

GREATER KANSAS CITY TWO-CYLINDER CLUB

JUNE-JULY - 2026

VOLUME 2026, ISSUE 3



TRACTOR CRUISE 2026

From the Desk of the Club President:

Summer is almost here and it is time to bring the “Johnnie Poppers” (and other tractors) to life for the planned Club activities. We have lots of events planned for the year....

The April meeting and BBQ at the Ag Hall of Fame was a wonderful event to get together and share experiences. Attendance was on the lighter side this year, but the food, weather, and camaraderie were in abundance as usual. Thank you to Kim, Herman, and Larry for all you did to make it a successful event. The silent auction brought in \$254.00 this year, thank you to everyone for your donations and bids. This helps the Club’s bottom line.

Thank you everyone for coming out to the Ag Hall Tractor Cruise this year. Thank you to Lloyd Mesmer for putting the route together, and the cruise participants for raising about \$2,000 for the Ag Hall this year.

The GKCTCC Club June 7th meeting is starting with lunch at 1 PM and the meeting will start at 2 PM. We will be in the red barn for this meeting.

I hope to see you at several of the events throughout the year. Please give the GKCTCC board feedback on things you would like to see us do, continue to do, or no longer do.

Justin Read

2026 Club Officers

President: Justin Read
2nd Vice President: Jeff Gast
Treasurer: Herman Sachse
Historian: Wes Storm



2026 Ag Hall Tractor Cruise in rural LV county.



Throwback picture of the 2015 Shawnee Parade.

1st Vice President: Jon Pirie
3rd Vice President: Stacy Spieker
Secretary: Kim Sachse

Note: Wes Storm is our historian (and Trustee). If you have pictures of any Club activities please send them to him at 1808 SW Bird Ct., Blue Springs, MO 64015-5314 or waleye01@att.net. It is important to put specifics regarding the event in with the pictures (Event, Date, People Present, and a Short Description).

Dues for 2026

Speaking of Club dues, they are \$25 a year and worth every penny. The award winning newsletter and the great activities make it a real value. Please check the mailing label on your newsletter. If the label says “Paid Member 2025” or earlier at the top, then you will want to pay your 2026 dues soon to not miss anything (the cut-off date is the May-June Newsletter mailing). If the mailing label is not correct please let the Treasurer know (913-775-3353 or kimsachse@yahoo.com). Send your future dues to:

Herman Sachse-Treasurer, GKC Two-Cylinder Club
28290 203rd Street, Leavenworth, KS 66048

Club Website and Newsletter

The Club website <http://www.gkctcc.com/> gives our Club world wide recognition along with reaching prospective members. If you have any club related information or pictures for the newsletter, please contact Secretary Kim Sachse by email: secretary@GKCTCC.com

Upcoming Events

June 6, 2026, Old Shawnee Days

Parade

The 58th Old Shawnee Days Parade will occur June 6th at 10:00 AM. The parade route runs north on Nieman Rd from Shawnee Mission Parkway, then west on Johnson Dr to Cody Street. Staging areas for the parade route run west on the north frontage road of Shawnee Mission Pkwy (west of Nieman) to Quivira. The tractor club will park and unload tractors at the former KCAS (NE corner of SMPKWY and Long Ave). Participating tractors will move to the staging area at 8:30 AM utilizing 62 Terr to the rear parking lot/alleyway of the Westlake Hardware and Price Chopper to Quivira Rd. Questions can be directed to Chris Meyer, 913-558-8197.

