

# ST. LAWRENCE POWER & EQUIPMENT MUSEUM

PROVISIONALLY CHARTERED BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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

## MUSEUM PURCHASES GOOLDEN-MANN FARM

On Friday, August 11, 2006, the St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum formally acquired the Goolden-Mann farm in Madrid, NY for its new home. Acquisition of the property was made possible through the generosity of Leon L. and Carole H. Goolden of Colton. Appraised at \$218,500, the property was purchased for only \$100,000 with the Gooldens donating the balance.

The cash portion of the transaction was made possible by the many individuals and groups who contributed to the Museum's Site Development Fund. Though the goal of \$120,000 for 2006 has not been reached, sufficient funds had been received to make the purchase possible at this early date. Reaching the goal remains essential if we are to begin development of the site this year.

The search for a home began even before the Museum received its provisional charter in April of 2004. Fund raising began during 2005. By the end of that year, the search had been narrowed to two sites, and over \$30,000 had been raised. At their annual meeting in January of 2006, Museum members selected the Goolden-Mann farm as their final choice.

In his address to those at the Ribbon Cutting Cer-

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*Museum trustees and Fall Exhibition host Howard Hutchinson prepare to cut the ribbon, celebrating the Museum's new home. Left to right are Mike Livingston, Dave Baker, Chuck Goolden, Julie McGraw, Howard Hutchinson, Gary Hargrave, Paul Moore, Ross Goodyear, Reg Chester, and Roger Austin.*

## 16th ANNUAL OLD FASHIONED HARVEST DAYS SEPT. 2-3

The 16th Annual Old Fashioned Harvest Days will be presented by the Museum during Saturday and Sunday of Labor Day weekend. This annual favorite of Museum and community members alike will be held at the Hutchinson farm on County Rt. 15 between Heuvelton and Rensselaer Falls, NY.

During 1991, Howard and Verna Hutchinson invited members of the Museum's predecessor organization, the St. Lawrence Gas & Steam Engine Association, to hold a harvest event that would give members and friends a chance to enjoy the season's end. It has become so popular that more than 2000 may attend and participate.

Event chair, Dave Hebert, reports that the Museum will bring out its big engines and harvest equipment so they may be demonstrated in operation. Members will exhibit their own engines, tractors and other machines. Farm animals, crafts, and a flea market will also be there.

Saturday's special events include antique tractor games at 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM. The spaghetti dinner follows at 5:00 PM and live Bluegrass music will brighten

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*Members and friends in front of the barn at the Goolden-Mann farm celebrate the opening of the Museum's new home.*

### Museum Events

- Aug. 31: Thursday: 2:00 pm, **Work Meet**, at the Hutchinson Farm, Rt. 15 out of Heuvelton, NY.
- Sept. 2-3: **16th Annual Old Fashioned Harvest Days**, Hutchinson Farm, Heuvelton, NY.
- Sept. 2: Saturday: 7:00 am or 5:00 pm, **Finance Committee Meeting**, Hutchinson Farm.
- Sept. 3: Sunday: 8:15, Meeting of the **Board of Trustees** with Informal **Meeting of the Members**, Hutchinson Farm.
- Sept. 18: Monday: 7:00 pm, **Joint Meeting of the Boards** of the Museum and the Madrid Historical Society, Walker House Museum.
- Oct. 22: Sunday: 1:00 pm, **Meeting of the Board of Trustees**. 2:00 pm, **Meeting of the Members**, Goolden-Mann barn.

## RIBBON CUTTING OPENS MUSEUM'S NEW HOME

More than 250 members and friends gathered at the Goolden-Mann farm on a sunny Sunday, August 13. The farm was draped with banners and surrounded by antique tractors and engines. Displays were hung inside the barn. Horse-drawn wagons carried people to the site from parking down at the Madrid Community Center. Cookies and lemonade were served under the tent while others signed up new members or accepted donations.

The occasion was favored by a visit by NY Assemblywoman Dede Scozzafava, St. Lawrence County Legislator Tedra Cobb, Madrid Town Supervisor William Carkner, and Madrid Town Council Members Tony Cooper, Kevin Finnegan, and David Fisher. Congressman John McHugh was not able to attend but sent a letter of congratulation, recognizing the efforts and dedication of the members. The event was well covered by the media.

Ceremonies began with a welcome by president Ross Goodyear who introduced the distinguished guests.

