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Larsen

October 2003

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Tractor Museum

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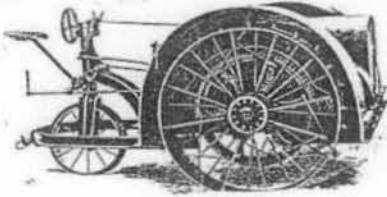
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10/21/03

The meeting was called to order on 10/21/03 at 1:30 p.m. by Don Edwards (Vice President). Charles Borcharding, President, was absent. Judy Ray took notes from the meeting for Leonard Bashford who was testing tractors. Minutes were ok'd from the July 15th meeting. They were not at hand.

Bob Kleis gave his treasurer's report. (attached) Short discussion on money in CD to rollover.

It was decided to have the Friend's membership dues go through Judy Ray as she keeps a record to use when mailing the newsletter out.

Lou Leviticus gave his curator's report. (attached)

Mark Nickolaus, Docent, gave a report of 655 visitors to the museum in 2002 and 368 so far in 2003.

Bill Splinter gave his director's report. (attached)

He introduced Robert Kaul, past UNL State Museum Director.

Judy Ray requested newsletter stories. Advertised calendars, books and videos for sale by the museum.

The 1940 Farmall H donated by John Schere of Burwell, NE was discussed. It is still on Don Edwards trailer who picked it up. He will deliver it to the museum tomorrow. A raffle, silent auction, advertising in Midwest Messenger, Antique Power, and E-Bay were suggested. Bob Kleis, Bill Splinter, and Don Edwards will be the task force to work on the best methods of turning it into money.

Charlie Fenster, who was connected to the meeting by phone, mentioned he has a Chase sweep plow. He will be in Lincoln Thursday and will bring another "Farming In Western Nebraska" video for the museum.

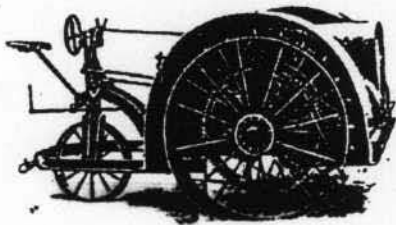
Earl Ellington brought up the subject of the State Fair. Brief discussion of its life or death.

Bill Splinter and Bob Kleis will check on use of the money CD or re-investment.

The meeting was adjourned.

Board of Directors

Charles Borcharding, President - Donald Edwards, Vice President - Past President, Earl Ellington, - Leonard Bashford, Secretary - Robert Kleis, Treasurer, Vern Anderson - Harold Borman - Charles Fenster (Gering) - Richard Gooding - Lawrence Hermann - Jerry Kohl - Mark Lynott - Bill Overturf (Oak) - Ervin Rolofson - John Smith - Russ Tooker (David City) - Dale Vanderholm - (Ex-officio: Pricilla Grew - Louis Leviticus - Susan Sack Norby - William Splinter)



Friends of the Lester F. Larsen
 Tractor Test and Power Museum
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 (402) 472-8389; Fax (402) 472-8367

September 15, 2003

MEMORANDUM

**TO: Friends of the Lester F. Larsen
 Tractor test and Power Museum Board**
FROM: Charles D. Borcharding, President

SUBJECT: October 21, 2003 Meeting, FOLFLTTAPM Board

PLACE: Chase Hall, Rm. 225; at 1:30 p.m.

AGENDUM

- Welcome and Call to Order-----Charles Borcharding
- Introductions-----Charles Borcharding
- Minutes of July 15, 2003, meeting-----Leonard Bashford(Sec.)
- Financial Report-----Bob Kleis(Tres.)
- Curator's Report-----Lou Leviticus
- Director's Report-----Bill Splinter
- Nebraska State Museum Director's Report-----Bill Splinter
- Foundations Liaison Report-----Susan Norby
- Museum Docent Report-----Mark Nickolaus
- Museum Secretary and Newsletter Editor Report---Judy Ray
- Fill Vacancy on Board-----
- Development Projects and Membership Report-----Don Edwards(V.P.)

Activities for 2003:

Next Meeting Date: Jan. 19, 2004 (Chase Hall, Rm. 225; 1:30 p.m.)

Additional Business

Adjourn

Board of Directors

Charles Borcharding, President - Donald Edwards, Vice President -Past President, Earl Ellington, - Leonard Bashford, Secretary - Shirley Trauger, Treasurer, (Exeter),
 Vern Anderson - Harold Borman - Charles Fenster (Gering) - Richard Goodding - Lawrence Hermann - Jerry Kohl - Mark Lynott - Bill Overturf (Oak) - Ervin Rolofson -
 John Smith - Russ Tooker (David City) - Dale Vanderholm - (Ex-officio - James Estes - Louis Leviticus - Susan Sack Norby - William Splinter)

**Friends of the L. F. Larsen Tractor Test and Power Museum Board Meeting
October 21, 2003**

Report of the Director

There have been a number of significant changes in the operation of the Museum since our last Board Meeting. Most significantly, we have hired Luis Vasquez, a former student in the Museum Studies Program, who worked for us a year before taking a position with the Germans from Russia Museum. That position was closed due to budget problems and we have hired Luis to develop exhibits and write grant proposals. Toward that end a proposal for nearly \$50,000 has been submitted to the Institute of Museum and Library Services to provide climate controlled storage for our archive of test reports, library books and historic photographic materials. Donna Martin, a student in the Museum Studies program, is currently inventorying our visual aids materials. We have over 600 glass slides, probably over five thousand slides and photographs and around fifty films. Secondly, the proposal provides for assessment of our archival holdings to correct some mildew problems and assure long term life for our holdings.

