

Maine Antique Tractor Club



FEBRUARY

2010 MATC Newsletter

Founded in 1994

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WEB PAGE- <http://www.maineantiquetractorclub.com>

President's Message:

Greeting to all of our members: I hope you all have had a good winter even though the snow just keeps getting deeper. If you believe in the groundhog, spring is just around the corner. When the groundhog says that, I try to believe! but we have to take what comes and make the best of it. We are getting our events for the summer in line and it looks like another busy year ahead. With all the help of all our members, we will succeed. Do keep those tractors rolling.

Bob

Notice:

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2011, this will be the last newsletter sent to you. Check the year on your address label.

Harriet Spencer, Secy.

- **Notice** to all members: If any one can help out at the Festival in June please contact Glenn DeWitt at 207-737-9206 or email dewitt1603@roadrunner.com

Your assistance will be greatly appreciated as the festival continues to grow with public attendance and the Committee has added more events this year which will be published in future newsletters.

- A big thank you to Laurie Pratt for helping with the December and January Newsletters during my 'time away' from my duties. You did a great job, Laurie, and I appreciate your willingness to help me out.

Judy

Highlights of the February Meeting: The meeting was held at the Skowhegan Grange with Terry & Harriet Spencer as hosts. There were 39 members present.

- The treasurer has opened a savings account for the club. If he deposits the checks into this account, it will eliminate the service charge.
- It has been suggested we have a tractor pull with the Southern Maine Tractor Club. This could be a yearly event with a traveling trophy awarded. This suggestion was turned over to the pulling committee to look into it further.
- At the 2011 Tractor Festival, an area will be set aside for members to sell tractors. The children's auction has been eliminated due to lack of interest. The committee would like to do something special on Friday and donate the proceeds to "**Make.A.Wish.**" The goal is to raise \$6,000. To accomplish this goal, a lot of help is needed. A special raffle has been suggested. It was voted to have this raffle and include 6 tickets in the April and May Newsletters for the members to either buy or sell. It was also suggested a special tractor pull be held.
- The pulling committee would like to dedicate the tractor pulls at Oxford Fair to Stephen Powers, Sr.. The ribbons and trophies would note this. It was suggested a brass plaque be attached to the progressive drag in his memory. Pulling committee members are Steven Lee-chairman, Jay Fowler, Stephen Powers, Scott Stevens, Coval Co-nant, J.R. Rose, and Michael Hannigan.
- If you have 2011 events you want included in the Schedule of Events, contact Brian Winslow. Don't wait until the last minute. The Schedule of Events should be in the April Newsletter.
- Since the proposal to allow a straight exhaust on lawn & garden tractors wasn't presented in a written form at this meeting, no action was taken.
- We have been approached about having a tractor pull at Dover-Foxcroft Fair.
- We will participate in the Northeast Livestock Expo at Windsor Fairgrounds again the year in May. The tractor pull will start at 1:00 p.m..
- Bill Clark won the 50/50 raffle - \$42. Terry & Harriet Spencer donated door prizes. Winners were Everett Barnard, Bill Ames, Ashlyn Beebe, Dale Fairbanks, and Judy Fairbanks.
- The March meeting is at the Richmond Fire Station on March 6

Harriet Spencer, Secy.

Our very sincere condolences to the Stephen Powers, Sr. family on the sudden passing of Stephen. He was very faithful and a hard worker in the pulling ring and getting the bus and drag to the pulls. Stephen was willing to do whatever it took to get the job done in a safe and efficient way to keep those tractors rolling and to be a team player for the good of the club. He will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of



knowing, playing and working with him during club events.

Our ~~very sincere~~ condolences to the Nancy Peabody family on the sudden passing of our friend and original member of MATC. Nancy and her husband, Harold, were instrumental in starting this club and they were very active in all events and meetings along with their son, Alden, and grandson, Eben Quimby. Nancy participated in many functions and events of MATC including doing the Schedule of Events and running the sales table during the festivals for many years. She will be truly missed by all of us that had the pleasure of knowing her and being her friend. She was a wonderful and special Lady.

Nancy's family wishes that memorial contributions be made to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, 477 Congress St., Suite 7 W, Portland, ME 04101.

Treasurers Report as of January 31, 2010:

Balance in Checking	\$ 6,431.22
Balance in Savings	\$10,870.16
Balance in CD's	\$45,403.22
Total Balance in Banks	\$62,704.60

Maine Agricultural Trades Show:

The 70th Annual Maine Agricultural Trades Show is over. Thanks, Bill and Bob Clark for taking the raffle tractor and Bob Hamlin for taking his John Deere lawn & garden tractor down. In anticipation of the major storm coming, we were very, very busy all day Tuesday. Norma Hawkes came to visit, but we didn't have much time. She brought me my very own bag of chocolate doughnut holes. Wednesday was a memorable day. We had a **blizzard**. Members and visitors came early, but by noon they had started heading home. By 4:00 only the vendors were left. We were sent home and the show was closed for the night. When we left, there was 12 inches of snow in the parking lot. Terry & I spent the night at the Maine State Grange Headquarters. Ask Terry about the snowmobile races around the traffic circle all night - howling wind. Thanks to Domino's Pizza for delivering supper. Delivery time was only 1 hour. We went to breakfast Thursday morning and had a very busy day afterward. Nobody started packing up early. Despite the weather, renewals and raffle sales were very good. I did miss several members I should have seen Wednesday night.

