



# St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum

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

## Spring Exhibition Draws Great Crowd

Rain the week before the show soaked the ground and cast doubt on whether the weather would cooperate. Other than a muddy pull track, all went well. Visitors through the gate and food sales were within the range of pre-COVID numbers. There were fewer exhibitors and vendors of engines, old iron, and goodies. We were encouraged to see Canadian members who dealt with higher travel costs. Highlights included the great music program arranged by Michelle and Kirk Robinson; the increasing number of Allis Chalmers equipment; the circular saw, vertical saw, and shingle mills running; Ft. Tribute attracting more visitors; chicks hatching on schedule; the beautiful campus all mowed and trimmed; and the nice comments about our dedicated and welcoming volunteers. "You've grown since I was here last," they said. Indeed. ☺



*Tractors galore were on display at the Spring Show. Some on tracks, others on rubber or steel. Cletrac, Farmall, John Deere, Oliver, Ford, and a great variety of Allis Chalmers were there.*

## Civil War Reenactment Weekend Grows

Over 150 Civil War reenactors arrived at the Museum in July to provide visitors with a chance to sense what the Civil War was like. Troops filled Fort Tribute and surrounded it with camps to demonstrate a soldier's life and ended each day with a skirmish filled with exciting noise and smoke. The moderator explained the movement of the battling groups - frontal assault, attempts at envelopment, protecting the line, and using cannon to best advantage. Visitors to the event watched quietly, held their ears as cannon and guns fired, and breathed in the smoke blowing across the field. There were no cheers. Most just watched silently as the lines maneuvered. And when all was done, after a pause, most applauded, knowing they had witnessed something terrible, yet memorable. A lighter view of 1860's life could be seen in the camps with cooking, music, fashion shows, children's drill, and too-real medical care. The event was a cooperative effort between the **St. Lawrence County Historical Association**, the Museum, and especially the many reenactors from New York and Vermont. See pg. 4. ✂



*Union reenactors line up for morning inspection during July's Civil War Weekend. Great weather brought an enthusiastic crowd to see life in camp and witness troops under fire.*

## Summer Work Moves Projects Forward

Regrading the Village Green and relocating one side of its perimeter road is nearly complete. The **Town of Madrid** miraculously showed up with 22 truckloads of excess road soil to help fill low areas. Kirke Perry and James Tiernan repaired the weathervane on the Carriage Barn, Bob Tracy completed rebuilding the Corn Crib. Trucks began using the new loading ramps built with concrete blocks from **Jefferson Concrete** in Watertown. The Nevin Church wiring was roughed in and walls insulated. Exterior trim was installed matching old photos, and installation of lapboard siding began. Installation of printing equipment will soon begin at the Village Printers' new shop. Bob O'Marah restored the frame of a vintage awning for the front. More finish work remains, but enough has been done to make this possible. The exterior of the General Store is nearly complete. Don Lustyik, Bob Tracy, Bob Marshall and others have installed the floor. See more photos on pg.3. ✂



*A few years ago, high winds blew the copper horse off of the top of the Carriage Barn weathervane. This spring, Kirke Perry, using the lift from **Burns Construction**, set it back in place.*

### Museum Events 2022

- September 3-4: 31st Old Fashioned Harvest Days Exhibition.
- September 24 : Craft, Food and Wine Open Air Market with the SLC Chamber of Commerce host.
- October 1 : US Military Time Line Meet. Saturday at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Fort Tribute.
- October 1 : Kids Pumpkin Patch Party, rain or shine.
- October 23 : Fall Meeting of the Members. Sunday at 1:30.

*Gathering of the Orange-Meeting of Allis Chalmers Fans and Spring Show, June 9-11, 2023.*

# Old Time Spring Exhibition in June



Rain the night before did not discourage the garden tractors on Saturday . . .



While inside there was ridin' and ropin'.



Saturday's Old Iron Auction drew a crowd with Jimmy Armstrong, Auctioneer.



Tractors, custom cars, and little red wagons were there.

The circular sawmill (below), shingle mill (right), shingle trimmer and vertical sawmill operated each day.



The blacksmiths went at it hammer and tongs.



Contemplation in the Carriage Barn.



