



International Harvester Collectors • Chapter #23

# ALABAMA

Early Spring 2017



Bodine Farms near Guntersville hosted a special Red Power Round Up 2018 planning meeting on January 28, 2017. A delicious BBQ lunch was provided and the photo above shows the good turnout of Chapter #23 members who attended.



(L-R) Retha Beck (#542), Vicki Lott, Johnnie Lemmond (#572) and Sally Grimmitt (#581) at Greenville in Oct.



The Red Power Round Up 2018 banner got a highly visible spot between a Super M and a Super H at the Orrville show in November.



# Randy's Ramblings

• President's Letter from Randy Bodine •

This has certainly been a winter for the record books! It's definitely been the mildest winter in my lifetime. However, I recently saw an account on the weather channel that said 377 weather stations reported their largest snowfalls occurred in the month of March. As of now, it looks like we may skip straight from Fall to Spring without much winter weather.

We had great weather for our Red Power Round Up 2018 meeting in Guntersville on January 28. I want to thank everyone who attended. We had a very productive meeting and it was great to see everyone get excited about RPRU. It was also good to get together during the long break between the end of tractor show season and when the next show season begins.

We have just returned from the IHC Winter Convention in Columbus, Indiana. We spent the convention promoting RPRU 2018. I want to say a special thank you to Conrad and Gary Bell, Ronnie and Vicki Lott, and Grady Morrow for making the special effort to attend and for working the Chapter #23 table. We handed out vendor packets, chapter table registrations, and distributed informational flyers, postcards and travel brochures. On Saturday night, at the convention banquet, those states hosting upcoming events were asked to speak on behalf of their events. The events started with RPRU 2017 in Des Moines, Iowa, then the 2017 National Auction in Wauseon, Ohio, then the 2018 Winter Convention in Branson, Missouri. When it came time to speak for RPRU 2018, the room broke out into APPLAUSE! Everyone is so excited to be coming to Alabama. This also means we have a HUGE responsibility to be great hosts. People will be traveling from literally all over the world to visit our great state and we want to make sure everyone has a positive experience. That's why we need everyone to get involved by serving on a committee and by helping out in any way you can. We need you to attend committee meetings and start planning to be in Montgomery the entire week of RPRU 2018. Plan your vacation time, block out that week so you don't schedule things on top of it, and make RPRU 2018 a priority for the entire week.

You should have received your 2017 membership card and your pocket show guide. We are so blessed to have a lot of opportunities across the state for tractor venues. Our first chapter meeting of the year will be in Loxley at the Strawberry

Festival on Saturday, April 8. We will have our regular meeting at 11:00 am and our RPRU meeting at 1:00 pm. The Strawberry Festival is a new venue for our chapter, but it has been going on for 30 years. It hosts over 180 arts and craft exhibitors, food vendors, an exciting carnival, fun children's games, a huge antique car show, exhibits and live music. And, as they promote, "strawberry shortcake is still king!" We have seen the positive results of moving our chapter meetings around the state. Last year, our first time to have a chapter meeting in Greenville, we had 12 new members to join. By moving around the state, each new venue reaches people who are interested in International Harvester, but may not have even known that our club exists. I am thankful that we have directors and members who are committed to gladly go wherever our meetings are, not just attend when they are in their area. This keeps our chapter healthy and we get to see new areas of our wonderful state. I expect to see every director in Loxley - maybe we can have another perfect attendance like we had at our first meeting last year.

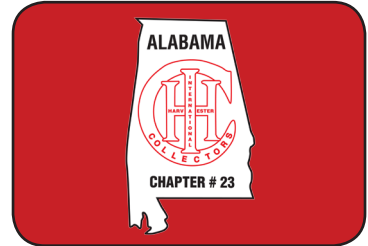
Our other chapter meetings for the year will be the State Show at the city park in Moulton on June 3, Hartselle Depot Days on September 16, and Wedowee on October 21. We will have our regular chapter meetings at 11:00 a.m. and our RPRU meetings at 1:00 p.m. Believe it or not, we are only about 450 days away from the start of Red Power Round Up 2018. There is much work to do, but it will all be worth it in the long run.

