



St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum

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

Events 2024

Sat. May 11, **SPRING CLEANING** 9:00-2:00.

Mon. May 20, **BOARD MEETING**, 5:30 pm. *Others every 3rd Monday at 5:30 through Oct.*

Sat., May 25, **MUSEUM OPENING DAY** 10:00-2:00.

Sat.-Sun., June 8-9, **OLD TIME SPRING EXHIBITION.**

Sat.-Sun., July 27-28, **CIVIL WAR REENACTMENT WEEK-END.**

Sat., Aug. 24, **20TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET.**

Sat.-Sun., Aug. 31-Sept. 1, **OLD FASHIONED HARVEST DAYS EXHIBITION.**

Sat., Sept. 21, **SLC Chamber of Commerce CRAFT, FOOD, & WINE OPEN AIR MARKET.**

Sat., Oct. 5, **US MILITARY TIME LINE MEET**

Sat., Oct. 5, **KIDS PUMPKIN PATCH PARTY**, 12-3:00.

Sun., Oct. 27, **FALL ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING**. 1:30.

More Volunteers Are Needed in 2024

Being a volunteer is not a requirement for membership. But those who choose to do so keep the Museum running and growing. For most, it is very satisfying, great fun, an excellent way to keep the gray cells working without pills, and it can provide important exercise for the body. Working together has created great friendships for many, all the while getting important work done. Please check page 2 for a list of jobs that urgently need filling.



The Museum's security camera provides 24-hour surveillance, snow or shine. This photo was taken from one of the cameras in February 2024.



A portion of the original Hunter Clock & Watch Shop is currently located in the attic of the Hunter farmstead.

Clock & Watch Shop Coming Soon

Tom Hunter and sisters Sue, Arlene, and Joyce are bringing their father's shop to the Museum. It presently resides in the attic of his farmhouse where he worked until he passed in 2010. To pay tribute to the farmer-watchsmith they are having a new shop built off-site that will be donated to the Museum. The collection of clocks and watches will remain in the family but put on display in the new shop. Family friend Bob Crump is working to get many of the clocks running before they are moved to the Museum. The Shop will reside next to the Print Shop. The family will host the shop during important events.

Three New Board Members Introduced at Members Meeting

Seven of the eleven members of the Board of Trustees stood for election this year. Officers stand for election each year. President Ron Sheppard, Secretary Roger Austin, and Treasurer Lee Dezell were returned to office. Scott Wilson was elected Vice President. New Trustees include Curt Smith who was elected to finish the last year of Wilson's 3-year term, Bruce Thompson fills a 3-year trustee term, and Ken Friedel was elected to the 1-year term normally reserved for an outgoing president. See the schedule at the left for Board Meeting dates and times.



The 2024 Board of Trustees: (front l-r) Ken Friedel, Bruce Thompson, Ron Sheppard, Lee Dezell. (rear l-r) Alie Rivers, Ted Ritzko, Terry Tiernan, Scott Wilson, and Aaron Gravelle. (left photos, top): Roger Austin and (lower) Curt Smith.

Exciting Job Openings!

We have an urgent need for volunteers to fill several vacancies. Call Now !!!

Pizza Corner Operator to organize helpers, ordering, cooking, serving, and clean-up. Contact Lee Dezell (*info. on last page*).

Cook and Cashier for the Snack Shack during shows. Contact Lee Dezell.

Schoolmarm, Hosts, and Helpers for the Schoolhouse. Contact Roger Austin.

Photographers to cover all activities at the Museum to support the Newsletter and Facebook. Contact Roger Austin.

Writers to write articles for the Newsletter.

Hosts and Guides for Saturday Open Houses. Museum will provide information to share with visitors. (*contact info. last pg.*).

Apprentices or Experienced Operators to help operate the sawmills, shingle mill, and splitter and drivers for tractors with wagons. Contact Curt Smith. See *contact info. last pg.*) ☺



By any measure the 2023 June Show featuring the GOTO was our biggest ever. The tractor parade, with many visiting Allis Chalmers tractors, was so long that it made the news on TV. It proved what dedicated hands and minds can do.

