

# St. Lawrence Gas & Steam Engine

Newsletter of the St. Lawrence Gas & Steam Engine Association, Inc., A Not For Profit Organization Founded in 1976

## RECORD ATTENDANCE AT SHOW

A record 1,168 adult, paying visitors passed through the gate on Labor Day weekend at the Old Fashioned Harvest Days show.

In addition, there were well over 50 registered displayers and vendors and a few others who failed to do so. We really need to get all to be members to protect them and us under our liability insurance.

Thirty seven competitors paid for 91 hitches at the Sunday tractor pull, a record number for the Association. There were over 90 tractors counted on Saturday before many more showed up for the pull.

Figuring one kid per paying couple at the gate and two people for every vendor, displayer, and puller, total attendance should be nearly 2,000.

Displayers who registered included Charles Alton, Winston Armstrong, Bill Bartlett, Francis Baxter, Harvey Bender, Howard Bice, Earl Bigarel, Jay Bigarel, Phil Bigarel, Francis Billings, Robert Bixby, Ed Byrnes,

Mike Caskinette, Ben Cleaveland, Daniel Cole, Wayne Day, William Day, Ed Fincham, Ross Goodyear, Kenneth Gordon, Gary Hargrave, Kyle Hartman, David Hebert, Eugene Jones, Tony Laclair, Jim McGraw, Donald McIntosh, James Mitchell,

Wayne Moquin, Lowell Nicholson, Robert Nottell, Marty Osuch, Nelson Pharoah, Bill Pharoah, Gerald Primeau, Larry Proven, Chelson Putman, Dave Putman, James Putman, Ed Shepard, Frank Shepherd, Allen Shirley, Bill Shirley, Bob Shirley,

Paul Shirley, Sue Shirley, Tom Shirley, John Smith, Steve Smith, Alfred Snider, Dick Sprague, Bill Steele, John Stevens, John Supple, Brandon Surdez, Grant, Thesier, and Chelsea Young.

The report on the antique tractor pull on page five lists many members who won in various weight classes.

Many of your Association's assets were put to work. Gary Crowe, Lyle Sloan, Marty Osuch, Marty Jr., Ross Goodyear, and Ken Gordon gathered corn from the binder and bundle loader and put it through the International ensilage cutter.

Howard Hutchinson, Ken Gordon, and Luke Ladouceur operated the Case thresher. Oat straw was baled by Ross Goodyear, Ken Gordon, Lyle Sloan, and Martin Osuch Jr. *(continued on page 5)*



*Howard Hutchinson (l) and John Mitchell at the Old Fashioned Harvest Days Show filling bags of oats produced by the Association's Case threshing machine.*

## JUNE SHOW MOVING

About this time in past years, the directors of the Association have reached agreement with the Canton Sportsman's Club about the coming year's Annual Show in June. This year, our discussions have failed to do so.

Finding a new location for our 21st Annual Gas & Steam Engine Show is now a priority. Plans are to hold it at the same time as in the past, the second weekend in June. Other dates have been considered, but moving it a week or two finds conflicts with other established shows.

The show and its future location will be discussed at the Members Meeting to be held on Sunday, October 27 (see announcement on page 3). Anyone who has a suggestion of where it could be held is invited to speak at the meeting.

One possible site is the Louisville Community Center. It has most of the features that the show requires. These include ample space for displays and parking, drinking water, a complete kitchen with suitable facilities for washing pots and pans, and a good pulling track. Rental of a tent and portable toilets to supplement existing facilities will be necessary.

Moving from the central location *(continued on page 4)*

<i>Association</i>	October 27	Annual Membership meeting and election of officers, Heuvelton Equipment Company.
	June 14-15	21st Annual St. Lawrence Gas & Steam Engine Association Show, 2003.
	August 30-31	Old Fashioned Harvest Days Show, 2003.
<i>Events</i>		

## ELECTIONS ANNOUNCED

Electon of officers will be held at the annual meeting of the membership on October 27 (see page 3). Nominations may be made by any member in good standing (dues or dues of member spouse paid through 2002) and will be made from the floor. Only members in good standing are eligible to vote.

