Officers:

Rodney Klepper - President 785-734-7369 Rodklepper@gmail.com

Willie Martinez - Vice President 785-332-4059 willisbird9@gmail.com

Brenda Johnson - Secretary 785-626-6046 Thresherassociation@gmail.com

Kris Oldsen - Treasurer 785-772-5266 BCThresher.Treasurer@gmail.com

Will Clark - Grant Writer 785-443-8530 Growth@threshershow.org

<u>Board of</u> <u>Directors:</u>

Lonnie Coon Norm Hays Howard Raymond Rex Weishapl Gearld Wright

<u>Master of</u> <u>Ceremonies:</u>

Michael Sager

<u>More</u> <u>Information:</u>

Association Phone Number 785-734-2291 www.threshershow.org Thresherassociation@gmail.com

Annual Newsletter

Vol. 54, No. 1

June 2023



Message From Our President

We are looking forward to another banner year featuring Hart-Parr and Oliver with our friends Central States Hart-Parr Oliver Collectors.

This year we had our first stand-alone Military Show in April. We featured the Civil War and had a successful show. Four local schools had the opportunity to learn history in person.

Our fall Mule and Draft Horse Show had an increase in attendance and demonstrations in 2022.

We are currently in the process of completing the remodel of the Eggers Building, they just installed the telescope in the Observatory, and several other projects and improvements throughout the Show Grounds.

We have enjoyed increased attendance, receiving regional and national attention, and have been featured in several major publications.

Thanks to you, our members we have become a "Do Not Miss" annual event for many families.

Rod Klepper

This Years Show:



We have joined with the Central States Hart Parr Oliver Collectors

Featuring Hart-Parr and Oliver with a bonus feature of Farm Trucks and Pickups





2023 Show Buttons



3 Day Pass for Non-Members

Exciting things are happening in the Eggers Building in 2023!

The beloved Eggers Building #8 is receiving a facelift this year. All of the artifacts were boxed up in December in preparation for this project. In January Rod Klepper, Wayne Erickson, Larry Shultz, and Willy Martinez began construction. 111 - 8-foot-tall walls have been created, yes you read that right, 111. We have created 21 rooms to make historic displays in and 27 smaller walls. We added a much-needed storage room as well. This building looks completely different from the last time you visited; you won't even recognize it. Make plans to spend some time in July and see this amazing project.

We are currently looking for some special display pieces and hope someone might just have them laying around and be willing to part with them:

1940s to 1960s metal kitchen cabinets - we need upper and lower, and hopefully a matching sink. A round-top refrigerator from the same era, it does not need to be operational. A Formica topped table and chairs from the '50s. We are creating a 1950s bathroom and need all of the fixtures in pink, blue or green. These items don't need to be in great condition, we are willing to paint and refinish if needed. If you have any of these items and are willing to allow them to be displayed, please contact

Kris Oldsen - 785-772-5266.

Important dates:

July 27th - 29th - 70th Annual Threshing Show: Featuring Hart-Parr/Oliver Tractors & Farm Trucks
October 6th & 7th - 7th Annual Tri-State Mule & Draft Horse Show
Nov 4th, 2023 and March 2nd, 2024 - Semi-Annual Membership Meetings
April 26th & 27th, 2024 - 3rd Annual Military Show: Featuring World War II

2022 Thresher Show Royalty

Queen

Virgina Grafton

Husband: Merwyn Grafton Resident of Wilsonville, NE Skincess

Hailey & (Ashley Hickart

Scott City High School Parents: Mr. & Mrs. J.D. Hickart

Tradition Since 1973



FFA Dairy Judging Contest

We hosted over 200 Future Farmers of America High School students from Northwest Kansas during the annual dairy cattle regional judging competition. This was an excellent opportunity to draw attention to our show with youth and teachers in the area.



Fourth of July

We had record crowds at our 2022 4th of July Celebration and Fireworks Display that was held on the show grounds. The spectacular 45 minute firework show featured over \$10,000 in Arial Bombs, Roman Candles, Mortars, Multi Color Fountains along with patriotic music. This annual event has become another do not miss event for families in the area.



