



PRESIDENT Lonnie Coon called the annual thresher show meeting to order and Darci Schields, secretary, read the minutes.
Herald staff photo by Norma Martinez

Plans being made for show

By Norma Martinez
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Plans presented during the March 2 Thresher Show meeting at the Bird City Senior Center are signs that the 60th annual show is off to a good start toward being one of the best shows ever. Thirty-one members were present to participate in planning for the July 25, 26 and 27 anniversary celebration.

Since last year's show showed a profit, it was determined to leave the cost of admission to the grounds the same; 6 - 12 years daily admission \$3, and adults \$7. Memberships can be purchased for \$20.00. The new buttons containing a 1949 8N Ford are available for those who wish to purchase a membership.

Ken Beougher has set the country church service up for Sunday, July 28, at 9 a.m. He and Darci Schields are also making plans for providing music to be played on the country church organ during the three days of the event.

Darci Schields and Bonnie Michael will be working on the newsletter again this year. Articles need to be given to Darci by April 2.

Officers for the 2014 show will remain the same: Lonnie Coon as president, Ken Beougher as vice-president, Darci Schields as secretary, Rod Klepper as treasurer, and Steve Busse and Brendon Haack as directors.

Suggestions made at the January meeting are well underway toward improving this year's show. These changes or additions are: to increase the attendance of the tractor pull it was decided to change it to Friday evening, the Community Club dinner and entertainment will be at the Legion hall on Thursday evening. Additional entertainment in the Eggers Building or schoolhouse throughout the event is still being considered.

An all-day swap meet will be held on Thursday only, with purchase of a one-day grounds ticket, or membership for admittance. Vendors must remove their goods or relocate into the regular swap meet area at the end of the time set. Vendors must bring their own tables. Mr. Klepper is the coordinator of this event.

Willy Martinez is talking to the Benkelman Horseshoe Club about arranging for a horseshoe tournament during this year's show.

The queen's introduction has always been one of the most popular events and highlights of the event. Complaints have been that the present speaker system is not adequate for everyone to hear

the announcement and queen's speech. Hal Sager has made plans to install additional speakers. Brandon Haack was not available to give a full report, but he is in the process of purchasing FM transmitters at an approximate cost of \$600. This will allow the events to be heard in various buildings.

Plans are underway on setting up a spot with qualified tractor drivers to assist children with the experience in getting to drive a tractor. Gerald Wright is working on adding a "Drive a straight line" contest incorporating a GPS unit. Other projects being worked on are: a talking tour telling the history of the machinery equipment, demonstration of the baler machine, and tearing a motor apart. The possibility of inviting Car Clubs to include an exhibit of antique cars is also being looked at.

Wanda Dowdy has been working on "Build a Bear" shirts with the antique engine logo on it for the children to have an opportunity of taking home a souvenir.

Dennis Wright is working on the possibility of getting a branding iron made to be able to brand the shingles made by the shingle machine as souvenirs.

Future plans for show grounds

Gerald Wright and Rex Weishapl spoke of the possibility of constructing another building south of the steam engine shop. This would eliminate having to move things back and forth from the present machine shop to the steam engine shop when making repairs, or rebuilding parts. Randy McDonald has machinery he would like to donate, and this would save a lot of time and money to be able to do this repair work on the grounds and eliminate the cost of sending the work out. The present machine shop does not have enough room for the machinery.

Mr. Klepper would like to see the present museum redesigned as to individual rooms rather than spread out for a better showing. Reconstructing the museum and expanding would make it possible to provide a year round Historical Museum.

The print shop needs to have more space than presently provided, and the quilt shop needs more room to display their quilts. By building a new quilt shop building, the print shop could expand to this area. Equipment is available for the print shop to do their-own screen printing, but space is not available to set it up. Children could even be provided the opportunity of screen-printing their own T-shirts.

