

ST. LAWRENCE POWER & EQUIPMENT MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. LAWRENCE POWER & EQUIPMENT MUSEUM, A NOT-FOR-PROFIT, 501(C)3, EDUCATION CORPORATION

FANTASTIC HARVEST SHOW



About 2000 people drove in to the **Hutchinson Farm** near Heuvelton, NY on Labor Day weekend to participate in the 14th annual Old Fashioned Harvest Days show. Many members set up earlier on Thursday and Friday, taking advantage of the excellent weather.

Show chairman Dave Hebert was still pulling the pieces together early Saturday morning, calling in Tom Howard from **Suburban Energy Services** to get us cooking again in the kitchen. And he did. Michelle Shirley and her crew managed to get a great breakfast on the table, and never slowed down the rest of the weekend.

Earlier, Ross Goodyear set up the vertical saw mill (more about it in the next issue) and ran it for the first time. Thanks to **Northern Sharpening** of Madrid, its multiple blades sawed smooth and well.

Before Saturday's breakfast was off the table, the popping sound from the first of over 50 antique gas engines could be heard. Then the whoomp and smoke rings from the Museum's big Anderson diesel joined them. And then Jim Mitchell's saw mill began singing.

Antique tractors pulled in, 83 of them by Saturday with more coming for the pull the next day. Some were hitched to plows and others to a vintage corn binder,

(See *Old Fashioned Harvest Days* on page 4)



Three members bagging and two forking oats at the Museum's Case thresher during Old Fashioned Harvest Days. Dusty

LAND SEARCH CONTINUES

The search for a location to establish a permanent facility for the display and storage of the Museum's collection and where our annual shows can be held will continue into 2005.

Though a few attractive sites have been identified, acquisition efforts had been suspended for a few months while discussions between the Museum and the Cornell Cooperative Extension of St. Lawrence County took place. It was hoped that space could be found at the Extension's demonstration farms.

At the end of October, the Extension's board decided that accommodation would not be possible at this time, citing on-going experimental work and uncertainty regarding some of its plans and long-term activities.

President Ross Goodyear has stated that the search for a suitable property should be one of the Museum's primary efforts during 2005. Anyone who knows of a specific opportunity should contact Jim McGraw or any other trustee (see list of trustees on last page).



Edwin Sheppard, Gary Crowe, Dave Hebert, and Lyle Sloan (l to r) bind corn at Old Fashioned Harvest Days.

<i>Association Events 2005</i>		
January 30	Sunday, Annual Meeting & Elections, 2:00 pm, at the Heuvelton Equipment Co. offices, Heuvelton, NY.	
April?	Saturday, Annual Banquet, 6:00 pm, location to be announced.	
May?	Four-Club Show.	
June 18-19	23rd Annual Gas & Steam Engine Show, Canton Sportsman's Club, Canton, NY.	
September 3-4	15th Annual Old Fashioned Harvest Days Show, Hutchinson Farm, Heuvelton, NY.	

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome 23 new Museum members. Joining at the fall show were:

Jim Armstrong, Jack Backus, Reginald Chester, Dave Cleaveland, Matt Conin, Sharon Connell, Roland Dumont, Margaret Gary, Richard Gates, Randy Goss, Glen Hanes, Don Kingston, Peter O'Brien (Jr. member), Eric Parkman, Claude Shepherd, Correll Shepherd, Bruce Stone, and LeRoy Willard. And a warm *welcome back* to former member Dale Gonio.

Joseph Hess signed up while visiting the Museum's display at the Extension's Harvest Festival. Michelle Kerr, Lance Thesier, and Steve Thesier applied by email.

New members are asked to complete the Member Interest form and return it to the secretary. We are glad you have joined us. ☺



Member Frank Shepherd smokin' past the Museum's Farquhar steam engine.

PEDAL PULL RESULTS

The pedal pull again attracted a large crowd of competitors as well as admiring parents and grandparents. Future events could use more volunteers to help organizers Wayne and Mary Day (junior classes) and Jim Mitchell (senior classes).

Junior Class winners include:

0-3 Years Class: 1st, Mitchell Shippee (age 2); 2nd, Tyse Warnecke (age 3); 3rd, Jake Shippee (age 3).

4-6 Years Class: 1st, Damen Smithers; 2nd, Caleb Cunningham; 3rd, Shane Cryderman.

