



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Nick Schultz

It feels like spring but we all know that the weather can always surprise us. However, the spring-like weather has allowed us to move forward on a couple of projects that were on our warm weather list.

The ramp on the rail car is finished except for the concrete pad and some painting. Don Markham and his wife Judy have been waiting for the ramp to be finished so they can get started on some long overdue remodeling. They have some great ideas which should improve the train display and make it more accessible during tours.

Another long overdue project is getting running water to the Klingele Building during the winter months. With the warm weather we have been able to move forward and are now getting very close to completing that project.

Speaking of the Klingele Building, there have been a number of restoration projects underway. At least four tractors are nearing completion along with a three wheel scooter, a sawdust conveyor for the portable sawmill and a number of repair and maintenance jobs. The Klingele crew have also been busy helping the Horse~n~Harness Group get their sleighs, bob sleds and covered wagon ready for the season. Many of the crew volunteer several days per week.

Since the last newsletter all the light fixtures in the Visitor Center have been replaced with LED fixtures. This has made a huge improvement and they are much more cost effective. The fixtures were donated by the Olde Yakima Letterpress Museum; thank you Fred and Ruth. We are replacing the shop lights in Building #1. It's nice to be able to see what you are doing. We are also in the process of getting bids for a new air conditioner and heater for the Visitor Center. The old ones are definitely on their last legs.

The Horse & Buggy building now has 45 feet of new cabinets. The cabinets will be used to store materials for the school tours, materials used for presentations and materials for the annual car show. All that stuff has been stored in the office area since we turned the Eschbach Education Center over to the Letterpress Museum. It has been very crowded to say the least.

The expansion of the Letterpress Museum is just waiting for the go ahead from the city of Union Gap. All the plans have been approved but a few hoops remain to go through. We are really looking forward to this expansion.

President's Message continued on inside page



Nick, Bill and others constructed the new ADA compliant ramp on the rail car after its move to make way for the Olde Yakima Letterpress Museum expansion.



We have a number of restoration projects underway, including at least four tractors



New LED light fixtures donated by the Olde Yakima Letterpress Museum were installed in the Visitor Center. Thanks! You've made everyone's day brighter!



45 feet of much needed storage space was installed in the Horse & Buggy building

MARCH 2018

The Amos Cabin, after being moved, will be getting a new ADA ramp. Before moving the cabin most of the artifacts were moved off the shelving, so now the Women's Auxiliary will be cleaning and replacing those artifacts. No easy task. Speaking of the Women's Auxiliary they meet the fourth Wednesday of each month and would welcome any new members.

Membership renewal notices have been mailed out and the response has been very good. If you haven't yet renewed, please fill out the form and mail it in. Membership is what keeps the museum moving forward and I thank each of you that have maintained your membership.

In January we had the second annual Sleigh Day. After spending most of December getting the sleighs and bob sled ready, we spent early January changing the sleigh runners back to the wheels because of no snow. The event went on anyway and there were over 500 participants that got rides around the museum. This event seems to grow every year. Thanks to all the volunteers and the Horse~n~Harness Group for a job well done. There were a lot of smiling faces that day.

I will close by once again thanking all our volunteers. They have donated over 11,000 hours toward making this museum the outstanding place it is. None of the things I mentioned earlier would get done if it weren't for our volunteers and members. Their talent is exceptional plus they are just a nice group of people.

Be sure to check the events calendar as there are a number of really fun things coming up.

CWAM General Meeting: March 13th, 1pm
Location: Miner's Drive-In Restaurant in Union Gap.
Hope to see you there!

The Accessions since the last newsletter are:

- 1939 Case RO Tractor & Associated MFRS Co. 3/4 HP Engine from Russ Bohannon
- Dwight Jordon Saddle from Gerry Wolff

Memorials

Remember a friend or loved one with a memorial gift to the Central Washington Agricultural Museum. Money from a memorial is used for additions and improvements unless otherwise designated. When you send a memorial gift it is helpful if you include the following information:

- Who to send the acknowledgment to along with the address.
- If available, we appreciate a copy of the obituary or a brief bio of the person.
- With a gift of \$25 or more the honored one's name will be placed on a memorial board. It is a tax deductible gift.



