



BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH TIMES

118TH BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH SET FOR SEPTEMBER 14, 15 & 16, 2012

On September 14 a tradition will continue that began back in 1894. It is one of the longest running annual events in the state. It's the 118th Annual Big Rock Plowing Match!

What is a Plowing Match?

In 1894, Big Rock was an old Welch farming community, and at the end of each growing season, the farmers and their families would get together to celebrate the harvest of their labors by having what amounted to a very large picnic. During the picnic, the men would imbibe and boast as to who was the best farmer. The only way to prove who was the best was to compete against each other under strict sets of rules.

In 1895, the farmers believed in having a friendly competition amongst themselves to see who could plow the straightest furrow with their team of horses, along with many other skills necessary for farming. In 2012, the object is still the same, compete and have fun!

Here's a sampling of some of the more memorable Plowing Matches:

- ◆ 1895 – The very first plowing match, held on the G.W. Thomas farm, north of Big Rock. Organized by W.D. Powell, S.A. Chapman, and Walter Scott it was filled with controversy. Nine farmers competed, but after a long discussion, one was disqualified for only using two horses where the other eight farmers had used three.
- ◆ 1901 – This was the first Plowing Match that included prizes. Some of the prizes were: two horse blankets, a rifle, a saddle and a spring seat. The ladies fair also had prizes: jute spread, a silver butter dish, jardinière and a silk umbrella.
- ◆ 1922 – Horseshoe pitching contests were added to the weekend festivities. You had to pay to play but the funds supported other aspects of the event. At the end of that year, the Plowing Match had almost \$2,000 in the bank.
- ◆ 1937 – At the corner of Route 30 and Rhodes Avenue in front of the gazebo you will see a BIG Rock! This was courtesy of yet another successful Plowing Match. At last! Big Rock, Illinois, had an identity!
- ◆ 1940 – The Plowing Match had its first female competitor, Mary Kay O'Connell. She didn't win but got a ton of publicity for the Plowing Match and the annual event grew in popularity.
- ◆ 1950 – The Big Rock Plowman's Association finally found a permanent home. Plowman's Park, as it is known today, was purchased for \$4,750. They even had enough money to build a new Ladies Fair building on the 19-acre site.
- ◆ 1957 – The Plowing Match became a two-day mini-fair, expanding on the plowing, Ladies Fair and noon dinner. Dwight and Anna Davis purchased the field down the road and across from Plowman's Park so there would be a permanent area on which the plowing would be held. The land is still being used today courtesy of Marvel Davis.

- ◆ 1980 – The very first Horse Show was added to the two-day event to pay homage to the faithful steeds that supported the farmers all the way back to the very beginning in 1895. Today, you can see moms competing with their daughters for the prizes and enjoying every minute of it.

The plowing completion is the main focus of each annual celebration. At the turn of the century, only horses pulled plows, but as farming technology improved, categories were established to keep the competition on a level playing field. There are classes for antique steel and rubber wheel tractors, as well as for boys and girls, horse or mule, novelty class and expert plowmen.

Today there is so much more to see and do at the Plowing Match:

- ◆ Stroll the Craft, Art and Antique Show
- ◆ Marvel at the entries in the Junior Fair and Ladies Fair
- ◆ Bid on prize winning baked goods at an old-fashioned auction
- ◆ Enjoy a Western and English Horse show
- ◆ Get your thrills on carnival rides
- ◆ Watch the children's races and contests
- ◆ Compete in the Horseshoe Tournament or Round Bale Roll-off
- ◆ Take a free miniature train ride
- ◆ Satisfy your hunger for good, old-fashioned dinners and other delicious fair foods

ALL OF THIS WITH FREE PARKING AND FREE ADMISSION

Some of the best BBQ pork chops and chicken, roast beef, burgers and brats from local vendors are sold throughout the three-day event. Wood-fired pizzas by award-winning Pleasant House Bakery will be featured on Saturday night.

Visit our website at www.bigrockplowingmatch.com to preview all of the activities. You can even take a look at photos from previous Plowing Matches. You don't have to spend big bucks to have honest-to-goodness family fun.

But the best the Plowing Match has to offer is the setting. These 19 acres purchased so many years ago, nestled amongst hundred-year old oaks is one of the most beautiful settings in the state. The Big Rock Plowing Match is the only event of its kind that remains active in Illinois and it showcases the agricultural heritage of our community and its use of the plow, which changed the landscape of the prairie.

