

Hayloft News



2026

Menno Pioneer Power Show Sept. 25, 26, & 27

The first thing you may have noticed is the addition of activities on Friday. The show is still closed to the visiting public and there is no gate admission that day. What will happen is Exhibitors, Venders and Volunteers will be busy in final preparation.

Tractor Ride - At 2:00 PM, Friday, September 25th, the Tri-State Old Iron Collectors are sponsoring a tractor ride. The ride will leave at 2:30 on an 18-mile ride with a stop in Olivet. Nonmembers can attend but must provide proof of liability insurance and their tractor must be able to maintain a rate of 12 MPH.

School Tours - Thursday morning, Sept. 24th

Approximately 200 area students will be attending. Exhibitors are welcome to attend this event and show their exhibit, display or demonstration. The tours will be from 8:30-Noon. Let's make this a memorable experience for our youth.

Upcoming Workdays -

14 days prior to the show – We will be mowing and trimming the entire 36 acres. Normally, the open areas are mowed and baled but, at this writing, it appears the grass will be too short to hay and too tall to leave. We have 3 working mowers, but still, it will take a lot of mowing hours to make it look good for our visitors.

Saturday, September 19 starting at 8:30AM – Remove tractors and equipment from all storage buildings. Place them in proper locations. Set out signs and barriers throughout the grounds. Set up entrance gates.

Monday, September 28 starting at 8:30 AM – Clean up the grounds and store all the equipment.

Please help - The board members alone cannot do all this.

Show Workers

The board of directors and committee chairpersons will be calling to solicit workers for the show. Please do not assume they can find someone else. Our crews are short helpers each year. Thank you for helping us present a great show. Enjoy the appreciation BBQ sponsored by Menno State Bank.

More Information at www.pioneeracres.org

Facebook – [Menno Pioneer Power](#)

Check list for Exhibitors, Vendors, and Campers

- **Thank you for helping make this show possible!**
- Call ahead if you have special needs.
- Use the **north gate** to enter the grounds. No main-gate vehicle access will be permitted on Saturday or Sunday. Personnel will be on hand to assist you. Gate opens at 7:30 AM.
- After unloading, promptly park your pickup/trailer in designated area inside the north gate.
- Campers should park in the designated camping area unless other arrangements are made.
- Do not park exhibit trailer south of the church. This area is reserved for tractor pull staging
- Car and truck exhibits may be displayed between the depot and Ferris wheel building and directly adjacent to the north side of the Ferris wheel building. Park close and conserve space. There will likely be 100 John Deere tractors north of the car area.
- Do NOT leave vehicles and equipment unattended in the fire lanes and roadways.
- Look around when parking to avoid boxing anyone in.
- **DO NOT PARK ON THE GROUNDS-USE DESIGNATED PARKING LOTS.** Keep the grounds looking historic
- All operators need a valid driver's license. Supervise kids.
- After you have set up and are parked, please register. Registration will open Friday 8 AM to 4:30 PM
- Enter all information on the registration cards.
- The appreciation BBQ will be in the Red Barn. It is sponsored by Menno State Bank.
- **BE SAFE** and have fun!
- Do not park trailers in visitor parking.
- Speed Limit for any vehicle or exhibit is **5 MPH**.

Note to campers – the policy remains unchanged

- Dry camping only - read the policy at Pioneeracres.org
- Designated camp area is south of the creek, bring extra blocks because the terrain is challenging.
- Do not block the view of Unity Church with your camper!
- Permission must be granted to camp outside the designated camping areas
- Stay close to your neighbors - space is limited
- Campers who are not exhibiting or working must pay **\$20 admission** per adult for the two days.

General Notes

- All dogs must be leashed
- Clean up after your pet
- Owners with dogs not leashed or acting aggressively will be asked to remove them from the grounds

Recreational Vehicle Policy

- Properly permitted UTV's and golf carts are allowed.
- Obtain a permit at registration or on Sat/Sun, see Paula at the main gate.
- See – www.pioneeracres.org for to read the full policy
- All exhibitors and workers must meet criteria and obtain a permit from registration.
- **Speed limit – 5 MPH**

Spread the Word

The south gate will be restricted to campers, tractor pulling vehicles and permitted recreational vehicles.

Pedestrians may also pay and enter the south gate.

Remember the south field is for tractor pullers and those with special permission.

Projects Remaining

Build the Petting Zoo - move the white house to a new location- rebuild red schoolhouse windows - clean and organize east fence line - new fence along the road and east side - small painting projects - repairs for west side of the church. Something always needs work!

Nothing Happens Without Volunteer

Mike Walter – spraying, mowing and trimming all the grass
Jordan Helma – finding, transporting and repairing the newly acquired telehandler.