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**Be more than just a member! Be an exhibitor, bring cookies for the bake sale or volunteer for the kitchen. Regardless, be a part of Old Fashioned Harvest Days.**

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mony (see article this page), Leon Goolden discussed how he became aware of the Museum's need and how well suited he felt his farm was to meet it. He reminisced about his days there as a grandson to the original owner, Fay G. Mann who bought the farm 70 years ago in 1936. His sister, Fay Cambridge and brother, Chuck and he enjoyed visiting and caring for the Shetland pony and getting fresh milk there each day.

Goolden's parents, Leon L. and Emma Mann Goolden purchased the farm in 1947 after his grandfather's death. Ten years later, he and Carole began married life in a trailer next to the house. And a few years later, brother Chuck and wife Linda began theirs in the farmhouse.

The Gooldens purchased the farm in 1971 after his father died. Since then, the fields have seen continuous cultivation and improvement. Much of the fields were tiled while the David Fisher family removed stones and smoothed fields. The Steve McKnight family is currently raising corn, alfalfa, and hay.

The Gooldens share the Museum's vision of the farm being a place for preserving of the region's rural heritage and for education. In appreciation of their generosity, the Museum will establish a memorial plaque to recognize the donors and the farm's family heritage. 

## INSURANCE SECURED

Having a home for the Museum brings new responsibilities to the membership. Insurance protection for the facility and the collection is one of them. As the purchase date approached, an insurance committee consisting of Grant Thesier, Chuck Goolden and Roger Austin contacted agents willing to provide a range of services to the Museum. Appropriate coverage and the most favorable rates have been secured from our existing agent, the LaBarge Agency in Ellenburg Center.

It is every member's responsibility to create a safe and hazard-free environment during our exhibitions and at the Goolden-Mann farm. Anyone seeing an opportunity to improve our safety performance should contact the Safety Committee chair, Grant Thesier. 



*Leon Goolden (with microphone) and wife Carole address members and friends of the Museum at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. The Gooldens lived in a trailer in front of the barn when they were first married.*

## TREASURER'S UPDATE

At the recent meeting of the Board of Trustees, treasurer Chuck Goolden reported that there was a balance of \$2,942 in the general account after payment of the new insurance premium and purchase of nearly \$500 worth of new Museum caps. With the purchase of the Goolden-Mann farm, the development fund had been reduced to \$4,488. The collections account had \$244.

With the addition of the farm to the list of assets including the collection, the net worth of the Museum had jumped to \$286,551. While reporting this good news, the importance of reaching this year's development fund goal of \$120,000 was emphasized. Nearly \$15,000 remains to be raised. These funds are needed to begin preparations for the first exhibitions at the farm and to provide urgently needed storage. 

**Fall Exhibition Work Afternoon: 2:00 pm, Thurs. Aug. 31.**

## FAIR EXHIBIT DRAWS CROWD

A week at the St. Lawrence County Fair at Gouverneur proved a great success for the Museum. Visitors learned about the Museum's activities while seeing various items on display or on parade. Al Garrand and Nancy Lashbrooks had things well organized. Bringing display items and supporting the exhibit were Phil Bigarel, Reg Chester, Dan Cole, Jerylyn Cole, Ron and Sheila Day, Chuck and Linda Goolden, Gary and Irene Hargrave, Gene Jones, Mike and Gary Livingston, Jim and Dorothy Locy, Jim and Julie McGraw, Jay Rizza, Don Sloan, Grant Thesier, and Keith Tyler. 🍷



Al Garrand (left) and Bill Pharoah at the County Fair exhibit.

## DEVELOPMENT FUND: GIVING NOW IS VERY IMPORTANT

Earlier this year, president Ross Goodyear challenged members to contribute \$200 to the Development Fund. Many did so including some couples where each gave that amount. If you have not contributed, then please take time to do so. And if this amount is not possible, then please consider making a smaller gift.

Now that we have a home, securing grants will become an important part of growing the Museum. Those who make grants consider member support a critical factor - not just how much was given, but also how many members have provided support.

The Museum still needs \$15,000 more to reach the 2006 goal of \$120,000. You can send your gift or pledge to the Museum at PO Box 400, Madrid, NY 13660 or drop it off at the registration desk during Old Fashioned Harvest Days.

Donors will be listed (without specific amounts) in the Museum's annual report and posted at Museum events. ☺

### *Other Shows & Exhibitions:*

Aug. 26-27 25th Homesteader Days, Inverary (Kingston), Ontario. Phone (613) 352-7236.

Sept. 8-10 Flywheels and Pulleys Old Time Gas & Steam Show, Constableville, NY. (315) 465-4206.

Sept. 9-10 Fairs at Spencerville and Russell, Ontario.

Sept. 16-17 Auto and Tractor Swap Meet, Medina, NY (585) 798-0445 and Antique Power Show and Swap Meet, Grahamsville, NY (845) 856-2970.

