

61 Years of Steam-O-Rama
The Early American Steam Engine and
Old Equipment Society
P.O. Box 652 Red Lion, PA 17356
Newsletter
Volume 31 Number 1

Executive Meetings 7:00 P.M.

Jan. 2 Feb. 6 March 6 April 4 May 1 June 5

General Meetings 7:00 P.M

Jan. 9 Feb. 13 March 13 April 11 May 8 June 12

Important 2018 Dates: Spring Fling Weekend May 4,5, and 6; and Steam-O-Rama October 4,5,6 and 7. .

ATTENTION-There will be only 2 newsletters again in 2018. This one in January with details of Spring Fling Weekend, and one in August with Steam-O-Rama details. HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF THE SOCIETY FAMILY AND FRIENDS!!!!

RECENT EVENTS-

2017 Steam-O-Rama- The 32nd year at our own showgrounds and 60th show. After 2 years of rain and cold weather, the show saw an improvement in overall weather conditions for 2017. It was still a little chilly, but no rain to dampen everybody's spirits. Tractor displays looked great, all the pulls and bands performed on schedule and a good time was had by all. The flea market was down by several vendors, but this seems to be a growing trend among many of the shows. Between ebay usage for instant parts and the aging of flea market vendors, there seems to be less and less people carrying on the trade and very few new vendors adding to the list. We hope this trend turns around, but that doesn't look to be very likely.

We would just like to say a great big **THANK YOU** to everyone who came to help set up early in the week, and those who stayed to participate in the show in any way. Entertainment, pulls, demonstrations, flea market, museum, and exhibits went on as planned. We thank the Sheppard Diesel Collectors Club for their handling of the display in the feature building and beyond. The hill was full of other tractors on display, with gas engines also filling their usual area. It was great to see the parking lot full after 2 years of inclement weather keeping people away.

As part of the 60th anniversary festivities, Tom Wingert of Luckyspot Photography was contracted to take aerial photographs of the show area during the weekend. Copies of these photos in various sizes, and printed on a mug can be purchased from his website Luckyshotphotography@verizon.net or by calling him at 717-307-1174. A large photo is on display in our meeting room/office and can be viewed during any meeting or during Spring Fling weekend. We may be able to arrange a mass delivery of paid photos for pickup during Spring Fling weekend if enough people are interested. Please call Sue Knaub if this is of interest to you.

Memberships- At the present time the society has over 1200 members including over 500 life members. Nearly 75 life members have passed away in the twelve years since we started offering life memberships. Many children are included in family memberships. Membership runs from show to show and is open to anyone. Your mailing label includes the year in which your membership expires. If it says 2016, it means you did not pay dues for 2017. This will be your last newsletter. If it says 2017, it is good until the 2018 show starts, at that time you need to pay dues to get you in for the rest of the weekend and to continue to receive your newsletters. You can renew your membership by sending a check along with the form on the cover to the address listed. If you wish to receive your card, include a **Self Addressed Stamped Envelope**. You can also renew at the Spring Fling Weekend, and of course at Steam-O-Rama. As reported in the last newsletter, as of January 1 2017, individual membership dues are \$10 per year, family

memberships are \$20 per year and Life memberships are calculated on the decade you were born. eg. 1960's-\$60. The directors searched for a way to honor the life members who have passed away and there is now a large permanent plaque on display in the meeting room which lists the deceased life members and the year each one passed away. These are the deaths we know about. Some out-of-the-area deaths may not be recorded due to lack of notice. We appreciate the family members who have notified us and request that if you know of the passing of a life member, that you keep us in mind for notification.

2017 Raffle Tickets- Only about 12,000 raffle tickets were sold in 2017, netting about \$10,600 to the society. Bad weather at several shows, and bad locations at other shows took their toll. There were several show which we could not attend due to various reasons. Tickets were sold at events all over Pennsylvania, and also traveling into Maryland, New York, and Virginia. A couple of new events were tried this year and some former events were missed due to weather conditions and health problems. As reported, 2017 was the last year for the Steam-O-Rama tractor raffle. Originally started in 1985 by Ralph Brenneman and others, thirty three tractors have been given away and 11 gas engines, along with a plethora of smaller prizes. The cost of the raffle prizes, purchase and restoration of tractors and engines and the cost of some of the venues, not to mention the time, fuel and wear and tear on machines and people to set up and tend countless displays has worn out the members who make this their summer's work year after year. We thank all those involved for a job well done.

