



# St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum

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

## Hard Work + Perfect Weather = Great Show

Volunteers worked all week preparing the grounds, fixing equipment, prepping the kitchen, cleaning the buildings, and setting up tractors and other large equipment items. On Friday afternoon the exhibitors' section slowly filled, and we wondered if more would come. But they continued to come, and Saturday morning the Museum grounds were filled. As breakfast got underway, volunteers and visitors began to arrive. The sun came out and lit up the cool morning - a perfect day for the Old Fashioned Harvest Days Exhibition. There were more working exhibits than ever, more engines, lots of unusual vehicles, and trucks from as far away as Toronto. There were more vendors than ever. The combine harvested oats in the field. Logs were sawn into lumber for the Blacksmith Shop. Horse and tractor pulls went almost non-stop. New volunteers chipped in including young people fulfilling their 4-H service obligations and a few just happy to help out. Kids galore checked out the chickens, rabbits and sheep and made apple juice. They made good use of the wagon rides, the cow train and Century Flyer. Mini-reunions took place as folks saw old friends. Chicken and ice cream sold out. Those who had not attended an Exhibition for a few years were surprised by the many changes. With so much to see and do, should we be thinking of two-day passes? ☺



*The pedal tractor races and pulls attracted large crowds at the Fall Exhibition.*

## Museum to Receive TAUNY's Heritage Award

Members are invited to attend TAUNY's annual *Salute to North Country Heritage* on Sunday, October 16, from 2:00-4:00 pm. The event honors the North Country Heritage Award Recipients which this year includes the Museum. This award is presented to individuals, families, and community groups who have mastered traditional arts or customs identified with our region, and have remained committed to passing them on to future generations. The Salute includes light refreshments and a brief program about each of the recipients and how they contribute to North Country culture. ♪



*4-H members earned service hours for their work making apple cider during the Fall Exhibition.*

## Building Projects Move Forward

The dry summer helped our construction projects. We recently broke ground for the **Equine Pavilion**. It will be a big building with a 96' X 50' arena and an added 20' deep spectator section on one side. Piers are in and timbers were sawn during the Fall Exhibition for the **Blacksmith Shop**. The floor of the rear entry of the **Farm House** is not only level but also sports a new vinyl covering. The rear inside steps and handrail were also improved and the front porch replaced. Improvements at the **Sawmill** include installation of an idler pulley for the big belt and replacement of the sawdust blower with a bucket conveyor. Lots of time has been spent in the **Horse-Drawn Equipment Building** putting up lights. The gooseneck lamps inside and out are in the style of the early 1900s while large overhead lights provide overall improved illumination on overcast days. Lights and outlets were also installed in the **Antique Tractor Building**. Foundations will be built for the **Log Cabin** in mid-October. Replacements for rotted bottom logs have been found, and foundation work should begin soon. The new **Pull Track** was largely completed prior to the Fall Show. Hydro Seeding will soon have the surrounding area green. 📷



*Two visitors discuss the finer points of operating a fanning mill during the Fall Exhibition.*

### Museum Events 2016

Saturday, Oct. 8:  
Saturday, Oct. 15:  
Sunday, Oct. 16:  
Saturday, Oct. 22:

**Board Meeting.** 8:00 am at the Pavilion Building. Board meetings are open to all.  
**Open House.** 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Admission Free.  
**FALL Meeting of the Members.** 1:30 PM at the Madrid Community Center. ←  
**TAUNY Award Program.** TAUNY offices in Canton.  
**Last Open House of the Season.** 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Free admission.  
**Work Day.** 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Join us!

**NOTE! The members meeting will be on Saturday, not Sunday as usual.**

## Finnegan Gift Celebrates Past and Future

The Finnegan Family of the Madrid area honored and celebrated the memory of its past and oldest members through a gift of \$5,000 to the Museum's Endowment Fund. The presentation was made September 4, 2016 during the Museum's Old Fashioned Harvest Days Exhibition. Kevin Finnegan spoke on behalf of the family. He noted that they had joined the Madrid Community a century ago when the first Finnegan family was drawn there by its good soil, schools and people. Five generations later the family is still involved in farming, business, and community service. Museum President Reginald Chester recognized the contributions made by the family over many years. Secretary Roger Austin noted that their support of the Endowment Fund plays a vital role in assuring the Museum's future. The ten family members present enjoyed a spirited reunion as they reflected on years gone by. Those memorialized by the gift included Albert and Margaret (McDonald) Finnegan, Mary (Finnegan) and Gerald Lawrence, Howard and Margaret (Kavlihan) Finnegan, Helen Finnegan, Ruth (Finnegan) and Daniel McCarthy, Mildred (Finnegan) and George Snowden, Leona (Finnegan) and Joseph Reddington, Walter and Edith (Paine) Finnegan, and Lloyd and Lois (Fournier) Finnegan. Those honored included Francis (Finnegan) and John Hackett (deceased) and John and Rita (St. Dennis) Lawrence.