Sept. 19-23 International Plowing Match, Peterborough, Ontario.

Oct. 7-8 Hudson Valley Old Time Power Assn. 31st Annual Old Time Days, Hudson, NY. (518) 828-6425

## CONCEPTUAL PLAN PRESENTED AT CELEBRATION

After several meetings, the Site Planning Committee completed the Museum's first Conceptual Plan for its new home in Madrid. Newly appointed chair, Ron Day, unveiled the plan to members and guests during the Ribbon Cutting celebrations at the farm on August 13.

The plan shows a long-term vision that includes a village green surrounded by various businesses, homes and other structures. A perimeter drive continues from either end of the green, providing sites for four period farmsteads, mills, and exhibition-storage buildings.

There is an open arena for equipment shows, competitions and tractor pulls. Facilities for parking, entertainment, and food service are also included.

The plan provides a first step in making more detailed short- and long-term plans. Supporting facilities including potable water, sewage and electricity were not shown. A summary list of the facilities is being made. An estimated cost of each component will be prepared so appropriate budgets can be prepared.

When completed, this preliminary plan will be presented to the board of trustees for its review and comment. At that time the recommended priorities will be considered for incorporation into Museum plans. 📁

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the evening. Sunday features antique tractor pull contests all day. The ever-popular chicken dinner will be at noon with the famous kids pedal tractor pull at 1:00 PM.

Exhibitors must be members for insurance reasons. Vendors must be members or pay a one-time \$15 fee to cover both days. And they must have a NY State sales tax certificate. You can find information about this at [www.tax.state.NY.US](http://www.tax.state.NY.US) or by calling 1 (800) 972-1233. Visitors 12 years and older pay a \$3.00 entry fee each day. Members who are exhibitors, vendors, volunteers or provide other support may enter free.

Volunteers of every kind are needed to help in the kitchen, at the gate, checking the grounds, running equipment, directing parking, registering members, collecting dues, and selling hats and buttons. Even if you only can share a couple hours, please e-mail or call someone.

Want to learn how or help with threshing, corn binding, hay baling or the vertical saw mill? Contact Lyle Sloan at (315) 344-7763 or at [bsloan@usadatanet.net](mailto:bsloan@usadatanet.net). Steam engine? Contact Gary Hargrave at (315) 353-2888 or at [ghargrav@twcny.rr.com](mailto:ghargrav@twcny.rr.com). Want a desk job? Contact Mabel Baker at (315) 388-7738 or at [mbaker9@twcny.rr.com](mailto:mbaker9@twcny.rr.com). Kitchen? Contact Mae Goodyear at (518) 594-7469. Still don't know how to help? Contact Dave Hebert at [mhebert13654@yahoo.com](mailto:mhebert13654@yahoo.com) or (315) 344-

***inside...***

**Museum completes farm purchase.**  
**Old Fashioned Harvest Days Exhibition Sept. 2-3**  
**Ribbon Cutting Ceremony celebrates new home.**  
**Fund raising nears goal, needs final effort.**  
**First conceptual future plan of museum site viewed.**  
**County Fair exhibit draws volunteers and good crowd.**

***Museum Trustees***

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**Trustee:** Michael B. Livingston, 3968 US Route 11, Dekalb Junction, NY 13630. Phone (315) 347-7777. Fax (315) 347-4077. ♂

**www.slpowermuseum.com**

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Distinguished guests Cobb, Carkner, Fisher, and Cooper gave brief messages of congratulation. Goodyear then thanked Museum members who had supported the Museum as volunteers at exhibitions or on committees, asking them to stand and be recognized. A special thanks went to Attorney Peter Lekki for facilitating the purchase of the farm and to Mr. Grant Construction for preparing the site for the ceremony.

The generosity of Leon and Carol Goolden was then recognized. Leon Goolden took the opportunity to share his family's history at the farm and to express his pleasure in seeing the farm play a new role in the region's future.

Secretary Roger Austin followed with a short speech. After briefly tracing the Museum's path to the farm's purchase, he outlined what the facilities could become. He said that the Museum should explain how changes in society and improvements in life in the North Country were brought about by new inventions and improvements in technology and that these should be displayed together.

The nine Museum trustees were then joined by Howard Hutchinson, 16-year host of Old Fashioned Harvest Days, at the barn door to cut the ribbon. Goodyear then invited everyone to inspect the facilities and displays, thanking everyone for coming. All present felt the occasion was a grand beginning for the Museum's new home. 🏠



*Threshing at Old Fashioned Harvest Days*