



Power & Equipment Museum

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

Annual Banquet Saturday May 9 to Celebrate 1st Five Years

Members and Friends of the Museum will celebrate the first five years of the St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum on Saturday, May 9 at 6:00 pm at the Madrid Community Center in Madrid, NY. We hope Senator Joseph A. Griffo will be able to join us (his folks' anniversary and Mothers Day are that weekend) so we can express our appreciation for helping fund the installation of drinking water and electric power at the new Pavilion.

Featured will be Carlton Stickney, Stockholm Town Historian, who will speak on *The Manufacture of Early Agricultural Equipment in St. Lawrence County*. Stickney, a former Director of the St. Lawrence County Historical Association, has been a recognized historian for many years.

The United Church of Madrid, under the leadership of Sandy Moulton, will cater the ham dinner. The McGraws are bringing the Anniversary Cake. There will be a short review of last year's highlights, but most of all, there will be time for members to meet, relax, and share time with each other. Please make sure your reservations are in (see page 3) by May 2 at the latest so the caterers do not run short of food. Just call Jean Tupper at (315) 386-2162. Tickets are \$10. ☺



Steel for the Collection Building arrived and was off-loaded. (photos by S. Dickinson)

Construction Begins on Collection Building

Burns Construction Co. is beginning earth moving for the Collection Storage Building as this issue goes to press. In the first days of April, the steel framing arrived and was off-loaded nearby. If the weather cooperates we should see major progress in the next 6-8 weeks.

Plans are being made for a ribbon cutting ceremony at 10:00 am on Saturday June 13, opening day at the Antique Gas & Steam Engine Exhibition. We have invited Senator Darrel J. Aubertine to attend. The new building will be filled with displays that will be enjoyed by Exhibition visitors. These will be enhanced for the regular openings that will begin in July. ☺



Checking to be sure every piece is there.



Leon and Carole Goolden at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in 2006.

\$5,000 Construction Matching Challenge Received

Museum benefactors, Leon and Carole Goolden, have offered to match contributions that may be used to support construction of a Public Toilet Facility near the Pavilion. With support from Bristol-Myer Squibb, up to \$5,000 in donations will be matched dollar for dollar. The Gooldens continue to support the Museum financially and as volunteers after contributing more than half of the Museum's original site, the former Goolden-Mann farm.

Leon (Lee) also challenged others who are able to make large contributions to encourage others to support the Museum as well. He urged all members and friends not to ignore the Museum's needs during these very difficult financial times. "You may need to pare back the usual gift, but don't give up the habit of giving. There is no such thing as a gift too small."

The Public Toilet Facility is part of the 2009 capital program. It can be used by visitors all summer. Shower stalls will be included for occasional campers. Construction is hoped for during the second half of the year. 🚽

Museum Events 2009

- May 9: 31st Annual Banquet, 6:00 PM, Madrid Community Center, Madrid, NY.
- May 17: Board Meeting, Sunday, 1:00 PM, at the Museum Farm House. Open to members.
- June 13-14: 27th Annual Antique Gas & Steam Engine Exhibition, St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum, Madrid, NY.
- Aug. 16: Board Meeting, Sunday 1:00 PM, Pavilion Building. Open to members.
- Sept. 5-6: 19th Annual Old Fashioned Harvest Days Exhibition, St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum, Madrid, NY.
- Oct. 11: Board Meeting, 1:00 PM, Madrid Community Center, Madrid, NY.
- Oct. 18: Members Meeting, 1:30 PM, Madrid Community Center, Madrid, NY.

Founding Member Harold Derushia

Harold F. Derushia, Jr., a founder and first President of the Museum's predecessor organization, the St. Lawrence Gas & Steam Engine Association, passed away on February 17. Derushia was one of twelve who met on December 12, 1976 to approve bylaws and elect the Association's first officers. Many of the early meetings were held at his home near Raymondville. The Association was incorporated in 1983 with legal expenses paid for by the sale of an International gas engine donated by Derushia for that purpose. Becoming a non-profit corporation made it possible to purchase the 1922 A.B. Farquhar steam engine from St. Lawrence County for one dollar. He was a master mechanic and is remembered for his big 6 hp Fairbanks Morse and the many other gas engines he brought to the early shows. Members and friends of the Museum extend their respect and sympathy to his wife, Loretta, and the family.

