

Eddington

Historical Society
May 2009

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DISCLAIMER

While The Eddington Historical Society makes every attempt to include accurate information in this newsletter, we are not promising it is 100% accurate. The EHS Newsletter, its officers, or assigns assume no responsibility or liability for errors or omissions in this newsletter.

Meetings, Membership & Officers
Yearly Dues \$5 Become a Life
Member today for only \$25

Send your name, address,
 telephone number and check to

Lou Higgins

76 Jarvis Gore

Eddington, ME 04428

Meetings are held the second Sunday
 of each month in the

Municipal Building at 1PM

President: Richard Bowden

Vice-president: Rob Dorr

Secretary: Denise Knowles

Treasurer: Lou Higgins

Newsletter: Hilma H. Adams

Joyce Hodgdon, Editor / Publisher

Additional copies of the Eddington

Historical Newsletters are available on

www.pasttimepublications.net and

www.adams-re.com

Just Click On



The Eddy Monument

What Is It & Who Is The Driver?



Town Office Reports

The Annual School Budget Meeting
 will be **Thursday, June 4, 2009**
 at 7:00 p.m. at
Holbrook Middle School

The Validation Referendum
 for the proposed School Budget
 will be **Tuesday, June 9, 2009**
 at the **Eddington Town Office**
 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The School budget must pass
 at both the **Annual Budget Meeting**
 on

June 4th and at the Validation
Referendum on June 9th in order
 for the budget to be validated.

Over Fifty Neighborhood Group

Please come to the North
 Brewer Methodist Church
 the 3rd Tuesday of the month
 at 2:00 p.m.

If you wish to attend, please
 call Theresa Woznik 207-
 989-3479 or e-mail her
nanainmaine@mac.com

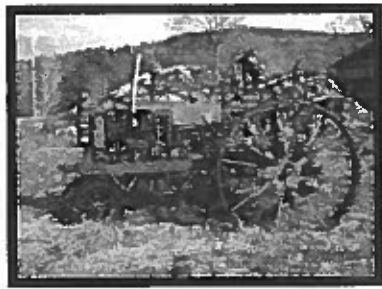
You may pick up a copy of
 the Newsletter at the Town
 Office, the Town Store,
 Clewley Farm Restaurant, or
 the TradeWinds Variety. A
 copy is mailed to Dues Paying
 Members.

This edition is to depict in words and pictures

Eddington Men & Their Love For Farm Tractors

For many years now "*The Old Homestead*" has seen eight generations of the same family live and work the land. There was College & Margaret Comins, Elijah & Content Comins, Jerome & Ella Comins, J. Herbert & Ethel Comins, and Bruce Comins. When Margaret's uncle Bruce passed away, she and her husband Tom McKinney came to live on the farm. Now Margaret lives in *The Old Homestead* and her daughter, Pam and son, David, live in another dwelling a few steps away. A complete story of *The Old Homestead* is planned for a future date. The Comins men used their tractors in raising potatoes and corn. They used them in the apple orchards, for cutting hay and for working in the woods. Some of their tractors are pictured below.

Information provided by Margaret McKinney



Have you seen any of these tractors around town?



1950's John Deere Tractor B

***Ernest Comins &
father J. Herbert Comins***



Tom McKinney—Farmall Tractor



1989 CASE Tractor

Tom on Farmall is in one of the hay fields. Tom McKinney plowing snow on the Comins' Farm on Route 46 on his CASE Tractor. The child, T.J. Perry, is his nephew.

Margaret McKinney

Answer to What Is It & Who Is The Driver? The Geneva Tractor Company of Geneva, Ohio manufactured what they called a *TrActor*. It was a kit you could buy. Once it was attached to a Model A Ford Car, you would have a Car-trActor. It had a bench to seat two people and a dash board. The front was a car and the back was a tractor. The company had four distributors throughout the country. In 1908 it was offered as car trActor kit from Sears Roebuck & Company for \$3.98. The driver is Tom McKinney.



1967 CASE Tractor

Benjamin, Ryger & Brad Goodwin

"Got the tractor from Bub Knox' wife, Vivian. We spend many happy hours tractoring on our Red Barn Ranch (formerly the Colson Farm) on the Davis Road. Tractors tie neighbors together." *Ben Goodwin*



1936 Essex Super 6

"My Grandfather Frank Bragg (driver) cut the body off and put a hay rack on it. That is my cousin, Pat Doherty, on the left in front and me on the right. My brother and sister, Bobby and Marilyn in the back."

Arthur Wood



1950 John Deere

Bought it while still in college. He loved it, kept it polished and kept it under cover. We didn't have a big farm, you know. We just used it for haying and for gardening." *Harold Higgins*



1985 Ford 8N Tractor

"Bought it from Jerry Harvey. It was all I could afford in those years. It was a good little tractor for gardening and haying."