The Association's Board of Directors will put forth nominations for those they recommend as new officers. These include:

For President - Jim McGraw. Jim has been Vice President for the last three years. He has been active during his tenure with work on pull tracks, setting up shows, and hosting meetings. Jim is known for his extensive collection of John Deere tractors but promises to support the diverse interests of all members.

For Vice President - Ross Goodyear. Ross has been an active member of the Association for many years. He is a skilled mechanic and has helped restore equipment seen at shows. For years he brought his own sawmill until he found and helped set up one for the Association. Most recently, Ross restored the Ann Arbor hay press to good working order.

For Secretary - Roger Austin. Roger has held this office for four years. He publishes the Newsletter and revised the by-laws earlier this year. He has collected a couple tractors and a few antique machines. Roger promotes Association unity and preservation of the region's historical equipment.

For Treasurer - Bill Shirley. Bill is a former president and has been treasurer for three years. For several years, he has overseen operation of the food concessions. He has helped restore and operate many of the Association's assets. Bill collects a variety of motorized equipment and enjoys seeing and making it operate.

If you can not be there, give your proxy to a director or other member. Simply write a note saying you give your vote to whomever and that you want him to vote on your behalf. You may even tell him who you want him to vote for. Be sure to sign and date the note. Ω

## MAJOR THANK YOU'S

Many people deserve special recognition for support of the Old Fashioned Harvest Days Show. It is not difficult to know where to start saying thanks.

Without the kindness of the **Hutchinson Family** it would not be the same. Thanks Howard and Verna! And a great thanks to Joyce and Janice for the countless hours of moving fences and gates, moving the herds, mowing fields, putting out the hay bales, driving the hay wagon, checking the toilets - and then putting the place back together again. Thank you!

Once again, **The Goodtimers** provided a great selections of old-time tunes for everyone's enjoyment. The pickin' and fiddlin' of Earl Belile, Merlin Childs, Gary and Cheryl Crowe, Morris LaFaver, and Neal Morrison were greatly appreciated. *(continued on page 5)*

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Bill Shirley reports that as of the end of September, the checkbook balance was \$7,946.02. Outstanding bills should be less than what is owed the Association.

This is up \$1427.43 since the beginning of the year. Remaining routine expenses are expected to reduce this balance.

Capital expenditures to date total \$445.07 for purchase of a Bunn coffee maker, stainless steel shelves, a stainless steel triple sink, and plastic water dispensers. The last three items were purchased to improve the kitchen's hygiene at shows.

A more comprehensive report will be issued in the January-February issues of the Newsletter next year. \$

## OLD IRON CALENDARS

We sold out of the 2003 Old Iron calendars at the Fall Show. One member asked that we order more. And we will - when we remember who wanted one.

Please, anyone who wants one should call or see Roger Austin at the Members meeting on October 27. We will mail them to you when we get them. Their cost will be \$9.00 each which includes mailing costs.

## ANN ARBOR HAY PRESS BACK IN ACTION

At the 2001 Fall Show, Ross Goodyear spent a good deal of time getting the Association's Ann Arbor hay press to run. In spite of a main shaft that swung to and fro about six inches and the bucket of rust that came out with the first bale, it did prove to be operable.

Best remembered, however, were Ross's words at the end of the show, "Boys, you won't recognize her next year". Ross kept his promise.

Gone were the ill-fitting balloon tires and axels. They had been replaced with the hard-rubber tires, steel wheels, and axels donated by Larry Proven. Much of the bent sheet metal had been straightened or replaced.

Most importantly, the main bearings had been re-babbited and grease cups had been added. The main shaft now stays where it belongs.

Lots of welding elsewhere and coats of new primer and red paint made it an outstanding machine to see. Paul Shirley picked up the renovated press, added a stenciled Ann Arbor logo, and delivered it to the Hutchinson farm in time for the show.

At the show, Ross could be found putting the press to test. It worked perfectly.

Paul Shirley has found another reference to the Ann Arbor company in his book on Oliver tractors. Oliver bought out Ann Arbor in the 1930's. Look for details in future issues of the Newsletter. ☺

**Try our website: <http://home.twcny.rr.com/harg43/slgas.html>. Comments? Contact Gary Hargrave.**

## IMPORTANT ANNUAL MEETING - BE THERE

On October 27th, the last Sunday in the month, your Association's annual member's meeting will be held at 2:00 pm at the Heuvelton Equipment Company. Your host will be Gary Crowe.

