

# Hay Creek Festival reaffirms the good life

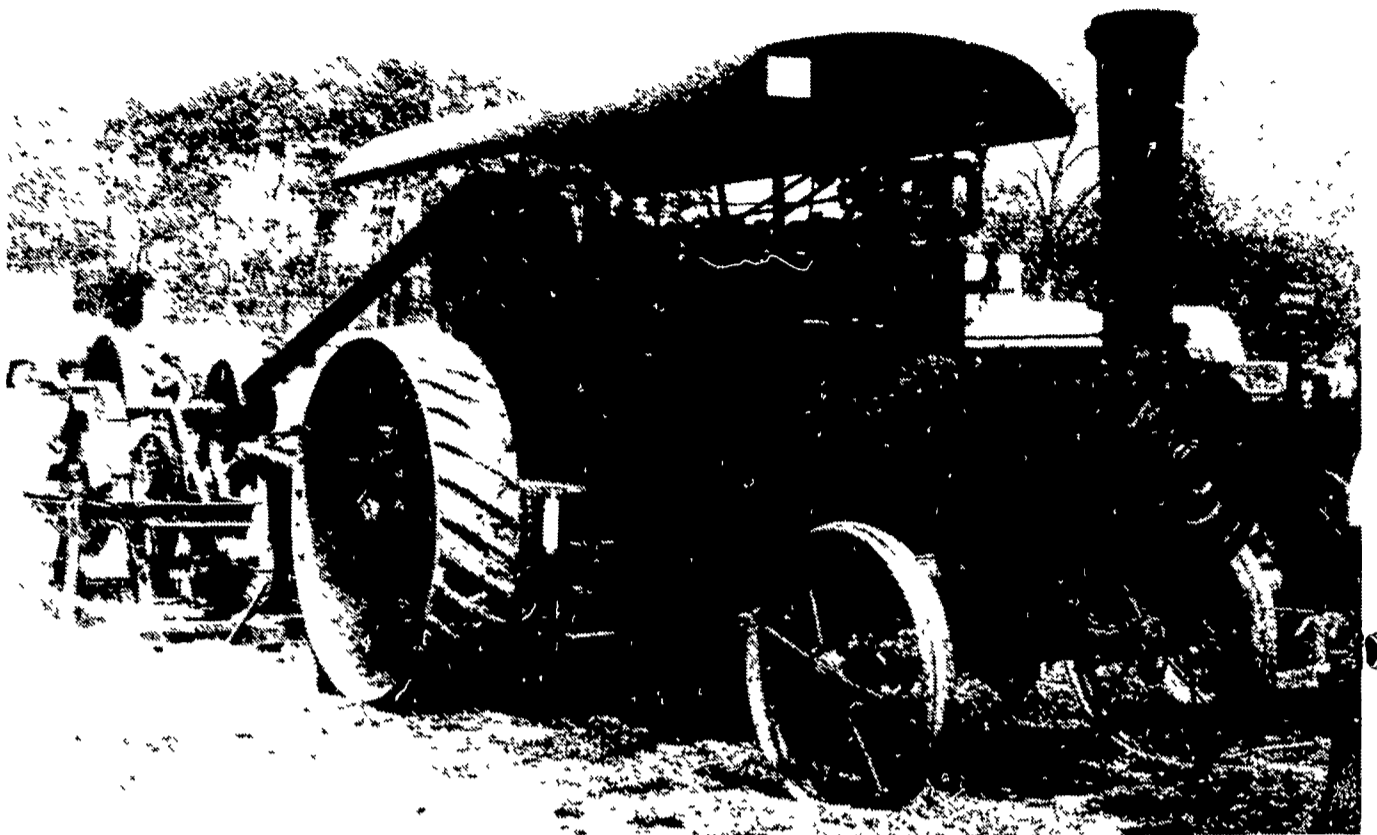
GEIGERTOWN - Progress is defined in the dictionary as "gradual betterment - a forward movement". Progress in the lifestyle of the Hay Creek Valley throughout the past 200 years will unfold September 7, 8, and 9 during the 4th annual Hay Creek Valley Fall Festival.

