Thursdays and Mondays in front of the grandstand at noon.

Josie would like to be the next Miss Sweet 16 because she thinks it's cool to see everyone volunteering. Josie grew up watching all the girls be crowned and thought it was so cool to experience.

## Josephine Goebel

**New Vienna, Iowa**

**Parents: Danny and Penny Goebel**



Josephine is involved in 4-H, FFA, Girls Scouts and Band. Some of her hobbies are farming, baking and sewing. She also enjoys

country line dancing. Josephine helps with 2 Christian kids camp. During the summer she is a lifeguard at the local swimming pool.

# SWEET 16 CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Josephine has been to Old Threshers every year since she was born. The year that Old Threshers canceled due to Covid, she still came back and took her photo by the Old Engine in the Downtown Square. Every year, she rides the carousel, train trolley and ground train. She visits the log village, sees the Old Threshers exhibits and visits with her family at the gas engines (her cousin is helping her restore a gas engine). At the log village, she learned to spin and card wool.

Josephine loves volunteering and being a role model to little kids. She wants to inspire kids to get involved in their community and come to Old Threshers. She wants them to know that they can be anything that they want to be. She always wanted her picture taken with the Miss Sweet 16 candidates as she grew up because she looked up to them. Josephine's mother was a candidate and said it was a lot of fun.

## Kaylin Heims Anamosa, Iowa

Parents: Dustin and Kayla Heims



Kaylin is involved with archery, 4H, FFA, deer hunting, working on tractors, showing cattle, church youth group, camping and fishing.

Kaylin has been involved with Midwest Old Threshers by being a part of the Cavalcade of Power, the Harvest Day Parade, the kiddie tractor pulls and has helped run the exhibitor booths. She also camps with her family in the campground. Kaylin would like to be a part of the Miss Sweet 16 program because she has enjoyed Old Threshers for as long as she can remember. Kaylin thinks being a part of Miss Sweet would be fun and she could learn from the experience.

## Natalie McCormick Mt. Pleasant, Iowa

Parents: Lea and Colin McCormick

Natalie enjoys creating music (playing instruments and singing) and performing in theater productions, as well as



reading and writing. Natalie volunteers at the St. Al's Food Tent by serving food every Reunion as well as at the Log Village doing various tasks.

Natalie would like to be the next Miss Sweet 16 because she thinks it'd be an amazing opportunity to meet new people while gaining more experience with volunteering. Not only that, but it also just seems like a lot of fun and she would love to be a positive representation for the community.

## Chevelle Mills New London, Iowa Parents: Shelly Detrick



Chevy is involved with sports, volunteering, National Honor Society, and Student Council. Chevy hasn't not been involved at Midwest Old

Threshers and is excited to start volunteering. Chevy wants to get more involved with the community and help others out. Chevy loves being around people and helping those in need with anything.

## Hailey Parrott Middletown, Iowa

Parents: Luke and Jennifer Parrott



Hailey is involved with cross country, basketball, soccer, and softball. As a freshman she was the only female who played for the Mt. Pleasant Panther

Football team (Tight End and Linebacker). Besides sports, Hailey also is in choir, show choir speech and 4-H. Hailey enjoys being a referee for Youth Soccer games in the spring and fall at the Rec Plex in Burlington. Currently, Hailey is enrolled in the 4-H Share a Heifer Program with her Sweet Jersey Cow named Kirby. Hailey has been involved at Old

Threshers as a 5<sup>th</sup> generation exhibitor in the Gas Engines. She works the ground trains and in the Midwest Central Railroad Gift Shop. Hailey has helped with the spring School Tours also. Hailey is a 2019 Trolley School graduate and has been a Thrashers House of Terror volunteer since 2018.

Hailey wants to be the Miss Sweet 16 program because she believes that it will increase her confidence and give her opportunities to learn more about Midwest Old Threshers. She believes that she will build friendships with other girls her age that love the Reunion as much as she does.

