



1664 US Highway 1 Littleton, Maine

Jan-March 2024

By Karen Donato

Southern Aroostook Agricultural Museum

"A museum by the people, for the people"

"We are an equal opportunity provider"

Our mailing address: 304 Campbell Road Littleton, Maine 04730 Tel: 207-538-9300
Email: southernarostookmuseum@gmail.com Web site address: www.southernarostookagriculturalmuseum.org
Facebook Southern Aroostook Agricultural Museum Look for your renewal date on your mailing label.

2024 Membership Supper Saturday, January 20

The museum will be decorated as a Winter Wonderland for the annual membership supper featuring the delicious roast beef on Saturday, Jan. 20. Nancy Wright will work her magic with snowflakes, snowmen and lights to set the scene for a winter's night. So make your plans to come to the museum for an early tour and then to enjoy supper beginning at 4:30 p.m. until 6. Cost will be \$10 each or free with your paid 2024 membership. Rae Johnston and her helpers will prepare a delicious roast beef meal. We hope you will renew your dues to continue your free tours and the quarterly newsletters. If you are not receiving your newsletters by email, please contact Karen Donato, by calling 207-694-6099 or email me: abcmaine@hotmail.com to update your email address. Membership levels are listed toward the back of this publication.



The George S. Smith addition has been completed and we are just waiting for warmer weather to mount the new sign over the door to the right. The addition was made possible from a bequest from the estate of George Smith, who was an active volunteer and funds from Rural Development and the museum account. The building was constructed by Matt Bolstridge, earthwork was done by Ritchie Gogan and electrical by Alan Dow.



Several members of Smith’s family attended the dedication and are shown with the sign that will be displayed on the building. From left: Milliard and Kim Wright, Justin Smith, Nicole Wright, Alan Wright, Jetta Woodworth, Tiffany Smith, Leone Gray-Sanford and Jeff Wheeler. In back: Brylan Wright, Braxtyn Wright, Kane Woodworth, Corey Woodworth and Samuel Woodworth.



Three representatives from Rural Development made a site visit for the barn addition project. They enjoyed a tour of the museum with some of our volunteers. From left in front: Cheryl Barnes, Morgan Hotham and second from right, Rhiannon Hampson. Volunteers attending included: Rae Johnston in front, center and Debbie Melvin, far right. In back: President Paul Klein and Vice-President, Francis Fitzpatrick.



The museum hosted the Houlton Gateway Ambassador group recently. This group is building a network of resources found here in the area and their goal is to showcase our community to attract new people and businesses, as well as encouraging the younger generation to stay or return once they have finished their education. They will also be assisting with the upcoming Total Eclipse Event, happening April 8. Those attending enjoyed hearing about the mission and history of the museum, as well as hearing from a local young farmer, Jimmy Fitzpatrick. He shared information about the challenges facing the farmers today with the expense of equipment and coping with the changing climate. The Fitzpatrick farm may be a destination for some visitors to learn about farming and see their equipment. Chris Anderson and Cis Rhoda of Houlton are the contact people for this group.

Thelma Henderson

December 26, 1932-December 26, 2023



Thelma was the daughter of George Dewey and Verna (Lorom) Stone. She was married for 45 years to R. Keith Henderson. Being a typical “County Girl”, she labored in the spring, summer, and fall with family on the farm. She groomed poodles, which allowed her to travel the world. Keith & Thelma owned and operated Panther Fuel, The Peat Patio Greenhouse, operated an over-the-road trucking firm, farmed potatoes and raised livestock. Thelma enjoyed working with the White Bible Camp kitchen crew and was known as the camp's bread maker from 1972-1992. She started her Christian walk at The Christian Missionary Alliance Church, after she married, she joined the Littleton Full Gospel Assembly Church, where she was the organist, choir director, and Sunday School Superintendent. She later attended the Houlton Wesleyan Church and Littleton Baptist Church. She acquired many dear friends in the Ladies Sunday School Classes and the Ladies Bible Studies.

She is survived by James & Rondise Watson and John & Brittany Benn, four grandchildren Lezley Jones, Amber Hines, Jerusha Benn and Jordan Benn, 14 great grandchildren, three great-great grandchildren and one brother, Roger Stone. She was predeceased by her parents, her brother Ervin Stone and his wife Betty, and her husband R. Keith Henderson who passed 27 years ago.



It is with great sadness that we share the loss of one of our very faithful volunteers, Thelma Henderson. Thelma had been with the museum since the early days and was always willing to help in any way. She was most often seen in the kitchen at our monthly suppers, but she had also been a great tour guide, helped out at our Trade Shows both in Presque Isle and Houlton. Thelma volunteered her time welcoming visitors in years past to the Ross School during the annual North Country Classic Car and Truck Show. One can see her video clip on our website and just last Fourth of July she rode on Bill Buckley's truck for our parade entry.