## Museum Receives Gift of Print Shop

Mike Martin of Canastota has donated the virtually complete contents of a Print Shop previously owned by David H. Morris of Morristown. In a box a 1962 advertising circular was found among some addressed to Kenneth H. Morris, Central School IA Department, Morristown, NY. Reg Chester, Roger Austin, and a former printer, Robert O'Marah, examined the items in early August. Debby Murray, the Morristown Historian, is investigating this limited information. In the course of unrelated collection investigations, it was found that Robert had previously operated printing presses and was willing to help build one at the Museum. In other conversations it was found that Ted Ritzko likewise could help. Work will begin soon to bring the items to the Museum where they will join presses and type donated by Tony and Anne Gilbert a dozen years ago. A building will be found or built to house the Print Shop. Reg Chester is organizing a committee to get the move underway and help with the planning. Members interested in printing or who have not had an opportunity to help with the collection are encouraged to participate.



Visitors discuss new milk house technology.



Youngsters enjoyed sheep, rabbits, and chickens at the Fall Exhibition.



One of the recently donated letter presses from the Morris print shop.



It is almost impossible to get a photo of all the volunteers that help in the kitchen during Exhibitions, but this one comes close.



Lee Goolden welcomes visitors to the Horse-Drawn Equipment Building.



**Fall Exhibition Activities**





**Fall Exhibition Exhibitors**





**Fall Exhibition Exhibitors**



## Giving Opportunities Still Plentiful

One of the main comments heard during the Exhibition was about how much we have grown. This was a great compliment to those who have contributed so much of their free time to make that possible. It was also a tribute to those who have provided the financial and in-kind support needed to hire engineers, purchase materials and supplies, hire contractors and get the job completed. Funds are sufficient to start work on the **Equine Pavilion**, but another \$4,000 is still needed. Funds for the **Log Cabin** will get much of the work done this year; but putting shingles on the roof, chinking logs, and treating for insects and decay call for more support. We have saved a lot by sawing our own lumber from donated logs for the **Blacksmith Shop**. But there is still doors, windows, furnace and other items needed. The **Early Textiles Center** could start work before year's end. It too will need support before the work can be completed. And now we urgently need a **Print Shop** (see page 2). We are working on design concepts, but a good facility will be needed to house the working exhibit. No preference? Then support the Museum by simply donating to the **General Fund**. And finally, you can look to the future by choosing the **Endowment Fund**. If you note your preference on the "For" line of your check, we will see it gets to the right project. **No gift is too small. Every gift counts.** Thanks. ☺

## More Visitors Than Ever This Summer

One of the most perplexing things to hear is "Gee, I didn't even know you were here." Visitors provide our best publicity. Visitors show up during our Open House days and some drop in when they see volunteers at work. A couple from New Hampshire sent a letter saying how much they enjoyed their visit. In August we had two weddings events in the Antique Tractor Building. In September Judy Liscum and Carolyn Shepherd hosted the **Canton Study Club** at the Schoolhouse where they taught the Palmer penmanship method and arithmetic as well as touring the Museum's exhibits. A few days later two dozen **SOAR** students came to learn about the Museum and toured our facilities. SOAR is an adult learning group sponsored by **SUNY Potsdam** through the Center for Lifelong Education and Recreation. Go to [soar@potdam.edu](mailto:soar@potdam.edu) to learn more. Lots of volunteers worked to prepare the facilities and host visitors during these events. Could not have done this without you. Thanks! ☺

## Earning Opportunity: Viridian Associate

Viridian Energy is one of several electrical energy suppliers in NY. Some or all of the energy it provides its customers comes from "green" sources such as solar and wind. The Museum has participated in Viridian's Residential Fund Raising Program since mid-2013. It guarantees a monthly donation to the Museum. Chuck Goolden became a Viridian Associate to accommodate those interested in having Viridian become their supplier, and this captured Viridian donation benefits for the Museum. These totaled \$1,864 in 2015 and monthly payments still continue.

