

# PUFFS from the Steam-Era

By Roy Downs

\* Steam-Era patrons had no excuse for going home hungry this year. There was a fantastic variety of foodstuffs offered around the fair grounds. The Great Lakes Christian College group served 1,500 hot meals beneath the grandstand. An official of one soft drink firm estimated there were 100,000 cold drinks sold at various booths, the Knox Church group went through around 400 lbs. of roast beef at their "steerburger" stand, St. Stephen's Sidesmen served up 1,600 halves of barbecued chicken, and the Lions Club went through 2,000 hamburgs, 500 hot dogs and about 250 lbs. of onions.

\* Club member Hugh Clark of Hagersville was the silly clown performing at the grandstand all day Saturday... long red woolies and all. His antics brought many a chuckle from the crowd, especially when Sam Newell showed up with his "Johnny To The Spot" service vehicle. Vince Mountford of Brampton, the perennial emcee of the steam show, was also in fine form throughout the weekend.

\* Souvenirs sold quite well again this year. Souvenir booth chairlady Madeleine Davison reports her shelves were nearly empty when the reunion ended, and the booth was sold right out of 1969 Steam-Era buttons.

\* There are steam addicts and steam addicts, but how about the guy from England who planned his holiday in Canada to coincide with Steam-Era '69 in Milton? R. C. Flexman of Chelmsford, Essex, England was a Saturday visitor. He's a member of a steam club over home.

\* Sheaf tying contests (where you use a few strands of grain to tie up the sheaf) was popular this year. In the Saturday contest there were nine entrants and Gordon Coulter of Gorrie was winner with J. Tennant of Puslinch second. On Monday there were 14 entries with Harry Booykb of Arris first and Russell Kidd of Lyndhurst in second place. Most of the competitors were in the "old timers" class, and one man claimed it was the first time in 40 years he'd had an opportunity to try his hand at tying sheaves.

\* No one, not two, but three steam cars were on display at this year's reunion. One was an original Stanley Steamer, restored and shined up and looking like new. Gordon Smith of Orillia displayed his 1900 steamer, the oldest licenced antique car in the province, and Cam Einwechter of Hespeler had a home-made steam car built by the late Stan Gorman at the show.

\* This year's total of over 125 gas engines was the biggest display in the club's nine years of reunions. They ranged in size from quarter-horse to 60 horsepower.

\* A busload of antique fans from Foxboro and Madoc attended the show on Saturday.

\* Around 40 tents, trailers and truck campers spent the weekend at the fair grounds, parked near the north end of the grounds. They were brought in by members who live too far away from Milton to drive home each night. Club vice-president Ross Calder of Preston was the "mayor of Calder Row" where the trailers were parked.

\* Happiest kids in the fair grounds were the ones who got a free apple in the women's antique display beneath the grandstand. The ladies used up several bushels of apples, demonstrating the antique apple peeler.

\* There were four antique fire trucks, plus several other vintage trucks on display over the weekend. "We're prepared for all emergencies," said director Earl

Davison as one fire truck rolled by in a parade. The next item in the parade, was, ironically, Sam Newell's portable two-wheeler.

\* Ontario Steam and Antique Preservers Association has 260 members throughout Ontario and the northern States, and from the interest expressed by visitors at the weekend reunion, that figure could grow considerably before next year's show rolls around.

\* Photographs of Steam-Era appearing in this week's issue represent the best of around 135 pictures that staffer Roy Downs took during the weekend.

\* Antique farm equipment is always a big drawing card, and this year's exhibit took two halls to hold it all. One director told The Champion "there isn't a museum in Canada that can boast such a variety of early farm tools and equipment."

\* Saturday night the directors hosted a dance and corn roast for club members, at the Agricultural Hall. About 80 attended the annual church service in the same hall on Sunday morning, when Canon J. Maxwell of Hornby was guest speaker.

\* Did you hear the noon whistles each day of the show?

\* Many Steam-Era patrons also attended the German-Canadian Club's "hofbrauhaus" show and dance in the arena on Saturday night, which featured two German bands and two groups of entertainers.

\* Milton's garbage truck made frequent rounds of the grounds, carting away the debris from the booths and the trash bins.