We will miss our good friend! We will miss her bubbly personality, her joyful laugh and her willingness to help out wherever she was needed. She was one of a kind!



From left: Thelma, Rae Johnston, Thelma's son-in-law, Jamey Watson with his wife Rondise, Thelma's daughter.

Kitchen volunteers from left: Betty Anderson, Colby Shaw, Barbara Brown and Thelma.



The winner of our fall raffle was Ginger Pryor holding the rifle. Beth McAfee, left, won the \$50 gift certificate and Robbie Henderson in the back won the \$100 gift certificate from MAC's. Joe Oliveri, right, an employee of MAC's presented the prizes. Our thanks to everyone who supported this fundraiser. Proceeds from the raffle will support ongoing projects at the museum.

Please lend a hand

We hope some of our readers will consider helping us out this summer season. We have several jobs that we need help with: be a tour guide a few hours each week or once a month. One does not need to be a seasoned tour guide, you can just pop in on the tours to see if the guests have questions and lead them in the right direction to the next building. There are random computer projects and help with cleaning items to be put on display. We also need someone to clean the kitchen and common areas before and after our events. This would be about once a month. There are several things that need to be framed and maybe some outside painting. Call Rae Johnston, 538-9402 to be added to our dessert list for suppers or to help with serving at our monthly suppers. If you are interested in any of the tasks above please contact: Nancy Wright, 538-8905, Debbie Melvin, 538-9604 or Karen Donato 694-6099.

Memory Corner

Memorial donations received recently in memory of:
Joyce Henderson, Tom Fitzpatrick, Steve London, Mabel Walton, Thelma Henderson, and Susan Dow.
Thank you for your donations.

Upcoming Events

Feb. 17—Museum supper
March—Date to be determined
4:30 to 6.....\$10 per person

Please send your 2024 membership dues to:
S.A.A.M. 304 Campbell Road Littleton, ME 04730 or renew online.
Thank you for supporting our mission to preserve the past.

Bits and pieces of information:

Multi-Purpose Room: Our gym & kitchen facilities are available to rent for reunions, receptions, parties or banquets.

We are a non-smoking, alcohol free facility and handicapped accessible.

Gift Certificates are available for suppers or memberships.. Great birthday, anniversary or “just because” gifts.

Regular Museum meetings are the first and third Saturdays of the month beginning at 9 a.m. Members and guests welcome

Open for tours Thursday, Friday and Saturday..1 p.m. to 4.

June 24 through Labor Day

For private tours call Francis Fitzpatrick 538-0050 or other officers listed below.



Look for your renewal date on your mailing label.

Mailing address: 304 Campbell Road
Littleton, Maine 04730

SAAM appreciates your support!

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Becoming a member does not obligate you to any volunteer position, but it does help us fulfill the dream of :

“Cultivating the Heritage of the County”

Please complete the form below to enjoy free admittance to the museum and help support a great cause. We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, operated solely by volunteers.

- Single Membership \$20
- Family Membership \$30
- Sodbuster \$50
- Thresher \$100
- Farmer of the Year \$250
- Single Lifetime—\$500
- Couple Lifetime--\$750
- Additional donation for:

Date _____

Name _____

Business _____

Address _____

City/Town _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Send to: SAAM,304 Campbell Road
Littleton, Maine 04730

c/o Barry Campbell

Or pay online

www.southernroostookagriculturalmuseum.org

OFFICERS

- PRESIDENT..Paul Klein.....521-1874
- V.PRESIDENT.....Francis Fitzpatrick..... 538-0050
- TREASURER.....Debbie Campbell.....538-9583
- SECRETARY.....Debbie Melvin.....538- 9604

COMMITTEES

- Buildings & Grounds..Colby Shaw.....694-0824*
- Paul Klein.....521 -1874.*
- EVENTS / Rae Johnston.....538-9402*
- Contact Debbie Campbell to reserve museum..... 538-9583*
- HISTORIAN /open for volunteer*
- PUBLICITY /Karen Donato..... 694-6099*
- Displays/decorating..NancyWright...538-8905*
- Karen Donato..694-6099*
- TRANSPORTATION OF DONATED ITEMS:**
- Francis Fitzpatrick.....538-0050*
- MUSEUM.....538-9300*

www.southernroostookagriculturalmuseum.org

E-mail— southernroostookmuseum@gmail.com

We are now on Facebook—check us out!

Southern Aroostook Agricultural Museum



S.A.A.M

304 Campbell Road
Littleton, ME 04730