

ST.  
LAWRENCE

# POWER & EQUIPMENT MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE ST. LAWRENCE POWER &amp; EQUIPMENT MUSEUM, A 501(C)(3) EDUCATION CORPORATION

## SITE SELECTION NARROWS FINAL DECISION NEARS

After long discussions at the last meetings of the members and the board of directors, the search for a permanent site was narrowed to two: the 115 acre farm in Madrid and the 110 acre farm at Slab City near East Potsdam. The former is offered for sale at \$100,000 and the latter is now set at \$110,000. The two were described in the previous *Newsletter*.

The Towns in which the sites are located were recently contacted. Supervisors and Council Members are eager to see a museum established, especially as it is described in the Museum's new booklet (see page 2). Both have given assurance that there are no apparent issues with zoning, building codes or other concerns.

At the annual meeting on January 29, 2006, members will choose between the two sites. They will be able to vote in person or by proxy. Detailed descriptions of the properties and voting instructions will be mailed out three weeks prior to the meeting. Tours of the sites will also be scheduled prior to the meeting. Members are asked not to disturb tenants or crops at the sites in the meantime. Thanks.



Tractor row at the June 2005 Gas & Steam Engine Exhibition.



Barry Van Vleck (l) and Gene Jones starting engines during Old Fashioned Harvest Days, Labor Day weekend, 2004.

## \$10,000 Gift Received and \$10,000 More Pledged!

A donation of \$10,000 to assist in the purchase of a permanent site for the Museum was received during November. Treasurer Grant Thesier reported that the donor was Dale Weed of Clifton, VA. Weed is the brother of member Mabel Baker, wife of member Dave Baker. And more generosity was to follow.

Soon after, a Lake Placid resident and friend of member Richard Whitney called to confirm his intention to contribute \$10,000, probably next year. Both benefactors had heard reports from the members about the Museum and its plans to acquire a permanent site in 2006.

Combined with previous contributions and pledges, the Museum is more than one-third of the way to its goal of raising at least \$100,000 for the purchase. President Ross Goodyear stated that the donations are especially appreciated, because the actual site has not been selected.

These are leadership gifts that challenge and encourage members and friends to generously support the Museum's vision. Please be thinking about what you can do to help reach the goal in 2006.



**FOR YOUR CALENDAR: January 15, 2006 at 2:00 PM, Annual meeting of the board of directors, open meeting, site to be announced. January 29, 2006 at 1:00 PM, Annual meeting of the members and election of officers and one trustee, Heuvelton, NY.**

*Museum  
Events*

Jan. 15, 2006, Sunday: **Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees** at 2:00 pm, location to be announced.

Jan. 29, 2006, Sunday: **Annual Membership Meeting and Elections**, 1:00 pm. Heuvelton Equip. Co., Heuvelton, NY.

April 2006, Saturday: **Annual Banquet**, location to be announced.

June 10-11, 2006: **24th Annual Gas & Steam Engine Exhibition**, Canton Sportsman's Club, Canton, NY.

Sept. 2-3, 2006: **16th Annual Old Fashioned Harvest Days**, Hutchinson Farm, Heuvelton, NY.

## Members and Board Meet October 23

Meetings of the board of trustees and Members were held consecutively at the home of Bill and Alice Pharoah. The two meetings ultimately merged as the two groups exchanged thoughts and ideas.

The main topic of discussion was the selection of a site for permanent museum facilities. Two locations are favored by the variety of special conditions each would provide (see story on page 1).

Treasurer Grant Thesier reported that there was \$11,383 in the checking account and \$7,764 in the interest-bearing development fund account. A resolution was passed to transfer \$5,000 from the checking account to the development fund.

Tractor safety was discussed at length. Grant Thesier was recognized for implementing new safety procedures at Museum exhibitions. He, in turn, acknowledged the help of the safety crew with special thanks to Oliver Sorrell.

Approval was given to publish a booklet about the Museum. Irene Hargrave was appointed Publicity Chairwoman. Mae Goodyear and Alice Pharoah expressed their appreciation to all those who worked in the food concession at the fall show.

Present at the meeting were Dave Baker, Bill and Alice Pharoah, Paul Moore, Reginald Chester, Ross and Mae Goodyear, Stanley and Mary Anne Russell, Grant and Kathy Thesier, Gary and Irene Hargrave, Ron Day, Dave Hebert, Don Doig, Richard and Helen Whitney, Howard Hutchinson, Lyle Sloan, Bill Clinger, Phil Bigarel, Alan Garrand, Glenn Wynne, David Suckow, Lee Williams, and Roger and Carol Austin. ☺

## NEW MEMBERS!

Please welcome new members Jeff and Missy Dashnaw of Plattsburgh, Brad Love of Gouverneur, Don LaForty of Redwood, Art Knauf of Heuvelton, Mabel (Mrs. Dave) Baker of Waddington, Virgil Trombly of Norwood, and Chuck Gooden of Colton. ☺

## Booklet Describes Museum's Future

A new 10-page booklet about the St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum has just been published. It includes a brief history, mission statement, the role of members, a description of future museum facilities, and pictures of Museum equipment and activities.

The first printing of 500 copies is being distributed to members and friends. The printing was done on the Museum's new Konica Minolta *Magicolor 2400W* color laser printer.

If you have not received your copy or need extras, contact any Museum trustee. ☺

## TRACTOR SAFETY

The board of trustees and safety chairman recommend that where possible, parked antique tractors should not be left in gear but held in place **using brakes or chocks** instead.

There is great risk that someone starting the engine while standing on the ground will be crushed by the engaged wheels as happened to an employee of one of our members. The employee died.

Howard Hutchinson strongly advises **inflating tractor tires** using a snap-on hose and not sitting directly in front of the tire as it is pressurized. Move to the side. Howard reported a recent severe injury to himself when a tire he was inflating exploded from the rim, striking him in the face. He noted that this occurred after a lifetime of doing the same thing without incident.

Never leave a **key in the ignition**. An unqualified person may accidentally start the tractor and be harmed. Unsupervised young children were seen climbing on tractors at the Antique Gas & Steam Engine Exhibition last June. Their mother watched, apparently unaware of the danger.

Our exhibitions have been safe. But, please remember the old saying, **Safety is everyone's job.** ⚡

## Publicity Chair Filled

The board of trustees is pleased to announce that Irene Hargrave of Norwood has agreed to be Publicity Chairwoman for the Museum.

Irene has just retired from her position in the accounting office of the Norwood-Norfolk Central School after 25 years of service.

Her new post will assure that the Museum receives appropriate coverage by identifying newsworthy events and maintaining contacts with news outlets.

Irene plans to spend more time with her husband, Gary, at shows and exhibitions and with her best friend, her 20-year old palomino quarter horse. ☺



**ST. LAWRENCE  
POWER & EQUIPMENT  
MUSEUM**  
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### Trustees

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