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Tractor Test and Power Museum, The Lester F.  
Larsen

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June 2004

### Jun 2004

Tractor Museum

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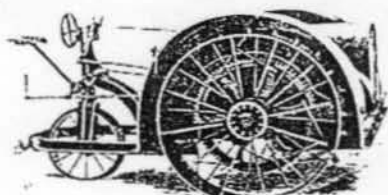


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Friends of the Lester F. Larsen  
Tractor Test and Power Museum  
P.O. Box 830833  
Lincoln, NE 68583-0833  
(402)472-8389: Fax (402)472-8367

June 10, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Friends of the Lester Larsen Tractor  
Test And Power Museum Board

FROM: Charles D. Borcharding, President

SUBJECT: The July 20, 2004 Meeting, FOLFLTTAPM  
Board

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

AGENDUM

Welcome and Call to Order-----Charles Borcharding  
Introductions-----Charles Borcharding  
Minutes of April 13, 2004 Meeting-----Leonard Bashford(Sec.)  
Financial Report-----Bob Kleis(Tres.)  
Curator's Report-----Lou Leviticus  
Director's Report-----Bill Splinter  
Nebraska State Museum Directors Report- *Priscilla Grew*  
Foundation's Liaison Report-----Susan Sack Norby  
Museum Docent Report-----Mark Nickolaus  
Museum Secretary and Newsletter Editor Report—Judy Ray  
Development Projects and Membership Report—Don Edwards(V.P.)  
Activities for 2004  
Next Meeting Date: Oct. 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 - Robert Kleis, Treasurer,  
Vern Anderson - Harold Borman - Charles Fenster (Gering) - Richard Goodding - Lawrence Hermann - Jerry Kohl - Mark Lynott - Bill Overturf (Oak) - Ervin  
Rolofohn - John Smith - Russ Tooker (David City) - Dale Vanderholm - (Ex-officio: Priscilla Grew - Louis Leviticus - Susan Sack Norby - William Splinter)

SP *PRISCILLA*

**MINUTES**  
**FRIENDS OF THE L. F. LARSEN TRACTOR TEST AND POWER MUSEUM**  
**APRIL 13, 2004**

Attendance: Vern Anderson, Charles Borcharding, Harold Borman, Don Edwards, Priscilla Grew, Larry Hermann, Bob Kleis, Mark Nickolaus, Susan Norby, Bill Overturf, Bill Splinter, Russ Tooker, Dale Vanderholm.

The minutes of the January 20, 2004 meeting were read. It was indicated that Dr. Grew's first name should be spelled with an "s". The corrected minutes were approved.

Bob Kleis submitted the Treasurer's report. He reported the Friends had assets totaling \$19,938.94.

Lou Leviticus was in Holland.

Bill Splinter submitted the Director's report. The gift from Vinod Gupta of \$10,000 was discussed.

It was moved and passed that the Gupta donation would be used to renovate the garage area.

It was moved and passed that the President, Vice President and Treasurer were authorized to approve the spending of the Gupta donation.

Charles Borcharding suggested that the Gupta donation and other significant donations be recognized with a plaque,

Priscilla Grew submitted her report. She reported that there was an improvement in Museum programs even though there had been a drop in attendance following the budget cuts. She also listed a number of coming events for the Museum.

Mark Nickolaus reported on attendance. He reported an attendance of 272 visitors since his last report. He also distributed a photo of the exhibit in Morrill Hall that illustrates the exhibits in the Larsen Tractor Museum and directs visitors who wish to come here.

Charles Borcharding discussed the disposal of the Farmall H, which had been donated to the Friends.

It was moved and passed that the Farmall H would be taken to the Camp Creek Swap Meet and sold at a set price or best offer. \$410

The question was raised relative to Shirley Trauger's receiving a copy of the Newsletter.

~~Agenda~~  
*Agenda*

Susan Norby pointed out that UNL signage leading to the Museum was lacking. Dale Vanderholm indicated he will check on that.

The next meeting of the Board was set at July 20 at 1:30 PM. Meeting adjourned.

Bill Splinter  
Secretary, Pro tem.

Friends Of University of Nebraska  
Tractor Test and Power Museum

Treasurer's Report 7-20-04

Balance from April 13, 2004 \$14,938.94\*

Receipts since April 13, 2004

Membership	\$200.00
Donations	215.00
Tractor sale	410.00

825.00

Expenditures since April 13, 2004

Check 1005-Judy Ray-Supplies	\$ 23.76
Check 1006-Newsletter costs	130.00
Check 1007-Bldg. Materials	470.24

624.00

Balance June 30, 2004

\$15,139.94\*

\*Plus \$5000.00 C.D. maturing 9-13-04

R. W. Kleis  
Treasurer

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
**FRIENDS OF THE L. F. LARSEN TRACTOR TEST AND POWER MUSEUM**  
**JULY 20, 2004**

The inside of the garage area has been walled with plywood in accordance with plans to convert that area into an active display area. Our thanks to Phil Dinges and Jared Teichmeier. The next phase will be to restore the exterior stucco.

Amanda Ray has been hired to replace Luis Vasquez, who accepted a better position in Minnesota. She is working on various projects and will report separately.

The Farmall H was taken to the Camp Creek swap meet and a silent auction was held. There were four bids and the winning bid was by Doug Grotrian of Johnson, NE, who bid \$410.

Judy Ray checked and Shirley Trauger is on our mailing list for the newsletter.

The museum received a significant gift of a 1917 Moline Universal from Dr. Larry Bitney, a retired member of the Department of Agricultural Economics. The tractor was restored by his father and exhibited at shows. We will be checking it out to assure that it is running condition and return the newer "D" model to its donors. The serial number and other records indicate that this tractor is an early model, preceding the "D" model, that we presently exhibit. It lacks several features of the "D" model such as a head light but its earlier manufacture makes it a more valuable exhibit.

