



## WELCOME!

We've had a great start to the club under Danny Friedrich's leadership since we were founded in 2013. Now it's time to start working on the future.

At our December Banquet, we elected new officers and discussed some upcoming ideas. We will discuss more at the Meeting at the March Boonville Swap Meet and make some decisions.

Our incoming leadership team for 2017:


- President - Randy Grothoff, 2 year term
- Vice-President – open (see inside note)
- Secretary/Treasurer – Michael Crowe, 1 year term
- Director – Mike Hayden, 3 year term
- Director – Danny Friedrich, 3 year term

Items that we discussed at the Banquet and may consider votes on in March:

- Concrete in the Boonville Club Building (bid at \$6,500 for all, \$2,750 for "thirds")
- Lean-To for the Club Building (bid at \$3,000)
- Combine: We voted to offer it for silent bids until the Swap Meet, contact Randy Grothoff for more information.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOTE

At the December Banquet, Mike Fahrendorf was elected to be Vice-President. Unfortunately, Mike had to resign this office due to changes to his work schedule. We will take nominations and vote on candidates at the next Club Meeting at the Swap Meet in March. Contact Randy Grothoff or Michael Crowe for more information if you are interested in serving as Vice-President.



## THANK YOU: Wise Brothers Auction Proceeds Donation

David Backer presented a check for \$5,000 to the Club at the December Banquet. This donation represents the proceeds from AC parts sales that were made at the November Wise Bros. Auction. The auction (and the earlier open house) was a lot of fun and we are grateful to the Backers for their hospitality and generosity.

## THANK YOU: DANNY FRIEDRICH


Danny has served as our President since the Club's formation in 2013. Through hours of service and dedication, he, the Board, and many others have helped guide our club from humble beginnings through the construction of our building in Boonville. Danny stepped down from being President but will still lend his talents as a Board Member. Thank you, Danny!

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues for 2017 are \$25 for a family. You can verify if you are up to date by looking at your address on this newsletter. If there is a "17" or higher after your name, you are paid up. A number of "16" or less indicates that you are not paid up. If you've missed a year (or two!) go ahead and renew for \$25.

Dues go to support the ongoing costs of the club: insurance, building maintenance, office supplies, and the like. Send your dues to Dale Bauer.

The Club is a registered non-profit 501(c)3 organization so an additional gift might be tax-deductible (check with your tax advisor).




## CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

Club Website – <http://moacclub.com/>  
Club Building – Brady Farmstead Showgrounds  
24249 State Highway 179  
Boonville MO 65233  
I-70 and Hwy 179, exit 111  
Randy Grotoff, President – 573.690.3033  
e-mail: [randyandcamille@yahoo.com](mailto:randyandcamille@yahoo.com)  
Vice-President – Open (election in March)  
Michael Crowe, Sec./Treas. – 816. 898.7277  
e-mail: [moacclub@gmail.com](mailto:moacclub@gmail.com)  
Mike Hayden, Director – 573.985.3471  
e-mail: [mhayden1953@gmail.com](mailto:mhayden1953@gmail.com)  
Danny Friedrich, Director – 660.888.9342  
e-mail: [djfred71@att.net](mailto:djfred71@att.net)

Dale Bauer, Membership – 636.357.9286  
e-mail: [bauerd44@yahoo.com](mailto:bauerd44@yahoo.com)  
1756 S Point Prairie Rd  
Wentzville MO 63385

Contact Dale if you have any questions. For your convenience, there are two copies of membership forms elsewhere in this newsletter. You can use one for yourself and share the other with a friend or family member!



## CLUB MERCHANDISE

**"SCREEN-PRINTED" SHIRTS** – If you would like a t-shirt with our logo on it, contact Danny Friedrich. Prices will vary based on size and shirt color; shipping & handling may also apply if you want Danny to mail you the finished shirts.

**"EMBROIDERED" LOGOS** – If you already have a favorite shirt or jacket, contact Michael Crowe about getting our Club logo embroidered on it. Prices will vary based on the size of the embroidered area; shipping & handling may also apply if you want Michael to mail you the finished items.

**NAME BADGES** – If you would like a Club Name Badge, contact Michael Crowe for more information. If you are a Club Officer and/or Charter Member, you can order "dangles" recognizing your status for a small upcharge.

## ARTICLE: Why I Collect AC Tractors

by Michael Crowe

Both my Grandfather Curless, who started our family's association with Allis Chalmers, and my Uncle Bub Curless, who took over the dealership upon my Grandfather's sudden death due to a tractor accident, are now both deceased, but they are the reason why only Allis Chalmers tractors hold any interest for me.

My maternal grandfather, Frank "Happy" Curless, opened his Allis Chalmers dealership in the back of his smoke house in 1939. As the business grew, he moved it into the town of Liberal, Missouri, in 1944 where Curless Implement Company remained until his death in 1968, at which time my Uncle, Charles "Bub" Curless, operated the dealership until sometime in the late 1970s.

Story has it that the AC executives approached my Grandfather at some time and told him he would have to move his dealership to Lamar, Missouri, the county seat. My Grandfather is said to have replied that he could just as easily sell another brand of tractor and the matter was never mentioned again. In 1955, Curless Implement Company sold enough tractors and combines to earn the designation of a Three Star Dealer. Each star represented a train car load each of tractors and of combines. On page 272 of Mr. Walt Buescher's book *The Plow Peddler*, he mentions the Three Star Dealer party that was held for Curless Implement Company in November 1955.

