



# Newsletter

*of the Badger Steam & Gas Engine Club*

*Winter, 2016*

*Baraboo, Wisconsin*

## **Annual Meeting Is February 28**

The site of the 2016 annual meeting is St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Baraboo. There is parking behind the church, and the meeting room is handicap accessible from the parking lot. Access begins around 1 p.m., with the meeting starting at 2 p.m. There is an official meeting notice/financial report included with this newsletter, with driving directions, the agenda and the Club calendar on that sheet as well. Please bring it with you for reference during the meeting.

Normal business at the annual meeting includes consideration of all fees: gate admission, flea market space rents, shingle price, etc. This year the Exhibitor banquet and complimentary tickets will be discussed, but other business may be introduced from the floor. Club Bus Trip information will be announced.

When the business meeting is done, the election of officers will be held. This year, Recording Secretary Peter Holzman is retiring from office, so please consider candidacy for this very important job. All other Club Officers have indicated their willingness to continue in office. This year, Neal Stone's directorship is up for vote. The Nominating Committee includes Tom Ripp, Jim McGhee, the younger Robert Mattson, and Bob Zweifel. If you are interested in running for office, or wish to nominate somebody else, please contact one of the Nominating Committee members before the meeting if possible. Nominations may also be made from the floor during the election.

After the grueling activities of the election, there is a potluck meal, so bring a dish to pass, and your appetite. Before and after the meeting, the Book Store has tables full of new items and some old favorites for sale. Bumper stickers, trifolds, swap meet info, and posters for 2016 will also be available, for free of

course. You will also be able to sign up for the Club trip, and visit with friends you may not have seen all winter.

**If your household receives multiple copies of the newsletter/annual meeting notice mailing, it is because the Club's bylaws state that every member must be sent a notice. If you have requested only one newsletter for your household, you will receive only one newsletter in each of the other three mailings of the year.**

## **New Members**

Membership Secretary Crystal Hasheider reported three new members since the last newsletter. They are Orie McGowan, McFarland in November; John Rhodes, Milwaukee in December; and Chad Holton, Reedsburg in January.

## **Spring Bus Trip**

There is still no definite plan for the Club trip. Louise Coates is working to have a plan in time for the Annual Meeting. If you have questions or suggestions, call (608)764-5563.

## **Swap Meet & Auction Changes This Year**

It's not too early to think about the Swap Meet and auction, particularly if you want to consign something this year. The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Swap Meet will be for three full days, May 6, 7 & 8, with vendor setup starting at 8 a.m. on May 5 (Thursday). Contacts for the Swap Meet are Robert Mattson and Robert Mattson (608)393-3021. The consignment auction will be on Saturday, May 7, but this year it will start an hour earlier at 10 a.m. The rules for consigning items to the auction are the same as in the past: steam/gas engines & related parts; tractors, tractor related parts or implements; related documentation and literature only. Contact for the auction is Mark Beard (608)356-6115. The consignment auction preview can be viewed on the Club website [www.badgersteamandgas.com](http://www.badgersteamandgas.com)

### Steve Roudebush: Giving the Past a Future

Those of us who have known Steve for a long time remember the days when he was a gas engine man. So what triggered his move to the “other side” - steam engines? He says that from a young age he actually had an interest in steam engines. His son Tyler went to Steam School in Rollag, Minnesota, and this inspired Steve and his daughter Kayla to go to Edgerton for Steam School. He had always wanted a steam engine, and a few years ago, he finally acquired a 1922 Minneapolis 20 hp steamer which required a lot of work. In other words, it was in pieces.



From r to l, Steve, Mike Spahn and Stanley Spahn get the Minneapolis loaded on the lowboy. Photo provided by Steve Roudebush.

The restoration took him from December, 2012 to show time the following year, which is actually quite a short time for such a large project. Steve is a guy who gets things done. He repaired the boiler and everything else. At the show that year, the engine was in the parade, ran on the Baker fan, and participated in the spark show. Steve being Steve, the engine was meticulously restored and beautifully painted. The story goes that at that first show, he was very diligent for a while keeping everything spotlessly clean, when he finally realized that it was a steam engine, and they are supposed to be black and oily.

Steve is a long time member, and the Roudebush family is well-represented in the Club. He and his father Glen both joined in 1982. Glen passed away in 2006, but Steve's son Tyler and daughter Kayla have both joined the Club. Sons Nick and Danny are also interested in the hobby, and Steve's wife Joanne is very supportive of his participation as well.

Photos at right by Louise Coates.

A story about Steve would not be complete without mentioning his business, Spec Machine. Steve is one of a fairly sizable number of machinists in the Club.



Steve at SpecMachine leaning on Alco #1385, a work in progress.