Each day of the festival, the Hay Creek Valley Historical Association will present the good life as it was in this southern Berks area. The festival will take place at the Geigertown Fire Company on Friday 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Fall Festival is not a nostalgic look back, rather it is a reaffirmation of the good life in the Hay Creek Valley and its calm, quiet lifestyle.

To the projected 12,000 people who will be visiting the festival, the word progress will take on a new meaning: today's impersonal conveniences and poor services replacing yesteryear's pride and skill of craftsmanship in addition to the security of being self sufficient.

The agricultural, domestic, and technological developments from the 1700's to just after the beginning of the 20th century



Old steam engines of this type will be powering a shingle mill, saw mill, threshing machine, and a

mill for grinding corn meal.

will become a living experience for everyone.

John Fleming, Historical Association president, states, "The Fall Festival will be unique in that it is really a two way communication medium.

"By that I mean, we want the visitors to talk to the

craftsmen, become involved with them and learn from

them. And better yet, the visitors can relate to the craftsmen knowledge from their own background—perhaps something the craftsmen don't even know. We want to learn from the

visitors as much as they learn from us.

Years ago craftsmen and farmers didn't write 'how-to-manuals' they showed their sons and daughters how to do things. The crafts people at the Festival learned in that way and are now teaching others how to practice their

crafts. This oral education is what the Fall Festival is all about. In 20 or 30 years if these traditions and techniques are not passed on — they will be gone forever!"

Skilled housewrights will form lumber and structural

(Turn to Page 18)



These kitchen tools are reproductions made by Hay Creek Festival craftsmen. This year the event will be held Sept. 7, 8, and 9.

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KEYSTONE ADMIRAL MENTOR

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His Dam



Keystone Reflection Memory VG-86  
Gold Medal Dam  
DHIR

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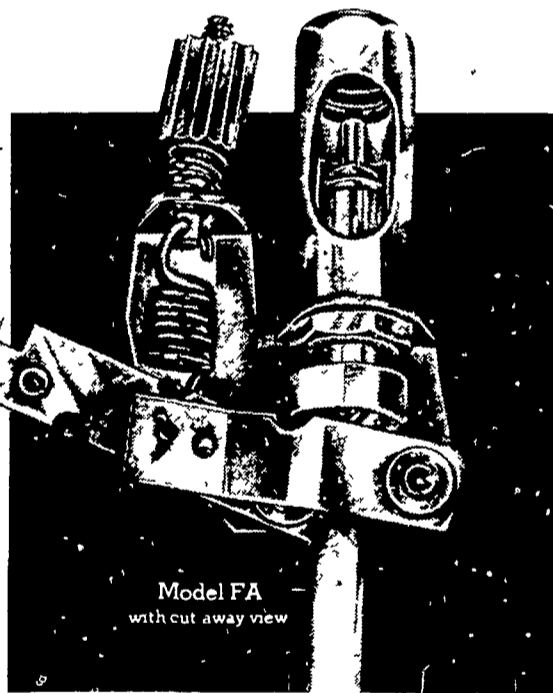
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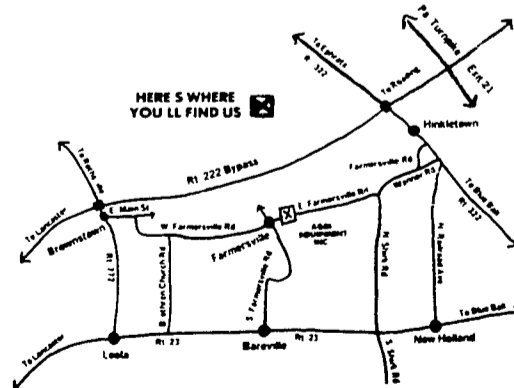
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