

2023 TOUR GARDENS

Heather & Jim Harroun's Gnoman's Land Gardens



Jim & Heather

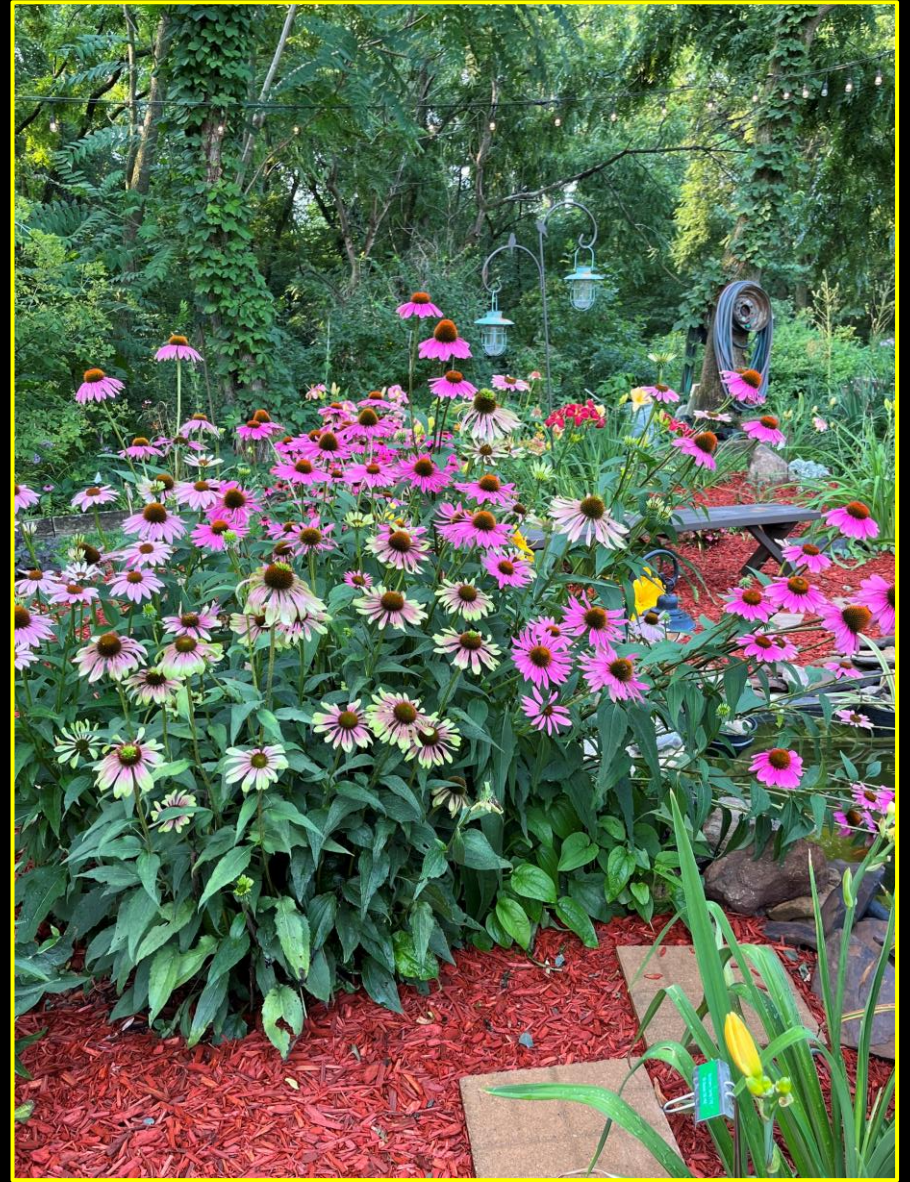