Come to the Plowing Match and see for yourself! We are sure you will discover what a great community Big Rock is and you, too, will grow to love it.

www.bigrockplowingmatch.com

**THE BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH ASSOCIATION
GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE SPONSORS OF THE
118TH BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH**

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All donations are greatly appreciated and will certainly lead to the continued success of the Plowing Match and the work of the Association. *Thank you so much, Big Rock Plowing Match Association*

Sponsors as of August 16, 2012. If you notice any omissions or inaccuracies, please bring them to our attention by contacting Denise at 630-556-4771 or bigrockplowingmatch@gmail.com

On behalf of myself and the Big Rock Plowing Match Board, we extend an invitation to everyone to attend the 118th Big Rock Plowing Match on September 14-16, 2012.

All the buildings have now been turned to white and green giving the grounds a uniform look. Our summer weather conditions may create a challenge for entrants in the Vegetable & Grain Show, as well as making it tough to get the plows in the ground, but I am sure everyone will be up for the challenge.

All the traditional activities are scheduled, as well as a few changes to extend everyone's enjoyment of the Plowing Match and all it offers. Saturday hours have been lengthened to 9:00 pm, when Plowman's Park will have activities for everyone. Musical entertainment by the Wooden Rockers, carnival rides, Round Bale Roll-off, and exhibits in the Junior and Ladies Fair buildings. Pleasant House Bakery, a big hit at our Wine Festival, returns with wood-fired pizzas and desserts.

Our volunteers have been working all year long giving their time and expertise to make the Plowing Match another success. I extend a most appreciative thank you ahead of time, as this event would not be possible without you.

Spread the word to everyone to come out and see what a country fair is all about and enjoy the great outdoors at Plowman's Park.

Thank you,

*Roger Hatfield
President, Big Rock Plowing Match Association*

SCORECARD OF THE BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH

LAND DRAWING	
Saturday	Sunday
9:00 am Sharp	10:30 am Sharp
9:30 am Start	12:00 pm Start
12:30 pm Finish	3:00 pm Finish
Total Possible Points: 100 Perfect Score	
25 points: Low back furrows distinct (back to be slightly crowning and all trash covered)	
25 points: Furrows of uniform depth and width, showing slight ridge and distinct from end to end	
25 points: Line of furrow	
15 points: Covering of trash	
10 points: General neatness of the whole and appearance of ends	
♦ All plowmen must plow 5 inches but not more than 7 inches deep.	
♦ All plowmen must make 7 rounds.	
♦ No assistance to any plowmen after the first round.	
♦ All plowmen using 16-inch plows must plow not less than 14 inches.	
♦ All plowmen using 14-inch plows must plow not less than 12 inches.	
♦ All plowmen using 12-inch plows must plow not less than 10 inches.	
♦ All plowmen must leave the field at designated finish time, unless granted more time by field committee for some reasonable cause.	

All plowmen will be scored back:

- ♦ 4 points for each foot in width for not finishing the land by the specified finish time.
- ♦ 4 points for each inch less than the minimum depth of 5 inches.
- ♦ 4 points for each inch in excess of the maximum depth of 7 inches.

CLASSES ON SATURDAY

- ♦ Boys and Girls 15-and-Under Class
- ♦ Boys and Girls 19-and-Under Class
- ♦ Farmers Open Class
- ♦ Prizewinners Class: Plowmen who have taken two first places in the Farmers Class qualify to compete in this class.
- ♦ Expert Plowmen's Class: Plowmen who have won first place two successive years in the Prizewinners Class must compete in this class.
- ♦ Horse or Mule Class
- ♦ Novelty Class: Judged on unit only, plowing does not enter in judging. Plowmen in this class are not required to make 7 complete rounds.

CLASSES ON SUNDAY

- ♦ Antique Rubber Class: Tractors made before 1939
- ♦ Antique Steel Class: Tractors made before 1939
- ♦ Novelty Class: Judged on unit only, plowing does not enter in judging. Plowmen in this class are not required to make 7 rounds.

SWEEPSTAKES

Given to the plowman with the highest score during the Plowing Match, except those entered in the Expert class.

