



S P R I N G B R I N G S N E W C O N S T R U C T I O N T O O T

Crews are busy doing site work for two new buildings on the Old Threshers grounds. The largest of these is a new, multi-purpose building to the east of the Hazel Grace Pierson Carousel Pavilion. During the Reunion, it will house the Trading Post. Also slated for construction is a new Campground Registration building to be located just across the road from the current registration building. With heat, air conditioning and plumbing, this building has the potential to be used year-round. Most importantly during the Reunion and Festival of Lights.

Old Threshers has partnered with Mt. Pleasant Utilities, the City of Mt. Pleasant and the Henry County Fair Board to improve the lighting on the north side of the grounds. Powerlines will be buried throughout and LED street lights placed along the main east/west road.

The new doll and clothing museum is almost complete. Both collections will be moved into the new museum in time for the 2018 Reunion. As a result, the Foundation office will move into what is now the Bussey Doll Museum.

Access Energy and Mt. Pleasant Utilities are in the process of making electrical upgrades in the campground along K and P rows.



Old Threshers Board members look at the progress of the new doll and clothing museum located in Museum A.

O T B O A R D W E L C O M E S P H I L M C M E I N S



Phil McMeins, a Mt. Pleasant native, is the newest member of the Midwest Old Threshers Board of Directors.

McMeins has been coming to Old Threshers, and has been at every Old Threshers Reunion, since he was born with the exception of 2001 and 2005 - missing both those years due to commitments to military service. He was active as a volunteer just prior to the

1989 Reunion.

McMeins is honored to be nominated to the Board of Directors. He has always had a profound interest in the direction of Old Threshers and being involved in the team of leaders that are ensuring its strong future.

“Old Threshers’ strength is in the dedication, perseverance and

## “Every success story is a tale of constant adaption, revision and change”



Greetings from Old Threshers,

As I looked back at all that was accomplished at Old Threshers during the 2017 year, I was in hopes of maybe an easier 2018. But once again, Old Threshers is not slowing down. The association had a busy 2017 fall and winter and now a full plate of projects to work on for the 2018 year.

In the late fall months the association had over 30 trees planted around the grounds and in McMillan park. Then the construction began on the new museum exhibit in Museum A, which will house the Bussey Doll Collection and the Old Threshers-owned Antique Clothing Collection. This exhibit will showcase the complete Bussey Doll Collection, part of which has been in storage and an example of the amazing antique clothes owned by the association, which has also been in storage due to the lack of proper exhibit space. The association will also be show casing some antique quilts and even other special displays in the new exhibit area. All of this will be open by Reunion time.

In the winter months the site prep was completed for the new multi-propose building and the new camper registration building. Both sites are currently awaiting the arrival of spring so that construction may begin. The multi-purpose building will house the Trading Post operations during the Reunion and other items for the association in the off months. The camper registration building will improve the operations at the camp grounds entrance and exit area during the Reunion and provide a safer space of operations for the Festival of Lights in those cold winter months.

We have already completed 1 campground project with the Mt. Pleasant Utilities. The O row has been redone with new power lines underground and some new camper pedestals and we are currently working with Access Energy to do the same upgrade to the K row area of the camp grounds for better power service during the Reunion. We will be continuing to improve the grounds lighting this year as well with the installation of 20 plus more new LED fixtures over the grounds and camp grounds. That does not cover it all, here are some other things in the works for 2018 and the Reunion.

- Grounds buildings rehab and painting
- New lighting and power changes in McMillan Park with Mt Pleasant Utilities, City of Mt Pleasant and Henry County Fair
- Portable bleachers refurbished by the Henry County Fair
- Don Carlson Memorial Horse Pull under the lights on Wednesday of Reunion
- Grounds hours 7am to 11pm on Thurs - Sun and 7am to 3pm on Monday
- Reduced admission on Monday to \$10
- New Reunion Displays and Exhibits

All of those things as well as a full calendar of other events for the year: 2 Steam Schools, a Trolley School, School Tours with over 950 kids, Swap Meet, Bussey Doll Event, Summer Theatre Plays and Seminar, July 4<sup>th</sup>, Printers' Fair, Halloween activities, Festival of Lights, and many other facility rentals for weddings and graduations.

I know that I have probably forgotten some things that belong on that list for the year, but I'm still amazed about the amount events and changes that take place each year at Old Threshers. All of this would not happen without your help, so I thank you all ahead of time for helping us complete the 2018 list of changes and events here at Old Threshers. It takes all of us to make Old Threshers a success! Thank You! Thank You!

