

St. Lawrence Gas & Steam Engine

Celebrating the Twenty Fifth Year of the St. Lawrence Gas & Steam Association, Inc. - 1976-2001

APRIL BANQUET TO CELEBRATE 25 YEARS

The annual banquet of the St. Lawrence Gas and Steam Engine Association will be held on Saturday, April 7, at 6:30 pm.

During the evening, members who were founders and others who have made significant contributions to the Association will be honored.

Our guest speaker will be Trent Trulock, County Historian and Executive Director of the St. Lawrence County Historical Association.

Trulock will speak on the region's past, highlighting its agricultural history. We are honored to have this experienced professional as our guest.

His office is located in the Silas Wright Museum in Canton. Members should visit exhibitions there.

A large crowd is expected, and this year's celebration is moving to a larger facility, the Louisville Arena in Louisville, NY.

Please bring a covered dish and your own plates and utensils. Meat, drinks, napkins, bread, and butter will be provided.

Louisville is located about 5 miles west of Massena towards Ogdensburg. From State Hwy. 37, go south on County Rt. 39. Cross the Grasse River and look for Arena Drive on the right (west) just up the hill.

From Canton or Potsdam, head north on State Hwy. 56. One mile north of Raymondville get on County Rt. 39. About four miles further, turn west on County Rt. 36. Look for the fire house and Arena Drive. T



A very early meeting (1978?) of founders (left to right) Paul Shirley, Ed Fincham, Harold Derushia, and Harlow Hogle with Bill Pharoah at Harlow Hogle's house. Photo courtesy of Harlow Hogle.

HELP NEEDED WITH SPRING PLOW DAYS

The North Country Heritage Museum of Rural Life will be helping the Cornell Cooperative Extension of St. Lawrence County with its Spring Plow Days.

The event is planned for April 28-29, weather and ground conditions permitting. If field conditions are not suitable, the program will be held the following weekend.

Prof. Rebecca Rivers of the St. Lawrence University and students in her

Sustainable Agriculture class need help preparing their fields for organic farming.

Tractors and teams from our Association and the St. Lawrence Valley Draft Horse Club will be provided by volunteers.

Jim McGraw is helping to organize this *fitting of the fields*. Those wishing to help plow or in any other way should call him at (315) 347-2362. His e-mail

coming events...

April 7	Annual Banquet with awards and noted speaker in celebration of our Association's 25th year.
April 28-29	Volunteer work at the Extension farm's Spring Plow Days. See article above.
June 9-10	19th Annual Gas and Steam Engine Show at the Canton Sportsman's Club near Canton, NY.
Sept. 1-2	Old Fashioned Harvest Days Show at the Hutchinson Farm, near Heuvelton, NY.



Founder Brice Winters sent this photo showing he is still rebuilding engines. This is a 1906 International Famous.



The one-room school house Leon Page converted into a shop, site of the first Assn. meeting in 1976. Photo from Ray

Ann Arbor
"THE BALER FOR BUSINESS"

24 Years
 The World's Standard

Hay Presses are all we build or sell. We've got to keep them most up-to-date and right. A Baler built right—stays right.

\$3.26
 Each Repair Bill Last Year

Guarantee
 Our New Patented Automatic Self Feeder, Automatic Safety Slip Fly Wheels and New Patented Block Dropper allows us to positively guarantee the "Ann-Arbor" capable of baling out More hay per season and still cost less to operate than any other press on the market—barring none. *Mighty strong but a trial will PROVE it.*

40 Styles and Sizes
 Wood or Steel

Free Catalogue and Handsome Souvenir Pin
GET ONE

Ann Arbor Machine Co., Ann Arbor, Mich. Box 4, Mich.

An advertisement from 1911 showing the Ann Arbor hay press, a model very similar to the one purchased by the Association last fall.

SHIRLEY FINDS HAY PRESS ORIGINS

By surfing the web, Paul Shirley found a booklet for sale, *Monograph No. 5, Hay Presses & Balers, 1901-1948* by Alan C. King.

On its pages 4 and 5 are copies of ads from 1909, 1911, 1912, and 1914 showing the Ann Arbor hay press.

In the first report on the Association's

purchase of its press in Newsletter Vol. 2, No. 6, the Ann Arbor Agricultural Company was thought to be the manufacturer. Curiously, it reportedly went out of business in 1891, several years before the estimated date of our press.

The actual manufacturer is the Ann Arbor Machine Co. whose ad states that hay presses are all they build.

An ad showing a model very similar to the Association's can be seen above.

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ARE YOU UP TO DATE?

Those who have not paid dues after 1998 will find a letter enclosed advising them that this could be their last Newsletter.

There are about 15 members who have fallen that far behind in their dues. They need to contact Treasurer Bill Shirley and bring their dues record up to date.

Whether you are an active member or just like to keep up with the Association's news, your dues are still important.

Dues allow us the opportunity to collect and preserve special engines such as the Anderson and Farquar. Unusual antique equipment such as the Ann Arbor hay press has also been purchased.

Having a healthy bank balance also allows us to underwrite the two annual shows.

There are many items such as advertising, toilet rental, and tractor pull agreements that must be paid early.

