

124TH ANNUAL BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH TIMES

BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH ASSOCIATION: BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

It all began in 1894. Today the Big Rock Plowing Match is one of the longest running annual events and the only one of its kind that remains active in Illinois. For 124 years, the Association has showcased our agricultural heritage by sponsoring the Big Rock Plowing Match. The years have been good, filled with changes and improvements. Since 1950, buildings have been constructed, Kenny Field was created, the Plowing Match expanded and Plowman's Park hosts many community and family events, all under the majestic oaks.

The Big Rock Plowing Match Association is a nonprofit 501C(4) organization. Funded solely from cash donations, in-kind contributions of materials, equipment or services, the auction of baked goods from the Junior and Ladies Fair, as well as park rental fees. Plowman's Park is privately owned and maintained by the Association, without any tax or public funds.

The Association Board has been tireless in maintaining the 19-acre park and buildings: improvements include metal roofs and siding on buildings; blacktop around the pavilion and stage; pavilion floor replaced and gutters added; and replacement of vintage equipment from the 1940's and 1970's that had expired in usefulness, with a used 2010 mower and a used 2015 utility tractor.

In addition to routine maintenance, the unpredictable occurs with unexpected costs: underground water leaks; vandalism and unauthorized trespass/use of park resulting in damage to Kenny field and other areas.

The work of the Association has been advanced by the generous in-kind support of individuals, businesses and organizations – your support is priceless. It is with great appreciation that we acknowledge our many sponsors who support us by providing the funds for the prize money at the Plowing Match. Our gratitude is also extended to everyone who bids and buys at auction. This support has extended our ability to provide improvements and enhancements beyond our funding, as well as continue the Big Rock Plowing Match as an event free of admission and parking fees. Plowman's Park is in good shape, better than it has been since it became home to the Plowing Match, but so much more is needed and the time has come for us to reach out to the community for assistance.



Our most immediate list for enhancements, renovation and maintenance of Plowman's Park include:

- ◆ Upgrade electric service to 200 amp service to upgrade lunch stand and add lighting throughout the park.
- ◆ Improve cooking equipment in lunch stand building
- ◆ Renovate restrooms to be ADA compliant
- ◆ Upgrade sound system (current system is 51 years old)
- ◆ Blacktop all gravel roads/surfaces within the park
- ◆ Upgrade lights at Kenny Field
- ◆ Payoff the loan on the utility tractor
- ◆ Repair concrete floor in Ladies Fair building

Over the years, donors have been generous in providing significant contributions to the Association. Monetary contributions were received from the Lois Morris (2013) and Robert Hardekopf (2014) estates and this spring, metal picnic tables were donated by Cyril W. Matter to commemorate his family's memories of living in Big Rock and being part of the Plowing Match.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Bicycle Parade (begins at fire barn)	5:15 pm
Carnival "Wristband Night"	5:00-9:30 pm
Wooden Rockers	6:00-9:30 pm
Olde Time Baseball	7:00 pm

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Western & English Horse Show	8:30 am
Farmers Market Silent Auction (Start)	9:00 am
Drawing for Lands	9:00 am
Plowing	9:30 am
Children's Races (in the cattle ring)	12:00 pm
5 B's BBQ Pork Chop & Chicken Dinner	11:30 am-2:00 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	4:00 pm
Round Bale Roll-off (in the cattle ring)	4:00 pm

CARNIVAL RIDES*

Friday	5:00-9:00 pm
Saturday	noon-5:00 pm
Sunday	noon-close

*wristbands available Friday, Saturday and Sunday

CONCESSIONS

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Tractor Trot 5K	8:00 am
Drawing for Lands	9:00 am
Plowing	9:30 am
Church Service	10:00 am
5B's Roast Beef Dinner	11:00 am-1:30 pm
Watermelon Eating Contest	11:00 am-1:00 pm
Bags Tournament	1:00 pm-4:00 pm
Farmers Market Silent Auction (End)	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	4:00 pm

BEER GARDEN

Co-sponsored by Big Rock Fire Department
and Plowing Match Association

Friday	5:00-10 pm
Saturday	Noon-Close
Sunday	Noon-Close

CRAFT, ART & ANTIQUE SHOW

Saturday	9:00 am-5:00 pm
Sunday	11:00 am-4:00 pm



PLOWMAN'S PARK AVAILABLE

Plowman's Park is host to many community activities throughout the year. This beautiful 19-acre park is available to rent for family, school, church or community events. To book your event under the oaks contact Bonnie Warchol at (630) 556-3501.

- ◆ Big Rock Plowing Match
- ◆ Prairie State Railroad Club
- ◆ Community Easter Egg Hunt
- ◆ Youth baseball games
- ◆ Church, school and family picnics
- ◆ Scouting events

Perhaps you have enjoyed an event at the park. This private park is owned and maintained, without any tax or public funds, by the Big Rock Plowing Match Association.



In 1952, Cyril O. Matter sold his trucking business and bought a 125-acre farm on Camp Dean Road. The family settled down and became involved in the community. Cyril's dad served as President of the Plowing Match Association for 15 years from 1957 to 1972 and was instrumental in the early development of Plowman's Park. His mom Hazel entered her baked goods and knitted items in the Ladies Fair bringing home many ribbons over the years. Cyril started competing at the Plowing Match as a kid, learning and taking tips from his dad's Uncle Rob to hone his skills enabling him to win in his class. He played many a game on Kenny Field first as a little league player, then Pony and Legion leagues and as an adult on fast-pitch teams. He fondly reflects on these wonderful memories. Cyril's gift of giving back to the community allowed the Association to replace all of the wooden tables under and around the pavilion. The Association is extremely grateful for his generous gift—we know everyone will enjoy creating their own fond memories of Plowman's Park, home of the Big Rock Plowing Match.