HORSE PULL MOVES TO WEDNESDAY NIGHT

A major schedule change to the Old Threshers Reunion will see the Don Carlson Memorial Horse Pull move from Labor Day afternoon to Wednesday evening, under the lights of the Grandstand.

Also changing will be the one-day gate admission price for Mondays. A one-day admission is \$10. The hours of operation for Reunion Monday will be 7 am-3 pm. Hours of operation for Reunion Thursday-Sunday are 7 am-11 pm.

Five-day admissions are on sale for \$20 until May 31st. After May 31st the cost will go up to \$30. Call the Old Threshers office at 319-385-8937 to order or buy them online at [shop.oldthreshers.com](http://shop.oldthreshers.com).

Admission to all country music shows are included with your gate admission. Reserved seats are available for \$10.



A team of horses pull a sled during the Don Carlson Memorial Labor Day Invitational Horse Pull. The event has been moved to Wednesday evening, prior to the start of the Reunion.

2018 OT Reunion 5-Day Admission

\$20

Until May 31st

Kids 10 and under free

319 .385.8937—[shop.oldthreshers.com](http://shop.oldthreshers.com)

The Leroy Van Dyke

Country Gold Tour

THURSDAY AUGUST 30

FEATURING: LEROY VAN DYKE, MALPASS BROTHERS, DARRELL MCCALL, CHARLIE RICH JR, DALLAS WAYNE



OLD THRESHERS REUNION  
MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA AUG. 30<sup>TH</sup> - SEPT 3<sup>RD</sup>



## BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME!



Alan Huisinga, Foundation  
Executive Director

This appears to be the new theme here at Midwest Old Threshers. Last year the new first-aid pavilion located near the carousel was constructed just prior to the 2017 Reunion. This year our visitors will see the new antique doll and clothing exhibit located in Museum A, the trading post located in the new multi-purpose building on the south side of the grounds, a new camper registration building at the entrance to the campground, and a new Old Threshers Foundation office located next to the Memory Room in Museum A. Lots of new exhibits and buildings for our visitors to explore and our volunteers to enjoy.

At its November 2017 Foundation board meeting, the Foundation Board of Directors approved financial support in the amount of \$111,571.18 to help fund the following Old Threshers' projects to be completed during 2018: the new multi-purpose building to serve as the trading post during the Reunion and a storage building off season, continue the LED lighting project on the south side of the grounds including the campground and operational support. During 2017, the Foundation provided financial support to repair the ground trains for both the campground and the main grounds, construction of a new doll and clothing museum, remodeling another restroom on the show grounds, terrace drainage in the campground, LED lighting project on the north side of the grounds, trolley car restoration and operational support.

The Foundation will again be sponsoring BINGO in Museum B during the Reunion. All proceeds from BINGO are invested in the endowment, so please join us for BINGO in the afternoons. You may also look for Old Threshers and the Foundation at the Iowa State Fair again this year – August 9-19. This will be the fourth year Old Threshers is sponsoring a tourism booth in the Varied Industries Building along with Iowa Wesleyan University, the City of Mount Pleasant and the Chamber Alliance. Stop by to see us and register in a drawing to win free admission tickets to the Reunion; a pair of tickets will be given away each day of the fair.

We hope you stop by to visit us in the Foundation Memorial room during the Reunion and tour our new Foundation offices, which will be located in the area formerly occupied by the antique doll exhibit. We will have our smashing penny machine for those avid collectors and temporary tattoos for children of all ages. Be sure to see the new and enlarged antique doll and clothing museum which is located next door. This is the first time Old Threshers has had dedicated space to display its antique clothing collection.

Thank you for helping the Old Threshers Foundation celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> year of operation last year. We appreciate how you have supported the Foundation with your charitable contributions throughout these years. Providing financial support to Midwest Old Threshers is the sole purpose of the Foundation. Since it was founded in 1986, the Foundation has transferred over \$1,125,000 MILLION DOLLARS in earnings from its permanent endowment and farm rent income to Midwest Old Threshers.

All gifts to the Old Threshers Foundation, either as a long-term investment in the permanent endowment or as a short-term investment in the new pass through account, qualify as charitable contributions to a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization for Federal income, estate and gift tax purposes. We are always appreciative of any gifts received, whether in the form of cash, stocks or deferred giving. If you have any questions or need additional information about any of these options, please contact Alan Huisinga, Executive Director, at the Midwest Old Threshers office 319-385-8937 or e-mail [otfoundation@oldthreshers.org](mailto:otfoundation@oldthreshers.org).

