## PRESCOTT ANTIQUE AUTO CLUB

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Keith and Randy Bochat with one of their fly-wheel engines.

## **CELEBRATING PAAC'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY**

**PAAC and Fly-Wheel Engines** 

Early in PAAC's history a group of the PAAC members became interested in Fly-Wheel Engines. These were used to generate electricity, run pumps, hoists, and wenches in mines, to run equipment in factories, etc. There were a lot of old mine sites around Prescott where these old pieces of equipment had been abandoned. PAAC members began collecting these in the mid 1970's.

The large Fairbank-Mores engine on the back of Pat Mackin's truck is always a hit at the Folk Arts Fair and in the Old Engine Fire-up Area at PAAC's Car Show, Parts Exchange, and Old Engine Fire-up. The Old Engine Fire-up section of our show began in the 1970's and has always been a hit with the public. There is nothing to attract attention like Pat's Fairbank -Mores chugging along, getting slower and slower, suddenly spasming with

a loud bang and making the truck hop up and down, and getting chugging along again.

One trip was to the Gold Bar Mine outside Wickenburg to bring a mine hoist to Sharlot Hall Museum. It is now located in the middle section of the parking area at Sharlot Hall. Along Summit

Avenue are a steam engine, stampmill, crusher, and hoist that PAAC members with the help of the National Guard got from the Derby Mine which was up in the Highland Pines area of Prescott and moved to Sharlot Hall. PAAC members service these engines and get them up and running for Sharlot Hall Museum's Annual Folk Arts Fair. When the Navajo Generating Plant at Ganado, Arizona, was being shut down in the



Keith Bochat, Doug Williams, and Jim Geator mid 1970's.

1980's, PAAC was able to acquire one steam engine, 2 diesel run engines, and part of another steam engine. These are currently stored in the truck boxes on the clubhouse site until PAAC can determine someplace to have them displayed. These are REALLY big engines that were used to generate electricity for the Navajo Nation and northern Arizona until the coal powered Navajo Power Plant was built.

PAAC members are still collecting and showing their fly-wheel engines today. The Arizona Fly-wheelers come and show their prize toys at PAAC's show at Watson Lake. If you haven't checked out the Old Engine Fire-up at our show, be sure and do that at the next show. It is fascinating to watch these engines do their things.



Keith Bochat's big pumpkin at the 1978 4th of July Parade.



Pat and Joe Mackin with Pat's fly-wheel collection in 1970's.





Retrieving the Western Mine Hoist from Gold Bar Mine for Sharlot Hall Museum, installing it at the museum and Rich running it in 2016.







Fly-wheel equipment at a mine in Groom Creek area, 1970's.



June 8, 1980, J.D. Hooker, Keith Bochat, Larry Quick, & Pat Mackin at Sharlot Hall Museum's Folk Arts Fair.