Tim Higgins

When the rains are heavy in May
You can count on a good crop of hay-



1952 Ferguson

"I bought it from Jesse Wood. It's a good little tractor for mowing my property on Fox Hill. Here, I am rock raking the Sawmill Woods Golf Course." *Frank Arismeeck*



1957 CASE

Bought all three of his tractors from Harold Smith, H.D. Smith & Sons. He worked from daylight to dark cutting pulp and plug wood. He had Rocky Manzo haul it to the Plug Mill or to Eastern Fine Paper in Brewer. The nickname for his tractor was "Harold, Jr." He used to say, "You don't need to feed or water it. Just put the gas in and you go." *Bub Knox* 3



"Boy, we did a lot of work with that old Ford tractor."
Roland Adams 1948



1958 International Harvester
 Phil in his blue jean coveralls hooking chains on the rear wheels for better traction in the snow. "Just came out of the woods with a load of pulp."
Phil Adams



1957 International Tractor
 "Bumpa, you been farming long?"
 (Photo taken 1989)
Phil, Brian and David Adams



2004 Massey Ferguson 1433 Hydro
 When the morning is clear and before they bloom
 Spray the Apple Tree between morning and noon
 And spray it again before the fruit sets on
 You will reap a healthily harvest before too long
Phil Adams



2004 Massey Ferguson 1433 Hydro
 "Dad has two big four-wheelers, one is called a John Deere and this "No Shift" Massey Ferguson."
Philip Adams, Jr.



1960 Vintage Murray Pedal Tractor
 "I'm going haying with dad."
David Adams 1966



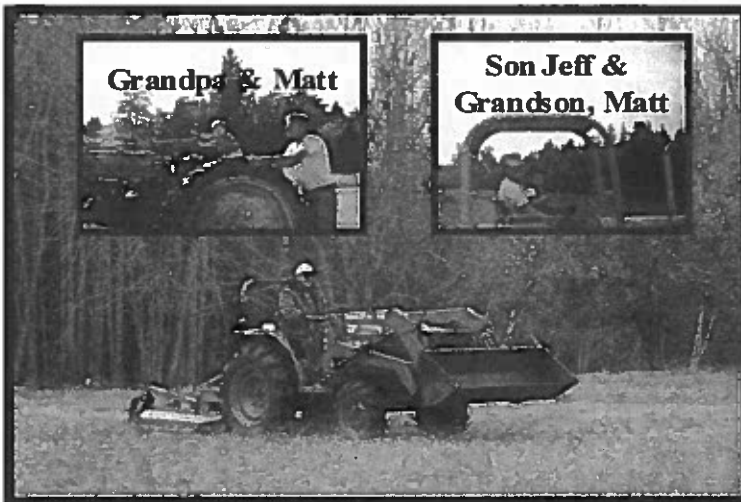
1940's Farmall Tractor

This photo showing Billy cutting a big field of hay, was in the Bangor Daily News July 2000. *Billy Morin*



1995 M4700DT-Kubota Tractor

After a hard day in the hay field, Arnold Grover's favorite saying is, "Ain't I run and ain't I tired."



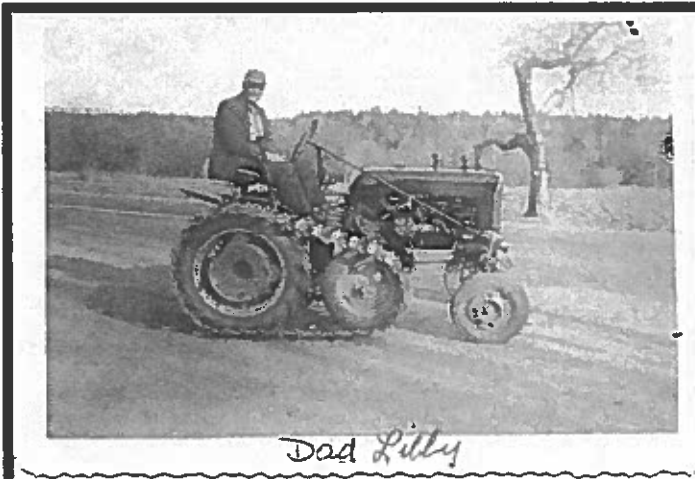
1995 Kubota with Bucket, Bushhog, Rototiller

"Before this one, I had a 1949 Ellis Chalmers with a crank and sold it to Timmy Higgins. I use my Kubota on my 20 acres here and I bushhog and rototill a few gardens, but most of all, I use it to teach my grandchildren to be a farmer."
Paul Gerald



2006 John Deere

"Cutting wood down on my wood lot on the Davis Road. I've got 141 acres down there. It used to be called The Lampson Place. The old road is there and there are old foundations. Would like to know who lived there?"
Roger & Jesse Wood, Father/Son



Dad Libby

1954 Photo Farmall 6-Foot Halftrack

"We don't get stuck this way!"