Members and spouses alike are asked to attend this most important meeting. Your Votes are important.

Following old business, the first order of new business will be the election of officers (see page 2). This will be followed by discussion regarding selection of a new site for the 2003 June Show (see page 1) and then other items of importance.

To get there, take State Hwy. 812 to Heuvelton, turn east on Rt. 15. In about one mile, turn left on Commerce Street. In one more block you will find the meeting site. ☺

### HELP, HELP, HELP!

**Your Association now has many large assets such as threshers, combines, and hay presses. Most are stored in member's barns. More space is needed. If you have a nice, dry, and safe place we could use, please let us know.**

**Thanks.**

### BUY, SELL, OR GIVE

**For Sale:** 50's Bolens 2-wheel walking tractor, 4-wheel tractor, plus mower, sickle mower, blade, harrows, etc. All working. John Hulbert, Cadyville. (518) 492-2062.

**Make Offer:** Steel parts for buggy. Includes axels. John Hewey, Rensselaer Falls. (315) 344-8883.

**Needs Home:** Fanning Mill, ready for caring restoration by anyone willing to donate time to the Association. Screens missing. Mill would be donated by Leon Walker, Chaumont. (315) 649-5181. ✂



*(left to right) Ken Pharoah, John Stevens, and Nelson Pharoah ponder a 1/2 horse John Deere engine and a fine collections of antique spark plugs during Old Fashioned Harvest Days.*

## Pedal Pull Winners

Wayne Day again officiated the Annual Kids Pedal Tractor Pull during the Old Fashioned Harvest Days Show.

Thirty three children drove the toy tractor and Day-designed sled. Every participant received a fine trophy.

Winners in the five and under class were: 1st, Glenn Sanders; 2nd, Steven Thesier; and 3rd, Mather Deon.

Winners in the 6 to 9 class were: 1st, Kyle Lawrence; 2nd, Chris Teriele; and 3rd, Cody Wright.

An unofficial pull for older children was organized using a larger sled. This even attracted another dozen competitors. ♣



*Lowell Nicholson (right) looks over assorted treasures being sold by Clayton Weatherup at the Old Fashioned Harvest Days Show. Clayton always has an interesting collection for those looking for special items.*



## HEALTHIER SHOWS

The New York Department of Health issued the Association's first permit to operate a temporary food service establishment during the recent Old Fashioned Harvest Days Show.

With great support from Victor Pisani and Genevieve McLaughlin of the NYDoH, Association officers and kitchen staff were advised about state regulations and methods to meet them for a safer and healthier show.

Kathy Oakes of the St. Lawrence County Department of Health also provided advice regarding the possibility of rabies among of animals in the petting zoo. While chances seem small of this happening, she provided recommended guidelines for minimizing the possibility.

Visible results were improved kitchen facilities and wash stations, more toilets, and cautionary signs posted at the petting zoo. Less visible but vital to our success were the improved practices by food handlers and servers.

The new rules make sense, and all can be pleased with the improvements that were made. ♥

**Watch for more Old Fashioned Harvest Day Photos in the next issue.**

## EDITOR'S NOTE

I had planned to have this issue full of photos taken at the Fall Show. However, there are so many things to report that we will have to wait until the next Newsletter to so.

What you will find are the names of the many members and friends who have actively supported your Association (note the *your*) during the year. I am sure I have missed some and hope that you will let me know who.

The success of the Association is the result of so many people doing so many different things - all of which contribute to the whole.

If you have not had a chance to help in the way you would like or as much as you want, let us know. There is plenty to do, we need the help, and we want to see your name in the Newsletter too. Ed

*(June Show Move from page 1)*

of the Canton site and the improvements we had made there was a difficult decision. The directors hope that the membership will help find a good alternative that most will find satisfactory. See you at the meeting! ✓

## ASSOCIATION MEMBERS SUPPORT FESTIVALS

The **Madrid Bicentennial** was celebrated on July 6. Bob and Wayne Day with Gary Hargrave provided a display of an antique tractor, car, engines, and machines.