On July 10-11 we took the Minneapolis Ford to Ayr, NE to participate in the Platte Valley Tractor Show. They were appreciative that we brought out this historic tractor. Judy Ray and Amanda Ray attended with us Saturday and Mark attended both Saturday and Sunday.

On July 17-18 we took the Minneapolis Ford, the Ford Ferguson and Jerry Kohl's Oliver-Cletrac to Camp Creek. This show was very well attended and we had many visitors. Our only problem was figuring out how to get our tent assembled.

Although plans are not complete we will probably participate in the Old Trusty show and at Husker Harvest Days.

Our biggest need at this time is to find volunteers to help us with projects such as getting tractors like the JD D, the Farmall Regular and other tractors to run. Also Donna Martin's work classifying and logging in our photos, movies and slides needs to be continued.

W. E. Splinter, Director

July 20, 2004

Board Meeting, Lester F. Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum

Report by Priscilla Grew, Director, University of Nebraska State Museum

1. Visitor numbers for Morrill Hall continue to show improvement. During fall 2003 we were running about 25% below prior year levels. For June 2004 visitors were up 11% over June 2003. We attribute the improvement to our increased marketing efforts. We have been running weekly ads in Ground Zero in the Journal Star, plus we have billboard advertising, and we have been getting good publicity for Museum events.
2. The Friends of the State Museum held a very successful fundraiser on April 24. The Auction/Raffle raised \$5000 which was the planned target. We thank Bill Splinter who donated a ride in the 1925 Model T pickup to be auctioned at the fundraiser. The pickup was donated by Oscar Hans and was restored by students in Mechanized Agriculture, and is housed in the Tractor Text and Power Museum. The winner was Bob Reeder, former science education coordinator for Lincoln Public Schools. Bill Splinter took Bob for a ride around the Tractor Test Track and gave him a tour of the Tractor Museum. We will have a photo of Bill and Bob in the pickup in the upcoming issue of the Mammoth, the Friends newsletter.
3. The new addition to the Ashfall Fossil Beds Visitor Center opened at the end of May, and the formal Grand Opening will be held August 7. The Friends of Ashfall generously donated about \$90,000 for the construction of the much needed expansion. A special feature at Ashfall this summer is a new exhibit by Professor Mike Voorhies, "Fossils of the Lewis and Clark Expedition." Mike chose specimens from the State Museum collection that most closely resemble fossils described in the journals of the Lewis and Clark expedition. All are welcome to attend the Grand Opening August 7, which will feature fossil identification and fossil preparation demonstrations in the laboratory. In addition, Greg Brown will show visitors how castings are made of fossil skeletons.
4. On June 5 we had a special Friends opening of the photography show "Fragile Nature: A Personal View." This show, made possible by generous support from ALLTEL, features nature photography by Lincoln's own National Geographic photographer, Joel Sartore. Joel has written comments and reminiscences for display with each photograph and National Geographic cover, and the scope of the show covers much of his career. This show will be on display for a year—don't miss it!
5. Mark Harris was promoted to the position of Associate Director, effective July 1. Mark has been working on enhancement of our Trailside Museum at Fort Robinson near Crawford, Nebraska. Mark arranged for Job Corps students from the facility near Chadron to work on repainting the building; Ron Pike from our exhibits staff has been making repairs on the building and in the exhibits. Also, Mark has been working with local supporters on a plan to renovate Trailside so that it could house the "Battle of the Titans" fossils—the world's only fossils of two mammoths that died with their tusks intertwined.



# Museum Attendance

		Tours
April 14-30	- 97	3
	- 192	5
May	- 156	2
June	21	1
July 1-20	<hr/>	<hr/>
	466	11
Total		

Mark Nickolaus

7/20/04



**MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE'S REPORT  
FRIENDS OF THE LESTER F. LARSEN TRACTOR TEST AND POWER MUSEUM  
JULY, 20, 2004**

**I have researched and discovered that there are ten Grants that we could apply for to assist in our efforts to enhance the existing museum. These Grants are due between October 1, 2004 and February 3, 2005. Bill and I will look at these and make decisions as to which are worth our time and resources to apply for.**

**I am in contact with the Lincoln Journal Star on many topics.**

**-Advertisement in the State Fair Guide Book. They want \$495.00 for ¼ of a page of advertisement.**

**-Working to get our museum listed on the "Things to Do" page of the Thursday Paper. Other museums in the area are listed.**

**-Placing an advertisement for volunteers in the Neighborhood Extra section of the Saturday paper. The Volunteer Opportunities section lists needs of other non-profit organizations.**

**I am also in contact with the Lincoln Public Schools to bring in High School Volunteers to help at the museum.**

**I have started to design recognition boards for people who have donated to the museum and or volunteered. I have also been working on designing a Past Presidents of the Friends Board as well as developing ideas for memorials. There will be a Recognition Dinner/Open House in the fall to recognize these people that have give so much to the museum.**

**The New Gallery that is being developed in the Old Garage has been put on hold until our volunteers return from vacation. I am starting to look at exhibit designs for this area.**

**Bill and I have been discussing the possibility of having Saturday Hours. One idea is that I would work every other Saturday and then have the following Monday off. It would be wonderful to have volunteers from the Friends or the community to host the other two Saturdays each month.**

**The University is planning a committee to help promote the museums here on campus. I will be our representative on this committee.**

**Bill has agreed for our museum to become members of the Nebraska Museum Association. There are many benefits to being members of this group. I am also the new Treasurer for this organization.**

**For my own information and benefit, I will be attending various Tractor Shows for the rest of the summer. If anything, it will help to get our name out there.**

**Amanda J. Ray, Museum Development Associate**