Thank you,

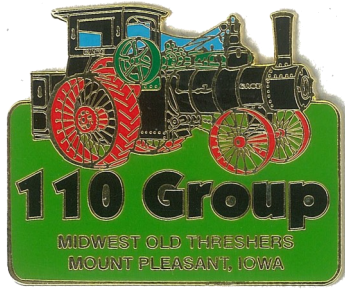
Alan D. Huisinga, Executive Director

# 110 GROUP SUPPORTS OT OPERATING BUDGET

Membership in the Midwest Old Thresher's 110 Group is open to anyone who would like to financially support the Association.

A \$125 donation to this group entitles you to a 5-day admission, a transit pass and a cloisonné pin for your hat or lapel. If you would like to join as a couple, a \$250 donation will get you two admissions, two transit passes and 2 cloisonné pins.

A transit pass will allow you to ride



the ground trains and Midwest Electric Railway during the Reunion free of

charge.

The membership drive begins every April. Memberships will need to be renewed on a yearly basis. Donations to the 110 Group are put into the general operating budget of Midwest Old Threshers.

Anyone interested in joining the 110 Group should call the Old Threshers office at 319-385-8937 Monday-Friday 8 am-4:30 pm.

# SWEET 16 CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

We are looking for former Sweet 16 participants to come to the 2018 Old Threshers Reunion and help celebrate the contest's 50th year.

Sweet 16 contestants are the official hostesses of the Old Threshers Reunion. Each contestant volunteers in numerous positions around the grounds. Providing assistance to visitors, answering questions and lending a hand to our many non-profit organizations are just a few of the opportunities available. Contestants are required to work three shifts Thursday-Sunday and one on Monday.

If you will be 16, and no older, by Labor Day 2018, and want to participate, go to [www.oldthreshers.com](http://www.oldthreshers.com), click on Reunion and then Participate at the Reunion. From there choose Sweet 16 and then the link to the application. Or, call the Old Threshers office and one will be mailed to you—319-385-8937.



For more information about participating in the 50 year celebration, contact Old Threshers or Danielle Davidson at [Danielle.lynn.davidson@gmail.com](mailto:Danielle.lynn.davidson@gmail.com)

**JOSH GRACIN**

**HIGH VALLEY**

**FRIDAY AUGUST 31**

**OLD THRESHERS REUNION**  
**MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA** **AUG. 30<sup>TH</sup> - SEPT 3<sup>RD</sup>**



FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS APPROACHES ITS 6TH YEAR

Several years ago, members of the Old Threshers Board of Directors and staff were asked to come up with ideas for trying to diversify the way Old Threshers gets its income. How can the Association use its available assets and resources other times of the year separate from the Old Threshers Reunion?

Midwest Haunted Rails was already gaining popularity. From there the Thrashers House of Terror was born and the month of October filled with two new events that would add substantially to the Association's operating budget.

What was another event that had the potential to be just as successful? What was that something that would promote tourism for the community?

With a 60-acre campground empty for the winter why not a drive-thru light park?

North Pole Productions could help with this new endeavor. The first step was to raise \$70,000. The steering committee had one month in which to do that.

Thanks in part to 14 donors making a three-year financial commitment, Old Threshers was able to sign a three-year contract with the holiday light company

in 2013.

Organizers were told it would take three years for an event like the Mt. Pleasant Festival of Lights to be able to be self-supporting. In addition to the 14 donors, the City of Mt. Pleasant pledged hotel/motel tax revenue for three years and the Old Threshers Board of Directors pledged \$10,000 for the same term.

The expiration date approached for the first contract. Through negotiations, the cost of the new contract was set at \$50,000 for another three years. As 2018 rolls on, it is time for yet another contract.

The event is self-supporting due to the many businesses and individuals who sponsor individual light displays.

In addition, the Enhance Henry County Foundation has awarded grant money to the FOL allowing for the investment in light displays that Old Threshers can call their own. Many of these are older displays that come from other light shows that are no longer operating.

The goal is to replace or switch out 50% of the displays each year. With the help of labor from the prison and the hard work of several volunteers, OT is able to refurbish many old displays to



their original glory. These compliment the displays leased from North Pole Productions.

There were a little more than 60 displays the first year. Last year, the number of displays was almost double.

In 2013, 2,606 vehicles made the trip through the light park. In 2017, that number was up to 3,932. Sponsors totaled 22 in 2013 and 128 in 2017.

As with all of the events hosted by Midwest Old Threshers, they would not be possible without volunteers. It takes 100 people to make Festival of Lights a success. Jobs include set up and tear down of displays, check and change lightbulbs, turn lights on and off every night (about a 20 minutes process), take tickets, and don't forget Santa and his elves.