For The Generous Donations!

- Jeb Talley, Oberlin, donated Deering Header, corn stock drill.
- Ken Burk donated a day of his time taping drywall in the Visitor Center.
- John Blau donated a church pew for the Wilkens Building, large wooden block pulley for our barn and two Korean era Army sleeping bags in excellent condition.
- Mitchel Schlepp donated several iron wheels, hay rake, truck tires and an ear corn elevator.
- Ursla Lord has donated several framed photos of our Shows, one featuring the 150 H.P. was featured on the front cover of Steam and Steam Engine Magazine.
- Howard Raymond picked up a Farmall M with live PTO and hydraulics donated by Larry Bley from Oakley, KS.
- Dorthy Rummel loaned us an excellent horse drawn wagon for display that had been in storage over 60 years.
- The Tom Kish family delivered a large trailer load of logs from Springfield, MO to be used for our sawmill.
- Roy Shrader and Dominic Baldwin dug all the trenches, gun placements and fox holes needed for our military reenactments.
- Wayne Erickson built several anti-tank barriers for our Military Reenactment.
- Royce Rambat provided his announcers pickup during our annual show.
- Cheyenne County Museum loaned us their Medal of Honor Jack Weinstein and Astronaut Ron Evans displays for our show.
- Royce Chambers made several improvements in the electric wiring and plumbing on our Corliss steam engine prior to our Show.
- Lee Hillary of Winona and of Brock McAtee of Saint Francis provided their semi-trucks to transport military vehicles to our show grounds.
- The Trego County Museum donate an original World War II bunk bed.
- Don Wright loaned us his Bucket truck to complete the Fikan building.
- Butch Ewing provided a golf cart and sound system for our mule and draft horse show.
- The Holliman Family donated a large spool of yellow rope and a large, galvanized horse harness dipping vat from the old hardware
- Rodney and Ethan Young fertilized, donated the seed and planted our wheat for the 2023 crop.
- John and Robert Hall continue to work on the McCormick tractor they donated last year.
- The Geinger Family donated a large assortment of antique kitchen cabinets, stoves and other items for our Eggers Building.
- The Del Hawkins family donated the sorghum and Ken Kircher loaned us his sorghum cooker again this year during the Draft Horse Show.
- The Steve Busse family donated the ear corn for our 2023 Shows.
- Roy Shrader donated his time and used his skid loader to help Royce Chamber install the large metal foundation tube for our telescope in the observatory.
- Al Kirmer, who developed, paid all costs and maintained our internet programs for the past 20 years donated the complete domain and software to the Association. Thank you!
- Willie Martinez, Larry Shults and Wayne Erickson made two tips with trailers helping Howard Raymond move his large collection of antique farm related items to our Show Grounds.

Completed Projects

- Association purchased a 500-gallon propane tank to be converted to a large volume air compressor tank.
- Association purchased an antique barber chair, copper bathtub, shoeshine stand, wooden steam cabinet, and barber pole.
- Gerald Wright and Conner McPherson cleaned, rebuilt, and painted a large bolt bin. Then they sorted and filled the bins.
- We provided Cheylin with three antique tractors, a barrel train, and a people mover for their farm day.
- Thresher Association provided bleachers for the Mother's Day Soap Box Derby in Bird City.
- We had several vehicles in the 4th of July parade and our barrel train got a real workout thanks to Domenic.
- We hosted the Annual 4th of July fireworks display on our Show Grounds with a large attendance.
- Gerald Wright and Conner McPherson installed overhead metal shelving in the north wall of the Clark Building.
- Steve Oldsen measured and cut to length 40 metal shelves for the new cabinets in the Clark Building.
- New Cabinets with plexiglass fronts were built and installed on the north and east walls of the Clark Building for the Dorsch Toy collection.
- Jane Young, Leslie Thomas, and John Dorsch cleaned and helped Will Clark inventory, label, archive, and display the Norm Dorsch toy collection in the Clark Building.
- Howard Raymond was able to complete the front portion of our new Office/ Visitors Center before our show to use as a Welcome Center and for apparel sales.
- Wayne Erickson and Willie Martinez constructed a Barber Shop and installed the equipment for display in Building 5.
- We displayed our 51 state flags and 5 military branch flags during our summer show.
- Association purchased asphalt, Roy Shrader leveled a new machinery display pad and Howard Raymond arranged our equipment creating an area for Bing's equipment.
- We purchased and had on display in the Visitors Center a complete list of military veterans from Cheyenne County Kansas.
- We purchased and had on display two original World War II recruiting posters.
- Will Clark collected the information and designed and compiled the quarterly newsletters that were sent to all our members to whom we have a current E-mail address.
- Gerald Wright designed and built the door frames, installed the metal panels on the east and west walls, and completed the construction of the Fikan building.
- The Shrine Club offered, and Lonnie Coon agreed to buy their popcorn machine so there will be FREE POPCORN at future shows.
- The Meridian Association harvested and cut the lumber at a discounted rate that we purchased that will be used to build the lean to on the Brubaker building.
- Rodney Neitzel, Larry Shults and Willie Martinez traveled to Meridian and loaded, unloaded and stacked the lumber.