Special Events Sought

Saturdays or Sundays at the Museum could be filled with activities for members and community alike. How to plow, operate a sawmill, weave fabric, harness a horse to a wagon, make apple cider, drive a tractor, fly a kite, or run a gas engine. Learn about tractor history, early schoolhouses, early power tools, or you name it. If you would like to lead such a program, call Roger Austin to set a date. ☺

Photos this issue courtesy of Roger Austin, Jay Foster, Bob Marshall, and Scott Wilson.

Endowment and Long-Term Funds Prosper

The Endowment and Long-Term Funds will help assure the financial well-being of the Museum's future years. They are designed to grow while providing income, so that they will last a very long time - forever. We look forward to the day when each of the three basic funds will exceed \$1 million. Their total value at the end of 2023 was nearly \$590,000, up from about \$400,000 the year before. The increase reflects a combination of new donations and growth of the investments.

Two funds are managed by the **Northern NY Community Foundation**. The NNYCF *SLPEM Endowment Funds* (there are two for accounting reasons) total nearly \$76,000 and the *SLPEM Leadership Fund*, \$322,000. The *SLPEM Long-Term Fund* is managed by a special committee of the Finance Committee that reports to the Board of Trustees. Its value is now \$190,000.

The funds will eventually generate sufficient income to make annual payouts for operating needs while saving some income to allow growth of the corpus to match or exceed inflation. The NNYCF sets the payout schedules of its funds. Future *SLPEM Long-Term Fund* payouts may exceed the normal goal amounts when circumstances justify and while keeping an eye on the corpus.

A brochure is being prepared for those interested in supporting the Museum's future and leaving a "forever" legacy. ☺

2023 FINANCIALS IN GOOD SHAPE

The sums that follow are rounded to the nearest \$1,000.

Balance Sheet: According to preliminary reports by accountant Amy Moulton, the Museum had at year's end current net assets of \$2.930 million. This includes \$1.696 million in buildings and improvements less \$179,000 in depreciation. Other assets include \$29,000 in our checking account and \$83,000 committed to projects. The endowment funds at Northern NY Community Foundation had a value of \$398,000 while the Long Term Fund had \$191,000 at the end 2023.

Total income in 2023 was \$134,000 including gifts, interest and dividend income, dues, shows, and special events. **Operating expenses** totaled \$120,000 including shows and special event expenses, the utility bills, insurance, and publications. Net income from operations was \$10,000.

Capital Project Construction in 2023 was made possible by a carry-over of restricted contributions from 2022 and an added \$103,000 donated during the year. Total spending during the year was \$149,000 with the majority supporting the White Barn Expansion, Nevin Church, Fort Tribute, and the General Store projects.

Endowment and Long-Term Funds benefitted from \$150,000 in donations during the year. The Museum has benefitted from the incredible amount of work by volunteers and by the generosity of our many donors including those making financial contributions, donating items for the collection, and providing in-kind gifts. We have achieved this while not carrying any debt. ☺

By-Law Change Allows Longer Trustee Service

At the Annual Meeting of the Members, the Board of Trustees announced that the By-Laws had been amended to allow the 3-year Trustees to succeed themselves. The Museum has eleven Trustees including the four officers, six 3-year Trustees, and one 1-year trustee (usually reserved for a former President). The six 3-year Trustees had not been allowed to serve another, consecutive term. The amendment now allows this, if the incumbent is successfully reelected. The new rule was not permitted to impact the recent election. It will be in force in 2025. The provision allows experienced Trustees to serve longer, and the pool of qualified candidates can become larger. ☺

2023 DONORS TO PROJECTS, PROGRAMS, AND FUNDS

Below are the names of members and friends who expressed their confidence in the Museum through more than 110 donations of cash or in-kind goods and services during 2023. The value of these donations exceeded \$290,000. Among them were memorials to friends and family. This level of support is an important measure for foundations and other institutions when they consider the Museum for gifts or grants. This generosity has enabled Museum projects and programs to move forward, and to do so with virtually no debt. With almost no fund-raising costs, gifts directly benefit the Museum. A special recognition goes to those who have made contributions almost every year. The names of these sustaining donors are shown in *italics*. Look at what our volunteers and donors have accomplished in 20 years! ☺

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

Paul Pryce Sr.
Claude Burdick
Ralph Frary

BENEFACTORS (\$10,000 or more)

Roger and Carol Austin
Lee Dezell
Leon and Carol Goolden
SeaComm Federal Credit Union

LEADERS (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Donaldson & Donaldson-Seymour
Funeral Home
Charles and Linda Goolden

MAJOR (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Anonymous
Jefferson Concrete Corp.
Witherbee and Whalen Inc.