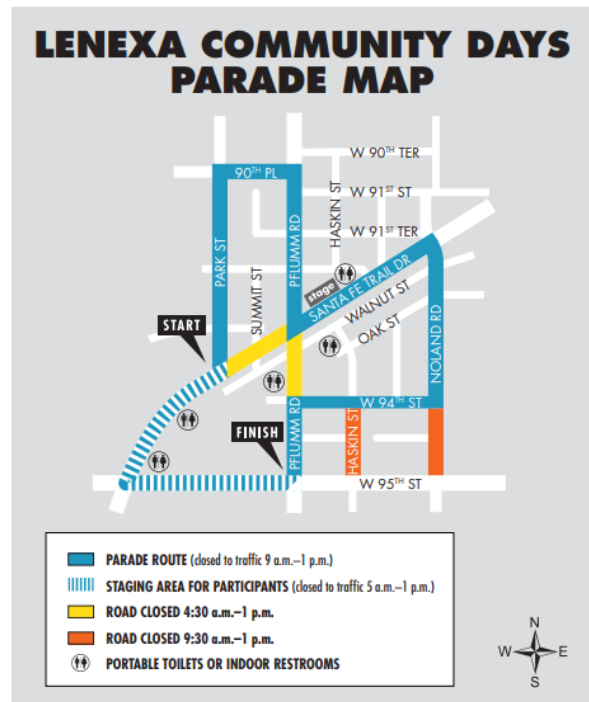


June 7, 2026, 1 pm, GKCTCC Meeting and Auction

Our next meeting will take place on Sunday, June 7th, 2026, 1:00 p.m. at the National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame in Bonner Springs, KS. A picnic will start at 1:00 pm, with the formal meeting beginning at 2:00 p.m. In order for the picnic not to cost the Club the following guidelines were established -- Everyone who comes with the last name beginning with A to M should bring a main dish (example: fried chicken, meatballs, sandwiches, etc.) and everyone who comes with the last name starting letters N to Z should bring would bring a side dish (example- potato salad, beans, chips, desserts, etc.). Every year we will rotate the assignments. Everyone should bring his or her own drink. Paper goods will be provided. The activity will be held the red barn at the Ag Hall so everyone can enjoy the day.

July 4th, 2026, Lenexa Community Days Parade

The Club is registered to participate in the Lenexa Community Days 4th of July Parade. Club parking/meeting location is set for the P1 Group Inc parking lot located at 13605 W. 96 Tr (SW corner of 96 Tr and Pflumm, due south across 96 Tr from VFW Post 7397). The parade starts at 10 AM so we will need to be parked, unloaded and prepared to move to our staging area by 9 AM. Any questions, contact Jon Pirie at 913-238-2505.



July 28th, 2026, 6:30 pm Tonganoxie, KS.

Leavenworth County Fair Parade

We will meet at the Tonganoxie High School Football field (State Ave and Main St - 206 N Main St., Tonganoxie, KS 66086) at 5:30 PM and leave to line up by 6:00 PM. The parade starts at 6:30 PM. Any questions, contact Jeff Gast 913-704-9788.

Stay tuned for this other Club events later this summer. Check our Facebook page for updates, as well as our website Events Page.

Community Days Parade details and registration at Lenexa.com/Parade.
Other streets closed July 4th from 6:30-8:30 a.m. for Lenexa Freedom Run:
Lackman Road, Alden Street, Santa Fe Trail Drive - from 95th Street to 99th Street
95th Street; 99th Street - from Lackman Road to Santa Fe Trail Drive



Past Events

Ag Hall Tractor Cruise - May 2, 2026

A benefit ride for the National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame was held on May 2nd, which began at the Tonganoxie Fair Grounds, and returned to the Fair Grounds and made a scenic 48 mile journey through McLouth and Oskaloosa, and stopping for a morning break at the McLouth Threshing Bee Grounds and a lunch at the Old Jefferson Town Museum, in Oskaloosa. A huge thank you to Lloyd Mesmer for once again planning and leading this successful event. Also many thanks to all of the participants who enjoyed this ride too!



GKCTCC Meeting, April 12, 2026: We began with a celebration that our club has been in existence for 36 years! Thanks to Betty and George Reed for bringing the wonderful cake. We also enjoyed our annual BBQ meal and of course, after a quick meeting, was our annual silent auction.



Pictured left to right—Charter Members, Justin Read, Betty & George Reed, and Herman Sachse.