A warm January turned 'Sleigh Day' into Horse Drawn Wagon day and still attracted more than 500 participants



We had S'mores kits available for purchase at Sleigh Day and they were a hit!

The saddles on display in the Horse & Buggy building look like they're ready to head out to ride!

TWENTY THIRD ANNUAL OLD STEEL CAR SHOW

Sunday April 22nd, 2018 | 10am-3pm
CENTRAL WASHINGTON AG MUSEUM
UNION GAP, WA



Pre-Registration \$15
Day of Event \$20

Register Now ▶ The First 200

Registrations Receive a Goodie Bag & Dash Plaque

Pre-Registration Deadline April 6, 2018

All Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles & More are Welcome to Enter

Games • Door Prizes • Trophies • 50/50 Drawing • Silent Auction



Photos with Vintage Gas Pumps - \$5



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For more information call **509.457.8735** or email info@centralwaagmuseum.org

Join us at the **Old Steel Car Show** on April 22nd. It's one of the first major outdoor car shows of the season and admission is free for spectators. Plus, it's more than cars! There are also museum tram tours, blacksmith demos, exciting raffles, door prizes, kids' games and great food.

EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

from the Central Washington Ag Museum

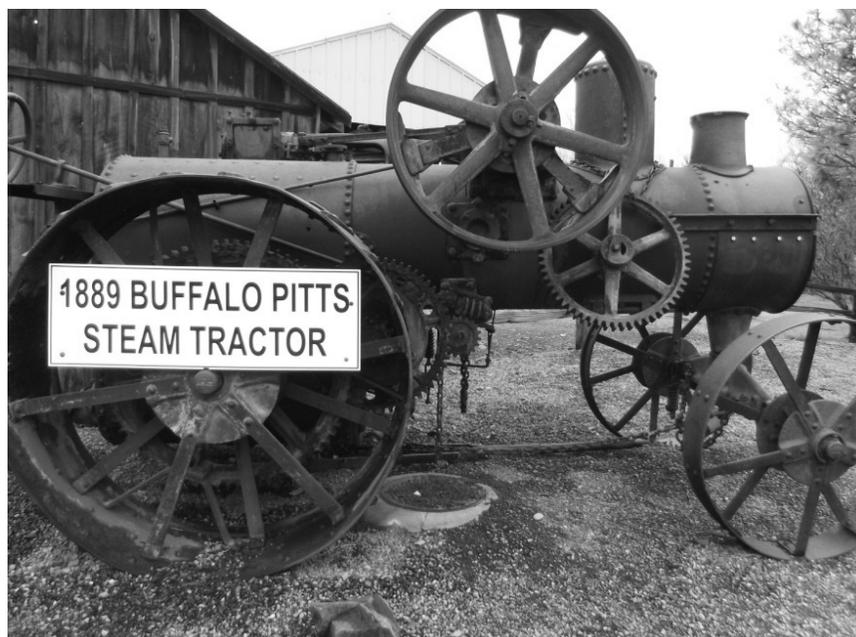
1889 Buffalo Pitts Steam Tractor

The Buffalo Pitts tractor that greets visitors at the entrance of the Central Washington Agricultural Museum was donated in 1995 by Robert Brooke from Lake Stevens, WA. The sign says it was made in 1889; our paperwork says 1895. Regardless of the actual date, it is OLD!

Tracking down information on vintage tractor makers isn't always easy. As C.H. Wendel writes in Standard Catalog of Farm Tractors, 'Information on the Buffalo Pitts tractors is exceedingly difficult to find.'

The driving forces behind the Buffalo Pitts Co. were twin brothers Hiram A. and John A. Pitts born in 1799 in New York. As young men, they manufactured a variety of farm machines with moderate success, but all that changed when they received a patent for a threshing machine in 1837. Three years later, John Pitts moved to Buffalo and put the Buffalo Pitts thresher into production. John died in 1859 and shortly thereafter Hiram moved on to other interests. The company continued under a new partnership.

Incorporated as Buffalo Pitts Co. in 1877, the company's owners claimed it was the oldest of all thresher manufacturers. The firm made more than just threshers and separators. In 1882, the company produced its first Buffalo Pitts steam traction engine, and by 1896 it manufactured steam traction engines with improved patents and new designs.