\* Club members were saddened to learn of the death of 90-year-old Frank Stapley of Campbellford, who passed away Thursday on the eve of the 1969 reunion. Mr. Stapley was an avid steam fan and owned a steam engine that was exhibited at most of the last eight shows. His son and grandson often rode on the engine as he drove it.

\* About 150 members and guests attended a dance at Sherwood Hume's barn on Given Rd. E. Saturday night. The Currie Orchestra played for dancing.

\* Off-duty Milton police worked on the weekend, helping control the heavy traffic to the show. Tie-ups were kept to a minimum despite the Monday rush.

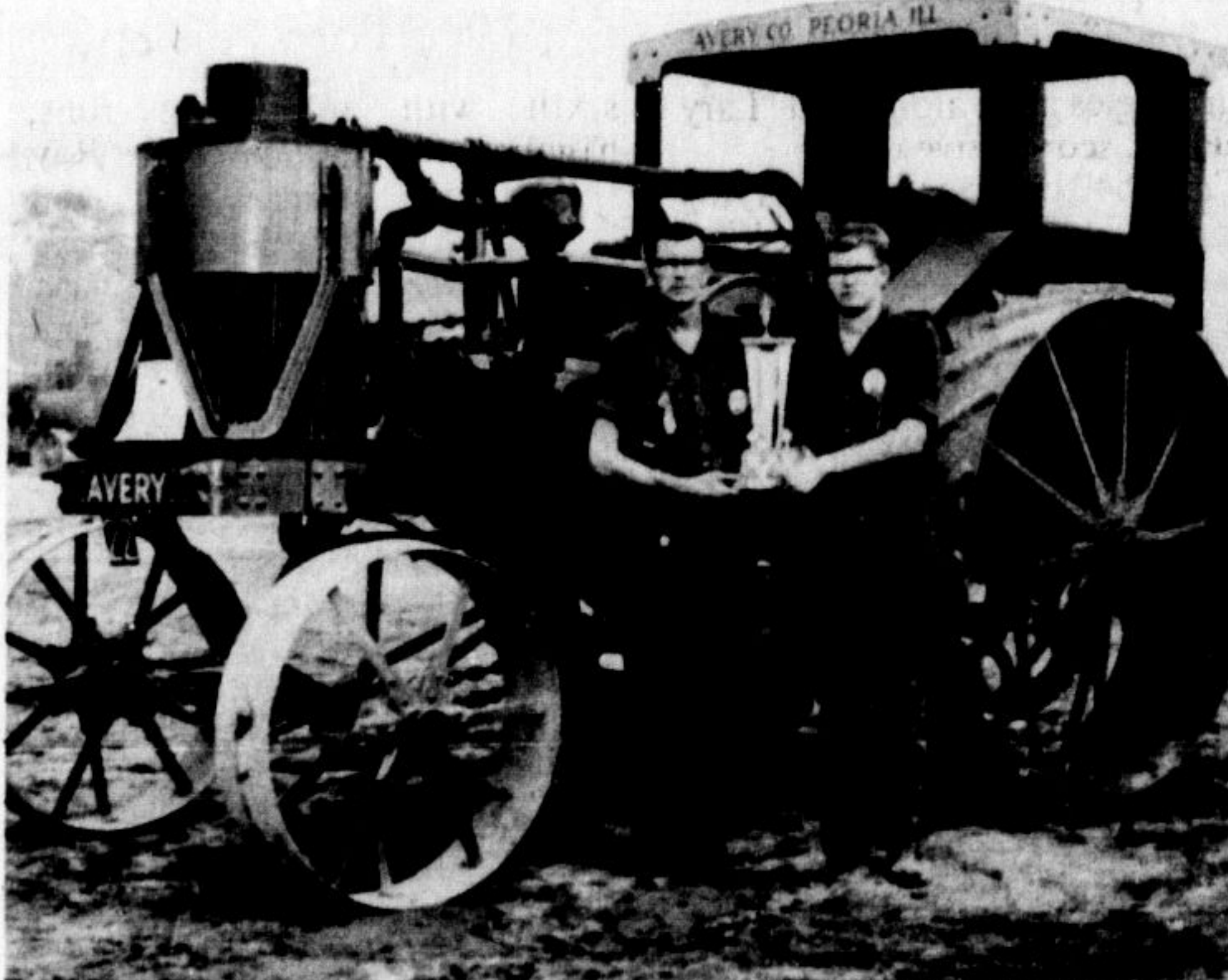
\* A supposedly "grudge" match between the show's two largest tractors (Sherwood Hume's Minneapolis and Norm Schell's Rumely) was a farce from start to finish. It was run off Saturday and Hume officially won, but the Schell crew was clowning around, trying to put the belt on the tractor wheels and having a grand time. When the two tractors finally got belted up and the separators began to run, thousands of chicken feathers flew from the machines. Now who could have left the chickens inside those separators?



