



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 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 Closer to Coming Home

The Steamtown National Historic Site has finished submitting paperwork to the US General Services Administration, officially making the 210 a *federal surplus* item. As property of the National Park System, it belongs to the US government. Steamtown presented our case to the Office and appears to have convinced their contacts that the Museum will be best for the future of the 210. But the wheels grind exceeding fine; and so far, neither we, Steamtown, nor the NYS Agency Bureau of Federal Property has heard whether we have been successful. During the past months, we distributed our pamphlet, past Newsletters, maps, and website address. Seems everyone likes what they saw. In early May, Bill Van Kennen visited the 210, shops, and experts

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Carol Austin admires the proud face of the N&SL Locomotive 210 at Steamtown in May.

Choosing a New Brand

In October, we expect to have our members choose a new name for the Museum. Current thinking is to keep the old name for legal purposes but utilize the new brand for operating the Museum. All members are invited to submit their ideas to President Scott Wilson who will manage the process. A vote will take place to determine the winner. Our Growth from just power and equipment subjects has exploded to include farming, Civil War history, heritage fibers, smithing, maple producing, horses and their equipment, logging and wood products, the village, and maybe railroad history, mining, and manufacturing. That is much more than our present name implies.

Continued on page 2



At 100 years old this year, locomotive 210 remains in remarkably good condition.

A Note from Our President

As you receive this Newsletter, your board and countless volunteers have been busy readying the Museum to open for the season. The water is on and tested, including our newly expanded water lines. Landscaping is being spruced up, and workdays have been happening at various buildings and around the grounds. Our first major event is the Spring Exhibition June 13-14. We look forward to seeing you there.

This year marks the 250th anniversary of America. During this milestone year we reflect on the amazing progress that continues to be made at our Museum, which includes new buildings and infrastructure. All of which take a significant number of financial resources. Therefore, a letter is included in this Newsletter asking for your support. As stated in the letter, with growth at the Museum comes ongoing maintenance, increased insurance costs and of the need to plan into the future. That means we all have to work together to ensure it continues to stay vibrant and relevant for generations to come. So, if you would consider making a gift, that will only strengthen our Museum.

One major initiative that will take place this year is a name change. The current SLP EM name is no longer indicative of what we offer today as a Museum. We appreciate the roots that were formed; however, it is time to put forward a name that will be all encompassing of what we offer at the Museum today. Be assured this will not be done just at Board level but will include all of our membership in the final name decision. Please forward your name selection to me at swilson@seacomm.org or any Trustee. We have already received some. Once we have a good number of suggestions, the Board of Trustees will meet and pare them down to at least four to be voted on by the membership. The one that receives the highest number of votes will be announced in October.

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. 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.

Fort Tribute Hosts Artillery Certification School

Fort Tribute hosted a Civil War-Era Artillery Certification School in early May. Instructed by Scott Wilson, an instructor/certifier for 20 years, the program gave cannons an overview of the safe handling of artillery and the loading and firing of a muzzle loading artillery piece. Cannoneers were able to work on the Fort's 6-pound Howitzer. Fort Tribute has two full scale artillery pieces that are used in demonstrations and its annual Civil War Weekend which will be held July 25-26.



Harbor Freight Grant Supports Kids Program

Last fall, Ron Sheppard, representing the Museum partnered with Carol Wright at the Canton FFA to support their application for a grant application to **Harbor Freight Tools** for youth educational programs for FFA members at the Museum. As a result, the Museum received \$8,500 to purchase tools and other equipment for the Museum. We are now concluding the purchases. Wright will work with her local FFA students and make arrangements for them to come to the Museum to learn from our technical experts. She explained that many students lack basic mechanical skills and believed the Museum could share its collective with them. Initially, this would involve mechanical work on tractors and the like, but could/should evolve into working in nearly any area of the Museum including the blacksmith shop, print shop, woodworking, or carriage barn. Session lengths and topics can cover a range of topics such as changing spark plugs, changing tires, changing oil, basic tune-ups, and why they are important. With the new welder, lessons on welding should be possible. Teaching students how to drive and operate a tractor may also be an option. Please let us know if you are willing to assist and if you have any ideas for topics. With students involved, this means after-school or Saturday programs, at least until the school year ends. Here is your chance to recruit future members. Cool.



Jobs Available for Experienced or Novice

Call Roger Austin at 315-250-9141 if interested in the jobs below.

Mechanical Instructor: Teach basic skills to youth (see article above).

Water Tester: Easy to learn job checking chlorine levels in our drinking water. Provide backup for our present volunteer.

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.

Photographer: Take candid photos of activities during shows.