Barnyard Babies - April 25, 2026: It was a beautiful spring day at the National Agricultural Hall of Fame. We enjoyed playing various tractor games. The chain coil and fast rev was won by Steve Underwood, the barrel roll, slow rev and slow race was won by Dave DoBratz, the fast forward race was by Justin Read.



Who is David DoBratz? David started working on the farm at 14 years old and through high school. He really enjoyed doing that, especially driving the tractors. In his Senior Year, he went on wheat harvest. He said he loves to plow. He loves the smell of fresh turned ground and doesn't care if it's plowing on a dozer or regular tractor. He just loves the smell of it.

David grew up in a welding machine shop. His father was a welder and machinist. He started working in construction in 1971. He worked for a couple of local construction companies that had duties all over the United States which caused a lot of traveling. Unfortunately, the traveling was too much and he got divorced. He has a daughter, Lee, and two granddaughters, Lily will be a sophomore at Fort Hayes next semester, and Lynn, will be a sophomore in high school.

He owned his own business for 10 years with dozers, doing a lot of oil field work, road construction and soil conservation. Then he joined the Operating Engineers Union, Local 101, for 19 years. He operated heavy equipment. He explained that he worked on a crane for a bridge job just south of KC for about a year and a half. He also did a lot of pipeline work. Later he worked in the power plants and pipeline construction. He smiled and said, that's why I'm able to have my toys to play with today." He lives on about an acre and a third just outside of Council Grove, Kansas.

He started collecting around 10-11 years ago, when he decided to retire. He said he was used to doing things and needed a hobby. So, his first restoration project was a truck that had been in the family since the early '50s – a 1947 Ford Truck. He told everyone that he was going to drive it again. Once he successfully completed that project, he started looking for a new project. He found a caterpillar for sale and bought it. He then located a 50 John Deere just across the road, and wound up buying it. It ballooned. He said he wanted a 730, because he loved that tractor. One tractor led to another tractor. so on and so forth. So now he has eight John Deeres, three caterpillars, one John Deere crawler, and the Ford truck. He said he found them various ways. The 830 that he's currently working on, was given to him. The furthest he went to pick up a tractor was almost to South Dakota to pick up a D2 Caterpillar, which he found on Big Iron.

He said he started plowing with the crawler tractor because that was what he had, but they are dirty to plow with. Then he started collecting, and started joining clubs, and now he's currently a member of 5 clubs. He enjoys talking to people and getting connected with the groups and loves to plow. He says he looks for all the plow days he can find, and goes to them. He has been to southern Illinois and plowed. There's some other big plow days in Illinois that he would like to go to that have good river bottoms that would be fun to plow.

What's your favorite tractor out of all of them that you've collected? He said, probably the 730 because that was one of the first tractors he got to drive on the farm back in 1964. The tractor was only about five years old back then and was the biggest, baddest tractor in the county. He said if you had a 730 in our county, you had a big tractor. The 4010's had just started coming out a little bit, so there was few of them around, but that 730 was a horse, and he fell in love with it, and ran it every chance he could. He noted that he had to take a quarter an hour cut in pay to drive a tractor. Back then, he got a buck and a quarter for handling hay, and a dollar an hour for driving a tractor. He said he wanted to drive a tractor bad enough. he took the cut in pay – he didn't care. He said he'd make about \$1,000 a summer, and for a high school kid, back then, it was a lot of fun and a lot of money.

Are you still looking to add to your collection? He said he's not really looking to add anything specific, but there's always that possibility, although he's going to be a little more choosy now. He said he has all the tractors he needs, and can't run all of them. So, you have to try to shuffle around and play with them so they keep moving and keep them freed up. He said he's not looking for anything in particular right now, but would not put it out of the question either if the right one comes along, for the right price.



David DoBratz plowing at the November 2025 Plow Day in Jarbalo.



David DoBratz on his 730 in the May 2024 Tractor Cruise.