WINNERS OF 117TH PLOWING MATCH COMPETITION, 2011

SATURDAY, 9/17/2011

19 and Under

1st-Trent Pierson, Kaneville

Farmers Open

1st-John Gaard, Harris, South Dakota

2nd-Rick Wolf, Erie

Prizewinner

1st-Sharon Harris, Rockvale, Tennessee

2nd-Jerry Thomas, Batavia

Experts

1st-Paul Evans, Big Rock

2nd-Mike Winckler, Erie

Novelty

1st-Ralph Johnson, Waterman

2nd-Alan Lage, Batavia

Sunday, 9/18/2011

Cancelled due to weather

BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH HORSE SHOW



Twenty-eight years ago, a horse show was added to the Plowing Match festivities. Over the years, the show has grown and become a tradition for the competitors. We have seen families grow up around the show to the point where the children that competed 28 years ago are now married with families.

Having fun and learning how to improve your ride have always been the goals of the Horse Show.

This is the fifth time Lynn Hnetkousky of Manhattan, Illinois, has joined us to judge the participants and suggest tweaks to their ride. It's a family affair for Lynn too; her parents often come to enjoy watching the horses and riders and the festivities around the park.

For more information regarding the Horseshow, go to www.bigrockplowingmatch.com. E-mail the bigrockhorseshow@gmail.com for a copy of the show bill.

BEEF SHOW

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1:00 PM

The ring will be full of prized cattle as the Beef Show swings into action. Members of Big Rock Cowhands will be joined by 4-H members from other parts of Kane County as well as Lee, DeKalb, and Kendall counties. An auction will be held at 3:00 pm, providing you an opportunity to fill your freezer with fresh, flavorful beef while supporting our area youth.

CRAFT, ART & ANTIQUE SHOW

A true must-see is our Craft, Art & Antique show, showcasing 20 vendors and their wares under the oaks and amongst the festival activities. The show runs Saturday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and Sunday from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. For more information contact Jeanne Jackson at (630) 556-3779.

ROUND BALE ROLL-OFF

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 6:00 PM—NEW TIME!

The Round Bale Roll-Off is an old fashioned contest that tests teams of three people trying to roll a 1,200-pound bale of straw several feet across a finish line. Two teammates push the bale while the third tries to stay on top. If the person on top falls off, the bale must stop while that person is helped back on top by his teammates. The first team across the finish line wins.

Winners will be judged on a time basis. Prizes and ribbons will be awarded for first through third places. There are two age groups; boys and girls ages 13 to 18, and men and women age 19 and above. *No cleats or spikes are allowed.*

Registration will be held on Saturday at 5:30 pm with the contest beginning at 6:00 pm in the cattle corral. Registration forms are also available at the Big Rock Post Office or at the schools. Registration fee is \$15 per team. For more information e-mail Lynne Paver at shalafarm@aol.com

DELICIOUS OLD-FASHIONED DINNERS

SERVED SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

The Big Rock Plowing Match Association invites you to dinner on Saturday from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm. 5 B's Catering of Waterman will offer a choice of pork chops or barbecued chicken or a combination of both served with baked beans, applesauce, cole slaw and dessert. Dinners are \$9 for 1 chop or quarter chicken or \$10 for 2 chops or half chicken or a combo.

On Sunday from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm, we will serve a complete roast beef dinner prepared by Reuland's Catering of Aurora. Dinners are \$10 per plate and include roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, buttered green beans and cole slaw.

SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL

PLOWING MATCH REMAINS OPEN UNTIL 9:00 PM

Now everyone can enjoy more of the Plowing Match as it remains open later on Saturday evening. Stroll through the Junior and Ladies Fair buildings, cheer on your favorite team at the Round Bale Roll-Off, take a spin on a carnival ride, listen to the Wooden Rockers as you enjoy wood-fired pizzas and desserts prepared for you by Pleasant House Bakery.

CARNIVAL WRISTBANDS FRIDAY & SATURDAY

Exciting new rides and more wristband hours are coming to the Plowing Match. Friday is "Wristband Night" at \$12 with a presale ticket or \$15 if purchased that night. Saturday will feature "Wristband Afternoon" from noon to 3:30 pm for \$15. Afternoon wristbands will be available for purchase only at Plowman's Park. Individual ride tickets may also be purchased at the park during carnival hours – see schedule on back cover. Watch for the Carnival Wristband presale flyer coming to your school.

