



MAM News

November
2017

The Newsletter of the Manitoba Agricultural Museum

President's Message

Across the world change has been a constant in 2017. The same is true for the museum. As your interim President, I'd like to let you know how the board is managing change to our governance model and operational processes to ensure a positive and sustainable future for the organization.

In November 2017, the board of directors reorganized its leadership team to ensure the long-term growth and sustainability of the Manitoba Agricultural Museum. With this goal in mind, Mr. Robert Beamish resigned from the position of President of the Board of Directors and now serves as second Vice-President. Until the end of the current executive term in April 2018, I will serve as interim President and Mr. Gerry Currie as First Vice-President.

As part of the leadership change, the board also expanded the Executive Committee to five members by creating the positions of Board Secretary and Treasurer. This will align us with industry best practices and helps implement governance changes recommended in the museum's Institutional Plan conducted by Stantec Consulting in 2016. A full listing of members of the Board of Directors and their roles is included on pages 2 and 3.

Earlier this year museum members also voted to change the director election system to create a more inclusive process. As a result, 2018 will be the first year all members have the opportunity to vote regardless of their ability to attend the Annual General Meeting. Details on the new process can be found on page 2.

On the operations side, the organization also experienced staffing changes in the past several months. We would like to thank Georgette Hutlet, our Executive Director for the past three years, for her service to the organization. We also want to thank Marvin Morris, who completed a term position as office assistant on August 1st, 2017, for his contributions over the past year. We wish both of them every success with the next step of their careers.

The need for a more consistent and larger water supply is growing. To resolve this issue the museum connected to the municipal water system this fall. The connection was cost-shared with the municipal and provincial governments. The museum paid for its portion of the costs from the proceeds of the 2016 RCMP Musical Ride performance.

Amidst the many changes of the last year, the steadfast commitment of our most important supporters—the museum membership—has been constant. The success of the museum's long list of annual events and programs is only possible due to the many volunteers who provide their time to come out and help with live interpretation for visitors young and old. This list includes a very successful 63rd Manitoba Threshermen's Reunion and Stampede whose attendance was 25% above the long term average. THANK YOU for all your hard work throughout 2017 to preserve our heritage—we could not have done it without you.

I look forward to seeing everyone in 2018!

Angie Klym

President, Manitoba Agricultural Museum

Finance Committee

by Don Wadge

In June, Ray Tolton who was serving as Finance Chair made the decision that for medical reasons he would resign from the Board of Directors. I joined the board in March of this year and following Ray's resignation was appointed Finance Chair. I have been a financial controller for over 35 years and for the past 4+ months I have been becoming familiar with the Museum's finances and procedures and chairing the Finance Committee. It is a pleasure to work with such dedicated and knowledgeable committee members. The Finance Committee members are Cathy Christofferson, Gerald Dueck, and Gloria Sims.

Presently we have been wrapping up information and reports from our 2017 summer season and the 2017 Threshermen's Reunion as well as closing off the Harvesting Hope project with the Canada Food Grains Bank. Book and video sales have been very successful. The 2017 Threshermen's Reunion was quite successful in most all respects when compared with the 2015 Reunion. Revenues were up and the return to the Museum from Reunion was substantially more than budgeted.

The Finance Committee remains mindful in working toward enhancing our position of funds available for staffing and promotion/marketing. We are often short-staffed in areas which could bring the Museum forward. Researching, applying for and administering grants is time consuming but worthwhile, and we need to put more resources toward promotion and awareness of the

Museum in order to increase visitation. All of this is circular in rewards. Increased awareness brings visitors, visitors make us more valuable to tourism, all of this brings more revenue, donations and grants etc., etc..

More and more we are looking to match funds; i.e. if someone or an organization offers to sponsor a project, the museum will match funds to accomplish the project. This year on recommendation of the Finance Committee the Board set aside all of the over-budget income from the Threshermen's Reunion for these purposes.

All in all I would say the Museum is on as good a financial footing as it has been in recent years. In an organization such as this there is always any number of projects waiting to be funded. Preserving the past is what we do and in addition to all the volunteer help it also costs money. With careful and mindful financial forecasting and when money is available, we have the opportunity to have projects funded.