We are hopeful the community will recognize the need for additional funding to build for the future and embrace the Association's effort to raise \$12,500 dedicated exclusively to the renovation and maintenance of Plowman's Park. The 125th Fundraiser is kicking off right now. Translate these three numbers -125 - any way you wish from \$1.25 to \$12.50 maybe \$125 or \$1,250. Of course, anything in between or above would be appreciated, and \$125,000, well...that would be extraordinary.

Donate an amount for the:

- ◆ number of Plowing Matches you have attended
- ◆ number of ribbons you have won in the Junior or Ladies Fair, Vegetable & Grain Show, Horse or Cattle Show
- ◆ number of years you have lived in Big Rock
- ◆ number of . . . you get it – make it memorable and special for you

Remember to tell us the story behind your donation—we will include an article in Plowing Match Times commemorating your stories.

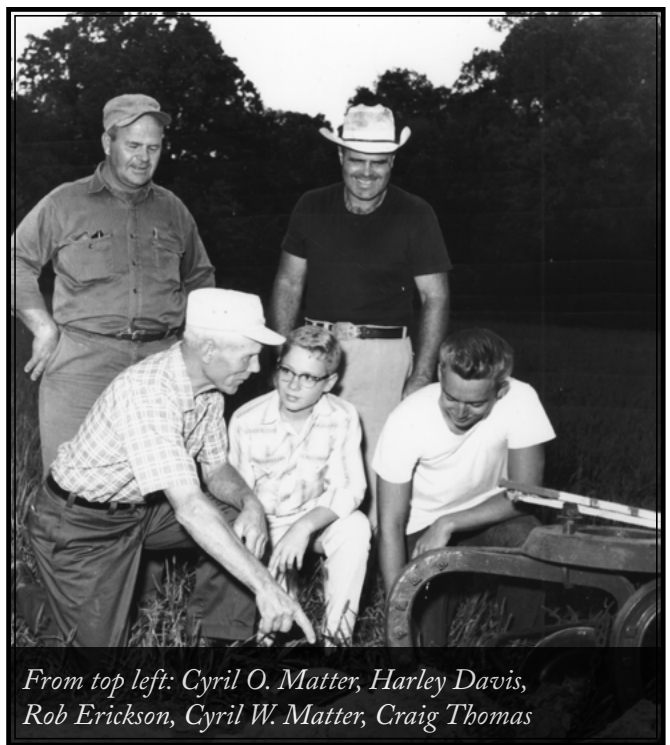
We invite everyone, from kids to seniors and families to donate, groups to gather funds and businesses to support our goal of reaching \$12,500 for the renovation and maintenance of Plowman's Park. All donations will be acknowledged on the Association's website, published in the 2019 Plowing Match Times and on banners at Plowman's Park next year. You can follow the fundraising progress on our website beginning in November with frequent updates leading to the 125th Big Rock Plowing Match on September 13, 14 and 15, 2019.

A donor thank-you drawing, in celebration of the 125th anniversary, will be held next year:

- ◆ All donors will be eligible in a drawing for a copy of the 125th Ladies Fair Recipe Book.
- ◆ Donors of \$125+ will be eligible in a drawing for a Plowing Match T-shirt and a copy of the 125th Ladies Fair Recipe Book.
- ◆ Donors of \$1,250+ will be eligible in a drawing for a basket of Plowing Match memorabilia, including the above and more.

We thank you for your consideration of this request and for your support to build for the future.

Contribution forms will be available at Plowman's Park and at www.bigrockplowingmatch.com



From top left: Cyril O. Matter, Harley Davis, Rob Erickson, Cyril W. Matter, Craig Thomas



4-H CATTLE SHOW AND AUCTION

Where's the Beef? At the Cattle Show on Sunday at 1:00 pm, of course. Members of the Big Rock Cowhands 4-H, joined by 4-H members from Kane County and surrounding counties, will bring their prized steer to compete and be sold at auction. Raising, caring for, feeding and training their animals is a daily year-round project leading to the show. Judging is based on form, market readiness and cover with awards presented for breeds.

If you are seeking top quality freezer beef or just want to help a local 4-H member continue to be able to show cattle, please consider bidding at the auction on Sunday at 3:00 pm. We'd like to say a big THANK YOU to our exhibitors and buyers. Without you we couldn't continue the show. See you Sunday afternoon.



Congratulations to the 2017 show winners:

- ◆ Grand Champion Overall - Payton Hueber
- ◆ Reserve Grand Champion Overall - Blake Goodbred
- ◆ Junior Showmanship - Ashley Wackerlin
- ◆ Senior Showmanship - Riley Johnson

Thank you to all our exhibitors and our 2017 buyers:

- ◆ CHS Ag Company
- ◆ DeKane Equipment
- ◆ Jeff & Tammy Engel
- ◆ Don Frost - Wyffels Seed
- ◆ O'Donnell Excavating & Trucking
- ◆ Old Second Bank
- ◆ Don Willrett - Pioneer Seed