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



New Brand (continued from page 1)

Some key words come to mind that would announce what we are: a museum, a town, living farm, a memory, a center (s), home, the past, village, or an association. What are we about: life, events, an era, history, yesterday'(s), long ago, rural life, living history, or home of? And where are we: St. Lawrence, North Country, Northern NY, River Valley, or Upstate? Look to other organizations in the area: The Frederic Remington Art Museum, Traditional Arts in Upstate NY, St. Lawrence County Center for History and Culture, Potsdam Public Museum, and North Country Children's Museum among many others. Take these and other descriptors that occur to you and assemble them in a way that tells the world what we are and why they should come and see what we have accomplished. Write down your suggestion and send it to Scott at swilson@seacomm.org or hand it to any Board member. Thanks!



Cannoneers are (l-r) James Miller, Daniel Zufall, Scott Wilson, Hudson Brown, David Zufall, Kirke Perry, John Zufall, and Gilbert Rivers. Absent are Liam Hubbard and Gray Galluzzo.

Still Our Job #1: Increase Memberships

Each year your Museum gains new members, but age and other circumstances work against us. We need all sorts of Members. They pay dues, share their interest with friends, and promote the Museum. You are not required to be a volunteer, but 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 - friends, children and in-laws. A name, address, phone and email is all that is needed. Easy peasey.



Dave Gibson mowing last summer with our Massy Ferguson 165. Look at the next page to see what he is driving this year. Our campus will be looking better than ever.

New Tractor and Mower Assure Campus Looks Great

A virtually new Kubota M4D-071, 72 HP tractor and a new Del Morino Orange Flex 15 bat-wing mower were purchased in the last few weeks. The Kubota came from **Snell Equipment** in Potsdam. It is a heavy duty, hay production-capable utility tractor. The mower was purchased from **LeBerge & Curtis** in Canton. These replace the vintage tractor and mower we have been using for the last several years. Dave Gibson and others used to work many extra hours to keep them going. Last year it had become apparent that maintenance hours and parts expenses had become much more than an annoyance. Beginning in February, Curt Smith and others made the rounds of vendors in search of the perfect replacements. He also registered the Museum with **Sourcewell** to take advantage of their cooperative purchasing contracts. He received bids from seven dealers. The purchase used funds from the Museum's operations account, the SLPEM Endowment Fund at the **Northern NY Community Foundation**, and the in-house Long-Term Investment Fund. This was a significant hit on these resources, but the Board elected to go that route, rather than borrow. We remain debt free. Meanwhile, Dave has already completed the first round of mowing, and the place is looking good. 🚧



The Museum's new tractor and mower, just after their arrival. The mower will cut a 15-foot swath. The bucket on the front and its hydraulics are heavy duty.



The Century Flyer - Its Next Chapter

The Museum's 1948 Century Flier amusement park locomotive was sold to Kenneth Friedel last year. It had become an orphan with no one to keep the ornery vehicle running. Beneath its skin is an Oliver tractor. Friedel, well known for his knowledge and fondness of railroad history and Hugh Newton, a maple sugar expert, have replaced the tires, installed new brakes and a new gas tank, replaced a wheel bearing seal, rebuilt the hitch, and sanded and painted it. Stripes will be added soon. The passenger wagon seats have been converted to benches and rear steps added. It is now running well. Ken and Hugh have done all this to return it to service at shows and other events. A tip of the engineer's cap to both. 🚂

Locomotive 210 (continued from page 1) at Steamtown and gained promises of critical help when the big move comes. Roger Austin visited a week later and climbed all over the locomotive to assess forthcoming asbestos abatement needs. When the 210 is assigned to the Museum, we will manage the abatement process. Steamtown originally thought they might have to do the job and secured some quotations for the work. They will send us copies of what they have received. The 210 has been sitting out in the weather for many years. Rain and acid coal dust have corroded some of the sheet and plate steel. Though it will not run again, the overall assessment is that it is in good shape and nearly ready to return home. 🚂

Campus, Safety, Pavilion, & Farmhouse Shine

Winter rains have settled the earth along the 100s of feet of last year's excavations for the electrical and water expansions. Working to get them leveled and the grounds ready have been Gary Sayers with his tractor and skidsteer, Jim Scott, and Curt Smith with his truck and dump trailer. Safety Chair, Gibby Rivers, has checked fire extinguishers in every building. Spring cleaning at the Pavilion Building has Cheryl LaBarge, Jerry Montellione, Marcia Oney, Amy Moulton, Kirke Perry, Gary Sayers, Jim and Sue Scott, and Nancy Smith working long hours. And the Farmhouse shines again. Bob Crump, Sue Parisian, Jim Scott, Don Lustyik, and Gary Sayer moved furniture and painted. Barb Fisher sewed new curtains, and Howard Green put a shine on the brass bed. They are ready for visitors. ➡



Not a very exciting photo, but behind the locomotive is the tender with its empty bin capable of holding 8 tons of coal. The top of the 5,000 gallon water tank can be seen in the rear. A strong back lad shovels coal to the locomotive's furnace while a pump moves water to its boiler.

