

And Finally,

### Fantastic Facts For The Fabulous 4440s

Many of you have probably heard about the March 6, 2009 auction in Hamilton, IL that included the sale of three 1982 John Deere Model 4440s. Articles about this sale were in the March/April and May/June editions of *Successful Farming*, but for those who haven't heard this amazing story, here's a brief historical review.

In 1981, Wayne Crooks struck oil on his west-central Illinois farm. The oil leasing rights agreement offered by Henry Energy of Arlington, TX, insured that Henry Energy would get 75% of the oil rights on the farm and they, in turn, would provide Crooks with a new line of farm equipment plus 800 prime acres of neighboring land. Included in the farm equipment were three brand-new 1982 4440s costing Henry Energy \$33,900 each.

Crooks rented out the 800 acres and only used the 4440s occasionally so that by 2009, one had 1,843 hours on it, a second had 692 hours, and the third just 47 hours. The third 47-hour 4440 sat in the shed from 1982 to the day of the auction in March, 2009.

Three thousand attended the auction, with 1,300+ registered bidders. Usually, bidding starts low and gradually moves higher, but when the 47-hour 4440 was the star attraction, within minutes the numbers were into the low \$50,000 range, then up to \$55,000 and it was finally sold for \$58,000!

The other two 4440s brought \$43,000 and \$51,000. The nine pieces of equipment purchased for Crooks cost Henry Energy a total of \$235,804 in 1982. The combined total sale of the equipment was \$254,200 - an increase of \$20,000 over the 27 year period. Unfortunately Mr. Crooks passed away at the age of 83 in October, 2008. He would have been amazed!

Shelby

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The following was shared by Don and Eleanor Ward, NEITCC members from Chula, MO. They are members of the Linn County Tractor and Engine Association, and this piece was included in the April 09 edition of their newsletter. Don and Eleanor, thanks for the chuckle!

### THREE SONS

"A farmer has three sons. One day, his oldest boy comes to him and pleads with him that he is graduating from school and would really like to get a car. His father says, "Son, come with me." He takes him to the barn and points to the farm tractor and says, "That tractor is needed here on the farm and I promise that as soon as it's paid for, we'll get you a car." The boy was not too happy but he did understand that situation and said, "Okay, Dad."

A week later, his second son (10 years old) approaches him wanting a new bicycle, but gets the same excuse: "as soon as that tractor is paid for..."

A few days later son number 3, his youngest, comes bugging him for a tricycle. Again, ol' Dad gives him the lecture about the tractor being paid for first. While leaving the barn, the young boy, more than a little disgusted with the whole thing, sees a rooster mating with one of the hens and promptly goes over and kicks the rooster smooth off the hen's back, mumbling to himself the whole time.

His Dad says, "Son, why on earth would you do something like that? He didn't do anything to you to deserve that!" The little boy looks his Dad right square in the eye and says, "Hey, nobody rides anything around here until that damn tractor is paid for!"

### 2009 COMING EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
June 18, 19, 20	Two-Cylinder Expo XIX Nat'l. Cattle Congress Grounds	Jack Cherry 319-824-6060 www.two-cylinder.com	Waterloo, IA
June 20	Genoa Parade 11:00 line up - 12:00 parade	Wayne Jensen 630-837-8671	Genoa, IL 630-989-3326 (cell)
June 21	NEITCC Blackberry Farm Tractor Show & Family Picnic	Mark Johnson 630-466-7528	Aurora, IL

June 27-28	Sandwich 38 <sup>th</sup> Annual Gas Engine, Tractor, Truck & Farm Toy Show www.oldengine.org/members/sandwich	Scott Larsen 815-357-6282	Sandwich, IL
July 11 & 12	Hadaway Tractor Show & Cook Out	Terry Hadaway 815-625-8527	Rock Falls/Rt. 30
July 5	Bartlett Parade 11:00 line up - 12:00 parade	Wayne Jensen 630-837-8671 630-989-3326 (cell)	Bartlett, IL
July 16-19	Will County Threshermen's Antique Tractor & Steam Show - featuring Avery tractors	Pat Noonan 630-739-3351 jppnoonan@sbcglobal.net	Channahon, IL
July 22-26	DuPage County Fair	dupagecountyfair.org	Wheaton, IL
July 31, Aug. 1, 2	Grand Detour Two-Cylinder Days Set up July 30	Bruce Johnson 630-365-5001 twocylb@yahoo.com	Grand Detour, IL
Aug. 11-16	Boone County Fair floydtractor@aol.com	Floyd & Marie Anderson 815-544-9265	Belvidere
Aug. 13-16	Northern IL Steam Power Club 53 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Sycamore Steam Show	Wayne Jensen 630-837-8671 630-989-3326 (cell)	Sycamore, IL
Aug. 27-30	Half Century of Progress/Legends Of Time Rantoul Nat'l. Aviation Center Airport www.halfcenturyofprogress.org	John Bensyl 217-583-3100	Penfield, IL
Sept. 2-7	Walworth County Fair	262-723-3228	Elkhorn, WI
Sept. ?? (to be announced)	Burlington Parade 11:00 line up - 12:00 parade	Wayne Jensen 630-837-8671 630-989-3326 (cell)	Burlington, IL
Sept. 18-20	The Freeport Show Stephenson County Fairgrounds www.thefreeportshow.com	Kay Klever 815-235-2198	Freeport, IL
Sept. 20	Woodstock's 14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Old-Fashioned Harvest Fest - 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Dennis Dunlap 630-483-7344 dunlap013@comcast.net	Woodstock Square
Sept. 26-27	Lake County Farm Heritage Fall Festival	Andrew Osborne 847-968-3400	Wauconda IL
<b>October 3-4 (corrected date)</b>	Tractors For Charity <a href="mailto:dfranzen@plote.com">dfranzen@plote.com</a>	Darick Franzen 847-514-7082 (cell)	McHenry, IL
Oct. 3	Autumn on Parade Farm Toy & Tractor Show	Stan Eden 815-732-7746	Oregon, IL
November 6-8	Nat'l Farm Toy Museum Fall Show laberle@toyfarmer.com	Lori Aberle 800-533-8293	Dyersville, IA