

Old Home Day 2009 “Celebrating Belmont’s Agricultural Heritage”

Saturday, August 8th was a beautiful, sunny day and a perfect day for the annual celebration of our town. To go along with our agricultural theme, we had wonderful representation by local farms and farming families.

It was the 41st running of our 10-Mile Road Race. We were pleased to see 30+ high school students joining in on this very challenging course with close to 100 participants overall. It is always satisfying to see so many of you that come out early in the morning to cheer the runners on as they start their journey, and await their arrival back at the finish line on Main Street.

Old Home Day volunteers used their creativity to plan exciting children’s games applicable to the theme. Several children enjoyed the long-running Pedal Tractor Pull and then joined in with our Hay Bale Toss, Bobbing for Veggies, and Steer Roping. Parents, relatives, and bystanders were entertained by all of the kids’ giggles, determination, and just plain “fun”! Children also enjoyed visiting with the mini ponies down by the Mill building. They were a big hit!

We were happy to celebrate the longevity of the Weeks Farm on Depot Street as this year’s Parade Grand Marshal. Leonie Kolinski and her brother, Everett Weeks, joined us aboard one of Everett’s tractors hauling a trailer decorated by family members. Belmont High School’s Class of ‘69 entered a float this year in celebration of their 30-year class reunion with many familiar faces on board. After the parade, people stayed in the village to enjoy a delicious snack or two and watch the Talent Show. We had several participants and welcome more for the Talent Show planned for August 2010!

Bryant Field was the place to be in the evening hours leading up to our spectacular fireworks. Various ages enjoyed an inflatable obstacle course, bounce house, and bungee basketball for the first time this year. It seemed to be a welcome change with activities that provided a challenging way to have fun. “Afterburner”, a rock and blues band made up of members of the U.S. Air Force, entertained us with a lively show and great music.

All throughout the day and evening, vendors offering everything from soy candles to fried pickles were available. These vendors help us offset some of the day’s costs. We also encourage non-profits to join us each year as a way for us to help them promote their cause or raise some funds for band trips, class trips, etc. More vendors and non-profit groups are always welcome.

Plans are already underway for Old Home Day 2010, so mark your calendar for Saturday, August 14th. We are planning around a theme of “Conservation” and are working closely with the town’s Conservation Commission to incorporate as many of Belmont’s “hidden jewels” as possible.

Old Home Day Committee Members
Barbara Binnette, Mary Antonucci
Shayne Duggan, Linda Frawley
Brian Loanes, Gretta Olson-Wilder
Jeff Roberts, Sue Roberts, Jen Sottak
Jen Shaw, Tina Fleming, Chairperson

