



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Nick Schultz

The hot weather is here but it doesn't stop our awesome volunteers. The heat may slow us down a bit and we may take a few more water breaks, however, the projects still get done.

Speaking of projects, here are few things that we are working on: The railcar upgrade continues with new and exciting changes; the buggy building is being adorned with horse photos, saddle blankets and related items; the Visitor Center has a new air conditioner and heater; our host, Jerry, has the front of the Visitor Center awash in many colors of differing kinds of plants. In Building 1, a new wooden bed was just finished for the 1941 1-1/2 ton truck that is being restored. Also in Building 1, a vintage combine is beginning its restoration.

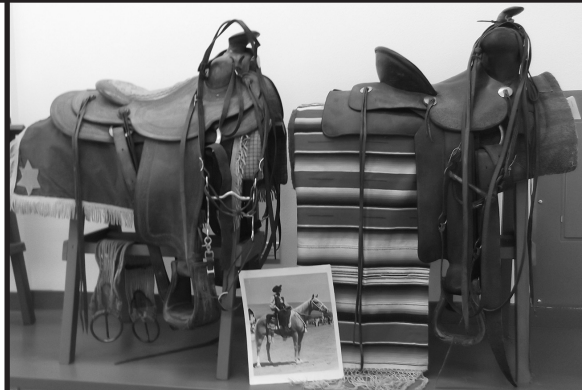
The Farmstead continues to grow with a motorized children's swing soon to be installed. The kiddie train has been getting some repair work along with some of the buildings. The portable sawmill has had some adjusting and tweaking and is ready to start work. Thanks to YAKAMA FOREST PRODUCTS of White Swan, who donated sixteen white fir logs, we can make lumber and do demonstrations. The wheat field is starting to turn golden and should be ready for harvesting & threshing during the Pioneer Power Show. The crew in the Klingele building has a number of restoration projects underway.

The educational tours continue through the summer with several groups scheduled. The Women's Auxiliary and the Tuesday Crew keep busy educating valley youth and having a great deal of fun doing it.

Their enthusiasm and excitement of the children (and chaperones) as they tour the museum is very rewarding.



The museum again organized and produced "Old Town Days" in June. It was a fun-filled weekend with numerous vendors, live bands, a beer/wine garden, Civil War activities, speeches by President Lincoln and General Grant. Our



Georgie & Art Fullbright's saddles. Georgie rode alone from Union Gap to Montana on this saddle. The photograph is of Georgie on a horse.



The Visitor Center is awash in many colors of different types of plants - imagine this hibiscus as light pink.

Thanks to YAKAMA FOREST PRODUCTS of White Swan for donating 16 white fir logs, allowing us to make lumber and do demonstrations.



Jerry Warner, Terry Stewart and Ray Cook set the concrete blocks in front of the H&B building.

AUGUST 2018

docents were busy at the Visitor Center; giving rides on the kiddie train; conducting sawmill and blacksmith shop demonstrations; operating the very popular tram rides; and much, much more. The volunteers logged close to 600 hours. This event could not happen without them --Thank you volunteers!

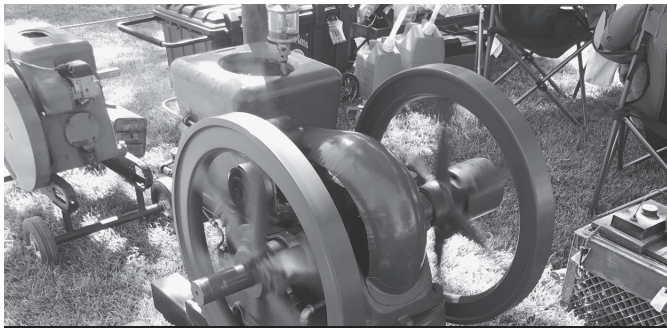
The Annual Fundraiser has been mailed and I hope you have had an opportunity to respond. With your previous donations the museum has been able to complete many upgrades throughout the facility. Thank-you for your past donations and thank-you in advance for your current donations.

We are now well into the planning stages for the annual "Pioneer Power Show" that takes place August 18th and 19th. This is a time to see how things were done back in the good old days. There will be demonstrations, displays, a big swap meet, fun things for kids to do, and the parade of tractors, trucks and farm equipment. There will also be homemade bread and lots of other foods. The theme this year is Oliver Tractors and equipment. It should be a fun-filled weekend and we hope to see you there.