I look forward to doing my part along with all members to bring our museum forward.

Board of Directors

Angie Klym (President) is a Treasury Specialist with the Royal Bank of Canada. Angie joined the board in August 2017 with her term expiring in March 2020.

Gerry Currie (First Vice President) A lifelong resident of Austin, MB who works as loss control manager for the Portage Mutual Insurance Company. A strong believer in community development, Gerry has been Chief of the Austin Fire Department for the past 25 years and currently serves on the board of Stride Credit Union. Gerry joined the MAM board in August 2017 with his term expiring in March 2018.

Robert Beamish (Second Vice President) Since 1970 Robert has been a volunteer, his family joining him as

active museum volunteers in 1977. From Hamiota, MB, Robert works at Prairie Mountain Health at the Hamiota Health Center and runs the family farm. He has been a board member since February 1990 with his current term expiring in March 2019.

Don Wadge (Treasurer & Finance Chair) is a professional controller with 35 years' experience in industrial manufacturing businesses in Winnipeg, MB. With a passion for preserving the history of Manitoba's famous Versatile farm machinery. Don joined the board in 2017 with his term expiring in March 2020.

Gordon Goldsborough (Secretary) is the Head Researcher, Webmaster, and a Past President of the Manitoba Historical Society, and Production Coordinator of *Manitoba History* magazine. He is a member of the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Manitoba, and Chair of the Manitoba Water Council. Gordon joined the board in August 2017 with his term expiring in March 2019.

Brad Moorehead From Douglas, MB, Brad is an active community volunteer and museum member. He joined the board in 1998 with 18 years served in that time. His term expires in March 2019.

Cory Christison is a third-generation museum volunteer with a strong interest in gas tractors. From Brandon, MB, Cory works for Kal-Tire and spends his summer weekends on the road as the race announcer for the Manitoba Pro Chuckwagon & Chariot Association. Cory joined the board in 2007 with his term expiring in March 2018.

Darin Smith is a small business owner with expertise in the services industries for the past 30 years. His current business is automotive restoration, sales, and business planning in Oakbank, MB. Darin joined the board in August 2017 with his term expiring in March 2020.

Dennis Pohl is an industrial mechanic and owner of DGP Industrial Solutions. He first joined the board in 1998

2018 Board of Directors – Call for nominations

Earlier this year museum members voted to change the museum by-law to create a more inclusive director election process by allowing advanced voting for those not able to attend the Annual General Meeting.

Members interested in serving on the Board of Directors may contact the board's Nominating Committee by emailing agmuseum-elections@mymts.net with any questions or information requests on the roles and responsibilities of board members. Members of the 2017 Nominating Committee are Angie Klym, Erron Leafloor, Darin Smith, and Don Wadge.

Nominations should include a résumé or 400-word biography, picture, and a completed nomination form, which members can request by emailing agmuseum-elections@mymts.net.

**Submission deadline is
4:30 pm, Tuesday, January 2, 2018**

To ensure the integrity of the voting process, the museum will contract an independent third party with expertise in elections management to oversee the process. More information on this process will be provided in February 2018.

serving many terms throughout. He is also the Manitoba Agricultural Museum’s resident volunteer with his term expiring in March 2018.

Erron Leafloor is a professional agricultural engineer. While working for manufacturing firms across the Prairies, Erron has had the opportunity to volunteer with and build relationships with Western Canada’s largest agricultural museums. Originally from Killarney, MB, Erron joined the board in August 2017 with his term expiring in March 2020.

Glenn Lennox retired in 2010 after a 30-year career as a policy analyst with Agriculture Canada. He continues as a partner in Lennox Farms and his interests include genealogy, videography, antique cars and snowmobiles in addition to antique farm machinery. From Rivers, MB, Glenn rejoined the board in September 2017 with his term expiring in March 2018.

