



International Harvester Collectors • Chapter #23

ALABAMA

Fall 2012

Sherman Roberts Honored by Chapter #23

At the conclusion of our meeting at Tannehill State Park in July, Sherman Roberts was recognized for his 15 years of continuous service to Chapter #23 as its president.

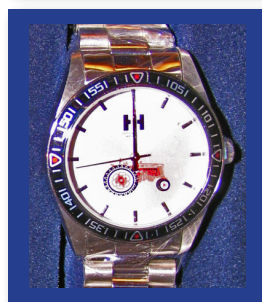
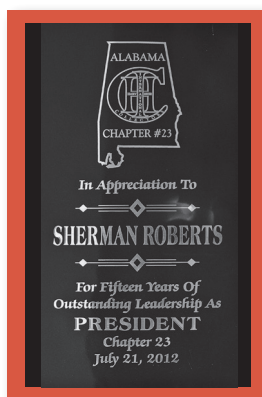
Randy Bodine, our new president-elect, presented Sherman with a specially made plaque that acknowledged his dedication and leadership since the Chapter's founding in 1998. In addition, Randy presented Sherman with a collectible Farmall wristwatch from the Bradford Exchange. It features the IH logo and an image of a Farmall tractor on its face and is inscribed with "Farmall Forever" on the back.

Then, Secretary/Treasurer Clay Nordan presented Sherman with a framed composite of the two pictures that have run in the newsletter of Sherman and his tractors with Miss Alabama. One picture shows Sherman with Courtney Porter, Miss Alabama for 2011 and the other is with Anna Laura Bryan, Miss Alabama for 2012.

Sherman thanked Randy and Clay for these mementoes of his tenure as chapter president and said that he has enjoyed every minute of it. He said that he values most the new friendships that he has made as a result of being a part of Chapter #23.

He was especially appreciative of our early members who helped get our chapter organized at the first meetings at Athens, AL. Among those he mentioned were: his wife Jane (#3), Gerald Keeton (#1) and his parents Jimmy (#4) and Wynell (#5) Keeton, Wade (#6) and Billy Gene (#7) Knight, Glenn Sanders (#15), and Kent Davis (#21).

All directors and members of Alabama Chapter #23 thank Sherman for his 15 years of loyal service and look forward to his continued active involvement with chapter projects and events.



(L-R) Randy Bodine, Sherman Roberts, Clay Nordan



Miss Alabama 2012 Anna Laura Bryan and Sherman Roberts



Miss Alabama 2011 Courtney Porter and Sherman Roberts

Randy's Ramblings

• President's Letter from Randy Bodine •

First of all let me say "thank you" to everyone for putting your trust in me to serve as your President. I am humbled by the kind words and support you have given me. Sherman has worked to give us a great foundation over the past fifteen years and I want to continue to move our chapter forward and build on his successes for the future. I am thankful for his leadership and dedication and that he will continue to serve this chapter in other capacities.

We had a good show at Tannehill State Park. It is perfect for a summer show with all the shaded areas and is a great site for future shows because it is in the central part of the state.

There were more than 45 members and guests from Chapter #23 who attended the *Red Power Round Up* in DuQuoin, IL. Everyone in DuQuoin remembered how hot it was for the RPRU when it was in Lebanon, TN. However, the heat in DuQuoin broke that record with it being 108° one day and 111° the next! Even with the incredible heat, it didn't seem to melt the spirits of anyone. We loved seeing all the tractors and equipment and visiting with friends from across the country.

We have several fall shows coming up, and with the weather cooling down, this is a wonderful time of year for Chapter #23 members to get out and support the local shows. So load up a tractor and head to a show!

A good one to put on your calendar is our next chapter meeting which will be at the Morgan County Fairgrounds on October 6, 2012. Larry Lemmond and the Southland Flywheelers always put on a good show.