On a sad note, in December we lost Donnie Livingston to a bout with pneumonia complicated by other health problems. Donnie and his late wife Kathy had hauled the tractors and other prizes around for over 30 years, setting up at many, many show and events to sell raffle tickets. They did not do it single handedly, many people helped out, but Donnie was the driving force behind the effort. Somewhere between \$350,000 and \$400,00 was raised for the society. The money was used to pay off four land purchases, the construction of various buildings and other society projects. The decision to discontinue the raffle ticket sales was not an easy one for the executive committee to make, but a necessary one. Donnie and the other directors were trying hard to come up with other fund raising ideas. If anyone out there has any suggestions for another type of fund raiser, the directors are interested. Please let them know your ideas. In 2018 we will be holding a smaller raffle at Steam-O-Rama which will offer some of the usual prizes, something like a pedal tractor or even a 50/50 drawing. We are open to any ideas out there.

Prize Winners for 2017-

- 1st- Farmall Cub-Amanda Smith, Indiana, PA
- 2nd- IH gas engine (cash alternative)-Don Estright, Newport, PA
- 3rd- Handmade quilt-Gloria Blevens, Red Lion, PA
- 4th- Toy Tractor-Dave Marshall
- 5th- Lancaster Farming Sub.-Steve Horst,
- 6th- Antique Power Sub.- Piston
- 7th- Gas Engine Magazine Sub-Jeremiah Herbst, Frederick, MD
- 8th- Steam-O-Rama T Shirt-Gene Almoney Jr, Windsor PA
- 9th- Steam-O-Rama Hat Joey Thompson
- 10th-Steam-O-Rama Membership-Will Higgins

2016 Election of officers. At the 2017 election of officers in November, it was moved and seconded to elect the slate of officers on the ballot for another year, so most officers have been reelected for 2018. The only change is director Don Livingston was replaced with the election of Galen Dietz. We welcome Galen to the Executive committee. The officers and directors are always looking for people interested in joining any of the working committees. Please let any director know if you would be interested in serving on a committee. If you or anyone you know is interested in holding an office, please have the names put into nomination before the November 2018 meeting for the

consideration of the voting members present.

Advertising Opportunities- The 2018 advertising letters have been mailed, and additional applications are available to any interested parties. In 2017 we had four ticket sponsors paying \$200 each to have their ads on 5000 raffle tickets. The brochure had 16 businesses paying \$100 each to have their business card on 12,000 brochures. We had 14 businesses paying \$50 each to have their card on 4000 tray mats that went on each food tray that left the kitchen. The tray mat includes the Steam-O-Rama schedule of events for the week. The gate brochure also includes the schedule of events and opens to a map of the showgrounds showing where all the scheduled events will take place. 16 businesses purchased advertising space on this brochure for \$50 each. You may have noticed that some of the sponsoring businesses advertised in more than one place, and we appreciate their continued support of our efforts. Of course, we no longer need raffle ticket sponsors, but we hope those loyal businesses will chose another type of support. The full list of 2018 advertisers will be included in the July Newsletter. This opportunity is available to anyone who would like to advertise, and forms are available from any board member or at the January or February meetings. Ad copy and payment must be in by March 15, 2018.

Construction on the grounds- No new construction has been going on this year, mainly due to lack of funds. There are projects in the planning stages but will not be carried out until funds allow. Any ideas or concerns regarding our property can be directed to Rich Sheidy, Leroy Sterner or Paul Fake to get details.

UPCOMING EVENTS-

Spring Banquet- There will not be any banquet held in 2018. North Hopewell/ Winterstown Fire Department notified us that they are no longer doing banquets and the decision was made to forgo that event for this year. We are currently taking suggestions for 2019.

Spring Fling Weekend- May 4,5, and 6. Get out those unwanted items and get them ready for sale. We will be continuing the Old Fashioned Engine Show with plenty of room for gas engine enthusiasts to show off their collections and swap stories and parts, and the Yard Sale/Flea Market will be going on all weekend. Some of the Pull details have changed, so please read carefully. Bob Ansell, who runs the Garden Tractor Pulls both spring and fall, will be holding his fourth annual Rude Dog Nationals Saturday all day, weigh-ins begin at 1 PM and pulling begins at 2 PM. Any questions or details can be obtained from Bob at 717-471-9598. On Sunday again this year, and we hope the weather will cooperate, we will be firing up the society owned pulling sled for a fun antique tractor pull. Anyone is eligible to pull on Sunday with non members being required to pay a one time membership fee of \$10. Weigh-ins will begin at 8:30 AM and pulling will begin at 11 AM and continue until all have pulled their fill. If you want more information you can talk to Jeff Leader at 717-887-0196. He is looking for help operating the sled and tractors for our pull. There will be no pickup pulls. We are also looking for pull sponsors and any information of interested people or businesses can be given to Jeff or Sue Knaub at any time.