Thank you to all who make this possible!

SAWYER BROWN

SATURDAY  
SEPTEMBER 1

OLD THRESHERS REUNION  
MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA AUG. 30<sup>TH</sup> - SEPT 3<sup>RD</sup>

MIDWEST  
OLD THRESHERS  
MT. PLEASANT IOWA

FEATURED FOR 2018

2018 Featured Garden Tractor

1970 Mowett Mustang

Owned by: Matt & Cheri Taglauer of Fairfield, IA



2018 Featured Gas Engine

1914 United

Owned by: Rich Mueller Sr. of Wright City, Mo



2018 Featured Traction Steam Engine

1917 Case

Owned by: Jacob Nelson of Lockridge, IA

2018 Featured Tractor

1951 Ford

Owned by: John & Dawn Butler of Marion, IA

Special Tractor Display: Empire Tractors

2018 Featured Truck

1951 3/4 Ton Studebaker

Owned by: Phil Graber of Mt. Pleasant, IA



2018 Featured Car

1965 Ford Fastback Mustang

Owned by: Owen & Norma White of Ainsworth, IA

ROOTS & BOOTS TOUR SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2

SAMMY KERSHAW

AARON TIPPIN

COLLIN RAYE



OLD THRESHERS REUNION MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA AUG. 30<sup>TH</sup> - SEPT 3<sup>RD</sup>

SWAP MEET AND GUN SHOW RETURNING MAY 25TH

The Greater Iowa Swap Meet & Flea Market will return to Old Threshers and McMillan Park Memorial weekend. Also returning is the Gun Show.

If you can't find what you are looking for among the many vendors, then you probably don't need it. Collectibles, antiques, tractor parts, car parts, toys, household items and the list goes on. If you would like to be a vendor, contact the Old Threshers office at 319-385-8937 Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm.



MCMEINS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

commitment of the men, women and children who make up the growing list of volunteers," says McMeins. "Aside from the historical treasures of the Association, it is the people that make the difference."

"A steam engine sitting in a building will never tell the same story as a volunteer with a passion and drive to maintain, operate and tell the story to the visitor," continued McMeins. "This story was easier to tell years ago when our visitors might remember such pieces of equipment in the fields, the cars and trucks on the highways, the electric trolleys operating in their cities. As we continue into generations of visitors that never experienced that, and hold different interpretations of the history, it will be up to our volunteers to continue the legacy of telling the history of our Association, and why its home in Mount Pleasant is so important to the community, and the State of Iowa."

I believe improvements at Old

Threshers will be driven from past experience. It is vital that we study how this event and association has come to be what it is today, and continue to offer one of the best family-friendly venues in Southeast Iowa. However, it is also important that we plan for the financial future of Old Threshers, while listening to and valuing the input of our people and our visitors. With that, we need to ensure that we continue looking for opportunities to change and adapting our show to meet the needs and wants of our visitors

McMeins says his immediate goal is to work together to ensure the sustained financial future of the Association. This includes securing different funding opportunities for our capital improvement projects, our restoration projects and our grounds beautification projects. Each of these are an important part of ensuring the success of the organization while continuing to be best in class.

I believe in 10 years, Old Threshers will continue to be a leader in the agricultural and transportation preservation movement as we have been. With that, the foundation of a new generation of interest will build on our grounds. As we face future challenges, I am confident the Old Threshers Staff, volunteers, Board of Directors, and the community of Mount Pleasant will continue to come together, support our cause and move past any obstacle that is in our way.

Midwest Old Threshers and the Old Threshers Reunion is a one-of-a-kind organization for many reasons. Each of us see something different, and feel a different passion when we arrive. Nevertheless, none of that would be possible without a team of dedicated people working toward a common goal – to ensure this event continues to be a staple in Southeast Iowa that holds a community together where families can come and enjoy a reunion together.



## O B I T U A R I E S

**Terry Moore**

Terry W. Moore, age 65, of Columbus Junction, died January 6, at his residence following a sudden illness.

Terry was born December 5, 1952, in Washington, Iowa, the son of Lawrence and Virginia (Hopping) Moore. He attended school in Olds, and graduated from WACO High School in 1971. Terry was united in marriage to Vickie Jo Dawson on February 18, 1984.

Terry has resided in the Columbus Junction area for the past 27 years. He was a true cowboy and horseman. He and his wife Vickie, along with friend Cecil Sypherd, saddle broke 17 wild mustangs. He was employed at the Washington Farm Service for 18 years and worked at Blue Bird Mfg. in Mt. Pleasant for many years. Terry later worked at Modine Mfg. in Washington. Following his retirement he worked part time for Farm Service in Wyman.

