



Photos by Mark Justesen

Seno Bast's home was the destination of the antique tractor parade organized in his honor. Bast, fighting serious illnesses, helped found the Wisconsin Antique Power Reunion in 1993.

# COMBINED EFFORT

*Antique Power Reunion parades to ill Cedarburg founder's home*



By Lisa Curtis  
News Graphic Staff

**Cedarburg** — While many here were fighting to get a front row seat at the annual Fourth of July parade Tuesday, Seno Bast was still reliving the special surprise he got Sunday when friends and family organized a parade of antique tractors and farm equipment that led right to his front door.

Thirteen years after Bast helped found the Wisconsin Antique Power Reunion, congestive heart failure and diabetes have him confined to his house and unable to attend this year's upcoming event on July 15-16. So members of the antique tractor and farm equipment group decided to bring the show to him.

The four-block-long procession of old tractors, plows, threshers and combines left the Ozaukee County Fairgrounds on Washington Avenue and made its way up Cambridge Avenue to Bast's home on the corner of Susan Lane.

"When the first ones were turning into the driveway, the last ones were just leaving the fairgrounds," said Bast's daughter, Chris Pannier.

When Bast's wife, Lila, heard the group coming, she brought her husband outside for the surprise.

"He had a look on his face, like 'wow,'" Pannier said.

Bob Wenzlaff, current presi-

Well-wishers greet Seno Bast (right) following the surprise parade held in his honor on Sunday. Bast founded the Wisconsin Antique Power Reunion.

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A caravan of antique farm equipment rumbles toward Seno Bast's house on Sunday.

Photo by Mark Justesen

# Bast: Tractor parade thrills ill founder

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dent of the group, was inspired to organize the surprise parade after the group organized a similar event for him following a 2001 farming accident in which Wenzlaff lost both his hands.

"I was overwhelmed. In the middle of something like that, it just did so much for me," Wenzlaff said.

Sunday's event seemed to have

the same effect on Bast, who was telling "anyone and everyone" about the parade in his honor, Wenzlaff said.

"It got a big smile on his face," Wenzlaff said. "It was a real boost for him."

Bast, 74, was the original president of the Antique Power Reunion when it was founded in 1993 as a club for owners and collectors of antique tractors and farm equipment. The club now

has 189 members in Ozaukee, Washington and Sheboygan counties.

Sunday's parade included John Deere, Allis Chalmers and International Harvester farm equipment from the 1940s and 1950s, said Bast's son, Ed. There were 43 participants on 26 different machines, more than originally expected. Included in the parade were Bast's young grandchildren, who were riding their

own miniature tractors.

One by one, the various farm implements made their way to Bast's home and found a place to park somewhere on the half-acre property. The surprise parade also included a surprise cookout, as members brought meats to grill and dishes to pass.

Three days later, Bast was back in the hospital. From all reports, though, he still had a smile on his face.