

THE PLOW

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF AGRICULTURE



Volume 9, Issue 2 – May 2010

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What's New at the Museum

A new decade has started off as a busy year for the American Museum of Agriculture. The Annual Chili Feed at the end of January kicked off our one-of-a-kind Texas Quilt Raffle. Members and guests enjoyed hot chili, fixings, and were motivated with speeches from former National



FFA officers, Riley Branch and Laila Hajji. Special guests included local high school

FFA members who had placed nationally and their families. A famous Texas musician and writer, Kinky Friedman even stopped by for a

bowl of chili. The South Plains Antique Tractor Association presented AMA with a check for \$15,000. Since 2007, the club has graciously contributed over \$45,000 to the museum.

From there, AMA stayed busy selling raffle tickets and having booths at both the Southwest Farm and Ranch Classic and the Texas Cotton Ginners Association Show, where we unveiled our new exhibit booth. AMA would like to thank Waylon Carroll and Val Markussen for donating materials and ideas to the booth.

The 2010 Party on the Prairie and Barn Dance brought more than 170 members and guests to Dan and Linda Taylor's house on April 24. Attendees were treated to delicious fajitas catered by Jeana's Feebag of Levelland. Stanley Young, AMA board member and volunteer, prepared and served appetizers.

During the meal, Wayne Rush of Wilbur Ellis- Levelland made a special presentation of a \$7,500 check as part of Wilbur-Ellis's Impact Funds Program. Rush said that helping fund the museum was a perfect fit for the Levelland location, since many of the museum's patrons and annual members are the same farmers and agriculturalists Wilbur-Ellis serves. *(continued on pg.3)*

Left from top: Roy Howard and Alton Garner present SPATA check, Jayton Jones recognized, Kinky Friedman poses with new board member, Vic Coker.

Lubbock Electric Announces Donation

A long-time donor and friend to the museum, Lubbock Electric, announced that they will donate \$.01/per bale that goes through their EAGLE.SYS internet-based program.

EAGLE.SYS is a complete hardware/software program that tracks cotton from turn row to the gin bookkeeping system. It is perfect for bale tracking and data collection and can upload information to PCCA hassle-free. The new Unmanned Scale Attendant allows module truck drivers to scan and weigh their load without ever leaving the truck.

"The EAGLE.SYS system has handled an average of 2.8 million bales in the last three years," said Steve Moffett, general manager of Lubbock Electric. As the program transitions to

an internet-based application, a per-bale fee is calculated for web view and EAGLE.SYS net users.

The donation will begin with the 2010 crop, and will grow as the number of web users increases in 2011.

By contributing a penny for every bale that goes through the EAGLE.SYS internet-based program, Lubbock Electric will help us build our new facility, sustain our programming, and enable AMA to better serve the community.

For more information on the EAGLE.SYS program or other products Lubbock Electric offers, please visit www.lubbockelectric.com

NEW MEMBERS &
RENEWALS
JAN. THROUGH APRIL

CREW BOSS

D. Williams & Co., P.C.
South Plains Electric
Cooperative, Inc.
South Plains Valley Irrigation,
Inc.

TOP HAND

Tact Insurance Agency Inc.
Terry & Sherri Adcock
Alton & Nila Brazell
Benny Gray
Henson Land & Cattle
Harold & Melva Flournoy
Levelland Delinting Inc.
Terry & Sheri Hurst
Daniel & Lee Ruth Krieg
Wayne & Connie Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Brett
Underwood
Doug & Teresa Whitney

FAMILY

Bill & Linda Adams
Michael & Melanie Agan
Gid & Marie Adkisson
Robert & Elena Brown
Nathan & Mary Jane Buerkle
Campbell Farm and Ranch
Marvin & Tommye Cepica
Mr. and Mrs. Danny Lee
Coleman
Alvin G. & Barbara Davis
Jay & Barbara Eudy
Farmers Cooperative
Compress
Jim & Sue Faulkner
Billy & Sandy Fortenberry
James Gilbreath, Jr.
Walt & Glinda Hagood
Ronald & Judy Greer
Anita Hancock
Lynn & Cindy Harrist
Phil Harrist
Robert & Henri Henson
Wayne & Rachel Huffaker
Edsel & Georgia Huie
Scott & Erica Irlbeck
Bruce Isom
Wayne Keeling
Donald & Jeanna Love
James & Sylvia Mitchell

AMA Goes to California

In the past two years, AMA staff and board members have visited multiple museums to gain valuable insight on design and function of museum buildings.

At the end of January, AMA board president Dan Taylor, AMA board secretary Curtis Griffith and executive director Lacey Frazee had the pleasure of accompanying Shirley Garrison, long time member of AMA, to California.

