

Schedule of Events

Sunday, August 4

6:00 p.m. Community Worship Service

Monday, August 5

5:00-5:45 p.m. . . . Children's Pedal Pull Registration
6:00 p.m. Midway Opens with
Poor Jack Amusements
6:00 p.m. Art, Photography, & Tole Decorating
Exhibits in the White Building
6:00 p.m. Children's Pedal Pull
7:00 p.m. Truck Pull — 4-Wheel Drive
7:00 p.m. Country Line Dancing
7:30 p.m. Talent Contest

Tuesday, August 6

8:30-11:30 a.m. . . Enter Home & Family Exhibits at
White Building
9 a.m.-2 p.m. . . . Enter Open, FFA, & 4-H Exhibits
in White Building
6:00 p.m. Midway Opens with
Poor Jack Amusements
6:00 p.m. Art, Photography, Tole Decorating,
Home & Family Exhibits in
White Building
6:00 p.m. Open, FFA & 4-H Exhibits in the
Antique Pavilion
6:00 p.m. Antique Tractor Show behind the
Antique Pavilion
7:00 p.m. Super Stock Antiques & Farm Stock
Tractor Pull
7:00 p.m. Ice Cream Crank-Off
7:00 p.m. Lakeview Lodge Country Dancers

Wednesday, August 7

9:00 a.m. Baby Contest Registration
9:30 a.m. Baby Contest Judging
Noon. Children's Day Parade Registration
1:00 p.m. Children's Day Parade
Noon. Midway Opens with
Poor Jack Amusements
1:00 p.m. Art, Photography, Tole Decorating,
Home & Family Exhibits in
White Building
1:00 p.m. Open, FFA & 4-H Exhibits in the
Antique Pavilion
6:00 p.m. Antique Tractor Show behind the
Antique Pavilion
7:00 p.m. Horse Pull
7:00 p.m. Raintree Promenaders

57th Annual



FREE FAIR, INC.

Aug. 5-10, 1996

Part of tradition
*The Pattersons always been
active in Mooreland Free Fair*

According to Bill Patterson, the best thing about the Mooreland Fair is "seeing people you don't see. . . . A lot of them are only three or four miles away, you've known them for years, but you only see them once a year, at the fair!"

Bill isn't sure exactly when he started with the fair. But, "to give you an idea, they were pulling tractors in the little cement strip with a sled and blocks." One of his first jobs was doing sound for shows in the old gym, but he soon "got occupied with the footlong hog dog stand. . . . Kids wanting you to find their mothers.



NONPROFIT ORG
CAR-RT SORT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MOORELAND, IN 47360
PERMIT #3

Thursday, August 8

- 5:00 p.m. Pork Chop Dinner
in the Fair Board Food Building
6:00 p.m. Midway Opens with
Poor Jack Amusements
6:00 p.m. Art, Photography, Tole Decorating,
Home & Family Exhibits in
White Building
6:00 p.m. Open, FFA & 4-H Exhibits in the
Antique Pavilion
6:00 p.m. Antique Tractor Show behind the
Antique Pavilion
7:00 p.m. Raintree Promenaders
& Cornfield Cloggers
7:00 p.m. Country Line Dance Contest
7:00 p.m. Open Class Mini Rods

Friday, August 9

- 6:00 p.m. Midway Opens with
Poor Jack Amusements
6:00 p.m. Art, Photography, Tole Decorating,
Home & Family Exhibits in
White Building
6:00 p.m. Open, FFA & 4-H Exhibits in the
Antique Pavilion
7:00 p.m. Raintree Promenaders
& Cornfield Cloggers
7:15 p.m. Gospel Sing
7:30 p.m. Central Indiana Tractor Pullers