According to Jack Norbeck's Encyclopedia of Steam Traction Engines, the company's designers 'Embodied in their construction the best principles known in the art of boiler and engine building in their class, and also workmanship and material.'

'Buffalo Pitts boilers were made of the best open-hearth fire box and flanged steel,' Norbeck writes. With 60,000 pounds of tensile strength, tested up to 225 pounds hydrostatic pressure, this model was designed to carry 150 pounds of steam pressure.

From the Souvenir Brochure distributed at the 1901 Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo NY: 'Buffalo Pitts Engines are noted for their accessibility, durability, strength and safety under high pressure, quick, steady steaming qualities and economy in the use of fuel. We build two general forms of engines: Single cylinder and double cylinder in coal, wood, or straw burning. The engines are supplied with all the best and most modern appliances and attachments.'

By 1900 the company was no longer thriving, though the manufacture of steam engines continued. Unfortunately the 1910s was the end of the steam engine era, and in 1914 the company entered receivership. The reasons Buffalo Pitts had financial difficulty are many. One major reason was they sold steam traction engines to small farmers all over the country who put up their farms as collateral. When the farmers could not make their payments their farms had to be foreclosed on and sold.

Today, the Buffalo Pitts steam tractors are rare finds. We are fortunate and proud to have one in our collection.



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www.centralwaagmuseum.org • info@centralwaagmuseum.org

EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

from the Central Washington Ag Museum

MASSEY-HARRIS PONY

The 1950 Massey-Harris Pony at the Ag Museum was donated by Robert Gallion, (father of current museum volunteer Rob Gallion) in 1992. It was used for a few years by Libby, McNeil & Libby in seed test plots. Mr. Gallion acquired it from that company and used it on his property in Selah between 1970 and 1988 to harrow and disc fields for weed control. The tractor was in working condition when it was donated and was used for a short time to pull the People Wagon during the Antique Farm Equipment Club's Pioneer Power Show. Being a small tractor, it was retired from that role, and was put into storage. Throughout the years when Rob attended the Power Show he would visit the little tractor and saw its decline.

When the Pony was towed into the shop in January 2016 it had flat tires and the paint was peeling but with a few "tender tweaks" from shop foreman Kent Blomgren, it started right up. During the next five months, Rob, Kent, Floyd Wilson and others restored the Pony to the condition seen below. Rob drove it as the lead tractor in the 2016 Old Town Days Parade; it was the feature tractor in the 2016 Pioneer Power Show; and he drove it in the 2016 and 2017 Power Show Equipment Parade.



The biggest selling tractor produced by Massey-Harris before the merger with Ferguson, was the little one-furrow Pony. The tractor went into production at the Woodstock factory in Canada in 1947 and was also produced in France at the Marquette plant from 1951. When the last of the Pony tractors was built in 1961, the production total had reached more than 121,000.

The first production version of the tractor was powered by a four-cylinder gasoline engine made by Continental. The gearbox gave three forward ratios and a reverse, with a maximum travel speed of 7 MPH, and up to 11 HP available at the drawbar. Although the Pony was a very basic tractor in the early years of its production, the specification was improved several times during the 14-year production run.

In 1950, the Massey-Harris system of hydraulic implement lift was offered as an option for the Pony. The equipment, known as the

Depth-O-Matic system, was the Massey-Harris answer to the Ferguson System and was an external addition to the tractor, not part of the integral design.

Further improvements came in 1957 when the series 820 Pony was announced. This version, built in France, had an improved gearbox with five forward ratios instead of three, together with a diesel engine built in Germany by Hanomag. There were also improvements to the hydraulic lift system, although this still lacked some of the essential features of the Ferguson System. More detailed improvements were added in 1959 when the model 821 went into production.

In North America, where Massey-Harris was most anxious to improve tractor sales, the Pony proved to be too small for most of the farming market. Against strong competition, especially from the more powerful and more advanced Ford 8N and Ferguson tractors, Pony production in North America reached less than 29,000 and ended in 1954, apart from a batch of 122 manufactured at Woodstock in 1957.