He then told me his story of the "souped up 4010". He bought the tractor, knowing it was going to need some work. He took it on a few tractor drives, and the transmission went out. So, the tractor was parked that summer. During that winter, he took it to his neighbor's shop to work on it. They tore it down, and found the case was cracked. So, they stripped the tractor down, found a good case and brought it back. It cost quite a bit of money. He got it all fixed up, and took it to a tractor drive. After about four and a half miles, it dropped a valve. He decided then to overhaul the engine, the block was cracked, and couldn't be fixed. So, it was parked for the remainder of that summer. He and his neighbor discussed and decided to put in a combine engine. They had done it before. They had the engine ready to go, and he put it in. It was a tight fit. He's pretty proud of it. It runs good, and it brings a lot of attention when people hear it start. It's a nice tractor with a canopy and if you go on a cruise, and it's raining, you have a little something over your head.

CONTINUED: David also had a couple of memories that he shared....

He remembered when he was about 10 (late 60's), there was a junkyard that was right beside his dad's shop, and he went up there every weekend or any chance he got. He enjoyed going over to the junkyard, and play like he was starting these tractors, get on them and drive them all over. It was always getting new tractors in, so he had something new to play with. His dad had taught him a lot about the older tractors. His dad was over there visiting one day, and he was out walking around the building, and there was a Farmall. He figured that they got him a new toy to play on. On the second pull, it was running. He laughed as those men came out of that building. He was standing in front of it. His dad was ready to chastise him, however the old boy, who owned the tractor came out and said, "I told you that was an easy starting tractor! Look at that...that boy started it!" Well, needless to say, his dad couldn't say anything right then, but afterwards, he started to get after David. His dad said, "Well, what would you do if it was in gear?" David replied, "Well, Dad, you always told me to make sure they're out of gear before you start them." Everything his dad would ask, David had an answer to the safety side of it that his dad had taught him. The experience didn't stop David from playing with tractors.

When he was around 11 or 12, his uncle had a homemade tractor, like a little garden tractor type thing that David's family bought at his uncle's sale. He was too young to get a driver's license, so he used that tractor as his car. He could legally drive it on a highway. They would run 32 miles per hour. He said he drove it all over. He wore it out using it for a car. It was an old hand crank, with no brakes. One day, they had a fire out south of town, and he went there to help. He was there way after dark. The chief of police was there, and the fire truck was there, and he said to the chief of police, because it was dark, no lights on the tractor, "Maybe I better get you to give me a ride home, and I'll walk back and get this tomorrow". The chief said, "Well... You know, you've been helping us all day. You get in behind the fire truck, and I'll get behind you, and we'll take you home." The fire truck went right by the alley to our house, and I just turned off onto the alley and went home. That was a good memory.

* * * * *

GKCTCC Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2026

National Agricultural Hall of Fame, Bonner Springs, KS

The meeting was opened with the flag salute at 02:07 pm. President Read welcomed everyone and introduced guests Jim Buchner and Stanley Anderson.

President Read sought approval of the February 2026 meeting minutes as published in the last newsletter. Herman Sachse moved, and Steve Reed seconded. Motion approved.

Herman Sachse gave the financial report for the period 2/1/26 to 04/06/26. The general account began with a balance of \$8,296.77 and after expenditures (\$427.56)/deposits (\$990.00), ended with a balance of \$8859.21. The scholarship fund account began with a balance of \$6235.23 and after income (\$225), ended at \$6460.23. Lloyd Mesmer moved to accept the financial account. Steve Reed seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

President Reed thanked all the members who participated in the Farm Show, as well as setting up the meeting today. He reminded everyone that we have the Silent Auction at the end of the meeting and encouraged everyone to bid early and bid often!

President Reed discussed the Barn Yard Babies Tractor Show on April 25th 10 am-4pm. 4-5 people said they were interested. Bob would run the tractor games. He needed someone to run the stop watch and said he had ribbons for the winners.

Ag Hall Tractor Cruise will be held May 2nd, 2026. Registrations have been received. Snacks have been arranged and the luncheon has been reserved for the cruise.

The next meeting will be held on June 7th, 2026. It is Bring Your Own Dinner (Potluck), to start at 1 pm. Meeting will start at 2 pm, to be held at Ag Hall, Bonner Springs.

