



Power to the People

By Brandon Gay

The 24th Annual Antique Machinery, Threshing and Power Show put on by the Sunflower Pioneer Power Association drew a good crowd to Almena on Saturday and Sunday.

Bob Underwood, past president, said the show was a success despite a lower than usual turnout. Mr. Underwood said about 750 attended the show on Saturday and about 300 on Sunday. He attributed the smaller turnout to the heat, harvest and the need for farmers to be tending their crops.

"I think everything went very well," he said. "We appreciate all the help and we'll do our best to keep making the show bigger and better."

Mr. Underwood said more help is still needed and the association is willing to train people to use machinery and tractors.

Best of show awards were given to parade entries both days. On Saturday, Ivan Kingham, Norton, won best tractor with his 901 Ford Diesel, David Sheley, Norton, won best car with his Studebaker and Dale Volgamore, Almena, won best small engine with his Cushman.

On Sunday, Jim Crosley, Wilsonville, won best tractor with his Minneapolis Moline UTS; Denzel Lofgreen, Norton, won best car his 1959 Buick Invicta and Howard Herman, Mankato, won best small engine with his aermotor.

Richard and Roberta Martin were the grand marshals of the parade. They rode in Eldo Graham's 1960 Cadillac.

Darrel Graham, Redding, Calif, was the winner of the grand prize tractor, a 1950 44 Massey Harris.

The tractor was donated to the association by Vern Helle, Agra.

Second prize, a handmade cedar chest, went to Kelly Belden, Norton. Third prize, a handmade wooden pheasant, went to Ted Sanko, Norton. Fourth prize, a \$50 savings bond, went to Richard Martin, Norton. Fifth prize, a tractor guide book, went to Robert Pinkerton, Phillipsburg.

A tractor pull was held both days after the parade.

On Saturday, winners in the 3,500-pound division, winners were Don Lafferty, McCook, first with a Ford NAA; Bob Underwood, Norton, second with a F12 IHC and Perry Schuetzer, Shickley, Neb, third with a 1966 Oliver.

Ken Griffith, Goodland, won the 4,000-pound division with a B-John Deere.

In the 4,500-pound division, winners were Raymond Griffith, Phillipsburg, first with an A-John Deere and Toby Griffith, Glade, second with an H-IHC.

In the 5,000-pound division, winners were Lauren Rentschler, Smith Center, first with an M-IHC; Marlin Fike, Glenville, Neb., second with an Allis-U and Randal Leiding, Beaver City, third with a John Deere.

In the 5,500-pound division, winners were Dave Leiding, Beaver City, first with a John Deere; Lorissa Strayer, Beaver City, second with an Oliver 88 and Randal Leiding with a John Deere.

In the 6,000-pound division winners were Mel Luft, Norton, first with an IHC-M; Ben Brunning, Phillipsburg, second with an M-IHC and Glen Dennis, Agra, third with a John Deere-R.

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A 1920s Dempster (above) is one of the windmills in the Sunflower Pioneer Power Association's collection. Warren Sidman, Prairie View, (below left) was in charge of operating the vintage Frick saw mill that dates back to the 1890s. Demonstrating the operation of the 1930-'40s antique rock crusher (below right) were Larry McMullen on the tractor and Eldo Graham, who pulled the rocks down into the crusher.



Telegram photos by Dick Boyd and Brandon Gay