Quiet time in the Goolden kitchen.

**Photos courtesy of Roger Austin and Dennis Barr of Two Guys and a Camera.**

**Needed: Writers, photographers, and proofreaders for the Newsletter.**

**Bring a friend to the Fall Show and sign them up for membership. Every kind of support is needed.**

More photos on page 5.

# Maple Producers Honor Donald Finen

During the Spring Exhibition, members of the **St. Lawrence County Maple Producers Association** took time to honor their member, Donald Finen, for his many years of dedication and service. Association members gathered in front of the newly erected sap tank storage shed next to the Maple Sugar House. Ed Newcombe, President of the Association, presented a plaque to Finen. Former Association President Hugh Newton read the inscription. Finen was unable to attend the program but participated virtually through an iPhone link. After the presentations, Newcombe, Newton, Jim Hargrave and others presented the plaque to Mr. Finen, in person, at his home in Waddington. The plaque can be seen at the new maple storage shed.



*Ed Newcombe (l) addresses members of the S.L. County Maple Producers at a program honoring Donald Finen at the spring Show.*

# Visitors Entertained and Events Joined

The **Northern NY Community Foundation Youth Philanthropy Council** visited May 28 to become more familiar with the place they had recommended for a grant. The Museum had an exhibit at the **Heuvelton Central School Wellness Fair** on June 2. Al Garrand and others drove tractors in the **Dairy Princess Parade** on June 4. Students from the **Lisbon Central School** toured the Museum on June 15. The **St. James Parochial School** students came the next day to have a Civil War era experience. **Retired NY State United Teachers** held a luncheon at the Museum on June 20. After their business meeting they enjoyed a tour of our facilities. The **Potsdam Community Band**, sponsored by the **Madrid Dam Music Series** presented a great concert in one of their favorite venues, the Equine Pavilion, on July 20. Amazing sound! Just before the Civil War Weekend, youth from the **Police Activities League** and the **Richville Library Summer Program** spent the day featuring Fort Tribute and other Civil War era exhibits. Finally, most Wednesdays will find the Heritage Fibers building busy with members of the **Borderline Quilt Guild**. These activities are made possible by the time and skills of a great number of super volunteers.



*Students from Lisbon Central School (above) and the St. James Parochial School visited the Museum in mid-June.*



*Gary Sayers has spent many hours with his big JD tractor, grading the Village Green and relocating the road.*

**Summer Work** made progress on several projects (see page 1) including (left) relocation of the road on the north side of the Village Green, finishing the truck loading dock (lower left), and major restoration of the corn crib (below) by Bob Tracy. It was originally donated by Barbara Day, but wind had nearly destroyed it. Ann and Tim Hunt greatly admire the fine work.



*Young people from the Police Activities League and the Richville Library Summer Program visited Civil War exhibits in July.*



*Members of the Youth Philanthropy Council of the Northern NY Community Foundation visited the Museum in late May.*

