

Schedule of Events

Saturday, August 2

1:00-3:00 p.m. Enter Art, Photography & Tole Decorating Exhibits - White Building

Sunday, August 3

6:00 p.m. Community Worship Service with host Mooreland Friends Church
7:00 p.m. 75th Anniversary Party - Food Building

Monday, August 4

9:30 a.m. Baby Contest Registration
10:00 a.m. Baby Contest Judging
1:00 p.m. Children's Day Parade Registration
2:00 p.m. Children's Day Parade
2:30 p.m. Tony Hoard & his K9 Crew behind Antique Pavilion
3:00 p.m. Midway Opens with Poor Jack Amusements
4:00 p.m. Tony Hoard & his K9 Crew behind Antique Pavilion- half-hour show
5:30 p.m. Tony Hoard & his K9 Crew behind Antique Pavilion
6:00 p.m. Art, Photography & Tole Decorating Exhibits in the White Building
6:00-6:55 p.m. Children's Pedal Pull Registration
7:00 p.m. Children's Pedal Pull
7:00 p.m. Antique Tractor Pull
7:30 p.m. Talent Contest - Adults, Children to 12 years

Tuesday, August 5

8:00-11:30 a.m. Enter Home & Family Exhibits - White Bldg.
9:00 a.m.-noon Enter Agricultural Exhibits - Antique Pavilion
5:00 p.m. Midway Opens with Poor Jack Amusements
6:00 p.m. Art, Photography, Tole Decorating, Home & Family Exhibits in the White Building
6:00 p.m. Agricultural Exhibits in the Antique Pavilion
7:00 p.m. Antique Tractor Pull - Modified
7:00 p.m. Entertainment - K&C's Country Kickers (behind Fair Board Food Building)
7:30 p.m. Talent Contest - Teens ages 13-18

Wednesday, August 6

5:00 p.m. Midway Opens with Poor Jack Amusements
5:00 p.m. Miniature Horse Pull
6:00 p.m. Art, Photography, Tole Decorating, Home & Family Exhibits in the White Building
6:00 p.m. Antique Tractor Show behind the Antique Pavilion
6:00 p.m. Agricultural Exhibits in Antique Pavilion
7:00 p.m. Cornfield Cloggers



FREE FAIR, INC.

August 4-9, 2014



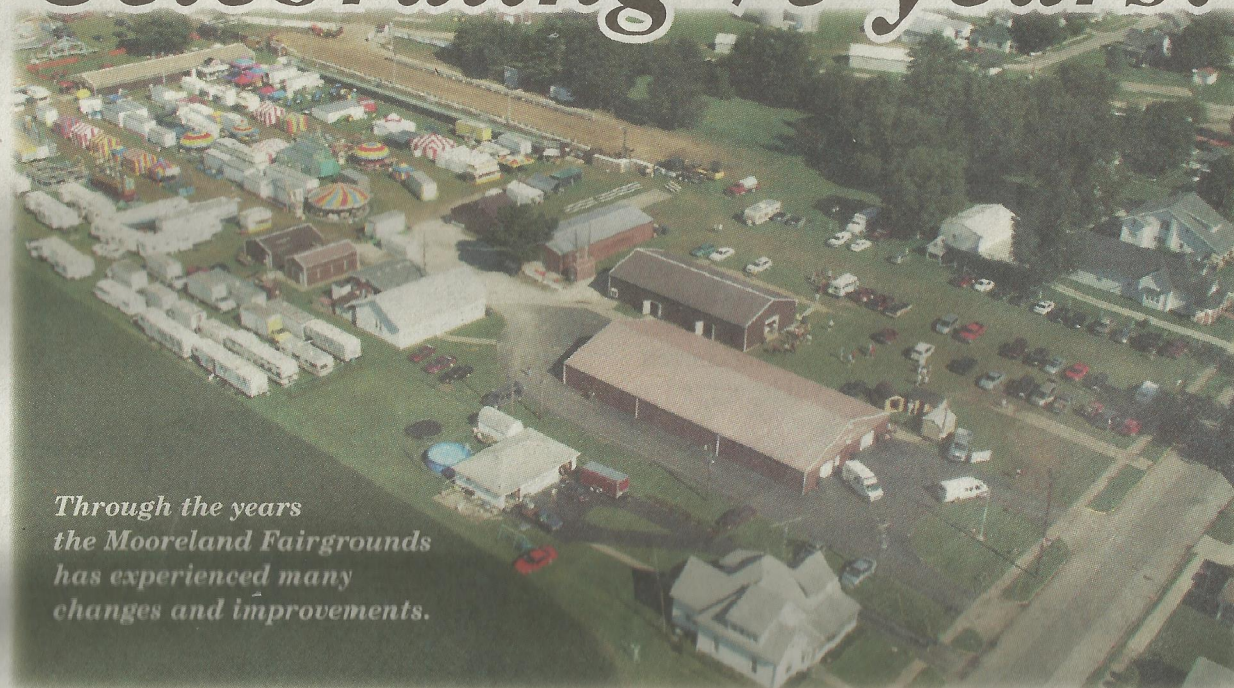
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Historic Note:

The first fair newspapers were sent to just Henry County. Now 17,000 copies are mailed to neighboring towns and communities.

Celebrating 75 years!



Through the years
the Mooreland Fairgrounds
has experienced many
changes and improvements.

Old friends meet face to face at the fair

Who needs facebook? Families and friends reunite annually at fair time to reminisce and to create new memories. Mooreland families like the Thornburgs, schedule annual reunions to coincide with the fair.

Board treasurer, Andrea Johnson, who also spends a lot of time working at the track, posts: "The fair has such a rich tradition that I hope it continues for another 75 years. It was always the highlight of my childhood and I volunteer so that

7:00-8:00 p.m. Cooking School with Trista Hill
The String Party Band

Thursday, August 7

5:00 p.m. Pork Chop Dinner in the Fair Board Food Building
5:00 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. Agricultural Exhibits in the Antique Pavilion
6:00 p.m. Antique Tractor Show behind the Antique Pavilion
6:15 p.m. Magician Marcus Lehmann on Fairground
7:00 p.m. Cornfield Cloggers
7:00 p.m. Magician Marcus Lehmann in Entertainment Pavilion
7:00 p.m. Truck Pull

Friday, August 8

4:00-8:00 p.m. Blood Drive in front of Merchants Pavilion
5:00 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. Agricultural Exhibits in the Antique Pavilion
6:00 p.m. Antique Tractor Show behind the Antique Pavilion
7:00 p.m. Tractor Pull - Pro Farm
7:00 p.m. Cornfield Cloggers
7:15 p.m. Gospel Concert
Dusk Fireworks to the north - rain date Saturday

Saturday, August 9

7:30-8:30 a.m. Run Registration
8:30 a.m. Mile Fun Run & 5K Walk
9:00 a.m. 5K Run
10:00 a.m. Run Awards
10:00-11:00 a.m. Car Show Registration at Town Park
1:00 p.m. Midway Opens with Poor Jack Amusements
1:00 p.m. Parade Line-Up Begins
2:00 p.m. Car Show Awards at Town Park
3:00 p.m. Parade "Memories"
4:00-5:30 p.m. Pickup Home & Family Exhibits
4:00-6:00 p.m. Pickup Art, Photography & Tole Decorating Exhibits
4:30 p.m. Pickup Agricultural Exhibits
4:30 p.m. Drumcorps behind Fair Board Food Bldg.
6:00 p.m. Adult Pedal Pull behind Fair Board Food Building
7:00 p.m. Hoosier State Tractor Pull & Truck Pull
7:30 p.m. Queen & Princess Coronation
8:00 p.m. Merchandise Drawings & Parade Results
8:00 p.m. The Mix Factory behind the Food Building

alumni have class reunions that often include a trip around the midway. Class members often get shirts alike and decorate floats for the parade. Some recollections of the Mooreland Fair are almost universal. Memories of the midway and the hot dog stand with the Gard family band playing in front of it are experienced by almost every fairgoer.

Fair Board members, especially, have some unique perspectives, and offer the following posts.

Like many born around Mooreland, Kelli Johnson, always looks forward to the Fair.