DAVE ROGERS TROPHY, presented annually to the Steam-Era member contributing the biggest effort to the reunion, went this year to Mrs. Bern Porter of Woodstock. Donor Mrs. Lorna Rogers, left, is shown presenting the trophy.



J. W. NICHOLS, Woodstock, won the trophy for best restored steam engine with his 25 horsepower Sawyer Massey engine. It once plowed huge fields in Western Canada.



JACK ARTHUR SR. and his son Jack Jr., St. Agatha, proudly display the trophy for the best restored gas tractor at the 1969 reunion, standing beside their 1917 Avery.

(Staff Photos by Roy Downs)

# Trophy winners at Steam-Era

There were winners a-plenty at the 1969 edition of Steam-Era. Monday afternoon five trophies were distributed to deserving workers.

Major award was the Dave Rogers Memorial Trophy, presented annually for the past five years to the Association member who contributes the most to the show. This year Mrs. Lorna Rogers, the donor, selected Mrs. Jean Porter of Woodstock as the recipient.

"Behind every successful man is a good woman," Mrs. Rogers explained. "Mrs. Porter had done a lot of work behind the scenes." Wife of club director Bern Porter, Jean has been active in the Steam-Era group since about its third meeting. She attends meetings and shows and works with the club ladies on their end of the exhibits, and this year she headed up the

antique furniture displays and demonstrations beneath the grandstand. In earlier years she has supervised activities in the models hall.

Previous winners of the trophy were Gordon Smith in 1965, Bordon Brigden 1966, Earl Davison 1967, and Bill Bailey 1968. The trophy is given in memory of the late Dave Rogers, one of the founding directors of the Association.

Trophies for the best restored steam engine and gas tractor went to J. Winston Nichols of Woodstock and Jack Arthur of St. Agatha. They were donated by Johnson and Holt of Burford and J. Hugh Clark of Hagersville, and presented Monday afternoon by steam procurement committee chairman Bern Porter and tractor chairman Norm Schell.

Mr. Nichols bought his 25 horsepower Sawyer Massey tractor steam engine three years ago from Bill Johnson of Burford, who had brought it from the west 10 years ago. It was partly restored by Mr. Johnson but Mr. Nichols finished the job and the three impartial judges selected the restoration job as the best at this year's show.

Mr. Arthur and his son Jack Jr. restored a 25-50 h.p. Avery gas tractor to win the tractor restoration trophy. It is a 1917 model they brought back from the United States "in bushel baskets" and they hunted all over Canada and the U.S. for necessary parts before they got it running again. It was, in the words of Norm Schell, a "fantastic" job they did and "Jack sure earned the trophy."

In the gas engine division, Mr. Arthur and his son Jack Jr. restored a 25-50 h.p. Avery gas tractor to win the tractor restoration trophy. It is a 1917 model they brought back from the United States "in bushel baskets" and they hunted all over Canada and the U.S. for necessary parts before they got it running again. It was, in the words of Norm Schell, a "fantastic" job they did and "Jack sure earned the trophy."

## Urges council to read up on assessment act

Members of Halton County Council were urged to familiarize themselves with recent changes in assessment legislation, during the meeting last week.

Reeve A. MacArthur reported on attendance at the assessment division of the Ontario Municipal Association where she "listened to the flippant remarks of the government representative."

"The small home owner is going to have a difficult time paying his taxes in the future," she warned, noting the transition to market value assessments. She suggested the assessment committee might want to make some recommendations to the Minister of Municipal Affairs on the subject.