Alabama IHC Chapter #23 is fortunate to have a good membership base, but there is still a lot of room to continue to grow our membership. Just think, if every member recruited only one new member, we could double our membership overnight. Please



The Sept.-Oct. 2012 issue of *Red Power* magazine has a big feature on the *Red Power Roundup* this past July. On page 11 is a photo of Buddy Banks (#228) offering a slice of Louisiana watermelon to Rodney Miller (#347) as Sherman Roberts (#2) and Randy Bodine (#171) look on. Rodney now works for RFD-TV and was shooting video for an upcoming series called "Small Town Big Deal." Buddy is also president of Louisiana Chapter #31 and brings watermelons to the RPRU to share each year.

encourage those you know who are tractor enthusiasts or who simply enjoy vintage equipment to join us. I always say that we just use tractor shows as an "excuse" to get together with our friends and neighbors. It really is all about people.

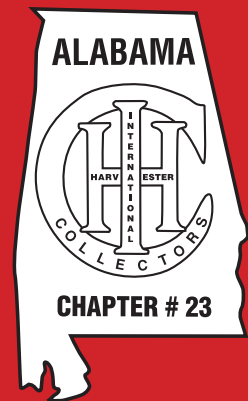
As a reminder, we will soon be starting our fundraiser. We will raffle off a restored IH tractor. Please plan to support this fundraising effort once it gets underway.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President. I look forward to working with you. If you ever have suggestions, ideas, or comments, please feel free to contact me. You can catch me at a show or call or email me.

Your input is always welcome.

Randy

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Clay Nordan '12
Charles Allen '13
Conrad Bell '13
Dwight Vanderford '13
Joe Criswell '14
Hal Hoaglin '14
Sherman Roberts '14

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Doys Jones
Preston Jones
Larry Lemmond

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Ray Best
Vice-President
Clay Nordan
Secretary/Treasurer
Newsletter Editor

"To promote collecting, and restoration, and to preserve, research, and complete the history of the International Harvester Company."

**Minutes of AL Chapter #23
International Harvester Collectors
Directors Meeting at
Tannehill State Park Show
11:00 a.m., July 14, 2012**

<u>7 Directors present</u>	<u>1 Advisor present</u>
Charles Allen	Larry Lemmond
Conrad Bell	
Randy Bodine	<u>1 Visitor present</u>
Hal Hoaglin	Stanley Thigpen
Jimmy Kilgore	
Clay Nordan	
Sherman Roberts	

<u>12 Members present</u>	Buck Phillips
Gary Bell	Bucky Phillips
Ray Best	O'Neal Samuels
Matt Bodine	Douglas Stripling
Tom Craft	Terry Stripling
Mike Gallahan	Leonard Summerford
Noah O'Neal	

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

The first agenda item was Clay's report. He had no additions to the minutes as published in the recent newsletter. He said that the chapter account currently stands at \$3200 and the current number of active members is 233.

Sherman began the meeting by thanking everyone who came to our State Show at Elmore and for making it one of our best in some time. He singled out Joe Mims (#324) of Clanton for a special thanks. Joe hauled 10 handcranked tractors to the show!

Sherman also thanked Bodine Farms for their impressive display of IH equipment that included posters with old family photos showing members of the Bodine clan operating the same machines that were on display.

A final thanks went out to Bonnie Brannan (#413) and Charles Allen (#334) for the good work they did in keeping the show at Hanceville up and running again this summer in tribute to the memory of J.R. Hamrick (#66) who was Bonnie's father and Charles' nephew.

The next agenda item was to remind everyone that our State Show for 2013 will be held at Joe Criswell's (#357) CASE/IH dealership at Snead at the end of April.

Also, he reminded everyone that this years' Red Power Roundup is coming up next week at Du Quoin, IL.

Next on the agenda was an update on bids that have been received for host of our 2014 State Show. Prior to this meeting, bids had come in for shows at Piney Chapel and Eva. Sherman announced that he had recently heard

from the Hackleburg show and James Anglin (#303) indicated to him that they would like to make a bid for 2014. With this many bids, a ballot will go out to the membership with our dues collection mailing in November and whichever show gets the most votes will be our choice for 2014 host. The winner will be announced early in 2013.

