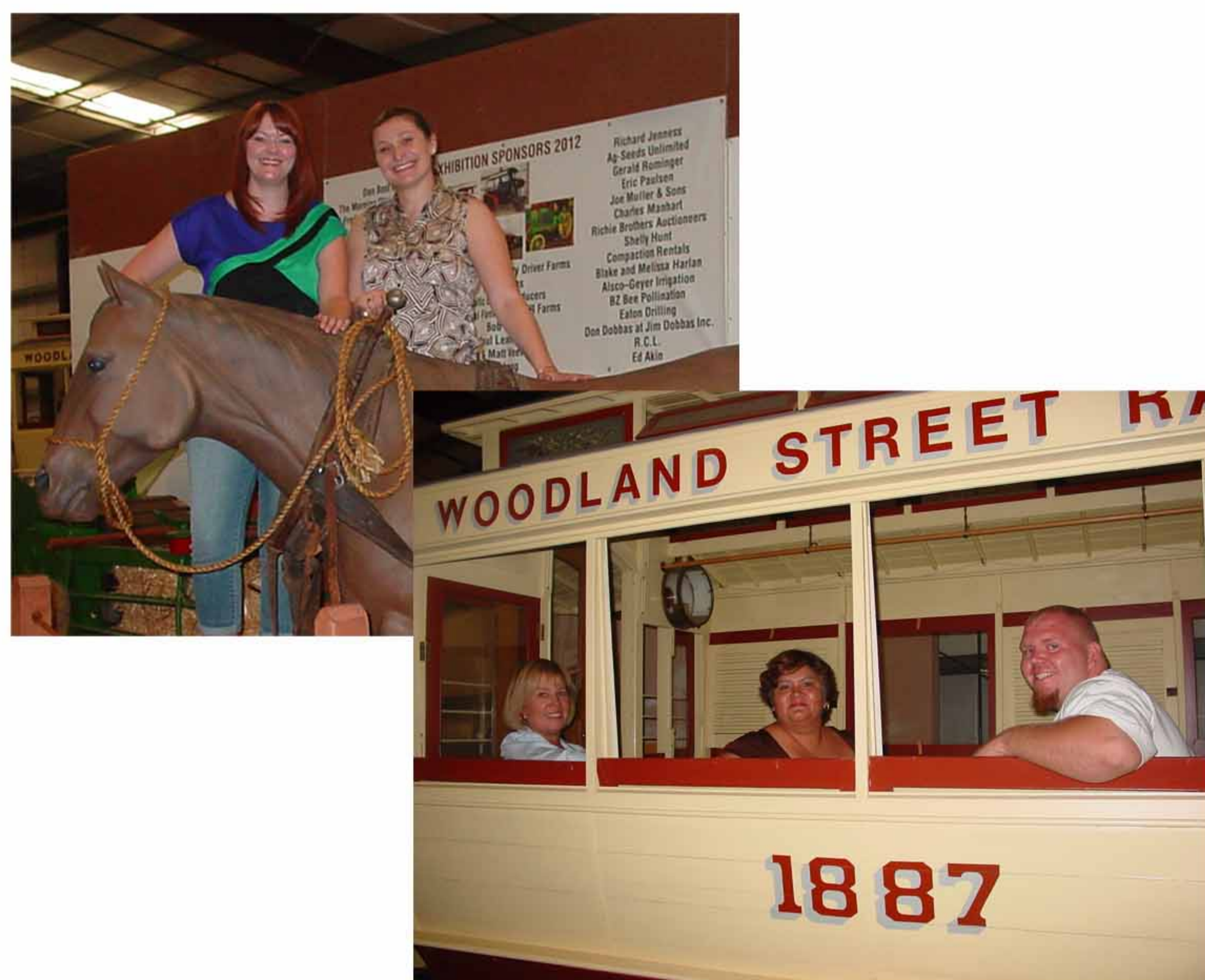




Fall 2012 Newsletter

Smiling Faces



Letter from the Director

by Lorili Ostman

We're smiling at the Heidrick Ag History Center. If you haven't seen us recently, I encourage you to stop by. You'll see the changes, including a new family series that begins on October 13th, **Second Saturday** from 11am to 1pm.

