

U.P. Steam and Gas village dedicated to preserving history

The U.P. Steam and Gas Engine Village is an annual feature in Delta County and will be returning again this year as part of “Big Ole’s Pioneer Days” June 26-27. Historic equipment will be on display and Association members will be on hand to educate visitors about this unique part of our history.

The show will feature tractor games, parades, a flea market, antique village, food shops and more. A vintage 1860s working saw mill will be on display, along with an array of gas engines, steam and gas tractors and other equipment. The show will also feature a gun and knife show and a museum of antique artifacts.

The U.P. Steam and Gas Engine Association was founded in 1976 as a non-profit corporation dedicated to the preservation, restoration and enjoyment of early steam engines, gasoline engines, tractors and associated equipment. It is one of over 400 such groups in the world today. Members of different organizations are restoring and exhibiting old gas engines and tractors throughout the United States and Canada and even as far away as England and Australia.

“These machines of the past are as much a part of the American heritage as the hardy men and women who used them in forging our nation,” said Skip Dufour, Association president. Dufour noted that over time, weather and misuse have taken its toll on this historic equipment. It is the Association’s on-going resolve to save it for present and future generations.

Stop by and experience this glimpse at our history for yourself during the hot air balloon festival. For more information about the Village or festival, visit www.deltami.org.