It was the French market which gave the Pony its biggest success story. More than 90,000 tractors were produced, most of them going to small farms, which were often making their first break from oxen and horses. The Pony gave Massey-Harris their first success in the European tractor market and held the company's place in the small tractor sector until the investment in the Ferguson organization began to produce results.



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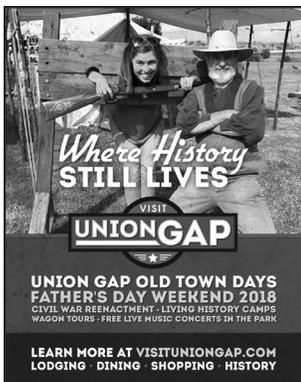
ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

by Paul Strater

"There is nothing permanent except change," is a quote attributed to Greek philosopher Heraclitus over two centuries ago. One very consistent feature of the Ag Museum is that things keep changing. The **Old Town Days** celebration will once again be held at the Ag Museum and Fullbright Park over Father's Day Weekend. We are introducing a new concert event Friday evening, June 15th thanks to a generous donation from Valicoff Family Farms. It will feature the popular band Vaudeville Etiquette from Seattle. You might have seen their sold out show at Gilbert Ranches' Hacket Ranch last summer. Opening for them is American Honey, another popular regional band. The music continues early Saturday evening with Shoot Jake.



Saturday and Sunday will be filled with the return of the Civil War encampments; Civil War battle re-enactments; special appearances by "Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant"; kid's games; tram rides; the working blacksmith shop; demonstrations in the Letterpress Museum annex; Saturday evening fireworks after the evening battle re-enactment; a beer garden; great food; arts & crafts vendors; and much more. As events are finalized the schedule will be updated on the Ag Museum website and on Facebook. Check often to plan a fun-filled, family-friendly weekend.



Events like Sleigh Day (January 20), the Plowing Bee and Horse Spectacular (April 7-8), the Old Steel Car Show (April 22), and Old Town Days (June 15-17) are only possible because of the funding from our wonderful community business sponsors.

Please let them know how much you appreciate their support. You can also help the Ag Museum continue by letting your family and friends know about this great organization you are supporting with your continued membership. If everyone who walks through the museum during the year and everyone who attends our special events gave just a little bit, or became members, we'd be on firm financial footing for years to come.

With this Newsletter we are starting a new feature: photos and stories about some of the interesting items at the Ag Museum. Enjoy them, and if you have stories or information about any artifacts at the Museum, please let us know. We might feature them in a future issue.

Saturday, April 7, 10am-4pm • Sunday, April 8, 10am-2pm
Central Washington Agricultural Museum & the Washington Draft Horse & Mule Association
 proudly present the 2018

PLOWING BEE & HORSE SPECTACULAR

FREE EVENT! Donations Encouraged



Fullbright Park/Central Washington Ag Museum • Union Gap
Horse Tack, Harness & Wagon Sale
 \$25 for a space, \$20 if pre-paid by March 31st, consignment sales available.
 Hosted by: **ESPECIALLY WESTERN ENGLISH CONNECTION**
 509-965-1152 • 3509 Main St., Union Gap
 Additional vendors & items welcome - contact us!

Free Horse Drawn Wagon Rides
 Saturday 10am-11:30am & 2pm-3:30pm
 Sunday 10am-11:30am
 Plus: Free tram rides
 Olde Yakima Letterpress Museum - Saturday, 10am-4pm
 Delicious food including Taste & See Food, Gloria's Donuts & Mommie Dearest Confections

Alan Geho - Event Coordinator • 509-985-9135
 www.centralwaagmuseum.org • 509-457-8735 • info@centralwaagmuseum.org



Come see the Plowing Bee at the Central Washington Ag Museum the weekend of April 7-8. Horse drawn plows will demonstrate their power both days. These magnificent horses take us back to yesteryear! In addition, there will be demos of Jousting and Cavalry plus horse drawn Carriage Rides and the Central WA Ag Museum will be giving tram tours with some exhibits open. Plus, the Baroness War will be taking place on museum grounds from April 6-8, a great chance to see this unique event.
 Learn more at <http://www.antir.sca.org>

MEMBERSHIP REQUEST: If you haven't sent in your membership, please do so soon. It is your support that keeps the museum open and thriving.