A new Associate is needed to take Chuck's place. While Viridian's donations benefit the Museum, Associates receive income from their sales (Chuck has donated his to the Museum but his replacement need not do so). Deciding which energy supplier is best for a person is an individual decision. The Museum recognizes that Viridian offers several programs and is one of several alternative suppliers available to consumers in New York. Interested persons should check out <http://www.viridian.com/slpem> to start learning more about Viridian and becoming an Associate. Chuck can best be contacted at [cgoolden@gmail.com](mailto:cgoolden@gmail.com) or (208) 890-2299. ⚡

**The Fall Meeting of the Members will be held Saturday, October 15 at 1:30 PM at the Madrid Community Center. Yup, it's on Saturday, not Sunday.**



*Look who is driving a tractor.*



*Face painting is always popular.*



*Trucks came from as far away as Toronto during the Fall Show.*



*BBQ chicken sold out at the Fall Show.*

## New Cook Book Being Planned

A new Cook Book is in the being planned. Dot Locy and Carole Moulton are gathering information on size, publishing costs and alternatives, as well as searching for new recipes. Their objective is to have a finished product ready for the June Exhibition next year. If you would like to join the committee and help the project, just give them a call. They are hoping that each member family will have five recipes they would like to share. Dot can be reached at 315-388-4242 or jimdot@twcny.rr.com. Carole is at 315-265-4894 or robertm@twcny.rr.com. The previous cookbook was published in 2010. Sales netted over \$5,000.

## Collection Management Committee Stronger

The backlog of collection data entry has been greatly reduced by Ryan Coleman who took on the job of Collection Data Coordinator earlier this summer. Accession numbers have been assigned items accepted into the collection last year. A new system to attach digital photos and other information has been installed and photo entries will soon get underway. Andrea Castle has agreed to serve as Donations Coordinator. Each year, the Museum receives a large number of items, especially those which might join the Museum's collection. Andrea will keep track of what they are, who donated them, and any history and stipulations attached. Committee experts will review the offerings and recommend those appropriate to the collection to the Board of Trustees for approval. Our group of experts includes Charles Alton, Dave Baker, John Castle, Shirley Dickinson, Lee Dezell, Al Garrard, Gary Hargrave, Art Knauf, Robert Marshall, and Jim McGraw. Their collective knowledge and experience help gauge the quality and focus of the Museum's collection. Andrea has established stations in key buildings where members can find a *Temporary Custody Receipt*, ID tag, and pen. You can reach Andrea at 315-322-5663 or at andreacastle22@gmail.com. Volunteer Shirley Dickinson has completed painting accession numbers on each item in the Shoe Shop and Gas Station and is working to complete the Schoolhouse. She and Bob Smith have prepared signage for the tractors and some of the large agricultural equipment. Reg Chester seeks new volunteers to organize the Print Shop items and prepare them for the move to the Museum.

## More Businesses Help Silent Auction

We are pleased to report that in addition to the businesses that supported the Silent Auction at the June Exhibition, others did so for the Old Fashioned Harvest Days Exhibition.

- **Community Bank**, Massena: Two Bluetooth wireless speaker systems.
- **Curran Renewable Energy**, Massena: \$250 worth of premium wood pellets.
- **Kinney Drugs**, Massena: Deseo Bowl (Spanish translation: wish bowl).
- **Kinney Drugs**, Market St. in Potsdam: Folding Seat/Kneeler.
- **Spanky's Diner**, Massena: \$20 gift certificate.

**Massena Savings & Loan** in Massena and **North Country Savings Bank** chose to make cash contributions for which we are very grateful. Randy Robillard of **Robillard R Flooring** in Massena has already donated a bound 10 X 12 foot, tan carpet valued at \$525 for next year's raffle. Excellent.

## Businesses Help Projects at the Museum

The Museum has been super fortunate to also have so many businesses helping us with development projects. Dan Andrus and his **Green Machine Hydroseeding** in Waddington has given us acres of lawn seeding around the new pull track. **Jefferson Concrete Corporation** in Watertown through Mark Thompson donated pillars for the Blacksmith Shop and has given the Museum 2 for 1 deals on the concrete Pull Track barriers. Thanks!

*Photos in this issue provided by Roger Austin, Gary Hargrave, and John Bartholomew*



*Preston and Janet Harris stand next to the Massey-Harris swather they recently donated to the Museum.*



*Bill Bartlett drives the Cletrac dozer in the tractor parade. The dozer was donated by Mort Backus and Sons.*



*Jefferson Concrete delivering concrete barriers for the new Pull Track*

**We are looking for items that will help stage our collection displays:**

- **Full sized fiberglass horse.**
  - **Two mannequins.**
- Contact Marcia Oney at 315-322-4233 or marciaooney@gmail.com.**

**ST. LAWRENCE POWER & EQUIPMENT MUSEUM**  
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PO Box 400  
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## ***Museum Trustees***

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*Finnegan Family members from the Madrid area presented a major donation to the Museum during the Fall Exhibition (see story on page 2). Members present during the presentation are shown above. From left to right: Spencer Finnegan, Joe Finnegan, Alan Finnegan, Kevin Finnegan, Adam Finnegan, Cathy Finnegan Paige, Phillip Paige, and John Finnegan. Front row seated: Jack Lawrence, and Laure Davis Finnegan.; Unable to attend were Paul Finnegan (now in Albany) and Alan's sons, Brooks and Nicholas.*