December 2002

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Tractor Museum

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December 17, 2002

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tractor Test & Power Museum Board Members

FROM: Earl F. Ellington, President


Please mark your calendars for the annual meeting of the FOELTTPM Tuesday, January 14, 2003, 1:30 p.m., 225 L.W. Chase Hall.

AGENDUM

Welcome and Call to Order .................................................. Earl Ellington
Introductions ................................................................. Earl Ellington
Minutes of October 15, 2002 Meeting (Attached) ......................... Glenn Hoffman
Financial Report ............................................................... Shirley Trauger
Director's Report ............................................................... Lou Leviticus
Report from Director on Leave ............................................... Bill Splinter
Nebraska State Museum Director's Report ................................ Bill Splinter
Foundations Liaison Report ..................................................... Susan Sack
Museum Docent Report ......................................................... Mark Nickolaus
Museum Secretary and Newsletter Editor Report ......................... Judy Ray
New Officer Report and Election ............................................. Bill Splinter
Development Projects and Membership Report ......................... Charles Borcherdin

Activities for 2003
Meeting dates, times and location?
Another raffle?
Bylaws review?
Others?

Additional business
Adjourn

Hope that you can attend this January 14th annual meeting! As announced on the front page of our December 2002 newsletter, this meeting is for the entire membership. Please encourage members and others interested to attend.

Best wishes for the holiday season and for year 2003.

Board of Directors

Earl Ellington, President - Charles Borcherdin, Vice President - Past President, Robert Kline - Glenn Hoffman, Secretary - Shirley Trauger, Treasurer, (Exeter)

Vern Anderson - Leonard Bashford - Harold Borman - Charles Fenster (Gering) - Richard Goodding - Lawrence Hermann - Jerry Kuhl - Mark Lynott

Bill Overturf (Oak) - Ervin Ralofson - John Smith - Norman Tooker (Balston) - Dale Vanderholm - (Ex-officio - James Estes - Louis Leviticus - Susan Sack

William Splinter)
December 18, 2002

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bill Splinter
Lou Leviticus
Judy Ray

FROM: Earl F. Ellington

SUBJECT: January 14, 2003 Friends Meeting and Travel Schedule

I will be traveling to California December 21, 2002 and returning to Lincoln, January 15, 2003. Charles Borcherding has agreed to chairing the 1:30 p.m. Friends meeting on January 14. I have made reservations for the meeting room (225 Chase Hall) as well as for the Conference Call setup with Glenn Hoffman’s secretary (472-1423).

My secretary, Minnie Stephens, can help contact me if so needed during the above period (472-6430).

Xc: Charles Borcherding
This past year has been one of limited contact with the Larsen Tractor Museum and its activities. From November, 2001 until August, 2002 I served as Interim Dean of the College of Engineering and Technology while the University recruited a new Dean. That was successful with the hiring of Dr. David Allen. Then, since September, 2002 I have been serving as the Interim Director of the Nebraska State Museum. Since the Larsen Tractor Museum Director reports to the Director of the Nebraska State Museum, I have been my own boss. However, my contacts with the Larsen Tractor Museum are much more convenient since Judy Ray offices one half of her time in the State Museum. Hopefully my tenure as Interim Director of the State Museum will come to a conclusion as Dr. John Lundberg, the candidate for that position is scheduled to be in Lincoln this week for final talks for him and his wife, who is interviewing for a position in Biological Sciences. I have a meeting with Dr. Lundberg this Friday and will try to get him by the Tractor Museum if at all possible.

Meanwhile, Dr. Leviticus has very ably provided day-to-day leadership for the Tractor Museum even though he had to have a knee replaced. We enjoyed the contributions of Yung-ju Kim, a graduate student in Museum Studies, who was from Korea, until December, when she needed to concentrate on her school work in order to graduate. Now we have hired Doug Lancaster, a student in Mechanized Systems Management, to help us. He has had experience with tractor renovation so he will be an asset to our restoration activities. Judy Ray has continued to serve multiple roles in secretarial, bookkeeping, painting, organizing and other activities in keeping the Museum functioning. Mark Nickolaus, our Docent, has been a steady helper, especially with guiding visitors, and Jerry Kohl has been an invaluable asset in keeping our tractors functioning.

We have some potential major changes with our facilities coming up. Facilities Management is planning for a major upgrade in the electrical substation that is between the Museum and the Behlen building, which houses some of our tractors. The proposed substation would be sited where the Behlen building now stands. We will have to negotiate to retain the Behlen building, possibly moving it closer to the Museum, since we have no other place for the five or six tractors we house there. There will also be the problem of relocating the experimental line of equipment that goes with the John Deere "M" tractor. We may need to call on the Friends for support as we present our case.

I have noted a continual increase in the number of visitors coming to the Museum. Our biggest problem at this time is keeping the Museum open. We need to make an effort to schedule members of the Friends to spend a few hours just keeping the building open.