7-12 years Class: 1st, Victor Sanders; 2nd, Eric Storie; 3rd, Brandon Robenson. 🏆



Members Bob Shirley (l), Sheila Gordon, and Tom Shirley feed the restored vertical saw mill. Look for the sawmill's story in the next Newsletter.

Pat Shirley collected \$134 at the bake sale. Thanks to all the cooks that contributed their baked goods.



Member Jimmy Armstrong (front left) and a visitor talk Averys at the Museum's display at the Cornell Cooperative Extension's Fall Harvest Festival.

MEMBERS SUPPORT EXTENSION'S HARVEST FESTIVAL

Several members of the Museum manned the Museum's display at the Cornell Cooperative Extension's Fall Harvest Festival held Saturday, October 25. The display included a beautiful 1950 Model A Avery tractor restored by Jimmy Armstrong and cider making by Roger Austin. Gary Hargrave had Maytag engines, running Maytag wringer-washer, and an incredible hover-mower.

Bill Pharoah had an extensive display of miniature steam engines and machines and demonstrated rope-making. And Lee Williams brought two classic Gravely mowers. Visitors, mostly children with parents or grandparents, were able to handle or operate some of the displays. The lucky ones went home with a brand new piece of rope.

LADIES CORNER

Alice Pharoah reports that the Ladies Corner tent at the Fall Show attracted many. Most visitors preferred to watch demonstrations of how knitting, crocheting and other techniques were done. Few seemed to have time to sit and be trained. Handouts would be useful.

It is felt that more emphasis needs to be given to relating the handwork being demonstrated to early homemaking practices or activities. And as always, more volunteers are needed to *man* the display.

A suggestion has been made to change the Ladies Corner sign at shows so that it more clearly addresses the purpose of the demonstrations. Alice would like to hear from anyone with ideas about this or other aspects of the Ladies Corner. †

SERVICES

Phil's Carb Repair: Tractor Carbs rebuilt. Also 25 rebuilt carbs on hand including JD, IH, Ford, Case, and AC. Call Phil Bigarel at (315) 287-3103. ✂

TREASURERS REPORT

At the members meeting on October 24, Treasurer Grant Thesier reported that there was \$6,949.50 in the checking account and another \$1,600.00 in the development fund savings account.

He reported that not including insurance and advertising expenses, the spring and fall shows netted \$520.56 and \$ 4,476.52 respectively for a total of \$4,997.10. Insurance and advertising costs totaled \$2,107.40.

He reported that total income, exclusive of donations to the development fund and to cover legal expenses, year to date was \$16,002.53. Total expenses, exclusive of those legal costs covered by donations, were \$13, 986.29. The resulting net income was \$2, 018.24, not including the \$1,600.00 in donations to the development fund.

The accounts are now kept using QuickBooks Pro software. Member Michelle Kerr is experienced using this system and has been assisting Grant.

Work is in progress to generate a draft 2005 budget for the trustees and a year-end summary that will be presented at the annual meeting on January 30, 2005. \$



An unidentified lady waits in this 1930's photo of Joseph Johnston's buggy and horse, Nancy Hanks. The buggy and other gear have been donated to the Museum by Johnston's children and niece (see page 4 for details). Photo courtesy of Judy Finen.

Members, please note that dues for voting members will be \$15 in 2005 (see members meeting review, page 4). You can mail it in or pay at the next meeting or show you attend. To vote at a meeting, you must be up to date. Your mailing label will tell you your current year. Dues pay for the Newsletter and other operating and administrative costs. Thanks! ☺

PULL WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Winners of the Old Fashioned Harvest Days Tractor Pull were as follow:

2,500 lb. Class: 1st., Al Garrand; 2nd., Matt Conlin.

3,000 lb. Class: 1st., Dan Russell; 2nd., Aaron Garrand; 3rd., Otis Bishop.

4,000 lb. Class: 1st., Kelly Jordan; 2nd., Otis Bishop; 3rd., Helen Peets.

5,000 lb. Class: 1st., Bill Rupp; 2nd., Kelly Jordan; 3rd., George Lester.

6,000 lb. Class: 1st., Kelly Jordan; 2nd., Red Chapman; 3rd., Dale Labombard.

7,000 lb. Class: 1st., Dale Labombard; 2nd., Kelly Jordan; 3rd., Jim Lester.

8,000 lb. Class: 1st., Steve Smith; 2nd., Mike Livingston; 3rd., Ed Jordan.

