

5-2013

## Friends of the Lester F. Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum Newsletter, Spring 2013

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# Friends of the Lester F. Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum



## 2013 Membership Renewal / Donation July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014


Mail form to:  
Friends of the Larsen Tractor Museum  
P.O. Box 830832  
Lincoln, NE 68583-0832

Renewal payment is due before  
**June 30, 2013**

If you have questions concerning this form, contact the Larsen Tractor Museum at 402-472-8389 or Nebraska Tractor Test Laboratory at 402-472-2442.

**Thank you for  
your support!**

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

<b>MEMBERSHIP LEVEL <i>Check one</i></b> <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Student - \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Individual - \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Family - \$35 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Affiliate Organization - \$250 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Life Membership - \$1,000 <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to receive museum mailings electronically and be contacted via email.		 <b>Membership Total</b> \$ _____
Your donation is essential; the Larsen Museum relies entirely on private funding.		
<b>DONATION LEVEL <i>Check one</i></b> <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____		<b>Donation Total</b> \$ _____
<b>TOTAL ENCLOSED</b>		\$ _____
Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____		



## Honoring William E. Splinter

1925-2012 Bill Splinter, one of the founders of the Larsen Museum Friends, was instrumental in preserving the original Nebraska Tractor Test Lab building as a museum. He secured funding and volunteer labor that allowed Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum to be maintained and serve guests. Bill received his B.S. degree in Agricultural Engineering (1950) from the University of Nebraska, then an M.S. and a Ph.D. from Michigan State. He joined the North Carolina State faculty in 1954. In 1968, he was hired to head Agricultural Engineering (now Biological Systems Engineering) at his alma mater and returned to Nebraska. In

Bill's "Continuing History" of BSE, he wrote, "I was born on my grandparent's ranch 5 miles northwest of North Platte on November 24, 1925. I was raised on an irrigated farm. My life has been a series of fortunate events and this was the first. The responsibility and skills I learned on the farm have been the foundation for my professional career." His career resulted in numerous publications, patents, and awards, including being elected to the prestigious National Academy of Engineering in 1984. Bill served in many capacities, as UNL Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, ASAE President, Larsen Museum Director, and interim Dean of Engineering, and in the U.S. Navy Reserve as a yeoman in WWII and a radar man on a destroyer in the Korean War. Bill was a pilot who wrote flying was "the love of my life." He traveled a great deal in his work, reporting, "I have visited 39 countries and flown around the world four times." The Friends will greatly miss Bill and the many ways he supported Larsen Museum by his presence, recruiting efforts, and research. He has left a profound legacy, and the Splinter Gallery is planned in Larsen Museum in his honor.

### Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum

#### Hours

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

CLOSED: Sundays, Mondays, and  
University Holidays

Phone: (402) 472-8389

Website: <http://tractormuseum.unl.edu>

#### Mission Statement

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

# Friends of the Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum Annual Meeting

## Friday, May 17th

6:00 p.m.: Dinner by Valentino's at  
Nebraska Tractor Test Laboratory (NTTL)  
135 Splinter Labs

7:00 p.m.: Annual Meeting

Dessert at the Museum with UNL Dairy Store ice cream

**RSVP** by Wed., May 15, 2013  
to Julie at NTTL (402) 472-2442  
[jthomson2@unl.edu](mailto:jthomson2@unl.edu)

Free-will donation to cover meal cost.

Parking in lots adjacent to NTTL and Larsen.