For those who did not sign up to travel with us on the bus to RPRU 2017 in Des Moines, Iowa, I hope that many of you are planning to travel on your own. It will be a great experience for you to actually attend a Red Power before we host next year. You will gain much insight into the size of the crowd, the vendors, the exhibits and it will inspire you with ideas to make our event in Montgomery even better.

If you are not currently on a committee, and would like to serve, please email me and I'll be happy to find an area that could use your help. It's going to be a busy year and I look forward to working with you as our chapter continues to grow. Hope to see you at a show soon!

Happy Tractoring!

*Randy*



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## Officers

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## Advisors

Joe Criswell

Clay Nordan

Donnie Wedgworth

**Minutes of AL Chapter #23  
International Harvester Collectors  
Meeting at Greenville  
11:00 a.m., October 29, 2016**

5 Directors present

Conrad Bell  
Buck Brown  
Charlie Grimmitt  
Clay Nordan  
Gary Bell

1 Advisor present

Larry Lemmond

2 Visitors present

Hannah Cox  
Vicki Lott

26 Members present

Sharon K. Allen  
Stephen Allen  
Harold Beck  
Retha Beck  
Jana Bodine  
Kasey Bodine  
Matt Bodine  
Randy Bodine  
Robert Bodine  
Ken Bowden  
Frank Brown  
Doris Brown  
William Carter

Michael Coburn  
Royce Colvin  
Todd Cowan  
William Dennis  
Sally Grimmitt  
Johnnie Lemmond  
Ronnie Lott  
Hybart Majors  
Tony Martin  
Larry McGhee  
Darwin Prewitt  
Sherman Roberts  
Carey Thompson

The meeting was called to order by president Randy Bodine and he began the meeting with an invocation.

Only four directors were present to form a quorum. Our bylaws require that five directors be present in order to conduct business so Advisor, Gary Bell, was deputized (a procedural maneuver that has been used in the past under similar circumstances) to serve as a director for this one meeting.

The first agenda item was Clay's report. He had no additions to the minutes as published in the recent newsletter and said that the chapter balance is currently \$16,556.89. He also reported that membership currently stands at 280 and that some new members had already joined today.

He reported that, to date, he had received 2017 dues renewals from 169 members. These members, along with members who will remain active through Nov. 2017 due to their joining after June 1, 2016 gives us a total at this time of 187 that we can count on to start the new year.

Dues collection will continue for a couple more months, so the number of active members should be larger when collections are cut off to meet the national club's deadline for final payment of Feb. 1, 2017.

He also reported that he had received \$155 in donations to the chapter that were sent in with dues payments.

Randy called for a motion to accept the minutes and Clay's report. There was a motion, second, and the motion was approved.

The next item on the agenda was the selection of the four locations for our chapter directors meetings for 2017.

Randy said that, as he does each year, he starts his planning with the date for the State Show for the year, which will be Moulton on June 3. The other show locations are then determined by how much time can be allotted between meetings for a newsletter to be put together and printed.

With this in mind, Randy proposed that our first meeting of 2017 be at Loxley in Baldwin County on April 8. The second meeting would then be at Moulton on June 3. Hartselle Depot Days would be the site for meeting #3 on September 16, and the final meeting of the year would be at Wedowee on October 21.

He said that this line-up allows us to move around the state and go to some new locations while giving Clay the time he needs to produce each newsletter. There was a motion to accept this group of shows as meeting sites. A second came from the floor and the motion passed without objection.

Next on the agenda was the selection of three new directors to replace Joe Criswell, Clay Nordan, and Donnie Wedgworth, whose terms will expire on December 31, 2016. Randy reminded everyone that these three directors will automatically begin serving a one year term as Advisor on January 1, 2017.

Randy called for nominations for the three new director positions. The first nomination was for Ronnie Lott. The second nomination was for Sherman Roberts. And the third name nominated for director was Robert Bodine.

Each of these nominees was present at today's meeting, and Randy asked each one if they were willing to serve and attend meetings regularly. They all agreed to serve, so Randy closed the nominations. There was a motion to accept the three candidates, followed by a second. The motion was then approved without objection.

Randy moved on to a reminder about the bus trip to Iowa in June of 2017 and said that he needed to have the list of people going finalized by March 10, 2017 due to the hotel in Des Moines being stricter about pinning down reservations than usual.

Randy then asked everyone to make their 2017 dues payments as soon as possible in order to keep us on schedule and maintain our membership numbers for the coming year. He said that he is still eager to clear and exceed the 300 member mark well ahead of RPRU 2018.