2012 PRINCE & PRINCESS CONTEST

SPONSORED BY THE BIG ROCK PARK DISTRICT

The 2012 Prince & Princess Contest will be held at the stage on Sunday at 1:30 pm. The contest is open to boys and girls age 3 through 5 living in the surrounding area. All entry forms must be received by September 8 and all entrants must check in at the stage by 1:00 pm on the day of the contest.

Bruce Van Pelt with Bright Visions Photography of Sandwich will donate an 8 x 10" photo to the first place contestants and a 5 x 7" photo to the second and third place contestants.

The 2011 winners were Princess Jennifer Hanacek and Prince Corbin Michael; second place, Nayallah Patsch and Whiett Patsch, and third place, Kailee Ward and Kaden Klotz.

Call Cindy Nehring at (630) 556-3238 for an entry form or for more information.

WATERMELON EATING CONTEST

SPONSORED BY THE BIG ROCK PARK DISTRICT

Come and enjoy the fun on Sunday at 11:00 am on the Stage. The person with the fastest time after eating slices of watermelon will win a cash prize: \$10 for age group 8-11 eating 1 slice, \$20 for age group 12-15 eating 2 slices, and \$30 for age group 16 and up eating 2 slices. No entry fee is required; registration is at 11:00 am at the stage prior to the contest.

BINGO

SPONSORED BY THE BIG ROCK PARK DISTRICT

Play Bingo under the Pavilion at Plowman's Park on Sunday at 2:30 pm. U.S. Savings Bonds will be awarded as prizes.

PLOWMAN'S PARK HOSTS EVENTS

Throughout the year Plowman's Park is host to many community activities. Perhaps you have enjoyed an event at this beautiful park.

- ◆ Big Rock Plowing Match
- ◆ Wine Tasting Under the Oaks
- ◆ Prairie State Railroad Club
- ◆ Park District Halloween Fest
- ◆ Community Easter Egg Hunt
- ◆ Church, school and family Picnics
- ◆ Scouting events
- ◆ Youth baseball games

This wooded 19-acre site is available for rental. Contact Bonnie Warchol at (630) 556-3501 to book the park for your next event.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT PLOWING MATCH

A long-standing tradition of the Plowing Match is community involvement and assistance. If you are able to donate a few hours of your time, please contact one of the Committee Members.

- ◆ Building & Grounds: Roger Hatfield, (815) 498-6333
- ◆ Concession assistance: Zach Ruh, (630) 688-9871
- ◆ Dinner assistance: Sherry Sorensen, (630) 556-3495
- ◆ Ladies Fair: Donita Bartoszek, (630) 556-9000
- ◆ Junior Fair & Business Space Rental: Sandy Carr, (630) 556-3171
- ◆ Craft, Art & Antique Show: Jeanne Jackson, (630) 556-3779
- ◆ Horse Show: Bonnie Warchol, (630) 556-3501

It is only with the assistance of volunteers that this family event will be able to continue to build on our traditions and showcase our township's rich rural heritage.



THE JUNIOR FAIR SHOWCASES THE CREATIVITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE AGES 3 TO 14

Every year we hear comments from adults like: "I never would have thought of that", "how creative", "wish I could taste those". These statements barely begin to describe the scope of talent and imagination that is exhibited in the Junior Fair Building. Stop by and take a look at what our area children have shaped, painted, drawn, built, baked, decorated, created or colored.

Entrants **do not** have to live in Big Rock to participate in the Junior Fair. We usually have approximately 500 entries from 15 different communities plus other states.

Each year, the Junior Fair coordinators showcase two Special Entries:

- ◆ This year's Special Craft Entry is "Get Creative with Duct Tape". Start with a roll—or several rolls—of duct tape of any color or pattern. Then make something! Flowers, hair bows, wallets, purses, slippers, bracelets etc.—it is up to you. We only limit the size to a maximum of 36"x 36", not your imagination!
- ◆ This year's Special Baking Entry calls for "Mud Bars". Do not wait until the Plowing Match to try this recipe, which can be found in the Premium Sheet. Bake up a pan for your family and see what their taste buds say.

As you look at this year's premium sheet, recall the drawings and crafts that your kids have made at school; at scout meetings; at camp; at vacation Bible school; for the Sandwich, Kendall County or Kane County fairs; or just for fun during the summer. Entries do not need to be made just for the Junior Fair—it just needs to fit the requirements of the category in which it is entered.

