

As we conclude our summer concert season, and our OVERWHELMING SUPER WELL ATTENDED Halloween event - we turn our attention to the holidays coming up -

To Thanksgiving as we all count our blessings, and everyone has the opportunity for a hot meal thanks to the generosity of our Community Thanksgiving Dinner at the Eagles Club this year -

Then to the Season of Christmas as we gather with family, friends, and make plans to attend Mistletoe on Main Street and the Annual Parade of Lights. ...the Old Fort and other events. We will all be making donations to those charitable organizations we support - and help people we don't even know personally. We Thank God for His most perfect gift - the Christ child.

GIVING helps reflect on the things we love and our own appreciation of the lives we have here in Fort Madison. And due to our many blessings - we give back. It just feels right and good.

OLD SETTLERS ORGANIZATION has been the recipient of these generous gifts -

Over \$400,000 in gifts have helped Old Settlers become a park where people like to BE.... Sponsor donations to improve and upgrade the Park, before and after Year 2000 when the Bandstand was dedicated - lighting, seating, playground improvements and free summer concerts - to all who gave then and now - we are thankful for YOU!

TO THE VOLUNTEERS who work hard to maintain our park - trim, mow, plant, weed, and more! To the City Parks team for mowing, trimming our trees, and removing our snow - helping OLD SETTLERS MEMBERS put up decorations for the Seasons.hauling tables to and from our eventswe are thankful for all of YOU

To those who give back of time or talents whether it be serving others, baking, attending our concerts, setting up and cleaning up - the thankless work that no one sees.we are thankful for YOU

To the sponsors for our free Halloween day in the park -setting up as a table host to pass out treats to our little beggars - sponsored meals contributed so no one goes home hungry! Smiling and welcoming to everyone whether it is 40 degrees or 90 degrees.....we are thankful for YOU!

Who are YOUR blessings and what are YOU thankful for? On December 8th we will meet at the Elks Club for a dutch treat dinner- JUST to gather and reflect on our appreciation of another wonderful year of friends joining together to give back to our beautiful City Parks and to those who have enriched our lives during the past and current year. OSA Members, Sponsors, and those who have donated to Old Settlers Park are invited. Reserve your space at the table by calling Sheryl Decker at 319-470-7813 or calling 372-7813 by December 1st. Our hosts at The Elks would like to know how many places to set at the table - so see you there! The food is GREAT and the smiles will be waiting to welcome you.

Blessings to all for a great 2023 and a look forward to an exciting 2024.

Submitted by: Sheryl Decker, Event Chair

Jim Decker, President OSA

Brad Hart, Vice President, OSA

Crystal Coffman, Treasurer OSA

Rev. Bonnie Wilkerson, Recording Secretary, OSA

CONTACT INFORMATION:

OLD SETTLERS ASSOCIATION

% 427 Avenue E - Fort Madison, Iowa 52627

jsdecker67@gmail.com