Nuts & Bolts, Volume 2, Issue 2

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Museum Open House is a Success

The Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum hosted its second annual open house and tractor show on April 13th. This year’s event featured a Kiddie Tractor Pull in which 21 children competed in three age groups. The winners were Cohen Rief of Lincoln (4-5), Addison Johns of Syracuse (6-7), and Ellie Whitehead of Ashland (8-9). Nearly 250 visitors came to show support and see what has been going on at the Museum.

The Splinter Gallery has been completed and features pieces from Nebraska Artist Craig Cassell.

In addition to the gallery, the new exhibit entitled, “In The Weeds” has been finished, which depicts an old Oliver 60 and Case SC-4 at rest behind a barn. These have been welcome additions to the museum.

The old Tractor Test Lab test car has also been added to the collection for display and the Museum has been rearranged to allow for future growth. Be sure to stop by to see all the new additions and changes going on at the Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum.

Ages 4-5: Cohen Rief (1st), Hudson Johns (2nd), Gavin Stattler (3rd)

Ages 6-7: Addison Johns (1st), Dain Wilson (2nd), Audrey Whitehead (3rd)

Ages 8-9: Ellie Whitehead (1st), Shawn Phillips (2nd), Caleb Liesveld (3rd)
The Passing of Museum Volunteer Larry Ehlers

Dr. Lawrence “Larry” E. Ehlers, 80, of Lincoln died on January 20, 2014. He was a very involved member of the Friends of the Larsen Tractor Test and Power Museum. He was a long-time professor in the College of Engineering.

Born October 4, 1933 in Junction City, Kansas, he graduated from Junction City High school in 1952. He received his B.S. (1957) and M.S. (1962) from Kansas State University in Manhattan, and his Ph.D. (1969) from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. Larry was an associate professor of mechanical engineering at UNL until he retired in 1994.

Larry was always very involved with students. He sponsored many organizations including ASME and Order of the Engineer. He was active in several engineering organizations and received numerous Outstanding Service awards from organizations such as Nebraska Society of Professional Engineers, American Society for Engineering Education, and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He always assisted with NSPE MathCounts.

In retirement, Larry played golf, did woodworking, and volunteered at the Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum. He had an honorary life membership at the Museum. Larry was from a farming family. Volunteering at the Museum was a tie to his childhood. He loved to drive the museum tractors in the former State Fair parade.

His family has graciously dedicated memorials to go to the Larsen Tractor Museum where the funds will be used to renovate the museum’s entry area which Larry occupied while volunteering.

Larsen Museum to Auction Twelve Tractors

Twelve tractors from the Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum’s collection will be auctioned off in order to raise funds for building improvements and make space for future exhibits. Tractors will be listed on an online auction site girardauction.com after May 6th.

“Space and financial strain are the primary reason for this auction. Though nearly all of these tractors are important to our collection, we simply do not have the space to display all of them inside the building,” Museum Manager Lance Todd said.

“Many of the tractors are also fairly common models and we have some duplicates. We have a few tractors that are more unusual or have interesting stories that will be moving into the Museum to take their place.”

“Our goal is to provide visitors with a one of a kind experience, which will include tractors and exhibits that they wouldn’t be able to see anywhere else.”

Be sure to check out girardauction.com to see the tractors and place a bid if you would like have a piece from the the Larsen Tractor Museum.
Friends of the Lester F. Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum

2014 Membership Renewal / Donation
July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL Check one
■ 1 Year Student - $10
■ 1 Year Individual - $25
■ 1 Year Family - $35
■ 1 Year Affiliate Organization - $250
■ Life Membership - $1,000

I would like to receive museum mailings electronically and be contacted via email.

Donation Total

TOTAL ENCLOSED $_____

Name: __________________________
Address: ________________________
City: ___________________ State: ______ Zip: ______
Phone: _________________________
Email: _________________________

Thank you for your support!

The Friends of the Larsen Tractor Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Monetary donations are tax deductible.

Friends of the Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum

Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 20th

6:30 pm
Barbeque at the Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum

7:00 pm
Annual Friends Meeting

7:30 pm
“New at the Museum” Program by Lance Todd

RSVP by Thursday, May 15th to
Julie at NTTL (402) 472-2442 or
jthomson2@unl.edu

Free-will donation to cover meal cost.
Parking in lots adjacent to the Museum

Details on Estate Planning and Memorial Designation

In the past year, Larsen Museum has been designated as a place to send memorials by several families close to the Museum. We appreciate that family and friends of those who have been affiliated with the Museum, and those who are passionate about tractors, have sent donations; the list includes: Bill Splinter; Don Johnson; Richard Walla; Darold Smith; and Larry Ehlers.

The Museum is a 502(c)3, non-profit entity, which entitles donations to be tax deductible. Anyone making a direct donation will receive a letter of acknowledgement that will serve as your receipt. Those wishing to have the Museum designated for memorials can ease the process by having checks made out to Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum.

If you have questions please contact Lance Todd by email at ltodd6@unl.edu or by phone at 402-472-8389.

Restoration Notes

The John Deere H: the Tractor Restoration Club has been working on it all year and it is nearing completion as the school year draws to a close.

The students have sandblasted and painted the entire tractor, repaired some body work, mounted new tires, and rewired it. The tractor will be on display in the museum during the summer.

Museum Needs

The museum is seeking the following items for display and exhibit purposes:

- 1961 Allis D19 Engine
- Minneapolis Moline RTU Engine Only

If you have any of these items, please contact Lance Todd at 402.472.8389 or by email at ltodd6@unl.edu.

larsentractor@museum.unl.edu
tracormuseum.unl.edu

Find us on: facebook®
Museum Hours:
Tuesday - Friday 9AM - 4PM
Saturday 10AM - 2PM
Closed:
Sundays, Mondays & University Holidays

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

Mission Statement:
To be the premier steward of advancements in agricultural technology through the development of collections, exhibits, and programs for public benefit.

Nuts & Bolts Staff:
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Museum Guidance Committee:
Lance Todd Museum Manager
Dr. Mark Riley Department Head & Museum Director
Dr. Roger Hoy Director, Nebraska Tractor Test Lab & Friends President
John Hay Associate Extension Educator
Lou Leviticus Emeriti Faculty & Museum Curator
Don Edwards Emeriti Faculty & Past-President of Larsen Museum Friends