The **Massena Bicentennial** was celebrated July 13. The Association, using Mike Caskinette's truck and flat bed trailer, built a float featuring a Cletrac and antique engines and machines. In addition to Mike, the project was supported by Roger Austin, Ed Fincham, Gary Hargrave, Bill Shirley, Bob Shirley, and Paul Shirley.

The **Hopkinton Bicentennial** on July 20 was supported by Gary Hargrave, Brice Winters, the Ray Dunning (Jr. & Sr.) and Bob Nottel with a display of antique engines and machines.

The **Festival of North Country Folk Life** on August 10 was supported by Ed Fincham. Bill Shirley, Gary Hargrave, and Paul Shirley

The **Harvest Festival** at the Cornell Cooperative Farm was supported by Carol Austin who demonstrated cider-making on her grinder-press.

These events provide an excellent opportunity for promoting your Association. If we missed anyone's name or if you want to participate in special events next year, be sure to let us know. ☺



*Mike Caskinette pulls the Association's display with his antique Mack truck. On the flat bed can be seen (r. to l.) Paul Shirley, Brandon Surdez, and Michael Shirley.*

## NEW MEMBERS

Thirteen members joined the Association during our recent Old Fashioned Harvest Days show. They include Leon Walker, Chaumont, NY. He is the son of member Leonard Walker who passed away in 1998.

Merrill Armstrong has relinquished his membership in the Association. We are pleased to see his place taken by his son, Winston.

We also welcome Mike Casquette of Norfolk, NY; Chuck and Jodie Eakins of Hopkinton, NY; Bill Martin of Lisbon, NY; Shawn Spellacy of Canton, NY; Elbert White of Nedrow, NY; Wes Whitten of Riverbank, California; and Lee Williams of Canton, NY.

Spouses of members have also declared their interest in being active members. They are Pat Bartlett, wife of Bill; Sheila Gordon, wife of Ken; and Jean Shepherd, wife of Frank.

Remember that spouses who wish to be active in the Association may do so by declaring their desire to be a member. Best of all, spouses of existing members are exempt from dues. ☺

**Thank You's** (continued from page 2) The **Kitchen Crew** really smoked with Patti and Michelle Shirley, Lorrie and Dave Moulton with Brittney too, Mae Magroon, Cathy Locey, Fireman John Sheets and Jr. Fireman Kevin Fenlong, John and Joan Jenkins, and Chris Lockhart.

The **Petting Zoo** moped along with loans of animals from Carol Austin, Cheryl Crowe, Valerie Wilson, Mark and Lisa Merkley, Lori Kelley, Bill Story, and Cindy Martin.

The **Big Tent** loaned by Willis Shattuck was a place of rest and refreshment for everyone.

Without the **Pull-Back Tractor** loaned to us by Earle and Dan Amara, we would have been stuck.

The **Buggy and Cutter** loaned us by Judy Finen completed our display of early postal delivery vehicles.

The **Bake Sale** received generous donations from a dozen anonymous

### **Other Shows of Interest —**

June 14, 2003 Town of DeKalb Bicentennial. Association members are invited. Contact Linda Soulia, (315) 347-3465.  
Any Time For a list of AACA sanctioned antique automobile shows, contact Glenn Seymour (315) 265-6985.

## RECORD 91 PULLS AT FALL SHOW

A record number of paid hitches were seen at Sunday's Antique Tractor Pull at the Old Fashioned Harvest Days Show.

Thirty seven participants from the US and Canada competed for trophies and bragging rights. The winners were:

**2500 lbs.:** 1st., Gene Drown, Ford 8N; 2nd., Al Guerin, Allis Chalmers B; 3rd., Winston Armstrong, Allis Chalmers C.

**3000 lbs.:** 1st., Gene Drown, Ferguson 3S; 2nd., Winston Armstrong, Allis Chalmers C; 3rd., Livernois, Ferguson.

**4000 lbs.:** 1st., Wayne Langlois, Farmall H; 2nd., Lynn Billings, Farmall H; 3rd., Dick Sprague, John Deere B.

**5000 lbs.:** 1st., Phil Bigarel, John Deere A; 2nd., Alvin Livernois, Farmall M; 3rd., Grant Thesier, Farmall Super H.

**6000 lbs.:** 1st., Al Snider, Farmall M; 2nd., Red Chapman, Farmall Super MTA; 3rd., Gerald Primeau, Farmall M.

**7000 lbs.:** 1st., Hal Gilbert, Farmall 460; 2nd., Gary Livingston, John Deere 530; 3rd., Phil Bigarel, John Deere D.

**8000 lbs.:** 1st., Mike Livingston, Case 800; 2nd., Dan Cole, John Deere 630; 3rd., Steven Smith, International 650.

**9000 lbs.:** 1st., Walt Bishop, Case 900; 2nd., Ed Jordan, John Deere R; 3rd., Mike Livingston, Case 800.

**10,000 lbs.:** 1st., Walt Bishop, Case 900; 2nd., Gary Livingston, Case 800; 3rd., Chuck Chapman, John Deere 820.

**11,000 lbs.:** 1st., Mike Livingston, Case 900; 2nd., Gary Livingston, Case 900; 3rd., Chuck Chapman, John Deere 820.

**12,000 lbs.:** 1st., Mike Livingston, Case 900; 2nd., Jim McGraw, John Deere 830; 3rd., Dusty Tugger on a

mous members and friends. They were a great treat and money maker. Thanks again everyone! 🍻

Huffinpooper Model A.

**12,000 lb. Open:** 1st., Chuck Chapman, John Deere 720; 2nd., Mike Livingston, Case 900; 3rd., Gary Livingston, Case 800.

**Century:** 1st., Dick Sprague, John Deere B; 2nd., Allis Chalmers WD; 3rd., Otis Bishop, Allis Chalmers WD 45. ☺



Marty Osuch (l.) and Lyle Sloan up to their ears in a corn binder at the show.

(*Harvest Show cont'd. from page 1*) in the Ann Arbor hay press. Nearby, Bob Shirley, Tom Shirley, and Sheila Gordon sawed logs on the Lane sawmill.

The heart of the show was provided by those who at great effort, loaded their trucks and trailers with their own equipment. There were many flywheel engines and machines they powered. There were tractors galore, as well as harvest equipment.

Vendors provided choices of old iron and iron parts, memorabilia, maple syrup, baskets, craft items, toys and other goods.

Great food began with a huge breakfast, then the usual hot dogs and hamburgers, and finally the eagerly anticipated BBQ chicken and spaghetti dinners.

Evening music was provided by the Goodtimers, their bluegrass music providing a fitting end to a great day of harvest activity. 🎵

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

Place  
Postage  
Here

*inside...*

Old Fashioned Harvest Days sets attendance record.  
June Show moving - where?  
Very important annual meeting October 27.  
Antique Tractor and Pedal Pull winners announced.  
Election of officers coming very soon.



**MY TRACTOR** - By Junior Member Chelsea Young, 7th Grade, Lisbon Cent. School. Daughter of Dean and Wanda Young.

**M**y tractor was an old beat-up lawnmower, but my grandfather, Gerald Primeau, made it into a "my size" tractor. I'm proud of him. Although I know he can fix big tractors; I never knew that he could make a *my-size* tractor.

First he fixed it up, then painted it, and then added a horn. He is working on the on-off switch so I don't have to pull a wire to shut it off or pull out the choke to make it stall. The horn sounds like the Roadrunner from *Looney Toones*. Sometimes I have to remind my grandfather where the gears are. I'm glad he built it, because now I can drive around in my own *Little Bull*.

I also take lessons driving big tractors. I use a certain one, because it is the only one I am tall enough for to reach the pedals. As I become taller I will be able to drive others. After one lesson you realize you need a couple more to perfect your driving.



**Officers & Directors**

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**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 Road, Rensselaer Falls, NY 13680. (478) 453-3640 (Nov.-April) or (315) 344-7470. E-mail at any time: rsaustin@accucomm.net.  
**Treasurer:** William (Bill) Shirley, 50 Lincoln Dr., Massena, NY 13662. (315) 769-7912. E-mail: carjunky62@aol.com.  
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