Next on the agenda was a reminder that our final meeting of 2012 will be at the Morgan County Fairgrounds show on October 6. Sherman said that the meeting at Morgan County will be Randy Bodine's first to preside over since becoming our new president.

Larry Lemmond (#25) offered an update on the crops he's growing this year and the activities he and the Southland Flywheelers are planning for this year's show. One plus this year is that the Morgan County fair will not be going on at the same time.

Next on the agenda was an update on progress with the chapter tractor raffle fundraiser. Sherman said that Ray Best (#97) has a Cub or a "C" that might make a good candidate to restore for our raffle. Sherman said that the very successful raffle held by Louisiana Chapter #31 used a strategy where they sent 10 tickets to each member. The member had the option to either sell them or pay for them themselves. Sherman said that he will keep us updated as plans progress with this project.

With the agenda complete, Sherman plugged the upcoming show at Eva on September 29. He and the organizers of this fine show have selected the Cub tractor as the feature tractor this year. They want to get as many Cubs and Cub Cadets on the show grounds as possible and plan to have lots of different categories for recognition and awards.

Sherman then went around the circle asking for anyone else who wanted to plug a show. Mule Day at Winfield on September 22 was mentioned as was the show at Wedowee on August 25. Jasper Heritage Days and the show at Peinhardt will be on the same day, October 20, this year.

Hal Hoaglin (#332) confirmed that Florida Chapter #27, in conjunction with the Florida Flywheelers 21st annual antique engine and tractor show, will be hosting the National Winter Convention at Florida Flywheelers Park at Fort Meade, FL on February 20-23, 2013. He said that for those who have the time, the FL Chapter #27 State Show will be held during the following week of February 25th at Stew Paquette's (#400) Buffalo Nickel Ranch in Leesburg.

As the meeting came to a close, in-coming president Randy Bodine spoke up to thank Sherman for his 15 years of dedicated service to Chapter #23. Randy presented Sherman with a special plaque recognizing his outstanding leadership and service to the Chapter during his tenure. In addition, Randy presented Sherman with a special collectible wristwatch that shows a Farmall tractor on its face. Finally, Secretary/Treasurer Clay Nordan presented Sherman with a specially framed keepsake of his two photos taken with both of the Miss Alabamas for 2011 and 2012 and two of his tractors.

Sherman thanked the chapter for these gestures of appreciation and said that he didn't plan on going anywhere. He said that he plans to enjoy not having the responsibilities that come with being president, but he also said that he will remain active in the chapter and will take on any assignment that the chapter needs him for.

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

*Respectfully submitted,
Clay Nordan
Secretary/Treasurer*

Financial Report

Net Assets, July 2012	3700.45
<u>Income</u>	
Dues Collected.....	210.00
Interest.....	11.57
Sale of Caps, T-shirts, etc.	500.00
Subtotal.....	721.57
<u>Expenses</u>	
Newsletter	577.43
National Dues Paid	120.00
Stamps	45.00
Plaque for Sherman	48.10
Watch for Sherman.....	108.98
Subtotal.....	899.51
Net Assets, Sept. 2012	\$3522.51
<u>Current Balances</u>	
Regions Checking	99.19
Credit Union Checking.....	23.92
Total Checking.....	123.11
Credit Union Savings	3399.40
Total Operating Balance.	\$3522.51

From Sherman Roberts ...

I want to thank everyone for the very nice plaque, Farmall watch, and picture. I will always cherish the friendships and memories from my time as president of Chapter 23.