Thanks to all the volunteers who logged close to 600 hours alone for Old Town Days. We even had two new tram drivers for the event.

Our photo stations throughout the Old Town Days grounds provided terrific memories of the event for everyone.



The single cylinder hit-and-miss engines are always a highlight of the Pioneer Power Show & Swap meet.

Donations are now being accepted for our ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

If you haven't sent in your donation please do so soon. It is your support that keeps the museum open and thriving.



Our new kiddie wagons will debut during the Pioneer Power Show. These were donated by Ralph McEntyre II of Rochester, WA and gives children another great activity during Central WA Ag Museum events.

Memorials

Jim Thomas, Robert "RC" Balmer, Lea Driskill

Remember a friend or loved one with a memorial gift to the Central Washington Agricultural Museum. Money from a memorial is used for additions and improvements unless otherwise designated. When you send a memorial gift it is helpful if you include the following information:

- ☐ Who to send the acknowledgment to along with the address.
- ☐ If available, we appreciate a copy of the obituary or a brief bio of the person.
- ☐ With a gift of \$25 or more the honored one's name will be placed on a memorial board. It is a tax deductible gift.

The Accessions since the last newsletter are:

- Orchard sprayer, Duster, and Oliver fertilizer (manure) spreader from Barbara Pettit
- 1942 Farmall (M) Tractor from Clarence Brown
- Energy Storm Generator from Scott Kokenge

EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

from the Central Washington Ag Museum

OLIVER EQUIPMENT

Led by Nick Schultz, a project of about 14 months culminated in May 2015 with the rebuild of a 1959 Oliver 550 Utility Tractor. The tractor was one of the Olivers donated in 2013 by Al Heberlein of Yakima. Even though the condition written on the accession sheet was: "Fair - questionable if will run", the crew made it operational. Since its restoration this tractor has been driven in parades and used to pull the People Wagons and Trams.

The Oliver 550 Utility was introduced in 1958 and was the first model to be painted in Meadow Green and Clover White. The 550 was an extremely successful tractor for Oliver and remained in production the longest of any model, until 1975. The 550 was known as a versatile, economical, well-designed tractor. Because of its great balance, the 550 was well-suited for either front-mounted or pull behind implements. Its front and rear wheel spacing was adjustable. In sixth gear the speed of travel was a 'blazing fast' 15 MPH!!

The company that eventually became Oliver Corporation was much more than a maker of green tractors. The original Oliver business started in 1855 when James Oliver, a Scottish immigrant with little formal education, bought a quarter share of a foundry. During the next two years he invented a process to create a plow that was durable, long-lasting and had an improved ability to release soil from the moldboard. He cooled the freshly cast iron with a stream of water which hardened the surface to polish it and make it resistant to rust. This enhanced the strength of the iron without making it brittle.

By the late 1880's Oliver horse-pulled plows, both walking and riding, were being shipped to every inhabited continent. The phrase "Plowmaker for the World" was adopted as a trademark of the Oliver plow. In 1901 the company was renamed Oliver Chilled Plow Works (OCPW). In 1908, the year of James' death, when his son, J.D. took over, the plant was making about 300,000

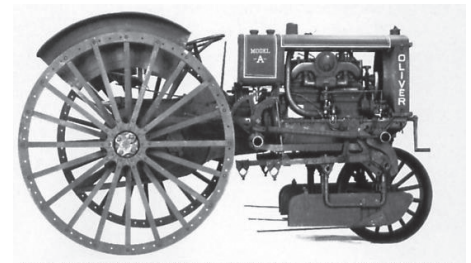
plows per year. During the years leading up to 1918 the company built a second plant dedicated to making tractor plows, which are very different from horse plows.

OCPW was the sole producer of tractor plows for the Fordson tractor. About the time the new plant was completed, Henry Ford announced that he was getting out of the tractor business. Therefore, in the 1920's the OCPW began experimenting with the creation of their own tractor. The first one produced was called the Oliver Chilled Plow Tractor. There were only about 20 made and distributed in the USA where they were well-received.

J.D. knew that the OCPW needed to offer a full-range of farming equipment to remain a competitive company. This would require a huge expansion and a lot of money and capital. The only option was to merge with other companies.

Four companies merged on April 1, 1929: Oliver Chilled Plow Works; Hart-Parr Company; American Seeding-Machine Company; and Nichols and Shepard Company. The assets of the OCPW exceeded the combined assets of the other companies and J.D. Oliver was quoted as saying, "my name goes on the company, or the deal's off." Thus the Oliver Farm Equipment Company (OFEC) was created.