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WINNERS OF THE 123RD PLOWING MATCH COMPETITION, 2017

SATURDAY, 9/16/2017

15 & Under Class

1st—Levi Marquardt of Hinckley, 58 points

19 & Under Class

1st—Jackson Kettlekamp of Elburn, 86 points

2nd—Alex Turk of Elburn, 77 points

3rd—Joe Turk of Elburn, 65 points

Farmers Open Class

1st—Trent Pierson of Elburn, 89 points

2nd—Mark Nier of Kiel, WI, 88½ points

3rd—Erich Turk of Elburn, 85 points

4th—Brett Hake of Sandwich, 84 points

Prizewinner Class

1st—Rick Wolf of Erie, 87½ points

2nd—Kurt Wurster of Aurora, 69 points

Expert Plowman Class

1st—Paul Evans of Big Rock, 93 points

2nd—Sharon Harris of Rockvale, TN, 91½ points

3rd—Mike Winckler of Erie, 88 points

4th—Tom Evans of Big Rock, 81½ points

Novelty Class

1st—Gregg Mitchel of Northwoods

2nd—Bruce Johnson of Rochelle

3rd—Kris Johnson of Cortland

SUNDAY, 9/17/2017

Antique Rubber Class

1st—Rick Wolf of Erie, 90 points

2nd—Mark Nier of Kiel, WI, 89½ points

3rd—Mike Winckler of Erie, 87½ points

4th—Scott Temple of Erie, 86 points

Antique Steel Class

1st—Paul Evans of Big Rock, 89 points

2nd—Trent Pierson of Elburn, 87 points

3rd—Jerry Thomas of Batavia, 83 points

4th—Heather Dollinger of Elburn, 82½ points

Novelty Class

1st—Kris Johnson of Cortland

Sweepstakes Winner

Rick Wolf of Erie

SCORECARD OF THE BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

9:00 am Sharp

Drawing for Land

9:30 am

Plowing Starts

4:00 pm

Trophy Presentation

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.

HORSE SHOW

SATURDAY

Soon summer will give way to fall when the brilliant leaves and harvested crops remind all that it is time for the Big Rock Plowing Match. Farmers from all over Illinois and neighboring states gather to compete to earn the honor of the best plow person in the competition.

At the other end of Plowman's Park, riders will compete in the 34th annual Big Rock Horse Show. Riders from the age of 6 through 60 will compete in over 25 events. Cash awards and ribbons are given to the best riders and horses. Our judge is Ms. Amy Rovtar-Payne from Sugar Grove. In addition to judging, she will teach riders how to improve their ride in the different events.

There are several fun events including an egg and spoon race and bribe your horse. We even have a class where we "auction" the horse and rider to individual spectators where the winning temporary owner of the horse can take home 50% of the pot for 1st place, 35% for second place and 15% for third place and the rider will receive a ribbon for the competition.

Our goal is to make sure the riders not only learn but have FUN. At the end of the show all ribbon winners that have stayed to the end of the competition gather in the arena and a \$100 cash award goes to a lucky ribbon winner with the matching number on the back of their ribbon. Our High Point and Reserve High Point winners will also win a cash award along with a ribbon.



5 B'S SERVING DINNER SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

5 B's Catering of Waterman will be serving up everyone's favorite chicken, pork chops or roast beef on both days at the Plowing Match.

Saturday's menu offers plates at \$13 with a choice of 2-pork chops, half chicken or a combo plate (1 chop and quarter chicken) served with baked beans, coleslaw and applesauce. Dinner will be served from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm.

A roast beef dinner will be served from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm on Sunday. Dinners are \$13 per plate and include roast beef, au gratin potatoes, buttered green beans, coleslaw and roll with butter.



The large grass arena next to beautiful 300 year-old oak trees is not only the perfect place for the horse show competitors, but also allows spectators in the stands to watch in shady comfort. Take a look at the complete listing of all the classes and come out to compete, learn, maybe win some cash - but most of all.....Have fun!

Finally, words of remembrance for one of the people that started the horse show at the Plowing Match. Lois Rogers of J & L Stables recently passed away. We will always remember her smile and willingness to help. She was a wonderful lady and will be missed. I'm sure she will be smiling down on us and insuring we have great weather for the show.



CHILDREN'S RACES

SATURDAY

Put your electronics down and enjoy some old fashioned races on Saturday at noon in the Cattle Ring. If you are a preschooler or student in kindergarten to 8th grade come on down and join in the free races.

Races for preschool children include a Run to Mom/Dad, Bunny Hop and Penny Race.

Students in Kindergarten and 1st grade will compete in a Crab Walk, Balloon Race and Penny Race.

2nd and 3rd grade student races include Crab Walk, Balloon Race and 3-Legged Race with ties provided.

4th, 5th and 6th grade students compete in Egg, Balloon and 3-Legged Races with ties provided.

7th and 8th grade student races include Egg, 3-Legged Race with ties provided and Balloon relay.

Prizes include ice cream tickets and cold, hard, cash. Support for this event is provided by the Big Rock Lions Club.

34TH ANNUAL HORSE SHOW—SATURDAY

STARTS PROMPTLY AT 8:30 AM

Classes

1. Open Halter – English & Western
2. Open Pony Halter (14.2" & under) English & Western
3. Open Showmanship – English & Western
4. Western Horsemanship (15 and Under)
5. Western Horsemanship (16 and Over)
6. Open Western Horsemanship
7. Western Pleasure (15 and Under)
8. Western Pleasure (16 and Over)
9. Open Western Pleasure
10. Lead Line**
11. Walk Trot**
12. English Pleasure (15 and Under)
13. English Pleasure (16 and Over)
14. Open English Pleasure
15. English Equitation (15 and Under)
16. English Equitation (16 and Over)
17. Open English Equitation
18. Open Calcutta (\$\$\$) Pleasure Class

Just for Fun

19. Musical Cones
20. Open Command Class
21. Egg and Spoon Race
22. Bribe Your Horse
23. Ride-A-Buck (bareback)

Classes

24. Grooms Class**
25. Non-Blue Ribbon Winner Performance Class

Classes: \$5 per event

General Guidelines

- ◆ All contestants must wear proper attire except in classes: 10-19-20-21-22-23-24. The decision of the judge is final.
- ◆ Five-minute tack change allowed if notified to the announcers booth.
- ◆ NO ONE under the age of 18 may show a Stallion.
- ◆ The Show Committee has the right to combine, cancel or divide a class when necessary (3 entries per class minimum).
- ◆ The Show Committee has the right to refuse check or issue tabs. A \$40 charge on all returned checks.
- ◆ Entries are non-refundable.
- ◆ The Horse Show is not liable for theft, accident or injury to rider, equipment or horse.

