



www.heritageparkofnorthiowa.com

Winnebago Historical Society
Heritage Park of North Iowa Project
Box 27, Forest City, IA 50436
515-585-5606

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

Rozella Hagan
President,
641-585-3671

Stanford Holtan
Director of Displays
641-581-4196

Jerred D. Ruble
Director of Shows
641-797-2697

James Oulman
*Chairman, Heritage
Park Committee*
641-585-4332

Ronald Holland
Grounds Director
641-585-3630

April 2005

Forest City, Iowa -- Heritage Park of North Iowa will be holding a two-day seminar on operation and care of hobby steam boilers and steam engines on Saturday and Sunday, May 21-22, 2005. The seminar will be held on the show grounds of Heritage Park, which are on the south edge of Forest City, Iowa. Hours of the seminar will be from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM both days. The seminar will include a mixture of classroom instruction and hands-on experience. There are no restrictions to gender; however, there will be a minimum age requirement of 10 years. An adult must accompany juveniles. Class size will be limited to approximately 40 people. Pre-registration is required and can be accomplished by calling Jim Oulman at 641-585-4332 or Jerred Ruble at 641-797-2697. Signup will be first come first serve. There is a \$15.00 fee per student to defray costs of the provided lunch.

The seminar is being held to help promote and encourage the hobby of steam engineering. This is a beginner's class, no prior experience is necessary, however anyone with prior experience is also encouraged to attend if they so desire. Attendees of the seminar will be instructed in the safe operation and care of steam boilers and engines. Topics on boilers will include types of boilers, basic boiler operation, safety devices, proper boiler start up and shut down procedures, use of injectors and pumps, forced draft induction, firing a boiler under load, holding constant steam pressure and how to handle emergency situations. Steam engine topics will include basic operation of the steam engine, starting and stopping the engine, how the valve gear works, how a steam engine governor works and how to lubricate the engine and drive train.

As part of the course, attendees will help prepare one or more steam traction engines for steam up. This will include washing the boiler, visually inspecting the boiler, ultrasonically testing the boiler, installing hand hole plates, checking for leaks as the boiler is filled with water, cleaning the flues and lubricating the engine and drive train. Students, under the supervision of the instructors, will steam-up one or more steam traction engines. They will have hands-on experience operating the steam traction engine including proper firing techniques, ways to check boiler water level, starting and stopping the injector and/or pump, starting and stopping the engine, maneuver the engine through a prearranged course and help trouble shoot problems.

Caring for and operating a steam engine is typically a dirty job. Attendees should take this into account when selecting the type of clothing to wear to the seminar.

Although Iowa does not require a license to operate steam traction engines, a test that is similar to the test required by the State of Minnesota to get a Hobby Steam Engineer's License will be administered at the conclusion of the seminar for attendees wishing to take the test. All attendees successfully completing the seminar will be provided a certificate of completion.

If you have questions concerning this seminar, contact Jerred Ruble, ruble@wctatel.net / 641-797-2697(Home) or Jim Oulman, 641-585-4332.