George Libby



1978 Two Cylinder Diesel Satoh Beaver

"I have all the attachments, except the sickle bar!"
Wilbur Libby 5



1950 Ford Tractor—N Model

"Best damn tractor ever made. Has the original motor! I've hauled 1100 cords of wood with er."
Linwood Lord



Early '40's Tractor

"I love my farm, I love my gardens, I love my cows, I love my chickens, and I love my tractor." **Bill Hall**



Late 1950's Farmall 130 Half Track (Photo taken 1963 at Green Lake) and **The Jitterbug** made by Charles Grover and John McDonald. The Jitterbug was made from a Seven Up Delivery Truck which they purchased from Philip Gusha. It had a homemade winch on the back of it with a straight 8 Oldsmobile motor. *"That winter we got all the heavy snow. Remember? Here you see John sitting on the Jitterbug and the Farmall ready to pull it out."*
Charles Grover



1950 Ford 8 N

"I restored it to its original. Good in winter. Starts right up. It's time to get my garden in. I've been in Eddington 50 years now. Came down from Allagash. Bought the International tractor from Phil Adams. She can outhaul any tractor in town. She is an Iron Horse" **Warren Gardner**



1958 International Harvester



Early 2000 New Holland Tractor

George looked forward to Springtime and making maple syrup. *"I enjoy working in my gardens, and I love my tractors."* **George Kelley**

Don't plant your seedlings until after the New Moon



1980 CASE60 Horse Diesel

"I had a Logging Winch and Trailer for hauling wood. I burned 4' wood in my homemade furnace to heat my two-story greenhouse. The red grill on the front of the tractor was made by *H D Smith & Sons* to protect the tractor motor in the woods." **Fred Crossman**



1994 Kubota L 2900 **Richard Bowden**

"I use my 4-wheel drive with direct drive transmission 32 horsepower Kubota with its dashboard mounted shuttle lever to harvest firewood, load and move dirt, and landscape and level with the rear mounted blade. It has a bushhog and I use it yearly to mow the farm I grew up on in Orrington."

Richard Bowden



1935 Fordson Tractor **Bruce Bowden**



1950 Farmall Tractor



Dale Fox



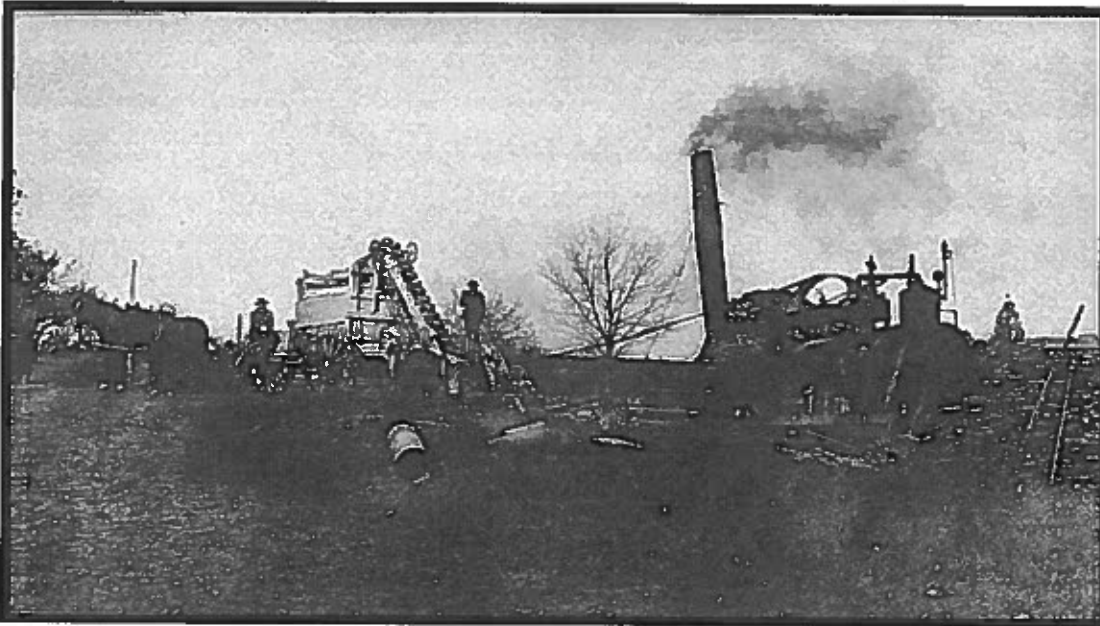
Glen Fox

The Fox men did everything. They cut firewood, cleared lots, scraped roads, went logging and worked big gardens.

Allison Fox

When the leaf of the maple tree is as big as a mouse's ear, it's time to plant corn

Eddington Historical Society
F.A. Wood Municipal Building
906 Main Street
Eddington, ME 04428



Answer to
**What
When &
Where**

*Photo re-introduced
here from last month's
issue!*

The *thrashing machine* or in modern spelling *threshing machine* was invented by Andrew Meikle in 1784. It was invented for the separation of grain from stocks and husks. Early threshing machines were hand fed and horse powered. Later, they were powered by steam. And still later they were powered by gasoline. Today they are powered by diesel. In the fall of 1914, this steam powered thresher was on the Page Farm (now *Phil Adams Farm*) on Route 9. The Page Farmhouse was the Halfway house for the Stage Coach that went from Amherst to Bangor. The Drivers would put their horse up in the barn and the Drivers and the Travelers put up in the *Bunk Room* of the farmhouse (now *Michael & Diane Rimm's home*) each time they traveled to Amherst or to Bangor.