Phil Bormann & Lynn Moffit



Nancy Rash



Jackie Westhoff & Jonathan Poulton





Jackie Westhoff, Pete Connolly, Peggy
Rash-Daniels & Diane Derganz





















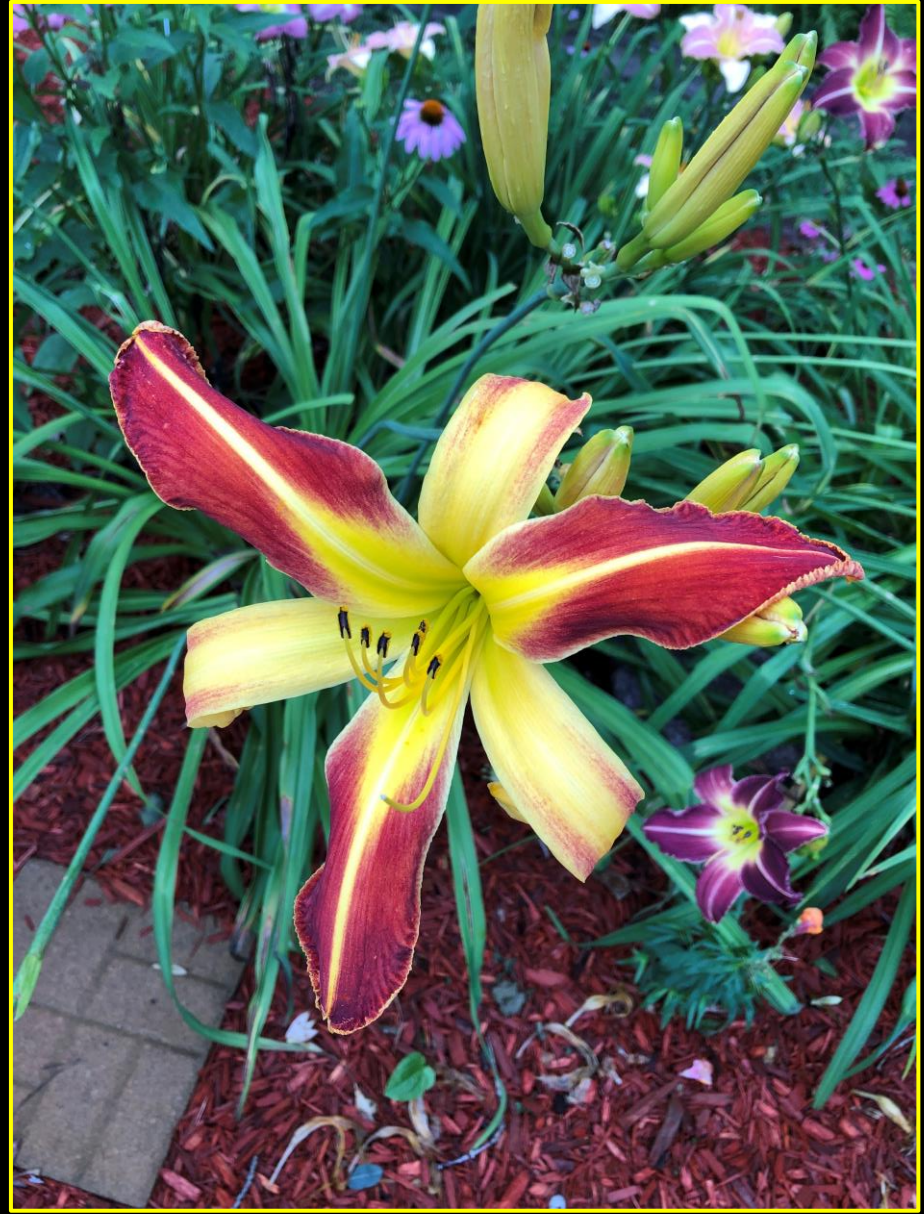
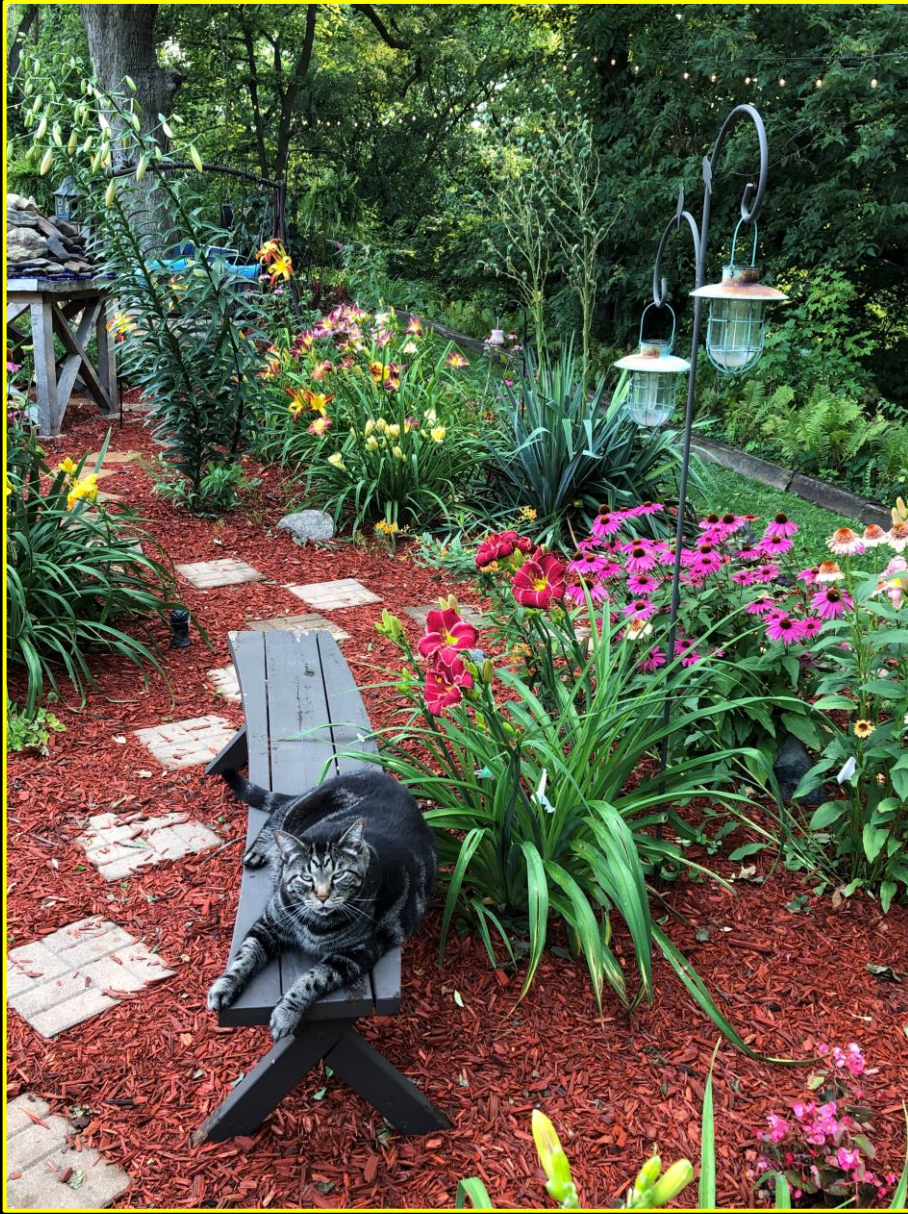




