



1664 US Highway 1 Littleton, Maine

# *Southern Aroostook Agricultural Museum*

*"A museum by the people, for the people"*

*April– June 2023*

*By Karen Donato*

*"We are an equal opportunity provider"*

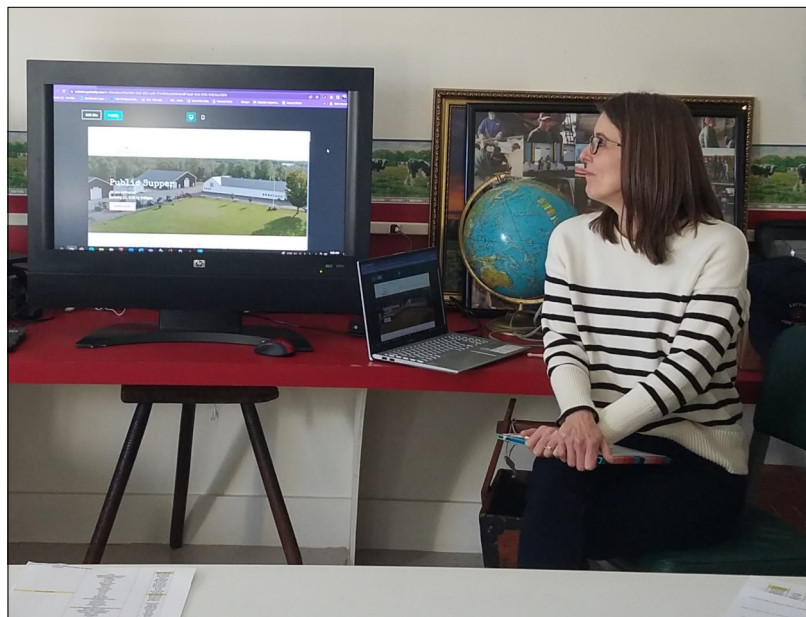
Our mailing address: 304 Campbell Road Littleton, Maine 04730 Tel: 207-538-9300

Email: [southernarostookmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:southernarostookmuseum@gmail.com) Web site address: [www.southernarostookagriculturalmuseum.org](http://www.southernarostookagriculturalmuseum.org)

Facebook [Southern Aroostook Agricultural Museum](#)

Look for your renewal date on your mailing label.

## Museum spotlights new website and Facebook page



The museum board of directors is happy to debut the new updated website and Facebook page for the museum. This is thanks to Tessa Campbell Burpee of Brewer. She has spent countless hours, along with Nancy Wright, developing the history of the museum since the 90s to this current year. She has gleaned information from earlier newspaper articles, incorporated videos previously done by Virtual Tech and interviewed current museum volunteers.

The website features a section allowing one to join and pay or renew their museum dues and to purchase raffle tickets for a current fundraiser. One can also donate memorials to this site. It also links to the Maine Memory Network documented photos.

The web address is: [www.southernarostookagriculturalmuseum.org](http://www.southernarostookagriculturalmuseum.org).

There is also a new Facebook page that will highlight upcoming events at the museum and a photo gallery.

We hope you will take a look at this new feature for the museum.



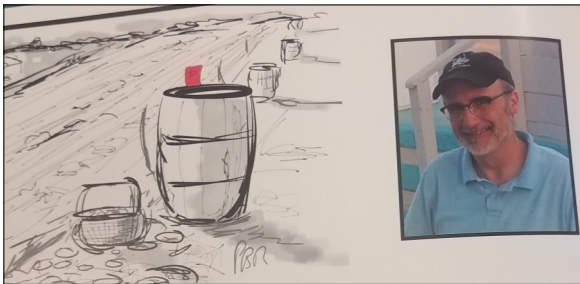
Many folks ask about this beautiful painting in our gymnasium. It originally hung in a local Houlton bank. When the bank closed, it was donated to us. The artist is Mark Edgecomb from the Fort Fairfield area. His works can be found in many County businesses.

Thank you

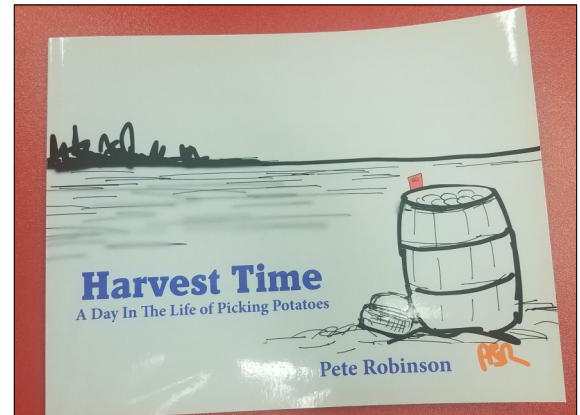
Our thanks to the Northern Maine Agricultural Foundation in conjunction with Farm Credit East for their \$1,500 donation. This group has volunteered in the past to help with Spring cleaning at the museum.