He was a hard worker with a great sense of humor. He loved being outside caring for his horses and long horn cattle on the "Poor Farm". Terry enjoyed going on trail rides and volunteering at Midwest Old Threshers in Mt. Pleasant. He was a devoted husband and cherished the time he spent with his kids and grandkids. Terry was always striving to help those around him, whether it was with mowing hay or helping break horses. After his passing, he continues to help others by donating his organs to the Iowa Donor Network.

He is survived by his wife, Vickie Moore of Columbus Junction; daughter, Penni (Phil) Jost of Wichita, KS; son, Tim (Cindy) Johnson of Washington; son, Nick (Peg) Moore of Council Bluffs; daughter, Kristie (Dave) Nielsen of Washington; son, Tom (Jenny) Moore of Solon; son, Travis (Krystle) Moore of Washington; son Todd (Jenni) Moore of Wayland; son, Joe (Pam) Miller of Washington; 15 grandchildren; four great grandchildren; and mother, Virginia Moore of Mt. Pleasant, IA. He is also survived by his brother, Tom (Joyce) Moore of Mt. Pleasant; brother, Bruce Moore of Mt. Pleasant; sister, Kathy (Dick) Schenk of Washington; brother, Rennie

(Deb) Moore of Mt. Pleasant; sister, Sherry (Jim) Tibbs of Grandview, MO; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Clyde and Pat Dawson of Washington; four brothers and sisters-in-law; and many nieces and nephews.

Terry was preceded in death by his father; son, Michael in 1990; brother Bill Maddocks; grandson, Wyatt A. Miller; and a niece, Amber Jane Conry; and best friend, Cecil Sypherd.

A general memorial has been established. Online condolences may be sent for Terry's family through the web at [www.jonesfh.com](http://www.jonesfh.com)

**George Dane**

George R. Dane peacefully left his family on January 13, to join his wife, Marjorie, for an eternity in heaven.

George Rough Dane was born on July 8, 1922 in Janesville, WI, to Harold John and Ethel (Rough) Dane. At the age of one, the family moved to Iowa City. In 1928, Harold purchased the farm in southwest Iowa City where the family moved in 1931. George attended Lincoln Elementary and University Elementary then Shattuck (High) School in Faribault, MN, where he graduated Cum Laude in 1940. The Shattuck cadets received military curriculum equivalent to college-level ROTC programs. He enrolled in the University of Iowa (UI) College of Engineering in the fall of 1940 and then declined the education deferment and joined his father in active duty World War II (WWII). After returning from the War, he continued classes part time and graduated in 1948. George later took courses in both the UI College of Business and College of Law.

George registered for the draft in the spring of 1942 and on October 1, he activated his commission and reported for active duty to Camp Robinson AR as a 2nd Lieutenant (Lt.). In December 1942, following the start of WWII, his active military duty began in 1943 at Camp Shelby, MS. On February 23, 1944 (while on leave), he married Marjorie Ann Schenck. Marjorie stayed near George in Laurel, Mississippi, until he was shipped

overseas on July 10, 1944 as a 1st Lt, and served in the European Theater of Operations. George was in 4 Campaigns: Northern France, Rhineland, Central Europe and Ardennes. January 31, 1946, he was released from Active Duty (3.5 years) at Camp Shelby with the rank of 1st Lieutenant.

For 30 years, George served in the United States Army Reserve (USAR) as a Staff officer 1st 410th Infantry Battalion. In 1957, George was a military observer for atomic bomb detonations in the Nevada desert. From 1964-68, he was the Battalion Commander of the 1st 410th including 5 summer encampments. He graduated with Honor from the Command and General Staff College in 1968, and later taught there and at the USAR school. On April 20, 1976, George retired from the USAR at the rank of Colonel.

During the summer of 1941, George worked on the Survey Crew for the Rock Island Railroad between Omaha, NE, and Limon, CO. In 1942, he performed physical testing of steel castings put in military tanks at the steel plant in Bettendorf, IA. After graduation, in 1948, he was self-employed at the Dane Coal Company in retail Coal, Fuel Oil and Heating equipment, and later stored grain for the government in the silos before selling the property to the UI. In 1957, George went to work in the Trust Department of Iowa State Bank & Trust Company. He retired in 1987 as Senior Vice President and Trust Officer for ISB&T.

Starting in 1980, George and Marj had a Dane Family reunion in Mt. Pleasant at Old Threshers, camping at the South 40 Trolley Stop. George was also an Old Threshers volunteer.

