



Power & Equipment Museum

A Newsletter for Members of the St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum, a 501(c)(3), Education Corporation

A Grand and Busy Old Fashioned Harvest Days

Once again bad weather threatened to spoil this great weekend, but each day the clouds rolled back and our visitors came. Aside from the exciting exhibits and demonstrations of harvesting, animals in the barn, steam blowing, apples being squeezed, the sawmill running, and lots of food, the great hit might have been the new bathrooms. Especially for volunteers and exhibitors. Last minute efforts by many had them fully functional and looking good. Campers enjoyed hot showers for the first time. And though not completed, the horse equipment exhibit building was toured by many who found the tall timberframe structure an exciting addition. It was the largest crowd ever at a Fall Exhibition, yet visitors seemed to melt into the grounds with more to go see than ever. The miniature and large horse pulls on Saturday have become very popular, complementing the antique tractor pull on Sunday. The new windmill was suited to the breezy days. Oats were threshed; corn was cut, bound, and chopped; and even *Continued on page 2 (Harvest Days)*



Using the Museum's 1920 Case, members threshed many bushels of oats while visitors watched. Plans are being made to grow our own grain crops next year.

Building Projects Get Ready for Winter

Construction projects underway are being buttoned up as fall weather brings cooler temperatures and shorter days. The horse-powered equipment exhibit building will see steel siding and doors finished soon, leaving cupolas, windows, and interior work to be completed in 2012. The public toilet facility served visitors, exhibitors, and volunteers very well during the fall exhibition. Trim work remains to be completed next year along with the important step to build a waste line to the Town sewage system or construct an extensive leach field on site. Waste is currently stored in two 2,000 gallon tanks which have to be periodically pumped out until a permanent handling system is available. Work to reconstruct the schoolhouse should begin soon. As soon as walls and roof are completed, remaining materials will be stored inside the uncompleted structure until spring when construction will resume.



A nicely restored Model A Ford car sporting a tractor conversion package cruises the grounds at the Old Fashioned Harvest Days Exhibition.

Committee to Promote Museum Use

At its last meeting, the board of trustees established a committee to develop policies and identify opportunities to more fully utilize the Museum including the possibility of hiring an appropriate individual to promote and manage them. The president was authorized to appoint committee members. Reginald Chester who presented the concept will chair the committee. This effort reflects the addition of more covered space and suitable amenities for a wide range of programs from within the Museum and by other individuals or groups. Chester noted the substantial investment that has been made in the Museum and our obligation to fully utilize these extraordinary facilities. The first step will be to identify opportunities and then recommend policies needed to manage them. If you have any suggestions, please contact Reg whose information is listed on the back page among those of other trustees.



Al Garrand supervises the pedal tractor races in the Horse-Drawn Equipment Building during the Fall Exhibition. Participants receive a medallion.

Museum Events 2011	Oct. 15	Saturday: Work day from 9:00 until 3:00 at the Museum.
		Saturday: Exhibits open to the public from 10:00 until 2:00 at the Museum.
		Saturday: Meeting of the Board of Trustees , 1:00 pm, Museum farm house. Board meetings are open to members.
	Oct. 23	Sunday: Meeting of the Members , 1:30 pm, Madrid Community Center, Madrid, NY.

Nominees Needed for 2012 Offices

Election of trustees and officers for 2012 will take place at the annual meeting of the members in January or February next year. Now is the time to begin thinking about candidates for nomination. Board officers are elected annually. Other trustees except one serve for three years. The exception is a one-year trustee position generally reserved for a former president. John Castle will finish his 3-year term this year. Those serving a 3-year term may not succeed themselves. At the board meeting on October 15, officers and others not wishing to serve further terms will announce themselves. Candidates for service as a trustee should have high ethical standards, a willingness and ability to devote substantial personal time to Museum service, willingness and ability to contribute their skills and resources, leadership ability, and a clear view of the Museum's potential. An ability to support fund-raising efforts would be very valuable. One might also consider gender, geographic, and specialty; past performance and service; potential for growth; and specific needs of the Museum. Nomination for election can be made by members from the floor during the annual meeting. However, the board of trustees would be glad to receive the names of those willing to serve before that date to assure they receive its full consideration. ☺

Old Fashioned Harvest Days, continued from page 1

some weeds were cut and separated by the combine. 4-H members brought a barn-full of animals, and June's new chicks were the young chickens in the chicken house. There were the early textile demonstrations in the new horse building and wool on the hoof at Dear's alpacas. Boards were sawn and logs sawn into cord wood. Lots of antique cars, trucks, and tractors. The pedal tractor races Saturday and pulls on Sunday in the horse building were very popular with the kids and their families. There were horses and wagons to carry visitors everywhere. The Museum's collection building, shoe repair shop, milk house, and farm house saw more traffic than ever. And there was food, lots of it including Bill's famous burgers, the spaghetti dinner, ice cream and home made pies and other baked goods, and the grilled chicken on Sunday. And once again, **Pure Country** played their hearts out as tired visitors and members listened and danced Saturday night away. In all, we had two great days of learning, visiting, relaxing, and enjoying a sense of harvest days. 🐾



Terry (l) and John Mouthorp harvesting rye in July with the Museum's combine.

Our apologies to **Honey Dew Acres** and especially Peggy McAdam Cambridge who has generously provided pony rides for the kids during each June Exhibition these last few years. This event was inadvertently listed in the Fall Exhibition flyer. We regret this oversight. Look at www.honeydewacres.org! 🐾

Raffle Winners at the Fall Exhibition included Barb Lustyk who won \$329 in the 50:50 on Saturday, Wendell Canfield who received \$343 on Sunday and generously donated half to the Museum, Mike McLaughlin who won the John Deere pedal tractor, and Linda Goolden who won the model steam engine and then gave it back to the Museum where it is now on display. Thumbs up to Jim Locy and Bob Moulton who sold the 50:50 tickets. 🍷



Museum member, Shirley Dickinson (2nd from right), welcomes visitors at the Shoe Repair Shop during the Fall Exhibition. A variety of small goods are sold inside.

