

Message From Your President

Here we are in a new year. Hope everyone has had a great holiday season. Being winter, I know many of you are working on projects, wanting them ready by show season.

The national board voted to award the 2018 Winter Convention to Missouri, Chapter 1. It will be held in Branson, Missouri at the Chateau on The Lake Resort and Convention Center, March 8-10, 2018.

I want to thank Minnesota, Chapter 15, for hosting the National Auction in October. The weather was good, was well organized and had lots of items for auction.

The national board is continually looking for chapters to host either the Winter Convention or National Auction. Contact any of the national board members for information to bid. At the Red Power Round Up this year, in Des Moines, the membership will vote on the site of the 2020 Red Power Round Up.

A vendor committee has been set up. It will be chaired by Director Jim Brewers and made up of the following vendors; Roy Edwards, Ron Berlage, Rob Houtz and Glenn Mlnarik. As an important part of IHCC shows, vendors have never had any input until now. This committee will provide input on issues and concerns and will represent vendors and give them a chance to become more involved in our organization.

A recent issue of *Harvester Highlights* contained information about insurance requirements for vendors at IHCC shows. This is becoming important as more and more show grounds and shows are requiring proof of liability insurance and we have found that some vendors' insurance don't provide the coverage needed. The IHCC insurance committee has found a company that will provide event liability coverage. This information will be available to all host chapters and will be on event websites. The insurance is offered as an option to vendors who have limited coverage or want only to be covered for the event. The IHCC receives nothing from this program.

The Harvester Heritage is in the process of purchasing hand held video equipment to document stories of the people and equipment of International Harvester. This equipment will allow stories to record in both video and sound anywhere. Also, stories can be done on the spot. For more information visit www.HarvesterHeritage.org. View some of the stories there. They are quite interesting.

Several of our chapters have been donating pedal tractors and toys to hospitals and children's charities. I want to complement the chapters doing this. Recently, I was asked to help in a donation to the Toys for Tots program at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, by Chapter 1. What a good feeling. Every member of the IHCC should be proud of those giving toys, scholarships and supporting tractor restorations. Our youth are our future.

The national board thanks all the members for your support this past year. I look forward to seeing and visiting with many of you at the Winter Convention, hosted by Chapter 7, in Columbus, Indiana.

Your President,

Bob Baxton