The 2018 Spring Fling Weekend will also include Bob Rentzel's 24 th Annual LITTLE GUYS SHOW. The Little Guys Tractor Club will be presenting their 24th annual show at our showgrounds this year in conjunction with The Spring Fling Weekend. Friday afternoon is the setup for the show with swap meet vendors and Little Guys exhibitors setting up just east of the pulling track. Saturday they will be holding a Rototiller Plot Prep Contest, and Sunday there is the 29th annual PA State Garden Tractor Plowing Contest and Experimental Pedal Tractor Plowing. There will be plenty of fun for young and old. They are featuring Cub Cadet and Pennsylvania Panzer.garden tractors, and presenting the 14th USA National Motorized Pedal Tractor Meet. Please help us get the word out about this event as it continues to change and grow. Posters can be picked up at any meeting if you have any places they can be displayed. Please let people know what will be on display, and of course, you are invited to display your own

engines, garden tractors, motorized pedal tractors, and related items. Admission is free to everyone all weekend. This year badges will be given out only to engine exhibitors, this is not a membership badge event. You will need to display an engine or related item to get one. Full size tractors are not on display for this event. Hours are Friday and Saturday all day to 5:00 P.M., and Sunday to 3:00 P.M. Exhibitors are invited to set up with their trailer, truck, canopy, etc in the designated area. They can run their engines, swap parts, engines, etc., they are invited to attend the auction, consign items if they wish, and to have a great time all weekend .On Friday and Saturday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and Sunday from 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M., will be the **Yard Sale/Flea Market**. This is open to everyone, not just vendors or established sellers. It costs \$15.00 for a 20 ft. X 20 ft. space and all are corner spaces, so you have a full 40 linear feet of display space and 400 square feet of space to fill. You can sell anything you like on that space with few restrictions, like alcohol, firearms or pets. You can be set up all three days or any part of it. You can sell new items or crafts, but you need a tax number to do that. You do not need a tax number to sell your own belongings as yard sale items. The weekend has already been advertised in the show guides and will be listed in the local papers and Lancaster Farming. You can get a form at any meeting, from our website, or by calling Rich and Trudy Reichard at 717-235-1353. The Consignment Auction will again be held in two parts. Friday at 5:00 P.M. we will be selling plants, collectibles, literature, toys and small items of value. Last year we had some collectible household items and lots of spring annuals and flower garden items, and we will have some similar items again this year, so it's not all farm equipment. Saturday at 8:30 A.M. we will begin with the wagons full of small items and continue with the outside farm items. Gas Engines and related items usually start between 11:30 and 12:00 noon, with tractors following soon after. The sale is usually over by 3:00 P.M. Contracts are available at any time, and you can get one by calling Charles Stillinger, or Sue Knaub. We need to get these items advertised to attract buyers. The week of the sale is too late to find out what is coming. PLEASE call for a contract, or at least to report what you will be bringing so we can get the advertising in. **The DEADLINE FOR ADVERTISING IS SUNDAY APRIL 22, 2018.** The sale terms are as follows. Total sales up to \$100 will be charged 20% commission; \$101 to \$1000 will be 15%; \$1001 to \$2500 will be charged 10%; and over \$2501 will be 8%. If the total of the items you consigned with the commission subtracted is less than \$5.00, no check will be issued and the amount will be considered a donation to the society. All checks will be mailed approximately 2 weeks after the sale, which gives all auction checks time to clear the banks. You are encouraged to bring anything you wish to sell and get it out there to the public. Reserved bids may be placed on large items such as tractors or engines, but the best plan is to be there to make sure you get what you want for your items. Sale items may be brought to the showgrounds on Saturday, April 28 by appointment only; Monday April 30 thru Thursday May 3 from 8 AM to 7 PM, and Friday May 5 from 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. for evening sale and until 7:00 P.M. for Saturday sale. The earlier items are on display, the more potential bidders can see what will be available at the auction, so get your items signed in early. There will be people sleeping at the showgrounds all week, but security will only be on patrol all night Friday. Make sure you fill out a consignors contract and have a copy to take with you. You will receive another copy with your check along with the clerk cards showing what was bid for your items. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask. If you have any items you wish to donate to the society to sell, you will receive a copy of the clerk card if you wish to claim it as a donation. We are a registered non-profit organization and any donations are tax deductible. Over the years we have had quite a number of large and small items donated for the proceeds to go to the society and are used to support a variety of community efforts from the 4 H clubs and local charities and families in need. We appreciate these donations very much. There are several tractors and many small items already consigned. There are also several yard sale spaces contracted.