He previously worked at WebCrafters as a millwright and machinist, learning on the job. His specialty was Baker Perkins presses. In 1997, he started Spec Machine in an old hog barn, and has been in business ever since, doing custom work in his job shop. He works on old things, and also on new, very high tech items. He will be fixing the Print Shop's press that was broken at last year's show. Currently he is working on Alco locomotive #1385 for the Mid-Continent Railway Museum. It will be a complete locomotive when it leaves his shop. The shop is well-equipped and very organized. Even the dog only barks when visitors arrive, then stops barking and retires to her house. Without being told. Remarkable!



This rare and very large 1918 Minneapolis separator is another of Steve's projects.

Future plans? He has a recently purchased, very large 1918 Minneapolis 36x56 wooden separator in the shop that needs work. Only 377 were made. It will probably be ready for the 2016 show. (No pressure or anything, Steve!) He wants to find a steam engine for Kayla, and he is also looking for a Minneapolis tractor. Whatever he adds to the family collection will have a very good home and be carefully preserved.

#### **Deaths:**

**John A. Kukuwich Jr.**, age 82, of Waukesha died October 23, 2015. For most of his life, he farmed in Franklin, WI, working with his brother Robert and his parents, John and Hattie (Dostal) Kukuwich. He continued this legacy with his wife, Marge and his daughters. In the late 1970s, Marge started Leaf and Petal Greenhouses and John worked with her in this endeavor. He was also an owner of General Aluminum and Prime Supply, both home improvement companies. He joined the Club in 2002. He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Marge (Smith) Kukuwich; his daughters Karyn (Mike) Conklin, Connie (Tim Moriarity) Kukuwich, and Kathy (Tom) Tabbert; grandchildren Michelle (Aaron) Michael, Glenn, Kyle, Kristyn, Ross, Alex and Ryan; great grandchild Taylor; brother Robert (Elaine) Kukuwich; aunt Molly Heidlback and uncle Albert Dostal.

**Howard C. Larsen**, age 82, of Baraboo passed away on December 27, 2015. He was born to Howard and Laura (Wolkow) Larsen in 1932 in Shell Lake. He came to the Baraboo area at an early age when his family moved to a farm on Happy Hill near North Freedom. He left home at age 13 to work for various farmers in the Sauk Prairie area. During the Korean Conflict, he joined the Air Force and began his many travels. He met his first wife, Lynden Alden Larsen, in South Dakota. They were married 51 years, until her death in 2003. They lived on several farms in Wisconsin, finally buying a farm in Baraboo in 1969. He spent the next 46 years as a farmer and trader, buying and selling tractors and machinery throughout Wisconsin. He became a member of the Club in 1997. In late 2005 and 2006, two life changing events occurred. He met his second true love, Donna Scherbert, and he had a tractor rollover accident which

severely crippled him, but he managed to overcome the odds. He and Donna married in 2008. He is survived by his wife, Donna; his five children, Carla, Eugene (Mona), Kathy (David) Ott, Janet, and Howard Jr. (Dawn); grandchildren Matt (Lindy), Emily, Anastasia, and Ben Larsen; great-grandchildren Jorja, Aaron and Oliver Larsen; Donna's five children and their families whom he considered his own.

**Richard Shoudy**, age 86, of Rockford, IL died Tuesday, September 1, 2015. He was born in 1928 in Rockford, the son of Emil and Nellie (Kellstrom) Shoudy. Richard was a graduate of East High School, and served in the Army National Guard in Korea. He married Velma Kramer in 1959. He was employed by Elco Industries for 36 years, working as a Product Engineer. He retired in 1992. A member of the Club since 1983, he enjoyed collecting and restoring gasoline engines, and vacations were planned around showing his engines at the Baraboo show. He is survived by his wife Velma; children Carolyn, David (Deb) and Steven (Jean) Shoudy; granddaughter, Crystal; step-grandchildren, Jason and John (Laura) Kovanda and Bernadette (Steve) Simard; step great-grandchildren, Olivia, Sophia, Jason and Henry; sister Elinor (Roy) Mohler; sister-in-law, Janet Kramer; other relatives. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother-in-law, Ray Kramer.

**Robert A. Strubel**, age 57, of Reedsburg passed away Thursday, December 17, 2015. He was born January 21, 1958 in Milwaukee, the son of Edward "Eddie" Strubel and Loretta (McCauley) Strubel. He joined the Club in 1991, and enjoyed antique cars and tractors, and working on them with his father, who was also a Club member. He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife Suzanne; children Dan (Mari) of Portage, Matt, Rob (Chelsey), Jenny, and Emily of Reedsburg; grandchildren Alexander, Aaron and Jaxson, and the dog, Daisy.