Dave Mensch – Acquiring the new stage sound system

Jacob Schmidt Dave Mensch - stainless steel appliances

Alita Guthmiller, Dave and Bubbles –restored Ladies Building

Dave Mensch – upgrade water pit plumbing

Dustin Walz and Jacob Schmidt - hauled scrap iron

Aaron Matthaehi – Sawyer for the petting zoo project

Justin Handel – dirt work for the shower addition

Bruce Handel – rifle raffle project and tractor hauling

Lots of other very needed projects to numerous to mention –

Thank you to everyone who helped

Financial Support

The MPHA board of directors, along with support from the membership of the organization, has committed to the following projects:

Petting Zoo Building – At this time, the petting zoo is considered fully funded but we could use more money for pens, gates and hardware. Construction continues after the show.

Pioneer Acres Cultural Center – This steel clad, insulated environmental controlled, building would be located at the main entrance. It will have an entry lobby, archive room/meeting room, exhibit work area, public restrooms and a large display. This addition would allow the MPHA to conduct operations year-round. It will be the entrance building for the show and house numerous large exhibits and small exhibits currently in storage. Estimated cost is \$325,000. Current funding is \$170,000.

Unity Lutheran Church – This is an ongoing fund dedicated to preserving the church. Painting and repairs are expensive. Currently a great deal of repair is needed on the west end of the church. The fund currently contains \$3510. Repairs have not been scheduled.

Buy Rifle and Tractor Raffle

Tickets – A great way to show your support for the show and win a great prize

2026 40th Anniversary Menno Pioneer Power Show Schedule

Friday, September 25

8:00 to 4:30	Exhibitor Registration
2:00	Tri-State Old Iron Association gather for a tractor ride
2:30	Tractor Ride departs on 18-mile ride
6:00	Volunteer and Exhibitor BBQ - Red Barn (Volunteers' and exhibitors' immediate family only)

Saturday, September 26

7:30	Gates opens
8:00 till gone	Biscuits and Gravy – MPHA kitchen – Red Barn
8:00	Exhibitor Registration
8:30 – 5:00	All exhibits open
10:00 – Noon	Musical Entertainment - Holm Building Stage
10:00	Children's Rides & Mini Golf Open
10:00 – 5:00	Lions Kidsight Mobile Eye Clinic – near flour mill
10:30 - Noon	Corn Shelling & Shredding, Hay Loading & Baling, Steam Threshing, Steam Plowing; Sawmill open
10:30 – 11:30	Phil and Friends Polka Band - Outdoor Stage
11:00	Threshermen's Dinner – MPHA Kitchen – Red Barn
Noon	Tractor & Car Parade (rides close during parade)
1:30 – 2:30	Wizard of Oz Characters visit
1:30 – 2:30	Phil and Friends Polka Band – Outdoor Stage
1:30 – 2:40	Musical Entertainment - Holm Building Stage
1:30 - 3:00	Corn Shelling & Shredding, Hay Loading & Baling Steam Threshing, Steam Plowing; Sawmill
2:30	Money in the Sand Pile (toddler to age 10)
2:45	Eight Layers of Victorian Dress – Holm Stage
3:00	Antique Tractor Pull
3:30 – 4:30	Musical Entertainment - Holm Stage
5:00	Great Plains Tractor and Pickup Pull
At Dark	Steam Engine Spark Show

Sunday, September 27:

7:30	Gates Open
7:30 - 1:00	Pancake Breakfast/Lunch – red barn
8:30	Exhibitors/Workers Church Service – Unity Church
9:00 – 5:00	All exhibits open
10:00 – 12:00	Musical Entertainment - Holm Stage
10:00 – 3:00	Lions Kid-sight Mobile Eye Clinic – near flour mill
10:30 – 11:30	Musical Entertainment – Outdoor Stage
11:00 – 3:30	Children's Rides & Mini Golf
Noon – 3:00	Corn Shelling & Shredding, Hay Loading & Baling, Steam Threshing, Steam Plowing, & Sawmill
Noon	Mini Rod Pull
Noon	Pedal Pull Registration Begins – steam building
12:30	Ladies Nail-Driving Contest – main street
1:00 – 2:30	Musical Entertainment – Holm Stage
1:15	Children's Pedal Pull – steam building
1:45	Bale Throwing Contest – main street
2:30	Toto "Look a Like" Contest – steam building Bring your dogs on a leash. Oz Characters
2:45	Eight Layers of Victorian Dress – Holm Stage
3:30	Tractor & Car Parade
	Following Parade – Raffle Drawings