And Harriet remembers Nancy

On January 20 we lost one of our founding ladies, Nancy Peabody. The Maine Antique Tractor Club got started October 10, 1993 at the home of Harold & Nancy Peabody. I missed that first meeting, but I probably met Nancy November 11 at the Veteran's Day Parade in Richmond. While waiting for the parade to start and riding in the hay wagon during the parade, we started to get to know each other. Over the years we had some great times together seeing each other at meetings, manning the MATC table at events, etc.. Our last visit was a sad time - after "Eben's Tractor" was presented to the family at the 2010 MATC Festival. MATC has lost a dedicated member and friend. Members who knew her will always remember her friendly personality and smile. I will always cherish our friendship.

Harriet



The 2011 Meeting Schedule Maine Antique Tractor Club

- Jan. 2 - Richmond Fire Station, Rte 197, Burl Ewell Hosting
Feb. 6 - Skowhegan Grange Hall, Terry and Harriet Spencer Hosting
Mar. 6 - Richmond Fire Station, Rte 197, Charles & Norma Hawkes, Hosts
Apr. 3 - Skowhegan, 398 Middle Rd, Bill & Harriet Clark Hosting
May 1 - Bar Harbor, 54 Knox Rd, Sanni & SueAnn Sallisbury Hosting
June 5 - Orland, 32 Leaches Pt Rd, Don & Joyce Nelson Hosting
- July NO MEETING
- Aug. 7 - Weld, 225 Center Hill Rd, Hosts: Mike & Laurie Pratt,
Steve & Sharon Lee & Coval & Sonya Conant
Sept. 11 - Oxford, Jim and Linda Hooker and Bob Hamlin Hosting
Oct. 2 - Denmark, 1129 Denmark Rd, Jim and Lynn Harrington Hosting
Nov. 6 - Lewiston, 19 Orestis Way, Joe and Irene Landry Hosting.
Nomination of Officers
December 11 - Banquet at Jeff's Catering, Brewer: Election of Officers

***Added - the December** date for the banquet to the Meeting Schedule*

**All meetings are pot luck. Bring a dish to share.
Lunch begins at 12 PM, Meeting starts at 1 PM**

Over the next few newsletters, I am going to try to familiarize the members about Cockshutt tractors and equipment. Included in this newsletter is a history of the Cockshutt Company written by Bill Cockshutt for the International Cockshutt Club website which is www.cockshutt.com.

Other sources of information for Cockshutt can be found in *About Cockshutt* written by William H. Cockshutt and *Cockshutt: The Complete Story*. These books are available through the Cockshutt website and various and assorted other places.

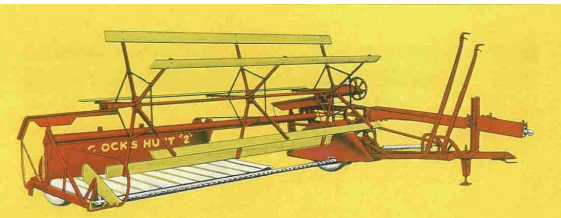
Mike Pratt, Vice President



A Chronicle by Wm. H. Cockshutt

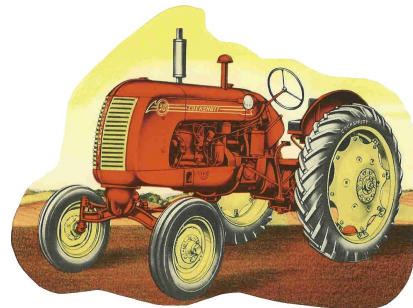
Cont'd from January MATC Newsletter

Repeat Introduction: Cockshutt Farm Equipment Limited manufactured and sold high quality farm machinery across Canada, several American states, and around the world for more than 85 years. It all started because a young man had a dream that he could make better plows. The young man was James G. Cockshutt, son of Ignatius Cockshutt, a wealthy merchant whose high principals and astute financing, contributed to the success of the company. To his initial dream, James added energy, innovation, and pride of workmanship, resulting in the production of superior implements for Canadian farmers.



Early swathers were built like battleships - cumbersome and so heavy they could not go into wet harvest fields. Because it was super-light the Cockshutt No.2 could get into wet fields which would then dry out quickly so the combine could have the grain in the bin before the neighbor with a heavy model could even start. It wasn't very long before Cockshutt had 60% of the swather market.