If you've met Rocio Rodriguez you know you'll be greeted by a smiling face. She has been here for more than 18 months. You may not know our midnight security and maintenance guy, Ray Tackaberry, but he has also been here for 18 months doing the behind the scenes work.

Two bright smiles are additions to the Center. Iulia Bodeanu is our new membership coordinator. Iulia brings museum experience from the Sonoma County Museum and recently acquired her Masters in Museum Studies from San Francisco State University. Rachael Ryen is the new event coordinator and she brings experience managing events at the History Center of San Luis Obispo County and for Event Marketing Creative.

Running a museum in this economic climate is akin to running a business. We pay rent, taxes, utilities, maintenance, and the various facets that make up a successful enterprise. We have balanced the budget and avoided loans. Regional leaders are helping us grow the museum bit by bit. Thanks to your generous support, we are also establishing an endowment to maintain the museum for the long haul.

Our successes are a result of determined leadership and regional support. We've made decisions to uphold the original vision of the museum, while broadening the ag tourism experience to the region, state and nation. Now we are launching new programs because we've listened to you. A **Second Saturday** family series (11am-1pm) begins on October 13, 2012. With a slight upcharge, these events are designed to create an exciting museum experience that furthers the **Culture of Agriculture** through demonstrations and new scholarship.

Join us!

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The Best of the Best

The Best Steamer arrives on Oct. 13th. *by Ed Claessen*

Steamed up and ready to go, the Best Steamer will arrive at the Heidrick Ag History Center on October 13th. On loan from the Joe Heidrick family, you'll be able to join us to see the Steamer driven into the museum at 12pm, after which it will be on view for six months. At 110 horsepower, this traction engine is one of the 13 steamers still in existence. The Steamer demonstration launches the Second Saturday educational family series, which runs through December.

The Best steam engine was pivotal to agriculture. It was developed by Daniel Best (b. 1838, d. 1923), one of the early pioneers who recognized the limitations and costs of live horse power. Through his ingenuity he developed innovations to improve the operation of machinery and reduced the cost of labor to farmers.

Daniel Best sought to refine the steam traction engine utilizing cylinders, pistons, connecting rods, a crankshaft, and a steam admission valve. However, he designed an upright boiler which powered the tractor by heating water over the fire to produce steam. The engine was designed with easy access to the fire box (where fuel was loaded), and the upright configuration enabled rapid steaming. Placing the water-filled boiler directly over the firebox reduced the potential for boiler explosions.

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AT A GLANCE

Model: Best 110 HP steam tractor engine

Weight: 34,000 lbs.

Front Steer Wheel: 5 ft. in diameter

Rear Drive Wheel: 8 ft. in diameter

Water Tank Capacity: 940 gallons

Upright Boiler: 5 ft. 10 in. tall, 48 in. diameter

Speed: 2.5 to 3 mph

Uses approx. 300 gallons of water per hour

Cost in 1906: \$5,000 to \$6,000, including harvester

Average expenses per day to operate in 1906:

Average Running Time: 10 hours

Engineer: \$5.00

Fireman: \$2.50

Lubricating oil for engine: \$0.50

7 barrels of oil @ \$1.25 \$8.75

(294 gallons)

Wear and Tear \$2.00

Total Cost: \$18.75

See the Best Steamer in person
on Oct. 13th from 11am to 1pm!



From the Caterpillar Century by Eric. C. Orlemann
Motorbooks International, 2003, St. Paul, MN.



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The Best of the Best continued...

Other steam traction engine manufacturers, like the Russell Company (also on display at the museum) employed a horizontal or locomotive style boiler. Traveling downhill with a horizontal boiler would cause the water to rush forward leaving the metal plate between the water and fire, called the crown sheet, exposed to the direct heat from the firebox. If the engineer wasn't attentive when the engine returned to level ground, the water would flow back over the overhead metal creating an explosion of immense proportions.