"I've been going every year as far back as I can remember." Kelli always enjoyed the rides and now gets to watch her kids enjoy them. Nowadays her "favorite part is seeing family and school friends . . . like a reunion. Being on the fair board is a lot of work and tiring, but also a lot of fun."

Kelli's co-chairman of the Queen and Princess Contest, Sharon Webb, remembers favorite times in her childhood, "when Poor Jack Amusements started to pull into the fairgrounds. We would always watch for them to come and try to figure out what rides they were bringing."

Sharon's son, Terry Wallen, chairman of the race and runs on Saturday morning, has inherited his mother's fondness for the fair, calling it, "a family affair for generations."

Sharon's classmate, food building and parade chairman, Betty Linville, looks at the fair from a long-range view - outside the area in which she is confined for many hours every summer. "So many changes have been made . . . the days of tent raisings are gone - new metal buildings take their place." Probably recalling the work her late husband, Donnie, did to organize pulling contests, Betty recognizes changes there, "pulling track and bleachers replaced grass pulling areas surrounded by chairs."

One of the younger fair board members currently responsible for track events, Matt Glaser, says his earliest memory was when he was just a young boy riding into town with his dad to watch the tractor and truck pulls. "I always told dad that one day I wanted to be the guy running the pull-back tractor. Dad (Jerry Glaser) jokes with me now, saying, 'You went from wanting to be a pull-back tractor operator to being the event chairman,' I am proud to be a part of the Mooreland Free Fair."

so proud that this small community puts on such a grand event that none other compares to."

Antique Car Show Chairman, Bud Grubbs, comments: "My first memory of the Mooreland Fair? I was 4 or 5 in 1953 or 1954 and I was with my Grandpa Grubbs and his youngest son of 13 or 14 years, my uncle Ronald. The event I remember most and liked the best was the horse tank with young ducks. To win, you tossed a canning jar seal over their heads. Uncle Ronald won one, and said 'Mother will be proud of this.' To this day I still have this true affection for ducks and chickens. Thank you, Grandpa, for taking me to the fair!"

In contrast, Bud's wife and fellow worker on the Antique Car Show, Rita Grubbs, never knew of the Mooreland Fair until moving here in 1980. She says "being used to going to the Delaware County Fair and then coming to Mooreland was like . . . night and day. The Mooreland Fair was a place you could bring your kids and feel comfortable enough to let them walk around on their own while having a designated time and place to meet. If things changed, you always saw someone that could tell you where they were. It was a place to see neighbors and friends. Just a good time!"

Now, Rita says, "You can see the glow of the fair out our front door and it gives you a good feeling knowing that many people there are having fun and feeling the same way!"

Rita also remembers specific incidents: "One of the funniest I have . . . was of the Kids Day Parade. Our two girls, Angie and Jennifer, and their friend, Delanna Kirby, all in elementary, decided to be country girls, and they had been fishing. Dressed in rolled-up bib overalls and straw hats, with fishing poles over their shoulders and real fish hanging on their lines, they were ready to go and the parade began. Much to their dismay, the flies and bees began swarming over the fish. Everyone near told them to stay away! I don't think it upset the girls, in fact, I think they may have found it funny."

Another "out-of-town" visitor in childhood was board secretary, Mary Murray. "Memories of the fair take me back to the days as a child living in Greensboro and coming to the Mooreland Fair was a big trip and very exciting for us. I also remember

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Old Friends *(continued from Page 1)*

my brother and I coming to the talent show to play an accordion duet. I never dreamed as that child that I would one day marry a wonderful guy and live in Mooreland, be on the fair board and be as involved in the activities as I have been for over 40 years. It is the greatest fair and community that I could be a part of. Congratulations for 75 wonderful years."

Brian Koontz, who with his wife, is responsible for the current Children's Day Parade, observes: "Things change slowly in Henry County. Nowhere is this more true than in Mooreland, and

the Mooreland Fair epitomizes that. Most of the more important attractions at the fair - the food, the parade, the midway, the rides, the exhibits and even the people have changed little in the last 30 years. Because of this, the Mooreland Fair provides a unique opportunity for my children to witness an important part of my own childhood through their own eyes. I tell them stories and legends of when I was young, and at the fair, they can experience these themselves, and passing on that experience is priceless."

