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NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2019

The 66th World Ploughing contest was held on the Ed Arnesen farm about five miles south east of Baudette, Minnesota. The dates for the event was Aug. 30th and Aug 31st. The National matches were held on Sept. 1st. When I arrived on Aug. 17th, eight days before the official program starts, the area was shaping up very well thanks to John Guard for overseeing the setup. John put Joel Wagner in charge on the work shop and compound area and he did an excellent job. The Minnesota State Plowing Association had been working hard to get things ready for the official program. Jan Nietfeld did an excellent job of arranging the housing for the early arrival and preparing meals for all the workers before the official program started. The USA team had already arrived and were practicing. Our team was Gene Gruber, conventional class, Dale Dirksen, reversible class, Kevin Albrecht, coach. Many other teams had already arrived and were practicing also. For the next week everyone worked at preparing the site for the official program

Sunday Aug. 25th the WPO board members and international guests arrived and checked in at the Sportsmans lodge. That evening there was a very nice meal at the lodge. Drawing for practice plots was held after the meal. Several of the USAPO contestants begin arriving with their equipment and started helping setup the event site. Monday Aug. 26th there were tours for the visitors and practice for the competitors. Tues. Aug. 27th tours and practice for competitors. Wednesday and Thursday it rained most of the day, so practice was kind of limited, but it made the plowing for the contest very good. The visitors tours were good both days. Wednesday at 9:00pm Russia gave a very nice presentation about the 2020 World Ploughing Matches.

On Thursday at 5:00pm the Opening ceremony and unveiling of the Cairn of Peace was held at the event site.

Friday Aug. 30th was the first day of competition in the stubble and it got started right on time even though it was a little bit wet from all the rain earlier.

Saturday Aug 31st was the second day of competition in the grassland. At 3:30 the closing ceremony and lowering of the flags. Then at 7:00pm was the Banquet and Awards Ceremony.

Overall results for this year are:

Conventional Class

1 st Andrew B. Mitchell Snr	Scotland
2 nd Eamonn Tracey	Republic of Ireland
3 rd Gene Gruber	USA

Reversible Class

1 st Marco Angst	Switzerland
2 nd John Whelan	Republic of Ireland
3 rd Soren Korsgaard	Denmark
13 th Dale Dircksen	USA

Friday Aug. 30th at 7:00pm the USAPO held its Annual Meeting at the American Legion hall in Baudette, MN. We filled out entry forms and paid memberships. Didn't draw plot numbers because we weren't sure that everyone was entered yet. At 7:20 we all ate a delicious meal prepared by veterans. After the meal John Guard called the meeting to order and explained what all had taken place while preparing for this great event.

Then Sunday, September 1st was the National Plowing Contest with twenty eight contestants competing. The Antique and Open classes got started about 9:15 and due to equipment being used in two contests one Junior Small Plow contestant plowed his plot during this time.

About 12:30pm the Small Plow class and the other Junior Open class contestant started. About 3:00 it started to mist rain and it lasted for about 45 minutes. The weather cleared up after all the plowmen were wet, but it made it much easier for the judges to complete their scoring.

The USAPO Banquet and Awards ceremony was held at 7:00pm that evening at the Sportsmen Lodge. The meal was great and well attended. Following are the results of National Plowing Matches.

SENIOR OPEN CLASS

- 1st Jacob Loehr Belgrade, Minnesota
- 2nd Aaron Egeberg Brookins, South Dakota
- 3rd Kyle Fourman Arcanum, Ohio

SENIOR ANTIQUE CLASS

- 1st Lyle Grimm North English, Iowa
- 2nd David Guard Sioux Falls, South Dakota
- 3rd Nick Ollinger Klona, Iowa

SMALL PLOW CLASS

- 1st Austin Magnuson Benson, Minnesota
- 2nd Mike Pena's Hutchinson, Minnesota
- 3rd John Guard Chancellor, South Dakota

REVERSIBLE PLOW CLASS.

- 1st Kevin Albrecht Marion, SD.

JUNIOR SMALL PLOW CLASS

- 1st Thomas Gower Union City, Ohio

JUNIOR OPEN CLASS

- 1st Blake Welle Melrose, Minnesota

(over)

Make Check Payable to USAPO Dues \$30.00 for year(s)_____

Name_____

Street Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Home Phone_____Cell Phone_____

Discontinue membership (sign)_____

The Sportsmanship Award and the Woman's Spirit award are sponsored by Henry and Gene Gruber in honor of their parents Werner and Marilyn Gruber. The Sportsmanship Award went to John Gaard, Chancellor, S.D. and the Spirit Award went to Jan Neitfeld, Melrose, MN. They both did an outstanding job in preparing for the World Plowing Contest.

Many of you may not know, but the USAPO and Minnesota plowmen took on a lot of financial responsibility setting up the World Plowing Competition. That being said we are not broke yet, but are in need of some income. If every member would just pay their dues that would be about \$4500.00 which would really help with our financial situation. NOW IS THE TIME TO SUPPORT THE USAPO BY PAYING YOUR DUES BOTH PASSED, PRESENT AND FUTURE!

Please fill out the membership form on page three, make out your check to USAPO and send it in today.

Sec. & Treas.

Roger L. Neate