Next, Randy said that the show schedule for 2017 is being finalized and asked that if anyone present knows of a show that is not on the list to update the schedule sheet on the chapter table

## Next Meeting

**Loxley, AL (Baldwin County)  
Strawberry Festival  
April 8, 2017 • 11:00 a.m.**

**Red Power Round Up  
Meeting to follow  
at 1:00 p.m.**

today and include how the show is determined and the person to contact to verify dates and other information.

As the meeting came to a close, Randy asked Carey Thompson (member #300) a key official of the Greenville show to speak to the assembled group. Randy said that Carey had been an ag teacher in the area for 28 years and that the show started on his farm and has evolved into the successful Greenville Old Time Farm Day. Carey welcomed everyone to Greenville and said that they were delighted to have us with them today.

As is our usual practice, Randy asked for anyone with an upcoming show to promote to speak up. With the 2016 show season coming to a close, there were only a few announcements. He then went over the major national IH events coming up in the next couple of years, as well as our state shows.

Randy ended the meeting by reminding everyone that we will reconvene at 3:00 pm later today in Montgomery at Garrett Coliseum's Harvester Hall for a Red Power Round Up 2018 meeting.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Clay Nordan – Secretary/Treasurer*

## Financial Report

**Net Assets Oct. 2016 .....\$17,537.17**

**Income**

**Merchandise Sales .....405.00**

**Interest.....43.71**

**Dues Collected.....6510.00**

**Subtotal..... 6958.71**

**Expenses**

**Newsletter .....980.28**

**Merchandise Expense .....326.18**

**Dues Collection Postage.....188.00**

**Donations to RPRU Acct.....170.00**

**Pocket Schedules.....120.21**

**National Dues Paid..... 3675.00**

**Subtotal..... 5459.67**

**Net Assets, March 2017 .....\$19,036.21**



## 286 Active Members

17 New Members Added Since Last Newsletter

1 Former Member Re-activated

2 Members Deceased Since Last Newsletter



This was the twilight view of the carnival midway from the top of the Ferris Wheel at the Alabama National Fair in October.



This photo of Hannah and Matt Bodine, with Matt's uncle Robert Bodine was shot at the Greenville show about a month before the happy couple tied the knot in a marriage ceremony in Hannah's hometown of Enterprise, AL.

## Deceased Members

Wynell Keeton #5, 2009

Billy Gene Knight #7, 2017

Hershel Needham #40, 2007

Lloyd Gilreath #49, 2006

Billy Sparks #51, 2011

J.R. Hamrick #66, 2010

Carey Ayers #68, 2002

James T. Ballard #80, 2013

Jessie German #90, 2002

Don McGough #93, 2006

Bob Banks #136, 2010

A.Q. Maze #144, 2011

James Williams #150, 2005

Jimmy F. Smith #155, 2016

Bobby Brown #162, 2012

Jack Neal #169, 2009

Waymon Pesnell #175, 2006

Joe Willis #181, 2010

James H. Turner #188, 2013

Lavern Parker #198, 2011

Charles Barnwell #235, 2015

Garland Dodd #261, 2011

Bill Brock #280, 2009

Rudy Cole #336, 2010

Faye Bodine #340, 2016

Gene Young #389, 2013

Johnny Self #427, 2014

Edward Bottoms #432, 2017

Richard Greer #443, 2013

Alan Eisenberg #476, 2016

Gary Warren #486, 2014

James D. Hamby #492, 2015

## 35 Out of State Members

Florida .....4

Georgia .....12

Indiana .....2

Louisiana .....8

Mississippi .....3

Nebraska .....1

Tennessee .....3

Texas .....2





# HARVESTER HALL



At the Alabama National Fair in October, one of the buildings on the Garrett Coliseum grounds was designated "Harvester Hall". It housed antique ag equipment, some of which was set up by Chapter #23 members and left on display for the full two-week run of the fair.



Following the Red Power Round Up meeting at Garrett Coliseum during the Alabama National Fair on October 29, Chapter #23 members inspected the grounds and saw first-hand how the facility can accommodate a big event.