By contrast, Daniel Best used the boiler as part of the framework of the tractor. A steel frame carried the boiler, engine and water supply tank. The three-wheeled design balanced the heavy boiler while the large rear drive wheels provided traction. By placing the horizontal water tank near the front of the tractor and adding a single front wheel that was responsive to the steering mechanism, the tractor became more maneuverable. While the steam tractor had no transmission, the motion forward or reverse was determined by the orientation of the steam valve.

Daniel Best produced the largest 110 horsepower engine. While the standard practice among steam engine builders was to use 150 pounds of pressure per square inch, Best utilized 200 pounds of pressure square inch. More power meant more maneuverability. It is no wonder that by 1915 Best dominated the agriculture machinery market.

FROM THE 1906 BEST 110 HP CATALOGUE:

"The Best steam traction engines work equally as well over mountain roads, with heavy grades, as on the level and have been in constant use on the Pacific Coast for logging, hauling lumber and ores, and steam freighting generally; also for plowing, harrowing and pulling combined harvesters. In the matter of strength, durability, simplicity of construction, workmanship, ease of handling, quality and the many kinds of heavy draft work they are capable of doing, they take place in the front rank of all competitors."

Second Saturday Family Series

Oct. 13, 2012 11am-1pm (\$5 kids/ \$7 members/ \$10 general)

Best Steamer Demonstration

110 Horsepower Best Steamer arrives on loan from the Joe Heidrick Family

Woodland's Got Talent: Scarecrow Expo

To enter the Scarecrow Expo email membership@aghhistory.org

Nov. 10, 2012 11am-1pm (\$5 kids/ \$7 members/ \$10 general)

Early Ag Power: Horses in Agriculture

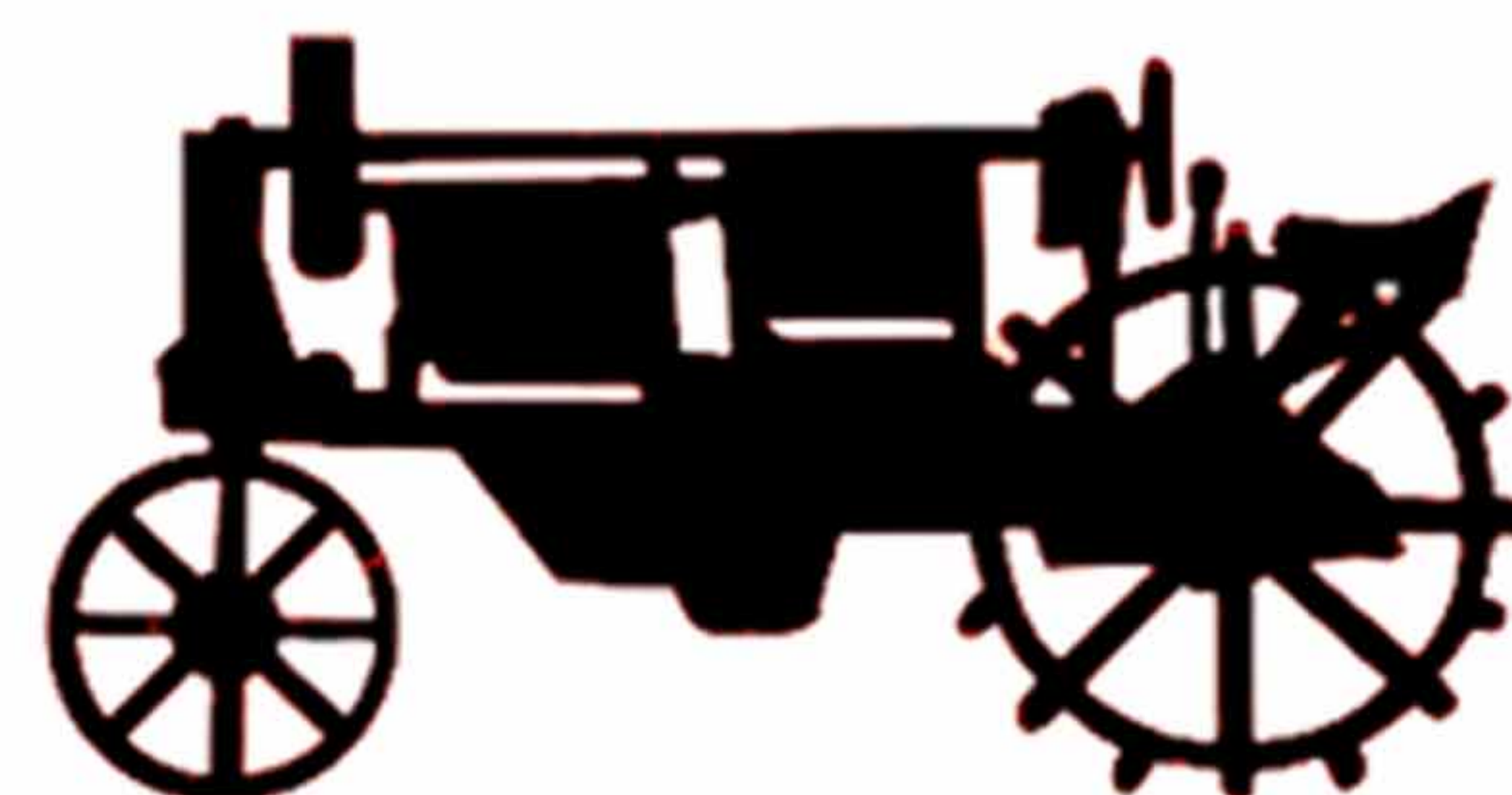
Discover what real horsepower means as horses and horse-drawn equipment will be demonstrated.