Another person concerned with

children's events, Eric Miller, contributes a short humorous post: "Being at the Kiddie Pull for many years, I may have been the only one who heard some things. I can't repeat them here. It's out of the mouths of babes!"

Fair board president, Jodie Brown, provides a good overall view of the fair, past and present: "My first recollection of the Mooreland Fair is when I was a little girl and got lost at the fair, and now there are times as president, I would like to get lost. It is hard to believe that the Mooreland Fair will

celebrate its 75th year this year. For the past 29 years, partly as a board member and for the last several, as president, I have had the pleasure of being a big part of the planning each year. It has been frustrating at times, but I wouldn't change a thing. It is great to see the town come alive during that one week in August.

"The fair wouldn't be possible without the many volunteers who help each year. To those people, 'Thank You,' and I hope you and I can celebrate many more years together."

Facebook has nothing on the Mooreland Free Fair, a definite "Like."

Special events, merchandise planned at 75th fair anniversary

This year marks a special milestone for the Mooreland Free Fair.

The fair board has been hard at work and is ready to celebrate 75 years of traditions, memories and community. The festivities will kick off with a special anniversary party after the Sunday evening church service. Cake, cupcakes, and punch will be served in celebration of the fair's anniversary.

Throughout the week, stop by the Merchant's Building and look for our booth. The fair board will

be displaying memorabilia and selling merchandise. Items available will be t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, and miscellaneous items marking this special occasion. Also, we will have some items from past fairs available for purchase.

A very special quilt made by Mary Murray, that features past fairs, will also be on display. You can purchase raffle tickets for \$1 each or six (6) for \$5.00 for your chance to win the quilt. Proceeds will benefit the Mooreland Food Pantry. The winning

raffle ticket will be drawn on Saturday evening.

Friday evening at dusk, look to the north for a spectacular fireworks show. Webb's Personal Touch will make sure there is not a bad seat on the fairgrounds. We look forward to a show that all ages will enjoy. In case of rain, the fireworks will be on Saturday night.

We hope you enjoy the 75th Annual Mooreland Free Fair.

Gene, George and Alan Gard

Family members will be missed at this year's annual event

The Gard family has had a tough year. Everybody is saying it. Long-time fair workers George Gard and Gene Gard died during the year, as did board member Gary Gard's son, Alan.

Besides their brother Gary, George and Gene are survived by another brother, Gerald "Buck" Gard, and a sister, Carolyn Cooper. Parents of the Gard family were Kenneth "Shorty" Gard and Cathlene Gard. Shorty Gard

Gene and Jacque Gard would have been married 50 years in February. She says Gene really enjoyed both announcing and auctioneering. He did the auctioneering every Saturday for many years and even continued during his illness whenever he could. He enjoyed his family - (Gene always said he was the No. 2 son) - and friends, riding motorcycles with Mick and Juanita Braun

years working closely on Town Board business. George's devotion to his dog, Charlie, whose disappearance saddened George in the months before his death, was also well known.

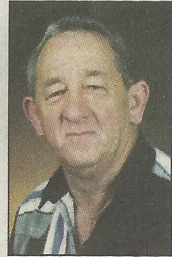
Since 1985, George had been a member of the Mooreland Fair Board, working on many aspects of fairground oversight. Officially, he was in charge of parking, always a challenging and constantly changing job. Not only

perfect ones, and had averaged well over 200 for the past 20 years. With a partner, Jeff Clark, he won a Senior State Bowling Championship. He also enjoyed golf, pool, darts, and horseshoes.

Around Mooreland though, Alan was perhaps remembered best as a third-generation member of the Gard family, so central to the history of

was himself a long-time fair board member, and many of his children and grandchildren have followed in his foot steps working at the fairgrounds over the years.

Kenneth Eugene "Gene" Gard died September 17, 2013, after a long illness. Gene was a 1955 graduate of Mooreland High School. A businessman, he was a former owner of Mitzi's Mini Market, Shawn's Rentals, Gene Gard and Son (a Meadow Gold Dairy distributorship), and also Gard's

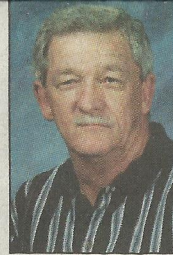


Gene Gard

Auction Service. Among his civic responsibilities, he was formerly a volunteer fireman for the Mooreland Fire Department. Gene was Past Master and at the time of his death, was serving as Master of Losantville Lodge No. 674 F&AM. He was a member of Mooreland North Christian Church.