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Dues are still only \$15 for voting members, \$5 for junior members (under 18), and none for spouses of members. Look at your mailing label to see through what year you are paid. Associate membership is available to organizations with dues of \$25, and business memberships are still \$100. You can pay your dues at any meeting or simply send a check to PO Box 400, Madrid, NY 13660. 📖

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The miniature horse pull has become a popular Saturday morning event. Full sized horses pull in the afternoon. Miniature horses are not ponies. They are horses bred specifically to be small.

Hats off to photographers John Bartholomew, Shirley Dickinson, Chuck Goolden, and Roger Austin.☺

Curtis Windmill Dedicated

On Saturday during the fall exhibition, the Curtis Aermotor windmill was dedicated. The windmill had been donated earlier by the family of Ellis J. Curtis. Many members and friends were instrumental in its relocation to and restoration at the Museum. It had been removed from its original site by Bob Dalton using Bill Tiernan's crane from **KT Power**, Inc. Jim McGraw hauled it to the site. Site preparation involved materials hauled by Clyde Baxter, Ed McGraw, Jim McGraw, and Ken Tupper. Heavy equipment had been loaned by **Burns Construction Co.** The foundations were built by Bob Dalton and Kevin Finnegan with a cistern donated by **Witherbee & Whalen**, Inc. The job of rebuilding the actual motor was done by Bob Dalton while the tower was refurbished by Robert Marshall. A Goulds pump and pump jack were donated by Gary Hargrave with plumbing installed by John Castle, Bob Dalton, Kevin Finnegan, and Theodore Ritzko. Stone was hand-laid by Alan Finnegan. The wooden tank was loaned from the **St. Lawrence County Maple Sugar Producers Assn.**, and a gas engine was borrowed from Bill Pharoah for supplemental power. Financial support was provided through the generosity of the Ellis J. Curtis family and by members and friends of the Museum. This classic American windmill is a great addition to the Museum for teaching and the simple pleasure of watching it run. 🌳



The Curtis family stands in front of the restored windmill, including (l-r) Helen, Ellis, Duane, Darlene, and Jim as well as Museum president Wayne Day.

Exhibition Financials Looking Good

Preliminary results from the Fall Exhibition show it to have been the best fall event ever since moving to our current home in 2008. With nearly 1,200 paid visitors, many children, and 100s of volunteers and exhibitors, gross receipts were over \$21,000, up 26% over last fall though 11% below the June exhibition. However, the June event has consistently out-performed the Fall since the move. Food sales remain the main contributor at \$9,500. The gate returns were nearly surpassed by the sale of attic treasures, baked goods, and ice cream which totaled nearly \$4,000. Overall, the combined June and Fall Exhibitions grossed \$45,600. The June net was \$14,600 after expenses. The Fall net is not yet known. It is clear that the income from these events provides important financial support for the Museum. Everyone's hard work is not only fun and benefits our visitors, but it pays as well. 😊



Bill Pharoah stood by in case the wind failed at the Curtis windmill.



Jim McGraw at the tractor pull.

Regular Giving is Key to Museum Success

In these difficult financial times it is not easy to ask someone to think about contributing to the Museum. Since our charter in 2004 I have learned two important lessons. First, every gift counts regardless of its size. The few large and the many smaller gifts each year add up to provide important financial support. And many potential donors are motivated when they see that the Museum enjoys a wide basis of support. I have also learned that the habit of regular giving is also important. The members who give regularly help us budget Museum projects and programs each year. And these members soon find that their regular gifts can add up to substantial sums in a few years. Add up what you have given since becoming a member and you might be surprised. I personally feel that my investment in the Museum grows with time - just like I would expect of a bank savings account. I add to it each year, and the rate of growth increases accordingly. Ignoring the most important value of the Museum, preserving and teaching the region's history, the net asset value on the Museum's books is nearly \$1 million. If the Museum's assets were appraised, I have no doubt that this sum actually would be much larger - all because of the hard work of volunteers. This means my investment is growing. This is why I give regularly. This is why I hope you will do so regardless of the size of the gift. It is true; every gift counts. Thanks. *The Editor* 🌳



Museum volunteers cooked up \$9,500 worth of meals in the kitchen during the Fall Exhibition.

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inside...

Old Fashioned Harvest Days a grand success.
Construction projects get ready for winter.
Curtis windmill dedicated.
Thinking about elections in 2012.
Committee to seek wider use of Museum.

**Don't forget the Meeting of the Members
on Sunday, October 23 at 1:30 pm in the
Madrid Community Center, Madrid, NY.**

Museum Trustees

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Mini-Steam Engine Joins the Museum

A very popular raffle item during the Fall Exhibition was the model of the Museum's 1922 Farquhar steam engine. It was won by Linda Goolden who has donated it to the Museum. It was built by Robert Parker, a skilled mechanic and machinist, in the shops of **Watertown Spring & Alignment Company**. It is made of heavy metal, the wheels turn and doors open so the fire box smoke and smoke tubes can be seen. Parker attended the Exhibition and saw the interest his model generated. The donation of unique items for the raffles has helped raise funds needed to continue the Museum's growth. We are always looking for new offerings.



Al Garrand (r) presents Robert Parker a certificate of appreciation for the model steam engine he created for the recent raffle.