



THIRD QUARTER 2019 NEWSLETTER

We had two recent meetings in Lathrop and Macon. Summaries of each are inside along with important information about upcoming events (WINTER BANQUET for one) and a couple of neat submissions from fellow Members.

Don't forget that our next big event is the MRVSEA show in Boonville. We will need the building open to fulfill our "lease" agreement with MRVSEA; contact Dale Bauer if you can help out in the building.

SPRING AND SUMMER MEETINGS

Lathrop: We had a nice turn out at the Spring Meeting in Lathrop where the day was sunny and warm, a welcome break from all the rain we've been having.



Secretary/Treasurer Michael Crowe led a very short meeting with about 15 members in attendance (several more were on the show grounds but couldn't make it to the meeting). He reviewed the upcoming meetings/shows, presented previous minutes and financial reports, and asked for volunteers to repaint the 3-bottom plow that Gary Rutherford donated to the Club.



Macon: We had a good turnout at the Summer Meeting in Macon. Our UC was in action helping thresh wheat during the show. President Randy Grothoff led the meeting with about twelve members in attendance (plus several more were on the grounds but attending to their vendor booths). We reviewed the

previous meetings and discussed some possible shows for 2020 and 2021.

David Backer is planning a one-day show in August 2020 in conjunction with Fulton, Missouri's bicentennial. There is also a show in Rosebud, Missouri in 2021 that could be an option for a meeting. Randy suggested we consider these and vote at the next meeting (Winter Banquet).

Members voted to help sponsor the tractor pull during the MRVSEA show in Boonville. This minimal cost (\$175) will allow our name on the banner during the pull.

OTHER NEWS

UC/3-Bottom Plow: The donor of the Club's UC tractor, Leroy Henggeler, would like the opportunity to plow with it one last time. Gary Rutherford has donated the plow to the Club (many thanks, Gary!). It does need some work before we can honor Mr. Henggeler's request:

- a.) Paint – A volunteer is needed to prep and paint it. The Club can furnish the paint.
- b.) Tires – It needs two real nice 16" tires; one implement rib and one traction tread.

The Club would appreciate the donation but is willing to discuss a fair price.

Contact Michael Crowe if you can help in either of these needs (816.898.7277; moacclub@gmail.com). Watch for more information about a plow day featuring our UC and plow.

Rick Maldeney Estate: Good news, the lawn mower/snow blower has been sold! We still have a 3-point snap-coupler adapter, and a number of A-C books and memorabilia that will be displayed MRVSEA and the Winter Banquet. Contact Dale Bauer for details (636.357.9286; bauerd44@yahoo.com). Many thanks again to the generosity of Rick's Family.

Club T-Shirts: We hope to have a supply of t-shirts with our Club logo available to buy at the MRVSEA show in September and the Winter Banquet (December 14). Be sure to stop by the Club Building during MRVSEA to see if we have them available, check your membership status, and say "hi!".

CALENDAR –MEETINGS IN ALL CAPS AND OTHER EVENTS

Plow Day – This was a great time last year and David Backer has invited us back for another plow day. This is open to everyone and any color tractor/equipment; meet at the Wise Brothers dealership (3361 Old US Hwy 40, Kingdom City) any time after 10am on Saturday, October 12; lunch will be available at noon.

If October 12 is too wet, the event will be on October 19 (if it's still too wet, plan on next year). Contact David at 573.642.6395 (o), 573.219.6611 (c), or wisebrothersequipment@gmail.com for more information.



More Shows to Put on your Calendar

- ✓ Aug 22-25 - Half Century of Progress, Rantoul, IL
- ✓ **Sept 5-8 - MRVSEA Show, Boonville, MO.** The show is featuring Minneapolis-Moline; we are not featuring a specific series/implement for our own building; A-C tractors and equipment will be placed on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to display a tractor and/or implement, please contact a Board Member. We will also have items from the Rick Maldeney Estate for sale. Don't forget that we **must** have our Building **open and staffed** for the show. If you can help, contact Dale Bauer (636.357.9286; bauerd44@yahoo.com). It's mostly saying "hi", chatting with friends, and keeping a chair warm.
- ✓ Sept 12-15 – Steam-o-Rama in Republic, MO. For more information, visit <https://www.steamorama.com/>
- ✓ Sept 13-15 - GOTO in Union Grove, WI
- ✓ Sept 19-22 - Lincoln Co. Old Threshers Show, Elsberry, MO
- ✓ Sept 21-22 - All About Allis, Percival Springs, IL



WINTER MEETING AND BANQUET – David Backer and his Family have invited us back to Wise Brothers for our Winter Banquet on Saturday, December 14. We will have a social time starting at 12noon and the meal at 2pm. The meal is \$12 per person and you can RSVP with Randy Grothoff. Great time, good food, and a chance to plan for 2020 and beyond.