SUPERIOR (\$2,000 to \$2,499)

Lisa and Michael Brickey
Howard Green
Robert and Roberta Marshall
Lee and Elizabeth Williams

OUTSTANDING (\$1,000 to \$1,999)

11th NY Light Artillery Reenactors
American Legion Post 79
Kenneth and Susan Bellor
Bill Fay and Jane McCready
Bruce Keiser
Dorothy Webster
Scott and Doreen Wilson
St. Lawrence Federal Credit Union

ASSOCIATE (\$500 to \$999)

ACCO Brands USA LLC
Herbert and Judy Baugh
Ed Cloce
Sandra Goolden
Karen Rivers Memorial Scrapbooking
Weekend

Cheeta Lazore and Barry Dietlein
David Patterson
John and Linda Sholl
Joshua Wingler

FRIEND (\$200 to \$499)

AMVETS Post 265
John and JoAnne Backus
John and Rose Bartholomew
Lynn and Debbie Billings
Dorothy Carkner
Ron and Sheila Day
Paul and Jean Finnegan
Thomas Lee
Lowell Nicholson
John and Martha Palmer

FRIEND (continued)

Ted and Nancy Palmer
George and Carol Reed
USW Local 420-A

PATRON (\$100 to 199)

George and Melanie Armstrong
Paul and Debra Backus
Barstow Motors Inc.
Larry and Barbara Benson
Blevins Motors
Bob's Auto, Norwood
Richard and Carol Byrne
Fay Cambridge
Mary Ellen Casselman & Brenda Seguin
Betty Dawley
Barbara Fisher
JC Merriman's Inc
Jerry and Carolyn Hobbs
Kelly Sales Corporation
William and Joanne LaPierre
Tom LaPointe
MacFadden Dier Leonard Agency
Becky Marsten
Northern Machining Inc.
Madeline Pennington
Perrettea's Collision LLC
Price Chopper, Canton
Ray Burns and Sons Trucking Inc.
Susan and Robert Skeen
Bill and Marcia Tiernan
TJ Toyota, Northern Automotive Group Inc.
William and Carol Venton
Waddington True Value Hardware and Building Supply
Walmart, Potsdam

CONTRIBUTOR (Up to \$99)

Thomas and Penny Ames
John Austin
Dorothy and John Badger
Patricia Bailey
Robert and Susan Barkley
Lawrence and Judy Beattie
Clarence and Carol Cobb
Tony and Kerrie Cooper
Kathryn DelGuidice
Patricia Dominie
Andrew Francis
Earl and Shirley Jackson
Judy Jones
Bill Kermit
Thomas Manning
Royal and Gloria Martin
Lynne Matott
Robert and Delores Narrow
Brian and Kathy Paige
Judith and Roderick Porter

CT Rattan

CONTRIBUTOR (continued)

Troy and Dianna Remington
Tom and Carrie Rutherford
Mary Rutley
Lisa Sargent
Sherry and Peter Sears
Bud and Carolyn Sheppard
Richard and Judy Sitterly
Neil and Robin St. Andrews
Sarah Street
Noel and Barbara Whitman
Gary Wilson

OTHER

Al and Nancy Garrand travelled all over the US and Canada, promoting the GOTO, doing so on their own tab. 🙏

Please Note: It is certain that we have inadvertently left someone off this list or misreported numbers. Let us know of any errors or omissions, so we can correct them. Thanks.



Horse pulls, Tractor Pulls, Garden Tractor Pulls and Pedal Tractor Pulls - the June Show will have something for every competitor. Not a puller? Try the Ladies Skillet Toss.





Same shot is seen on front page, taken in March 2024.



Bob Marshall (middle) and Leon Goolden (r) admire the phaeton donated by the late Carlton Stickney.

Behind in dues? How about sending a check now for part and drop off the rest at the June Show. We need your support. Thanks!

Help Needed Finishing Three Projects

Three projects are looking for hands-on and financial support. Each is needed to complete the work. Anyone able to help should contact the project chairs indicated below.