Dec. 8, 2012 11am-1pm (\$5 kids/ \$7 members/ \$10 general)

Santa Baby: Truck and Tractor Photos with Santa

Bring the family and take a picture with Santa on a truck or tractor!

Bring an ornament to decorate the community Christmas tree.





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The Seeds of Agriculture

The Clipper Seed Cleaner Story *by Jerry Hueter*

Harvesting and cleaning seeds, and the machinery used to do so, are just as vital as the machinery used to harvest crops. The Heidrick Ag History Center's collection boasts a 1902 A.T. Ferrell & Co. "Clipper" Seed Cleaner. The piece is nestled in the museum next to the Holt self-propelled combine harvester.

Seed cleaners provide a method to separate seeds vital to producing agricultural seeds free of weeds. Historically, debris which was picked up during harvest was run through a grain separator and planted in the following season to produce future crops for human and animal consumption.

The clipper seed cleaner at the museum is powered by an old style 55 HP General Electric motor with a full speed load rating of 1130 RPM. Stenciled on the Clipper is the first patent date of July 10, 1879. Revision dates for the model were in 1892 and 1902, establishing it as an early model.

Later versions of the clipper cleaner, dated to the 1920s were equipped with a metal pulley and v-belt, which indicate that the clipper at the museum dates to 1902 because it has a wooden pulley system. The wide tapered wooden upper pulley and the reverse tapered lower pulley are unique features of the Clipper and allowed for producing the variable speeds necessary to control the amount of air used to shake the screens along the top of the machine. Grass seed and other smaller seeds required less forced air than larger seeds such as wheat and oats to filter through and blow the debris off the grain.

The museum's collection has just acquired another grain separator from Janet Johnston, which we will tell you about in the next newsletter. We also invite you to view this functioning grain separator at work as we provide a demonstration at a future Second Saturday event.





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The Restoration of the Sterling Truck

The Last of the Mochicans *by Bev Davis*



The 1953 Sterling Cabover Engine
Donated by the Crippen Family in
memory of Archie Crippen of
Fresno, CA.

James Fennimore Cooper's legendary novel "The Last of the Mohicans," originated the title as an expression, which often applies to one of the last remaining examples of a particular group or type.



With this idea in mind, the crew of volunteers approached the restoration of one of the newest acquisitions at the Heidrick Ag History Center, a rare 1953 Sterling White cab over diesel engine power truck. The Sterling motor truck dates to 1916 and was built in Milwaukee, WI. Over the years, this brand became renowned for its heavy hauling capabilities. The West Coast was one of the Sterling's most popular marketing areas.