Saturday, August 10

- 7:30-8:30 a.m. . . Run Registration
8:30 a.m. Mile Fun Run
9:00 a.m. 5K Run
10:00 a.m. Run Awards
10:30 a.m. Mooreland Free Fair Car Show
Noon Midway Opens
with Poor Jack Amusements
3:00 p.m. Fair Parade - A Year to Remember
4:00-5:30 p.m. . . Pickup Home & Family Exhibits
4:00-6:00 p.m. . . Pickup Art, Photography &
Tole Decorating Exhibits
5:00-6:00 p.m. . . Pickup Open, FFA & 4-H Exhibits
7:00 p.m. NTPA Sanction Super Pro Stock Tractors
w/2-Wheel Drive Trucks -NTPA
7:30 p.m. Queen & Princess Coronation
8:30 p.m. Merchandise Drawings
& Parade Results
9:00 p.m. Dance

"Times have changed, and you don't hear that 'Come to the hot dog stand!' anymore. The hot dog stand has changed, too, leading up to the permanent building used today: 'First it was a Pepsi stand, then the first big one behind Roy Brown's. Shorty Gard built it in the back of the fire station — the one on skids — we used that one for a long time.'"

In September, Bill will have been with the fire department for 45 years. He started out in Winchester, where he went to high school. "That's where I had the first fire hose in my hand." When he was 22, Bill came to Mooreland, and he says, "I love Mooreland and the people in it, and I don't intend to leave until they carry me out!"

Bill and Mary (Bill calls her "Peg") have been married for 54 years. One of the highlights of their married life was their 50th anniversary celebration on Dec. 24, 1992. The fire department planned a surprise party. Nobody slipped, Bill says: "It was a feat the way the boys got it done!"

To keep the party a secret, firemen hand-delivered invitations. "They even got Smitty involved!"

Horace and Vera Smith, 40-year friends, kept Bill and Mary away from home while daughter Patty got the family pictures and memorabilia, and took them to the fire station. Smitty tells Bill, "I never fibbed to you before."

When they arrived back in Mooreland at the fire station, cars were everywhere, Smitty said. Besides all the local residents and relatives, there were friends made through fire-fighting associations. Bill Bush and his family came from Dana, Ind., 140 miles away.

Bill and Mary still go to Dana, home of war correspondent Ernie Pyle, for an annual street fair. They value the friendships made at fire-fighting conventions years ago. Sometimes there is some nostalgia for the way things used to be, like playing "boom bass" and washtub at a convention in a parking lot at 3 or 4 in the morning. . . . "As long as we'd play, they'd dance."

There is some nostalgia, too, for a more



Bill and Mary Patterson

relaxed time in Mooreland. Sitting in the old drug store drinking coffee. . . Shorty Gard, Delbert Brown, and Richard Holaday . . . everybody that came in was just sociable.

At the fair, Bill's major work in recent years has been doing sound for the track and helping in the hot dog stand, although, he says, "I'm not too proud to do any of it if I'm able."

Mary also works in the hot dog stand. Pat, their older daughter, and her husband, Ralph Mahaffey, also help.

Pat and Ralph also have assisted with the Lions Club shows at the fair. Bill did sound for the shows and made the tapes used for pantomime numbers. The Lions this year won't do a show, but they will have a booth and sell ride tickets one night. Mary is secretary of the Lions and Pat will be president next year. Pat and Ralph have one son, Ralph Mahaffey, Jr.

The Patterson's son, Dick, has two daughters, Amy and Megan. Amy works in the Radiology department of Ball Hospital, and Megan graduated from Tri High this year. Bill says that "Dick hasn't missed a Mooreland Fair since he was born. He even came back from Florida one year!"

Bill credits Larry Moore and younger daughter, Shirley, with putting in their time at the hot dog stand, too. Their son, Greg Moore, and his wife, Karla, have made Bill and Mary very proud great-grandparents. And they have the pictures to prove it.

Bill still works almost every day at WERK in Muncie, doing "whatever they need done." Mary

See PATTERSONS, Page 2

Float preparations in progress

The talents and imaginations of individuals and organizations are working again as they prepare floats and units for this year's fair parade.