## Miranda Ridinger Mt. Pleasant, Iowa

Parents: Duston and Sarah Ridinger



Miranda plays softball and enjoys hanging out with friends and going to school sports games. Miranda brings volunteer

experience from working the ground trains during the Reunion. Miranda has older friends who have done Sweet 16 before and all of them said it was fun and it seems like an overall fun experience.

Participants in the Sweet 16 Program serve as hostesses to the thousands of visitors attending the Midwest Old Threshers Reunion. Each contestant volunteers in numerous positions around the Old Threshers grounds such as providing assistance to our guests, answering questions, and lending a helping hand to our many non-profit organizations' booths. Each of the contestants is judged on their volunteerism, a presentation along with an interview, knowledge of Old Threshers, and their overall hospitality. The Sweet 16 contestants can be seen at the Harvest Parade, the Carousel, Information Booths, the Paul Anderson Building, and strolling the grounds in period

# DEMPSTER COMPANY KNOWN FOR MORE THAN GAS ENGINES

By Roxane Micek

On July 30, 1878 C.B. Dempster became a part owner of a company that was initially a pump and windmill shop. Dempster Industries originally had 3 partners. One man took care of the business, one found farmers in the area to sell pumps to, and one erected and installed windmills and pumps. Beatrice, Nebraska was a growing town at this time with covered wagons traveling through daily, many of them looking for a place to settle. Because of the rapid growth, Dempster was able to grow their business with a bigger space, as well as selling more items. The company was selling and installing windmills and pumps, selling sewing machines and lightning rods. The business went through several partnerships and investors over the years.

In 1885, C.B. Dempster went out and began to manufacture his first windmill. In 1886, Dempster continued to work on growing their business. At this point, the castings were made in Illinois, while Dempster was doing their own machine work, wood work, and producing their own water tanks. In 1891 Dempster began manufacturing well drilling machines. The business continued to grow and operations continued in Beatrice, Nebraska. Throughout the years several larger towns in the area tried to draw operations out of Beatrice, however the town of Beatrice was always able to persuade the company to stay.

The Great Depression hit the company hard, but they were able to make it out with little damage.

The company got through WWII with 85 employees enlisting to fight. The remaining employees that were in the plant worked longer hours and continued their day-to-day operations of producing farm machinery. The company also worked to produce 1-½ million 90-millimeter shells. The Dempster company continued to make a variety of products including cultivators, fertilizer spreaders, gasoline engines and recycling

trailers. Accessories for the gas engines included feed grinders and pumpjacks.

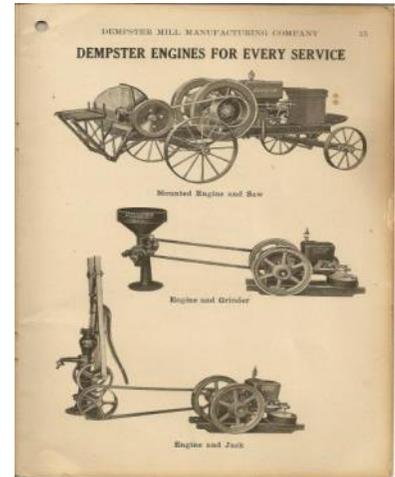
The Dempster gas engine is the feature for the 2022 Old Threshers Reunion. The company featured three distinct lines of engines. The first line was the 2-cycle engine. This is the earliest engine that was in production in approximately 1898.

They came in 2 through 8 horsepower, and there are currently two known to exist.

In 1904, Dempster dropped the 2-cycle and went with a 4-cycle engine. This is the second style and is commonly referred to as "old style." These come in vertical or horizontal engines. The verticals come in 2, 4, or 6 horsepower, while the horizontals come in 1-½ to 20 horsepower.

Then, in approximately 1912, the last style for what is commonly referred to as "new style" came into production. These "new style" gas engines come in 1-½ to 10 horsepower.