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**Joe Criswell**





## 2017 Tractor Show Schedule

Leesburg, Florida .....	Feb. 16-18
Columbus, IN – IH Winter Conv. ....	March 2-4
Bogalusa, Louisiana – Cub Fest .....	March 3-4
Hartselle – Southland Flywheelers .....	March 18
Snead – JD Ag Supply .....	April 1
Tuskegee – Little Texas .....	April 1
<b>** Loxley .....</b>	<b>April 8</b>
Snead Case IH .....	April 15
Montevallo FFA .....	April 15
Moulton – Alexander Lumber .....	April 29
Franklinton, Louisiana – IH State Show .....	May 5-6
Liberty, Kentucky IH State Show .....	May 12-13
Chalybeate .....	May 13
New Market .....	May 13
Elmore .....	May 20
Decatur – Point Mallard .....	May 27
Summerdale .....	June 2-3
Haleyville .....	June 3
<b>** Moulton City Park – AL IH State Show .....</b>	<b>June 3</b>
Hanceville .....	June 10
<b>Des Moines, IA (Red Power Roundup) ..</b>	<b>June 15-17</b>
Cotaco – Soggy Bottom .....	June 17
Gadsden – Goodyear Plant .....	June 24
Tannehill State Park .....	July 8
Boaz .....	July 15
Speake.....	July 22
Athens – Piney Chapel .....	August 4-5
Lawrenceburg, TN .....	August 18-19
Russellville – Watermelon Festival.....	August 19
Fyffe .....	August 26
Fairview (Labor Day) .....	Sept. 4
Eagleville, TN .....	Sept. 8-9
Greenville, TN IH State Show.....	Sept. 15-17
Inman, Georgia – GA IH State Show .....	Sept. 15-17
<b>** Hartselle Depot Days .....</b>	<b>Sept. 16</b>
Winfield Mule Day .....	Sept. 23
Eva .....	Sept. 30
Centre Fall Fest .....	Oct. 7
St. Florian .....	Oct. 7
Gadsden – Noccoalula “G” Roundup .....	Oct. 13-14
Cordova – Jean’s On the River .....	Oct. 14
Falkville Festival .....	Oct. 14
Shelby – Iron Works .....	Oct. 14
Dothan - Landmark Park .....	Oct. 21
Jasper Heritage Festival .....	Oct. 21
<b>** Wedowee .....</b>	<b>Oct. 21</b>
Montgomery – AL National Fair .....	Oct. 27 - Nov. 4
Hartselle – Southland Flywheelers.....	Oct. 28
Greenville .....	Oct. 28
Jasper Veterans Day .....	Nov. 4
Orrville .....	Nov. 11



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# Billy Gene Knight

*Member #7*

March 21, 1933 – February 9, 2017

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We were saddened to learn of the recent passing of one of the founding members of Alabama Chapter #23. Billy Gene Knight and his son Wade were the sixth and seventh members, respectively, to join the club in June of 1998, the year we were chartered by the national club. Billy Gene was one of the original nine directors and Wade was elected as our first vice-president that same year. Billy Gene remained as an active member of the chapter until 2014 when he had to step aside for health reasons.

According to Billy Gene's obituary, he grew up in Haleyville, AL and was co-owner, with his brother, of Great Southern Forest Products, Inc. until he retired in the early 90's when he relocated to Athens, AL to be closer to his grandchildren. He loved serving for the church and served at the Annual United Methodist Conference in Birmingham. He enjoyed serving his community and did so by working on the Haleyville City Council and, later, the Limestone County 911 Board. Billy always loved racing, and was the owner of a championship-winning race car in the NASCAR Goody's Dash Series during the 80s-90s. He also owned and restored antique farm equipment and vehicles.

The Knights have one of the largest and most extensive collections of tractors and farm equipment in Alabama and probably the entire Southeast. For a time in the early 2000's, Billy Gene established the Alabama Farm Heritage Museum & Park to house their collections and even hosted our 2003 State Show at their facility in Elkmont north of Athens.

Unfortunately, problems with the local taxing authorities prevented the museum from remaining open and becoming a destination for tourists and tractor fans from all over.

Billy Gene had a particular interest in very old, hand-cranked tractors and didn't hesitate to travel thousands of miles to add one to his collection.

If there was a Hall of Fame for tractor collectors, Billy Gene would certainly be an early inductee. He will be missed.



