

Silent Auction Set For Pasto Museum

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Editor

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) - To help preserve agricultural rich heritage for future generations, the Pasto Agricultural Museum at Penn State University will hold a silent auction of donated items at the 2000 Ag Progress Days. The proceeds from this first-time auction will benefit the Penn State Ag Alumni Endowment for the Pasto Agricultural Museum.

We are inviting you to donate an item that will pique the interest of the events visitors and guests, said Darwin Braund, Pasto Agricultural Museum curator. Income from this Endowment helps pay for the repair and restoration of

assistance to help with inventory records, correspondence, and scheduling tours and guides.

Penn States College of Agricultural Sciences has provided significant financial and personnel support for the establishment and growth of the Pasto Agricultural Museum. Also, the Colleges Alumni Society has established an endowment for the museum. The museum has been and continues to be operated by a volunteer curator and a dedicated group of volunteer guides.

Now the museums volunteers have been challenged to expand the endowment fund so that its income will cover most of the costs for the museum. Thus the idea for a silent auction at Ag Progress Days was born.

Here's how it works. Select an

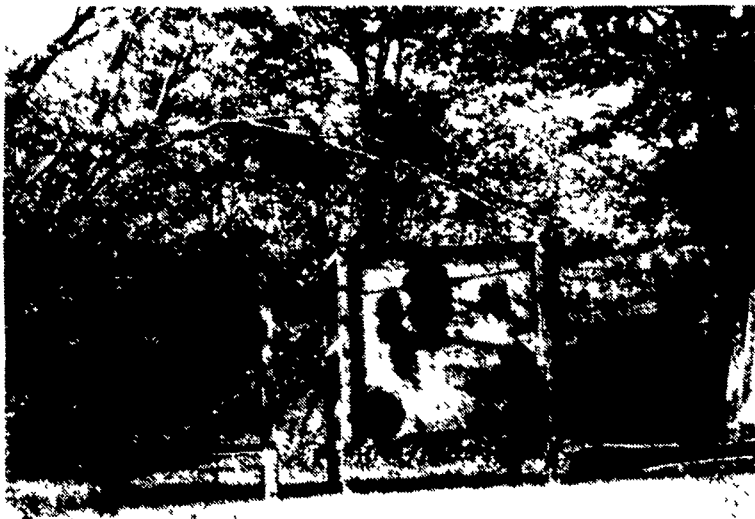
item you would like to donate. Donation suggestions include such items as antiques, dairy livestock feeds, discount coupons on lawn/garden/farm tractors and equipment, travel tour packages, theatre, sports tickets, catered meals, gift/food packages, vacation time share, weekend bed and breakfast accommodations, animal health products, crop protection products and services, or wood carvings/h and-crafted

items. Then complete the accompanying application and send it to the museum office. You will be notified later when and where to send the item. A listing of auction items with descriptions, estimated values, and donors names will be compiled in a catalogue.

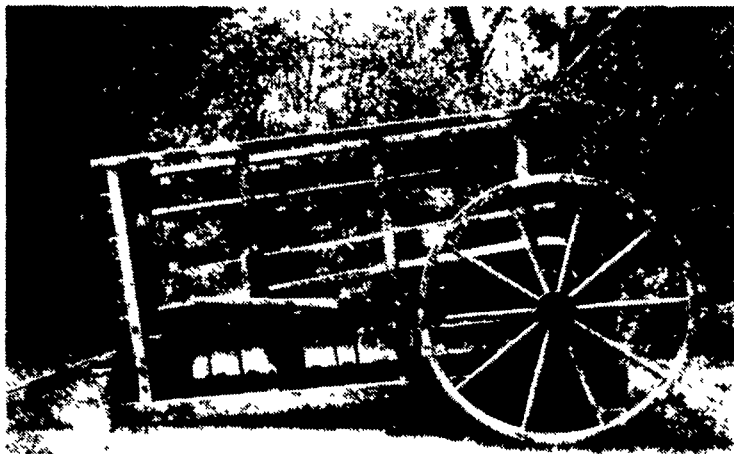
Auction items will be on display Tuesday and Wednesday, August 15 & 16, 2000, at Ag Progress Days. Bidding will close promptly at 6 p.m. on Wednesday. Successful bidders will pick up their items

after payment is processed Wednesday evening or will make arrangements for shipping.

The deadline for your donated item(s) to be included in the auction catalogue is June 1, 2000. The earlier they receive your item donation form, the better they can promote the auction. Items from individuals should have a minimum value of \$50 and from companies, a \$100 value. If you have questions, call the museum office at 814-863-1383.



Before restoration, this grain thresher was found at a Juniata County auction. The early 1870's model consists of the forward threshing cylinder section and the new "winnow" back section, joined together by clamps. It demonstrates technological advancement by combining both the threshing and winnowing (grain separation) operations in one machine. Schaeffer, Merkle & Co., in Fleetwood, Berks County, made the machine. Darwin Braund, curator, bought this piece and donated it to the Pasto Agricultural Museum at Penn State University.



Before restoration this one-horse tread power made in the 1870's was found at a Juniata County auction. Schaeffer, Merkle & Co. at Fleetwood manufactured 'The Buckwalter Champion,' The wood drive wheel is 53 inches in diameter. The tread power was bought and donated to the Pasto Agricultural Museum at Penn State University by Darwin Braund, curator.



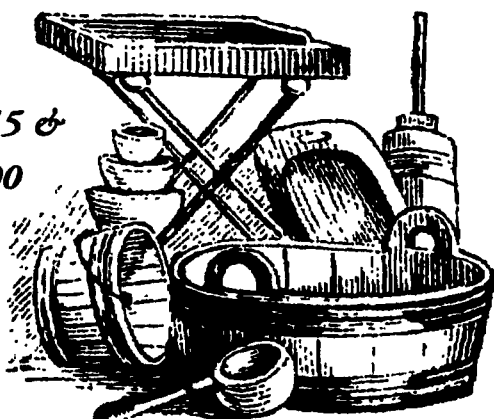
After restoration, the one-horse tread power 'The Buckwalter Champion' thresher by Schaeffer, Merkle & Co., as exhibited in the Pasto Agricultural Museum at Penn State University.



After restoration, here is "The King" thresher, manufactured by Schaeffer, Merkle & Co., as exhibited in the Pasto Agricultural Museum at Penn State University.

Pasto Agricultural Museum

August 15 &
16, 2000



First Silent Auction