Mr. Garrison's lifelong friendship with Fred Heidrick allowed AMA a perfect opportunity to travel to Woodland and get a behind-the-scenes tour of the Heidrick Ag History Center.

In his lifetime, Fred C. Heidrick

The trip allowed AMA staff and board members to see how a leader in agricultural history displayed and stored large equipment.

AMA also visited the California State Railroad Museum and historic Old Sacramento, a unique 28-acre National Historic Landmark

District and State



Curtis Griffith poses next to an armored tractor used by the military.



AMA poses with members of the Heidrick family. To see more pictures from our trip, visit our Facebook page.

gathered the world's largest collection of agricultural equipment including an extensive number of crawler tractors. Heidrick farmed over 30,000 acres in Woodland, California before downsizing in the 1980s.

The center, which opened in 1997, houses 130,000 square feet of unique agricultural exhibits, and includes the Hays Antique Truck Museum.



Historic Park located along the Sacramento River.

AMA is very thankful to Colleen Thompson and Fred Heidrick, Jr. for taking the time to show us around their beautiful facility. For more information about the Heidrick Ag History Center, visit www.aghistory.org

We would also like to thank Shirley Garrison for assisting with travel costs for the museum.

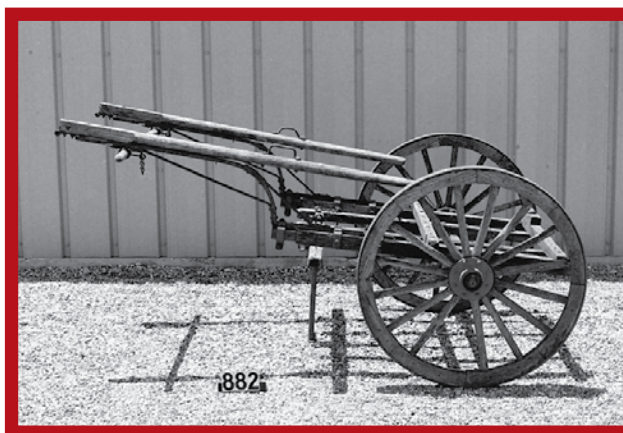
FEATURED ARTIFACT U.S. Army Cart

by Mary Franks

Like many American companies during wartime, the International Harvester Company (IH) began manufacturing supplies to support the war effort. Along with trucks and armory, this 1917 machine gun cart is one of many implements IH manufactured during WWI and WWII.

The U.S. Army Cart transported machine guns, ammunition, baggage and supplies during WWI. The design allowed for several men and one horse or one mule to pull the cart. After the war they were used as general utility vehicles on farms.

Painted the Army's traditional olive color, the cart is predominately wood with metal fittings. It is approximately 52 inches wide and 37.5 inches tall. The cart is 12.5 feet long when the metal harness pieces are fully extended to accommodate one horse or mule,



but could be folded down to seven-and-a-half feet for easier troop transport.

This machine gun cart was purchased by the Lubbock County Historical Collection in 1975 from an antique shop in Abilene, TX. Although the history of this particular artifact is unknown, it represents a typical response of farm implement manufacturers to adapt for U.S. defense.

"The Dictionary is the only place where success comes before work."

-Mark Twain

What's New at the Museum Con't.

After the meal, attendees moved to the east barn for our first-ever barn dance and cut-a-rug to classic country and swing music courtesy of Lonnie Joe Howell and the Texas Hot Band. Local Texas Tech students entertained the audience by showing off their western-swing-dancing skills.

The night ended with the one-of-a-kind Texas Quilt Raffle drawing. As advertised, a young volunteer drew 4 tickets from the hopper and then a fifth ticket was auctioned off. Wesley Sanders had the winning bid for the fifth ticket. The five tickets were put into a hat and the winner drawn. Sanders investment paid off as he won the quilt. Sue Griffith, Thalua Garner, Gary Bell, and Rebecca Riley each won \$50. AMA is grateful to its board members for selling tickets and extremely grateful to Barbara Harris of Rachel's Fine Fabrics for donating the beautiful quilt. The raffle made just under \$8,000 for the museum.

AMA also welcomed three new board members this Spring. Clint Robinson is vice president for Capital Farm Credit in Lubbock. Vic Coker is owner of Vic Coker Land Co. in Muleshoe, Texas and an

member of SPATA. Ron Chandler, AMA's newest board member is vice president of purchasing for Becknell Wholesale Co. in Lubbock.