9,000 lb. Class: 1st., Steve Smith; 2nd., Ed Jordan; 3rd., Terry Mouthrup.

10,000 lb. Class: 1st., Mike Livingston; 2nd., Ed Jordan; 3rd., Gary Livingston.

11,000 lb. Class: 1st., Mike Livingston; 2nd., Gary Livingston; 3rd., Ed Jordan.

12,000 lb. Class: 1st., Bob Johnson; 2nd., Gary Livingston; 3rd., Gary Livingston (different tractor). 🏆

VINTAGE PRINTING PRESSES RECIEVED

Tony Gilbert of Potsdam was clearing out a barn to make room for a new horse, and he asked Museum member Ken Gordon to help him move out some heavy machines. They proved to be two vintage letterpresses. They had been bought several years earlier for his wife Anne to use. Family demands had intervened, and the presses had been moved to the barn.

Ken recognized their historical value and asked if they might be donated to the Museum. The Gilberts responded affirmatively. Ken and member Bobby Shirley spent a day moving the two presses (see picture on page 4) along with a work bench, cabinets filled with lead type, boxes of paper stock, paper cutters, and business files with customer proof copies from an earlier owner.

The Ben Franklin Gordon press was invented in 1851, and by 1894, numerous firms were manufacturing it including Globe Mfg. Co. of Palmyra, NY, the source of the first press donated. The inventor, Gordon, received the design in a dream from Ben Franklin.

The second press is a Perfected Prouty, patented between 1886 and 1888. The donated unit is driven by an electric motor of very early design. The trustees envision the presses and other items being displayed and operated in a recreated working printing shop built at the future Museum site.

The Museum and its members thank the Gilberts for their generosity. Look for more information on these gifts and others in future issues. ✉

Other Shows - please send dates and locations of shows to PO Box 164, Rensselaer Falls, NY 13680

ONE-HORSE BUGGY AND CUTTER DONATED TO MUSEUM

A one-horse buggy (see picture on page 3), cutter (sleigh), wooden wagon running gear as well as sets of harness were donated to the Museum by Judy (Johnston) Finen and Joseph C. Johnston of Ogdensburg and Eleanor (Johnston) Sears of North Carolina. Finen is a niece and the latter two are children of Joseph Gilmour Johnston, the former owner of these items.

In 1930, Joseph G. Johnston became a rural letter carrier, having purchased the required horse, buggy and sleigh. With his faithful horse, Nancy Hanks, he delivered mail in Ogdensburg and as far away as the Black Lake Road. When they were no longer needed, the rigs were stored away in the loft of the horse barn behind his house on Proctor avenue.

The buggy and cutter are mostly wood painted with black lacquer. The wheels and some fixtures had been painted yellow.

In 2002, the equipment was loaned to the St. Lawrence Gas & Steam Engine Assn. and has since been displayed in Association and, more recently, Museum shows. They provide an excellent benchmark for the region's transition from horse-drawn to motorized vehicles.

The Museum membership extends its thanks to the donors for their thoughtfulness and generosity. ☐

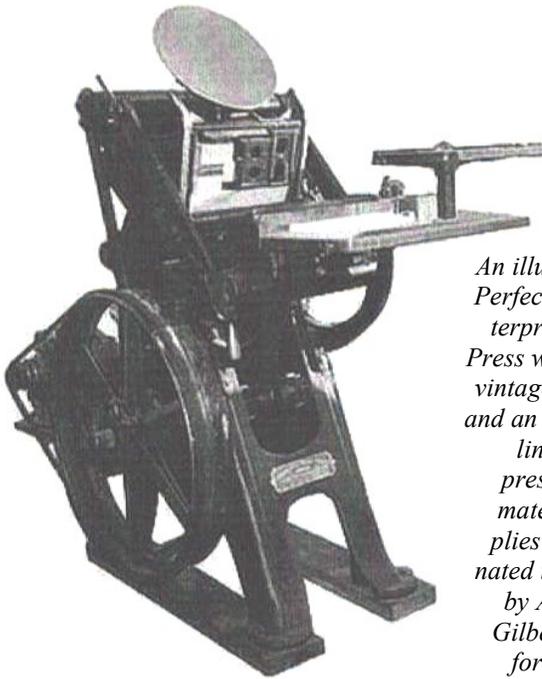
Old Fashioned Harvest Days (continued from page

ensilage mill, thresher, haypress, and the newly restored vertical saw mill. At Sunday's antique tractor pull, they were hooked 90 times, daring to pull the big sled until the tractor bucked. Big modern tractors from **LeBerge & Curtis** and **Walldroff Farm Equipment** repositioned the sled and graded the track.