George is survived by four children, Janet (Francis) Driscoll, Bob (Sue) Dane, Mary Jo Dane (fiancé David Morice) all of Iowa City and Bill (Annette) Dane of Urbandale; seven grandchildren, Jane Driscoll of Iowa City, Brian (Megan) Driscoll of West Branch, Emily (Scott) Staples of Fairport NY, Dennis (Shannon) Dane of Golden Valley MN, Katy Dane of Austin TX, Ellen (Chris) Young of Johnston IA, and Tristan (Tommy) Occhipinti of

## O B I T U A R I E S

**Continued from page 9**

Decorah IA; 10 great grandchildren, Harper, Kendall and Dane Driscoll, Evan Staples, Ryan, Natalie and Audrey Dane, and Miles, Rocco and Autumn Young; one former son-in-law, Charles Thiede of Tiffin, and one sister-in-law, Kathy Schweer (John Dane) of Iowa City and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

George was preceded in death by his wife of 72 ½ years, Marjorie; his parents, Harold John and Ethel (Rough) Dane; his in-laws, Dr. Walter L. and Ethel (Denton) Schenck; his sister and brother-in-law, Sister Margaret and Ted Hansen; his brother and sister-in-law, (Harold) John and Allie Dane.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.lensingfuneral.com](http://www.lensingfuneral.com)

Memorials may be directed to First United Methodist Church (Seminary Scholarship Fund: Harold and Ethel Dane); Iowa UMF - Wesley Foundation at UI (Dane-Driscoll Endowment), Oaknoll Foundation (Employee Scholarship Fund) or Old Threshers Foundation (School Tour Fund.)

**Bernie Bartholow**

Bernard J. "Bernie" Bartholow, age 78, of Muscatine, Iowa, formerly of Washington, Iowa, passed away on January 30, surrounded by his family.

Bernie was born on August 13, 1939, in Washington, the son of Charles and Helen (Hunt) Bartholow. He graduated from Washington High School in 1957, and remained close to classmates and their loved ones through their monthly lunches. He met Judith Ann "Judy" Hering, the love of his life, on August 6, 1959, at the Washington County Fair and proposed to her on her 17th birthday, October 30, 1959. They were united in marriage on June 26, 1960, at the Eicher Mennonite Church in Wayland, Iowa.

Bernie's formal training was a correspondence course in drafting. His first job was at Clow Valve (Oskaloosa) followed by Bournes (Ames) as a tool and die maker, and ultimately he worked at HON (Muscatine) as a Manufacturing Engineer for 30 plus years. He was an active Elder of First Presbyterian Church serving on committees such as Personnel,

Buildings & Grounds, and Stewardship. He served on the Muscatine Community School Board from 1979-1982.

Bernie and Judy enjoyed many Labor Day weekends as a train conductor and support of the Midwest Central Railroad serving the Midwest Old Threshers Reunion, as well as the October Ghost Train and the December North Pole Express. As a conductor, Bernie wanted to help children and their adults make a safe joyous memory of a lifetime.

He and Judy served for nearly 10 years as leadership of the Muscatine Band Boosters traveling to Mexico, Florida, St. Louis, and countless competitions.

Bernie was well known for his flamboyant handlebar mustache. He loved to share stories about his farming and trapping, and lessons learned from parents as a young boy. He enjoyed anything that his grandchildren participated in and spent hours attending games, concerts and plays to support them. He loved wood carving and woodworking, and briefly supported the family by doing residential remodeling projects and cabinetry construction. At the age of 26, he built a home in Ames, which they completed in three years while Bernie worked at Bournes.

Bernie will be deeply missed by his son, Dr. Timothy Bartholow and Janice Bartholow of Madison, WI; daughter, Tammi Drawbaugh and husband Paul of Muscatine, IA; grandson, Matt Bartholow and wife Brenda of Bow, WA; grandson, Dan Bartholow and Kolette Knapstein of Milwaukee, WI; grandson, Kaleb Drawbaugh of Evanston, IL; granddaughter, Emma Drawbaugh of Muscatine, Iowa; and an expectant great grandchild (Matt and Brenda) in May 2018. Bernie is also survived by his sister, Bea Johnson of Washington, Iowa; as well as many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Helen and Charles; an older brother, Chuck Bartholow; and his wife Judy, October 21, 2017. His work here was completed as he held Judy's hand, the love of his life, at her passing 101 days earlier. Online condolences may be sent

for Bernie's family at [www.jonesfh.com](http://www.jonesfh.com).