Mike and Pat Dietze of Waverly, Nebraska own the feature engine for the 2022 Reunion. The feature is a 2 H.P. vertical Dempster engine. Mike is hoping to bring 14 or 15 Dempsters over for the Reunion. He has spoken to many different collectors and would love to see 20 to 25 Dempsters at this year's Reunion.



## SWEET 16 CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

dress for women of the late 1800s to early 1900s who lived in the Midwest and worked on their local farms.

Contestants must be at least 16, and no older, by Labor Day of the year they wish to participate. Anyone interested in the program should contact the Old Threshers office at 319-385-8937. Registration for 2023 is open.

**Miss Sweet 16 crowning is on Monday, Sept 5th at 10am in the Family Tent.**

## REYNOLDS KEEPS FAMILY OLDSMOBILE TRADITION ALIVE

In and around Mount Pleasant, the Reynolds name is synonymous with Oldsmobile. When he wasn't driving his truck, past Old Threshers Board of Director Earl Reynolds could always be seen driving an Oldsmobile sedan around town.

His youngest grandson, Tim, collects Olds hit and miss engines in keeping with Earl's brand loyalty.

Earl commented that they needed to have one "old" Olds in the collection. Prior to the 2021 Reunion, Tim and his grandfather had the opportunity to buy a 1930 Oldsmobile 2-door sedan from a family member in Chariton, IA, where Earl was born in 1931. Preparations for that year's Reunion were well underway and the pair decided they would look into it later that fall. Unfortunately, later never came as Earl's health declined soon after the Reunion and he died in January of this year.

Fast forward to July 17th. Tim was able to finish what his grandfather started by purchasing the collector's item and bringing it back to Mount Pleasant.



The car was driven until 1945 and has 45,000 on it. Most recently, it was stored in a trailer, which was a little rough on some of the original features. But prior to that it was stored in a basement, out of the elements for 20 years. The car is in great condition and sports some of the original stickers showing the dates of some of its first oil changes.

Kevin Johnson of Chariton was a 4th generation owner of the vehicle and tells the story of the family taking the car out every Sunday to drive from Chariton to Columbia, Iowa to

get a block of ice. They took the passenger seat out in order to fit the ice. Everyone but the driver crammed into the back seat.



Tim says the 6-cylinder sedan was ahead of its time and competed for sales against the 4-cylinder Model A. The Model A was about \$500 cheaper.

The 1930 Oldsmobile was available in a single model called the Model F-30 but could be purchased in three different trim levels consisting of the Base, Special, and Deluxe. The Special package added bumpers, a folding trunk rack and side-mounted spare tires while the Deluxe Package had bumpers, side-mounted wire wheels, folding trunk rack and chrome-plated headlight shells. Body styles included a roadster, coupe, Sport Coupe, 2- and 4-door sedan, and 4-door touring. Pricing began at just under \$900 for the coupe and 2-door sedan. The most popular body style was the 4-door sedan which accounted for 19,087 sales. During the year, Oldsmobile sales totaled nearly 50,000 vehicles. (conceptcarz.com)

Tim would like to have the car at this year's Reunion, but there a few fixes needing to done. Stay tuned.

## RUSSELL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

better separator than John Pitts' Buffalo Pitts separator and took home honors from the Ohio State Fair in 1845.

The men purchased stock in the Ohio & Pennsylvania Railroad and urged it to come through their town. In 1952, they began manufacturing handcars and stock cars for the railroad. Three more brothers joined the company and in 1864, it was incorporated as Russell & Co. In 1871, some of the brothers parted ways and the C. Russell & Co. moved to Canton, Ohio to make agricultural reapers and mowers.

In May of 1878, yet another fire threatened to end the business. Extensive damage to the machinery and 36 years of patterns put 250 people out of work. A new warehouse was built and by 1880, they employed 425 people on their seven-acre site.