1. Billy Gene and Wade and a 1916 IH Mogul at Dothan. 2. Interior view of the museum. 3. Billy Gene on the showgrounds at Hanceville. 4. Wade and Billy Gene get their Titan going at Point Mallard in 1998. 5. Billy Gene relaxing with Gerald Keeton and friends at Madison. 6. (L-R) Wade, Sherman Roberts, Clay Nordan, & Billy Gene at the State Show at Weaver in 2002 with a trophy from the show host, Coosa Valley Rusty Iron Association.







The chapter meeting at the Greenville Fall Festival in Butler County, south of Montgomery was the first time the club has gathered at this October show. The photo shows how many members made what was, for some, a long trip from north Alabama.



Royce Colvin (#573 – center) and his wife Lanette made the trip to Greenville from Ruston, LA.



Randy introduces Carey Thompson (#300) who welcomed the chapter to the show at Greenville.



Red Farmalls had a strong showing at the Greenville show and Fall Festival in October.



(Right) Jana Bodine at Greenville shows off the new banner promoting the 2018 Red Power Round Up.

(Far right) Larry McGhee (#142) with his nice Ford and IH Cub restorations at Greenville.







Vice-president Gary Bell accepts the first RPRU 2018 vendor contract from Roy (#131) and Donna Edwards of East Ridge, Tennessee. Roy's IH parts and literature tables are a fixture at each RPRU.



Chapter #23 was well represented at the recent Winter Convention at Columbus, Indiana. (L-R) Ronnie and Vicki Lott, Randy and Jana Bodine, Gary and Conrad Bell, and Grady Morrow.



Philip Hubbard (#455) checks the hours worked on this big IH 1206 diesel at Bodine Farms in January. The Bodines gave tours of their collections following the successful RPRU meeting.



William Dennis (#513) from Equality, AL driving his nice Farmall 450 restoration in the parade at the Orrville show in November of 2016.



Larry Lemmond (#25) operates a Farmall 240 in a vintage hay gathering operation at the Southland Flywheelers fall 2016 show near Hartselle.



At the Sneads, FL Cub Fest in March of 2017, Buddy Banks (#228) works while Ron Smith, Skeet Cooper (#449), and Sherman Roberts (#2) offer advice.



## Edward Bottoms

*Member #432*

**April 14, 1949 – February 20, 2017**



Chapter #23 lost another good member and friend on February 20, of this year, Ed Bottoms (#432) of Concord, GA, which is south of Atlanta between Columbus and Macon.

Ed joined International Harvester Collectors through Georgia Chapter #29, which remained his home chapter, but he joined Alabama Chapter #23 in 2011 and remained an active and loyal member until his death.

Ed owned and operated Bottoms Nursery for over 30 years and was quite the expert in matters of horticulture.