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McGraw Completes Collection Management Course

Julie McGraw, Collection Management Committee Chair and Museum Secretary, successfully completed the course in *Collections Management* offered by the Upstate History Alliance (New York). She put in many hours over the last few months on line and in discussion groups. Classes were taught by JoAnn Lindstrom, an expert in museum management. Other consultants were also provided from time to time. Many hours of study and preparation were involved. In addition to materials provided by the instructor, she was required to become familiar with all of our own supporting documents including our Collection Management Policy and By-Laws.

McGraw learned about some of the Museum's deficiencies and how they might be remedied. Some are addressed in this year's budget. Others have already been submitted to the Board for study and consideration. She heard how other museums are organized from other students in the class. Needless to say, our 100% volunteer organization and the Exhibition exhibits provided and manned by members were unique among the museums represented.

Enrollment fees were paid for by the Museum with a discount because of the Museum's membership in UHA. Julie and her husband, Jim, then generously donated the sum spent on fees. So not only congratulations are in order, but a big thank you to Jim and Julie as well.

McGraw reports that the PastPerfect software plus its 400-page manual have arrived at their house, and she has started reading through them. No rest for the weary. Anyone wanting to see the variety and caliber of the several programs offered through UHA should go to their website at www.upstatehistory.org. Anyone interested in helping with the collections should contact her at the Annual Banquet or at the address on the last page.



House Repairs Improve Structure and Safety

In early March, the family occupying the Museum's farm house had moved, leaving the house empty for the first time since it was acquired in 2006. Several needed improvements to the house had been identified, and this provided an opportunity to address them. The work included installation of several new electrical circuits and outlets, replacement of failing plaster walls and ceilings in two rooms, repair of a leaking copper pipe in the kitchen ceiling, and patching three spots on the roof with matching shingles.

The work was done by Ryan Burns, Contractor, of the Bucks Bridge area. He and his crew worked most of March. The bill was a little over \$7,000 after a 17% discount on their hourly rate and donation of \$500 in labor costs. Trustee Dave Baker oversaw the work. He and John Castle added to the effort by cleaning up the cellar and replacing a sink trap in the bathroom.

A decision will be made at the May 17 Board meeting whether to continue renting the house or to begin its use as a farm house museum. Museum displays are planned for the nearby outbuildings later this year.

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The Museum's Goolden-Mann farm house saw improvements during March.

Other Events

April 25: Catskill Mountain Antique engine and Machinery Club Spring Plow Day, Garrattsville, NY. (607) 287-3877.

May 9: Hudson Valley Old Time Power Assn. Annual Commission Auction, Hudson, NY. (518) 828-6425.

May 30-31: Heritage Power & Country Festival, Cumberland Heritage Village Museum, Ontario. (613) 833-3059.

Annual Banquet Reservation, Saturday, May 9, 2009, 6:00 PM
Madrid Community Center, Madrid, New York

Name (Please Print)

Number in Party

Phone Number

☐ I will pay at the door.

☐ A check is enclosed for \$ _____ (\$10.00 per person).

EITHER mail this reservation form to SLPEM, PO Box 400, Madrid, New York 13660-0400
OR call Jean Tupper at (315) 386-2162. Regardless, **PLEASE** let us know if you are coming by May 2, latest. **THANKS!**



AACA Adopts Gas Station Plans

A planning group with the St. Lawrence-Adirondack Section of the Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) met at the end of March to adopt plans prepared by Matthew Parno for construction of a replica of the gas station originally at the intersection of State Highways 310 and 345. Parno is a senior at Clarkson University. His work is one of the Public Service Projects performed through the auspices of the University.

The Museum's Construction Committee will meet with AACA Section representatives during May to address specific details of the project including its location and materials. It is expected that the replica gas station will be a focal point for auto meets and related activities in the future. Several members of the AACA Section are also members of the Museum.



The Madrid gas station from initial drawings by Matthew Parno.

June Show Plans Underway

Planning is already underway for the 27th Annual Antique Gas & Steam Engine Exhibition to be held June 13-14 at the Museum. The highlight of the event will be the official opening of the new Collection Building. Also featured will be displays of antique engines, machines, autos, trucks, horse-drawn equipment, and tractors. There will be sawmills, farm animals, old-time kids games, textile exhibits, wagon rides, Town and Village museum exhibits, blacksmiths, and pony rides.