## “Harvest Time”

‘A day in the life of picking potatoes’



Pete Robinson grew up in Fort Fairfield and now lives in Connecticut with his wife Jane and their three boys. He gets back to the County as often as he can. When not sketching, he enjoys playing the guitar.



An excerpt from the book:

“ Things are different these days. The world has sped up and picking by hand is mostly a thing of the past. There are fewer family farms , but I won’t forget the smell of the soil, the feel of the barrel and the sound of the digger rolling by. Harvest time will always be with us.”



## Remembering, Lois Eleiott and Nan Miller



Every volunteer at the museum finds their role. Some of us do a lot of jobs, some of us feel comfortable doing one. It takes every volunteer to keep our museum going. Since our opening in 2001, the group of original volunteers have slowly left us one by one. As I say, slowly, it really seems like it has happened all too fast. In this newsletter, we say good-bye to two of the last in that group. These volunteers I have known all my life. Lois was my mother and Nan was her best friend. They grew up just across the border in Canada and married Littleton boys, Ken Eleiott and Arnold Miller on March 22, 1944 in a double ceremony.

Through the early years of the museum, mom could be found with a broom, a mop, some window cleaner or a paint brush. She later became the one who greeted the guests as they trickled in for the monthly suppers. She had a chat with everyone who came through the door. Lately, she didn't make it to the suppers as often, but even last fall, she was right around visiting friends and neighbors.

On February 3, my mom passed away at Madigan Estates. She was just three months, 26 days shy of her 100th birthday. We will celebrate a life well lived on Sunday, May 28th at 2 p.m. at the Littleton Cemetery with a reception here at the museum. We hope you will join us that day. Please consider a donation in her memory to the museum or the Houlton High School Sports Booster Club. 7 Bird Street, Houlton, ME 04730.

Nan, in the earlier days of the museum, contributed desserts for our suppers or worked on the dessert table. She and her husband, Arnie donated a potato grader and other items for our displays. Ironically, both Nan and mom spent time at Madigan Rehab before Christmas and then moved into long-term care as roommates. They got to reminisce about days gone by and give each other some comfort in recalling the days growing up in Canada.

On March 22, Nan, 99, followed my mom to celebrate their wedding anniversary in a land beyond. Our two families and the museum group will miss these two kind-hearted souls, but will cherish the memories we have. Nan's service was held on April 1. Donations were designated to the Agricultural Museum and the Greater Houlton Christian Academy, 27 School St. Houlton, ME 04730.

## Bob Bartlett



We are also saying good-bye to Bob Bartlett. Bob was a longtime Littleton resident and supporter of our museum. He was also a collector of Massey Ferguson and Massey Harris Tractors. We were lucky to have several of them on display one summer. His collection has been included in many magazine articles.

Here they are celebrating Mom's 99th birthday in May 2022 at Lakeside Restaurant.



## Spring raffle tickets \$10 each

Win a Cub Cadet XTI, 46 inch mower or \$1,000 cash

Tickets available online, Littleton Pit Stop, at the Houlton Trade Fair or from museum officers. Thank you for supporting this project.

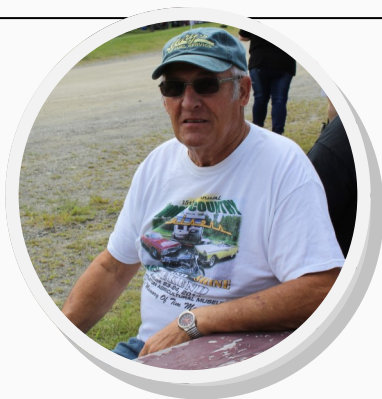


## Please lend a hand

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.

## In memory of George Smith

We are in the midst of finalizing plans and securing funding for an addition in memory of George Smith on the west side of the Carl & Helen Hagan Barn. George was a very active volunteer and supported our mission of preserving the past for future generations. Construction will begin this summer.



## Memory Corner

Memorial donations received recently in memory of:  
Gary Tingley, Clarence Jacques, Lois Eleiott, Nan Miller, Bob Bartlett, Florence Nason and Paul Swimm.

## Upcoming Events

April 15—Turkey Supper 4:30 to 6.....\$10 per person  
April 15 & 16 .....Trade Show at Millar Arena in Houlton  
May 20—SAAM Supper—Lasagna  
June 16, 17—Yard Sale for Littleton Playground  
July 15—SAAM supper

Please send your 2023 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.southernaroostookagriculturalmuseum.org](http://www.southernaroostookagriculturalmuseum.org)

**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...Jane Nicholson 207-538-8206 and 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**

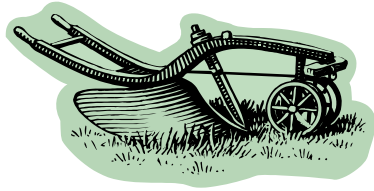
**MUSEUM.....538-9300**

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E-mail— [southernaroostookagmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:southernaroostookagmuseum@gmail.com)

We are now on Facebook—check us out!

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