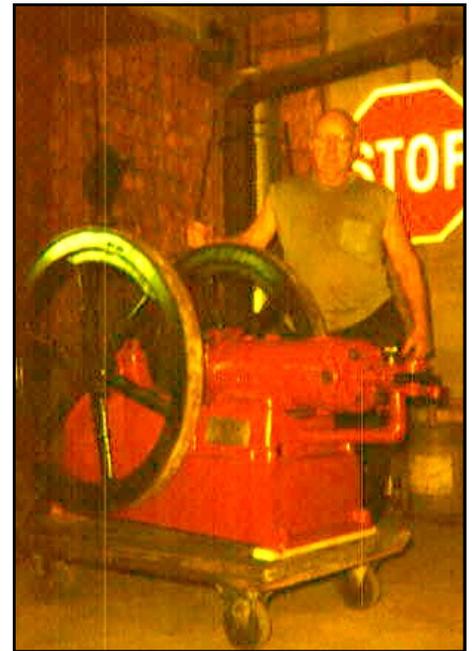
If a show is ever rained out, the gate and concession income will not be enough to cover these costs.

Dues also pay for six Newsletters each year. Though editing and layout are done by volunteers, there are still printing and postage costs.

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Looking at engines are (l to r) Paul Shirley, Brice Winters, Harlow Hogle, Harold Derushia, and Ray Page at Derushia's place a few months prior to the founding of the Association in 1976. Photo provided by Ray Page.



Founder Leonard Van Ess and his International he and Brice Winters have been working on recently. Photo by Winters.

More on the Museum

Another meeting was held in February, continuing efforts to establish a museum in conjunction with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of St. Lawrence County.

North Country Heritage Museum of Rural Life was chosen as its official name. An Organizational Proposal describing the working relation between the CCE of SLC and the Museum is under

review. Discussions continue in an attempt to define the role your Association might play.

Items being considered include conditions for holding shows at the Extension farms, donation or loan of equipment to the Museum, insurance protection, and fund raising by the Association.

In the meantime, there is no limit to the way individual members of the Association can help with Museum and

CCE of SLC programs. Spring Plow Days (see page 1), Farm Update 2001 on March 29, and the Harvest Festival on September 29-30 are events that members are invited to support.

Anyone interested in the Museum or wishing to participate in its programs should contact any Association officer for information. e

RFD-TV offered on

Programs on a new TV network include Farm Bureau Today, state Bureaus, U.S. Farm Report, Ag PhD, Horse TV, and Classic Tractor.

Dish Network, one of the satellite dish TV signal providers, is offering RFD-TV on channel 9409. This 24 hour network broadcast is dedicated to the interests of rural America.

RFD Communications, Inc., is a non-profit corporation similar to PBS and offers informational and educational programming.

RFD-TV program subjects and times are listed on its website at www.rfdtv.com. Schedules change each day, so keeping track of your favorite show can be a problem. If you have a Dish Network dish, try it.



A scene at the First Plow Days show near Lisbon in 1983. From there, the show moved to become the annual June show at Canton. Photo courtesy of Paul Shirley.

Officers

President: Gary Hargrave, 10 River St., Norwood, NY 13668. (315) 353-2888. E-mail: Harg43@aol.com.

Vice President: James (Jim) McGraw, 3385 US Hwy. 11, Dekalb Junction, NY 13630. (315) 347-2362. E-mail: j_mcgraw@tds.net

Secretary: Roger Austin, 410 Stevenson Rd., Rensselaer Falls, NY 13680. (315) 344-7470 (through October) or (912) 453-3640. E-mail rsaustin@accucomm.net.

Treasurer: William (Bill) Shirley, 50 Lincoln Dr., Massena, NY 13662. (315) 769-7912. Email: carjunky62@aol.com. e

Great February Meeting

Jim and Julie McGraw hosted a fine meeting on February 11. Jim opened his new steel building to members who enjoyed his collection of Deere tractors. He has nearly all the numbered series.

Discussions covered several topics including the forthcoming Annual Banquet. Information was also shared about activities at the Extension farm in conjunction with the Museum.

There was also discussion about the awards to be presented at the Annual Banquet. A partial list of potential recipients was presented, and members were invited to make other recommendations

either from the floor or after the meeting.

Some of the ladies explored local antique shops during the meeting.

Those attending included Bill Shirley, Becky Shirley, Paul and Pat Shirley Dave Putman, Howard and Verna Hutchinson, Jim and Julie McGraw, Don Sloan, Lyle Sloan, Wayne Day, Bill Day, Gary Livingston, Phil Bigarel, Mike Livingston, Lee Latulipe, Allen Shirley, Paul Moore, Edward Fincham, Chelson Putman, and Roger Austin. e



Founders (l to r) Kyle Latrace, Harold Derushia, Ray Page, Leon Page, and Harlow Hogle at an Association picnic, probably in 1977. Photo courtesy of Paul Shirley.

Surfing Hint: Why not try www.atis.net or www.oldironauction.com? Gary Hargrave reports astounding prices for engines. Is it getting to rich for the hobbyist? Will all the engines retire to Florida? How can we keep them in St. Lawrence County? e

St. Lawrence Gas & Steam

inside...

Annual banquet to celebrate 25th year.
Hay Press origin discovered.
February meeting a success.
More Museum progress and projects.
Are your dues up to date?

St. Lawrence Gas & Steam Engine Association, Inc.
Roger Austin, Secretary
410 Stevenson Road
Rensselaer Falls, NY 13680

Place
Postage
Here