Look for plenty of great food including spaghetti dinner Saturday night and grilled chicken Sunday, Bluegrass music by the Lime Hollow Boys Saturday night, and pull competitions with garden tractors Saturday and Antique tractors and kids pedal tractors on Sunday. Plowing and planting schools, the old iron auction Saturday, and attic treasures for sale will add to the fun.

If you have an idea for a new exhibit, call Chuck Goolden at (315) 262-2525 and let him know. Ground preparations will begin at least two weeks before the event with mowing, fencing, signage and much more work to be done. Look in the next issue of the Newsletter for ways you can help.

Regular Openings Need Volunteer Support

The Museum will begin regular openings for the public in July. The new Collection Building will be used as the focal point for visitors. It will be filled with many collection items in time for the June Exhibition. These will be used to create the displays and provide the basis for more permanent exhibits. Several themes are being considered including *Evolution of Haying Practices* and *Tractors Galore* among others.

Member support is needed to choose themes, select and gather items from the collection and elsewhere, gather information about the items, and prepare posters and illustrations that provide information for visitors. More volunteers will be needed to act as welcomers and guides when the openings begin.

Some of these same people may wish to work with Jim and Julie McGraw on the Collection Management Committee to assure proper care of collection items. If interested, contact the McGraws at (315) 347-2362 or Roger Austin at (315) 344-7470 after May 1 or speak with them at the Annual Banquet.

ST. LAWRENCE POWER & EQUIPMENT MUSEUM
PO Box 400
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Organization
Madrid, NY 13660

inside...

Annual Banquet Saturday, May 9 at 6:00 PM.
Construction begins on Collection Building.
\$5,000 matching challenge received.
Regular openings need your help.
Repairs improve farm house condition and safety.

ITEMS ARE NEEDED FOR THE OLD IRON AUCTION TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JUNE 13 AT THE ANTIQUE GAS & STEAM ENGINE EXHIBITION. WANT TO DROP OFF SOMETHING? CALL SHIRLEY DICKINSON AT (315) 322-5584. ☎

Museum Trustees

President/Trustee: Roger S. Austin, 410 Stevenson Road, Rensselaer Falls, NY 13680. Phone/Fax (315) 344-7470. Winters: 179 Lakecrest Dr. NE, Milledgeville, GA 31061. Phone/Fax (478) 453-3640. E-mail: rsaustin123@earthlink.net.

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Secretary/Trustee: Julie A. McGraw, 3385 US Hwy. 11, Dekalb Junction, NY 13630. Phone (315) 347-2362. If no response, phone (863) 875-3728. E-mail: murmac1@tds.net.

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Trustee: Paul M. Moore, 723 Finnegan Road, Potsdam, New York 13676. Phone/Fax (315) 386-4315. E-mail: mooreexcav@westelcom.com.

Assistant Treasurer/Honorary Trustee: Irene Hargrave, 10 River Street, Norwood, NY 13668. Phone (315) 353-2888. E-mail: iharg43@twcnny.rr.com.

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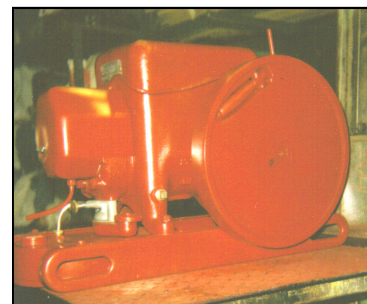
Raffle to Benefit Public Toilets

Charles and Helen Alton of Antwerp have donated three great items to the Museum. They will be raffled to raise money for the new Public Toilet Facility to be located not far from the Pavilion.

The first item is a **1944 International 1½ - 2½ h.p., International, LBA gas engine**. It has been completely restored by Charlie who is famous for his restoration skills. The second item is a homemade, queen size, cotton quilt with small squares made by Helen's daughter, Kelly Bridge, also of Antwerp. The third item is a four-color, green and white afghan with a chevron ripple pattern made by Helen herself.

Raffle tickets will go on sale at the Annual Banquet on May 9 and continue until the winner is announced Sunday afternoon at the June Exhibition. Come and see these items on display.

Tickets are only \$2 each for the engine and \$1 each for the quilt or afghan. ☺



This 1941 International LBA will be raffled to raise money for the Public Toilet Facility.