

40TH ANNUAL STEAM-ERA FEATURES "CLASSIC CANADIANA"

SPECIAL TO THE COMPASS

Some of the vehicles at Steam-Era's 40th anniversary show will be capable of a lot more speed than the usual tractors. The Labour Day weekend show will be featuring a cavalcade of "Classic Canadiana" farm equipment and a special display and daily demonstrations of vintage racing cars from the Canadian Motor Racing Historical Society.

"Every year, Steam-Era features a 'theme' tractor but we felt this was a special year in many ways and that it was time to give particular recognition to historical Canadian farm equipment manufacturers," explains Steam-Era president Brad Clements. "We have a rich history of Canadian-engineered, designed and built farm equipment over the past century - the Masseys, the Cockshutts and the Waterloos. They'll all be here, dozens and dozens of them, all shined to a gleam and running as good as new!"

"We were really pleased to add the vintage racing cars to the show. Motor racing in Canada has a long, colourful history we can all take pride in."

Steam-Era also has a full slate of Canadian country-style entertainment-Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings at the Grandstand. For the first time, Friday night entertainment has been planned, featuring "Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance Show" by the Barn Dance Historical Society. Saturday night features the return of the popular annual Country & Western Talent Contest which has grown steadily since its inception in 1976. Sunday night's Variety Show is a time to jam, to sing along or sit back and enjoy a little old time country, some newer country and some gospel.

A full slate of daytime activities is planned for the Labour Day long weekend. Daily tractor

parades, tractor pulls, demonstrations of powerful old steam engines and full scale and model gas engines make the Milton Fairgrounds roar with excitement. Each year thousands of visitors are amazed by the tools and farm equipment that were the "timesavers" of days long gone. For children, Steam-Era is an interactive, noisy, action-packed history lesson, especially when "Classic Canadiana" is the theme. For adults of all ages, the show offers displays, activities and opportunities to shop at the Trading Post and flea market, the Toys & Miniatures collectibles and Arts and Crafts buildings.

Steam-Era is run each year as a non-profit event by the volunteer members of the Ontario Steam and Antique Preservers Association. It is the largest show of its kind in eastern Canada. Visitors are invited to check out Steam-Era's new website at www.steam-era.com



ACTION PACKED HISTORY LESSON - The Steam Era includes daily tractor parades, tractor pulls, demonstrations of powerful old steam engines and full scale and model gas engines making the Milton Fairgrounds roar with excitement on Labour Day Weekend.

Ambassador for a year!

BY CARRIE ROBERTS
SPECIAL TO THE COMPASS

Over the past year I have been given the opportunity to meet new people, visit local fairs and represent the Halton Agricultural Society at various community functions.

My main duty of the year was at the Milton Fall Fair, where I was involved with opening ceremonies, presenting ribbons, talking to the local media, and helping out wherever needed.

I felt great after that weekend knowing that I was representing such a dedicated group of individuals that made up the Fair Board. You don't realize all of the preparation that goes into providing an entertaining and educational fair year after year.

I had the chance to visit other local fairs and see what their ambassador competitions were like. It was much easier watching the competition than being in it! I attended the

Georgetown and Acton Fairs in September and went to the Erin Fair, where other local ambassadors and I were invited to take part in a Jack-O-Lantern auction to fundraise for the Ambassador Scholarship. It was the first opportunity for many of us to meet the other ambassadors before we all went to the District #5 meeting in Orillia.

I was also involved in some parades in Milton - the Steam Era parade and the Santa Claus parade. In August, I will be in one more parade for Fiddle Fest. So far, the parades have been a new and fun experience.

Since the ambassadors are located throughout Ontario, there has been only one opportunity to get together and that was at the Royal York Hotel for a convention held in February.

For three days, over 90 ambassadors (only six guys) and I

got to dress up as we attended seminars and other events that were planned for us. It was great to meet so many people all sharing the same enthusiasm for their fairs and interest in agriculture.

Unfortunately, I won't have another chance to see most of the ambassadors until August when we compete at the Ambassador of the Fairs competition held at the Canadian National Exhibition.

Currently, I am helping with the preparation of my fair's Ambassador Competition to be held on August 30 where I'll pass my title on to the new Ambassador.

Overall, the past year has been a great opportunity for me to improve my public speaking and make new friends and memories.

Becoming Ambassador is definitely a unique way of getting involved in the Milton community!



FAIR AMBASSADORS - Reigning Milton Fair Ambassador Carrie Roberts, left, and 1998/1999 ambassador Ember Johnstone pictured at last year's competition.

2000/2001 Milton Fall Fair Ambassador Competition

The Milton Fall Fair is accepting applications for the 2000/2001 Milton Fall Fair Ambassador Competition. This opportunity is open to young young ladies and gentlemen in our community who would be interested in representing the Milton Fall Fair at local events, as well as the Canadian National Exhibition in August 2001. Contestants must be 18 years old by August 17, 2001 to compete.

Entry forms and rules can be picked up at the Milton Fairgrounds office Tuesday or Thursday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Entries close Tuesday, August 22, 2000.

Final judging will be held on Wednesday, August 30, 2000 at Hugh Foster Hall starting at 8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

The 1999/2000 Milton Fall Fair Ambassador, Carrie Roberts, will be honoured at this special event. She will award the title of 2000/2001 Milton Fall Fair Ambassador at this time.

For more information please contact: **Annette Winter, Competition Chairperson** at 905-876-2900 or the Fair Office at 905-878-5689.

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40th ANNUAL
STEAM-ERA

Labour Day Weekend, Milton Fairgrounds
2000 Feature... CLASSIC CANADIANA
FARM EQUIPMENT

Celebrating Our Canadian Heritage

NEW FRIDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT!!
Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance Show
8 pm at the Grandstand

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