



Winnebago Historical Society
Heritage Park of North Iowa Project
Box 27, Forest City, IA 50436

*Over 90 Acres Dedicated to the
Preservation of America's Rural Heritage*

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An online version of this news release is available at:

[http://www.heritageparkofnorthiowa.com/NewsReleases/NewsRelease\(STD\).pdf](http://www.heritageparkofnorthiowa.com/NewsReleases/NewsRelease(STD).pdf)

September, 2010

Forest City, Iowa – See the past in action September 17-19 as **Heritage Park of North Iowa** presents the 27th annual **Steam Threshing and Old Iron Swap Days**.

Heritage Park of North Iowa, a project of the Winnebago Historical Society, is located on 90 acres of land on the south edge of Forest City. Heritage Park will present demonstrations of a bygone era. Antique steam traction engines, big gas tractors and flywheel engines will be operational, powering the machines they were built for - plowing, grain threshing, and saw milling. Other demonstrations include sorghum pressing, shingle making, horsepower testing, corn shelling, clover hulling, and feed grinding all powered using antique gas tractors and flywheel gas engines. Draft horses will be on hand to power 1880's horsepower equipment including a threshing machine, hay press and a single horse treadmill. Numerous other family oriented activities are also planned.

The feature line of equipment this year is Ford and orphans and odd balls. A special attraction at this year's show will be the recently restored Big 40 Gaar Scott steam traction engine along with a 14 bottom Oliver platform plow. The Gaar Scott will be plowing with the Oliver plow both Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Over 200 tractors are expected to be on display. Plowing with big steam engines and large prairie gas tractors will again be one of the big crowd pleaser. A Parade of Power will be held Saturday and Sunday afternoon when the large steamers and gas tractors will parade around the show grounds providing fantastic photo opportunities of the operating machines.

Permanent building displays include a barn that has been restored and packed with items one would see in a turn-of-the-century barn. The Blacksmith Shop, Fire Station, Gas Station, School Buildings, Church, Log Cabins, Jailhouse, Barber Shop and other buildings will be open for viewing and reminiscing. Nondenominational Church services will be held Sunday Morning at 9:00 AM.

Entertainment featuring area entertainers will be provided starting at 1:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday. Gary Froiland will entertain both Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Gary will also provide music for the Saturday night barn dance as well as gospel music at Sunday's church service.

On Friday the 17th, starting at 1:00 PM a consignment auction consisting of antique tractors, cars, farm machinery, parts, literature, tools, toys, etc. will be held. Fox Auction Company from Mason City has donated their services and will be conducting the auction. There is still time to consign items! All commissions charged for the sale will go directly to Heritage Park of North Iowa. Anyone wanting to consign items should contact David Hill at (641)590-5959 or Wyndham Sellers (641-357-0539). Consult the Heritage Park web site for additional details and terms.

A Craft Show as well as vendors of tools, tractor and engine parts, and a variety of other items will also be on hand throughout the three day event.

Food service will be provided throughout the days. Homemade ice cream will be made using a steam engine for power. The steam-made ice cream is always a crowd pleaser; both eating the ice cream and seeing the steam engine make the ice cream are a delight for all.

Gates will open at 8:00 AM each day. Admission will be charged on Saturday and Sunday. Admission on Friday is free and after 6:00 PM on Saturday and 4:00 PM on Sunday. Children 13 and under are admitted free all the time. Souvenirs are available for purchase at a nominal cost. Raffle tickets for a restored John Deer A tractor will be available for purchase. A bologna sausage and all you can eat corn feed, cooked with a steam engine, is planned for Saturday evening starting after the parade of power. The feed will continue past 6:00 PM when admission is no longer charged. A detailed schedule of the different activities and events will be provided on the show grounds. Rest assured there will always be something happening for young and old alike.

Exhibitors of antique farm and construction-related equipment are invited to display their equipment at any and all shows. Exhibitors will be admitted at no charge. Vendors are also invited, but are encouraged to make reservations by contacting David Hill, 145 W N St., Forest City, IA 50436, (641)590-5959, or send an email to ruddson@wctatel.net.

If you would like additional information about Heritage Park of North Iowa, including volunteer opportunities, contact the Winnebago Historical Society, Heritage Park of North Iowa Project, Box 27, Forest City, IA 50436. Chairman of the Heritage Park Project is Jim Oulman, (641)585-4332, jnoulman@wctatel.net.

The most current information can be found on their Web site at www.heritageparkofnorthiowa.com.