The Junior Fair Coordinators congratulate our

2011 SPECIAL PREMIUM WINNERS

- ◆ Most blue ribbons 12-14 year olds: Caroline Harris
- ◆ Most blue ribbons 9-11 year olds: Sarah Zeigler
- ◆ Most blue ribbons 6-8 year olds: Jordan Sprecher
- ◆ Most blue ribbons 3 -5 year olds (4-way tie):
Dean Baldrige, Dylan Bartlett, Anna Herrmann,
Corbin Michael
- ◆ Most points all categories: Sarah Zeigler
- ◆ Most Entries: First place, Brad Vistine; Second place,
Makayla Woodward



SPECIAL PREMIUM—CRAFT DECORATE A PAIR OF FLIP FLOPS

- ◆ 3-5 years old: first place, Brooke Wackerlin; second place,
Alea Joy Ritchie; third place, Matt Juneau
- ◆ 6-8 years old: first place, Lily Geltz; second place, Kylee
Hellebrand; third place, Anya Hope Ritchie
- ◆ 9-11 year olds: first place, Thomas Sestak; second place,
Lauren Engel; third place, Sarah Zeigler
- ◆ 12-14 year olds: first place, Caroline Harris; second place,
Hannah Mueller; third place, Brad Vistine

SPECIAL PREMIUM—BAKING TRIPLE CHOCOLATE CAKE

- ◆ First Place: Leah Spangler
- ◆ Second Place: Lily Geltz

ATTENTION: PARENTS OF JUNIOR FAIR BAKERS

The auction of the first and second prize-winning baked goods at the Junior Fair will take place at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 15, so that you, grandparents or other supporters can have a chance to bid on their favorite baker's entry.

Junior Fair Premium Sheets are available on our website www.bigrockplowingmatch.com, at the Big Rock Post Office, at Dairy Joy or by calling Sandy at (630) 556-3171.

If you have any questions please call Sandy at (630) 556-3171, Laurie at (630) 556-3711, JoAnn at (630) 556-4849 or Deb at (815) 286-7247. We look forward to seeing you at the Junior Fair!

LADIES FAIR 2012

The 2012 Ladies Fair Premium List features 22 categories and over 150 classes to showcase local talent. It includes new classes and has been streamlined, eliminating classes that have had limited or no entries over a span of three years. In response to inquiries about *Section I, Category A*, Quilts now includes a class for quilt tops pieced by more than one person, and quilt backings may be done by someone other than the entrant who completed the quilt top. All eight classes of Pies are together in *Section I, Category G*. A class for a hand-knitted or crocheted hat/cap has been added to *Section VI, Category D* and *E*. All categories in *Section I* are sponsored and prize money for the remaining classes in *Sections III -VII* is provided by the *Big Rock Plowing Match Association*.

Special Awards, sponsored by businesses, provide almost \$500 in prize money for the talented individuals winning ribbons in various categories and classes, as well as an additional opportunity for your entries to be recognized. By winning the most ribbons in all classes you may be the recipient of the Harley Davis Memorial special award—an engraved serving piece.

This year's Special Recipe in *Category E, Premium Cakes* is an Oatmeal Cake from Barb Baie. Recently retired as our Post Master, Barb also served on the Ladies Fair Committee from 1984-1992. This made-from-scratch cake is a taste treat as every bite brings forth a burst of flavor from the various ingredients. It will become a favorite in your home as well. Just follow the recipe and criteria on the Premium List and submit your entry: First place takes a blue ribbon and \$30 and second place receives \$20 and a red ribbon.

Looking for the 2012 Ladies Fair Premium List? You can print it from the Plowing Match website or have it emailed. Previous entrants with an email address on file with us received the Premium List in early August. To be added to our email list, send your contact information, listing Ladies Fair in the subject line to: bigrockplowingmatch@gmail.com

Bring your entries to the Ladies Fair building on Friday. Here are tips for shortening your check in time.

- ◆ Avoid the last minute rush—arrive early—entries accepted between 2 and 7 pm
- ◆ Arrange your entries in the same order as listed on your 3"x 5" entry card
- ◆ Use tape or safety pins to securely affix 1"x2" label on each article/item
- ◆ Remember, your name must not appear on the item
- ◆ Bring return address or computer labels—one per item—to be used on entry tags

Entering more than 20 items? Give Denise a call by September 7 for all the details to pre-register your entries. This will shorten your check in time, as well as everyone else in line.