We are truly desperate for help- We have always been shorthanded in the meeting room with sale registration, sorting clerk cards and clerking the sale. This is a sit down job in the warm and dry and you can stay all day or whatever time you might have. We need several good people for these jobs. Please talk to Dannielle, or Sue if you can help for a few hours or all day. We know we will be short several key people on Saturday because of a wedding, so we MUST fill in with additional help. Please step up and lend your support to the society.

The Kitchen will open Friday and Saturday at 7:30 A.M. for breakfast sandwiches, donuts and drinks and remain open until the sale and yard sale and engine show are over. Saturday and Sunday the trailer will be open at the track during the hours of weighing and pulling. More info on Kitchen activities follows. Workers preparing for the sale on Monday thru Friday will be served lunch and supper as needed. Menu will depend on the weather.

Kitchen Preparation- Wednesday, April 18 beginning about 8:30 A.M., we will be cooking bones for fall pan haus.and working to ready the auction room and wagons for sale week. Wednesday April 25, we will also be cooking bones and making broth for fall pan haus. Lunch will be provided both days and we will be finished around 1:00. Monday April 30 we will be cleaning the trailer and working under the barn and in the kitchen to get ready for the Spring Fling Weekend and we will be accepting consignment items. Tuesday May 1 is a day off for most, but lunch and dinner will be supplied for anyone working. Wednesday, May 2 we will be cooking any last bones for the fall and making sausage patties. Thursday morning we will be preparing other items for the sale, cleaning up and preparing for the sale weekend. On prep days we will be finished with most work by 1:00. Friday and Saturday we will be open all day until activities are over. The trailer will be at the pulling track as stated above and help is needed for all three days. Any help at either of these locations will be greatly appreciated. Anyone wishing to donate pies or cakes for the weekend should bring them, through the week and mark containers for return. Lunch will be provided for kitchen and sale workers, any donations to the menu will be greatly appreciated. As with any activity at the showgrounds, kitchen help is desperately needed and appreciated. An hour or all day, we are grateful for any time you can give to the society. We're hoping for great weather and plenty of people this year. Hope to see you there.

Work Parties and Projects- A Specific Schedule follows Monday work parties will be starting as the weather allows. The crew start work most Mondays about 9:00 AM and welcome anyone willing to lend a hand..One ongoing project is the Tobacco Shed which houses our equipment museum on the top floor and storage underneath. Currently, the guys would like to speak to, and work with, anyone who was involved in local tobacco and cigar production. Plans are progressing to include this in the museum. We are constantly looking for items to add to the museum collection. Needed are additional hay trolley brands, local feed mill memorabilia such as bags and signs, cattle crossing signs and dairy signs, small barn items for display. These items can be loaned or permanently donated. We will be carefully coordinating the display to have only one of a certain item or one of a certain manufacturer so as not to clutter the available space. Last spring we had cards printed to advertise our museum to the public, with contact info for groups or individuals wishing to tour the facility. As you are spring cleaning, consider these needs. Call any board member with questions or comments.

Any storm or snow damage to buildings and grounds will be assessed and plans made for repairs. The best course of action to give suggestions and volunteer your time, is to attend monthly meetings listed at the beginning of the newsletter. Over the summer mowing and trimming will be an ongoing project and help with that is always welcome.

FOR SALE: The society has several pallets of 12” block for sale. If you have any interest in obtaining block for a project you may be working on, please contact any director for further information. Numbers and prices can be discussed at that time.

E.A.S.E.&O.E.S Financial Information- Each January, the Officer and Directors are given a detailed account of the Society’s financial standing, and the same is presented at the January general meeting. As a member, you are entitled to the report if you want. An annual copy can be obtained from Sue Knaub at any time. 2015 and 2016 were not good years mostly due to the fact that Steam-O-Rama came up about \$60,000 less than usual, and we still have our credit line with a sizable balance, but we work at paying on that each month. A good 2017 show helped pay some debts. No big projects are in the works at the present time as we continue to pay monthly bills and hope for a great show for 2018.