Greg McConnell From Birnie, MB Greg runs a cattle and grain farming operation with his wife Cheryl and son John. A strong community organizer, Greg is a councilor for the Rural Municipality of Glenella-Lansdowne and serves on the board of Beautiful Plains Credit Union where he has sat on the Audit and Human Resources committees. Greg joined the board in August 2017 with his term expiring in March 2019.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Volunteers

The success of the museum’s annual calendar of events is largely attributed to the many volunteers who provide their time to come out and help with live interpretation for visitors young and old. A sincere thank you to those persons for your continued support. If you would like to assist with these volunteer opportunities, please refer to the calendar of events on the museum website or within this newsletter for event types/dates. Contact the museum office by email or phone to let us know how you can help.

We’d like to express our sincerest gratitude to all of the hard working volunteers who made our 2017 Reunion & Stampede event a HUGE SUCCESS! At the 2017 Reunion, we hosted a new volunteer report in center. The goal being to provide member volunteers with a central location to offer their availability for reunion related duties and for reunion area chairs to fill remaining time slots in their schedules. A volunteer questionnaire was provided which helped identify volunteer skillsets allowing them the preference on when and where they donate their time. It also allowed long time members to experience new volunteer opportunities and work alongside fellow

Winter Wonderland

*“It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas ... everywhere you go ...”
and especially at the Museum!*

The holiday lights are going up and preparations are being made for this year’s Winter Wonderland.

December 8, 9, 10 and December 15, 16, 17

4:00 to 8:00 pm

\$8.00 / vehicle, bus groups \$2.50 / person

Free horse drawn sleigh rides (weather permitting), plus games for young and old alike. A bonfire to keep warm and roast hotdogs will be ready to enjoy. Hot chocolate, coffee or tea available at reasonable prices.

Bring your family and friends and create an old-fashioned Christmas memory.



members making new friendships. Visit the museum website under the “Membership” page to complete your volunteer questionnaire for 2018’s Museum Events and Reunion related volunteer opportunities.

Homesteaders Village

Over the year, the Mekiwin Manor, General Store and Gristmill all received a new coat of paint. A tree has been planted in the opening between the two log houses for visitors to sit and enjoy a shady spot. The base of the water pump has also been replaced.

During Reunion we had a new attraction in the village—razor shaves in the Barber Shop! There were also some repairs done to the Katrime Station that I would like to thank those who did it. I really appreciate the time and effort volunteers put into both things.

Looking ahead to projects in 2018, we plan to paint the Centreville School and Blacksmith Shop. We are in the early stages of talking about doing a winter theme in the village next season.

I would like to take this time to thank all the wonderful volunteers who look after buildings in the village. The time that you spend cleaning, setting up, and putting things away in the fall are greatly appreciated.

Lynda Campbell-Hawley
Village Chairperson

Memorial Wall Garden

The grounds around the memorial wall are shaping up thanks to the hard work of the committees efforts. Special thanks to Leo Scheer, flagpoles were installed, along with benches, grass and lighting. His dedication to the memorial wall is greatly appreciated. The brickwork is an ongoing process.

If you know of a person or persons that have volunteered with the museum and are no longer with us, please bring their name forward to the office with a one hundred dollar inscription fee. These persons are our families, friends,

Holiday Wishes

The Board of Directors extends their warmest wishes for a bright and happy holiday season and best wishes for the New Year.

The museum office will be closed for the holidays from Thursday, December 21st to Wednesday, January 3rd.

and/or founders of our great museum. The importance and respect to past volunteers should not be forgotten.

If anyone wants to sponsor a wall plaque on the memorial wall, contact the office. Attention: Leo Scheer or Darin Smith.

Heritage Harvest Project

In 2017, the museum entered into a new partnership with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB) called the Heritage Harvest Growing Project. Instead of renting out the museum’s 70-acre field at the southern end of the property, a new local committee formed to farm the land and share the proceeds 50:50 with the museum and CFGB. The new partnership is expected to double the museum’s annual revenues from the land.

This year, the committee grew soybeans that yielded extremely well considering growing considerations—39 bushels per acre. Thanks to the generosity of local in-kind supporters and the tireless effort of committee volunteers, the museum and CFGB both received a \$10,000 contribution in 2017!

