

Your Aumsville Corn Festival continues with its publication excerpts from historical records allowing citizens to gather a small glimpse of what occurred over the past 50 years of festival history. This portion will review the 1970's.

August 23, 1969: The corn festival had 1000 in attendance; gave away a ton of hot buttered corn and the local kids had their first parade with 80 entries. This was the first year the committee held a kiddies parade.

Barbara Ellen Johnston was the first prize winner of the under five year olds class in the first parade – the prize was from Lorene's Gift and Hobby located at 552 Main Street, Aumsville.

Also, the first year saw the Aumsville fire department best the Stayton fire department 3 out of 5 times in water ball fighting.

August 29, 1970: This year the festival gave away 1,500 lbs of "All the corn you can eat" starting at 12:30 PM in Porter-Boone Park.

The second Kiddies parade which started at the water tower and travel down Main Street to the park started at 6 PM.

August 31, 1972: The festival purchased 3 ton (Irvin Holmquist, John Combs and Louis Bales).

Mayor Ted Nichol was the chairman of this year festival which runs from Noon to 8 PM. The parade will start at 6 PM and travel to the park followed by games, music and the fireman's water fight.

Marie Elam, who would become the chairwoman for the festival for many year's was named Aumsville Health Volunteer for 1972.

August 25, 1973: Joel Mathias was chairman of the festival and is quoted, "We want to keep it small, home-townish", Doris Hutchins, parade chairwoman will start the parade at 4 PM this year, and she commented that "We hope it will grow so we can have it every year'.

This is the first year we find a theme, "Corn Is". Also for the first time the festival will have artwork on display with crocheted pieces and some ceramics.

Hay rides and horse shoes are offered and free to the kids - splashing in Mill Creek.

August 24, 1974: This was the first year for Tug-of-war between other city councilors.

It was also the first year the festival asked for donation as local corn was not ready and they had to purchase corn for \$80 a ton.

Four thousand in attendance and they eat and gave away five tons of corn. The City Park and Recreation committee who sponsored the event stated that "this was the best year so far" in the short history of the festival.

August 27, 1977: At the fourth annual tug-of-war saw the Aumsville councilors beat the Stayton councilors. The Army Guard bested Guerdon Industries for the other Tug of War trophy.

There were 1800 in attendance. Doris Hutchins was the first recorded Grand Marshall for the corn festival parade, with a theme of "Indian Maize Days".

August 26, 1978: Darlene Loyd was chairwoman with assistance from Parks and Recreation and not unlike today, they were still seeking volunteers for the festival and for collection of brown paper bags to sell corn in.

The parade started at 11 AM, the Corn eating contest was held at 12:30 AM plus a watermelon seed spitting contest, treasure hunt and piñata break, and much more. A street dance was held at J & W Market from 9 PM to 1 AM starring Mary Rogers & Co., and Arkie of the Jolly Cowboys. Youngest person in attendance was Donavon Cash, 2 weeks old.