



St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum

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

Events 2026

May 9, Sat. 9:00- Noon: **Spring Cleaning.**

May 23, Sat. 10:00-2:00: **Opening Day Open House.**

June 13-14, Sat.-Sun.: **Old Tyme Spring Exhibition.** Steelin' Country Sat. at noon.

June 27, Sat.: 10-2:00: **Open House, Program TBA.** Steelin' Country at noon.

July 11, Sat., 10-2:00: **Open House, Program TBA.**

July 25-26, Sat.-Sun.: **Civil War Weekend.**

Aug. 8, Sat., 10-2:00: **Open House, Program TBA.**

Aug. 22, Sat., 10-2:00: **Open House, Steelin' Country** music at noon.

Sept. 12, Sat., 10-4:00: **SL County Chamber of Commerce's Craft, Food and Wine Open Air Market.** Steelin' Country at noon.

Sept. 19-20, Sat-Sun.: **Old Fashioned Harvest Days Show.** Steelin' Country music at noon.

Oct. 10, Sat., Noon-3:00: **Kids Pumpkin Patch Party.**

N&SL Railroad Locomotive 210 Takes Big Step Closer

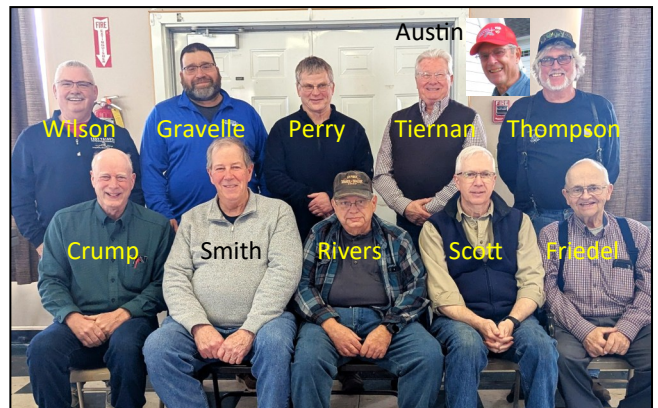
New friends at the NY State Bureau of Federal Property Assistance in Albany are checking new listings of federal surplus properties every day, looking for the historic Norwood & St. Lawrence Locomotive 210. They have spoken with our old friends at the Steamtown National Historic Site in Scranton where it now resides. Steamtown is completing paperwork needed to release the 210 to the Federal Surplus Property Program. Meanwhile, Albany has already sent in an application to acquire the 210 for us. The Museum's Railroad History Committee has been gathering historical records, conceptual building designs for a new Center, and volunteers to relocate the locomotive and install tracks when acquisition of the 210 is announced. Albany is excited and optimistic about returning the *Historic 210* to its original home in the North Country, but it adds, "We can't make promises yet."



Original photo of the new 210 in 1923, courtesy of Norfolk Museum.

Election Results Announced at Annual Members Meet

Results of the 2026 elections were announced at the Annual Meeting of the Members on February 28th. Officers, elected annually, are President Scott Wilson, Vice-President Curt Smith, Secretary Roger Austin, and Treasurer Kirke Perry. New 3-Year Trustees are Aaron Gravelle, Gilbert Rivers, and 1-Year Trustee Kenneth Friedel. Contact information for all 11 trustees is on the back page. Votes received totaled 106 and proxies 98 or about 20% of the membership. This is double the percentage of many organizations. Yours is a working, volunteer Board, meeting most months and spending many hours at the Museum to keep it growing, looking good, and offering great exhibits and interpretive experiences for our visitors. Hats off to the excellent support from our volunteers and donors who receive the same pay rate as the Board. ☺



A Note from Our President

As I begin a second term as President, I want to take time to thank everyone who made 2025 so successful. We have such a treasure in this museum. To continue serving its mission, it takes a lot of planning, communication, and hard work by our countless volunteers, donors and of course the support of all of our members.

