

## Bios for Spring Membership Meeting – April 17, 2021

(alphabetically by first name)

### David Grinnell,

My name is David Grinnell – past employee of Allis-Chalmers during the years 1965-1970. My position was a blockman in South Dakota and western Minnesota machinery dealerships.

#### BACKGROUND SUMMARY

College graduate with a teaching degree in Industrial Technology, Army Vet, married for a number of years with 3 children, 4 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren. I worked for another corporation for 15 years before deciding to leave for Cloquet, MN to start an Industrial Supply business working as a manufacturing representative in the paper and mining industries. Also, I was able to help out at the local high school Industrial Tech department as a substitute teacher. I am a collector of Allis-Chalmer equipment with a D-17, “B” & “C” and a WD45 tractor. Also, there are 4 lawn tractors in the collection. I am semi-retired and have found this gives more time in a day. Therefore, my intention is offering some time to the Upper Midwest A-C Club. Orange Forever!

### Joe Graunke, Clayton, WI

I’ve been around orange all my life. Before my folks took over the family farm in 1985, I would go visit my grandparents, that’s where my love of orange started.

My grandpa bought a new WD and Roto-Baler in 1952. We still have the WD but it was burnt in 1989 when we had a shed fire. I hope to restore it someday. The Roto-Baler is really what got me into collecting. As a kid I always heard stories of the Roto-Baler, since it was sold in the 60’s I was never around it.

It was in 1992 I saw a auction bill with a Roto-Baler with new belts. Since I had school that day I sent my grandpa to the sale. I told him to bid up to 100 dollars. It sure seemed like school would never get done that day. When I got home there was no baler in the yard. They had it hidden on the other side of the shed! Then I found out I paid 75 dollars for it. I also found out it was a 1947 which was the first year of production.

Since then I’ve added more my pieces to my collection. I currently have nine Roto-Balers, all different versions. It took me seven years to find a #10 non stop. Some other rare things I have is serial #1 model 780 chopper, a Hillside 60 All Crop, which is the only one we know of.

In 1994 I was reading Antique Power and they had a story about Ed & Larry Karg and their D10 and 12. That is where I first learned about the club. Then in August of 1994 I signed up to join the club at Le Sueur Pioneer Power show which was hosting the GOTO and the club had a booth.

I attended my first Orange Spectacular in 1997 and have been attending ever since. I started helping Gary Agrimson a few years later with field demos and have been enjoying doing that. I am able to bring my equipment to demo.

In 2002 I was elected to the board of directors. I’m currently the club Vice President. I really enjoy bringing rare and unique equipment and meet new people. Thanks to everyone who support the club in any way to keep orange history alive.

### Norm Grams

Hello, my name is Norman Grams from Winthrop, Minnesota and I would like to be considered for the open seat on the Upper Midwest A-C Club Board of Directors. I am a lifelong resident of Sibley County. I retired from my job at Dairy Farmers of America (DFA) in Winthrop three years ago, so I would have time to help in any capacity needed. I have been asked to help with the Swap Meet, which I agreed to do for 2021. Just to clarify, I am not related to the Darrell Grams Family in any way.

My family has used Allis-Chalmers tractors and implements in our farming operations since 1944, when my dad started farming in Transit Township, northeast of Winthrop, with a CA and a WD. At one time, six Grams brothers farmed a total of 2,500 acres all with AC tractors and Gleaner combines. My younger brother, Wayne and his son Collin,

currently run the home farm plus 700 acres of rented land with mostly AC tractors. They include a 5050, D-17, 7040, AGCO LT-85 and 9735. Wayne and I once added up the number of AC tractors my family used through the years and came up with 45 different AC tractors, from the CA and WD that my dad started with to two different 7580's and an Allis 8550 my nephew recently traded off. We tried several different brands but always went back to the Orange ones.

I started collecting old AC tractors six years ago when my wife bought me a 1955 WD-45 for an Easter present and early Father's Day gift. It has since mushroomed from there. My son, grandson and I currently own eight AC tractors. We have two more WD-45s plus a WD that we are still trying to get running, that my grandson got from his great uncle. We also have a 1951 model B, 1938 WC, 1966 D-17 series IV and my latest purchase is a 1981 7020. We have had all but the 7020 and the WD at the Orange Spectacular in the last 5 years. I have had 3 bottom plows on two of the WD-45's and one year we brought my grandson's Roto-Baler behind the third WD-45. I have been coming to the Orange Spectacular for about 15 years and have brought tractors and implements for the last five. I hope to bring several of them in 2021.

I would appreciate your support and elect me to an open seat on the Board.

Thank you.

Norm Grams

### **Scott Overgaard**, Mounds View, MN

Like many collectors, my interest in Allis-Chalmers began at an early age. I spent every summer at my grandparent's/uncle's farm in Northwestern Minnesota (Gatzke). They had a 1950 model WD I got to drive at an earlier age and I was hooked on orange. The fun began again when I received my first tractor, a 1939 model B, in the fall of 1990. A year later, I had my next tractor and was well underway with my Allis-Chalmers collection. I joined the Upper Midwest A-C Club in 1991 and often think back to all of the progress and growth we have made as a Club over the years. During the past 15 years at the show, you might have heard me announcing in the afternoons. I was elected to the Board in 2017. Since being on the Board I have taken on the role of Editor for our Newsletter. This entails collecting and reviewing the articles, gathering pictures and working with Sky Printing to put it all together. In addition, I create and order most of the advertisements for the Club and especially for the Show. I have been busy with the posters, tri-fold brochures, banners and the Show Guide schedule. Lastly, I order most of the show merchandise and my partner, Jessica, sells the merchandise and raffle tickets in the Commercial building during the Show. I hope to be elected for another term to help continue the progress the Club has made. I want to thank everyone for their support and contributions in making the Orange Spectacular the go-to Allis-Chalmers show! Thank you.

### **Steve Eggert**

Hi, this is Steve Eggert from Hutchinson, Minnesota and I am running for the open seat on the Upper Midwest A-C Club Board of Directors. I was raised on a farm where we farmed with several Allis-Chalmers tractors. After high school I was in Army for 2 years during the Vietnam conflict. Following, I was plant foreman at the Glencoe Creamery for 23 ½ years. Currently, I am on the McLeod County Sheriff's Posse where I enjoy working with people. I also run the road grader in summer and do the road plowing in the winter for Acoma Township.

On the farm where I was raised, we had an Allis-Chalmers WD, WD45 and D17. I currently own a 1942 WC and a 1941 model B. I sometimes use the WC at local tractor pulls. I got started with the Club when Gary Agrimson needed shed space for equipment so I rented him space and we became friends. Then I started helping Gary bring his equipment to the show and bringing them back again. I have been a member of the Upper-Midwest A-C Club for about 10 years. My wife also has an Arts and Craft stand at the show and that is where we got our start exhibiting at the show.

I look forward to seeing you at the Spring Meeting.

Thanks,

Steve Eggert