On Saturday afternoon, prize-winning baked goods will be auctioned to the highest bidder starting at 1 pm with Junior Fair items followed by the Ladies Fair items at 1:30 pm. These Blue & Red ribbon winners are the best of the best. All you need is a Bidder's number available that day or you can get one now by contacting Denise at (630) 556-4771 or via email at bigrockplowingmatch@gmail.com

We are always on the lookout for new talent, new sponsors or new buyers for our auction. Are you interested in volunteering? Questions? Contact any Committee member: Donita Bartoszek at (630) 556-9000, Lyrka Lawler at (630) 564-6754, Cheryl Lee at (630) 988-2522 or A. Denise Farrugia at (630) 556-4771.

LADIES FAIR 2011 SPECIAL AWARDS WINNERS

- ◆ Harley Davis Memorial: Most ribbons in all classes—
Gail Geltz
- ◆ The La Kone Company: Most blue ribbons in all
classes—Gail Geltz
- ◆ Burgess Tractor Service: Most blue ribbons living outside
Big Rock—Sharon Harris
- ◆ Burgess Tractor Service: Most blue ribbons living in
Big Rock—Gail Geltz
- ◆ Big Rock Lions Club: Man with most blue ribbons—
Duane Groch
- ◆ Shirley Dickson Memorial: Most outstanding item—
Mary Gunier
- ◆ Big Rock Plowing Match Association: Most entries in all
baking classes—1st Gail Geltz, 2nd Denise Groch
- ◆ Needham Shop: Mosts blue ribbons in quilts—Sue Stott
- ◆ Old Second National Bank: Most blue ribbons in Section
I baking—Donita Bartoszek
- ◆ Healy Chapel: Most blue ribbons in Section II baking—
Gail Geltz
- ◆ Gladys Butcher Memorial: Most blue ribbons in canned
goods—Sharon Harris
- ◆ Shala Farms: Most blue ribbons in flowers living outside
Big Rock—Mary Lambert
- ◆ Dairy Joy: Most blue ribbons in Handicraft—
Jeff Schrader
- ◆ J & D Door Sales: Most blue ribbons in Embroidery—
Kathryn Gengler
- ◆ Rooster Ag Realty: Most blue ribbons in sewing—
Sue Stott
- ◆ Executive Affiliates, Inc.: Most blue ribbons in hand
knitting—Stephanie Johnson
- ◆ Executive Affiliates, Inc.: Most blue ribbons in
crocheting—Mary Gunier
- ◆ Resource Bank: Most blue ribbons in photography—
Martha Baldrige

BIG ROCK COWHANDS 4-H CLUB

The Big Rock Cowhands 4-H Club has completed another successful year. Our members are Courtney Biery, Nathan Biery, Kory Blair, Chase Bornemann, Clay Cargola, Mason Cargola, Reno Colburn, Erik Dunteman (vice president), Jessica Dunteman, Lauren Dunteman (treasurer), Rebecca Dunteman, Jillian Hanacek, Julia Hanacek, (secretary) Bridget Hankes, Michael Long, Tyler Ott (president) and Brooke Simmons. Darrin and Linda Ott are our leaders.

Many of the members entered their 4-H projects at the Kane County Fair in July, including photography, vegetables, cooking, welding, visual arts, aerospace, woodworking, grains, goats, sewing, sport fishing, swine, horses, beef, rabbits and small pets. The projects are judged and receive a blue, red or white ribbon based on the quality and knowledge of their project.

Our club meets at the Big Rock Town Hall on the third Sunday of every month at 6:30 p.m. To join, contact Darrin or Linda Ott at (630) 556-3085. New members are always welcome.



WINE TASTING UNDER THE OAKS

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2013

Our first Wine Tasting Under the Oaks went extremely well and we look forward to next year with more wineries, artisans, musical entertainment and the return of Pleasant House Bakery.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 22, 2013, to stroll under the oaks sipping wine, listening to music and taking in the art. A lovely experience, all for just a \$15 wine-tasting wristband which includes a souvenir wine glass for all your tastings.

Visit our website at www.bigrockwinefest.com to view the photo album of the 2012 Wine Festival.

E-mail bigrockwinefest@gmail.com or call (815) 286-7208 for more information.