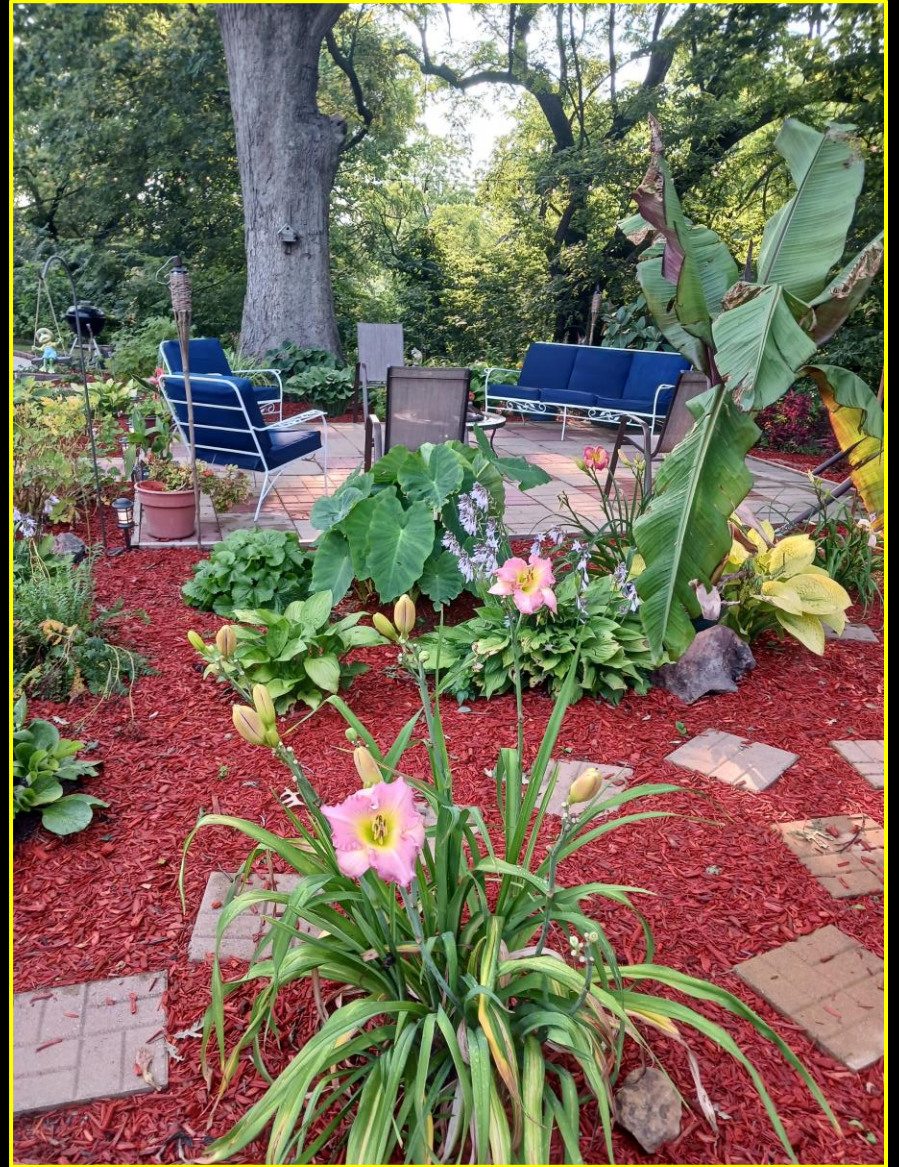


















Thank you, Heather and Jim, for a wonderful visit to Gnoman's Land Gardens!