By uniting their various and somewhat diverse product lines the OFEC instantly offered a full line of tractors, tillage



First Oliver made by the Chilled Plow Company prior to the 1929 merger



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OLIVER EQUIPMENT, *continued*

tools, planting, and harvesting equipment.

Nichols and Shepard had patented the vibrating threshing machine and had developed a corn picker that became the direct ancestor of the Oliver corn picker. They also manufactured combines, tractors and steam engines.

The American Seeding-Machine Company, itself a merger of seven companies, was well-known as a manufacturer of corn and other grain drills, broadcast seeders, corn planters, other seeding machines, manure and fertilizer spreaders, and cultivators. The Superior Drill Company name continued on for many years following the merger in the "Oliver Superior" line of equipment.

Hart-Parr Company had been founded in 1897 by Charles Hart and Charles Parr in order to manufacture gasoline internal combustion engines. In 1901 Hart and Parr worked to design a gas engine that could drive itself to the field. Their first self-propelled gasoline-powered traction engine was tested in 1902. The second prototype was tested in 1903 and was a great success.

It was in 1906 that W.H. Williams, the Hart-Parr sales manager decided gasoline-powered traction engine was too long. He coined the word "tractor", a combination of the words traction and power. For this reason, and based upon having made the first successful mass production gas internal combustion engine farm tractor, Hart-Parr claimed to be the founder of the tractor industry. Several other companies laid claim to the idea, but in 1905 Hart-Parr became the first company to devote its efforts continuously and exclusively to tractor production. Hart-Parr created another "first" in tractor history when they provided operator instruction programs to combat ignorance and carelessness that caused equipment failures and injuries.

In 1930, Hart-Parr tractors were renamed Oliver Hart-Parr. As the Oliver name became more dominant Hart-Parr was dropped in 1937. Acquisition of additional companies by the OFEC added hay balers, stationary hay presses, potato planters, potato diggers, cider presses, conveyors, sickle and rotary mowers, harrows, portable sawmills, sprayers, and the Cletrac crawler tractor line to the Oliver stable.

The 1930s ushered in the streamline age in autos, trucks, trains and planes. Early in 1935, the Oliver 70 set a direction that most farm tractors followed for the next 20 years. The tractor combined a sleek exterior with farming's first engine designed to use the new 70-octane gasoline which provided the additional power farmers sought. Oliver also reorganized the operator's platform and the tractor back end to make them more useful to the farmer.

During the war years Oliver Corporation expanded into the defense sector. By 1947, 37% of Oliver's production was for defense contracts. They built airplane fuselages, transmissions, gun mounts, tank turrets and various other gun and tank parts. Industrial product lines included graders, forklifts, road rollers, crawlers, and power units incorporated into products made by other companies.

Oliver was ready with an entirely new line of tractors in 1948 that were built on the successes of the past. Numerous models with different capacities, options and features were offered over the next twenty-eight years. Some could be bought with either gasoline or diesel engines. They manufactured different engine sizes; wheel configurations; power ratings; transmissions; etc.

In the 1950s, Oliver promoted the use of diesel power and led the industry in the sale of diesel tractors for several years. In November 1960 the Oliver Corporation was bought by the White Motor Corporation and this was the beginning of the end of Oliver. After White acquired Cockshutt Farm Equipment Company in 1962 their tractors were made by Oliver, and the Oliver branded combines were made by Cockshutt. Only the paint color was different. In 1976 the 2255 was the last tractor to carry the Oliver name.

One of Nick's future projects is to restore an Oliver Superior manure spreader. As distasteful as it may seem to modern city-dwellers, this unassuming piece of equipment was and is very important to farming. But that is a tale for another time.

The museum has multiple pieces of Oliver equipment. Some predate the 1929 merger, but many were made by the Oliver Company or one of its subsidiaries. Go find the plows, cultivators, sickle mowers, cider press, Cletrac crawlers, grain drills, manure spreaders, and of course, green Oliver tractors.



Last Oliver made from 1972 to 1976



ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

by Paul Strater

Starting in 1991 the folks who had formed the Central Washington Antique Farm Equipment Club moved their Pioneer Power Show to the Central Washington Agricultural Museum grounds. For more than 10 years their show was the only big event at the Ag Museum. There are changes in process, but in 2018 most everything will be the same as before. One very special feature this year is that the Grand Marshall, Patti Hirahara, is the granddaughter of the Grand Marshall of the 1987 Show!