Reeve W. Hunter reported that his assessment had gone to market value and his taxes went from \$1,100 to \$2,200. He suggested, however, that introduction of market value assessments over the whole province could be more equitable.

## "Let off steam" at hofbrauhaus

Around 900 danced and "let off steam" Saturday night in Milton Arena, when the fourth annual "hofbrauhaus" show and dance was held by the German-Canadian Club of Halton County.

Organizers report the evening was a success, both socially and financially. Dancers enjoyed the music of two orchestras, The Remnants from Toronto and Elmo Combo from Kitchener, and the dancing displays by the Carnival Group of the German-Canadian Club Harmonie, Toronto.

## Police make quick arrest

A routine check of a car by Milton Police Sergeant J. K. Robertson proved to be more than the occupants of the car bargained for.

Suspicious of the way the car was being driven, the Sergeant

pulled it over to the side of the road and upon checking inside found over \$200 worth of stolen tools taken in various break and entries in the Mississauga area.

He placed the car's surprised occupants under arrest.

**ARTHUR A. JOHNSON**  
DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY  
MILTON AND ACTON  
See Professional Directory for Details

**Eye Specialists**  
1. Oculist—an eye doctor or ophthalmologist, usually confines practice to medical and surgical treatment of eye conditions, vision testing, eye muscle exercises and prescription of glasses. Some eye doctors also specialize in ear, nose and throat.  
2. Optometrist—a non-medical graduate of a college of optometry licensed to test vision, prescribe and fit glasses and treat optical and eye muscle defects without drugs or surgery. An optician is a skilled technician who grinds lenses to prescription and fits eye glasses. He does not test vision unless he is also an optometrist.

## TOMORROW'S CAREER-TODAY

...For Those Who Want to Be Decision Makers

Computers, and the complex demands of modern management, have created a new professional elite—the management accountant. He has become the specialist upon whom industry, commerce and government have come to rely for their decision-making needs.

If you are a grade twelve graduate (or better) you should investigate the RIA educational programme. Through it you can become a professional management accountant and a decision-maker in such fields as financial management, operations control, management systems and general management.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
Write Box 176, Hamilton, or telephone T. Taylor in Oakville at 279-1010 (days) or 845-4172 (evenings). In Toronto, telephone the Society of Industrial Accountants at 363-8191.

**THE MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT**

**OAKVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**New BOOKMOBILE ROUTE**  
Weekly, on days shown, from 1:30-5:30 and 6:30-8:30.  
Monday .....McCrane St.  
Tuesday .....Falgarwood  
Wednesday .....Halton Nurseries, 5314 Trafalgar  
Thursday .....IGA Plaza 9th Line  
Friday .....Bronte—Legion 1:30-5:30  
Mississauga 6:30-8:30  
This trial schedule will operate until further notice.

"A Little Ping in the Engine . . .  
... Muffler sounds A Bit Loud . . .  
... Wonder if the Radiator has been flushed?  
... Those Tires look a Little Thin too!"

**TAKE THE WORRY OUT OF DRIVING. LET MILTON ESSO CHECK OVER YOUR CAR.**

OPEN 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Saturday. 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday

FREE PICK-UP AND DELIVERY

**ESSO MILTON ESSO**  
Corner Main & Ontario Sts. 878-3641

**FRESH OVEN READY**  
**BOILING FOWL 29¢ lb**  
**ROASTING FOWL 45¢ lb**  
**HALTON POULTRY PRODUCTS**  
Down Garden Lane, off Mill St. — 878-4401

**STOP**

**DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR YOUR CAR**

**DETOUR**

**TO GALLINGER MOTORS**

CHECK OUR PRICES  
DRIVE OUR CARS

**YIELD**

SEE OUR FREE OFFER ELSEWHERE IN THIS PAPER

**TO OUR LOW PRICE POLICY**

**YOU'LL AGREE THERE IS ONLY . . .**

**ONE WAY**

**TO BUY!**  
The Gallinger Motors way  
**CALL US TO-DAY.**

**GALLINGER MOTORS LIMITED**  
In the Milton Plaza 878-2883