The theme of the parade is "A Year to Remember." Parade time is 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 10. Floats and decorated vehicles, to be judged, are to assemble on the parade field at 1:30 p.m. All other entries are asked to be in the field and positioned prior to 2:30 p.m., at which time traffic will close.



Awards will be presented to eight judged categories. Those include three float divisions, decorated vehicles, a

novelty entry, horse unit or rider, custom car and an antique entry. To be considered for judging the committee

urges that entries be made by Wednesday, Aug. 7.

Clowns, bands, floats, twirlers, motor groups, queen and princess candidates, fire units and antique vehicles are all expected to add to the enjoyment of the hundreds of people who will view the parade.

Entries are now being accepted. Inquiries should be directed to Jane Houser (317)766-5329 or Betty Linville (317)766-5434.

Pattersons

Continued from Page 1

worked for Dr. George Stauffer for 13 years, then at New Castle State Developmental Center for 28 years. Her work there, in the pharmacy, was "hectic, but challenging." She retired on July 31, 1995.

One of Mary's most interesting experiences happened during an earlier job at the Mooreland switchboard. Mooreland High School basketball games used to be broadcast on the radio through the switchboard. One night during a ballgame, lightning played up and down the keys. Mary says all she could do was just watch it flash up and down.

Bill and Mary don't spend much time dwelling on the past, though. Bill uses a computer "for everything," Mary says. Bill holds a commercial radio license, and has a base station and mobile units, in addition to his fire monitor. Mary says the radio helps her feel safer when she is out "clogging." She is a member of the Cornfield

Cloggers and dances once or twice a week.

Bill is modest about his radio work, always deferring to "Smitty" as the expert. And when Bill works on sound, he says, "I never fixed a system that I didn't make smoke a little first!" He is proud of the sound system at the track, though, with buried lines, giving much of the credit for that to Bob Manifold.

Bill has reason to be proud, too, of his fire service. He served as fire chief for 13 years and in 1994 received the Midwest Award for dedication to the fire service.

For the Pattersons, it all comes together at the Mooreland Fair — the fire department, hot dog stand, radio and sound work, family gathering, and the community getting "sociable." Mary will be dancing at the fair, three times, with the Cornfield Cloggers. Bill feels very positive about the future of the fair, that "there's always room for improvement, but there's just not enough space."

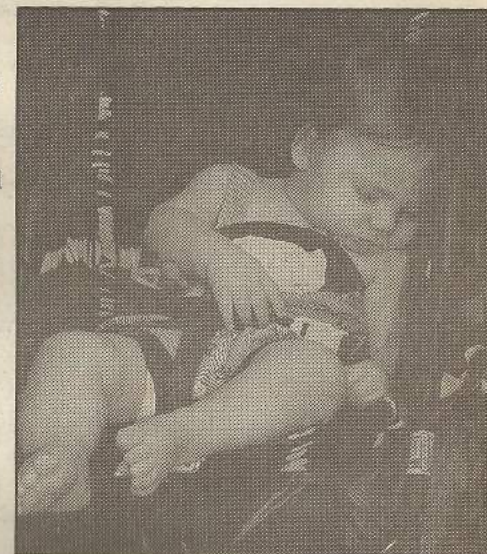
Baby's work hard

Babies up to 24 months are invited to enter the 1996 Mooreland Free Fair Baby Contest. One of the best-attended events held annually in the entertainment building, the baby contest includes babies from Henry and surrounding counties.

No pre-registration is needed. Upon arrival, mothers or other devoted relatives line up to register babies in categories: bluest, brownest, or biggest eyes; longest eyelashes; chubbiest; deepest dimples; biggest smile; most sober expression; most, least, curliest, darkest, or reddest hair. There is a 25-cent charge for each category entered.

Some categories, experience shows, will be very large. These large categories will be pre-judged early in the contest.

After final judging of the smaller categories, finalists of the large categories will be identified by number and return to the stage for final



Brandon Ramey at work.

judging.

Announcement of all winners will be in a ceremony at the end of the contest, with all winners on stage at the same time. It is something to see!