CWAM EVENTS 2018

April 7-8
 April 22
 May 12
 June 15-17
 August 18-19
 Sept 21 - Sept 30

Plowing Bee & Horse Spectacular
Old Steel Car Show
Horse~n~Harness Driving Clinic
Old Town Days & Civil War Reenactment
Pioneer Power Show & Swap Meet
Central Washington State Fair



CENTRAL WASHINGTON
AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM

4508 Main St.

Union Gap, WA 98903-2138

MEMBERSHIPS November 28, 2017-February 20, 2018

BENEFACTOR \$500 or more

Richard & Rebecca Drew, Rob Gallion, Nick & Kathy Schultz, Yakima Co-operative Association

PATRON \$100-\$499

Burrows Tractor, Greg Stewart (Central WA Fair Association), Larry Dykes & Marian Easton-Dykes, June Everly, Gary Feser, Kathy Fletcher, Ruth Bishop & Fred Hutchinson, Instant Press Inc, Scott & Lyndee Campbell (K-5 Contracting Inc.), Mark & Lisa Lindholm, Don & Judy Markham, William McLaughlin, Nob Hill Grange #671, Doug Worsham (Old Town Station), Tony & Melody Pottratz, Robin & Jean Robert (Robert Ranch 5 + 1 LLC), Mike & Brian Schrantz, Misti Uptain & Todd Schultz, Gerald Severance, Al Showalter, Sandi Vogel, Tim & Marilyn Waddington, Duane & Karri & Matthew Warner, Yakima Valley Horseless Carriage Club

SPONSOR \$50-\$99

Marvin & Karen Beard, Bob & Cindy Reed (Bob Reed Trucking), Jim & Cheryl Gamache (Carrell Crane & Heavy Hauling Inc.), Bob Gimlin, Kathleen & Larry Hatcher, Diana Kempf & Robert Landles, Paul & Patty Schafer, Larry & Becky Scholl, Michael & Donna Schons, Diane Grignon & Ben Snowden, Clyde & Merla Thysell, Margaret Morris & John Tolonen, Washington Tractor, James & Geraldine Honeyford (Windmill Farms), Yakima District Pomona #19, Yakima Rock & Mineral Club, Wylie & Virginia Young, Ron Zirkle

FAMILY \$35

Kent & Carol Blomgren, Pat Hyatt & Bill Borland, Barney E Brown, F. Clarke Brown, Steven & Linda Bruchman, Anne & Skip Buckler, Howard & Evelyn Campbell, Jim & Ada Colbert, Harold & Betty Cook, Larry Fitzgerald, Ronald & Kay Gamache, Kim Metcalf & Alan Geho & David Geho, David Arcano & Geri Ham, Dale C Harris, Timm Heberlein, Bob & Eleanor Hester, Rod & Donna Hodel, Marty & Jean Humphrey, Ray & Maralyn Killorn, Richard & Kathleen Lange, Gene & Dixie Mattern, Wally & Roberta Moen, Riste Family, Genia Carvo & Jon Roberts, Ken & Judy Ruthardt, Michael Schreiner (Schreiner Farms), George & Wanda Streby, Randy & Linda Sundstrom, Jim & Rose Warner, John & Leslie Wornell, James A & Victoria Yockey

INDIVIDUAL \$25

Royce Baker, Clarence S Brown, Buena Grange #836, Paul R Burlingame, Purdy G Conrad, Lyle (Ray) Cook, Bob Crowell, Ed Davis, Opal Duffield, Freda Dupuis, Frank Freshwater, Madeline Gamache, Marlene Hall, Sylvia Hall, Robert Hennessy, Roberta Toots Mahre & John Holmgren, Ronald Lange, George Nix, Jim & Lois Polley, Pat Pope, Tom Richardson, Gary & Mary Lukehart (Running Springs Ranch), Vivian Russell, Terry Stewart, Pat Stump, Pat Ubelaker, David Humpherys (Valley Hills Funeral Home), Elizabeth Wade, Dwight & Rita Wagenmann, Ada Ruth Whitmore (Whoop-N-Hollar Ranch), Floyd A Wilson, Ralph L Woodall Jr.

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