

## **AAM Activities from Jeff Mead's Diary - 1978**

January 3, 1978: Tractorcade: Offerle parade at 10:00 am. After lunch, parade in Kinsley, then to Lewis and paraded.

January 10, 1978: Great Bend to Harlan Manor for the all day State Meeting of the Agriculture Movement

January 12, 1978: Meeting in Grain Club in Larned. Then back to Lewis for American Agriculture Movement meeting in community hall

January 21-26?, 1978: A group goes to Washington D.C.

January 30, 1978: Left Lewis with nine tractors and three support vehicles. Picked up tractors on the way to Macksville. Paraded in Macksville and ate dinner, then to St. John rally where paraded with 35 tractors and eight support vehicles. Then home.

Lester Derley and I got home about dark. Darrel Miller, Robert McKinney and I went to Pratt to the regional meeting of the American Agriculture with Alvin Wheaton.

February 1, 1978: St. John strike meeting. Marj Scheufler talked and did a very good job. Two men from Johnson talked, also nice meeting.

February 9, 1978: to Larned for strike meeting. Lewis people talked.”

February 21, 1978: Wichita for American Agriculture Movement News Conference. Then to Wichita Hilton for meeting with Secretary of Agriculture Bergland

February 23, 1978: To Pratt to Strike Regional Meeting

March 7, 1978: Municipal Auditorium in Great Bend for State Agriculture Movement Meeting.

March 8, 1978: Darrel Miller flew to Joplin, Missouri and made a 30 minute TV tape with Jim Cramer and Walter McClure for American Ag.

March 19, 1978: To Lorraine, Kansas for strike meeting

March 12 -18, 1978: Jerry Stapleton, Alan Simpson, Steve Bundy, Marj Scheufler and Jeff Mead went to D.C.

March 14, '78: To Larned, Father Andy spoke at AAM meeting.

March 20, 1978: Lewis Strike Office telethon to raise money.

March 22, 1978: To State Strike Office in Johnson, Kansas, to Ulysses, and Lewis

March 27, 1978: Mark Scheufler just back from Washington D.C. at 5:00 pm.

Marj Scheufler, Darrel and Karen Miller left with us for Woodward, Oklahoma.

March 29, 1978: To Albert, Kansas, for meeting with Representative Keith Sibelius.”

March 30, 1978: To Lakin for strike meeting.

March 31, 1978: Lewis Community Hall for American Agriculture Movement Appreciation Night

April 1, 1978: To Hutchinson for State Agriculture Movement in sports arena. We had 21 people from the Lewis Office attending.”

April ?4-6? 1978: Darrel and Karen Miller are in Washington

April ?11-13?, 1978: Lester Derley are in Washington, D.C.

April 11, 1978: Tonight was the bi-weekly strike meeting update. “Lester Derley called last night from Washington D.C. Gave us a lot of things we had to get done before the House of Representatives votes on our farm bill for Flexible Parity. At 3:00 pm today, we had a big meeting at the strike office this morning. Office sent about 125 telegrams and made phone calls to Washington D.C.

April 11, 1978: This evening we took Darrel and Karen Miller to Hays for American Agriculture Meeting at armory. We saw Tommy Kersey.”

April 12, 1978: Flexible parity Bill did not pass.

April 15, 1978: To Hutchinson for an American Agriculture State Meeting.

April 17, 1978: To Pratt for Regional Meeting for American Agriculture

April 24, 1978: 30 from Lewis Strike Office picked up more in St. John, Pratt, Kingman and went on Chartered bus to Oklahoma City for National Meeting by 10:00 am.

April 26. 1978: To Kinsley 4-H Fair building. Father Andrew Gottschalk, Reverend Dennis Kuder and Darrel Miller put on a good strike meeting.

*(The AAM Strike Office was open all summer and Zelma and Jeff helped run it off and on. It was open every day and someone was there to take calls and keep the coffee pot on so the farmers could stop by and keep informed. Some of the men worked when they were available. The summer and fall months were busy for the famers to tend their ground, but there were still meetings to keep in touch. Through those times Jeff had margin notes.)*

June 1: 1978 ...AAM regular meeting in the Strike Office.

June 3, 1978: Zelma and I left for Lewis at 7:50 a.m. Ford pickup and trailer, went to Elmer Huckstep’s shed and helped load antiques and collectables and move them to Main Street where they sold. I went back to the park and helped line up machinery for parade, Great parade, antiques sold great. 12:30 to 2:30, Kirk Brothers auctioneered; we made \$3,340.50 – unbelievable. Ate Taco’s at Community Hall.

June 8, 1978: ...Lewis office for regional meeting of AAM.

July 25, 1978 – Zelma and I went to Wilson lake where Lewis AA< was camped. Put our tent up and enjoyed ourselves.

July 26, 1978: Beautiful day at the lake. We left about 6 p.m. Had a grand time visiting and planning!

August 17, 1978: ...Meeting in Lewis

August 30, 1978: We picked up Keith and Marcile King, Ed and Marge Scheufler and went to the 4-H Building in Wichita. Governor Bennet and Congressman Dan Glickman each talked to us and received their plaques for their support of AAM. Nancy Kassebaum was there and answered questions.

September 7, 1978: Went to regional meeting with Darrel and Karen Miller. Darrel gave an economic wheel talk.

December 7, 1978: We picked up Keith and Marcile and went to Kinsley H.S. Auditorium to hear Father Andy Gottschalk give a talk at the AAM meeting.

December 11-18, 1978: Tractors went to Topeka

We also had a very active W.I.F.E. group in Edwards County, with several ladies belonging to Women Involved in Farm Economics. The farmers' wives worked and, raised monies for AAM. As a group in Kansas we put together a cook book to raise money.