Truck sale

Gerald Wright read a letter written by Mike Levin who comes from Arizona for the thresher show every year. He has been looking for an old truck to purchase and restore. Last year he located an old pickup truck that had been sitting on the grounds so long, it had a tree growing from the back of it. He made an offer to purchase this truck from the Thresher Association for \$300. His plans are to take his time in restoring it, so Mr. Levin is not sure when he will have it completed, but agreed once he has completed the restoration, he will bring it for display during the shows. This offer was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Anyone who has other ideas can Contact Mr. Klepper, Mr. Coon, Mr. Beougher, or Mrs. Schields.

Open Season

Turning 65

By
Cynthia Haynes



Since my Medicare card arrived in the mail last week and my birthday is Friday, I thought maybe I should share some deep insights on turning 65.

Now why am I sitting down at this computer?

It's not that I'm getting more forgetful, it's just that I'm having more "hereafter" moments. You know, I find myself in the basement and look around in confusion, wondering what I'm here after.

My hearing isn't all that great, but I can't say it's worse than it used to be, because my hearing was damaged when I was a child, and it's never been all that great. It's just that these days, I can hear what Steve is saying but I seem to be in a different conversation.

When he says, "What do you want for dinner?" I assure him that his hair is not getting thinner.

I had Lasik surgery on my eyes about 10 years ago and have not had to wear glasses or contacts since then. Lately, however, I've noticed that things are being printed in much smaller sizes and I need a pair of reading glasses to read the ingredient label on food packages, the printing on medication bottles and sports results coaches send me for the paper.

Each time I get a haircut, I notice that there are more silver strands among the gold. Steve, who had nearly pure white hair by the time

he was 40, isn't giving me any sympathy and I haven't reached for the Lady Clair bottle yet. I will point to genes for this.

My father had more color in his hair when he died at age 69 than my husband did that same year, and our oldest daughter, who isn't 40 yet, has been dying her hair for years to keep the gray at bay.

I had a facelift about 15 years ago and that held off nature and gravity for quite a while, but nothing lasts forever. If I don't decide to go see that doctor in Denver again soon, I'm going to look like someone's grandmother, which I am, come to think of it.

Retirement is not in my immediate future, and I'm not taking my Social Security yet. Both Steve and I still enjoy our jobs and love doing what we're

doing. So why should we quit?

My parents both retired at 62 and had a wonderful time living in Kansas in the summer and Texas in the winter. Mom had been in the classroom for more than 30 years and Dad, who loved to work with his hands, was stuck at a computer terminal, which he hated. They were ready to move on to other things.

All in all, turning 65 isn't so bad. The only really annoying thing is that Steve doesn't hit the big 65 until July and I'll have to put up with him razzing me about being an old lady for the next five months.

Well, at 5 foot nothing and 65 years of age, I guess he's right. However, if he gets too obnoxious, I might just hit him with my cane.

Did You Know?

- Johann Sebastian Bach was not just considered "the greatest genius of baroque music," he was also a father to 20 children, several of whom became musicians.

- In French universities, freshmen are sometimes called bec jaune, or yellow beak, for their similarity to fledgling birds.

- When a lapwing's nest is threatened, the bird will limp and pretend to be hurt to lure its enemies away.

- Experts on Elizabethan cuisine contend the "funeral baked meals" Hamlet makes so much of were meat-pies.

- Most experienced beekeepers handle bees and honeycombs with their bare hands. Gloves are clumsy and would soon become covered with sticky honey.

- The world's best fishing grounds lie along the edge of the Arctic, particularly off the coasts of Greenland and Iceland.



2012-13 ST. FRANCIS BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM — Front row (l to r): Joey McCormick, Caleb Frink, Cade Bracelin, Wyatt Landenburger, Lenny Olivares, Mason Schiltz; back row: Nick O'Loughlin, assistant coach, Jacob Baxter, Dillion Straub, Dylan Peter, Steven Nelson, Kyler Zweygardt, Keegan Sherlock, Jeff Beims, coach.



2012-12 ST. FRANCIS GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM — Front row (l to r): David Morrow, assistant coach, Kayla Reed, Valerie Wurm, Mariah Beikman, Laura Brunk, Kyla Bandel, Aubrey Mills, Susan Dinkel, coach; back row: Sydney Sundstrom, Emily Elfers, Journey Lee, Clarice Neitzel, Justice Wiley, Aby Fernandez, Kylie Sherlock.



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