Crossing the Mighty Mississippi into Iowa

Keith & Sally Riewert's Garden



Keith & Sally



Much Ado About Magic



Wall of Fire







Rhonda Veroeven, Keith & Sally, Scott Elliott & Steve Horan



Scott Elliott & Rhonda Veroeven



Peggy Rash-Daniels





















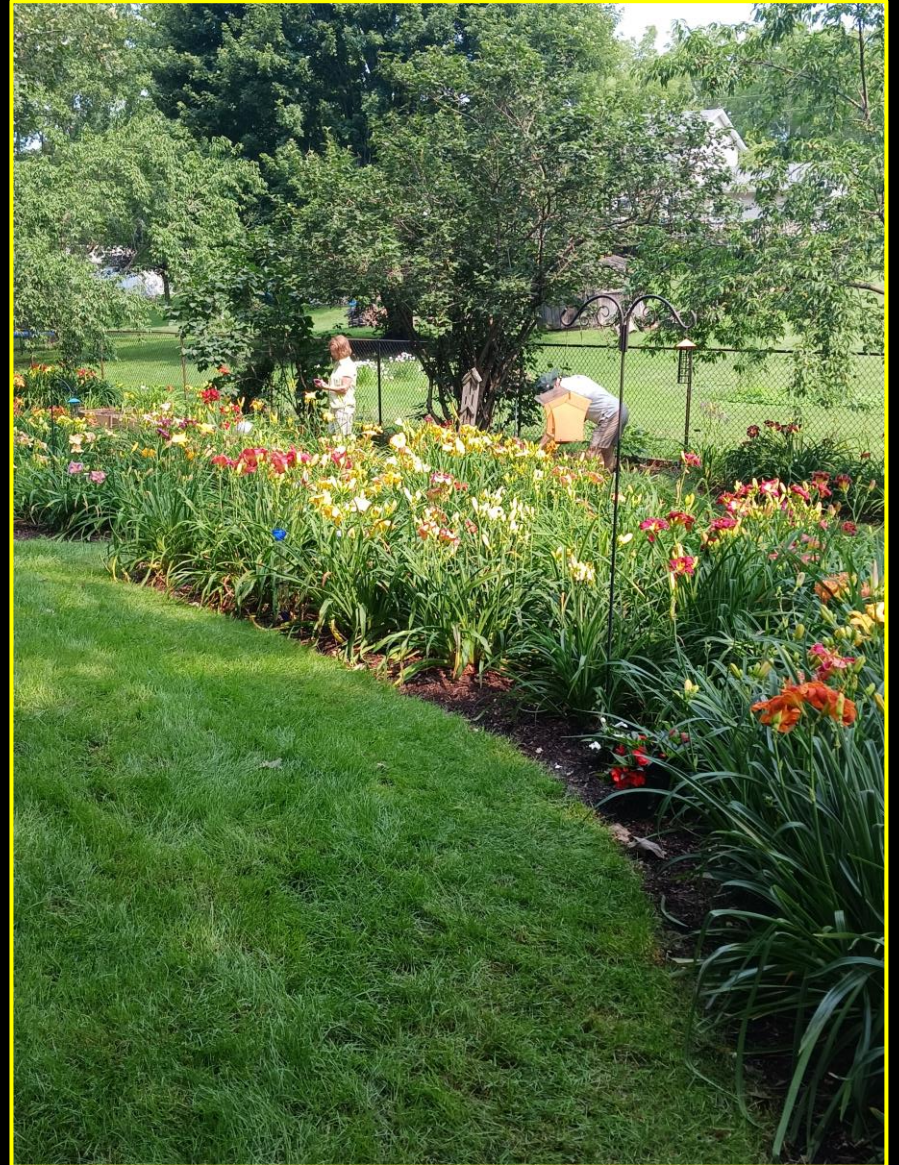














Thanks, Keith, Sally &
canine companions for
a great visit!