**Buddy Fowler**

William Robert "Buddy" Fowler, 62, of Mt. Pleasant and formerly of Stewartsville, MO, died February 3, at his residence.

William Robert "Buddy" Fowler was born January 12, 1956 in St. Joseph, MO. He was the son of William A. and Joetta F. (Penland) Fowler. He was raised in Stewartsville, MO and graduated from Stewartsville C2 High School in 1974. On July 5, 2014, Buddy was united in marriage to Linda Sue Callaway whom he fondly referred to as "the Love of his Life".

For 35 years, Buddy was an Instrument Technician for Bayer Crop Science in Kansas City. For almost all of his life, Buddy attended the Midwest Old Threshers Reunion. He became a volunteer for Old Threshers, working on the electricity and wiring and necessary carpentry in the campground.

Those thankful for sharing in Buddy's life include his wife Linda of Mt. Pleasant; his children – Jenna Olcott and her husband Frank of Lawson, MO, Courtney Story and her husband Austin of Altamont, MO, James Fowler and his wife Jamie of Stewartsville, MO, Misty Burns of Mt. Pleasant and Michael Dovenspike of Mt. Pleasant and 12 grandchildren – Tyler, Lilly, Emily and Katie Olcott; Xander, Axton and Aubrey Story; Gavin, Carson and Lydia Fowler; Cole and Cayla Burns. At the time of his death, Buddy was happily anticipating the birth of his 13th grandchild.

Buddy's parents precede him in death.

Those considering an expression of sympathy may direct memorials to Midwest Old Threshers (for campground use) and the Buddy Fowler Memorial Fund for medical expenses. Online condolences may be directed to [www.kimzeyfuneralhome.com](http://www.kimzeyfuneralhome.com).

**Jonsey Jones**

Ronnie G. "Jones" Jones, 72, of Mt. Pleasant, died unexpectedly February 14, in the Emergency Room of the Henry County Health Center.

Ronnie Gene Jones was born April 20, 1946 in Washington, Iowa. He was the son

## O B I T U A R I E S

**Continued from page 10**

of Harrison and Hazel (Fischer) Jones. He was raised in the Washington and north Henry county areas. He graduated from WACO Community High School in 1964. He was united in marriage to Joan Schmidt, and the couple later divorced.

Jonesy entered the United States Army on October 24, 1968. He was assigned to the 2nd Armored Cavalry Squadron. He served in the Army in Germany. He was honorably discharged to the US Army Reserved on February 6, 1970. Upon his return, he received his Associates of Arts degree from Southeastern Community College.

For more than 20 years, Jonesy was a supervisor for the Heatilator Manufacturing Corp. in Mt. Pleasant. During that time, he learned to become a groundskeeper at the Mt. Pleasant Golf & Country Club. After his retirement from Heatilator, Jonesy became the Superintendent of the Mt. Pleasant Golf & Country Club. In retirement, he was also a courtesy shuttle driver for the Shottenkirk Automotive Group in Mt. Pleasant.

Golf was a love and passion for Jonesy, playing as often as he could. He was a member of the Mt. Pleasant REC Center where he could be often found playing basketball during the noon hour. During the Midwest Old Threshers Reunion, Jonesy could be found driving one of the ground trains. He was an avid Iowa Hawkeye fan. During the 2017 Iowa State High School Boys Basketball Tournament, Farm Bureau of Iowa bestowed Jonesy with their "Fan of the Day" award. Most especially, Jonesy was very dear to his grandchildren. He followed their activities and took them on numerous adventures.

Those thankful for sharing in Jonesy's life include his 2 children – Jennifer Kimbrough and her significant other Chad Muchmore of Pleasant Hill and Tony Wagenknecht and his wife Kim of Mt. Pleasant, and 3 grandchildren – Addison and Breleigh Kimbrough and Emma Wagenknecht.

Jonesy's parents precede him in death.

Those considering an expression of sympathy may direct memorials to the Mt. Pleasant Golf and Country Club. Online

condolences may be directed to [www.kimzeyfuneralhome.com](http://www.kimzeyfuneralhome.com).

**Vickie Moore**

Vickie Moore, age 64, of Columbus Junction, died March 10, at the Halcyon House in Washington.

Vickie was born October 18, 1953 in Washington, Iowa, the daughter of Clyde and Pat (Stewart) Dawson. She graduated from Washington High School in 1972. Vickie was united in marriage to Terry W. Moore on February 18, 1984 in Washington.