BIG ROCK LIONS CLUB

As always, The Club will sponsor "Cow Chip Bingo." Purchase a square from one of the Lions Club members in advance or on Saturday or Sunday at the Plowing Match and the cow does the rest. Squares cost \$2 or \$5, depending on the signup sheet you choose. If the cow chooses to deposit his "chips" on your square, you win 50% of the pot for that sheet. If the cow does not cooperate within a given time, a number will be drawn by someone in the crowd. To purchase in advance or take a sheet to work to sell, contact Bill Fischer fischerwp@sbcglobal.net or any Big Rock Lions Club member. The event is held just outside the cattle arena on the east side of Plowman's Park.

You will also have the opportunity to win a new i-Pad 4G! Club members are selling tickets from now until shortly after the Plowing Match. Stop by the Lions Club booth to purchase one of only 400 tickets at \$5 each for a chance to win this hi-tech marvel.

The Lions Club is involved in the community in many other important ways, but they can't accomplish many of the projects they do throughout the year without your generous help and support. We are fortunate to have an active club in Big Rock.

The Club is always looking for new members. To contribute some of your valuable time to their cause, please contact president Bill Kline at bfkline@aol.com or call him at (630) 556-3872. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at the Big Rock Township hall at 7:30 pm.

For more information regarding the Big Rock Lions Club, stop by their booth on the Plowing Match Grounds during the festival.

THE BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH ASSOCIATION SEEKS DONORS AND SPONSORS

The Association is extremely grateful to everyone in the community that is involved with the Plowing Match and appreciates your assistance. As you can imagine, expenses related to this three-day event has an impact on the treasury of our nonprofit association with increased costs in maintaining the property, buildings and hosting the Plowing Match. With your support we will be able to continue the tradition of the Big Rock Plowing Match for future generations.

WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT THE ASSOCIATION

Donations

Supporting the Association with a monetary donation will assist with funding of Plowing Match improvements and events, as well as maintaining the buildings and grounds. A Recognition Plan was established in 2011 to acknowledge donors and sponsors at the three-day event, on our website and in the *Big Rock Plowing Match Times* each August/September.

Up to \$100 \$100+ \$250+ \$400+ \$500+

Checks should be payable to the Big Rock Plowing Match Association. Donations received by September 7, 2012, will be acknowledged with the 2012 Donors and Sponsors. Donations received later will be acknowledged with the 2013 Donors and Sponsors.

Sponsor for 2013

The Plowing Match is steeped in tradition in all the events and activities offered for the entire family. The Association is dedicated to upholding these traditions as well as offering new events to engage every generation. We invite you to join us as an event sponsor. Sponsorships are available beginning at \$25 and may be designated for the Association or a specific event: Cattle Show, Horse Show, Junior Fair, Ladies Fair, Pedal Pull, Plowing, Round Bale Roll Off and Vegetable & Grain Show.

Sponsors are acknowledged in various ways including premium lists, sponsor listings and in the *Big Rock Plowing Match Times*. We welcome your inquiry and would be delighted to talk with you about the possibilities. Contact Denise at (630) 556-4771.

2013 Big Rock Plowing Match Times

The Association is thrilled to be able to bring back the *Big Rock Plowing Match Times*. This year's issue is a black-and-white format with a color centerfold photo collage. It would be great if next year's issue could have more color photographs and include more feature articles and showcase organizations and businesses. To make this happen we need to solicit paid advertising.

Past issues included several types of ad formats: supporter list, business card-size, quarter-page or full-page ads. We realize that putting together an issue with advertisements takes much more lead-time and to make a bigger and better issue happen we need to start this fall. If you have previously placed an ad or are interested in placing your first ad or want to be included in the supporter list, please contact Anita at (815) 286-7208.

The Big Rock Plowing Match Association is a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit organization. All contributions are deductible to the fullest extent of current tax law.

Big Rock Plowing Match Association, Inc..