- Sherman



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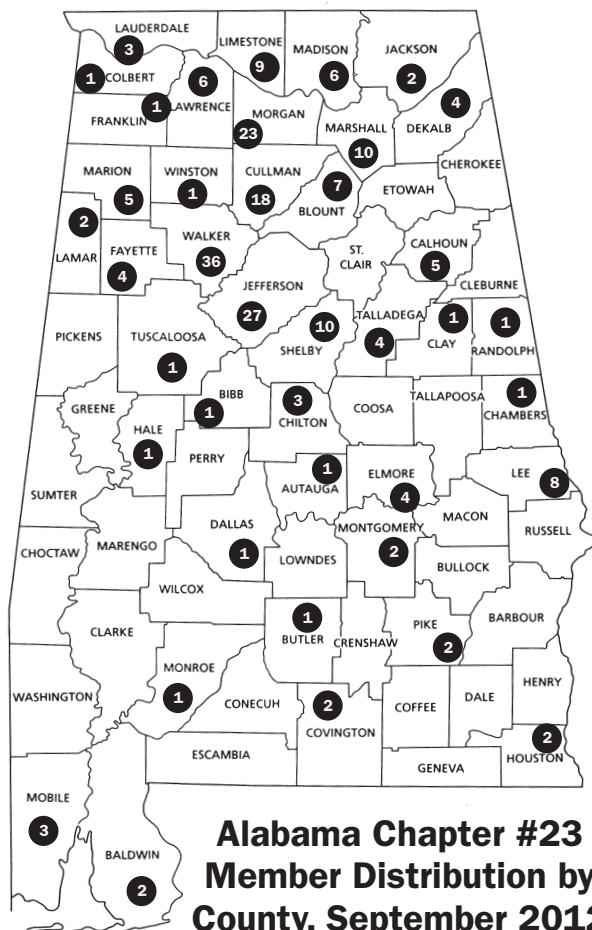
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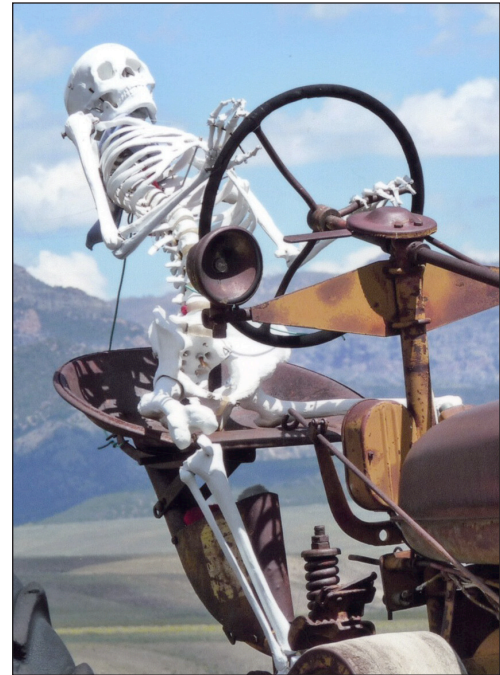
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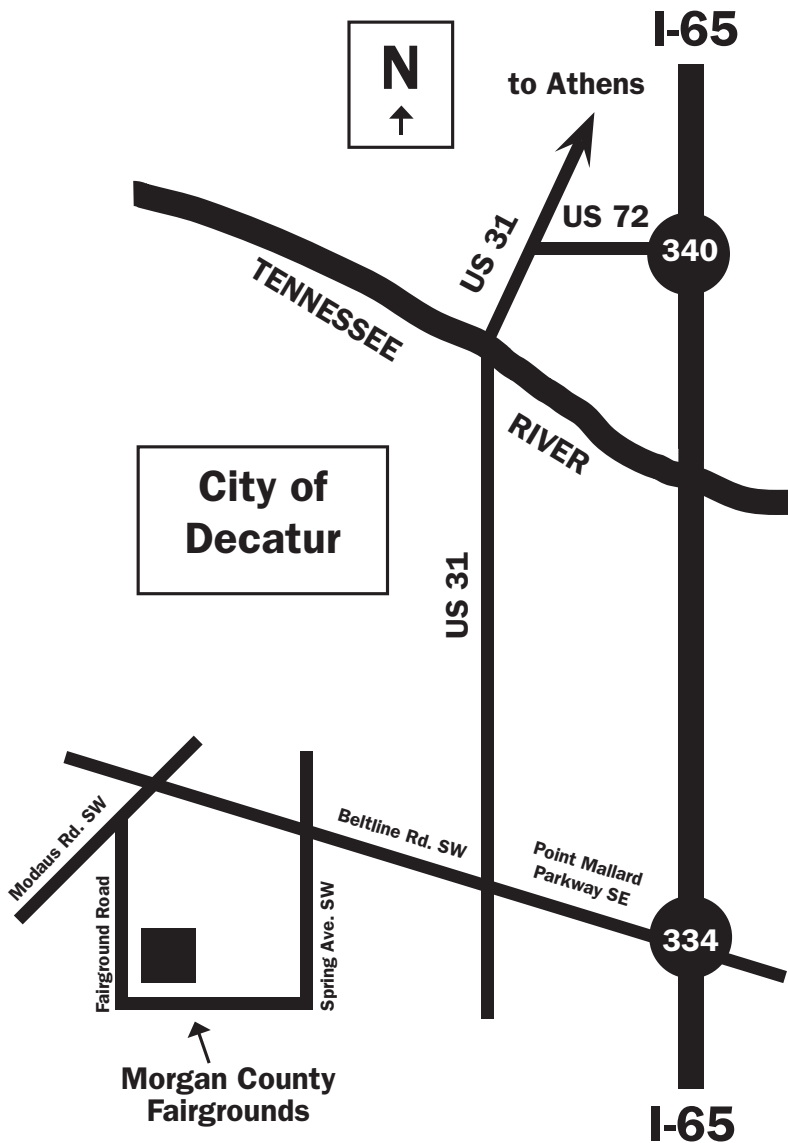
Alabama Chapter #23
Member Distribution by
County, September 2012