Lunch and Sight
Seeing at Wilton

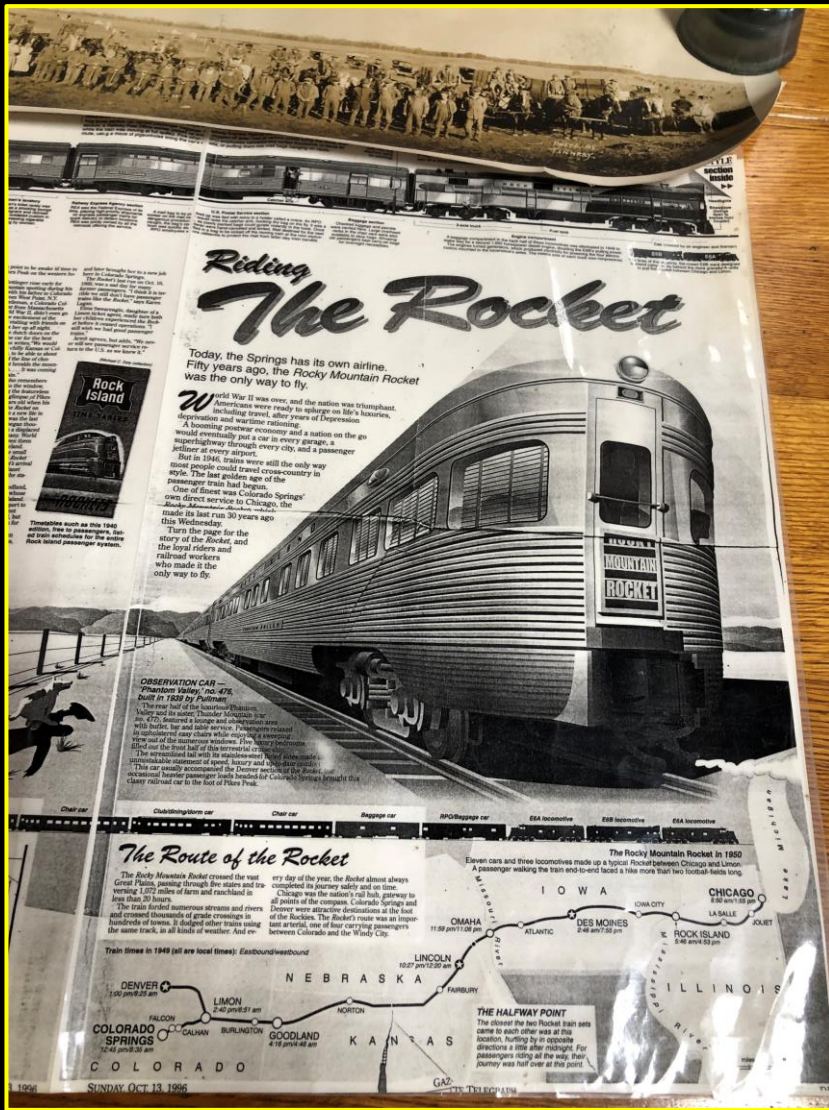


Muscatine County Freedom Rock
at Wilton





The Rock Island Rocket







Bobby served as Grand Marshall of the 1984 Founder's Day Parade



Bobby's parents in an undated picture. His father was killed when Bobby only two years old and his mother raised five kids on her own in the southend of Wilton.



... hands Bobby performed with before leaving for Nashville

Wilton still special for Fischer

BOBBY FISCHER
continued from page 1

Sharpless and Bill McKillop. A musical family is part of Fischer's heritage. His mother, Vivian, was talented and his father, Walter, could play any musical instrument he picked up. Fischer's father died in an auto accident and left his mother with five young children when Bobby was only 2.

His siblings haven't moved as far from home. They are Margie (Dolly) Neupert of Wilton, Dick of Iowa City and Arizona, Lois Lauder of Davenport and Pat Maule of Abledo, Ill.

Wilton is still a special place to Fischer, and he said he cherishes the special high school diploma presented to him when he was grand marshal at a recent Founders Day parade. Like many people of his age, he left high school before graduation — and, regrettably, that's why the diploma means so much to him.

But it would sure be nice if a Grammy could one day join the diploma as a prized possession. Now that Robbi McEntire has had a big hit with a Fischer song, and she has made it clear she wants to see all of his work, that dream seems more real.

COUNTRY MUSIC STARS — Singing star Robbi McEntire spends a little time with the songwriters of "You Lie," her recent hit. Seated with McEntire is Austin Roberts. Standing at left is Charlie Black and Wilton native Bobby Fischer is behind her.

Contributed photo

Piano lessons pay off for Bobby Fischer

by Connie Brown

Piano lessons pay off. Wilton native Bobby Fischer writes songs for country music stars in Nashville, but some very good luck, as a boy in Wilton, he was taking piano lessons and teaching himself to play the guitar. Fischer says, "I never got very good at the piano, but it always helped me in writing songs."

Fischer, with Charlie Black and Austin Roberts, wrote country singer Robbi McEntire's hit single, "You Lie," which has made it a pretty exciting year for the song-writing trio.