P.O. Box 261, Big Rock, IL 60511



THE BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH BOARD THANKS THE MANY FRIENDS OF THE PLOWING MATCH AND SUPPORTERS OF PLOWMAN'S PARK

- ◆ We start by thanking the Prairie State Railroad Club for being our resident "eyes". They are on the park grounds daily and inform us when some things are "just not right."
- ◆ A big THANK YOU goes out to the Big Rock Historical Society for providing those "historic rides" to and from the plowing competition and Plowmen's Park. It is a wonderful service.
- ◆ Another thank you goes to the Historical Society for allowing parking on their property during Plowing Match weekend. It is a great convenience for so many people.
- ◆ Thank you to Mr. Alexander for bringing his Clydesdale horses and giving rides so that people can have an elevated view and enjoy the plowing competition from every perspective. He built that beautiful wagon that his horses are drawing.
- ◆ Thank you to the Bickford's of Bickford Electric for keeping our electricity properly strung.
- ◆ Thank you to Byron "Scotty" Scott, Jr. for doing such a conscientious job of mowing and trimming. The park looks great! He is currently recovery from knee surgery.
- ◆ Thank you to Sue Moss who is doing a stellar job of "maintaining" our country restrooms. Not an easy job!
- ◆ Thank you to the Cub Scouts of Three Fires Council who rent the park in July. During their week long Day Camp they pick up all the paper scraps and refuse that others have left behind. They truly do us a "good turn".
- ◆ Thank you to the Aurora Area Convention & Visitors Bureau for promoting the Big Rock Plowing Match and other Big Rock events such as the Wine Fest and Halloween Fest. They do this by advertising on their web site, in advertisements, by forwarding our news releases to their database of media contacts, by posting the schedule at their information kiosk at the Aurora Transportation Center, in their published visitor's guide and often in other social media outlets such as Midwest Living's web site.

The Board appreciates everyone's assistance in keeping these private grounds "in shape" for others to use. We are proud to be part of the Big Rock community.



ENGLISH CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The English Congregational United Church of Christ, located at the corner of Third & Rhodes, thanks everyone who donated towards our 500-pound Food Drive and school supply drive for our Hinckley-Big Rock students. We actually collected over 2,000 pounds of food from all of our friends in the Big Rock community. With that kind of generosity and God's help, we are sure that our school supply drive will be equally successful!

Thank you again for your support and generosity and please come and visit us any Sunday morning because... "Jesus didn't reject people. Neither do we."

FREE ADMISSION
FREE PARKING
September 20-22, 2013
Big Rock Plowing Match
2013

Mark your calendars!



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BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH BOARD

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14—"KIDS' NIGHT"

Bicycle Parade (begins at fire barn)	5:15 pm
Carnival "Wristband Night"	6:00-9:30 pm
Premier Entertainment by DJ Darrin Lee	6:00-9:30 pm

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15— NEW! OPEN UNTIL 9:00 P.M.

Western & English Horse Show	8:30 am
Tractor Trot-5K fun run	9:00 am
Horseshoe Tournament	9:00 am
Drawing for Lands	9:00 am
Plowing	9:30 am
Children's Races (in the cattle ring)	11:00 am
5B's BBQ Pork Chop & Chicken Dinner	11:30 am-2:00 pm
Carnival "Wristband Afternoon"	noon-3:30 pm
Junior Fair Baked Goods Auction	1:00 pm
Ladies Fair Baked Goods Auction	1:30 pm
Pedal Tractor Pull (in the cattle ring)	2:30 pm
Plowing Trophy Presentation	3:30 pm
Pleasant House Bakery-wood-fired pizzas	5:00-9:00 pm
Round Bale Roll-off (in the cattle ring)	6:00 pm
Music by The Wooden Rockers	6:00-9:00 pm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Church Service	10:00 am
Drawing for Lands	10:30 am
Reuland's Catering Roast Beef Dinner	11:00 am-1:30 pm
Watermelon Eating Contest	11:00 am-1:00 pm
Plowing	Noon
Horseshoe Tournament	Noon
Farmers Market Auction (Grain/Veg. Show tent)	1:00 pm
4-H Beef Show (in the cattle ring)	1:00 pm
Prince and Princess Contest	1:30 pm
Bingo-Big Rock Park District (pavilion)	2:30 pm
4-H Beef Auction (in the cattle ring)	3:00 pm
Plowing Trophy Presentation	4:30 pm

CARNIVAL RIDES

Friday	6:00-9:30 pm
Saturday	10:00 am-9:00 pm
Sunday	noon-4:00 pm

CONCESSIONS

Friday	6:00-9:30 pm
Saturday	7:30 am-9:00 pm
Sunday	8:00 am-5:00 pm

CRAFT, ART & ANTIQUE SHOW

Saturday	9:00 am-4:00 pm
Sunday	11:00 am-4:00 pm