- Our Annual Mule and Draft Horse Show went well. The rain on Friday impacted attendance but starting on Friday allowed us to prep all the equipment.
- The Friday evening cookout was a hit followed by campfire entertainment by Kelly Haywood. Saturday's weather was perfect with continuous activities going on and Norm Hays' sorghum press working well.
- We applied 7 gallon of linseed oil mixed with 5 gallon of diesel fuel on several of our wooden wagons.
- Roger Orth, with the help of Howard Raymond picked and stored our ear corn needed for next year's Shows.
- Gerald Wright constructed five large Star of David Holiday light ornaments.
- Wayne Erickson and Gerald Wright, with the help of Leslie Thomas and Willie Martinez created a new design and installed our Holiday Light display on our Show Grounds.
- Howard Raymond built shelving and installed cabinets in the library room of the Administration building.
- Howard Raymond built a special cabinet, based upon a Gerald Wright design, for documents, binders and folders that will allow items to be stored lying flat.
- Howard Raymond and Kris Oldsen cataloged the library with over 2,500 books.
- Wayne Erickson, Larry Shults and Willie Martinez have installed framing and drywall for the room dividers in the Eggers Building.
- Wayne Erickson has constructed, primed and painted 150 feet of 16 inch shelving to be installed in the Eggers Building.
- Several families utilized our central location for display during the US 36 Garage Sale.
- Mrs. Young's 4th grade class utilized our schoolhouse for a classroom in May. They walked to and from school, studied using chalk boards, flew kites and toured several buildings.



We are an official Harvest Host camping location!

You can now camp at the grounds year round and we are offering tours when available.

The Board of Directors updated our bylaws and established semi-annual membership meetings to be held the first Saturday in March and November.



Military Show



On April 28th and 29th, we had our first stand-alone Military Show.

We had groups
representing Pre-Civil
War, Civil War, WWI, and
WWII. Everyone had fun
and they can't wait to do
it again in 2024.



Bird City Atch Day Show a little love. Do a lot of good.

We received \$25,260.00 in donations from our members and supporters on the 2022 Bird City Century II March Day. The money we received has been deposited in to our general fund. This annual event has been our primary fundraiser over the past few years. Thanks to BCCII and our supporters we have been able to complete several projets on our Show Grounds with Match Day funds.

Camping/RV Hookups

For the grounds please call Mary Smith 785-443-1702

T-N-T RV Parking, located on US 36, approximently 1/4 miles from the show grounds. 785-332-5590

Do you have your Tri-State
Antique Engine & Threshers
Association mechandise?
We have added new items
this year. They are available
now at
www.threshershow.org/shop

A big Welcome to our new Secretary Brenda Johnson and our new Grant Director Will Clark

Tri-State Mule & Draft Horse Show

The Mule and Draft Horse show was instigated six years ago as a one-day event. It was expanded to a two-day event last year and due to the success will remain a two-day event in 2023 being held on October 6 & 7, 2023 on the Bird City Thresher show grounds. Action is planned to start at 10 AM each day.