The Show is designed to be educational, fun and may be financially rewarding.

Cash awards to high point winners.

- ◆ All ribbon winners are eligible to win a \$100 cash prize. Drawing at end of show. You must be present. No Stand-ins please.

High Point Awards: age 15 and Under

1-2-3-4-6-7-9-12-14-15-17-18-25

High Point Awards: age 16 and Over

1-2-3-5-6-8-9-13-14-16-17-18-25

JUDGE: Ms. Amy Rovtar-Payne, Sugar Grove.

Ample trailer parking available.

Lunch break at approximately 12:30 pm

Need more information? Contact Bonnie at (630) 556-3501 or email brw1964@gmail.com

***Walk Trot, Lead Line and Grooms Class - Participants in these events are not eligible for any other performance class. Lead Line riders are not eligible for Walk Trot Class (11).*



Big Rock Township

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bigrocktownship@gmail.com



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TRACTOR TROT

SUNDAY 8 AM START

Experience the quaintness of Big Rock and feel its crisp country air as you run, walk or trot in the Big Rock Plowing Match 5k fun run. Coordinated by the Big Rock Fire Department, runners of all ages and abilities are invited to participate on Sunday, September 8. It all begins outside the entrance to Plowman's Park. Arrive early, especially if you will be registering on site that morning, as the run begins at 8 am. Registration fee is \$20. Registrations received by September 8 will include an event t-shirt. Find the form at www.bigrockplowingmatch.com.



OLDE TIME BASEBALL

FRIDAY

Last year's game played in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Kenny Field found players lingering on the field soaking in the memories of games played years ago.

All players 16 years and older are invited to participate and make their own memories in this year's game at 7:00 pm on Friday. Bring your own equipment and gather at the field at 6:30 pm. Fans of all ages are welcomed to fill the stands and cheer on the teams. Coordinated by the Big Rock Park District.



BAGS TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY

We are thrilled to announce the First Annual Big Rock Plowing Match Bags Tournament on Sunday from 1:00-4:00 pm. Open to adults, 21 and older, this tournament with great cash prize winnings is sure to be a hit, so register early to guarantee your spot. Here's the game plan.

- ◆ Blind draw for partners at 1:00 pm
- ◆ Double elimination tourney
- ◆ Entry fee is \$20 per person
- ◆ Register by Monday, September 10 to guarantee your spot
- ◆ Application form at www.bigrockplowingmatch.com
- ◆ Find us on the edge of the park in the area north of the Ladies and Junior Fair buildings
- ◆ Registration for available spots will open before the tournament.

Prize winnings

- ◆ 1st Place Team \$500
- ◆ 2nd Place Team \$250
- ◆ 3rd Place Team \$125

Our sincere gratitude to the tournament co-sponsors Dairy Joy and Pessina Tree Service.

Contact Steve Ruh at 630-461-9879 or steve@ruhfarms.com with questions.



ROUND BALE ROLL

SATURDAY

Are you ready for a "Roll ON the Straw"? Come and compete at the Round Bale Roll on Saturday, 4:00 pm in the Cattle Ring. This old-fashioned competition tests the strength and skill of three team members competing against time to roll a round bale of straw across the ring. Of course there is a hitch! Two people roll the bale and the other teammate dares to stay on top of the bale as it rolls. If the person on top falls off, the bale must stop while that person is helped back on top by teammates. The team with the best time wins.

There are two divisions: ages 13-18 and ages 19 plus. No cleats or spikes allowed. Registration begins at 3:30 PM with the contest beginning at 4:00 PM. Registration fee is \$15 per team. This fun competition always brings a lot of laughs and entertainment to the Plowing Match. So, if you are at least 13 years old, show up to roll the straw and win lots of great prizes from local businesses including \$150 for first place.

A special thank you to Rhett Byington for supplying the round bales. For more information contact Lynne Paver at 630-400-6592.

BIG ROCK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Fire Protection District has had a busy year with lots of change, improvements and looking to the future. Although the District is a tax-based entity, additional funding is needed as calls for service increase every year and maintaining our aging equipment takes a lot of effort. With creativity, we supplement the tax funding by applying for grants and hosting fundraisers throughout the year. Here's a brief snapshot about us.



- ◆ Fire department is staffed with volunteer firefighters and EMS (Emergency Medical Service) with paid on premises personnel 24/7. More information at www.bigrockfire.org
- ◆ Maintaining State of Illinois licensure requires constant training.
- ◆ Offering public education classes, including CPR

Achievements

- ◆ 2015 AEV Ambulance replaced a 1998 Road Rescue ambulance and Stryker Power cots replaced Ferno stretchers.
- ◆ Building an addition with future growth in mind, a 3-year work in progress, is now complete with six bunkrooms and a day area for the crews to relax. We are most grateful for the generous donations from several people in our community-you made this project possible. With staff completing most of the finish work, including painting, we were able to expand the reach of the donated funds. Thank you.



Wish List

Cardiac Monitor and Fire Engine to replace current 1992 Darley.

Fundraising events

- ◆ Raffle: first prize is \$1,000; second is \$500 and third is \$250. Tickets are \$10 each and are available now from any firefighter, at the Plowing Match and at the Pancake breakfast. Drawing on October 21.
- ◆ Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 21 from 7 am-noon. Delicious.
- ◆ In closing, we are always looking for help. So, if you have thought about lending a hand, do stop by and talk with us. We welcome the opportunity for you to join us in serving the community.