FUTURE SWAP MEETS (per March 2019 Meeting Decision)

- **9th Annual Swap Meet** – March 6-7, 2020, Lathrop, MO
- **10th Annual Swap Meet** – March 5-6, 2021, Boonville, MO (yes, it's been 10 years since our first Swap Meet!).

“FALL” 2020 CLUB MEETING: 59TH ANNUAL PLATTE COUNTY STEAM ENGINE SHOW – August 7-9, 2020, Platte City, MO. The show will feature A-Cs and our Club Meeting will be at 2pm on Saturday, August 8, 2020. The website is: <http://plattecountysteamandgasshow.com/> Watch for more information as we get closer.

Gatherings of the Orange – It's early but start planning for these upcoming GOTOs! They might be options for future Meetings!

- 2023 GOTO – Adrian, June 23-25; Their club is trying to get a complete, detailed listing of every Missouri A-C dealer. If you have details like dealership name, address, and if anyone associated with the dealership are still living, contact Michael Crowe (816.898.7277; moacclub@gmail.com).
- 2025 GOTO – Lathrop, 2025
- 2026 “POSSIBLE” GOTO – Boonville; application has been sent.

NEWSLETTER NOTE: BURKEMPER FAMILY AND A-Cs...

Club Member Hans Burkemper's father, Mick Burkemper, and his family have come from a dairy farm in Old Monroe. Mick recalls that HIS Dad had bought A-C tractors from Galloway Equipment in Old Monroe. Hans and Mick went to the Galloway family auction last September and purchased the 14'x3' A-C sign that had been displayed at the Old Monroe dealership.

Mick always liked A-Cs and instilled the same love in his son. They currently have a 1957 D-14, a 1961 D-15, a 1964 D-17, a 1971 190XT, a 1979 175 Diesel, three 6060s, one 6070, and one 6080 with a cab. Most of them are "kinda pretty tractors".

The family cut and put up a bunch of hay each year and would normally use all their A-Cs, except for the D-14 and XT. One of the 6060s is the only tractor that Mick bought new, in 1983.

Three years ago, Mick bought a 7040 Kubota for some other uses; the colors "kinda" match (Ed. Note: we considered a similar Kubota for the color and options, too; but we ended up with a nice 185, Dale).

Roto-Balers,

by Melvin Brees - Columbia, MO

Allis-Chalmers Roto-Balers were popular in our community in North Missouri when I was growing up. At that time, we did not own one but a couple of our neighbors often custom baled much of our hay with roto-balers. I often used their Allis-Chalmers PTO powered side delivery rake/tedder to rake the hay for them to bale. How the hay windrows were formed by the rake was important to how well the baler functioned. Windrows that were too narrow, for example, made it difficult for the baler to form well shaped bales. This created a challenge in low producing hayfields where two or more rounds were required to provide enough hay to make good evenly shaped "double windrows." I always had a hard time getting windrows "just right" to please one of those neighbors. If I placed the windrows together, he wanted them wider spaced. If I made them wider, he wanted them closer together.

I eventually ended up owning two different Roto-Balers. The first I purchased from a used equipment dealer who refurbished the older balers built in the 1940s to 1950s. I used that one for several years to bale fescue. Since the round bales tended to "shed water," I left the bales in the field and allowed the fescue to regrow around them. If the snow did not get too deep, I used this for late fall and early winter hay/pasture for "dry" beef cows and did not begin regularly feeding other higher quality hay until calving began in February. I replaced that first baler with one I bought at my father-in-law's retirement auction. It was one of the later production "white-top" models built in the early 1970s.

It had a few upgrades over the older models including safety screens on the sides. I pulled this with a “One-Sixty” A-C tractor, also purchased at the retirement auction.

The Allis Chalmers Roto-Balers were dependable but could be aggravating to operate. The balers had a chain conveyor mechanism to pick up the hay, moving belts to form the hay bales, latches, gears, hinges and other moving parts required for the baling and ejecting mechanisms to function. These parts all had to work freely. Some claimed an older baler worked better than a new one because the moving parts were worn and looser on the old than on a new one. The dealer, that sold me my first Roto-Baler, brought a quart can of “Liquid Wrench” penetrating oil when we started the baler and he squirted it over any part that moved, rotated, or hinged. I continued that practice for as long as I had one. Some farmers brushed used engine oil on these parts—anything to make them work freely. Although they were complex with a lot of moving parts, the balers seemed to last forever. One former dealer told me that he never sold that many parts for them. Serious breakdowns requiring new parts usually occurred only if a slip clutch failed, the bale tension brake stuck, or a wooden stick got caught in the belts.