Tractor & Equipment

The engine is back in the four-wheel-drive Massey Harris tractor and it will run again in 2018. We were fortunate to acquire a large number of tractors, including a rare Graham Bradley and an eight horsepower Macleod Stationary Engine.

The tractor and equipment committee would like to thank the members and volunteers for their continued commitment to the museum. Without your efforts, we couldn’t put on the world class show and display that we do!

Horsepower

Once again the working horses took an active role at the Threshermen’s Reunion. We had ten teams partaking daily in numerous demonstrations.

Field work consisted of mowing, raking, and plowing with a pull behind cart for visitors to ride on and baling using a horse sweep.

Four teams were used in the main arena for the threshing competition while two other teams raked up left over straw and sheaves and delivered refreshments to the Threshermen.

We were also quite busy giving guided horse drawn tours through the pioneer village. Thanks to Melissa Fleury for organizing this very popular activity.

This winter, if weather permits we will have a team available for the Winter Wonderland weekends on December 8,

9, 10 and 15, 16, 17. This is a great way to see the lights spread throughout the museum and pioneer village.

Heather Manns

Volunteer Campground

Efforts are underway to provide improvements toward the volunteer campsite areas within the museum. The committee co-chairs are working toward implementation of an online campground reservation service. The pilot project will begin in March 2018 for campground areas A, B, C & D.

Volunteer campers will also see an addition of campground signage on the grounds in next year's camping season. This will help guide volunteer campers to their sites, identify designated vehicle & trailer parking, overflow camping, and more.

Future plans have also begun toward a site identification legend for the entire volunteer camping within the museum grounds. Preliminary walkabouts were completed this past summer and work continues toward numbering each campsite on the grounds.

We are looking for campground hosts for each volunteer reserved area of A, C & D to serve on the volunteer campground committee. Interested parties should contact campground co-chairs Darin Smith or Angie Klym with their interest.

Oakview Souvenir Store

Thank you to all who have supported Oakview in the past year. We have many small items and a variety of videos that would make great stocking stuffers for the passionate agricultural people in our families. Visit us during the week. Everyone needs a new t-shirt, and we have such a rainbow of colors, I am sure you will find one to suit you. All Harvesting Hope shirts are now only \$5.00.

Some new items in stock include a cold drink cozy featuring the Sawyer Massey, Big Roy mugs, or what about a Waterloo Boy Hat. My favorite items are the notecards by Glen Nowell.

If you have ideas for the gift shop, please share them with us and watch for Steam Engine Coal next summer.

**Rosalie Beamish and
Barbara Schellenberg**

Yard Report

A David Brown 885 tractor with like-new tires and only 1700 hours has been donated and will serve as the new yard tractor on the grounds. A project to upgrade the yard

lights to LED has begun. Three lights have been completed to date.

Winter preparations are complete with the water lines drained and washrooms are closed up. All of the campers with paid winter storage have been tucked away in the Heritage building.

A two-inch town water line has been pushed underground from highway 34 to the shop. Water will be hooked up in the spring.

Dennis Pohl

Manitoba Threshermen's Reunion & Stampede

Many member volunteers and visiting exhibitors showcased their John Deere tractors & equipment to make the 2017 feature an "in-field of green" success. Thank you to Scott Alton for chairing the expo. We welcomed over 12,500 visitors over the four days and exhibitors from outside of the province. With over 700 memberships issued in 2017, a lot of volunteer hours were once again put in to make the show successful. We'd like to extend a special "thanks" to you, the members, who step in and volunteer to keep the many activities running for our visitors to enjoy. Thank you to the steam group who put on a wonderful sparks show on the Friday night. Our daily pioneer power parade is the best in the world thanks to our many horse, gas, and steam volunteers. The variety of food offered through the food booths made sure no one went away hungry. We celebrated Canada 150 and Big Roy's 40th Anniversary with cake & coffee. We were entertained at the gazebo, we danced the night away at the Corn & Barley Corral, and enjoyed allot of visiting with good friends once again.