BEER GARDEN

FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

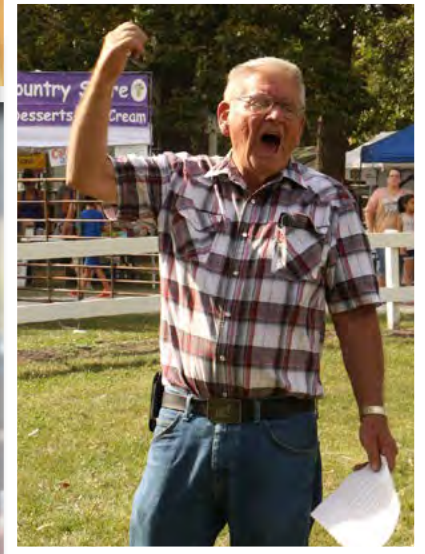
The Beer Garden is a joint fundraising venture of the Big Rock Fire Department and the Plowing Match Association. Adults can kick back, listen to music, watch the bags tournament and enjoy draft beer and flavored malt beverages.

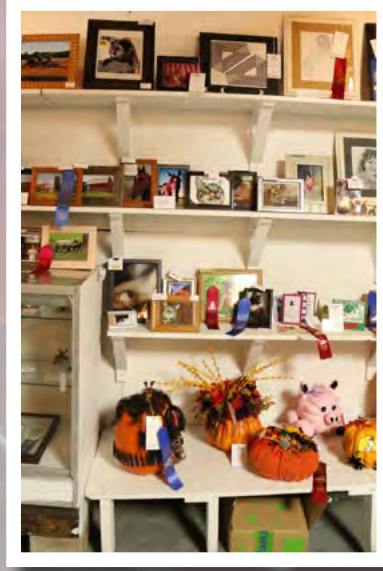
- ◆ Friday evening 5:00-10:00 pm
- ◆ Saturday & Sunday Noon-Close

We are dedicated to preserving the family friendly atmosphere at Plowman's Park. Alcoholic beverages for purchase and consumption will be limited to the enclosed, designated area and will be enforced.

Must be 21 or older and provide photo ID to enter the enclosed area.

Beer Garden will be located on the edge of the park, north of the area between the Ladies and Junior Fair buildings.







LADIES FAIR

Tradition has prevailed over the years with changes introduced by the Ladies Fair Committee based on annual assessments, blended with comments and suggestions from participants. The 2018 Premium List reflects changes with the introduction of a gluten-free category and a special handicraft coloring sheet. A scarecrow is featured as the special handicraft and the photography classes have a specific theme that will change each year. The special class for a mini-quilt depicting our unique event will showcase the quilter's interpretation of the vegetable and grain show. Looking forward to 2019, we will be publishing a Ladies Fair recipe book featuring the special recipes and your favorite baked goods and canned fruit and vegetable recipes from categories on the Premium List. Details at the Plowing Match.

So, be part of the tradition. Browse the premium list, enter your best items and spread the word to your family, friends and neighbors and encourage everyone to enter the Ladies Fair and have their talents acknowledged.

Our Special Recipe for Date & Nut Cake is from June Thomas in honor of her mother Anna Mae Lash who won multiple blue ribbons at the Ladies Fair. The hand-written recipe from Anna Mae is quite faded, leaves ingredients open to interpretation (strong coffee and a little salt), as well as, provides no written directions. This favorite recipe has been modified over the years by family members, so we did a taste test, using two of the recipes and the original recipe was preferred. With June's permission the special recipe substitutes pecans for hickory nuts which are both difficult to find and expensive, as well as written directions. So gather up the ingredients, follow the recipe and enter a cake - a first place blue ribbon (\$30) or a second place red ribbon (\$20) could be yours. This cake just may become a favorite for your family as well.



New/first-time entrants and the person that has the most referrals of people entering for the first time will be eligible to receive a 125th Ladies Fair Recipe Book. So, tell everyone to enter and when you check-in your items on Friday, complete the drawing slip as a first time entrant or as a recruiter.

Special Awards and premiums/prize money are provided by individuals and businesses, as well as the Big Rock Plowing Match Association. All support is most appreciated. For the second year, the Big Rock Park District expanded their sponsorship to include the Special Award for Photography. Contact Denise if you are interested in being a 2019 Ladies Fair sponsor.

GOOD TO KNOW

- ◆ Entries: Friday, September 14 from 2:00 to 7:00 pm. Tips for check-in are on the Premium List. Entering more than 12 items? Pre-register with Denise by calling 630-556-4771.
- ◆ Hours: View the exhibits in the Ladies Fair building on Saturday from 9 am to 12:30 pm and 3:30-5:00 pm. Closed during the Auction. Sunday from after Church Service to 2:30 pm.
- ◆ Committee: Cheryl Lee at (630) 988-2522, Karen Yoder at 630-556-3620 or A. Denise Farrugia at (630) 556-4771.