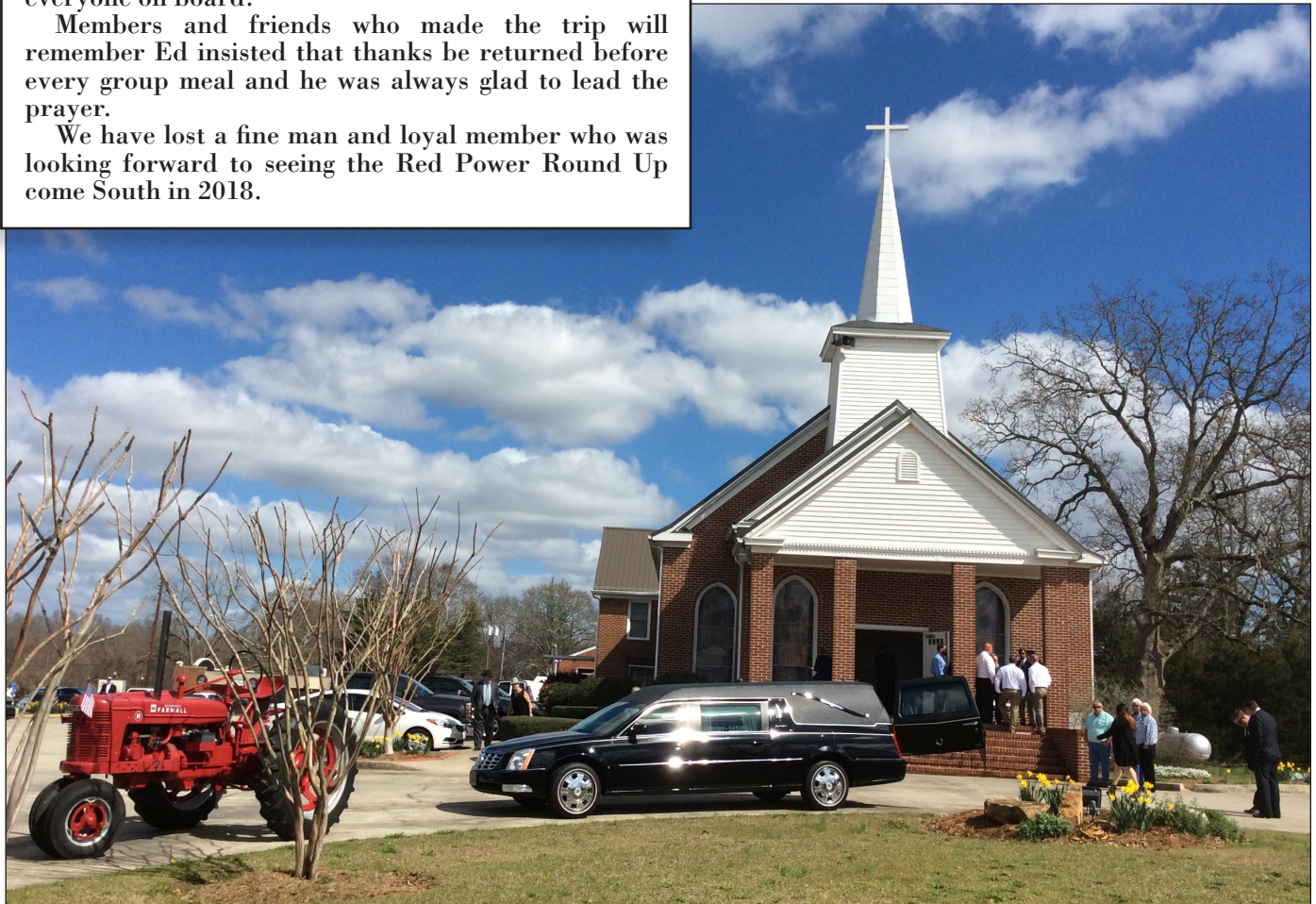
Ed and his wife Jane were among the group of Alabama members who traveled to the Red Power Round Up in Sedalia, Missouri in 2015 by bus, and by the end of the trip they had become fast friends with everyone on board.

Members and friends who made the trip will remember Ed insisted that thanks be returned before every group meal and he was always glad to lead the prayer.

We have lost a fine man and loyal member who was looking forward to seeing the Red Power Round Up come South in 2018.



His friends, family, and Farmall were there to give Ed Bottoms a proper send off on a beautiful day in Concord, Georgia.



Ed's Farmall H led the hearse to the cemetery following his funeral service at Concord (GA) Baptist Church on February 23.



This ad was re-created from the original that ran in the September 2, 1920 edition of Clanton, Alabama's weekly *Union - Banner* newspaper.

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Which farm would you buy in a case like that if the price was about the same in both instances? Foolish question isn't it?

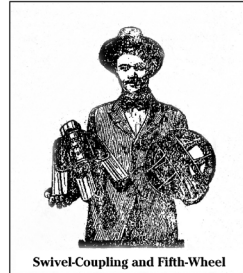
Well, then —

If you were buying a new wagon and there were two different wagons of the same size that sold at about the same price, but – one wagon had exceptionally well ironed gears, was equipped with a "fifth-wheel" to distribute the strain on the iron bolster and prevent whipping of the tongue and rocking of the bolster and was also equipped with a swivel-reach-coupling to relieve both front and rear gear, axles, wheels and brake of twisting strains when riding over rough ground, chuck holes, etc. – a wagon just like the standardized auto-track Weber – while the other wagon had none of these features – and we have not yet mentioned the quality of wood stock and the seasoning of the Weber to say nothing of the fact that the Weber Wagon's known reputation is unquestioned —

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Hours: Monday-Thursday 8-5



## **Jean's On The River Restaurant**

Open Thursday thru Sunday  
11:00 AM to 8:30 PM

Phone  
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Phone  
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