Upcoming Shows of Interest: This section is free for members to use if you would like to advertise a local event that might include an Empire or two. Just drop me a line, send an email or give me a call, and I’ll insert the information for you. A small amount of detail can also be included.

NEW LOCATION - Our Annual Florida Fly-Wheelers Dinner Party will be held on February 21, 2018, at The Old World Restaurant located at 14415 Tamiami Trail (Rt. 41) in North Port, FL. (941-426-1155) Our former location has closed for unknown reasons. The Old World Restaurant is a family owned business operating since 1988. Plan to arrive about 5:00 with dinner served about 6:00. I need to give the restaurant a count so PLEASE call me at 315-246-7788 or email to info@empiretractor.net if you can join us or if you have any questions. See you all soon in North Port.
Mount Pleasant, IA
Aug 30 – Sept 3

The Midwest Old Threshers Reunion is hosting Our 19th Annual Empire EXPO this year in Mt. Pleasant, IA. The dates are August 30th through September 3rd. This will be by far, the largest venue we have been invited to attend. This event will have it all. You will see the largest collection of working steam power at the Midwest Old Threshers Reunion "Where Memories Are Made." An antique carousel, steam engines, gas tractors, engines, cars and trucks are on display. Explore the Pioneer Log Village and enjoy the Wild West shows in North Village. Ride a steam train, trolley, or even learn to drive a tractor! Explore museums & aisles of crafts, enjoy great food, or sit and listen to music from Bluegrass to Gospel to Country, at any of five venues on the grounds every day. You can see over 2,000 attractions and exhibits. Check out their web site at www.oldthreshers.com for more details. This is just a sampling of what is available to explore at this huge show. This show attracts thousands of visitors and this is a great opportunity to show off our tractors in a new area of the country. We sure hope you will plan to help us do this.

Now for some details: It is strongly suggested that you try and arrive by Wednesday, August 29th, the day before the show opens. This will give us an opportunity to set up our display area and also, if you like, participate in the huge parade through downtown Mount Pleasant that precedes the show each year. This parade starts at 3:30 in the afternoon. We also suggest, if at all possible, that you plan to stay for the full five days of the show. This will keep our display intact and once you see what is available to participate in, you will agree to this suggestion. We know some will need to leave early, but please plan to stay if you can.

All exhibitors and visitors to the show will need to get a pass to attend the Reunion. Each pass will include free admission to all Country Music events and admission to all museums on the grounds. The easiest and least expensive way is to get your pass is in advance of the show. This will save money, time, hassle and make checking in easy. Between November 27, 2017 and May 31, 2018 you can obtain a 5-day pass
for only $20.00 or a one day pass for $15.00. After June 1, the price increases to $30.00 for the 5-day pass and $15.00 for a one day pass. You can get these passes on line at: www.shop.oldthreshers.com or by phone at 319-385-8937. The passes will then be mailed to you. This is a real bargain when you consider what is here to see and do, so please take a moment and obtain your pass.

With all of the motels in Mt. Pleasant already booked, Burlington was the suggested next best area to find a decent place to stay. It took some doing, but I was able to get a great group rate at the Super 8 Motel, 3001 Kirkwood St., Burlington, IA, just off Rt. 34 at Exit #261. The group rate is $62.00 + tax per night for a queen or king room with free breakfast included. Be sure to mention Empire Tractor Club to get this rate. This motel has no elevators-only stairs, so if you need a first floor room make your reservation extra early. The cut-off date is August 2nd, so

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What</th>
<th>Empire EXPO 2018: Our 19th Annual EXPO held in conjunction with the annual Old Threshers Reunion</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When:</td>
<td>August 30th – September 3rd, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where:</td>
<td>405 E. Threshers Rd., Mount Pleasant, IA 52641</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Where to stay: | Super 8 Motel Burlington 319-752-9806  
3001 Kirkwood St., Burlington, IA  
Queen or King $62.00 + tax  
Fairfield Inn Burlington 319-754-0000  
Quality Inn Burlington 319-753-0000  
Holiday Inn Express Burlington 319-752-0000  
Call for prices at these hotels |
| Camping: | Camping Rates per night for the Reunion are:  
Tent $10.00  
Regular $15.00  
With 30 amp electric $20.00 (See Guest Information on website at www.oldthreshers.org or call Julie Scott at 319-385-8937 for details) |
| Banquet: | Saturday evening, September 1 at 6:00 PM $25.00  
The Drake, 106 Washington St., Burlington, IA  
319-754-1036 |
| Questions: | Carl Hering: 315-246-7788 or email to info@empiretractor.net  
Show office: 319-385-8937 (A real person will always answer the phone.) |

reservations must be made prior to this date to assure you a room at this price. Anyone who prefers a more up-scale hotel please see the listings and call for prices. All of these listed hotels are located at the same Exit #261 from Rt. 34. We have only 15 rooms blocked, so please make
your reservations early. For those camping, the Reunion has over 60 acres of ground available along with a store and daily shuttle service to the main show grounds. Call Julie Scott at 319-385-8937 for all the details and check under Guest Information on the extensive web site at www.oldthreshers.com. Basic information is noted under camping below.

Our banquet will be held on Saturday evening, September 1st starting at 6:00 PM at the Drake on the Riverfront, 106 Washington St. in Burlington. This cool restaurant is located just off US Rt. 34 at exit #263 (Main Street) right on the Mississippi River. We will have our own room and be served a two-entrée dinner with all the fixings including dessert and non-alcoholic beverages. A waitress will take our orders for any bar drinks. This is a neat old restaurant owned by the present owners since 1983. For a close-up look you can check out their web site at www.thedrakeresturant.com. After dinner we will have a short meeting where we like to have a member or two talk about their Empire experience, recognize first time attendees, give out a few awards and talk about future EXPO’s that are planned. Our banquet is always a fun time so be sure to attend.

As you can see, we have a great event planned at a fantastic location. I hope you will join us at our EXPO this year. Our goal this year is to have 20 Empire tractors on display and they do not need to be restored. So if at all possible, bring your Empire to the show regardless of condition. This will be your one opportunity to see this many Empire tractors in one place at one time.

For more information call or email to:

Empire Tractor Newsletter
5862 State Rt 90N
Cayuga, NY 13034

Phone 315-253-8151   Email: info@empiretractor.net