

Showing our Machines at the Wallkill Anniversary Celebration!

It was a crisp autumn morning as we lined up, at the Fairgrounds, at the request of the **Wallkill River National Refuge**. They are located at 136 Owens Station Road, Sussex, NJ. This was a Saturday morning, October 26, 2015. Members participating were presi-

dent, Blace Flatt. He brought his 1948 Ford 8N tractor; Chuck Klim (event coordinator) brought his 1959 Oliver 540; John Stickle brought his 1952 Ford 8N; Dave Betts brought his 1965 replica Ford Cobra 427SC; Bob Eckes brought his 1945 John Deere H (oldest tractor there); Milt Jager brought his 1955 Allis Chalmers WD45. Tom Tunstead and Jeff Brooks (secretary of the club) took part of the event too. We



were greeted by Ranger Mike, parked in the big field behind the barn and unloaded the tractors from their respective trailers. There's always one in the crowd and Bob was our "somewhat problem child" this time. Bob's John Deere is an older model with no battery starter. Everyone else just turned the key and off they go. Bob has to physically turn a heavy flywheel to start his machine. Turning he was, but she just wouldn't pop. He reached for the tow strap, to pull start it, but decided to talk nicely to the "H" and try once more. It gave a pop, pop and willingly started. We parked in formation at the front of the barn.

It was a well-attended anniversary celebration. The parking lots were filled and they started parking guest wherever they could squeeze another vehicle in. There were many exhibitors. The bird watching club was there. I got to look through one of their high powered spotting scopes, kids were nailing pre sawn birdhouses together, Rutgers Master Gardeners had a booth with plant identification and educational supplies, there was a bee keeper with a sample hive for viewing, apples were being crushed for cider, wildlife rescue persons had a female Bluebird and a baby Chimney Swallow to show, and my favorite was seeing a full size Red Tail Hawk on this man's arm (gloves of course). I mean this bird was 5 feet from you and you could really see how amazing this animal is. And now I'll tell you about the food. Boy - did they ever feed us! They had coffee and bagels/ donuts when we arrived. For lunch – they had a complete pig roast with all the trimmings. Fresh pork, shredded barbeque, grilled chicken, salads, rolls and drinks. You name it, they had it there for you. Thank you to all of their team. They were great hosts to us all.

I encourage other members to make the effort and join in with these club outings. There's lots of helping hands to assist. You never know how exciting these can be until you try. Another best part of the day is sitting around and sharing stories and opinions with the guys. It gets very interesting, and always respectful. These are a good bunch of guys to hang with.

Dave Betts, cub reporter



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A donation to the club would be appreciated if the item is SOLD!





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