

If the old tractors attract you, plow your way to this show

Old tractors are, well, so *mechanical*. The machines that were among the first to relieve the burdens of humans and horses still draw crowds of appreciative admirers. Run them in a field. Or park them beside the rows. Even people who didn't grow up on farms stop to see.

No matter where you live, you'll enjoy displays and demonstrations of old tractors this month at the National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame, a mile northeast of Interstate 70 and Kansas 7 in Bonner Springs. Watch the grand old machines to your heart's contentment from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 13 and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 14.

Take a look at "Old 79," one of the first John Deere tractors, the ag center people say. The one visiting this show is a three-wheel drive model from 1918. It has been restored. The best time to examine this machine is at noon July 13. We're told that this tractor will be put to work pulling a plow. It's rare for such an old tractor to be worked. "Old 79" also will be on display from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 15.

Think, too, about watching a demonstration of old fashioned wheat threshing, using a 1938 Avery separator to be powered either by a Case steam engine or a 1936 restored J.I. Case tractor. Watch the threshing at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. July 13 and 14. Take a look, too, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 13 at an antique and classic tractor pull sponsored by the Two Cylinder Club.

Smooth times with Rawhide

And you thought all that ever happens at the Missouri State Fairgrounds is the Missouri State Fair. Your mind is about to be changed. How about



ABOUT TOWN

G. FRED WICKMAN

Visit the fairgrounds from 5 p.m. July 12 to 1 a.m. July 13; from 10 a.m. July 13 to 1 a.m. July 14; and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 14.

A cattle drive is planned. Indian art, dance, song and culture seminars are offered. And old-time fiddlers will tune for a contest. Art, crafts, re-enactments, a worship service and horseshoe pitching also are on the schedule.

See a rendezvous of mountain men and buckskinners. Their camps are open to the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. July 13 and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 14. The rendezvous has demonstrations of pioneering crafts, black powder shooting, primitive traders and food vendors.

Question about any of the events? Call the Sedalia Arts Council, (816) 827-3103.

School of the true meaning

Lanesfield School in southern Johnson County truly has been a place of education. It was built in 1869 at what now is 18745 S. Dillie Road, near U.S. 56. The school was within about 100 yards of the

heading down the road to Sedalia, Mo., for the Sedalia Rawhide Festival, also being called Missouri's Country Western Festival and Native American Culture Appreciation Days!

Santa Fe Trail. Early students could see the wagons roll by.

Children went to classes in that building from 1869 to 1963. And within the last few years Lanesfield School has been given an extensive restoration. It became part of the Johnson County Museum System. And it has served as a living history museum. The school was put back as it was at the start of this century. Visitors have been treated to spelling and geography bees, arithmetic contests and have practiced writing skills by using copy books.

Now the school is closed. But that's not sad. The reason for the closing is temporary. An interpretive center is being added. The 1,500 square feet in the interpretive center will allow space for an exhibit showing one-room schools as educational and community institutions. So, when the Lanesfield School reopens in October, you will have more to see and do. If you can't wait until then, ask about the project at 631-6709.

A reunion for townspeople

People who have lived in Nicodemus, Kan., are planning a reunion for July 26-28. Angela Bates has details. Call her at (913) 674-3311. A Kansas Citian, Stephen P. Katz, has organized a bicycle tour July 26-27 of Nicodemus and nearby towns. For information on the tour, to cover about 62 miles, ask Katz at 426-1001.

Other reunions:

■ Westport High School class of 1971 has its reunion Sept. 21-22. Board the Missouri River Queen at 5 p.m. Sept. 21 for a dinner and cash bar; the cruise is from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on the Missouri

River. Then go to a party and dance starting at 9 p.m. Sept. 21 at Cancun's Mexican Restaurant, 908 Southwest Blvd. A picnic is from 3 to 9 p.m. Sept. 22 in Antioch Park. Reserve for all events by Aug. 20. Call Mary Jane Tinoco Ramirez, 631-1747; John Rios, 444-9942; or Yolanda Garza Hernandez, 459-9363.

■ Central High School class of 1951 has reunion activities Aug. 30 through Sept. 1. Events of Aug. 30 are still being planned. A dinner will be held Aug. 31 at Crackerneck Country Club. And a picnic will occur Sept. 1 at Shelter No. 6, Lake Jacomo. Call Tom Board, 795-8694, so you can get on the list for these and other events to be announced later by reunion organizers.

On the town . . .

Support and education organization, the Epilepsy Group of Kansas, has meetings on Wednesdays at the First Baptist Church of Overland Park. Next time to gather is at 6 p.m. Wednesday at 8200 W. 96th St. Monthly newsletter also available for the asking. Call Stephen Lipe, 780-5204. Or, write to Epilepsy Group of Kansas, 14120 Summertree Lane, Olathe, Kan. 66062. . . . "Birdies Golf Tournament" raises money for the Association for Retarded Citizens of Johnson County and related agency, ARCare. Be on hand at 10 a.m. July 22, Oak Country Club, De Soto. Play in teams. It's three-man scramble format. Lunch at the club. Refreshments on the course. Dinner at Birdies Pub & Grill, 8889 W. 75th St., Overland Park. Door prizes offered. Birdies sponsors the tournament. Call 648-2317 or 722-6465.