You've Got to Know When to Quit!



Thomas Grzyb (#212) of Jasper has been telling us for some time about the Farmall M he came across somewhere out west with a skeleton in the driver's seat. These photos prove that he hasn't been pulling our leg with a tall tale. Just remember the next time that you can't pull yourself away from that restoration project. The life you save may be your own!



NEXT MEETING

**Morgan County
Fairgrounds Show
October 6 • 11:00 a.m.**

2012 Tractor Show Schedule

Bear Creek Oct. 6
 St. Florian (Old Brooks High School)..... Oct. 6
 **Morgan County Fairgrounds Oct. 6
 Jean's On the River Oct. 13
 Shelby Iron Works..... Oct. 13
 Dunlap, TN IH State Show Oct. 19, 20
 Jasper Heritage Festival..... Oct. 20

Peinhardt Farm Days..... Oct. 20
 Dothan..... Oct. 27
 Falkville Festival..... Oct. 27
 Greenville, AL Oct. 27
 Jasper Veterans Day Nov. 3
 Orrville..... Nov. 10.

****Alabama Chapter 23 Meeting at 11:00 a.m.**

Perfection Mattress Co. Model “S” Truck

A story with an unanswered question.

by Clay Nordan



Perfection Mattress & Spring Co. Birmingham, Alabama. 1920's International Model S “Red Baby” truck.

It all started with a photograph of a 1920's IH Model “S” truck that you see here.

Ben Jackson is my insurance agent in Birmingham, AL. He became aware of my interest in International Harvester products and Chapter #23 several years ago when I first talked to him about insuring my Cub tractors. Some Chapter #23 members may remember Ben from a short presentation he made at our meeting at Hackleburg in 2009 about insurance coverage that he could provide for owners of collectible tractors.

This past August, Ben sent me this photo of an IH truck that his great-grandfather bought and used in the mattress business that he was principal owner of in downtown Birmingham, AL.

According to *150 Years of International Harvester* by C.H. Wendel, the model “S” was introduced in 1921 and was produced with variations until 1929. Due to the 1921 economic slump, “Alexander Legge, the new IH president, conceived a brilliant idea to improve sales. New Model “S” trucks were painted bright red and sold to dealers at a reduced price. Soon known as the “Red Babies”, these loaded trucks invaded the

countryside, carrying IH equipment to farmers”, and serving as an advertisement on wheels for IH.