Photos and illustrations in this issue courtesy of Roger Austin, Ken Friedel, Alie Rivers, Jim Scott, and Scott Wilson.

SPRING EXHIBITION

SOMETHING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY TO ENJOY!

CASH ONLY
EVENT
ATM ON
GROUNDS

ADMISSION
\$5
12 & UNDER
FREE

JUNE

13TH-14TH
9AM TO 5PM



JUNE 13 @ 12PM
IN THE OPEN PAVILION



A FULL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS WILL BE POSTED IN MAY
ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND @SLPOWERMUSEUM.COM

Do you have a Tractor or older piece of equipment you'd like to show off at our Spring Exhibition?

There is no charge to be an exhibitor

Bring your piece or pieces any time before Saturday June 13 @ 8:30am!

TAKE PART IN OUR TRACTOR PARADE BOTH SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AROUND THE MUSEUM.



1755 NY-345
MADRID, NY 13660
SLPOWERMUSEUM.COM

Volunteers Needed

We are ALWAYS looking for volunteers who would like to help around the Museum throughout the year!

VOLUNTEERS DO NOT NEED TO PAY AN ADMISSION FEE INTO THE SHOWS!

SOME AREAS TO VOLUNTEER

- Setting up and take down shows
- Host a building or Open House
- Kitchen/Pizza/Ice Cream Areas
- Maintenance/Lawn Work
- Sell Merchandise/Attic Treasures
- Drive a Tractor
- Parking Lot Directing
- And so much more!

Please Visit the Registration Desk in the Main Pavilion, Scan the QR Code and Fill out the form or send us an email if you are interested in volunteering some of your time



E-Mail: slpeminfo@gmail.com

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

- All Day All Museum Buildings Open
- All Day SLPEM Merch in the new Gift Shop
- All Day Antique Tractor Display on Front Lawn
- All Day Live Demonstrations in the Blacksmith Shop
- All Day Vendors in the front of the Main Pavilion
- All Day Live Reenactors at Fort Tribute
- All Day Train Display in the Collection Building
- All Day Face Painting by PiClawso's Painting
- All Day Antique Car Show in front of the Gas Station
- 9:00-3:00 Children's Quest - See Marcia at the Information Desk in Main Pavilion age 14 and under
- 9:30-11:30 Saw and Shingle Mill Operating
- 2:00 Antique Tractor Parade
- 1:30-3:30 Saw and Shingle Mill Operating
- 1:30 Children's Recruitment and Drill at Fort Tribute

ATM Located by the Restrooms.

RAFFLE!!! \$5 a ticket!
Only 500 Tickets Available!

TWO WINNERS.

First winner picks a choice of prize, second winner receives the remaining prize.
\$500 Gift Card to C&M Beef or Firepit & Camping Chairs Bundle

Need a ride?? Wait at one of our wagon stops around the museum! See map on the back for locations!

SATURDAY

- 9:00 Trunk Show by Phyllis Acres in the Nevin Church
- 9:30 Light Draft Horse Weigh In
- 10:30 Light Draft Horse Pulls in Equine Pavilion
- 11:00 Registration for Garden Tractor Pulls
- 11:00-3:00 Petting Zoo located near the Main Pavilion
- 11:00-3:00 Pony/Horse Rides near the Main Pavilion (\$)
- 12:00 Garden Tractor Pulls- **Weather Permitting**
- 12:00 - 2:00 Steel in Country in the Open Pavilion**
- 1:00 Horse Pulls in the Equine Pavilion
- 1:00 Kids' Pedal Tractor Races in the Tractor Barn

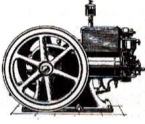
SUNDAY

- 9:00 Church in the Nevin Church
- 10:00-5:00 Antique Tractor Pulls - **Weather Permitting**
- 10:00-2:00 Petting Zoo located near the Main Pavilion
- 10:00-2:00 Pony/Horse Rides near the Main Pavilion (\$)
- 11:00 Women's Skillet Toss - Equine Pavilion
- 12:00-Gone Chicken BBQ Dinner**
- 1:00 Kids' Pedal Tractor Pulls in the Tractor Barn

SLPEM Food-

- 8-10 Breakfast
- 10-5 Ice Cream and Drinks served in the Corner of the Pavilion
- 11-5 Pizza served by slice or whole pizza
- 11-5 Lunch and Snacks Served inside the Main Pavilion
- *11-4 on Sunday

Events Committee Members have bright Orange/Green polos to make it easy for you to find us if needed



ST. LAWRENCE POWER & EQUIPMENT MUSEUM

P.O. Box 400
MADRID, NEW YORK 13660

PRESIDENT, TRUSTEE

WWW.SLPOWERMUSEUM.COM

A Revolutionary Undertaking – Progress We Have Made Together

June 1, 2026

Dear Friend of the SLPEM:

This year marks the 250th anniversary of America, so we reflect on the people and places that shaped our great nation. The greatest of documents, our Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776, and so began our great journey to what we have today in this amazing country.