The following displayers signed in at the registration tent: **antique engines:** Gil Allan, Charles Alton, Roger Austin, Howard Bice, George Cardinal, Matt Charter, Ethan Forbes, Gary Hargrave, Gene Jones, Frank McDonald, Brian McGovern, Jim McGraw, Don McIntosh, John & Korey Mitchell, Robert Nottell, Frank & Jean Shepherd, Barry Van Vleck, and LeRoy Willard.

With **antique tractors:** Bill Bartlett, Clifton Bice, Ben Cleaveland, David Cleaveland, Matt Conlin, Alan Garand, Dale Gonio, Ken Gordon, Randy Goss, Glen Hanes, Howard Hutchinson, Tony Laclair, William Martin, John McDermid, Jim McGraw, Wayne L. Moquin, Wayne Moquin, Lowell Nicholson, Chelson Putman, Dave Putman, Frank & Jean Shepherd, Stanley Russell Sr., Stanley Russell Jr., Claude Shepherd, Correll Shepherd, Allen Shirley, Bob Shirley, Paul Shirley, Dick Sprague, Keith Tyler, Sue Vought, and LeRoy Willard.

Operating **Museum Machines** were Bill Bartlett, Gary Crowe, Ross Goodyear, Ken and Sheila Gordon, Gary Hargrave, Paul Moore, Bob Shirley, Paul Shirley, Tom Shirley, and Lyle Sloan. (more on page 6)



An illustration of the Perfectionist letterpress from Briar Press website's list of vintage presses. This and an earlier Franklin Gordon letter press and printing materials and supplies have been donated to the Museum by Anne and Tony Gilbert (see page 3 for more details).

MEMBERS MEETING REVIEW

A meeting of the Museum members was held on October 24 at the Heuvelton Equipment Co. offices. There were 23 qualified voting members present. With nearly an equal number represented by proxies, there was a quorum.

Reports were made on the Ladies Corner, the search for a permanent Museum site, a donated barn frame, the vertical saw mill, and the pedal pull event. These are discussed elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The secretary reported that the Museum had received exemption from state corporate franchise taxes, completing our efforts to become a tax-exempt organization.

The 2005 Gas & Steam Engine Show will be held in Canton. It was subsequently determined that the location would be the Canton Sportsman's Club on June 18-19, an exception to our usual second weekend of the month.

Dues will be increased for voting members from the present \$10 to \$15 per year. This was to cover increasing administrative and operating costs. The vote passed without exception. The trustees will discuss the possibility of special dispensation for certain classes of members at their next meeting.

Dave Hebert, chairman of the 2004 fall show, was commended for a very successful event.

Michelle Shirley and all the others working in the food concession during the fall show were commended for the fine work that was accomplished. Responsibility for the concession will be reorganized for future shows to encourage more participation and reduce the work required of those in charge.

The practice of providing free food to kitchen volunteers or others will be discontinued. No equitable method (See *Members Meeting* on page 5)

Members Meeting (continued from page 4)

of recognizing everyone who contributes to the show was apparent. Other methods to recognize significant efforts by members will be considered next year. Suggestions will be welcomed.

The kitchen needs a fry grill, deep fryer, large chicken grill, refrigerators, and deep freezer. Anyone knowing of any available at reasonable cost should contact a trustee.

Brief reports were also given on the Safety Committee, the Collection Management Committee, and the search for young members.

Present at the meeting were Roger and Carol Austin, Dave Baker, Bill Clinger, Gary Crowe, Don Doig, Ross Goodyear, Ken Gordon, Gary Hargrave, Howard Hutchinson, Bob Johnson, Mae Magoon, Paul Moore, Alice and Bill Pharoah, Chelson Putman, Bill Short, Don Sloan, Lyle Sloan, Grant and Kathy Thesier, Keith Tyler, and Lee Williams. 

WHY YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS IMPORTANT

The 2004-2005 Development Fund Campaign has received \$1600 in contributions. At this stage, only members and friends of the Museum can be expected to support an organization without walls or land.