The need for a cab over engine design originated in the Pacific Northwest but Sterling was not commonly known to embrace this design. In 1951 Sterling Motors was bought by the White Company of Cleveland, OH, and became White's Sterling Division. The Sterling Division produced heavy duty trucks in Cleveland, OH bearing the name Sterling White from 1952 until 1953 when the company dissolved. The Sterling truck, currently in the possession of the museum, was found in damaged condition by the late Archie Crippen of Fresno, CA. The truck was restored by Mr. Crippen and donated to the museum in his memory by his family.

Event Hall Rentals

'Tis the Season *by Rachel Ryen*



For many venues around the country September marks the winding down of "Wedding Season," that time between spring and fall when brides most heavily book their event locale due to the fair weather and blooming flowers. But the Heidrick Ag Center is not slowing down, in fact we are ramping up for the Christmas season! Many local businesses are planning on having their Christmas parties with us, and the Quinceaneras keep coming. We are already calendaring events for 2013, ranging in size from 50 to 400 people. It is going to be a festive year.

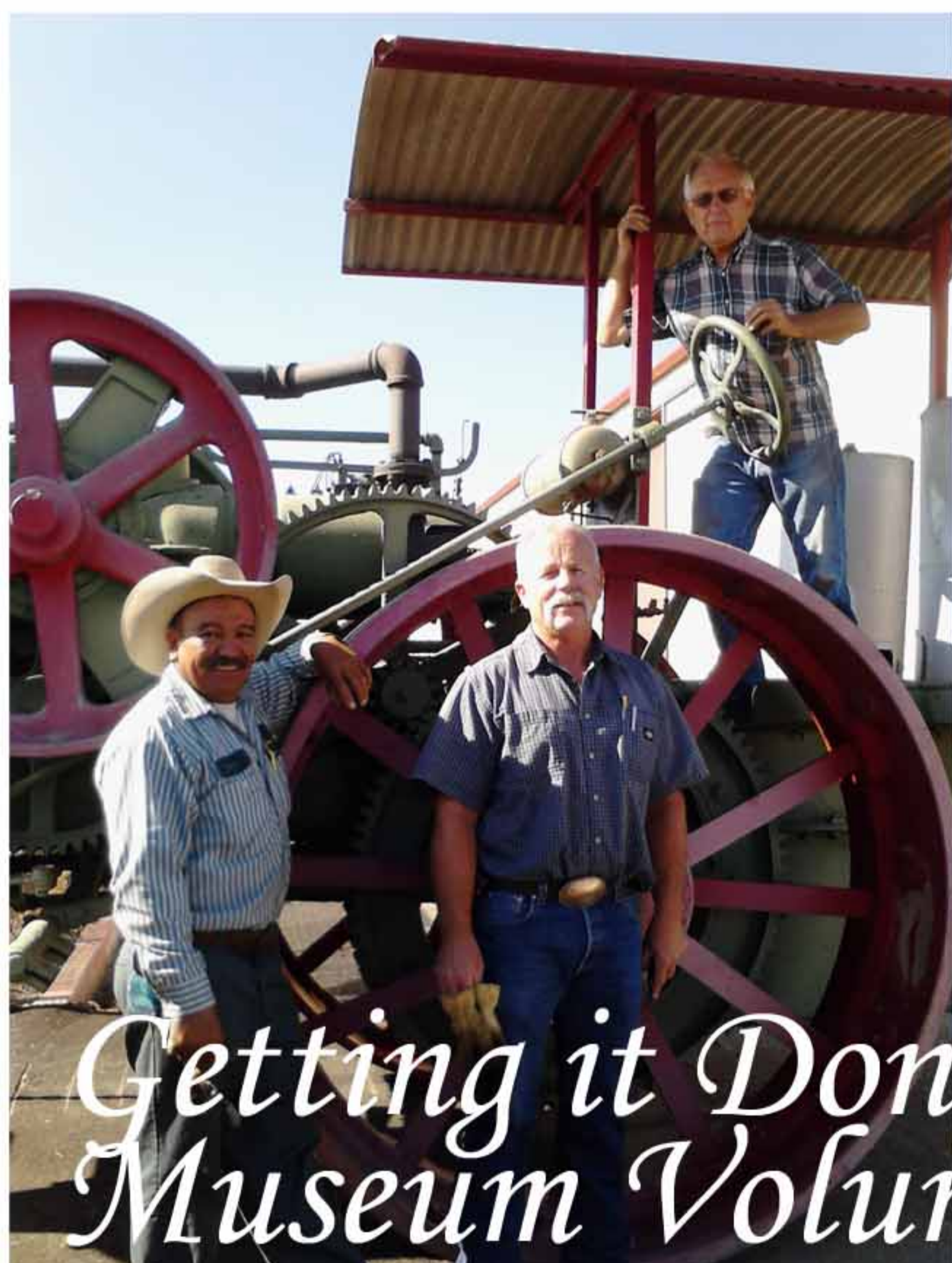
The event side of the museum is rarely experienced by our members or volunteers, unless they happen to book the hall for a personal occasion, but it is one of the most exciting aspects of public history. Just as guests come into our museum and connect with the collection through their own family's experiences with agriculture, our event clients connect with the museum by celebrating their life milestones with us. This connection creates goodwill in the community and allows the Heidrick Ag Center to be booked and rebooked throughout each successive generation.