Fischer says he likes to co-write better than to write alone. "I've always had good talent around me," he has written with 20 different writers and says he chooses his co-writers according to the idea he's writing about.

In October the song hit number one and has stayed on the charts for a total of 23 weeks so far. This week it even jumped back up about 20 places, Fischer said, which means there's been another great sales.

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old 800,000 copies by Christmas. The songwriters also have another song on that album, "Wanted for the Deal to Go Down."

Although "You Lie" has been very good to McEntire, it was originally written for Cee Cee Chapman. Fischer said Chapman has a high voice so he was looking for a song to complement her range. Co-writing fathers had been playing around with a melody that started really high "and the word that kept coming out was lie."

So Fischer said he came up with an idea about a guy who is trapped in a situation and he doesn't want to hurt his lover so he has to lie to her. Although Chapman recorded the song on her album, she never released it as a single, but McEntire did.

Fischer says, "Singles make a living for you. You wouldn't have a Grammy if you didn't have a single. That's because without a single there is little or no air play. Fischer said with this his first team sales came from air play rather than sales.

Sales and air play are the ways writers and publishers (Fischer is both) earn their living. Fischer says a song came 66 per cent, and since he shared the songwriting duties with two others, that leaves 22 apiece. Because McEntire's album contains two of their songs, each man will earn 44 per album sold. An artist usually makes

10¢ or so per album; Fischer said famous names may even make \$1 per album. Because it is impossible for song writers to collect their own royalties for air play, they belong to one of the affiliates: ASCAP, BMI or SEAC. By law, the rate of royalties must increase for every second year of time; with those laws it is possible to keep track of the number of times a song is played and the amount is billed for that amount. Only the writers and publishers receive royalties from air play because the artist receives publicity every time a record is played which further enhances their profitability.

Fischer and radio stations are billed according to wattage: a 5,000-watt station won't play as much as a 50,000-watt station for playing the same records because the audience size varies according to wattage.

When the Grammy nomination was first announced, Fischer and his co-writers were recognized with nominations in the country field for songwriter of the year and singer of the year, and McEntire was nominated for female artist of the year for her performance of "You Lie."

Unfortunately, in the process of elimination which determines the final Grammy nominees, McEntire's nomination was the only one that prevailed.

BOBBY FISCHER
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The Webster Chicago Electronic Memory Machine you see here is on loan from the Bobby Fischer Family. This wire recorder was once the property of Doc Whetstine, long time Wilton Junction physician. One summer evening, this very machine was used back in 1952 to serpenitiously record Bobby singing to the good doctor's daughter outside her bedroom window. Dr. Whetstine later gifted Bobby with this recorder.



Behind every good man is a good woman. The Fischer family just before they relocated to Nashville since 1970, Bobby still remains in Wilton. time spent in Wilton.

Below, a few years ago, the Fischer Family gathers in front of the Lutheran Church in Wilton. From left to right, Bobby, Pat, Lois, Dick, and Dolly Fischer. "Nothing feels better than blood on blood."



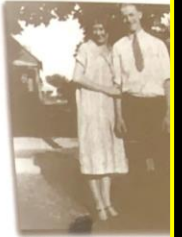
Bobby Fischer... Wilton Junction's very own Nashville Songwriter and Producer

Wire Recorder on loan
to The Wilton Historical Society

This wire recorder was the first to record Bobby Fischer in about 1950-51. The songs were recorded on Dr. G. A. Whetstine's porch in Wilton Junction, Iowa. Other people who were a part of this recording were several friends: Dean Sawvell, Jimmy Sinkson, and Ray Blocker. Dr. Whetstine gave this recorder to Bobby Fischer after he moved to Nashville in the 1970's.



Bobby served as Grand Marshall
the 1984 Founder's Day Parade



Bobby's parents in an undated photo.
His father was killed when he
was two years old and his mother
lived on her own in the south,
Wilton.