Sometimes the balers worked flawlessly, other days latches wouldn’t latch, bale forming belts would get twisted, chains would skip a tooth on a sprocket or myriad of other malfunctions would occur. Sometimes just pulling the rope that “reversed” the baler would correct a problem, but usually it was necessary to get off and unwrap, dig out or re-latch something. When the “twine arm” dropped, the hay pickup conveyor was stopped with the last bit of hay drawing the twine into the bale chamber, which started the twine wrapping and bale ejection process. Frequently the twine was not caught by that last bit of hay, there was a trip- rope release that would allow the conveyor to let a little more hay pass to catch the twine. However, often this did not work, and it was necessary to shut the PTO off, get off the tractor and manually “poke” the twine (and maybe some hay) between the rollers to get it started.

The condition of the hay had to be “just right” or it could cause a variety of problems. Green hay or some varieties of grasses caused problems by wrapping on rollers, chains, hinges, and belts causing problems. One example, fescue would wrap around the rotating rock guard at the upper end of the pickup table. I finally discovered that the solution was to remove the small drive chain for the rock guard and the baler worked well with a non-rotating rock guard.

There were many stories and jokes about the frustrations associated with operating one of these machines. It was said that “they would make a preacher cuss!” There were also occasional tragic incidents when someone left the machine running while attempting to service or unplug it, got caught in the mechanism and was seriously injured or killed. While the accidents were tragic and certainly not funny, many wisecracked about the Roto-Balers that “no one ever got caught in one, they just got frustrated and jumped in!”

“Allis-Chalmers had it figured out back in the forties!” I heard that farmer comment more than once when the large round balers were introduced in the 1970s. A-C did pioneer forming a round hay bale using flat belts. Despite having to stop to eject each small bale and the frustrations of operating a complex machine, they were a dependable and efficient way to bale hay. I’ve spent my share of time being frustrated while operating and listening to one of them bale hay (yes, you could almost operate one just by listening to it run, especially if the wind was blowing chaff in your face).

OBITUARY:

Charter Member Gary Siefert (#C204) died on 15 July 2019 on his farm in Morrison, Missouri. Gary was active in his church, a leading cattleman, and active in the 4H and FFA. Gary sold A-Cs through Seifert & Lalk Farm Equipment in Morrison and was recognized by Allis-Chalmers as an outstanding salesperson. His obituary is posted at <https://www.toedtmanngrosse.com/notices/Gary-Seifert> Our sympathies are extended to his family and friends.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

We have three levels of membership:

- “8/10” – For \$200, you will receive ten years of membership for the price of eight.
- “Lifetime” – For \$500, you will receive a lifetime membership.
- “Regular” – For \$25, you will have a one-year membership.

If you receive this by email, we haven’t figured out an easy way to include your membership status. Call or email Dale if you have questions; we may be sending a postcard to email recipients in the future that would have membership status.

CLUB OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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NEWSLETTER ARTICLES:

We had two great submissions to this issue of the newsletter; many thanks to the Burkemper and Brees wordsmiths! We are “re-running” last issue’s “story prompt” to jog a few more notes from the rest of us.

And there are lots of ways to send us your story.

- 1.) Electronic – Microsoft Word (or similar program) and e-mail would be the easiest for us to use. It makes editing and production much easier.
- 2.) Typed – yes, there are still typewriters and we can still use them.
- 3.) Written – we’ll take handwritten submissions; like answers to the prompts below...
- 4.) Send articles to Dale Bauer; his contact information is scattered throughout the newsletter and on our website.
- 5.) We may need to edit to fit the space available. We will try to run any changes by you before printing.
- 6.) And “articles” can be a scary word...think “stories”. And that can include recipes, fish stories, and tall tales.

Prompt: Story Questions

What started you into Allis-Chalmers? Family? Job?

Are you a collector or do you farm with A-C?

How long have you been involved with A-C? How long has your family been involved with A-C? That can mean ownership, dealership/service, or simply liking A-C.

What A-Cs do you have? Have you taken them to shows? 1 piece or 30+; tractor, toy, or promotional item; it’s all in the A-C family. Attach additional pages as necessary!

Were you involved with the development of A-C products (tractors/combines, implements, or other equipment)?

What are your plans for the future?

- Expand? Buy more A-C pieces? Add more acres?

- Downsize? Thinking of selling, auction, or other?