Heartfelt thanks are extended to Dwayne Moorehead for chairing the Reunion committee over the past few years. We welcome Gerry Currie as the incoming Reunion Chair, and Erin Klym-Massey as Expo co-chair.

Plans for the 2018 Reunion and Expo featuring International Harvester are well underway. We are excited to welcome the Western Canada IH Collectors Club Chapter 38 who will be hosting their annual show at our 2018 Expo – it is going to be another amazing show!

Check out the Reunion website www.mtrs.ca periodically; more details will be added as they become available.

Rosalie A. Beamish
Vice- chair, Reunion Committee

2018 Calendar of Events

February 19 th	Louis Riel Day	July 14/15 th	Summer Work Weekend
March 16 th	Sponsor Appreciation	July 26-29 th	64 th Annual Threshermen's Reunion & Stampede
March 17 th	Annual General Meeting (Austin Hall)	August 11 th	Tractor Put-Away Day
May 12 th	Manitoba Day	September 16 th	Open Farm Day
May 13 th	Mother's Day Quilt Show	September 22/23 rd	Fall Work Weekend
May 14 - June 22	Hands-On School Tours	September 23 rd	Curiosities & Collectibles Flea Market
May 26/27 th	Spring Work Weekend	September 30 th	Last open day for Village in 2018
June 6 th	Seniors' Day	December ??	Winter Wonderland
July 7/8 th	Summer Work Weekend		

Revenue Generation Committee

Revenue generation is a prime focus of the current board. Enhancement of our future depends on it. In recent years there has been much more effort put into revenue generation and the work is giving rewards. Increasingly we are gaining supporters and sponsors who see the value the work of the museum creates in our society, a focal point from which to contemplate the simpler times, a few hours to learn about our past, our ancestors, the pioneers, to a great few days at the annual Threshermen's Reunion where we can see these old machines in operation, have a beer with friends and old friends in the beer garden, take a stroll through the village, listen to great country music and bar-b-que back at our campsite.

The Museum is very grateful to our sponsors for their support. It supports what we do and we would be much less without it. Sponsorship however is also about giving back; and not so much about giving back as it should be about value. We try to give exposure, convey an image, and promote our sponsors. In order to do this we need volunteers with certain abilities. In order to bring a new sponsor on board we need to be able to show them value, they need to know they are seen as supporting their social responsibility, perhaps that they have a certain product available, that they support a cause etc. The Revenue

Generation Committee needs some help in this area. If you feel you have abilities that bring people into ideas, convince people to join. I didn't want to say it but can you sell? Then we need you. Call Don Wadge 204-488-6127 or Gloria Sims 204-685-2237.

Don Wadge

Acquisitions

Among the artifacts donated to The Manitoba Agricultural Museum during 2017, two stand out. Both are somewhat rare pieces, and have a strong Manitoba connection, with full history about their past use and ownership.

1. 1938 Graham Bradley Model 104 tractor

This unique tractor was donated by George and Lorna Webster of Lac du Bonnet, MB. It is complete, including the often-misplaced side panels, and requires only a paint job to be a showpiece.

2. MacLeod's stationary gas engine

The MacLeod's hardware store was a staple in most Manitoba towns, until the company went bankrupt in 1992. Cotter & Company then acquired it and changed its name to TruServ in 1999. RONA purchased TruServ in 2010 and changed the name to Ace Hardware in 2015. Lowes Canada purchased RONA in 2015. Through the corporate changes, a little engine named Macleod sat in the Winnipeg distribution centre office of what had become Ace Hardware.

This engine was originally sold by the MacLeod's store in Grunthal, MB, in about 1922, to a Mr. C. Falk. Fifty years later, Mr. Falk made the MacLeod's Company an interesting proposal. Read more about the Graham Bradley's history and the MacLeod's stationary gas engine story on our website under "Artifacts."

Manitoba Agricultural Museum

Box 10, Austin MB R0H 0C0
 204-637-2354 (phone) 204-637-2395 (fax)
 info@ag-museum.com (email)
 www.ag-museum.com