By 1884, they had become one of the largest producers of steam traction engines and were also building industrial, railroad and agricultural equipment. By 1909, the plant, now at 21-acres, had produced 18,000 farm, traction, and stationary steam engines, plus 22,000 threshing machines.

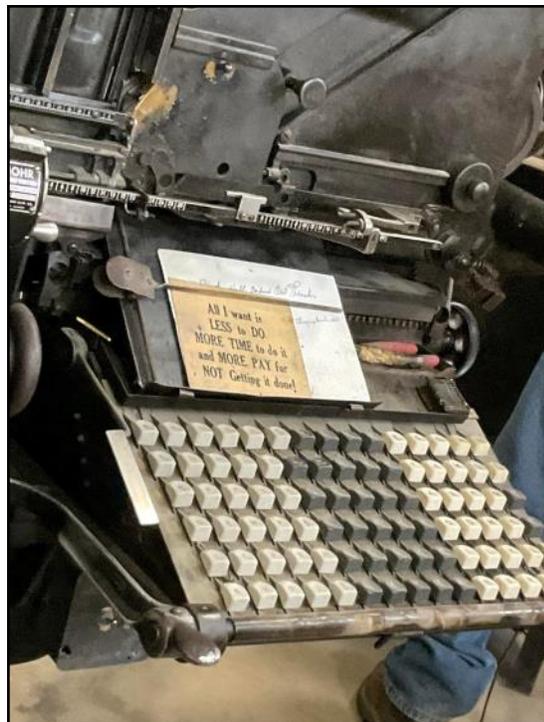
The newly installed engine is a 90hp Russell manufactured in 1915. It originally ran a sawmill in Pattonsburg, Missouri. It then made its way to a sawmill in Nebraska before being rescued by Ed Hiller and Jason Newby and brought to Mt. Pleasant. Thank you to everyone who had a hand in the newest stationary steam exhibit. Be sure to stop by the Steam Powerhouse at the east end of Museum A!

*Editor's Note: Facts and history of the Russell Co. taken from Wikipedia.*

# WHAT IS IT? WHERE IS IT?

Can you tell what these things are? And if so, where can one find them during the Old Threshers Reunion?  
Answers are on page 15.

A



B



D



C



F



E



# The... Golden Slipper SALOON



**The Golden Slipper Saloon Group is seeking dedicated, committed individuals that possess a passion for Midwest Old Threshers to join us as we gear up for another electrifying and exciting reunion.**

**Our group performs multiple shows throughout all days of the reunion. Each singer/dancer is responsible for providing their own costumes and accessories.**

**If you are fervent about Old Threshers, enjoy singing, dancing and having good old fashion family fun, we would love the opportunity to visit with you about your interest in joining our group.**

**Please txt Julie at 319-572-2278**

What is it? Where is it? Answers from page 11 **A.** Linotype Machine | Printers' Hall **B.** Ball Engine | Stationary Steam **C.** Checker Board | Log Village **D.** Wooden 1 1/4 scale locomotive | Old Threshers Foundation Room **E.** Barn Quilt | Traction Steam Headquarters **F.** Corn Crib | Demonstration Area, west of Tractorland.

MIDWEST OLD THRESHERS  
★ SUMMER ★  
★ THEATRE ★

“THE OLD GROUCH”

BY NEIL & CAROLINE SHAFFNER

SEPTEMBER 1, 2, 3, 4

THURSDAY THRU SUNDAY 5:30PM

★ THE THEATRE MUSEUM ★

MIDWEST OLD THRESHERS

405 E. THRESHERS ROAD ★ MT. PLEASANT, IOWA

TICKET LOCATION:

THEATRE MUSEUM (DAY OF PERFORMACE) (319) 385-9432

TICKETS \$10.00 ★ KIDS 11 & UNDER \$5.00

**BOX OFFICE CLOSSES AT CURTAIN TIME**

## OBITUARIES

### Earl Reynolds

Earl D. Reynolds, 90, of Mount Pleasant passed away peacefully on January 5, at Savannah Heights in Mount Pleasant.

