

JOHN DEERE DAY

Acquire brochures of John Deere machinery from the local dealer. Cut out the best pictures and use them to make "tents" for each table and then gather the John Deere toys around the tents. Run a computer generated welcome sign that utilizes green and yellow lettering and attach it to the room's door or to the wall above the John Deere poster.

To help guests fill their time while waiting for all to gather, scatter a few pens and word scrambles on each table.

Using those same brochures, cut pictures to make a large poster (full tag board size) to place at the entrance to the activity room as a welcome to participants. When you begin to advertise the activity, ask residents if they have any John Deere paraphernalia they would like to bring to the party. Many retired farmer has an old John Deere cap and some have photos. Spouses may enjoy helping with this opportunity to share history.

Two pieces of material are provided for a listening entertainment. Preferably, two different readers, one male and one female, would be best for interest and attention. It would also be best if these readers were dressed for the part in overalls and work shirt, maybe a straw hat. One piece may be read before the snack and one during or after the snack, providing a listening rest between.

The emcee should move about the room asking retired farmers if they owned a John Deere and if they remember the model.

JOHN DEERE DAY

John Deere was born in February of 1804.

At the age of 17, he was apprenticed to a blacksmith.

By the age of 21, John had his own smithy business and he moved to Grand Tour, Ill.

John's most numerous jobs were those of repairing wood & steel plows. Seeing that they simply weren't sturdy enough for the pioneering needs, he developed an all metal plow and sold his first in 1838.

The following year, he devised no less than 10 improved plows and 40 more the year after that. He and his wife moved to Moline, Ill, where they stayed to run John's growing business and raise their family of 9 children.

By 1857, John's annual output of plows was 10,000.

Together with his partners, John formed Deere and Company in 1868. By 2012, the company's worth had reached \$40 billion.

Interestingly enough, the first tractor sold by John Deere was not a John Deere, it was a Waterloo Boy. Deere bought the Waterloo Company in 1918 and began to sell their tractor. The first John Deere tractor to bear its own name was invented by Joseph Dain the following year.

John Deere has over 596 tractor models to date. The largest being the 9630 that sells for \$200,000 to \$250,000.00.

DO YA' THINK YER A TRACTOR GUY ?

You might be a tractor guy if.....

You wore bib overalls to your wedding

All of your tractors have names

You own a lawn tractor even though you live in a condominium

You think that gasoline and old grease smell good

You have more toy tractors than your kids do

You use a plow foot for a paper weight

You have pictures of your tractors in your wallet

You mow the lawn with your combine

You drive your tractor to the store for groceries

You put a little chrome tractor hood ornament on your wife's new Buick

When you go to church, you leave the Farmall H at the back door

Your wife's car sits outside so your new tractor can be inside

You have a picture of the new combine on the living room wall

Your Christmas cards show a John Deere with colored lights

You're busy working on your tractor when your wife says, "Honey, come to bed" and you reply, "Not now. I'm busy"

THE TRACTOR BUYERS GUIDE TO SALE ADS

<u>Ad says;</u>	<u>What it really means;</u>
Burns no oil	Does not run
Stored 20 years	Sitting in fence row on back 40
Restored	Stored 20 years in the barn
Solid as a rock	Rusted solid
No time to restore	Parts no longer exist
All there	Disassembled on barn floor
Slight surface rust	No trace of paint anywhere
Good work tractor	Missing all sheet metal & safety equipment
Many new parts	Still not running right
Ready for restoration	Total basket case
Lots of extra parts	Don't know where they go
One owner tractor	Wife finally got sick of junk in the yard
Engine is sound	A particularly bad knock
Runs OK	Won't pull itself in first gear
Older restoration	Was washed once in 1973
Industrial Model	Everything completely worn out
Must sell ASAP	Divorce imminent if not sold
Good radiator	Only leaks when engine is running

Air conditioned cab	All the windows are busted out
90% restored	Wife demanding electric washing machine NOW
Easy Starting	One good push is all it takes
Collector's item	Nicely painted junk
Well maintained	Oil changed once in last 5 years
Hand crank	Must be pulled to start
Parade ready	Engine too weak for real work
Electric start	Requires jumper cables
No rust	Too greasy for rust to form
Barn fresh	Buried in bird poo; you dig it out
Rarely used	Never would start
Garden tractor	Wife has planted flowers all around it
One of a kind	Impossible to find one in worse condition
Good gas tank	Only leaks if more than half full
Good battery box	Old toolbox welded to the hood
Styled	Hippie daughter painted flowers on it
Delivery available	Desperate to sell
Pressed steel frame	Crushed in a cattle stampede
With bush hog	Needs four new tires, or any tires at all
Make offer	Owner is too embarrassed to set a price

WORD SCRAMBLE
Farm related words

RNAB

LIOS

BINCOME

ROTCRAT

EARC

GERAU

LOI

SAG

DESH

HEATW

WOLP

GERDIG