**Civil War Weekend  
in July of 2022 at Fort Tribute ...**



**Two Guys And  
A Camera  
Reenactment Photo  
2022 FORT TRIBUTE REENACTMENT**



**new recruits arrived ...**



**which were drilled ...**



**Two Guys And  
A Camera  
Reenactment Photo  
2022 FORT TRIBUTE REENACTMENT**

**learned discipline ...**



**and how to fight ...**



**under the watchful eyes of  
their leaders.**

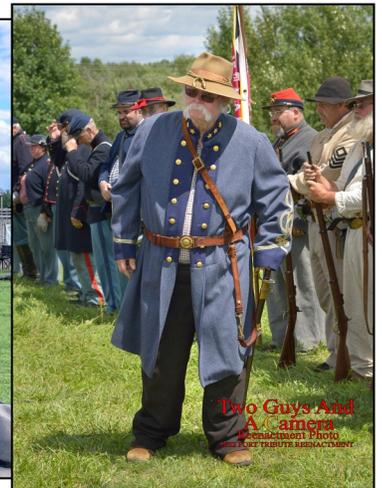


**Two Guys And  
A Camera  
Reenactment Photo  
2022 FORT TRIBUTE REENACTMENT**

**The battle begins ...**

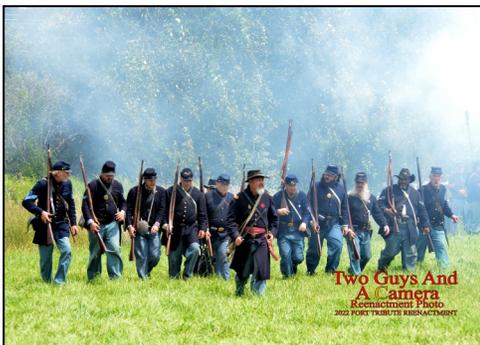


**a reply is made ...**



**Two Guys And  
A Camera  
Reenactment Photo  
2022 FORT TRIBUTE REENACTMENT**

**stand ready men ...**



**Two Guys And  
A Camera  
Reenactment Photo  
2022 FORT TRIBUTE REENACTMENT**

**the line advances ...**



**Two Guys And  
A Camera  
Reenactment Photo  
2022 FORT TRIBUTE REENACTMENT**

**while citizens watch, just as they  
did at Manassas, on July 16, 1861.**



**With songs to be sung, in  
years to come.**

**More Old Time Spring  
Exhibition Photos**



*Music by Steelin' Country and the Adirondack Playboys with Square Dancing in the Tractor Barn Saturday afternoon and more Dancing that night and >*

*> gospel music and singing in the Equine Pavilion Sunday.*



*Run the big diesel, run chainsaws, or run around with visitors in the "new" people carrier.*



*Perfect day: Go to school, have some chicken, and take home some maple syrup.*



*Shh. Silent auction in progress.*



*Shh. Chicks hatching.*



*Shh. Enjoy the concertina.*

# Family Fresh Air Fun **September 3-4**

## **31st Old Fashioned Harvest Days** at the **ST. LAWRENCE POWER & EQUIPMENT MUSEUM**

Saturday and Sunday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

1755 State Hwy 345 , Madrid, NY



Horse Pulls Saturday



Kids Pedal Competitions



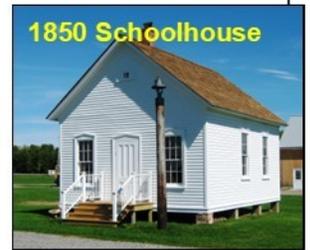
Tractor Pulls on Sunday



Antique Tractors



Chopping Corn



1850 Schoolhouse



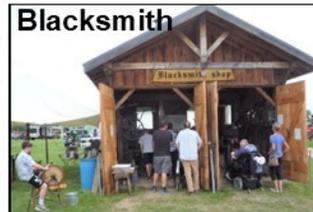
Farmhouse



Farm Animals

**.Goldenaires Singing .** Shingle Mill. Wagon Rides . Carriage Barn .  
.1835 Log Cabin . Maple Sugar House. Walker Granary . Milk House. Chicken House. Small Granary. Vendors' Displays . Members' Exhibits . Antique Gas, Steam, and Diesel Engines . Antique Cars & Trucks. Baked Goods . Early Farm Equipment . 1950 Shoe Repair Shop . Attic Treasures . Raffles . Ice Cream. Skillet Toss Sunday.  
.Get a Museum T-Shirt or Ball Cap .  
.Breakfast 7-10:00.

**20 Acres of Fun**  
Great Food All Day .



Blacksmith



Print Shop



Fort Tribute and Civil War Center



Gas Station



Sawmill



Heritage Fibers



Farmstead

The St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum is a 501(c)(3), volunteer organization. New members always welcome. Dues for individuals are \$25; couples are \$30. Junior membership (under 18) is \$5.



Museum

**EXHIBITION ADMISSION \$5.00 12 YEARS AND OLDER. Younger kids Free.** Vendors and exhibitors welcome - (No food). Dry camping only, \$10.00/night unless volunteer, exhibitor, or vendor. If you need electricity, please bring your own generator. The Museum is open every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM and by appointment. For information contact: (315) 250-9141 or visit [www.slpowermuseum.com](http://www.slpowermuseum.com). Find us on Facebook:

St Lawrence Power and Equipment Museum and Fort Tribute.