**Victor Herbert VanAlstine**, age 68, of Rio died on Thursday, December 3, 2015. He was born on September 29, 1947 in Marshfield to Louis Bernard and Juliet Helen (Gulrud) VanAlstine. He attended Norway Grove grade school and graduated from Waunakee Area Schools in 1966. He was united in marriage to Patricia Curtis in 1974. He served in the U.S. Navy on the aircraft carrier USS Oriskany during

the Vietnam War. He was employed as a steamfitter welder at Mendota Mental Health for 38 years. A Club member since 2004, Victor was a regular in the Blacksmith Shop for Kids Day, and during the annual show. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife Patricia, and his niece Julie Rung. He is survived by his two children, Louis VanAlstine of Rio, and Vicki (Todd) Brodie of Randolph; three grandchildren, Dylan, Zachary, and Emma Brodie; two siblings, Bonnie (Roger) Rung of Franklin, N.C. and Bernard (Barbara) VanAlstine of Waunakee; three step-children, Lorri (Marc) Morrick of Belleville, Carol (Leonard) Hawley of Ash Fork, AZ, Larry Voight of Portage; and a grandson, Caleb Hawley.

### **Member Meeting Reports:**

#### **November 18, 2015**

About 36 members were present. Membership Secretary Crystal Hasheider reported three member deaths. They are Melvin Albers, John Kukuwich and Richard Shoudy. Don Blausey reported the Club's fire extinguishers are mounted and tagged as inspected. The Railroad Committee reported an additional load of rail is to be delivered this week, and another load will be delivered this month. Allen Steele explained his plan for a 50'x60' storage and show building to be built in the construction equipment demonstration area. The Club will pay for the concrete and electrical service to the building. A motion was made by Don Evenson to continue the Saturday evening banquet, with Steve Roudebush coordinating this even. Profit from this will be used to pay for restoration of the Club's 1885 Rumely steam traction engine. Wade Opperman reported the local Boy Scout chapter is looking for ways of working with the Club to earn points for Eagle Scout badges.

#### **January 20, 2016**

About 36 people were present. Membership Secretary Crystal Hasheider reported that the Club had gained three members and lost three. New members are Orie McGowan, John Rhodes, and Chad Nolton. Deceased members are Howard Larsen, Robert Strubel and Victor VanAlstine. The Nominating Committee for the annual meeting election is composed of Tom ripp, Jim McGhee, Robert Mattson (the Younger) and Bob Zweifel. It was noted that snow removal this winter

has been done by Paul Young. Bill Hendrickson replaced the bathroom window in the Office, plus worked on a door to the Diesel building. David Fuller reported that all rail from Findorff has been hauled out now. The Spring bus trip is not yet finalized, per Louise Coates. Don Blausey reported progress on the Vilter engine project. Some steam engines have been offered to the Club; Bill Klemm and Paul Young will check on it. Neal Stone had information on a timber sale, possibly in the fall. Allen Steele displayed plans for the building by the construction machinery demonstration area; it will be going up this spring. We are still waiting for township approval for a north entrance to the grounds. Changes to the ticket booth were discussed. Don Evenson asked for requests for signs. He will be working on them soon: Handicapped Parking, No Parking, No Firearms, etc.

### **Club Calendar and Dates to Remember**

**Membership Meeting Dates:** Meetings begin at 8 p.m. **March 16, April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 10, September 21, November 16, 2016; January 18, 2017**  
Membership Meetings are held at the Baraboo Civic Center, 124 Second St., Baraboo, WI in Room 18 (south end of hall) from November through April. From May through September, meetings are held in the Women's Events Building at the show grounds on Sand Road. Executive Board meetings are held at 7 p.m. on membership meeting evenings in the same room, if members care to attend.

**2016 Annual Meeting - February 28, 2016**  
**10<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Bus Trip - March 30, 2016 Tentative**  
**Cleanup Day - April 23, 2016**  
**18<sup>th</sup> Annual Swap Meet & Auction -- May 6, 7 & 8, 2016**  
**Kids Day -- May 20, 2016**  
**53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Show - August 19, 20 & 21, 2016**  
**Exhibitor Banquet - October 8, 2016**

### **Contact Information for the Executive Board**

President: Robert Coates 608-764-5563  
Vice President: Don Blausey 608-356-3865  
Recording Secretary: Pete Holzman 608-635-7772  
Membership Secretary: C. Hasheider 608-522-4277  
Treasurer: Bill Klemm 608-522-4905  
Director: Paul Grotophorst 608-355-1000  
Director: Paul Hasheider 608-522-4277  
Director: Neal Stone 608-254-7195