Pictured from top: Wayne Rush presents check to AMA, Leland and Barbara White enjoy the barn dance, Barbara Harris presents quilt to Wesley and Nancy Sanders

FAMILY CONTINUED

Steve & Rhea Newton
Jerry Nislar
Michael Patranella
Mike Patschke
Norine Patschke
Rodney & Shelia
Randolph
Red & Pat Rivers
Wayne & Beverly Rush
Paul Schwarzentraub
Frank Sehon
George & Judy Sell
James & Jackie Smith
Wayne & Wanda Swart
Steve & Gayle Trowbridge
Billy & Sue Weaver
Andy Wilkinson
Dale & Marie Winders

INDIVIDUALS

Aggie Birdwell
Kent Brooks
Elwood Freeman
Brad Harris
Roger and Lynn Nelson
Clayton Perry
J.T. Rackler
Dwight & Sandra Roye
Harrell Spears
Dorothy Stephenson
Fred Thayer
Paul Willis

OTHER GIFTS

David Franklin
Dorothy Stephenson
Lonnie D. Winters
Lubbock Electric
Company
Dan & Lee Ruth Krieg
Lubbock Electric
Meers Pest Solutions
Southern Tire
S.P.A.T.A.
Texas Cotton Ginners
Association
Wilbur-Ellis Levelland
Women Involved in Farm
Economics (WIFE)

CONTRIBUTING GINS

Adcock Gin Co.
Buster's Gin, LLC
Center Point Gin Co.

**CONTRIBUTING GINS
CONTINUED**

Close City Cooperative Gin
Four Way Gin Co.
King-Mesa Gin
Long S Gin Inc.
Marble Bros. Farm Gin
New Home Co-op Gin
North Gin Ltd.
Owens Co-op Gin Co.
R.J. Gin, Inc.
Southwest Gin Ltd.
Street Community Gin Ltd.
Tinsley Gin, Inc.
Windstar Gins
Welch Gin
Wells Farmers Co-op Gin
West Camp Gin, Inc.
Woolam Gin
Yellowhouse Gin Co., Inc.

**QUARTERLY
VOLUNTEERS**

Alton Brazell
Waylon Carroll
C.D. Cash
Vic Coker
J.T. Drake
Curtis Griffith
Roger Haldenby
Joe Hall
Barbara Harris
Don Harris
Clay Hoelting
Edsel Huie
Patti Jones
Lee Ruth Krieg
Weldon Menzer
Clayton Perry
Red Rivers
Clint Robinson
Charles Stewart
Wayne Swart
Wanda Swart
Dan Taylor
Linda Taylor
Ray Thomas
Brett Underwood
Dale Winders

Remembering Those Special To Us

A UNIQUE WAY TO HONOR OR REMEMBER SOMEONE SPECIAL

**For the convenience of our members and readers,
we now have memorial and honorarium forms available to print online. Go to
www.agriculturehistory.org/membership.php**

**Forms can be found in the top, right-hand corner
under the heading Forms/Downloads.**

Send your completed form and payment to

American Museum of Agriculture

PO Box 505

Lubbock, TX 79408

**SAVE THE
DATE**

**AMA Ice Cream Social
Tuesday, June 22 @ 6:30 pm
AMA Annual Meeting
Saturday, August 28**

Special Thanks

IN MEMORY OF . . .

Jimmie Adams by Hurst Farm Supply
Verlon Dale Bigham by Hurst Farm Supply
Kay Buckman by Hurst Farm Supply
Ruth Carroll by Joe F. Anthony
Ruth Carroll by Waylon Carroll
Ruth Carroll by Norine Patschke
Ruth Carroll by David & Nan Wied
Eugene Crumpler by Hurst Farm Supply
Eugene Crumpler by Woolam Gin
Eugene Crumpler by Yellowhouse Gin Co.,
Inc.
Eugene Crumpler by Fred & Sandy Jones
Novice Curry by Stoney Jackson
Ralph Drennan by Glen & Velda Phipps &
Family
Ralph Drennan by Sparenberg Gin, Inc.
Bud & Glenna Englund by Norine Patschke
& Family
Margie Rogers Fails by Hurst Farm Supply
Bertha Fritz by Hurst Farm Supply
Bertha Fritz by Norine Patschke & Family
Mozelle Goble by Liberty Co-op Gin
Mary Lee Goodnight by Hurst Farm Supply
Syble Harris by Hurst Farm Supply
Wayland Houchin by Hurst Farm Supply
Clay Jackson by Stoney Jackson
L.A. Johnson by Zandra Luttrell
Dale Jones by Hurst Farm Supply
Arlene Kerr by Hurst Farm Supply
Narrell Lawson by Liberty Co-op Gin
Tommy McCallister by Hurst Farm Supply
James Lee McDonald by Mullin Hoard &
Brown, L.L.P.