Earl was born June 7, 1931, in Chariton, Iowa, the son of Leonard and Verle (Johnson) Reynolds. He graduated from Chariton High School in 1949. On October 16, 1950, he was united in marriage to Dorothy Brownlee in Hiawatha, Kansas. Earl worked for the Miller Reem Car Dealership in Chariton and then as a lineman for the electric company until moving to Mount Pleasant in 1957. Earl worked as a lineman for the city of Mount Pleasant Utilities for a few years. Earl played a key role in establishing Mount Pleasant's city electrical code and was its first electrical inspector serving in this capacity for many years. He was a car salesman for the D.J. Martin Conoco Dealership and the Jack Hodson Oldsmobile Dealership and became the manager of Skerik Auto Parts. In 1977, Earl opened Reynolds Motors, where he sold cars until shortly before he entered Savannah Heights.

Earl served on the Midwest Old Threshers Board for 37 years. He was a former member of the Jaycees. Earl had a deep passion for cars; he was the founder of the 20th Century Car Club, and a longtime member of the Southeast Iowa Car Club. He was a timekeeper at the Mississippi Valley Stock Car Club for many years. Earl was also a co-owner of car #48, he was very proud of the time he spent with the organization.

One of Earl's favorite joys was dispensing lighted Reynold's Motors pens to people everywhere he went. They were a unique novelty and he loved sharing them. They are all over the state of Iowa!!!!

Earl enjoyed hosting family and friends on Friday evenings at his shop. Pizza and donuts were always on the menu. He enjoyed having his family and friends around him and loved feeding people. He could often be found around town delivering goodies to his friends at their workplace. Earl saw all his friends as "extended family."

Earl is survived by 3 children: Debbie Borders of West Point; Linda (Dennis) Johnson of Mount Pleasant; Alan (Beverly) Reynolds of Mount Pleasant; 5 grandchildren; 7 great grandchildren; a great great grandchild; 2 sisters: Sharon Scott of Littleton, CO; Mary (Hubert) Pierschbacher of Chariton; and 2 brothers: Warren (Nancy) Reynolds of Plano, TX; Vern (Marylynn) Reynolds of Norwalk. He was preceded in death by his parents. His wife, Dorothy, passed away February 13, 2022.

A memorial fund has been established for Midwest Old Threshers.

### Dorothy Reynolds

Dorothy Reynolds, 88, of Mount Pleasant, died February 13, at Savannah Heights in Mount Pleasant.

Dorothy was born December 29, 1933, in Williamson, Iowa, the daughter of Leland and Ethel (Shaw) Brownlee. She was united in marriage to Earl Reynolds on October 16, 1950. The couple had made Mount Pleasant their home since 1957.

Dorothy was a loving and caring homemaker for her family. She could often be found in the kitchen cooking a traditional family meal. But more often, she would be doing what she loved most, baking. Dorothy was known for her wonderful breads, pastries, pecan rolls, Christmas Tree cinnamon rolls, and pies. Dorothy took professional candy making classes where she learned to create delicious toffee, caramels, turtles, chocolate covered cherries, and bon bons.

During the Old Threshers Reunion, Dorothy would send Earl with several pans of baked goods for him to share. No matter what Earl was doing, Dorothy made sure there was a goodie basket made to go along with him. Dorothy also was the bookkeeper for Reynold's Motors. She was the woman behind the man. Dorothy enjoyed flowers, reading, gardening, the Iowa Hawkeyes, and watching birds visit her feeders. Dorothy shared 71 years of marriage with her husband and wanted to join him for Valentine's Day.