LADIES FAIR – 2017 SPECIAL AWARDS WINNERS

- ◆ Harley Davis Memorial: Most ribbons in all classes - Donita Bartoszek
- ◆ Big Rock Plowing Match Association: Special Mini-Quilt "Big Rock Plowing Match"
First Place-Sheila Juvingo. Second Place-Wilma Shimkus
- ◆ Big Rock Lions Club: Man with most blue ribbons – Tom Vincent
- ◆ The La Kone Company: Most blue ribbons in Section I – cakes - Donita Bartoszek
- ◆ The La Kone Company: Most blue ribbons in Section I – breads, bars & pies - Donita Bartoszek
- ◆ Healy Chapel: Most blue ribbons in Section II – cookies & candy - Harriet Pihera
- ◆ Gladys Butcher Memorial: Most blue ribbons in canned goods – Sharon Harris
- ◆ Harry Schoger & Sons, Inc.: Most blue ribbons in flowers – Sue Moss
- ◆ Dairy Joy: Most blue ribbons in Handicraft – Alicia Engleman
- ◆ Executive Affiliates, Inc.: Most blue ribbons in Section V – embroidery & sewing – Sheila Juvingo
- ◆ Executive Affiliates, Inc.: Most blue ribbons in Section V – hand knitting & crocheting – Janis Baie
- ◆ Needham Shop: Most blue ribbons in quilts – Sheila Juvingo
- ◆ Resource Bank: Most blue ribbons in photography – Lori Zera

JUNIOR AND LADIES FAIR BAKED GOODS AND QUILT AUCTION

SATURDAY

Last year's Big Rock Plowing Match auction featured the first Quilt Challenge as a fundraiser for the Ladies Fair. It was a wonderful success. Congratulations to our quilters, Sheila Juvingo-first place and Wilma Shimkus-second place for their creative interpretation of the Big Rock Plowing Match. Their beautiful mini-quilts were sold at the auction bringing in \$530. We thank Janis Baie who had the winning bid for both of the mini-quilts.

This auction is the Association's primary fundraiser with all proceeds supporting the Plowing Match events, as well as maintaining the buildings and grounds. The auction is a win-win, buyers go home with a tax deduction and the Association receives funds to support their work.



Make the auction a destination this year. Meet up with long-time friends, make new acquaintances and place your bids. The blue & red ribbon winners are the best of the best from both the Junior Fair and Ladies Fair. Parents, grandparents and other supporters will have the chance to bid on their favorite baker's entry and take home some amazing treats. Prize-winning baked goods and quilts will be auctioned to the highest bidder on Saturday afternoon starting at 1:00 pm with Junior Fair items followed by the Ladies Fair items at 1:30 pm and the quilts at 2:00 pm. James Dresen returns as our Auctioneer.

The Ladies Fair special quilt will feature quilters' interpretations of the vegetable & grain show in a mini 24" square quilt.

Over 75 different categories of baked goods and quilts will be auctioned to the highest bidder. These mouthwatering delicious treats include everything from caramel pecan rolls to this year's Special Recipe Anna Mae Lash's Date & Nut cake from June Thomas. Homemade breads, muffins, pies, cobbler, cakes, cookies, cupcakes and candies await a place on your table.

All you need is a bidder's number available that day at the bandstand (12:30-1:00 pm) or you can get one now by contacting Denise at (630) 556-4771 or via email at bigrockplowingmatch@gmail.com

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CRAFT, ART & ANTIQUE SHOW

SATURDAY 9:00 AM - 5 PM
SUNDAY 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

The Craft, Art & Antique Show, a long standing part of the Plowing Match Fall Festival, is a must-see to purchase wonderful gifts for birthdays, holidays or simply to add a great piece to your own personal collection or home décor. New artisans, crafters and vendors join your returning favorites including the blacksmith demonstrating his vast skills. Look for the tent canopies under the oaks between the Junior and Ladies Fair buildings.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2017 RIBBON AND DRAWING WINNERS!

Artisan, Crafter Ribbon Winners

- ◆ 1st place, blue—Ralph Stegall: vintage barn wood creations
- ◆ 2nd place, red—Jeanne Jackson and Sharon Lindvall: unique handmade jewelry
- ◆ 3rd place, white—Pat and Terry Walter: handmade soaps & accessories

Vendor Ribbon Winners

- ◆ 1st place, blue—April Funk: Scentsy
- ◆ 2nd place, red—Rosemary and Bob Perron: Lilla Rose
- ◆ 3rd place, white—Joy Fernandez and Debbie McDonald: Re-purposed items

Drawing Winners

- ◆ Booth space—Teresa Wedeen, Perfectly Posh
- ◆ \$5—Diane Noble, Quilted Treasures
- ◆ \$3—Deb Krahn, Magnibilities

If you'd like to join us to add your unique handmade art, craft or vendor items to the show, applications for next year will be available on our website, www.bigrockplowingmatch.com in April 2019. For more details, contact Coordinator Dawn Stegall at dstegall92@gmail.com.



BIG ROCK LIONS CLUB

Serving those in need is the mission of the Big Rock Lions Club. This long-term commitment is reflected in the Lions' support of the Big Rock community and organizations: Big Rock Historical Society, Big Rock Boy Scouts Troop 19 and the Plowing Match. The Sight & Sound campaign of the Lions of Illinois Foundation also receives funding from the Big Rock Lions to provide assistance and support for those with vision and hearing limitations.

Sameera Sumner and Rachel Sabotta, in recognition of their commitment to community service, received the Student Service Memorial Award in honor of Lions Kevin Clark and Dave Young. The Club awarded the school funds towards projects that will enhance and benefit the students at Hinckley-Big Rock Middle School.

Serving the community with these and future projects, the Lions are dependent on your participation and generous support of the club's fundraising efforts. Show your support by participating in the two fundraisers the Lions are conducting at the Plowing Match: a raffle and Cow Chip Bingo. Club members are selling tickets and squares now and during the Plowing Match.

- ◆ Charity Raffle winner has the choice of \$500 cash or a \$800 gift certificate to RKA Gun Gallery. Only 300 tickets will be sold, with just about 100 available. Tickets are \$20 for one or two for \$30. Winner need not be present.
- ◆ Cow Chip Bingo—Guess what square the calf does his business on and Bingo—you win the pot. Purchase squares for either \$2 or \$5 or both, on one or as many boards as you wish.

The poinsettia sale begins in November with plants delivered to your home in time for the holidays. Watch for signs and check with the Lions to place your order.