Ft. Tribute

**Music and Dancing - Saturday Nite 6:30-8:30 - with *Steelin' Country!* Admission \$3.00**

# Let's talk money - things members should know - and how to help

## FACTS

- Your Museum operates in the black - no loans, just a small credit card debt we pay off each month.
- Our major sources of operating income are the shows and exhibitions. More on that later.
- Our major source of money for capital projects - new buildings - comes from donations by members and friends. However, grants have been essential to our growth.
- We have accumulated the beginning of a substantial endowment to assure our long-term future. The Finance Committee is considering ways to improve our investments and increase income. To date, we have not needed to draw on these funds. The day is coming when it will be necessary to do so.
- The increased number of major events at the Museum has resulted in a growing financial cushion, not to be confused with the endowment, providing cash to cover rained-out events, general maintenance, or modest emergency.
- The key to our success has been the generosity of our members, financially and especially through sweat equity.

## HOW TO HELP

- Volunteer a little or a lot. There is a job that should suit everyone. Whether it's flipping burgers, pounding nails, sawing logs or hosting an exhibit, it's all needed. The best news is that it's fun.
- Be a sustaining member or friend. Large or not-so-large cash donations really add up.
- Donate something to sell at the shows: Pies and cookies go like hot cakes. Your attic junk is our treasure. Your tired iron sells well at the June auction. Baskets of wine, cheese or other goodies; plants; and home decoration all sell very well at the silent auction.
- If you have appreciated stock, an IRA-required minimum distribution, or other financial instrument, our President, Ron Sheppard, can point you to the right person to explain how you might benefit by donating them.
- If you want to earmark a donation for a particular project, the following are approved by the Board: General Fund, Endowment, General Store, Village Printers, Nevin Church Relocation, Wood Shop, Log Cabin. Approved to request support but not to commence construction: Expansion of the White Barn. Construction of an Open Pavilion.
- Most of all, keep you dues up to date and continue to show your support for the Museum. Thanks!

## Thanks to Several Local Businesses for This Year's Support! Silent Auction Items at the Spring Show

- Tractor Supply Company, Potsdam: Horse statue decoration
- Price Chopper Supermarket, Canton: Cases of bottled water, Gift Certificate
- Walldroff Farm Equipment, Canton: Farm equipment model. Pallet of pellets in 2021

## Civil War Weekend Sponsors

- SeaComm Federal Credit Union
- Edward C. Seymour VFW Post 1231
- Anson A. Burke Allstate Insurance, Massena
- Massena Transport LLC
- Niles Asset Management, Inc.
- Parkway Auto Group & Express
- St. Lawrence Federal Credit Union



**ST. LAWRENCE POWER & EQUIPMENT MUSEUM**  
1755 State Highway 345  
PO Box 400  
Madrid, NY 13660-0400

*Temp-Return Service Requested*

US Postage Paid  
Permit No. 8  
Non-Profit  
Organization  
Madrid, NY  
13660

**YOUR DUES ARE  
UP TO DATE IF  
THERE IS A 22  
AFTER THE V ON  
YOUR MAILING  
LABEL (UNLESS  
THEY WERE IN  
THE MAIL WHEN  
PRINTED).**

## *Museum Trustees*

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Visit: [www.slpowermuseum.com](http://www.slpowermuseum.com) and [www.forttribute.org](http://www.forttribute.org)

Send photos to [splmphotos1@gmail.com](mailto:splmphotos1@gmail.com)

Contact us at: [info@slpowermuseum.com](mailto:info@slpowermuseum.com)

Find us on Facebook at **St Lawrence Power and Equipment Museum** and at **Fort Tribute**

## **GOTO Is Only 9 Months Away**



**W**ith the 2023 Gathering of the Orange only months away, more orange Allis Chalmers equipment has been seen at the exhibitions. Organizers met during the Spring Show to discuss plans. Pre-registration will include notice of early arrival, allowed after 12:00 on Wednesday. A special area will be reserved for big trucks. Food vendors will help feed the crowd. Menus will not duplicate the Museum's kitchen. Large goods vendors will be coming, and a *parts corral* will provide opportunity for individual participants to buy and sell a variety of items needed to maintain their orange equipment. On Saturday night, registrants will hold a dinner at West Potsdam. Not long now.