Luis will be addressing other funding opportunities for the improvement of the museum structure and the exhibits.

The second major happening was moving the historic Behlen building from a location near the University Power Plant to close proximity to the Tractor Museum. This building had been involved in the atomic testing in New Mexico in the 40's and the galvanizing had deteriorated over the years. Thanks to the Behlen Mfg. Co. the building has been painted with two coats of special paint and it looks quite nice. We had been using the building in conjunction with some BAE Departmental faculty for storage. Our plan now is to use the building as a place to renovate tractors and antique equipment. We will move the shop tools and the storage cabinets from the Museum to the Behlen building. This will allow us to develop a much better exhibit structure by using the garage and the shop areas for exhibit space.

To accomplish this we will need to provide a new exterior for the garage and insulate the interior.

At our last Board Meeting, John Schere donated a Farmall H to the Museum to use for fund raising. Don Edwards picked the tractor up and has it on his trailer. We need to discuss whether we want to sell the tractor outright or use it for a raffle.

Thanks to the fact that Luis is now full time we are able to keep the Museum open to visitors from 9 until 4 each day. This has allowed an increase in the number of visitors, amounting to 308 since January. Mark Nickolaus has been a key person as Docent and guide for our visitors.

Judy Ray continues to contribute greatly to the livability of the Museum. She and Gail Ogden are responsible for the flowers outside of the Museum and she has re-arranged our offices to be more efficient.

Lou has been effective in finding and restoring a number of new items, which he will be reporting on.

I am saddened to report the loss of two important people. Professor Wallace Giles passed away in Raleigh N.C. He and his wife, Caryl were buried in a graveside service in Nebraska City on Aug 6, 1971. He contributed \$50,000 to the Foundation to support the hiring of students like Luis and the other Museum Studies Program students we have had.

Grace Anderson, wife of Verne Anderson, a Board Member, also passed away this summer. I met her several times and she was a fine lady.

Bill

REPORT

REPORT

to

FRIENDS OF THE LESTER LARSEN TRACTOR TEST AND POWER MUSEUM

Submitted by Louis I. Leviticus

October 21, 2003

New items received through donations:

1. Hand-driven grindstone (Bob Kleis) - on display
2. Belt Lacer (Ed Vitzhum) - on display
3. Maul (Bob Kleis) - on display
4. Screw Jack (Bob Kleis) - on display
5. Corn Sheller (Unknown, via Bob Kleis)
6. Sattley Plow (and Moline Plow) Wrench (Bob Kleis)
7. Small job welder (Lou Leviticus)
8. Kosch Shock-absorbing Steering Wheel (Roger Welch)

Record Keeping

We have started recording the collection on Microsoft Access. When this will be completed (if ever) we will be able to track the number of items we have, where they came from and where they are displayed. In the future we will try to expand the system so that we can have more particulars on each item. One problem still is that we do not have the capability to run this program on all of the computers, including mine.

Exhibit and Work Space

The addition of the Behlen building and the planned move of the workshop and items stored in the Garage will enable us to start fixing the garage and workshop area and using this added space as additional exhibit space. We still have a large number of items which are not displayed for public viewing.

Before this can be accomplished we will have to insulate the Behlen building and fix up/insulate the garage walls and doors. This will be a major expense for which funding will have to be found. The Behlen building will also need further electrical outlets and pegboards for tools. Those items will also need funding.

People-power

We are fortunate to have Luis Vasquez on the crew. Apart from his duties as grant-writer, he has enabled us to keep the museum open from Monday through Friday and from morning till afternoon. Usually Mark is with him so we do have a two-man crew on hand, which is good for safety.

Luis brought Phil Dinges with him from the Germans from Russia Museum. Phil is an accomplished carpenter who, thus far, has made the big doors for the Behlen building and has hung the door on the office area of Bill and myself. He also makes stained glass decorations of various tractor models, which are on sale at the museum and do give the museum a part of the proceeds.

Bob Kleis, who, as I mentioned before, has brought in a number of new items for the museum, does come in every Wednesday morning and always finds something useful to do.

Jerry Kohl has been a true friend of the museum for a long time now and is currently working with a new enthusiastic volunteer by the name of Kurt McConnell on the Moline Z restoration. It seems to be coming along fine. This is one of Kurt's hobbies and he is also knowledgeable in film restoration and preservation.

Bill Overturf volunteered to see if he could get the magneto from the Fairbanks Morse "Z" engine fixed. I don't know what the status of the magneto is at the moment and will check on that.

I still come in every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday morning and try to cope with my slow computer and the SPAM which has arrived on the e-mail. Apart from that I occupy myself with making signs for new items and recording them in our inventory when I can get on another computer.