

# Pasto Museum Visitors at Ag Progress Days August 18 through 20, 2009

## A Summary of the Guest Book

Among the nearly 5500 visitors to the Pasto Agricultural Museum during Ag Progress Days in 2009 (347 signed the Guest Book), the one which stands out from all the rest is

*“Jerome K. Pasto (94 years old).”*

It was his vision and his personal collection of antique farm implements which became the Pasto Agricultural Museum at Penn State University 31 years ago. The new building addition attests to its continued growth and a sampling of visitors to the Museum in 2009 documents the geographical and cultural reach of its mission:

John Turach, Export, PA  
Mohammed and Asheer Abjmi, Kuwait  
Noah Peachey and family, Belleville  
Zhamer Zaubexova, Kazakhstan  
Robbie and Wanda Abell, Pisgah, Maryland  
Lester Stere, Cedar Park, Texas  
Tatiana Brelavets, Ukraine

Each year hundreds of residents of rural communities and small towns across Pennsylvania are joined by visitors from other states and other countries. Neighboring states, New York, Ohio, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, are represented, as well as those farther a field, including Virginia and Texas in the South, Indiana and Illinois in the Mid-West, and Montana and Oregon in the Far West. Among the Pennsylvanians who signed the Guest Book, most came from the Central and South-central Counties of the state: Bedford, Blair, Centre, Cumberland, Dauphin, Huntingdon, Indiana, Lancaster, Mifflin, and York.

As in the past, responses to the exhibits are enthusiastic and complimentary:

*Good Job*                      *Awesome*                      *Unique Items*  
*Lovely and Educational!*                      *Great History Keepers*

This year there were several comments on the building addition:

*The addition is wonderful!  
Very nice, much improved*

*New addition is great!  
The cool air is great.*

There are always many comments on visitors' individual favorites:

*Love the horse carts!      Great, especially the motorized binders  
Ox yokes are cool!      Loved the pigs!  
Love seeing Granddad Bob Cowan's baler!*

And a few notes of nostalgia:

*Looked like our time (the Zettlemoyers)      I remember Grandpa and me.  
Thanks for the memories.      PSU 62*

Some visitors simply sum it up with....

*What fun!      Always enjoy the museum.  
Enjoy coming every year.      Thank You!  
I like this museum (Kazakhstan)*

The most interesting comments, however, are the conversations that some visitors have with the docents:

*Is that a corn shovel? That's what we used to call it. Somebody said it was a stone shovel. We had lots of stone on the farm. We didn't have any stone in North Dakota.....8 feet of soil.*

*(Re: the wringer washing machine).....I used to have to rinse the clothes in my Grandmother's wringer washer. I had a big paddle like an oar and I had to pump it up and down. I wasn't allowed near the wringer. The story in the family was that my aunt got her hair caught in the wringer and her brother caught it just in time. Otherwise she would have been scalped!*

*We used to butcher hogs on the farm, but we cut the tenderloin right off of the bone. I never had a pork chop til I was in the army. We made fresh*

*bacon – called it “flich” – that’s German.*

*(RE: pork processing.....) That’s the way we started out 40 years ago, hanging up the carcass on that hook. We didn’t use the skin, though. Too many hairs and bristles in the puddin’!*

*Farming is a one-man operation now. My grandson’s out in the field on the tractor and the computer tells the cows when to go in and get milked. I wonder how they check for mastitis.*

*I come to every one of these places I can. A lot of people don’t know what all this stuff is for. I have an old corn planter that still works. There’s a museum up near Troy in the fairgrounds with a lot of this stuff.*