Nevin Church: The present phase of the building relocation is nearly complete except for painting and a few other details. Funds are being sought to cover this work which is expected to cost about \$10,000. Lee Dezell is chairing this phase of work.

Open Pavilion: Construction will begin on a 40' x 50' shelter similar to the one at the Madrid community grounds next to the river. The project is expected to cost \$34,000 with \$10,000 remaining to be raised. It will be located near the existing Pavilion Building on its northwest side. Don Lustyik is chairing the project.

Waterline Extension: The project will extend the existing waterline from the Tractor Building to Fort Tribute and create a second waterline extending from the Farm House, past the Carriage Barn, the Maple Sugar House, and the Church. It will provide access to potable water and support for future toilet facilities. Its estimated cost is \$22,000. A \$10,000 grant has been received from the River Valley Redevelopment Agency and will be administered by the St. Lawrence Industrial Development Agency. The Museum will provide \$2,200 in cash and \$2,200 worth of in-kind support (labor, machine time). That leaves a deficit of \$7,600. We continue to see funding through grants or gifts. Roger Austin is chairing the project.

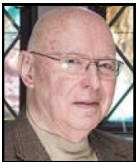


Photos this issue courtesy of Roger Austin, Jay Foster, Bob Marshall, and Scott Wilson.

Exhibitor Policy Update

The Board of Trustees has confirmed that there will be no charge for Exhibitors at the Museum's shows.

We Remember



Robert Green of Pittsford, NY (left) died February 10, 2023. Years ago, he visited his sister, Roberta Marshall. She and Bob shared their enthusiasm about the Museum. He joined the Museum in 2010. Robert became a very generous donor, supporting several projects. He was 88.



Richard (Dick) Sitterley of Colton, NY (2nd left) died March 30, 2023. He was fascinated by planes, sailboats, and automobiles. Dick joined the Museum in 2007, and he was often seen riding in a Model-T at shows. He is survived by his wife, Marie. He was 95.



Richard Byrne of Lisbon, NY (3rd left) died June 30, 2023. He and wife Carol joined the Museum in 2014. He was 75.



Peggy Hooper of Lakeland, FL (bottom left) died July 3, 2023. She and husband, Dan joined the Museum in 2014. She was 73.

Bonnie Henderson of Norwood, NY (top right) died August 24, 2023. She was a member of the SLC Maple Producers Association. She joined the Museum in 2010. Bonnie was 80.



Martha Sinkeldam of Norwood, NY (middle right) died October 11, 2023. She and husband Rudy joined the Museum in 2006. She was usually seen as she crocheted with other ladies of the Heritage Fibers. She was 82.



Claude Burdick of Waddington, NY (bottom right) died on November 8, 2023. He had been a member since 2006. Claude was one of the regulars in the kitchen, and over the years flipped a million hamburgers. He also helped in procurement of the groceries that fed our visitors. He was 88.



General Store Interior Continues to Improve

During last winter, Ricky Burns and sister Peggy Murphy worked in the General Store, installing shelves behind the store counter. The base of the shelves had been built by Don Lustyik, Bob Tracy, Paul Price, Jr., and Jerry Fisher. Special thanks go to Mike Lamonte for his generous donation and delivery of the shelving and the beautiful double front doors. They and many others have helped make the project a beautiful success.



Bob Marshall sets up displays in new shelves at the General Store.

Spring Show Celebrates 20th Anniversary

April 20, 2024 will mark our 20th anniversary as an education corporation, provisionally chartered by the Regents of the University of the State of NY. The Old Time Spring Exhibition on June 8-9 will be our first opportunity to celebrate and show off what we have accomplished during that time. The Exhibition Committee is looking at various ways to bring in more exhibits and vendors to enhance the exhibitions. New outdoor picnic tables should arrive in time for picnics. Campers are encouraged to reserve space ahead of time. Exhibitors may set up with no costs. We believe a large crowd will be there, so look at the exciting jobs listed on page 2 for jobs that need filling. On Saturday, May 9th, we will have spring cleaning from 9:00 to 2:00. See you there!



At Shows, the kitchen crew provides great food and has a fine time cooking and greeting friends. If you have a few hours or a day, how about joining the fun!

