



This month we're featuring an article on our Club President, Bill Cunningham. I can tell you that Bill is doing an excellent job of serving as our club's senior officer. He brings energy and optimism to the table each time. He is very involved in club activities and often his family, including daughter in laws and grandchildren, help run events. Of course, Mary Pat, his bride of 41 years is ever present by his side. Her pleasant smile and demeanor always outshine the tractors!

Bill stated that by the time this article was published that the number of grandchildren would be six.

Bill grew up in north central Iowa near Mason City on a 240 acre farm. They were renting another 80 acres which made for a pretty significant farm in that era. He grew up driving John Deere Two Cylinder Tractors on that farm. As a youth he enjoyed being on the tractors out in the field where he could enjoy the peaceful feeling that comes along working the farm ground. We both concluded at this point that green had been integrated into his DNA which would account for his attraction to two cylinder tractors.

Bill always enjoyed attending fairs and steam shows until later, after his family of three boys got older, Bill was able to find time to purchase a JD 60 with one of his sons showing interest in this tractor. Bill also has a very nice 730 Diesel and an unstyled L which he brings to many of the tractor shows throughout the year. I remember seeing him and his sons in the field with that 730 on plow day and how I was thinking about what it would take to clean up that tractor!

Bill worked as a union electrician for 37 years before retiring. He worked for Althoff Industries most of those years until Associated Electric broke off to a separate company. During his career he worked all over Chicagoland including the downtown area. He worked a lot in Northern Illinois and Wisconsin.

He and Mary Pat lived in Cary for a while, then moved to Wisconsin for awhile and then back to Harvard where they live today. Bill enjoys the people from the club and the camaraderie that is ever present at club events. One of Bill's goals is to get more people involved in our events. He is currently busy working on Gathering of the Green plans for next March.

Bill has more tractors and equipment than we discussed in this article and also he has an extensive toy collection. He has 2000 toy tractors with 500 on display in his house. He also estimates he has another 1000 pieces of toy equipment to go along with the tractors.

Next time you see Bill, please stop by and let him know we appreciate his willingness to serve as our club president.