Dorothy is survived by 3 children; Debbie Borders of West Point, Linda (Dennis) Johnson of Mount Pleasant, Alan (Beverly) Reynolds of Mount Pleasant; 5 grandchildren; 7 great grandchildren; a great-great-grandchild; and a brother David (Joanne) Brownlee of Pennsylvania.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Earl, three brothers; Oliver, Robert and Donald Brownlee.

A memorial fund has been established for Midwest Old Threshers.

### Jerry Mabeus

Jerry Howard Mabeus, 80, of Mt. Pleasant, passed to his heavenly home on May 26, at Park Place Elder Living in Mt. Pleasant.

Born December 21, 1941, in Montezuma, IA, Jerry was the son of Howard Herman and Irma Edith (Kinney) Mabeus. He graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School in 1961. On August 15, 1964, at the First United Methodist Church in Mt. Pleasant, Jerry was united in marriage to Martha Anderson.

Jerry was a farm boy from the start at age 10, on the tractor, ready to go. He

was a dedicated farmer, husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather.

Jerry always had time for the kids and grandkids. He loved his red machinery and his friends at JJ Nichting and ChemGro. He was a member of the Henry County Pork Producers and the Henry County Cattlemen's Association, being named Cattleman of the Year in 2017. Jerry was a member of First United Methodist Church and Farm Bureau. In his youth, he was a 4-H member and served as a leader in 4-H. For a number of years, Jerry was a sponsor of Little League Baseball. He was Past Member of the Iowa Tractor Pullers Association, and enjoyed many activities and tractor pulls with the organization.

Those thankful for sharing in Jerry's life include his wife of almost 58 years, Martha, of Mt. Pleasant; 3 children and their spouses, Todd (Amy) Mabeus and Traci (Doug) Spenner, all of Mt. Pleasant and Tonya (John) Stutzman of Lockridge; 7 grandchildren – Hannah Mabeus, Mikayla (Michael) Yaley, Courtney (Bo) Vitale, Trevor Mabeus, Tyler (Jenal) Spenner, Alex (close friend Nora) Spenner and Tanner (Elsa) Stutzman; 3 great grandchildren – Nora and Oliver Stutzman and Brooks Vitale; 4 siblings – Marilyn (John) Coghlan of Panorama, IA, Judy (Bill) Cash, Terry (Deb) Mabeus and Karen Mabeus, all of Mt. Pleasant and several nieces and nephews.

Jerry's parents precede him in death.

Those considering an expression of sympathy may direct memorials to the Southeast Iowa (Great River) Hospice or the Salem Fire and Rescue Department. Beyond memorials, Jerry's family will be establishing a scholarship to the Mt. Pleasant FFA Chapter.

### Geraldine Barton

Geraldine Ruth Barton, 85, of Mount Pleasant, died June 25, at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Gerry was born January 19, 1937, in Fort Madison, the daughter of Clarence and Helen (Ritter) Auge. She graduated from Central Catholic High School in 1954. Soon after Gerry met the love of her life, Wesley D. Barton, and in 1956 they were united in marriage in Fort Madison. The couple lived in Cedar Rapids before making Mount Pleasant their home in 1959. They moved to town in 1970 living in the same neighborhood. Over the years, neighbors became family. Gerry was a homemaker, devoted wife, loving mother, and grandmother. She was a member of St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, Beta Sigma Phi, Garden Club, and a former Cub Scout Leader. Gerry enjoyed cooking for her large family and any extras who frequently walked through her door. Devoted to her

## OBITUARIES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

grandchildren and great grandchildren, she used her crocheting talent to make each child their first blanket. Gerry cherished her Beta Sigma Phi Sisters and the work they did during the many years she was a member. She bowled for many years and loved the camaraderie with her league mates. Gerry was a master at cross-stitch and had an eye for crossword puzzles. She loved spending time in her flower garden and was always happy to share her many beautiful flowers with friends and neighbors.