Laverne Meeks by Buster's Gin, LLC
Ramona Ortiz by Norine Patschke & Family
Glenda Ott by Hurst Farm Supply
Richard Rogers by Hurst Farm Supply
Arnold & Patsy Sanderson by by Norine
Patschke & Family
Patsy Sanderson by Hurst Farm Supply
Mike Schubert by South Plains Antique Tractor
Association
Pete Smith by Sparenberg Gin, Inc.
Frances Taylor by Hurst Farm Supply
William "Bill" Thompson by Hurst Farm
Supply
Garon B. Tidwell by Hurst Farm Supply
Bobby Glenn Vinson by Buster's Gin, LLC
Bobby Glenn Vinson by Hurst Farm Supply
Bobby Glenn Vinson by Dan & Linda Taylor
Susan Wied by Norine Patschke & Family
Jeff D. Wilson by Hurst Farm Supply
Lois Wynn by Buster's Gin, LLC
Glendean Young by Hurst Farm Supply

IN HONOR OF . . .

David and Ronda Langston by City Bank
Don & Gayle Langston's 50th Wedding
Anniversary by Dan & Linda Taylor
Dan & Linda Taylor by Lubbock Cotton
Exchange/ TICS
Dan Taylor by Scott & Cynthia Cooksey
Dan Taylor by City Bank
Travis & Shirley White by Dan & Lee Ruth
Krieg

Weldon Menzer

Anyone who restores tractors in this area has probably heard of Weldon and Walter Menzer and their reputation for top-notch restoration work. Weldon's enthusiasm for history and restoring antique equipment contributed to him being an AMA volunteer for over four years. Weldon was even a Charter member of the museum when it opened in 2002.

Weldon and Walter have restored 15 tractors to date since their first one, an Oliver 60 that belonged to two of their uncles. The second tractor they restored was a 1937 F-20 Farmall. This was the first tractor that Weldon ever rode and worked on at the age of seven.

Born in Marlin, Texas, just south of Waco, Weldon along with two brothers and two sisters grew up farming. Farming took Weldon's family from Marlin to Anton, Spade, and Shallowater before settling in Wilson, where Weldon has remained since 1952.

Before retiring in 1998, Weldon worked for the Texas Department of Public Safety. He spent 28 years at the Plainview Driver License Office and five years in the Lubbock uniformed services. He married his wife Ann in 1993 and has two daughters that both live in



Pictured: Weldon Menzer at S.P.A.T.A. Antique Tractor & Engine Show

San Antonio, two grandchildren, and two great grandchildren, one of which was just born in May.

Weldon served three and a half years in the Air Force as an aircraft mechanic and was stationed in Germany. His favorite place to visit was Paris, France where he traveled in 1962.

While Weldon had always known his family was German, he never knew the details of his heritage. Then, a distant cousin from Colorado, who Weldon had never met, showed up in Wilson. While studying his family genealogy, he came across the Menzer brothers and decided to come meet them. He told them that their family came specifically from Dresden, Germany.

Weldon has come to appreciate a good story like that, and says that is his favorite part of volunteering at the museum. "It's a good way to pass half a day and the people that visit always have interesting stories to tell," Weldon said.

Weldon did not attend college, but he said he graduated R.O.T.C., right off the cultivator. Weldon's knowledge of antique equipment and sense of humor make him an excellent addition to our volunteer staff. AMA would like to thank Weldon for his hard work. The museum could not exist without the dedication of volunteers like him.

HELP BUILD OUR DREAMS BY Becoming a Volunteer!

Each shift is between three and four hours, and we ask that each volunteer work at least one shift a month. We also need weekly volunteers that can commit to one shift a week, or if you have a special interest or talent that could benefit the museum, we would love to hear about it. Together, we will make our dreams a reality.

VOLUNTEER FORM

I would be able to work:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday | <input type="checkbox"/> a.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> p.m. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday | <input type="checkbox"/> a.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> p.m. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday | <input type="checkbox"/> a.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> p.m. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday | <input type="checkbox"/> a.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> p.m. |

a.m. hours are 10:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.
p.m. hours are 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Your Name: _____
Your Address: _____
Your Phone: _____
Your E-mail: _____

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF AGRICULTURE

Please complete this form and mail it to:

American Museum of Agriculture, P.O. Box 505, Lubbock, TX 79408

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF AGRICULTURE
PO Box 505
LUBBOCK, TX 79408

HOURS

The museum is open
Wednesday through
Saturday from 10 a.m.
until 5 p.m.

Special tours are available
upon request.

CONTACT US

806.239.5796 - phone
806.775.1357 - fax

E-mail:
amadirector@
agriculturehistory.org

intern@
agriculturehistory.org

Website:
www.agriculturehistory.org

Don't Miss the

AMA Ice Cream Social

Tuesday, June 22 from 6:30-8:30 PM



Held at the American Museum of Agriculture

Bring the family and a freezer of your best homemade ice cream for an evening of socializing and beating the heat. AMA will provide the fixings, judges, and awards for the top three ice-cream flavors.

Free to attend, not responsible for brain freezes...