As you can see from the photo, the name of the Jackson's business was Perfection Mattress and Spring Co. When I expressed interest in the photo, Ben said that very little is known about the photo, but he put me in touch with his father, Ivey Jackson, who added that his grandfather, F.M. Jackson, founded the company about 1915. Their factory was located on 26th Street between 8th and 9th Avenues. Interstate 20-59 took the property about 1974 and they built a new factory in Homewood on West Oxmoor Road. The Jacksons ultimately left the business when it was sold in 1979.

As I studied the photo, I made the assumption that the building in the background must be the Birmingham IH “Branch House” at the time. I had learned about IH branches from previous reading and knew that there were many of these regional IH bases and service centers all across the U.S. In an attempt to confirm this assumption, I went online to the McCormick – International Harvester Co. Collection Archives at the Wisconsin Historical Society (<http://>

www.wisconsinhistory.org). I did a simple search of their collection of photos of IH branch houses and discovered the second photo you see here that was cataloged as the Birmingham branch house.

The information on the website with regard to this photograph says: “External view of International Harvester Company’s Birmingham branch building, located at the intersection of 10th Avenue and 24th Street. A railroad car stands beside the building. Railroad tracks are across the street in the foreground. An automobile is parked along the curb on the right.” They indicate that the photo was made around 1925. Note that the streets, 10th Ave. and 24th Street are marked in ink on the photo.

At first I was hopeful that this information would lead me to what might remain of this building on the southeast corner of 10th Ave. and 24th Street, but when I tried to find the spot on a map of downtown Birmingham, I realized that the IH Branch House met the same fate as Perfection Mattress. It was swallowed up by the Interstate too!

I had made the logical conclusion when I first saw the Perfection Mattress truck photo that it must have been shot at the Birmingham branch house as it was being delivered to Mr. Jackson. Once I knew the exact address of the Birmingham branch, I compared it to the location of the mattress factory and realized that the two business were only a few blocks apart in downtown Birmingham, so I began to theorize that it would make a lot of sense for someone to shoot a photo of the truck just before it was driven away to its new home down the street.

But when I took the time to carefully compare the two photos (they are similar) I realized that I was looking at two different buildings. The main basis for my conclusion came from comparing the lettering on the sides of the buildings as well as the number and design of the windows. So much for my theory!

That led me to start thinking that the truck must have been prepared and the custom sign painted at a branch house in some other city. Once again I called upon the resources at the McCormick – IH archives, hoping that they might have a photo of the branch house shown with the truck that I could use to make a comparison.

I soon discovered that the archives had photos of IH branch houses all across the south: Jacksonville, FL; Columbia, SC; Charlotte, NC; Nashville, TN; Knoxville, TN; Little Rock, AR; etc.; as well as Wichita, KS, Springfield, IL, and others. After an exhaustive search and discovering that all the branch houses of this era resembled each other I was unable to locate a branch house that matched the one



with the truck. So, that is why a significant question remains about the photo of the Perfection Mattress Model “S”.

While we do have the story about the truck, we don’t have the full story about where the photo was shot and which branch house or dealer the truck came from. Perhaps someone will read about Ben’s photo who knows more about the scene it depicts and share that knowledge with us. If that happens, we will do a follow-up in a future issue and bring this story to a satisfactory conclusion.



Birmingham, AL International Harvester Branch House around 1925.



Tannehill State Park just west of Bessemer on I 20-59 is a fine place for a tractor show on a hot July Saturday. The attendance was up this year and offered Chapter #23 a good new central location for a meeting.



Sherman Roberts runs the chapter meeting at Tannehill. It was his last meeting to preside over as president.



The flea market is a big attraction at Tannehill.



Jimmy Kilgore (#262) and O'Neal Samuels (#288) brought their later model Cubs to Tannehill.



Robert Bodine (#170) with grandson Logan (Brad's son) at Piney Chapel. Logan starts the 9th generation of Bodine farmers.



You never know what kind of off-beat device Kent Davis (#21) will have at Piney Chapel. This photo shows Kent explaining his clock that runs backwards to Sherman Roberts.



