

McLean County Museum of History

Corn Belt Charity Horse Show Collection

Processed by
Aidan Coyne
Fall 2025

Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1943-1984
RESTRICTIONS:	None
PROVENANCE:	Most of the items were donated by Jerry Nord of Saybrook, in August 2025.
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History.
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	

Brief History

The Corn Belt Horsemen's Association's horse charity show dates to 1942, with the first event held at Farm Bureau Field (old Fans Field) on the south end of Bloomington. The Benefit Horse Show was held through 1998. The name of the event changed during its 56-year run: Benefit Horse Show, Corn Belt Horsemen's Association Show, Society Horse Show, and Corn Belt Charity Horse Show. The show was later held on the old McLean County Fairgrounds along Veterans Parkway. The Interstate Center hosted the final two shows. Proceeds from the event benefited several local agencies, including the McLean County Humane Society.

Scope

The collection includes newspaper articles, programs, and tags relating to the long-running event.

Box and Folder Inventory

Folder 1: Newspaper Articles and Advertisements (*Pantagraph*, unless noted)

- 1.1 "Fans' Field to Be Site of Horse Show," April 17, 1943.
- 1.2 Benefit Horse Show, June 16, 1946.
- 1.3 "Corn Belt Horseman's Annual Benefit Horse Show," June 17, 1948.
- 1.4 Corn Belt Charity Horse Show, June 6, 1960.
- 1.5 Corn Belt Charity Horse Show, May 26, 1968.

Folder 2: Programs 1940s

- 2.1 "Benefit Horse Show." June 1945.
- 2.2 "Benefit Horse Show." June 1946.
- 2.3 "Benefit Horse Show." June 1948.

Folder 3: Programs 1980s

- 3.1 "38th Annual Corn Belt Charity Horse Show." June 1980.
- 3.2 "40th Annual Corn Belt Charity Horse Show." June 1982.
- 3.3 "41st Annual Corn Belt Charity Horse Show." June 1983.
- 3.4 "42nd Annual Corn Belt Charity Horse Show." June 1984.

Folder 4: Tags

- 4.1 "Corn Belt Charity Horse Show Horseman." June 1982. White tag with decorative orange ring around center.
- 4.2 "Corn Belt Charity Horse Show Horseman." June 1983. Orange tag with decorative black ring around center.
- 4.3 "Corn Belt Charity Horse Show Horseman." June 1984. Green tag with brown ring around center.

Folder 5: Miscellaneous

- 5.1 Vicki Mecherle, with a corresponding biography, *Saddle and Bridle*, Christmas 1951.
- 5.2 Gift agreement, Jerry Nord, Saybrook, August 2025.