Gene is survived by his wife, Jacque, two daughters, Mitzi (husband Martin) Rees of New Castle and Shawn Gard of Bossier, LA, a son, Greg Gard of New Castle, his grandchildren, Joshua Gard, Pvt. Lennon Gard, Lillius Gard, Ryan Gard, Kaci Rees and Levi Lees. One other grandchild, Mason Auzenne, preceded him in death.

Gene was a member of the Red Hot Rhythm Band which played every year at the Mooreland Fair in front of the Hot Dog Stand. For several years, Gene had been the parade announcer for the huge crowds gathered on Saturday in front of the fairgrounds on Broad Street. Before that, he was the announcer in the lead truck for the parade, and some years before, was the announcer for track events at the fair.



George Gard

George P. Gard Sr. died March 7, 2014, after a long bout with cancer. He had retired from Chrysler after 29 years of service. He had also worked with his father at Gard's Roofing and had been employed at Warner Gear for 12 years, at Walnut Ridge in the parts department and also with his brother, Gene, in Gard's Auctioneering.

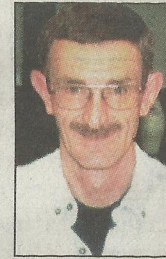
George did many jobs around Mooreland. He had served for 14 years on the Mooreland Town Council, where he was past president. He served as Mooreland Town Marshal in 1977 and then was appointed special deputy and served in that capacity from 1984-2004. He was a member of the Mooreland Friends Church and Mooreland Volunteer Fire Department, where he served for 53 years.

George is survived by two daughters, Carmen (husband Bruce) Orr and Cindy Reeves, both of New Castle, and two sons, George Junior (wife Vanessa) and Voyle Dean (wife Tina), both of Mooreland; 16 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. One son, Duffy Cook, preceded him in death.

George was well known to everyone around Mooreland for his interest in the town. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and boating, and was an enthusiastic collector. He was devoted to his family and friends, including Barbara Bennett, John Moles, and Don Davis, with whom he spent many

and sitting around a campfire in the evenings. Jacque says that every morning "even if I had coffee on, Gene went to town with his neighbor Jerry to get a cup of coffee."

how much parking space is added, there is never enough. People are hard to satisfy; they just don't get to park as close as they want to.)



Alan Gard

When brother, Gene, started announcing the parade at the end of the route, George took over announcing from the lead truck. But to fair visitors, George was best known as a member of the Red Hot Rhythm Band. Everyone looked forward to hearing the band perform "Elvira" and George was "Elvira."

Alan D. Gard, 54, died Sunday, June 15, 2014, following a courageous battle with cancer. He was the son of Gary and Darlene Gard and the brother of Scott (wife Tammy) Gard, all of Mooreland. One sister, Nikki Gard, preceded him in death.

A 1978 graduate of Blue River Valley High School, Alan had worked at the Rose Bowl, Metaldyne, Gard's Roofing, and most recently New Castle Foam Rubber.

Alan was perhaps best known for his proficiency in sports. He was a member of the New Castle Bowling Hall of Fame, having bowled one perfect game (300) and several near-

Fair. Alan took charge of night security personnel at the fairgrounds. He was an energetic member, actually one of the younger members, of the Red Hot Rhythm Band and could be seen every year performing with the band at the fair. His death at a relatively young age is a blow to the legacy of the band, since he could have been expected to have been able to continue for many more years.

There is a very old song which says: "We shall meet, but we will miss him; there will be one vacant chair." There may be several vacant chairs at the fair this year. For certain, there will be three vacant places in the Red Hot Rhythm Band.

George, Gene and Alan Gard will be missed always by family and friends, but additionally by every fairgoer entering the midway looking and listening for the band. We hope those remaining will find the strength to keep the music playing.



Historic Note:

The fair started in 1939 -75 years ago. It was discontinued during the war years and during an outbreak of polio in 1949.

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