Civil War Ambulance Coming to Ft. Tribute - Will Support New Hospital

Fort Tribute has ordered a reproduction Civil War Ambulance from Hansen Wagon and Wheel Shop for use by our new hospital surgeons and stewards. It will complement the Fort's current rolling stock, providing our visitors with a full array of Civil War army vehicles including limber, supply wagon, cannon, and traveling forge. The Fort had raised \$5,500 toward the purchase and ordering of the Ambulance. Leon and Carole Goolden provided a challenge gift to match the initial funds and encourage the remaining \$11,000 to be raised. "Their ongoing generosity cannot be understated," said Scott Wilson, Ft. Tribute Volunteer Coordinator. "Lee and Carole have been extremely generous to Fort Tribute by ensuring the construction of the Sutler building, traveling forge and the newest building, our hospital. We couldn't have done so much in such a short period of time without their ongoing support," he added. The Fort is continuing to seek funding to finish up the additional amount needed, so if someone would like to assist in its purchase and help in the challenge set forth by Lee and Carole, please send a check payable to the SLPem, c/o Fort Tribute Ambulance Project, PO Box 400, Madrid, NY 13660.



The ambulance has upper and lower bunks to speed removal of injured from the battle field. No mules yet.

Fort Tribute at the
St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum

CIVIL WAR REENACTMENT WEEKEND

1755 State Highway 345 • Madrid, NY



SAT., JULY 27 & SUN., JULY 28

MILITARY CAMPS OPEN
Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sun. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Historical Demonstrations, Lectures, Book Signing,
Period Music & Play

BATTLE REENACTMENT
Sat. 4:00 p.m. & Sun. 1:00 p.m.

Facebook: forttribute
Web: forttribute.org



Concession
Available

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Organization
Madrid, NY
13660

Please check the mailing label and see if you have paid your dues for this year. Look for a v24 to confirm.

Museum Trustees

President/Trustee: Ronald E. Sheppard, 45 Old State Road, Heuvelton, New York 13654. Phone (315) 323-5349.

Vice-President/Trustee: Scott A. Wilson, 18 Meadow St., Massena, NY 13662. Cell (315) 250-0025.

Secretary/Trustee: Roger S. Austin, 410 Stevenson Road, Rensselaer Falls, NY 13680. or Winters: 179 Lakecrest Dr. NE, Milledgeville, Georgia 31061. Cell phone (315) 250-9141. Email: rsaustin123@gmail.com.

Treasurer/Trustee: Lee W. Dezell, 1648 County Route 31, Lisbon, NY 13658. Phone (315)393-6328.

Trustee: Kenneth Friedel, Jr., 800 County Rt. 35, Potsdam, NY 13676. Phone (315) 212-2636.

Trustee: Aaron C. Gravelle, 61 Park St., Norwood, NY 13668. Phone (315) 244-6566.

Trustee: Theodore (Ted) Ritzko, 1080 County Rt. 31, Lisbon, NY 13658. Phone (315) 322-4058.

Trustee: Alexandria R. Rivers, 320 Dayton Rd., Potsdam, NY 13676. Phone (315) 212-4251.

Trustee: C. Curtis Smith, PO Box 185, Bombay, NY 12914. Phone (518) 521-95499.

Trustee: Bruce Thompson, 56 W Stockholm Southville Rd., Potsdam, NY 13676. Phone (315) 244-1355.

Trustee: Terry A. Tiernan, 488 Brady Rd., Madrid, NY 13660. Phone (315)322-8946.

Newsletter Editor: Roger Austin **Electronic Media:** Alie Rivers

Visit: <https://slpowermuseum.com> and
<https://forttribute.org>



Contact us at: slpeminfo@gmail.com

Send photos to slpemphotos1@gmail.com

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

A Note About Building Rentals :

We have one wedding scheduled this summer which will utilize the Tractor Barn and the Pavilion Building. At its meeting in February, the Board voted to cease future rental of the Tractor Barn to solve the problem of tractors and equipment being left out in the weather. However, we will honor existing agreements. The decision was based on a strong recommendation from those who have spent many hours keeping the tractors running. Please help explain to our friends why we had to make this policy. Thanks!

✍



Not just orange tractors, but red, green, and others also came to GOTO last June. We hope to see them again this year.