George Hirahara was a businessman and farmer in the



Yakima Valley in the late 1930's. He and his family were forced to an internment facility in 1942. While they were gone the farm landowner kept the lease available for them. Therefore, when they were released in 1945 they returned and resumed farming.

Mr. Hirahara became interested in the working of single cylinder engines—commonly known as “hit-and-miss” engines. He began collecting them and sharing his interest with other collectors. He was a member of the group that started setting up the display at the Central Washington State Fair. He donated a large hit-and-miss engine and one of his farm trucks to the Ag Museum. They will be featured at the Power Show this year.

The Ag Museum preserves and shares tractors, trucks, and every type of agricultural equipment you can imagine—and some that are almost unbelievable. But more than

focusing only on machinery, we also preserve the memories of people. Come share with us.



Top: Patti Hirahara will be the Grand Marshall at the 2018 Pioneer Power Show. Bottom: George Hirahara at the CWSF in 1980

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE CENTRAL WASHINGTON AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM & CENTRAL WASHINGTON ANTIQUE FARM EQUIPMENT CLUB

CENTRAL WASHINGTON AG MUSEUM
UNION GAP, WA

Pioneer Power Show & SWAP MEET
EST. 1981

SATURDAY AUG 18
SUNDAY AUG 19
8AM-4PM

FEATURING OLIVER BRAND EQUIPMENT!

FARM EQUIPMENT WITH VINTAGE TRUCKS TRACTORS & ENGINES
INCLUDING EQUIPMENT PARADES

WHEAT THRESHING BALING & BINDING
BREAD SHACK & GREAT FOOD
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KID'S PASSPORT WITH PRIZES
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EVENTS 2018

August 9	The Ag Museum at the Valley Mall Kids Club
August 18-19	Pioneer Power Show & Swap Meet
Sept 21 - Sept 30	Central Washington State Fair
October 13-14	3rd Annual Farm~a~Copia, Plowing Bee & Equipment Sale

It's Ag
Museum Day
at the
Valley Mall's
Kids Club



Thursday, August 9 from 12pm-2pm. Call or email the museum for details and to volunteer.



CENTRAL WASHINGTON
AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM

4508 Main St.

Union Gap, WA 98903-2138

MEMBERSHIPS

February 21, 2018 - July 24, 2018

PATRON \$100-\$499

Patrick & Terri Barron, Darrell & Joyce Downing, Gary & Kris Green, Harris Farms, Ross & Patricia Herber, Jean's Cottage Inn, Nancy A Kenmotsu, Peppermint Stick Drive-In, David & Cheryl Stave, Curtis & Mary R Sundquist

SPONSOR \$50-\$99

John A Baule, Carl Gangl (Broadway Grange #647), John Tolonen (Fruitvale Grange #348)

FAMILY \$35

Charles Cripps, Jolene Culver, Douglas D'Avis, W. Eugene & Carole Lange (Dead End Ranch), Val & Pam Fabela, Bill Grooters, Connie Lovett & Ryan Harris, Sharon & Sam Hein, Raleigh Heitzman, Roy & Janelle Moses (Holy Cow Natural Organic Beef), Rod Patterson, Onni & Norma Perala, Dick & Janice Picatti, Brad & Barbara Ralston, Julie Picatti & Dennis Richardson, Paul & Jeanne Strater, David & Diane Trampush

INDIVIDUAL \$25

Dolores Blomberg, Doug Clark, Harvey & Beverly Cleem, Cynthia Gabriel, Rebecca Gamache, Tim & CC Gamache, Norma Haney, Dale Hendricks, Sandy Hess, Dale Hoech, Karen Klingele, Rita Mantey, Ambrose & Donna Nalley Jr, Betty Pace, Ray Schatz, Dave Scheuffele, Kay Tandberg

Central Washington Agricultural Museum

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Central Washington Ag Museum

Coming in October 3rd Annual Farm~a~Copia, Plowing Bee, and Farm Equipment Sale

Sponsored by the:

Horse~n~Harness Group of the Central Washington Agricultural Museum, Central Washington Antique Farm Equipment Club & the Washington Draft Horse and Mule Association

10am-4pm Saturday, October 13

10am-2pm, Sunday, October 14

5-7 Teams plowing,
Free donation
wagon rides,
Food vendors

For sale: Western &
English tack, wagons,
harnesses, tractors &
farm equipment