One of the goals I had put forward for my first term was to write a message in each of our five newsletters to keep you updated as to what your board was doing and planning. I hope you have found those informative. This will continue. Goals for the newly installed board included, but were not limited to:

- A focus on increasing membership.
- Ensuring the financial viability of the Museum short and long-term.
- Continued long-term planning of the Museum's maintenance and infrastructure.
- And vibrant and engaging events.

One major initiative taking place this year is a name change. The current SLPEM name is no longer indicative of all we offer today. We appreciate the roots that were formed; however, it is time to put forward a name that will be all-encompassing. Be assured we will include all of our membership in the final name decision. More to come on this important next chapter.

Please feel free to reach out to me with your thoughts, questions or anything Museum related by calling or emailing me. My contact information is on the last page of this newsletter. Let's continue to move forward together to ensure our museum continues to be a wonderful place to enjoy and learn. I look forward to another successful season in 2026.

Hard Work and Generous Donors Build Sound Foundation for 2026

The financial report that follows was presented at the Annual Members Meeting on February 28, 2026.

Balance Sheet: The Museum has current net assets of \$2.814 million. This includes \$1.902 million in buildings and improvements (115 acres of land and all buildings and improvements) less \$179,000 in depreciation. Other assets include \$46,000 in our checking account, \$96,000 committed to projects, and \$217,000 in the Museum's Long-Term Investment Fund. Two Museum funds owned and managed by the Northern NY Community Foundation though booked by the Museum had a value of \$53,000 at the end of 2025 are also included. We carry no debt.

Total income in 2025 was \$138,000 including gifts, interest and dividend income, dues, shows, and special events.

Operating expenses totaled \$92,000 including shows and special event expenses, the usual utility bills, insurance, and publications. Net income from operations was \$46,000.

Capital Project Construction in 2025 was made possible by restricted contributions including \$65,000 donated during the year. Total spending during the year was \$49,000 with the majority supporting the Waterline Expansion and Electrical System Expansion.

Funds owned, managed, and booked by the Northern NY Community Foundation for the exclusive benefit of the Museum include the SLPEM Leadership Fund with a value of \$751,000 and the SLPEM Endowment Fund with a value of \$45,000. This year (2026) another \$100,000 has been added to the Leadership Fund. Members support these funds.

The Museum benefited 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 carrying no debt. The sums above are rounded to the nearest \$1,000. ✂



Jobs Available for Experienced or Novice

Call 315-250-9141 if interested in any of the jobs below.

Attic Treasures: Need team of 3-5 to manage and operate this important revenue source during shows.

Silent Auction: Need two volunteers to solicit donations and operate this important source of revenue.

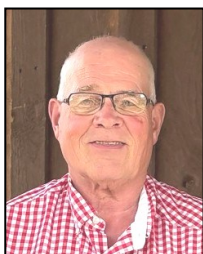
Saw and Shingle Mill: Need experienced or willing learner to share their energy and time operating and hosting at shows.

School Marm: Need 2-3 volunteers to form a team and host Schoolhouse. Maybe organize special events for kids and country school alumni. Curate school collection. Should be 18.

Log Cabin Pioneer: Host visitors, learn/share life in 19th century. Curate cabin collection.

Photographer: Take candid photos of all activities during shows. ✂

Lee Dezell completed his job as Treasurer with the recent election of new officers, having completed 11 continuous years of service. He will be focusing on his auction service and farm, but will still be around, taking care of the Nevin Church and helping where needed. Hats off to Lee for his service and dedication to the Museum. ♣



Photos this issue courtesy of Roger Austin, Robert Crump, and Theresa Dumas and the Norfolk Museum.



Cold winter days at the Museum.

Job #1: Increase Memberships

Each year your Museum gains new members, but age and circumstances work against us. We need all sorts of Members. They pay dues, share their interest with friends, and promote the Museum. Many are willing and able to contribute financially. Others are our volunteers that magically convert all this into our amazing Museum. Continued growth in the Museum requires all of these. Look at the Jobs Open list. There is so much to do, and we need a strong member base to draw from. Talk membership when hosting visitors or visiting friends. Gift a membership at Christmas and for birthdays - children and in-laws. A name, address, phone and email is all that is needed. Easy peasey. ✂

Contributors in 2025 Support Programs, Construction and Future

The Museum begins 2026 on a sound financial footing with restricted funds available for projects, money in the checking account to provide a good cushion for operations, and a growing endowment which will one day provide income for our growth.