Last year the mule-powered corn picker was not present. Due to the dry spring weather, it was decided to not plant corn so no corn was available to harvest come showtime. Hopefully, we will have corn this year due to the wet spring and the horse drawn picker being on site.

A new attraction last year that will be back is the horse powered stump puller. These machines were used to clear wooded land that needed to be used for cropland by homesteaders. Not a common sight in western Kansas.

Due to the drought, the usual sorghum press was not present on the grounds last year. Some substitute sorghum was found close to the show so an engine-driven sorghum press was converted to a horse driven, horsepower unit. It worked fairly well and will be on hand this year if sorghum can be procured. It is always great to have sorghum to process so sorghum cookies, made by Beth Klepper, can be made for the following year.

All of the above will hopefully be on hand along with the stationary hay baler, corn sheller, corn and wheat binders, wagon lifts, mowers, manure spreaders, discs, and plows. Modern restroom facilities and showers are available on the south end of the show grounds along with primitive camping. A few campsites with electric outlets are available for a modest donation. Check with the show groundskeeper for availability and details. Drinks and food will also be available on the grounds on both days.

Norm Hays





15+ Operational Steam Engines 300+ Antique Farm Tractors 35+ Antique Cars and Trucks 100+ Pedal Tractors

Kids Events: Tug-O-War * Corn Tank Treasure Hunt * Petting Zoo * Crafts * Old Fashion Stilts * Scavenger Hunts * Playground * Barrel Train Rides



70th Annual Show July 27 - 29, 2023



Show Grounds are located on the East edge of of Bird City, Kansas on HWY 36 and Road 29.

45 Acres * 25+ buildings *
Daily Antique Parade *
Steam Engine Races *
Tractor Pull

Daily Demonstrations: Threshing * Plowing * Binding & Harvesting * Corn Shelling

Visit: Sawmill * Working
Blacksmiths Shop * Tool
Museum * Print Shop *
Country School House *
Creamery * Authentic Sod
House * Quilt Shop *
Community Church from
1886 * Toy Museum *
Travel Museum

Showcasing everything from machinery to vintage household items.







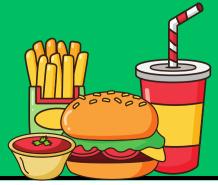
For outdoor spaces please call Howard Raymond: 308-650-1527

Food vendors including food trucks please call Kris Oldsen 785-772-5266

The Country Kitchen

Immanuel United Methodist Church of Bird City has genourusly donated the County Kitchen back to the Tri-State Antique Engine & Threshers Association

The Country Kitchen will be open all three days of the show, stop by and see the new menu.



New This Year

We are asking that you pre-register the equipment you are bringing to the show and register if you plan to put it in the daily parade.

This will help us get you through the gate quicker and help the announcer as well. To pre-register go to:

www.threshershow.org/exhibitor-registration-form/

Koken Green Gables Observatory

Many thanks to more than sixteen volunteers who donated approximately 200 hours of labor on this project. The telescope pier and mount have been rebuilt, cleaned, painted and reinstalled in the Observatory. Thank you to Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline for the donation of the 12" pipe used for the pier.

There are still a few problems to be addressed. The old staircase is showing it's age and needs some updating. A few other minor details need to be addressed but should be taken care of by the end of July for the show.

Contact Clayton Janicke, Duane Waller or Royce Chambers at 970-571-3082 for further information.

By Royce Chambers

Sad News

Our beloved Donna Wright passed away on August 16, 2022. Donna was a former Association secretary/treasurer and a "Soddy Girl."





Tri-State Antique Engine & Threshers Association PO Box 9
Bird City, KS 67731-0009

Join us at our 70th Annual Show July 27-29, 2023

Yearly Membership: \$50.00

Includes: Admission to all events & shows, Large Souvenir Button, Quarterly Email & Annual Newsletter and voting rights at the semi-annual meetings.

Three Day Pass: \$25.00

Includes: Small Souvenir Show Button

Daily Admission: \$10.00

Children (12 & under): \$5.00 - Children (5 & under): Free