But when it comes time to seek broader support from the community, government agencies, or foundations, we will speak much more convincingly if we can say **Look at the commitment of the Museum's members.**

This is easy to measure in terms of dollars. But it is also demonstrated by the **number** of people who make or pledge contributions whether large or small. Outside support only goes to organizations that already have a proven core of dedicated supporters.

If you itemize your deductions on your tax returns, now is a good time to mail your check. Your Museum is now a tax exempt organization, and contributions are deductible.

Regardless of the size of your gift, please show your support by sending a check made out to the St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum. Please note on the check that it is for the Development Fund.

It is our intention to devote 100% of your gift to development projects. We hope to cover all operating and administrative costs through dues received and show income. It's your Museum; help it grow. 

PRIZE WINNERS

At the Old Fashioned Harvest Days Show, Dick Brown of Hermon won the 50/50 while Bill Oaks of Brasher won the John Deere clock. The Museum collected \$220 in these events. Members Pat Shirley organized prizes and tickets, and Linda Batt sold tickets. Thanks to both! ☺

Photos of the 2004 Old Fashioned Harvest Days were taken by Ted Schulz. We appreciate his help. 



MUSEUM RECEIVES GIFT OF BARN FRAME

During the summer an Amish friend of the Museum donated the frame of a vintage timber frame barn to the Museum. The barn (see photo above) was located on US Rt. 11 south of Dekalb Junction and about a mile north of the intersection with State Hwy. 11.

The siding had already been sold and removed by the former owner. With the exception of the sills, much or most of the remaining timbers were in good condition and will be used to construct a new barn when the Museum finds a home. It could be used as designed or modified for storage and displays.

Many hours were involved in stabilizing the structure, labeling each post and beam, removing the roof, pulling wooden pins, disassembling the posts and beams, transporting them to another barn for storage, and stacking them in the barn. The timbers were treated for insect infestation, and most nails were removed before storage. A 3-D sketch of the barn was made.

When reconstructed, the barn will be 30 X 40 feet in area with a central threshing floor and haymows on both sides. Livestock had not been kept in the barn; it had been used to store hay. A fourth, added-on section will not be used. Instead, its timbers will be used as replacements in the main barn.

Hats off to volunteers Roger and Carol Austin, Don and Linda Batt, Ron Day, Bill Pharoah, Jim Poole, and Grant Thesier. Mr. Grant Construction Co. volunteered the use of its crane, bucket trucks, and flat bed trucks as well as a great crew to operate them and do much of the heavy lifting. The crew included Jesse Anson, George Arquett, Travis Davenport, Art Farnsworth, Herb Frost, Jason Lesprantz, and Bill Watson. Thanks! 

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Place
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inside...

Harvest Show Highlights
Members Meeting Report
Land Search Continues
Museum Collection Grows
Dues News, Treasurer's Report, and Why Contribute



Old Fashioned Harvest Days (continued from page 4)

Other Equipment, Parts, and Demonstrations were provided by Carol Austin, Phil Bigarel, Ray Dunning, **Hosts** Joyce Hutchinson & Jim Flounders, Alan Garrand, Ken Gordon, Janice Gray, Glen Hanes, Kyle Hartman, Gene Jones, Wayne L. Moquin, Pat and Peter O'Brien, Ken Pharoah, Kenny Proven, Stan Russell Sr., Stan Russell, Jr., Frank & Jean Shepherd, Ed Sheppard, Allen Shirley, Clayton Weatherup, and Lee Williams.

At the **Food Concession or Parking Cars** were Carol Austin, Pat Bartlett, Mary Day, Sheila Day, Irene Hargrave, Bailey & Betsy & Mary Hebert, Joan & John Jenkins, Bea & Carl Jones, Mae Magoon, Alice & Bill Pharoah, John Sheets, Michelle Shirley, Pat Shirley, Susan & Lenny Vancor, and Susan Vought.

Of course, there was music by the **Good Timers** under the tent from **Willis Shattuck Auctions**. Many contributed to the always popular petting zoo. And there was the safety crew. It is certain that we have missed a few who helped make the show a success. Let us know whose name is missing, and we will be sure to recognize them in the next Newsletter. ☺



John Sheets and his ever-popular grilled chicken at the fall show. Sold out again!

Museum Trustees

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Trustee: Robert Johnson, Rt. 3, 83 Irish Settlement Rd., Ogdensburg, NY 13669. (315) 344-6610. ♂

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