For those of you who have not seen the pictures on Facebook, you will be glad to know that the event hall has recently undergone another facelift, which included painting the doors and walls in neutral tan colors, to the delight of our most recent clients. As part of this ongoing effort to make our venue more competitive in the market, our goal for 2013 is to obtain 400 new chairs. We are looking for monetary donations, but are also willing to do a trade deal if you or someone you know, might be interested in helping us reach this goal. Please contact Rachael Ryen, the new Event Coordinator, at events@aghhistory.org if you have any questions about booking an event or are interested in donating to our chair drive.



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*Getting it Done in a Day
Museum Volunteers at Work*



Memories of the Yolo County Fair





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Engines Roar: June 13th Member Event



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The Heidrick Ag History Center would like to thank the following generous sponsors for the upcoming Pumpkin Smash Bash on October 27th from 6pm-9pm. Please join us for this fundraiser and show your support for the Center and the community.



Yeung Farms



Scarecrow Expo: Woodland's Got Talent

The Scarecrow Expo will kick off on October 13 during the Second Saturday Family Series (11am-1pm), titled *Woodland's Got Talent* and continue to be displayed during the *Pumpkin Smash Bash* on October 27!

Rules and Regulations:

Participants can create and display their scarecrow creations in the museum through the month of Oct.

Submissions must be received by **Oct. 8**

Scarecrow Set-up is **Oct. 9-12**

Scarecrow Viewing on **Oct. 13**

Scarecrow Pick-up is **Oct. 28-Nov. 3**

Guidelines: Scarecrow must be free-standing and cannot occupy more than a 3 x 5 square foot space. Please bring a sign with the name of the scarecrow and those who created it to be displayed. No supports or bases will be provided. Scarecrows can be displayed on tractors, but must be supported with string only. No tape. No wire.

Disclaimer: The Center will not be held responsible for any injury or damage to any entrant or to any entrant's property and will not be responsible for providing any safe handling or security for entrants or entrant's property. The Center reserves the right to deny exhibition privileges to any entry considered offensive or inappropriate.

To Enter:

Please fill out the information below and send to:
1962 Hays Lane Woodland, CA 95776
Or email the information to:
membership@ahistory.org.

Individual Name:
or
Group Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Scarecrow Name:



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Lorili Ostman
Executive Director

Iulia Bodeanu
Membership Coordinator

Rachael Ryen
Events Coordinator

Rocio Rodriguez
Office Manager

Ray Tackaberry
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Don Peart
Ed Rocha
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PUMPKIN SMASH BASH
SATURDAY OCTOBER 27TH 6-9PM

ADULT TRICK OR TREAT (BEER TASTINGS)
PUMPKIN SMASHING CONTEST
HOT BRATS & SWEET TREATS
COSTUME CONTEST FOR PRIZES

\$30 Member
\$35 Public
aghistory.org
530-666-9700

Heidrick Ag History Center: 1962 Hays Lane, Woodland



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