I have two tractors that came from my Grandfather's dealership, a 1955 WD45 Diesel I bought in Lamar and a 1952 WD with factory power steering that was added later and a WD disc given to me by my Uncle. I also have the literature display rack that stood in the dealership that was given to me a few years ago.

I mainly collect the WD and WD45 series of tractors and implements, because of a picture of my Grandfather driving a WD45 Diesel pulling a Boy Scout float in a Liberal parade.

I have three WD tractors with the three different engines offered, gasoline, kerosene, and liquid propane gas; and four WD45 tractors with the four different engines offered, gasoline, kerosene, liquid propane gas, and diesel. All run and it is fun to take them to shows, plow days, and summer use at the farm.

I just recently had Don Bradley do a complete rebuild of the engine in my 1962 D19D and it sure turned out nice. A couple of model B tractors round out the stable.

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## ARTICLE: Why I Still Farm with ACs

by Dale Bauer

My wife, son, and I have a small cattle farm on the edge of the St. Louis metro area. City limits have crept up to our property line and it's getting crowded around here. We do all of our work on the farm with ACs. My

Dad used them and my Uncle Adolph was an AC dealer in Cedar Hill, Missouri.

We mow and bale hay with our "newest" addition, a 1975 AC185 (our first experience with oil burners). We got it late 2015 and are really impressed with the power and fuel-efficiency. Our 1976 gas AC175 is our loader tractor; from moving round bales to feeding in winter, it just keeps going. We rake with my Dad's 1957 CA; it seems to take forever with "Arm-Strong" power steering! But the CA's handy for when we put up temporary paddocks for our rotational grazing.

Friends and neighbors ask why we haven't gone with something newer or with a cab. Long story short, my son, Kevin, is vehemently opposed to a cab ("can't hear a bearing going out in a cab") and we just can't see investing in something when we have what we need...and paid for!

Plus, you might have noticed the CA referred to as "Dad's"...I think Kevin thinks the same way about the 175...it's "mine" and doesn't want to part with it any more than I want to get rid of Dad's CA. Pretty sure Kevin's claimed the 185. Meanwhile, my wife, Sue, shakes her head when we go out to play (I mean "work"); her definition of retirement is no more farm work!

So that's the short story of why I am still farming with ACs. If you would like to share your story, or if you have a neat tip to keep ACs running, let us know!

## FIRST QUARTER 2017 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our first “semi-planned” and “semi-organized” newsletter. For our next issue, we are planning on a version for people that have e-mail but also for those that do not; but we need help. Besides keeping your contact information current, you can:

- write a short article about why you are in the AC Family. You can send it to Dale Bauer by snail-mail or e-mail, but not by smoke signal...
- send us a note if you're in another club and they're doing something neat. We'll try to fit as much in as space allows.
- If you know of an auction or sale featuring ACs, let us know, too!

## CALENDAR – EVENTS FEATURING ACs

- ✓ **Annual AC-Exclusive Swap Meet** – March 3 & 4, 2017: Club Building at Brady Farmstead Showgrounds, Boonville, MO. Club meeting at 2pm on Saturday in our building. Contact Randy Grothoff or Michael Crowe for more information and/or booth reservations. Note: the 2018 Swap Meet will be in Lathrop, MO.
- ✓ **Gary Friedrich Parts Sale** – The auction will be held on Friday, March 24, at Wise Brothers in Kingdom City. Proceeds from the sale of AC parts at the auction will be donated to the Club. Wise Brothers will have an additional auction day on

Saturday, March 25. Anybody willing to bring equipment to the sale and donate the proceeds to the Allis Club for a possible tax-write off can contact David Backer at 573.642.6395 (o), 573.219.6611 (c), or [wisebrothersequipment@gmail.com](mailto:wisebrothersequipment@gmail.com). You can visit [www.wisebrosinc.com](http://www.wisebrosinc.com) for more information.

- ✓ **Missouri River Valley Steam Engine Association Show (MRVSEA)** – September 7-10, 2017: Brady Farmstead Showgrounds, Boonville, MO. While the show is featuring “oddballs and orphans” this year, we would like some AC tractors and/or equipment to show in the building. We are also having a membership services table in our building during the show; contact Dale Bauer if you would like to help. Having the building open during MRVSEA shows is a “condition” of us keeping our building at the showgrounds and being able to use the showgrounds in general. Visit [www.mrvsea.com](http://www.mrvsea.com) for more information about this year's show.
- ✓ **2017 GOTO** – September 8-10, 2017: Ottawa, KS. Our Club will hold our meeting on Saturday at 2pm. Visit [www.powerofthepast.net](http://www.powerofthepast.net) for more information on the GOTO.
- ✓ **Northeast Missouri Old Threshers Show** – September 14-17, 2017: Shelbina, MO. They are featuring the Allis-Chalmers family (along with Fords and Fergusons). Visit [www.nemooldthreshers.com](http://www.nemooldthreshers.com) for more information.

## Missouri Allis-Chalmers Club, Inc.

A 501(c)(3) Organization [www.moacclub.com](http://www.moacclub.com)  
MEMBERSHIP: APPLICATION or RENEWAL  
(Please Circle as appropriate)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

Spouse's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(last name also, if different)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

To become a member, please complete this form and mail it with your dues to:

**Dale Bauer, 1756 S. Point Prairie Rd.  
Wentzville, MO 63385**

Dues are \$25 per year for a family membership.  
Checks should be made payable to: Missouri Allis-Chalmers Club.

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