Three of the boys









A yummy milkshake at the Candy Kitchen
before heading to the Hansen Garden

Colleen & John Hansen's Garden



Ely, Colleen & John





Neon Flamingo





Hilton Magic



Webster's Pink Wonder



Thank you, Colleen and John, for a fine visit to your garden!

Darrin & Shelly Lett's Garden



Shelly & Darrin



Golden Buzz



Dave Kramer & Pete Connolly





Jackie Westhoff



Shelly Lett & Steve Horan



Steve Horan, Scott Elliott, Rhonda Veroeven, and Darrin & Shelly













Debbie Hansen, Jonathan Poulton & Becky Whitaker













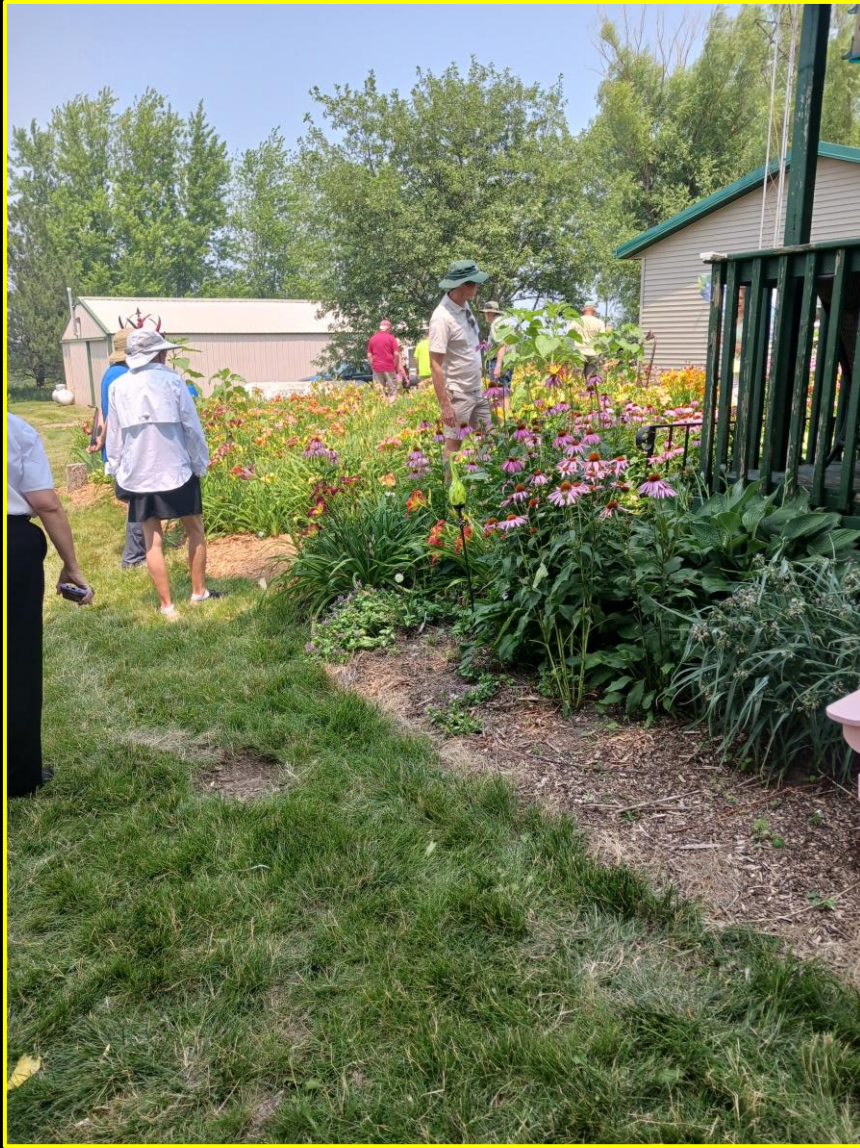






Lorraine Manz







Sherry Moffit, Diane Derganz, Peggy Rash-Daniels
& Susie Poulton



Mike Grossmann, Shelly & Darrin

Thank you, Shelly and Darrin, for sharing your floral paradise with us!