Gerry is survived by 6 children, Jim Barton, Mike (Lyndel) Barton, Kathy (Mike) McAlister, Phil (Karen) Barton, Pete Barton, & Missy (Jeff) Sitar; grandchildren Matthew and Ryan (Jim), Blaire and Gabe (Mike), Amanda and Brooke (Kathy), Weston, Whitney, and Willow (Richard), Ashley (Pete), Sam and Max (Phil), Marie and JC (Missy); 15 great grandchildren: Morgan, Reece, and Alek (Blaire), Cole and Mac (Gabe), Flynn and Emery (Amanda), Elle (Matthew), Walker and Avery (Whitney), Audri, Marley, Charlotte, Michael, and Chloe (Ashley); three siblings Gene Auge, Peggy (Roger) Owen and Joyce (Randy) Ingles.

Gerry was preceded in death by husband Wesley, her parents Clarence and Helen, her son Richard, and grandson Cale Barton.

A memorial fund has been established for Midwest Old Threshers and Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice.

### Norman Boshart

D. Norman Boshart, 86, of Wayland, passed away unexpectedly on June 30, at his home.

Norman was born on March 19, 1936, near Olds, Iowa, the son of Alvin and Geneva (Orendorff) Boshart. He graduated from Wayland High School in 1954. Norman was united in marriage to Ermadine Miller on August 28, 1956, at the Wellman Mennonite Church. He served in 1W service at Salem Children's Home for three years in Flanagan, Illinois. The couple made their home in the Wayland community where Norman farmed for 47 years. Norman was a member of the Sugar Creek Mennonite Church and Wayland Area Antique Tractor Club. He served on the Allis Connections board. In his younger years he enjoyed volunteering with MDS. He enjoyed working on antique tractors and attending the Old Threshers Reunion.

Norman is survived by his wife Ermadine; four children, Veronica (Kelly) Slagel of Wayland, Karla (Gail) Roth of Hesston, KS, Merlin (Annette) Boshart of Kalona, David (Shana) Boshart of Elkhart, IN; 11 grandchildren; 21 great grandchildren; a sister LuAnn (Arnold).

Ladwig of Denver, CO; and a brother-in-law George VanWynyarden.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sister Virginia VanWynyarden.

A memorial fund has been established for Sugar Creek Cemetery and Wayland First Responders.

### Harold C. Rankin

Dr. Harold C. "Pete" Rankin of Mount Pleasant, passed away on August 4, after a courageous battle with Parkinson's Disease.

Pete was born April 18, 1935, in Grand Chain, Illinois, the son of Harold and Daisy (Hill) Rankin. He graduated from high school in Early, Iowa, in 1952. He received his pharmacy degree from Drake University in 1956, and medical degree from the University of Iowa in 1960.

On June 19, 1960, Pete was united in marriage to his lifelong partner, Janis Horne, at the Vermont Street United Methodist Church in Quincy, Illinois. Pete was a devoted and loving husband to Jan and father to their three daughters, Lynn, Cynthia and Laura.

Pete began his medical practice with an internship at the Delaware Hospital in Wilmington, Delaware and two years as a medic in the United States Air Force at K.I. Sawyer AFB in Sands, Michigan. He and Jan moved to Mount Pleasant in 1963. Pete served as a caring and compassionate family practice physician in the community for 35 years. He also founded the kidney dialysis unit at Henry County Health Center in 1969 and was their director for 22 years.

Pete served his community as a trustee for Iowa Wesleyan University, president of the Chamber of Commerce, director for the Henry County Savings Bank, team doctor for the high school football team for over 20 years, and president of the Kidney Foundation of Iowa.

After retiring from his medical practice, he followed another passion and became a Master Gardener. Pete wrote a biweekly column, "Tip of the Trowel," for local papers and was one of the founders of the Henry County Master Gardeners organization.

Pete was a member of the First United Methodist Church. He loved gardening, collecting Wedgwood, traveling, and spending time with his children and grandchildren. He enjoyed sports and was an avid Hawkeye fan. For 20 years, he and his wife enjoyed vacationing with their family at the Lake of the Ozarks. Pete was beloved for his kind spirit and gentle nature.

