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Editor: Alan Langmuir

"The primary objectives and purposes of this corporation shall be for public purposes: acquiring, restoring, and preserving authentic historic working sawmill and hard rock mining equipment for public education through display and demonstration, together with related activities."

Highlights of the 2005 Amador County Fair



On the left is Richard Hansen with the peevie manning the log storage deck. On the right is Dave Bibby running the ratchet set to position the log on the carriage. Dave Sanders standing in the back ground at the sawyer position. Sierra Pacific Lumber Co. donated 11 each 33 foot Doug Fir logs for the four day public demonstration. The lumber will be used for rebuilding the board walk in the old town section of the fair, also for expansion of the sawmill building to include shade for the off bearing crew and construction of the new engine room. Also a portable laser beam was tested this year to increase the accuracy of the saw cuts. All in all the four day sawmill operation passed with no significant problems.



The off bearers worked in shade provided by a large rented tent this year. Notice the restored 1945 steam donkey engine in the background and operated by engineer Ton Innes. Cathy Braun and Vera Headd with the help of other volunteers staffed the kiosk and answered many questions about the mill operations and donkey engine. We counted over 1000 folks that viewed our living history exhibits. Viewing of the saw mill was enhanced by placing several logs on the shady side of the mill building for public seating.



The 1910, 60 HP Case traction engine ran well with no break downs thanks to Cliff Carpenter, Kevin Jarrett, Jake Headd and Frank Tower. Also assisting this year were two visiting steam traction engineers, Robert Richardson and Jake Williams from the Vista Museum in Southern California. Ed Akin's 1955 D7 Caterpillar was used to position the heavy machines around the exhibit area. An early 1900's horse drawn log wagon was beautifully restored by Ron Scofield and put on display by the log deck. This wagon is on loan to ASMA from the Kennedy Mine Foundation in Jackson, CA. for public exhibit. The restoration was funded by ASMA.

Update on the machining work on the 1904 Corliss steam engine consisted of boring the valve housings and building the valves up with brass then turning them to fit the new bores. Babbitt was pored on the cross head slippers and machined to fit the cross head frame. The new piston rod was set up in the milling machine and wrench flats milled in one end to assist in the assembly of the cross head to the piston rod. The goal this year is to complete the restoration and installation of the engine in time for the 2006 fair. The next newsletter will include the final phases of the restoration and the installation.



On November 5, 18 volunteers and guests showed up at our third annual pot luck and saw mill day. We cut Doug Fir and Ponderosa Pine timbers for Ardenwood Farms, another non profit organization. They will be used for the restoration of their narrow gauge railroad flat car.

Great Holiday Gifts: Amador Sawmill caps available for sale at \$15.00 each. Contact Bill Braun at 209 245-3448 or e-mail to info@amadorsawmill.org .

This organization runs on volunteer time, occasional grants and donations of cash and equipment. We received no grants in 2005 and recent equipment restoration costs have depleted our cash reserves. **Please help** by making a donation which is tax deductible.