He reminded everyone of the Old Shawnee Days Parade on June 6th. If there are questions – please contact Chris Meyer.

The 2026 Schedule of Events was discussed. Correction for the Independence Halloween Parade – date is October 31st. The Blue Springs Parade is September 19th. POC is Bob Antes. Motion to approve by Steve Reed and seconded by Bob Antes. Motion passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm. Steve Reed made the motion, David DoBratz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Silent auction to be finished shortly after the meeting adjourned.

Kim Sachse, Secretary

Wanted / For Sale Ads: Club Members \$1/issue or \$5/year, Non-Members \$10/issue or \$50/year. (Save some money and become a member) Contact Kim Sachse to place an ad, email to: secretary@GKCTCC.com

Display Ads - Business Cards: Club Members \$10/issue or \$50/year, Non-Members \$20/issue or \$100/year (save some \$ and become a member). Contact Kim Sachse to place an ad, email to: secretary@GKCTCC.com

2026 Schedule of Events – To be approved at the April membership meeting

(All dates and events are subject to change. Call contact for verification if necessary.)

(Club Meetings are in Bold)

Date	Location	Event Contact#
Feb. 14	K.C., MO.	GKCTCC Meeting @ JoCo Monticello Library 816-547-8608 10 AM
Feb. 19-21	K.C., MO.	Western Farm Show, Governors Building, (Setup Day Feb. 16-18). 816-547-8608
March 15	Shawnee, KS.	Shawnee St. Patrick's Day Parade 1 PM. Chris Meyer 913-558-8197
April 12	Bonner Springs, KS.	GKCTCC Meeting and BBQ, Ag Hall of Fame 1 PM. 816-547-8608
April 25	Bonner Springs, KS.	Barn Yard Babies Tractor Show. Larry Henak 913-209-2496
May 2	Bonner Springs, KS.	Ag Hall Tractor Cruise. Lloyd Mesmer 913-904-8186
June 6	Shawnee, KS.	Old Shawnee Days Parade. (10 AM). Chris Meyer 913-558-8197
June 7	Bonner Springs, KS.	GKCTCC Meeting and Picnic, Ag Hall of Fame 1 PM. 816-547-8608
July 4	Lenexa, KS.	Lenexa Community Days Parade. (11:00 a.m.). Jon Pirie 913-238-2505
July 28	Tonganoxie, KS.	Leavenworth County Fair Parade. Jeff Gast 913-704-9788
Aug. 6-9	Tracy, MO.	Platte County Antique Tractor, Steam & Gas Engine Show and Cruise, featuring Joh Deere, 816-858-5826
Aug. 11-12	Sedalia, MO.	Missouri State Fair "Old & Wow" Tractor Show and Parade.
Aug 22	Bonner Springs, KS.	Tiblo Days Parade (9:30 AM). Lloyd Mesmer 913-904-8186
Sept. 3-6	Boonville, MO.	Antique Tractor Show and Cruise. 847-526-7318
Sept. 5	Olathe, KS.	Old Settlers Day Parade. Jon Pirie 913-238-2505
Sept. 11-13	Ottawa, KS.	Antique Tractor & Engine Show. 785-418-2190 featuring Allis Tractors Maytag Engines
Sept. 19	Blue Springs Parade, Blue Springs, MO.	Bob Antes 816-863-9966
Oct. 31	Independence, MO.	Halloween Parade. Bob Antes 816-863-9966
Nov. 7	Richmond, KS.	GKCTCC Meeting and White Elephant Auction 10:00 a.m. 816-547-8608
Nov. 14	Jarballo, KS,	Jarballo Fall Plow Day. Herman Sachse 913-775-3353
Dec. 5	Oak Grove, MO.	Christmas Parade. Bob Antes 816-863-9966

Note: All dates are subject to change. Please check with a contact person to confirm date. GKCTCC Meetings and event changes are in Bold. Non-insured events will no longer be listed in the newsletter, but will be included on the website.

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