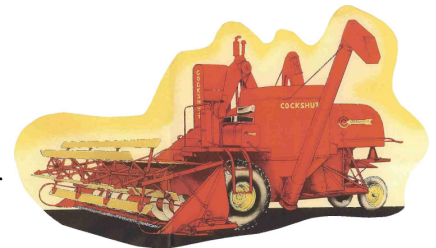
1939 Because of strong ties to Great Britain, Canada entered the war in 1939, and promptly converted to making munitions. During the war Cockshutt was one of the first companies to hire women to make aircraft wing and tail sections. Cockshutt was also the first company in Canada capable of forming and welding deep-draw aircraft manifolds. The most interesting wartime products were the plywood fuselages for Anson bombers and Mosquito Fighter/Bombers. Other wartime products included a variety of truck bodies, ambulances, gun trailers, and hand grenades. In 1941 Cockshutt introduced a new concept in



1945 The Wartime Production Board allowed Cockshutt to increase their engineering staff allowing the design and testing of self-propelled Harvester Combines and tractors. The state-of-the-art Cockshutt 30 tractor, the first modern production tractor built in Canada, was also the first tractor in the world to be equipped with Live-Power-Take-Off. LPTO made the farmer's life easier because it reduced plugging of balers, swathers, mowers, pull-type combines and other pulled implements. Driven directly from the flywheel of the engine, the power shaft continues to deliver full power to the pulled machine even when the forward motion is stopped. It's that simple - and Cockshutt did it first! Eventually everyone copied the system and today no one even remembers the problems of the old clutch-activated power

shaft. Next to the smooth-styled 30, Cockshutt added the little 20, and the larger 40's and 50's. As I'm sure you know, many of those 40's and 50's are still showing off their super-strength bull gears and transmissions, at pulling competitions, equipped with engines three times the power of the original.

Cockshutt Self-Propelled Harvester Combines also made a good name for themselves. First with variable speed drives and bomber-style tires, Cockshutt combines put a cleaner sample in the grain tank, with less loss over the straw walkers. It was the combination of new combines and tractors that convinced the National Farm Bureau Co-operatives to distribute the Cockshutt line in the northern tier of American states. Lots of these Co-op tractors, now over fifty years old, can still be seen at daily farm work.



Membership Dues Notice:

When you renew your membership for 2011, please fill out the renewal form and return it. I'm in the process of changing the membership list to Excel and want to make sure all my information is correct.

...and again, I will not be mailing pins with the dues cards. It costs extra to mail them. When you see me, just ask me for a pin. If you really want me to mail you a pin, please let me know. I know some members just can't get out.

Thank You!

Harriet

1958 This was the year Cockshutt introduced a full line of tractors in one season. Each size, 540, 550, 560, and 570, was totally new, - not just a face-lift. Raymond Lowey, the famous automobile designer, had crafted the 500 series sheet metal, setting a new standard in modern styling. Once more it was innovation, excellent engineering, and a keen marketing staff that allowed this little company to compete with the giants. Even the carriage and wagon business, under the name of Brantford Coach and Body, had grown to become the largest truck body and semi-trailer manufacturer in Canada. The company was on its way to bigger and better things, like Radial combines, and Hydrostatic tractors when it was suddenly bought out. Cockshutt did not fail - it was a victim of financial manipulators, through an unfriendly stock market take-over.



1962

New management promptly sold the farm equipment division to The Oliver Corporation, which soon changed the Cockshutt name to White Farm Equipment. Brantford Coach & Body was sold to Trailmobile. After 85 years as a respected, and profitable industrial empire, designing innovative farm and truck products, the Cockshutt name was retired. Never the less, Cockshutt products have made a huge contribution not only to the expansion and profitability of western farming, but also to the industrial development of the Dominion of Canada. For many it was a family place to work, with nice people and honest principles. Still today the examples of its products and contributions to the less fortunate stand as memorials; both to the enterprise and generosity of the Cockshutt family, and those who worked with them. The International Cockshutt Club is doing a great service by promoting the preservation of Cockshutt equipment, and by honoring the name and the accomplishments of its people.

May 2004

Written for the International Cockshutt Club Inc.
for their website - <http://www.cockshutt.com/>

M.A.T.C. Dues for 2011 (January 1–December 31)



Name:(print)_____

CompanyName:(if sponsor)_____

Spouse/other: (print)_____

Names of children less than 18 years:

_____ B.D. _____

_____ B.D. _____

Address:_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone:_____

E-mail:_____

PLEASE PRINT VERY CLEARLY

*Membership is \$20 per year per family

*Sponsor is \$30 per year per sponsor

*Insurance is \$10 per person

Membership:\$_____ Insurance:\$_____

Both Membership and Insurance:\$_____

Names of person(s) for which Insurance is being paid:

Please check box if you **DO NOT** want a hard copy of the newsletter sent to you.

The newsletter is available on the Clubs Website:

www.maineantiquetractorclub.com

- Please make checks payable to **MATC**
- Send to:
- Harriet Spencer, Secretary
35 North Shore Dr.
Smithfield, ME 04978-3021
- Email: terriet1@tds.net Phone:207-362-3351

MATC NEWSLETTER



2011

