

**The 2018 Barbour County Fair Program is being dedicated to the
WV Draft Horse and Mule Association**

The West Virginia Draft Horse and Mule Association was incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1981. Its members feel that the Association serves a good and worthwhile purpose. It wasn't the easy way, but it was a means of survival for many years and it needs to be kept alive. Delmar and Carol Hershman say it best, "Our mission is to educate the public about these incredible animals and we try to "show and tell" as we go through our different events. The Association would not exist if not for its dedicated members who work or participate in our field days, wagon rides, parades, County Fairs, horse pulls and community events. We are proud to be members of this great organization and are always looking for new members to help keep it alive and make West Virginia Shine."

The West Virginia Draft Horse and Mule Association works closely with the staff of the Barbour County Fair to promote Senior Day and 3rd Graders' Day by taking the Senior Citizens and kids for wagon rides. They also give our Fair Queen and her court transportation. They have even been known to pull vehicles out of the mud.

The lovely gentle giants that you see pulling wagons started on the Posten Property several years prior to the first Barbour County Fair. Their owners would have pulling contests with each other, to see who had the best teams. These contests continue today during the week of

the fair with a Draft Horse Show on Friday, August 31st and the Pulls on Saturday, September 1st.

Take time to stop by the horse barn to get their history first hand from the owners, and tell them how much we all appreciate these beautiful creatures and all they do for the fair.

Sadly, the Association has lost two members this past year, Clyde Reed and John Crist.



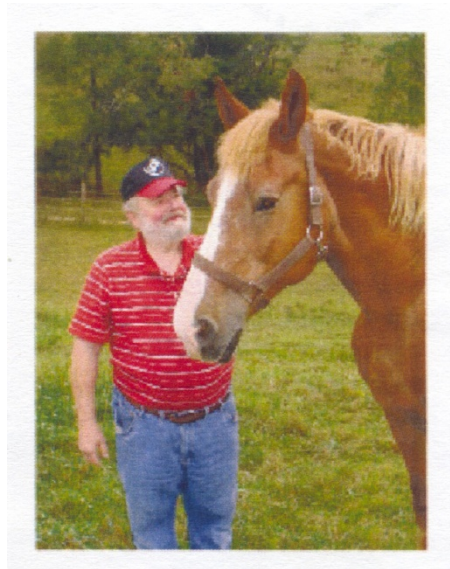
CLYDE REED

Clyde was a soft-spoken fellow. He was humble and quick to smile and laugh at a good story. Clyde and his wife, Marty, have three children and seven grandchildren who are all familiar to the WVDHMA.

Clyde had been around horses his entire life. His Dad the late Lennie Reed, had teams of horses and Clyde became accustomed to working them. Growing up, Clyde's family had many riding horses and enjoyed riding for pleasure. As a young man, he had a job skidding rails in Webster County using horses. Clyde was known for mowing, plowing gardens and spreading manure with his team.

Every year, Clyde and Marty hosted the Reed Family Wagon Ride, where you always found the Reeds welcoming and hospitable.

During the Barbour County Fair, you could see Clyde and his team of half linger, Belgian crossed draft horses hauling kids, Senior Citizens, and possibly even the Queen and her court around the fairgrounds.



JOHN CRIST

Although John Crist had never owned a horse, his desire to have draft horses started after spending an afternoon at the WVDHMA Spring Field Day in 1998. A big part of what drove that desire to become a goal was attending the Barbour County Fair later that summer.

John thought the Draft Horse Barn at the Barbour County fairgrounds was top-notch and so were the members and teamsters of the WVDMHA. They welcomed John enthusiastically, filled him in on horse related fair activities, and treated him to a delicious pot luck dinner. Before he left the barn that evening, he was a proud member

of the association. By the following April not only did John have two pregnant Belgian Draft Horses, he was secretary/treasurer of the WVDHMA.

His participation in the WVDHMA continued until his passing in February having served on the board of directors for more than a decade. Over the years, John spent the last week of August at the Barbour County Fair, showing horses, giving rides to the grade school kids and Senior citizens, announcing the draft horse and mule demonstrations, and telling tall tales with the best of them. As for those pot luck dinners, you could count on John to spice up Thursday nights with a mean pot of chili.