Vickie worked at the Walmart Distribution Center in Mt. Pleasant for over 20 years. She was a member of the Finley Chapel United Methodist Church and of the United Methodist Women out of Finley Chapel. Vickie enjoyed going on trail rides and volunteering at Midwest Old Threshers in Mt. Pleasant. She loved to ride her mule, go camping, and spend time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a mother, grandmother and caretaker to everyone.

She is survived by her daughter, Penni (Phil) Jost of Wichita, KS; son, Tim (Cindy) Johnson of Washington; son, Nick (Peg) Moore of Council Bluffs; daughter, Kristie (Dave) Nielsen of Washington; son, Tom (Jenny) Moore of Solon; son, Travis (Krystle) Moore of Washington; son Todd (Jenni) Moore of Wayland; son, Joe (Pam) Miller of Washington; 15 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; parents: Clyde and Pat Dawson of Washington; four brothers: Tom (Jana) Dawson of Washington; Gary Dawson (Betty Hamil) of Washington; Harold (Sherry) Dawson of Washington; and Jim (Stephanie) Dawson of Independence; mother-in-law, Virginia Moore of Mt. Pleasant; five brothers and sisters-in-law; aunt, Beverly Crandall of Washington; many nieces and nephews; and best friends, Elise (George) Hernandez of PA; and Diane (Rudy) Trujillo of TX.

Vickie was preceded in death by her husband, Terry; son, Michael Johnson; and father-in-law, Lawrence Moore.

Memorials have been established for Hospice of Washington County and for the Washington County Horse and Pony Club.

Online condolences may be sent for Vickie's family through the web at [www.jonesfh.com](http://www.jonesfh.com).

**Ron Keller**

John Ronald Keller, 87, of Donnellson, passed away March 22, at Great River Medical Center in West Burlington.

Ron was born May 18, 1930, in Powell, Wyoming, the son of Fred Jasper and Blanche Pearl (Earhart) Keller. On January 21, 1949, he married Mary Gwynn Johnson in Billings, Montana.

Ron attended Embury United Methodist Church. He was a member of Boy Scout Troop 33 since 1960 and was very involved in their activities. Ron taught primitive woodworking and he was also involved in the "Explorer Post 1847" for twenty-six years at the Old Threshers Reunion. He enjoyed working with young people, they often referred to him as "Papa".

Survivors include his wife: Mary of Donnellson; six children: Rhonda (Tom) Shouf of Chicago, Illinois, Stanley (Kathy) Keller of Kokomo, Indiana, Mickey Keller of Fort Madison, James (Cyndi) Keller of Council Bluffs, Calvin (Kimberly) Keller of Morning Sun, and Teddy (Bob) Calkin of Cody, Wyoming; fifteen grandchildren; twenty-one great-grandchildren (two great-grandchildren on the way); one sister: Beverly (John) Gibson of Powell, Wyoming and two brothers: Ben (Joyce) Keller of Powell, Wyoming and Jerry Keller of Mesa, Arizona. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one son: Mark.

Memorials have been established in his memory for Backpack Ministry at Embury United Methodist Church. On-line condolences to the family may be left at [www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com).

## 2018 EVENTS

April 28-29—Steam School I

May 5—Trolley School

May 5-6—Steam School II

May 25-26—Swap Meet

May 25-27—Gun Show

May 28—Memorial Day—Heritage Museums open daily 8am-4:30pm

June 9—Bussey Doll Event

July 4—Community 4th of July Celebration

July 18-23—Henry County Fair

July 20-22 & July 27-28—Summer Theatre Plays

July 20-22—Theatre History Seminar

August 30-September 3—2018 Old Threshers Reunion

Sept 12-15—Printers' Fair

October 12&13, 19&20, 26&27—Midwest Haunted Rails

October 4-6, 11-13, 18-20, 25-27 & 31—Thrashers House of Terror

November 25-26, December 2-3, 9-10—North Pole Express—Tickets go on sale November 1st ([www.mcrr.org](http://www.mcrr.org))

November 15-18, 22-25, 29-30 December 1-2, 6-9, 12-31—Festival of Lights



**Trolley School**

Have you always wanted to learn how to operate a trolley?  
EST. 1944 BARN  
Now here is your chance!

Trolley School is FREE to attend.  
May 5<sup>th</sup> at 8 am, Class is located at the Trolley Barn  
Sign up by calling 319-385-8937

**Chainsaw Artist**  
Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> thru Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
4 Shows Thur. - Sun. & 2 Shows Mon.  
West of the Paul Anderson Welcome Center

**IOWA HISTORY 101**  
Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> - Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Thur - Sun 9am - 6pm Mon. 9am - 3pm  
West of the Paul Anderson Welcome Center

**Special Car Tent**  
Station Wagons and Woodies