Since our opening in 2004, countless volunteers and dedicated supporters have worked extremely hard to create one of the most enjoyable destinations in St. Lawrence County and the North Country. No one has to tell you if you have made even one visit to our grounds. It is filled with more than 50 buildings denoting everything from tractors to blacksmithing, lumber milling, to carriages. Whatever you may be interested in, I am certain we will have it. As I have walked around the Museum, I have been so very impressed by what has been accomplished all through the generosity of our volunteer members. Acts of selflessness and in the name of historic preservation. It is truly remarkable.

In this milestone year of our great nation, we reflect on our amazing progress in these mere 22 years of our semi-quintennial. From those early days of a few hit and miss engines to what we have today is remarkable progress in just two short decades. Thanks to all of those efforts, we have a farm that was transformed into an outdoor classroom for students, a beloved community asset and a testimonial to all that has come before us.

As we report through our newsletters and membership meetings with growth comes ongoing maintenance, increased insurance costs and of the need to plan into the future. Together, we can work as one to ensure our museum continues to stay vibrant and relevant for generations to come. That means we all have to work together to ensure its future success.

Your generosity ensures that every visitor can learn, reflect and connect to the history lessons on our grounds. We continue to rely on your support to continue preserving, protecting and sharing thousands of extraordinary artifacts which are in our collection and the buildings which hold them. I hope you will consider making a gift to our annual appeal. The value we hold for our museum through your donation – whether its \$25, \$50, \$100, \$500 or more – ensures that we can continue to keep our museum well into the future.

On behalf of our entire Board of Trustees, I want to thank you for what has been accomplished to make our museum what it is today. Your continued partnership will ensure the museum will be here now, and for the next 250 years.

Sincerely,

Scott Wilson

ST. LAWRENCE POWER & EQUIPMENT MUSEUM
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ter by email
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too).

Museum Trustees

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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.

Treasurer/Trustee: Kirke W. Perry, PO BOX 243, Colton, NY 13625. Phone (315) 212-0627.

Trustee: Robert W. Crump, 3684 County Rt. 14, Madrid, NY 13660. Phone (315) 244-4150.

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

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

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Trustee: James E. Scott, 599 Bagdad Rd., Potsdam, NY 13676. Phone (315) 265-7692.

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

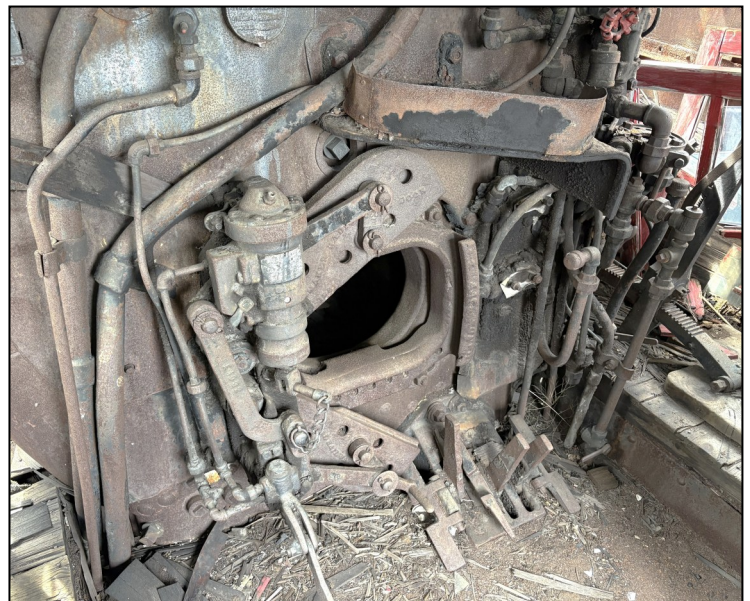
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Electronic Media: Alie Rivers

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
and at **Fort Tribute**



Standing on the floor inside the cab, looking at the door to the fire box, the coal stoker would open and close the door using the foot pedal in front, shoveling in coal from the tender behind him. The engineer stands to the right of the door, keeping an eye out the window for what's ahead. House keeping has not been a priority for the past couple dozen years, but when moved to the Museum, all will be put right.