Sherman and Noah O'Neal (#426) work on a "short circuit" between the steering wheel and the seat that caused the Tennessee highway orange IH 100 to quit during the parade at Piney Chapel.



Bobby Blankenship (#143) showing his fine 1957 Farmall 450 at Hartselle Depot Days on September 15.



Chapter #23 members in Lawrenceburg, TN for the annual show enjoy lunch at the restaurant at the Davy Crockett State Park.



Buddy Woodson, Charlie Stewart (#244), and Richard Shiffler. Buddy and Richard have brought the same two tractors to every show at Eagleville, TN for the past 25 years.

Red Power Roundup – 2012



Members, family, and friends of Alabama Chapter #23 and Louisiana Chapter #31 had a good showing at the Red Power Roundup at Du Quoin, Illinois over the weekend of July 19. (Front row seated) Lamar Stewart (AL), Doris Stewart (AL), Chase Sheridan (AL), Jane Roberts (AL), Sherman Roberts (AL), Douglas Stripling (AL), Stephen Braddy (LA), Scarlet Braddy (LA), Sam Braddy (LA). (Standing, left to right) Sami Couey (AL), Scout Couey (AL), Larry Couey (AL), Skylar Couey (AL), Gary Couey (AL), Kim Couey (AL), Dawson Lindsey (AL) Lewis Durant (LA), Mary Haga (AL), Rubin Haga (AL), Gary Bell (AL), Gary Boutwell (LA), Conrad Bell (AL), Franklin Jones (AL), Bill Hare (AL), Joe Criswell (AL), Hope Banks (LA), Ray Best (AL), Jimmy Kilgore (AL), Terry Stripling (AL), Chris Haskins (MO/LA), Sean Haskins (MO/LA), Buddy Banks (LA), Roselea Cooper (LA), Ronnie Lott (AL), Lou Walker (LA/AL), Skeet Cooper (LA) Leon Walker (LA/AL), Karen Ziler (MO), Robert Bodine (AL), Brad Bodine (AL), Matt Bodine (AL), Randy Bodine (AL). (Not pictured) Richard (Dick) Ard (AL), Joe Mims (AL), Glenda Mims (AL), Gerald Keeton (AL), Richard Greer (AL), Harold Beck (AL), Gail Beck (AL), Randy Jones (AL), Sherri Jones (AL), Kale Hembree (AL), Katrina Hembree (AL), Allie Hembree (AL), Gene Young (AL), Avis Young (AL).



Ray Best enjoys some of Mama Bodine's homemade cookies as Gary Bell, Joe Criswell, and Skeet Cooper look on.



Bodine Farms' RPRU display that included posters with old family photos.



Gary Boutwell (#286) relaxes at the Red Power Roundup.



Dawson Lindsey, Gary Cluey's grandson helps demonstrate the size of a Titan wheel.



A German made 1955 IH DLD-2 2-cylinder diesel at the RPRU.



Familiar IH tractors from home at the Red Power Roundup.



New President Randy Bodine and his wife, Jana, traveled 1230 miles to the Nebraska State Fair at Grand Island in August to join an RFD TV sponsored attempt to set a world record for the most vintage tractors to participate in a tractor parade. They hauled their 1953 Super H 2460 miles round-trip. The previous record had been set in Germany (742). The Nebraska parade easily broke the record with 964 antique tractors participating. It had not rained one drop in Grand Island since April 10th but the morning of the parade they got 2 inches! The inset photo shows the mud picked up by Randy's Super H in the parade. The photos below are from some of the sight-seeing stops that Randy and Jana made while they were on the road.



(1) The CASE/IH combine plant in Grand Island. (2) A finished combine gets wheels. (3) Randy and Jana with Axial Flow Turbine. (4) Randy with a Farmall 1206 grill at the Memphis Cotton Museum. (5) Super H in front of the St. Louis gateway arch.



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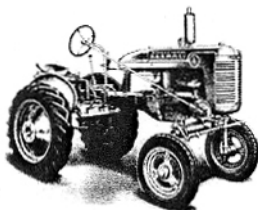
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