



**Gathering of the Green Conference
It's Fair Time!
The show will go on in 2022**

Quad Cities – John Deere enthusiasts should mark their calendars for March 16-19, 2022, for the 11th Gathering of the Green Conference in the Quad Cities—home of the world headquarters of Deere & Company. This conference includes replica John Deere Dealer fair displays, a large vendor hall of parts and collectables, and workshops covering restoration of antique John Deere tractors and implements, collections, and more.

“This conference is the largest gathering of John Deere enthusiasts in the world,” notes Tony Knobbe, Gathering of the Green Board Chairman. “We invite you to join other John Deere enthusiasts to share in this celebration.”

The 2020 event was cancelled due to the pandemic, so the “**It’s Fair Time!**” theme and experience will be re-activated in 2022 with elaborate replicas of John Deere fair displays reminiscent of county and state fairs of the past. On display will be John Deere equipment from the 1930’s to 1970’s, including associated lines such as Brillion, Heider, Letz, and more. The conference midway will also include tents, popcorn, peanuts, and carnival games to complete the theme.

Ken Reese, former Co-Chair and founding member of the Gathering of the Green Board of Directors, said, “The Gathering has always been a reunion and we missed gathering with our friends in 2020, so 2022 will be a long-anticipated reunion for green’ enthusiasts. We are continuing with the theme because county fairs were an important place for John Deere to exhibit and market their latest equipment in the 1930-1950’s.”

The conference is planned by volunteers from the members of the Deer Valley Collectors, Illinois Valley Two-Cylinder Club, North Eastern Illinois Twin-Cylinder Club, and Northwest Illinois Deer Collectors. Planners are interested in anyone who has John Deere equipment lines, such as Brillion, Heider, and/or Letz — items from 1930s-1970s. If you have a piece of equipment and are interested in participating, please contact Ed Vieth at edvieth52@hotmail.com or 563-271-3551. Or if you have an idea for restoration or John Deere collectable topics, please email info@gatheringofthegreen.com

The Gathering of the Green Conferences takes place in the Quad Cities (IL/IA) bi-state regional destination at the RiverCenter in downtown Davenport, Iowa.

“Gathering of the Green is a valuable opportunity for the Quad Cities to serve as host community,” said Dave Herrell, President and CEO, Visit Quad Cities. “The rich tradition of this unique event and the passion that people around the world have for Deere & Company makes the Gathering very special. It was a significant loss for the QC in 2020 and we look forward to March 2022 as we welcome the enthusiasts back to the RiverCenter in Davenport, Iowa.”

Conference details and agenda will begin to be available on the Gathering of the Green website at www.gatheringofthegreen.com in summer 2021. Registration will open in fall 2021. Full conference registration is encouraged for 2022.

For more information, visit www.gatheringofthegreen.com, email info@gatheringofthegreen.com, or call the Gathering at 563-845-3296.

For information on the Quad Cities, contact Visit Quad Cities at 800-747-7800 or visit their website at www.visitquadcities.com. The Quad Cities is a family of communities located on the world-renowned Mississippi River, comprised of Davenport and Bettendorf in Iowa, and Moline, East Moline, and Rock Island in Illinois. The area is just a 2-½ hour drive from Des Moines, Iowa, and Chicago, Illinois. It is easily accessible via I-80, I-74, I-88, several major state highways, and the Quad Cities International Airport.

###

Media Contact: Tony Knobbe, Chair Gathering of the Green, 563-570-2704