He is survived by his wife Janis; three daughters, Dr. Lynn Rankin (Steve Karlin) of Des Moines; Cynthia (Mark) Rauschert of Bushnell, Illinois; Laura (Paul) Bickle of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina; eight grandchildren, Addie (Mackenzie) Mumey of Decatur, Georgia; Anne (Austin) Raisor of Felicity, Ohio; Matt (Emma) Rauschert of Bushnell, Illinois; Maisie Karlin of Boston, Massachusetts; Lucy Karlin of Des Moines; Sam Bickle of Charlotte, North Carolina; John Bickle of Indianapolis, Indiana; and Molly Bickle of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina; two great grandchildren, Miller Mumey, Noelle Mumey; and a brother, Bruce Rankin of LaBelle, Florida.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Pete and his family are very grateful for the caregivers at Sunrise Terrace and EveryStep Hospice who lovingly helped him through his illness. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation. Memorial donations in memory of Dr. Pete Rankin may be made to the First United Methodist Church of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, EveryStep Hospice ([www.everystep.org](http://www.everystep.org)) of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, and Sunrise Terrace of Winfield, Iowa.

**Mount Pleasant Festival of Lights**

**Meet Santa Select Dates!**

**Drive Thru Holiday Light Park**

**Open Select Dates November & December**



**STEAM ROLLER PRINTING**  
 PRINTERS' HALL  
 MT. PLEASANT, IOWA

**PRINT SCHEDULE FOR THE 12-TON  
 1905 STEAM POWERED KELLY-SPRINGFIELD ROAD ROLLER**

**PRINTERS' HALL  
 AT MIDWEST OLD THRESHERS  
 FRI. - SAT. - SUN.  
 SEPTEMBER 2, 3 & 4 AT 10AM**  
 FOR INFO OR TO PARTICIPATE CONTACT 641-919-7323



**THRASHERS**  
 house of terror  
 Mt. Pleasant, Iowa

**Admission:  
 General \$10  
 Fast Pass \$20**

**14 and Under Must Be  
 Accompanied by an Adult**

**October 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-29**  
 Thursdays 6:30 to 10 PM  
 Fridays & Saturdays 6 to Midnight  
 Closed Halloween

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**MIDWEST HAUNTED RAILS**  
**Ghost Train of No Return and  
 The Ghostly Trolley**

**October 14-15, 21-22, 28-29**  
**Fridays 6 to 10 PM**  
**Saturdays 6 to 10:30 PM**  
*Last Ticket Sold 30 Mins before Closing*  
**\$15 Per Person!**  
**Ages 4 and under FREE!**



Be sure to get a seat in the east end of Museum B in time to play BINGO!

The Old Threshers Foundation will host BINGO starting at 1 pm on Thursday and throughout the Reunion.

Thurs-Sun: 1-5pm  
Mon 9am-1pm

All proceeds from BINGO are invested in the Foundation's endowment.

**\$500 blackout  
 jackpots at 5pm  
 on Sat & Sun!**

## 2022 Calendar of Events

- Old Threshers Reunion—Sept. 1-5
- Printers' Fair—Sept. 15-17
- Bussey Doll Event—Sept. 18
- OT Annual Meeting—November 12
- Thrashers House of Terror—Oct. 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-29
- Midwest Haunted Rails— Oct. 14-15, 21-22, 28-29
- Old Threshers Annual Meeting—Nov. 12 Foundation Annual Meeting—Nov. 12
- Festival of Lights— Fun Run & Walk Nov. 19 & 20: Drive-thru Nov. 23-Dec. 31
- North Pole Express—Dec. 3-4, 10-11, 17-18



**OLD THRESHERS REUNION**  
**Aug. 31 - Sept. 4, 2023 \* Mount Pleasant, Iowa**