



Southern Aroostook Agricultural Museum

"A museum by the people, for the people"

"We are an equal opportunity provider"

By Karen Donato

Look for your renewal date on your
mailing label.

Mailing address: 304 Campbell Road
Littleton, Maine 04730

Tel: 207-538-9300

Email: countymuseum@hotmail.com

www.countymuseum.net

Facebook

Southern Aroostook Ag. Museum

Our resident builder, Colby



Colby Shaw has been busy this spring building a set of steps for visitors to be able to access the Oshkosh snowplow truck in the Cole Building. Trying the steps out and taking a turn in the driver's seat is Colby's grandson, Rory.



New museum sign

Our new Daktronics LED sign has been installed and is informing folks of current happenings at the museum and in the town. Condon Signs from Mapleton installed it. Now, we are learning how to operate it.

We have a winner ...



Brandi Perry of Haynesville receives the keys to the lawn tractor she won by buying a ticket at the Houlton Trade Show in Houlton. Presenting the keys is President Paul Klein. Our thanks to everyone who supported this raffle. We raised \$3,500 to help with our expenses.



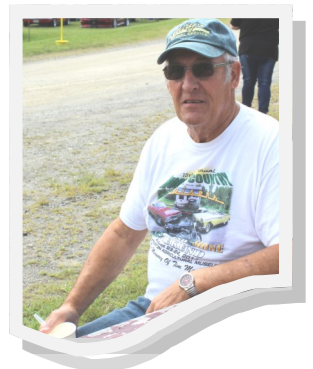
We are glad to have our volunteers back at our suppers. From left: Rae Johnston, Allison and Kelly Little with Sheila Cowperthwaite.



Francis Fitzpatrick is being interviewed by WHOU'S Chris Putnam, talking about some of the upcoming events at the museum.



Getting the Ross School ready to paint and complete the flower garden in memory of George Smith, one of our volunteers who was also a generous donor. Nancy Wright and others are working to complete this project for the summer season.



Another piece of history ...

Having been with the museum since the beginning stages, I have cleaned, tagged and recorded a lot of items now on display throughout the museum. One such item that's been around several years is this Maine potato figurine. As one catalogues each artifact you think about looking for more information to add to the description, but for some strange reason there never seems to be that extra time to do it. A few weeks ago, as I sifted through another group of donated items I came across a folder with a picture that looked familiar. From that folder I learned that this was a bottle collecting club. I think you might enjoy a little bit of this history.

"Kentucky's finest little distillery invites you to join in the fun and rewards of collecting Ezra Brooks Heritage China Ceramic Bottles. The year was 1837, the place Aroostook County in northern Maine. Wintery winds sliced through the country air on that typical January evening. Smoke billowed from the stone chimney of a lone, quiet farmhouse. Following that gray cloud down, one could hear the crackle and smell the clean fragrance of pine logs in the open hearth. A well scrubbed iron kettle hung in the fireplace divulging its aromatic contents to the curious noses of the pioneer family. Hot and spicy potato soup! The last half-dozen potatoes from the burlap sack in the cellar had gone into this meal so it was noted that another hundred pound bag would be needed from the storehouse. This was, in part, the beginning of what was to become the potato industry of Maine. An industry that had its roots in the cool mountain highlands of Peru. Spanish conquerors found the forerunners thriving in that region and brought them back to Europe in the early 1500s. During the first part of the 16th century, potatoes were introduced to America in the colony of Virginia. Subsequently, Sir Walter Raleigh, upon returning to England, brought with him a cargo of potatoes that was destined to become the basic food of Ireland. And it is from Ireland, early in the 19th century that the potato once again journeyed to America. This time to settle in the rolling countryside of Maine. Maine provided the climate—bright, warm, summer days and cool, crisp, summer nights that would account for the growth of a vast agricultural industry. Bold, hearty pioneers turned to the potato as an important new crop. And years later when the train came in, the potato went out. The entire east coast was enjoying the delicious Maine Potato and clamoring for more. And as the demand grew, so did Maine's ever increasing potato crop. Growing with it was the vast truck and rail transportation system which it spawned. Soon Maine potatoes were the number one agricultural crop in the state. Over thirty-six billion pounds were grown every year and distributed throughout the entire eastern half of our nation. Potato farming has become big business as have the related fields of transportation and potato processing. Ezra Brooks proudly salutes the State of Maine and its potato industry. An industry that has contributed to the well-being of millions of Americans. Strengthening not only the economy of a great state, but the economy of our nation. Our loveable, little Maine potato is filled with our select stock, 12 years old, 90 proof, Real Sippin' Whiskey. This genuine Heritage China ceramic is our way of saying, "thank you". The molds have been destroyed and no more will be made. As grows Maine. So grows the Nation!"



Items from Jewel Bros.in Monticello.



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. There are several things that need to be framed, maybe some outside painting, or organizing our repair room area. If you like to cook, please 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 : Harry Currier, Sis Miller, Roger McBride, Earl Farrar and Saddie Carmichael.

Upcoming Events

July 16...Colby's oven roasted barbecued chicken

August 27—Roast Beef Supper

August 28—North Country Cruisers Classic Car and Truck Show

Suppers are \$10 per person. 4:30 p.m. to 6

Projects in the works: Scraping and painting Ross School, George's Garden, looking into updated Security System.

Let us know if you can help.

Open for tours; Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 1 p.m. to 4, or by appt./ \$5 per person.

Please send your 2022 membership dues to:
S.A.A.M. 304 Campbell Road Littleton, ME 04730.
Thank you for supporting us during these unique times.

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 26 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

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT..Paul Klein.....521-1874

V.PRESIDENT.....Francis Fitzpatrick.....538-0050

TREASURER.....Debbie Campbell.....538-9583

SECRETARY.....Debbie Melvin.....538- 9604

COMMITTEES

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR....Nancy Wright 538-8905

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

TRANSPORTATION OF DONATED ITEMS:

Francis Fitzpatrick.....538-0050

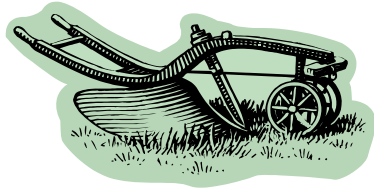
MUSEUM.....538-9300

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We are now on Facebook—check us out!

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