The Big Rock Lions Club welcomes men and women to join the group in their efforts to give back to our community. If you are interested, contact President Jack Bartoszek at 630-556-9000 or jbartoszek@ameritech.net. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at the Big Rock Township hall at 7:30 pm.

More information available at the Lions' Club booth near the cattle corral on the east side of Plowman's Park. Like us on Facebook.

JUNIOR FAIR

The Junior Fair welcomes young people from all communities to enter classes to showcase their creativity. Entries do not need to be made just for the Junior Fair, it just needs to fit the requirements of the class it is entered in. Premium classes offer anything from baking to drawing to sewing. Please review this year's Premium Sheet, we are sure you will find a class to enter. We have had over 400 entries each year!



Premium Sheet News

The Junior Fair Coordinators are excited to announce changes to the 2018 Premium Sheet:

- ◆ New classes for 12 to 14 year olds include: painting a canvas, creating a Christmas ornament, making a fidget spinner and making a cross stitch item.
- ◆ Baking classes for all ages have also been revised to offer: frosted cakes, a snack mix (3 to 8 years) and a coffee cake (9 to 14 years).

Each year the Junior Fair has three Special Entries to showcase. For 2018 they are:

- ◆ Art - "Create a Sports Team Logo" Draw your favorite team's sports logo.
- ◆ Craft - "Create a Pennant" Create a pennant to show your enthusiasm for your favorite sports team, musician, super hero, etc.
- ◆ Baking - "Pound Cake" Make a delicious pound cake.

The auction of the first and second winning baked goods will take place on Saturday at 1 pm. Grandparents and other supporters can bid on their favorite baker's entry.

Sponsors

We thank our continuing sponsors and would like to welcome the following new sponsors:

- ◆ Niles Excavating
- ◆ Mary and John Rogerson
- ◆ The Magro Family

2017 Special Award Winners

- ◆ Most blue ribbons in all classes, 3-5 years old: Marissa Leifheit
- ◆ Most blue ribbons in all classes, 6-8 years old: Travis Herrmann, Eliana Martz and Lucas McMurtrie (tie)
- ◆ Most blue ribbons in all classes, 9-11 years old: Alea Ritchie and Anya Ritchie (tie)
- ◆ Most blue ribbons in all classes, 12-14 years old: Lydia Oker
- ◆ Most entries in the Junior Fair, 14 years old and under: First Place-Lydia Oker and Second Place-Brooklyn Morel
- ◆ Most points in all classes, 14 years old and under: Lydia Oker

Entries

- ◆ Drop off 2 pm to 6:45 pm on Friday. Pick up between 4 pm and 5 pm on Sunday.
- ◆ Auction of baked goods at 1 pm on Saturday.

Questions? Please call Donita Bartoszek at 630-556-9000, Sarah Magro at 630-335-6205, or Mary Rogerson at 630-330-0114.



VEGETABLE AND GRAIN SHOW

How does your garden grow? Well here's a chance to show off your prized vegetables, grains and fruits. Bring your entries to the tent next to the Ladies Fair building between 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm on Friday, September 14.

Most classes award first, second and third place, with ribbons and cash prizes ranging from \$3 to \$5. The Ivan & Betty Davis Memorial awards three places for the largest pumpkins. First place receives \$25, second place \$15 and third place \$10; pumpkins should be entered in Section I, which is open to all ages.

Special awards for the participant winning the most blue ribbons are presented in three age categories: \$15 in Section I which is open to all ages; \$15 in Section II for 18 years of age and under; and \$8 in Section III for 12 years of age and under. The participant with the most blue ribbons overall is awarded \$15.

All entries must be grown by the exhibitor. If an entry does not place and the exhibitor does not wish for it to be sold at auction, it must be picked up by noon on Sunday.

Prize winning entries will be sold via silent auction.

- ◆ Bidding will begin at 9 am on Saturday.
- ◆ Bidding will end at 1 pm on Sunday.
- ◆ Winning bids will be determined at 1 pm and must be paid and picked up by 2 pm.

All proceeds will go to the Big Rock Plowing Match Association. As the Vegetable and Grain Show tent is not a secured area, the winning ribbons are not placed on the produce. The ribbons are available for pick up, at the stand, on Sunday.

2017 Winners - Most Blue Ribbons

- ◆ Section I—Open Class: Jerry Hubbard
- ◆ Section II—18 and under: A tie between Michael Grassel and Scarlet Culver
- ◆ Section III—12 and under: Marissa Leifheit

The Vegetable and Grain Show Premium sheet lists all the categories and may be found on the Big Rock Plowing Match website. This event is organized by Cindy and Dale Dean who can be reached at 630-556-3791 with any questions.



BIG ROCK BOY SCOUT TROOP 19

Buy a mum for your Mom or a mum for your home from the Big Rock Boy Scout Troop 19 on Saturday or Sunday at the Plowing Match. Find us under the oaks by Cub Scout Pack 219. We thank you for your support over the years and look forward to providing you with mums this fall.

Throughout the year our Scouts are involved in additional community activities that include:

- ◆ assisting the Big Rock Lions Club with Ski for Sight.
- ◆ selling Christmas décor – wreaths, roping, pots of greenery, grave blankets, etc. Scouts begin taking orders in November.

Two Eagle Scout projects were completed at Plowman's Park in the past year.

- ◆ Alan Bartoszek led the project last year that replaced the wood, as well as painting, the bleachers at the cattle corral.
- ◆ Hunter Masur's project, just completed in time for the 2018 Plowing Match, replaced and upgraded the display area in the Junior Fair building.

Interested in joining Troop 19? If you live in Big Rock or Hinckley and will be starting sixth grade or are older, contact Scout Master Brad Engle at 630-636-0306.

SPONSORED BY THE BIG ROCK PARK DISTRICT

PRINCE AND PRINCESS CONTEST

All boys and girls, ages 3 through 5, living in the area are invited to enter this year's Prince & Princess Contest to be held on Sunday at 1:30 pm at the stage. Entrants check in at the stage by 1 pm.

Entry forms are available on the Park District website www.bigrockparks.com and the Plowing Match website, www.bigrockplowingmatch.com. Deadline for entry forms is September 12. Contact Cindy Nehring at 630-556-3238.

2017 Winners

- ◆ Prince Andrew Liakas and Princess Emma Thomas
- ◆ Second place: Tobiyaz Patsch and Ellie Latsch
- ◆ Third place: Hayden Heiss and Caelyn Montgomery

2016 Prince Judson Reeter and Princess Ellie O'Donnell returned to help crown the 2017 Court.



Left to right: Caelyn Montgomery, Ellie Latsch, Emma Thomas, Andrew Liakas, Tobiyaz Patsch and Hayden Heiss.

WATERMELON EATING CONTEST

One slice or two—watermelon that is. The person with the fastest time after eating slices of watermelon will be awarded a cash prize: \$10 for age group 7-11 eating one slice, \$20 for age group 12-15 eating two slices and \$30 for age group 16 and up eating two slices. So who will have the fastest time in 2018? Find out on Sunday. No entry fee. Registration begins at 11 am at the stage prior to the contest.

2017 Contest Winners:

- ◆ William From eating one slice in 1 min 39.97 seconds.
- ◆ Wesley From eating two slices in 1 min 09.75 seconds.
- ◆ Cherin Dettman Lawrie winning her 5th Championship eating two slices in 1 min 08.43 seconds, cutting her time by almost 9 seconds from her 2016 win.

BINGO

Come and enjoy Bingo on Sunday at 2:30 pm under the Pavilion at Plowman's Park. There will be four or more individual games played, prizes will be awarded and there is no charge to play.

PETTING ZOO

Sponsored by the Big Rock Park District and Big Rock Plowing Match Association

Experience the community petting zoo on Saturday from 10 am-5 pm and Sunday from 11 am-4 pm. Farm animals, provided by local farmers, will be available for visitors to interact, hands-on with the animals. FFA and 4-H members will be manning this fun and educational exhibit near the horseshoe pit area.

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THANK YOU FROM THE BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH BOARD

The Plowing Match Association Board expresses their sincere gratitude to all the individuals, businesses and companies that have provided expertise and services in support of The Plowing Match and Plowman's Park.

- ◆ George Alexander and his Clydesdale horses for providing an elevated view for people to enjoy the plowing competition.
- ◆ Allegra in Aurora for printing the Premium Lists, posters and sponsor banners.
- ◆ Aurora Area Convention & Visitors Bureau for promotion of the Plowing Match.
- ◆ Bickford Electric for tending to all our electrical needs.
- ◆ Big Rock Boy Scout Troop 19 for helping with garbage pickup throughout the weekend.
- ◆ Big Rock Car Show Committee for cleaning up the park, kitchen and restrooms.
- ◆ Big Rock Historical Society for allowing parking on their property and providing rides between the plowing competition and Plowmen's Park.
- ◆ Big Rock Park District for maintaining our baseball field-Kenny Field.
- ◆ Nathan Carr for all his work with the Plowing Match website and coordinating the transition to a new webmaster.
- ◆ Cub Scouts of Three Fires Council for picking up all the paper scraps and refuse that others have left behind. They truly do us a "good turn" during their week-long day camp.
- ◆ Cyril Matter for his extraordinary gift of 37 new picnic tables for the pavilion and park.
- ◆ DeKane Equipment Corporation for equipment assistance in maintaining Plowman's Park.
- ◆ Hinckley-Big Rock Middle School 8th grade students for cleanup help on the Monday after Plowing Match weekend.
- ◆ KZ Photography for taking photos of the events at the Plowing Match.
- ◆ Label Tek for printing and underwriting the cost of the 2018 Big Rock Plowing Match Times.
- ◆ Lyrka Lawler for the graphic and layout design of the *Big Rock Plowing Match Times* and taking on the role of webmaster for the Plowing Match website.
- ◆ Mike Long for allowing parking on his property.
- ◆ Sandy Marshall for creating the prize money tally cards for the Junior & Ladies Fair, as well as the Vegetable & Grain Show.
- ◆ Sue Moss for maintaining the buildings at Plowman's Park.
- ◆ Prairie State Railroad Club for being our resident eyes and informing us when things are just not right.
- ◆ Sign FX for printing and updating Plowing Match signs.
- ◆ Volunteers for all your time and assistance at Plowing Match.

The Plowing Match Board appreciates everyone's assistance in keeping these private grounds beautiful. We are very proud to be part of the Big Rock community.



BIG ROCK PLOWING MATCH BOARD

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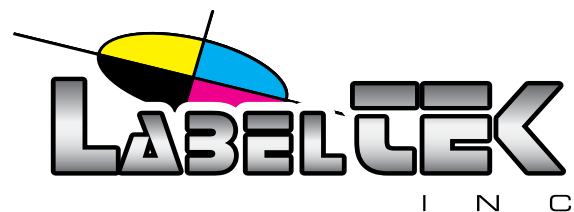
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All donations are greatly appreciated and will lead to the continued success of the Plowing Match and the work of the Association.

Thank you so much.

—Big Rock Plowing Match Association

Sponsors as of August 25, 2018. If you notice any omissions or inaccuracies, please bring them to our attention by contacting Denise at 630-556-4771 or bigrockplowingmatch@gmail.com



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