This has been possible because of the members, friends, and grants that provided generous support in 2025. Contributions last year totaled \$273,000 including donations made directly to the Museum and those made to Funds at the Northern NY Community Foundation, established for the sole purpose of supporting the Museum (see *Hard Work*, p. 2).

Our **sustaining members** are a special group who contribute almost every year. Their donations may vary in size, but we receive the special benefit of being able to depend on their yearly support. You automatically join the group after three successive years of giving or most of the last five or more.

We apologize if we have omitted someone's name or had our data incorrect. If we did, please let us know, so we may publish a correction. Thank you. 📧

Note: The names shown in **bold** are businesses and organizations. Those in *italics* are *sustaining* contributors.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Total Gifts \$775

BENEFACTORS (\$10,000 or more)

Leon & Carole Goolden

Roger & Carol Austin

SeaComm Federal Credit Union

SLC IDA LDC and River Valley Redevelopment Agency

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

Charles & Linda Goolden

Harbor Freight Tools for Schools

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

St Lawrence Federal Credit Union

Howard C. Green

Robert & Roberta Marshall

Niles Asset Management Inc

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

Michael & Lisa Brickey

Northern New York Community Foundation

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

Anonymous Donors

TJ Toyota, Northern Automotive Group Inc

11th NY Light Artillery

Jefferson Concrete Corp

Scott & Doreen Wilson

Cheeta Lazore-Barry Dietlein

Kenneth & Susan Bellow

Lee Williams

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ASSOCIATE (\$500-999)

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FRIEND (\$200-499)

Mountain Old Slow Spokes

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PATRON (\$100-199)

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9th Battalion Blue Ridge Grays

Amvets Post 265

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JC Merriman Inc.

Kelly Sales Corporation

MacFadden Dier Leonard Agency

Northern Machining Inc.

Perretta's Collision LLC

Waddington True Value & Hardware

Becky and Kent Marsten

St. Lawrence County Real Property

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Dorothy & John Badger

David & Mabel Baker

Alan Brown and Sandra Dusharm

Fay Cambridge

Mary Ellen Casselman and Brenda Seguin

Dennis Egan

Judy & Larry Jones

Bruce Keiser

William & Joanne LaPierre

Bradley and Rene Love

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Lawrence Seguin

Jonathan & Brooke Shuff

Robert & Susan Skeen

Thomas & Susan Spencer

Sarah Street

Bill & Marcia Tiernan

Eric & Nathalie Vining

Dorothy M. Webster

CONTRIBUTOR (up to 99)

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Paul & Debra Backus

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Thomas Manning

Judith & Roderick Porter

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the updated
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Vice-President/Trustee: C. Curtis Smith, PO Box 185, Bombay, NY 12914. Cell (518) 521-9549.

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.

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<https://forttribute.org>

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and at Fort Tribute



It is unlikely that the Norwood & St. Lawrence Locomotive 210 will ever run again. Here it sits today in a rail yard among other derelict railroad engines and cars. It is easy to recognize it with its steam dome and two sand domes. Most have only one for sand. Changes since 1923 show the smoke box up front now painted silver gray while the boiler section remains black. The lamp in front of the smoke stack has been moved to the center of the front. The engine needs cleaning and repainting, but it appears that its bells and whistles (really) remain intact. Railroad History Chair, Bill VanKennen will organize the big move and construction of tracks. Theresa Dumas (who spoke at the Members Meeting) will manage research. Roger Austin will provide Board Liaison and pull together design and funding for the Railroad History Interpretive Center, a facility that will house the 210 and share the history of how railroads supported the growth and development of the North Country. All we need is the good word from Albany (see page 1).

