



LEONARD'S MILLS GAZETTE

A PUBLICATION OF THE
MAINE FOREST AND LOGGING MUSEUM



December 2020

A Note from the President

Herb Crosby



We began 2020 eagerly looking forward to celebrating our museum's 60th anniversary. This sadly was not to be, as events around the world were cancelled due to the pandemic. Families still enjoyed visiting the museum grounds to be outside, watching alewives return and walking around Leonard's Mills. Our volunteers made movies of sawmills and machines running and posted QR codes outside for visitors to watch on their smartphones. These movies are also online and have half a million views around the world. Work camper Karen Foster generously stayed at the museum this summer greeting guests and opening the store and buildings for them.

Our Tuesday Crew continued working. This amazing group volunteers year-round, bringing their own tools, chain saws, snowplows, tractors, dump trucks, and sometimes even excavators. They harvested many blowdowns, sawing up thousands of board feet of lumber and many cords of firewood. Removing the big stumps was impressive. They replaced the rotting wood sills and lower wall of our water-powered sawmill. They installed windows in the pole barn and the new Donnell's Clapboard Mill. They also restored and painted dozens of

museum windows. Volunteers made several new displays in Machinery Hall and restored a 1928 Lombard dump truck there. They installed solar electric power in the Caretaker's House. They installed shiplap planking on the dam spillway to help alewives return downstream. They began construction of a new static machinery display building. Volunteers do all snowplowing, grounds maintenance, gardening, and machinery repair. Carle Associates generously donated our accounting services.

We were fortunate to receive a Davis Family Foundation grant and help from the talented University of Maine Construction Engineering Technology students and faculty. They replaced aging roofs on the blacksmith shop and sawyer's house with beautiful Maine cedar shakes donated by Dow's Eastern White Cedar Shingles and Shakes. They restored the settler's log cabin which had settled into the ground and come apart. They also built ADA entry ramps for the Visitor's Center and water-powered sawmill.

We had a wonderful surprise this December with a generous grant from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation to make needed improvements to our Visitor's Center and also build a Lombard track for demonstrating our Lombard collection.

A sincere thanks to the many generous donors and volunteers who make our museum possible. We look forward to resuming events when safe again. Please watch our website and Facebook pages for dates.



Winter gas Lombard run with Lombard patented logging sled. Tuesday crew sawing lumber from salvage timber harvest.



Tuesday crew replacing water-powered sawmill sill. News Center Maine filming sawmill. Alewives returning and volunteers conducting fish study.



Work camper Karen Foster arrives. Tuesday crew working on hiking trails, colonial woodworking shop, rotary sawmill, and Donnell's clapboard mill.



Work campers Roger and Martha Widholm. Brewer 7th grade students clearing brush. Tuesday crew planking dam gate to aid alewives. University of Maine Construction Engineering Technology students replacing cedar shakes on blacksmith shop and sawyer's house, rebuilding settler's log cabin.



New displays and ADA ramps for Machinery Hall. Refurbishing museum windows. Processing firewood. New solar panels for caretaker's house. Restored 1928 Lombard gas dump truck.



Support Your Place in the Woods!

Become a member of the Maine Forest and Logging Museum



Since 1960, members have supported the great place Leonard's Mills has become. Deciding to create a living history site rather than a static museum, early members of the Maine Forest and Logging Museum chose the site where Oliver Leonard had a mill. Starting with clearing land in the 1980s, members and volunteers have pitched in and built buildings, restored artifacts and participated in events and school programs to share some great Maine history.

Your membership benefits the Museum by sustaining the facility and artifacts and supporting the growth of opportunities to share with more students and visitors. You benefit by being a part of a truly unique museum! Free events and daily admission; discounted classes and workshops, and a 10% discount in the gift shop are tangible benefits of membership. The intangible benefits of being part of *Your Place in the Woods* are great memories, coming back year after year and bringing friends and family. Children's Days not included.

We look forward to seeing you at the museum! Contact us to learn about a variety of volunteer opportunities.

Name.....
Street or P.O. Box.....
Town.....State.....Zip Code.....
Email Address.....
Memberships:
Individual \$35.....Family (2 adults/minor children) \$50.....

Additional Donation Opportunities:

Lumberjack \$25.....River Driver \$50.....Camp Cookie \$100.....
Lombard Crew \$500.....Oliver Leonard Lifetime Member Club \$1,000.....

Check enclosed, made payable to MFLM
P.O. Box 104
Bradley, ME 04411

Online donations may be made on our website www.maineforestandloggingmuseum.org

QCD? Museum supporters who have reached the age of 70½ are able to make a **Qualified Charitable Distribution**. If you direct any portion of your required withdrawal from your IRA to come to the Maine Forest and Logging Museum (a 501c3 charitable organization), you will avoid paying income tax on those funds.
Benefit the Museum while saving taxes!

✧ We couldn't do what we do without ✧

✧ all of the donations of time, expertise, equipment and money. ✧

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✧ Contact us to learn about a variety of volunteer opportunities! ✧