Newsletters and Mailings- Even though we use Bulk Rate postage, our costs for printing and mailing newsletters stays high. We have been collecting email addresses for several years in preparation for using them to distribute newsletters to any members willing to receive them in this manner. This year that newsletters are being emailed to members who have supplied their email address to us. There are still some glitches to be ironed out as not all computers play well together. If you are not already on the list, now is your chance to save the society time and money. If you are willing to receive your newsletter via email, you need to notify us of that fact by emailing your reply to steamorama@aol.com as soon as possible. This way we can compile a list to use. You can also download your newsletter from the website, www.steamoramapa.com if you would rather do it that way, but you need to let us know that you plan to do that. If you do not wish to receive a newsletter at all, you can make that notation when you pay your dues and we will no longer send one out to you.

Public Sales- At this time we have no scheduled public sales. Please let us know if you can use our services.

Thank You's and Concerns- Our Thanks to all who helped or attended the 2017 Steam-O-Rama. A huge **THANK YOU** to all the people involved in our tractor raffles for the last 33 years as the society raised money to fund the purchase of the land we call our showgrounds and to build and maintain the structures there. There isn't enough room here to name all the people involved in the purchase of all the items and the restoration of the early tractors. The hauling of the items to the grounds, the other shows, the farm show and the York Fair. The hours of sitting and selling tickets, talking the passers-by into buying \$1 worth or \$5 worth, once a guy bought \$500 worth(no, he didn't win). The people who dealt with the heat, the cold, the sun, the rain and lots and lots and lots of mud, and the people who dealt with shows that didn't want to let us in and didn't want to give us a good spot, and the people who sponsored the tickets and the shows we had to pay for and just generally lent moral support whenever it was needed. It is the end of an era for Steam-O-Rama, but hopefully a new beginning also.

Our **Sympathy** to the families of Life members:Lewis Frantz who was instrumental in arranging the move from Stewardstown to our current showgrounds and served as the society blacksmith for many years, Carl Rosh, Regina Fry, Marlin Ellis, Glen Murrow and Bruce Grove. Mention has already been made of the passing of Donnie Livingston who dedicated so much of his time to our 33 year long Tractor Raffle Fundraiser.

FIRST HALF WORK SCHEDULE

Meeting dates are available on page 1.

Wednesday, **April 18**- 8:00 A.M.-Kitchen Prep. Bones for Pan Haus, soup, etc., lunch provided

Sunday, **April 22**- Deadline for advertising auction items

Wednesday, **April 25**-8:30 A.M.-Kitchen Prep. Bones, soup, etc., lunch provided

Saturday, **April 28**- consignment items accepted by appointment, Monday, **April 30**-8:00 A.M.

Begin accepting consignment sale items, cleanup and maintenance for sale, mowing if necessary, kitchen prep work lunch and supper provided for workers

Tuesday, **May 1**- Consignment items all day, lunch and supper as needed.7:00 PM Executive Meeting under the barn.

Wednesday, **May 2**-8:00A.M. Consignments accepted, kitchen work.11:00 A.M. Sausage Patties lunch and supper provided for workers

Thursday, **May 3**-8:30 A.M. Consignments accepted, baking for weekend, all areas ready for sale, meeting room preparation for clerks, lunch and supper provided for workers.

Friday, **May 4**- 8:00 A.M. Engine show and Yard Sale starts. Kitchen open for breakfast sandwiches, lunch and supper. Consignments accepted until 3:00 for evening sale, until dark for Saturday sale. Evening Sale starts 5:00 P.M. Lunch and Supper provided for workers if possible.

Saturday, **May 5**-8:00 A.M. Engine show and Yard Sale starts, Little Guys Show opens near track area, Kitchen open. Sale starts 8:30 A.M.

Garden Tractor Pulls weigh-in starts at 1 PM , pull at 2 PM. Trailer open throughout pull.

Sunday, **May 6**- 8:30 A.M. Engine show and Yard Sale starts, fun tractor pull, weigh in 8:30 AM and pull starts at 11 AM, trailer open for breakfast sandwiches and lunch throughout afternoon

Monday, **May 7**-8:30 A.M. Cleanup from Weekend

Tuesday –**May 8**-7:00 PM–General Meeting

Tuesday-**June 5**-7:00 PM executive Meeting

Tuesday, **June 12**-General Meeting followed by Strawberries and Ice Cream Social-7:

