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WWW.PIONEEROILMUSEUM.COM

Pioneer Oil Museum of New York  
Box 332  
Bolivar, NY 14715

# Pioneer Oil Museum of New York

## Museum Exhibition Buildings Updated

Over the past year and continuing into this, upgrades and improvements are on the way for several display buildings at the museum. Lighting and electrical work at the Joyce Exhibition Building will be completed soon. This work was made with donations of future equipment in mind. Infrastructure including water for cooling and natural gas for power are next in store for this building. Last fall the first working oilfield engine was donated by Paul Phillips of Bradford. Once the infrastructure needs are finished, this engine should be ready to start humming along. Oth-

er working items should soon be displayed there as well.

The Bucher Threading Buildings (renovated in 2016-17) were stained and protected from the elements last summer. The work on these two buildings is sure to protect them for many years.



This year the Shaner Exhibition Building will also be pressure cleaned and stained. Thanks to former resident Lance Shaner for supporting this endeavor, as he did when the building was originally renovated. His support has allowed for preservation for the foreseeable future.

## Museum Expands Advertising Campaign

Last year the museum began a concerted effort to increase its regional advertising, thus leading to a surge in tourism. One of the first methods was increased print articles in newspapers and travel guides throughout the Southern Tier and the Finger Lakes.

In the spring the museum worked with Spectrum to produce a television commercial describing the museum's exhibits along with the oil heritage of this area. The geographic focus of this advertising campaign was the Southern Tier and toward Buffalo. Due to the museum's historic focus and demographics, the ad was aired on the History

Channel, from May through August last summer, and on many occasions it ran during episodes of "American Pickers."

The museum was spotlighted in two segments on Channel 2, the NBC affiliate in Buffalo, on its "Unknown Stories of Western New York." These bits included a history of the local industry as well as a quick visit to the museum. Included were trips to a local flooding operation as well as to a lease using an electric jack. When completed, these articles were well-done and gave great coverage to the museum.

**PRESERVING THE  
OIL AND GAS  
HERITAGE OF  
SOUTHWESTERN  
NEW YORK AND  
NORTHWESTERN  
PENNSYLVANIA**

## New York State Oil Producers' Association Celebrates 100th Anniversary

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the New York State Oil Producers' Association (NYSOPA). On July 18, 1918, the largest group of oil producers ever to meet assembled in Bolivar. At that time approximately 140 men enrolled with many more to follow. Annual dues were set at \$5 with a \$1 fee for employees and others not financially interested in oil producing. The plan was "to secure a large and representative

membership, embracing every oil producing township in the state."

As this meeting was held during the late stages of World War I, the first resolution of the organization stated, "That we, the members of the New York State Oil Producers' Association, representing the owners of 18,000 producing oil wells, declare the loyalty of the oil producers of the state to our country. It is the first and supreme duty of all citi-

zens to support the Allies."

Officers elected were: president - John P. Herrick, vice-presidents - E.C. Brown and George H. Bradley, secretary and treasurer - Frank Richart, and assistant secretary A.J. Matson.



Ad—1931 Bolivar Breeze

## Expanded Summer Hours Help Museum Grow

Looking for something to do this summer? Would you like to get out of the house once a week? More than ever, **we need help to stay open for our visitors.** We are looking for volunteers to either fill in a weekly slot or to substitute when one of our "regulars" can't work. Each volunteer works just one three-hour block of time per week. In the past the museum was open only on weekdays from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, but thanks to the efforts of some of our volunteers, we were able to **stay open both Saturday and Sunday afternoons.** We still need more people to help out on the weekends, and we need a list of future volunteers willing to be tutored by our current staff. We're not getting any younger! Due to the efforts of our workers, we even stayed open for several days a week through the first week

### Wall of Fame Nominations Needed

The New York State Oil Producers' Association is looking for names for prospective inductees into its Wall of Fame. These individuals should have made significant contributions to the oil/gas industries in either New York or Pennsylvania. Please contact the museum with your nominations.

Thanks to our volunteers and substitutes. We appreciate everything they do for us.

Jim Bryant	Bob Mead
Robert Richards	Ted Grover
Inez Pervorse	Darla Ostrum
Jack Shaner	Diane Glintz
Chris Evans	Tom Jordan
Wayland Greene	Curt Burdick

of October.

No advanced degree in petroleum engineering is required! You don't even need to know anything about the history of this area. You just need to have a key to open the front door so that visitors can be amazed by what life was like in a "Pioneer Oil Boomtown." If you have any knowledge or experience in the local fields, even better. If you relate to people and just want to talk to them as they wander the museum, that would be fine. If the museum calls and asks for your assistance, please volunteer because with your help, the museum couldn't survive.

**OIL WELL SUPPLIES FOR SALE**

We have for sale. 5,000 feet second-hand 5 5-8 casing; 4,600 feet 6 1-4, 13-pound casing; 1,400 feet, 2-inch second hand tubing; also 500 feet 8-inch 28 pound second hand drive pipe.

Call on us for Prices.

**Oil Well Supply Company**  
BOLIVAR, NEW YORK.

A 1909 ad from the Bolivar "Breeze"

## Albert Howe, Previous Wall of Fame Inductee

Albert Howe was one of the most prominent oil producers of the Bolivar area, eventually forming the Albert Oil Company in 1920. He was a partner in the Howe and Moreland Drilling Company until the mid-1950's.

Albert worked on a variety of area leases. Among these was a lease on Salt Rising Road in Bolivar. Much of his work was on leases in the Allentown area, especially on leases on Phillips Hill Road and Bill Allen Road. He also worked on the Stoup Lease on Hog Brook Road in Petrolia and on a lease in Pikeville.

He was a member of the New York State Oil Producers' Association as well as a Shriner in the Corning Consistory. He attended the Allentown Methodist Church and participated in the Macedonia Lodge No. 258, F. & A.M. of Bolivar.

## Drilling in Allegany Oil Field at High Peak With 82 Strings in Operation End of June Report Shows

Headline from the July 1, 1937 Bolivar Breeze; refers to the fact there were 82 rigs with lengths of cable tool drilling pieces in the well

### Hours of Operation

- Memorial Day - Labor Day
- Monday-Friday: 10:00 - 4:00
- Saturdays: 12:00 - 4:00                      Sundays: 1:00 - 4:00
- Call the museum at 585-610-2038 and leave a message to schedule a tour. We love to entertain groups of people as long as we have advance notice.

## Other Happenings at the Museum

It has been another busy year at the museum. First of all, the museum has agreed to purchase a 2.5 acre parcel of land adjacent to the Hahn & Schaffner site. This site contains a large building which can be used for storage or as a shop for repair of oil field equipment that is donated to the museum.

Due to a series of fortunate events, the museum received a donation of materials from Billitier Electric in Rochester, NY. The first set of items was eight beautiful exterior gooseneck lights. After that a group of more than two dozen interior exit signs was sent our way. We thank Billitier for their support!

The museum teamed with local Bolivar-Richburg Elementary School students and teachers in their first STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) summer camp. The students visited the museum to learn some basics about shooting a well and water flooding. Next summer we hope to have the students view some of our engines and learn how they work. We hope to have some engines working by that time.

The museum received another Manley Grant. This was used to purchase two I Pads which will be pre-loaded with information and photos relevant to our Main Street site, thus serving as self-guided tour guides. Visitors may carry these around to designated locations and learn more about our exhibits.

### Local Oil Producers Join Oil Association - 1931

This list of producers (right) agreed to sign three cent (blue) pledges to support NYSOPA. In addition to these 78 signees, there were 108 or so who signed one-half cent yellow pledges. This provides a small glimpse into the number of area producers as well as the enormous impact of the industry in this region of New York and Pennsylvania.

Signers of Blue Pledge  
This list includes the names of oil producers in Allegany county who signed the three cent (blue) pledge of the 100% Pure Penn Grade Oil association:

Anna C. Manley	Bert Maitland
D. V. McCarthy	Albert Oil Co.
A. H. McDonell est.	John D. Bell
McEwen Bros.	B. & O. Oil Co.
Emma A. McEwen	B. H. & S. Oil Co.
W. R. McEwen	Bradley Produc-
Gladys McMullen	ing Co.
Messer Oil Corp.	Bradley & Streeter
J. A. Messer & Co.	George H. Bradley
C. B. Miller	Harry Bradley
Moore & Repp	H. W. Breckenridge
Penn York Oil	Burr Oil Co.
Corp.	Carter, Bradley
Emille O. Murphy	& Streeter
E. J. Phillips &	A. B. Cameron
Co.	Cassius Congdon
D. H. Phillips	R. A. Conkling
Producers Gas Co.	& Son
Pure Penn Petro-	Demcey Oil Co.
leum Co.	R. J. Dermitt
Reese Oil Co.	Ebenezer Oil Co.
Ernest S. Root	Jennie A. Elster
C. H. Runyan	Electric Gas Co.
Gertrude Runyan	Forest Oil Corp.
Harry F. Sackinger	Lucy E. Gilligan
Alwin Schaller	H. E. Goodrich
Fannie Schaller	J. A. Hurdman
Alwin Schaller	Harder Bradley
Fannie Schaller	Oil Co.
Scié Oil & Gas Co.	Guy Harder
A. C. Shaner	Bayard T. Haskins
A. L. Shaner	John P. Herrick
A. W. Shaner	Hirock Oil Co.
Paul F. Shaner	Homestead Oil Co.
Neil S. Sullivan	L. E. Jordan
W. L. Shaner	Karl Weller Oil
William O. Taylor	Corp.
Tapp Oil Corp.	W. F. Kramph heirs
L. H. Thornton	W. P. Lain
E. E. Townsend	J. H. Lester
O. W. Walchli	LeSuer Oil Corp.
Wetmore & Page	J. E. LeSuer
P. J. Wilson	Bessie C. Little
	Neil S. Sullivan, Secretary.

### New York State Oil Producers' Association

#### Platinum - \$5000.00

Charles H. Joyce (Otis Eastern)  
Joseph Bucher

#### Silver - \$500.00

Ram Forest Products

#### Bronze - \$200.00

Cline Oil Co.	Kessel Construction, Inc.
Jim Hungerford	Howard Drilling, Inc.
Paul Phillips	Penn Gold Well Services, Inc.
Dorchester Minerals Operating L.P.	
Ronald Stuck (Miller & Brandes)	

#### Gold- \$1000.00

NYS Oil Producers' Association  
McCracken Energy Services

#### Other

James McAndrew	James Walchli
Shaner Oil, Inc.	Rinker Oil
Woods Oil Co.	Joan Gollaher
Burlingame Oil	Joseph Quinlan
Richardson & Stout, Inc.	
Penn-York Land Services Corp.	
Lindhome & Songster, P.C.	



## Memorials 2017

In memory of John Bradley  
by Norene Ferris

In memory of Rod Cole  
by Holly Tuinman  
by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Janet Herne  
by Barb Claire

In memory of Louie Schiralli  
by Barb Webb  
by Joseph Bucher

In memory of Irv Shelp  
by Norene Ferris  
by Timothy and Rita Simmons  
by Bolivar Lioness  
by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Ed Bartlett  
by Donna and Dominic DiGirolamo

In Jim Watkins  
by Ron Stabley

In memory of Charlie Joyce  
by Lorraine Joyce

In memory of Henry Lindquist  
by Kris and Rick Gould

In memory of William F. Hogan and Paul Hogan  
by Patrick Hogan

In memory of Pauline King  
by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Earl Harriger  
by Dianne Safford  
by Dawn Doane  
by Susan Weber

In memory of Jim Kinley  
by Jerry and Bones Chadderdon

In memory of Jim Webb  
by Norene Ferris

In memory of Jim O'Connor  
by Joseph Bucher  
by Greg Maxon  
by Liz and Oscar Gaines, Katie O'Connor,  
and Barbara O'Connor

In memory of Miriam Gray  
by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry  
by Jerry and Bones Chadderdon

In memory of James Kan  
by McCracken Energy Services

In memory of Irene Woodruff  
by Bob Mountain

### Depot Restoration Begins

Over the winter preliminary restorations began at the Pittsburg, Shawmut, & Northern Railroad depot owned by the museum. Due to limited funding, this work was meant as a stopgap until more permanent work can be done. A small section of roof was repaired to prevent several leaks from damaging the building's interior.



An exterior wall that was settling was stabilized and placed on a permanent foundation. First a concrete footer was poured, and then several course of concrete block were laid. Next, the bottom rotted section of the wall was replaced, and the wall was lowered back onto the foundation. Several railway restoration grant requests have been submitted by the museum, but nothing positive has happened yet. Hopefully there will be available funds in the near future. Donations designated to the preservation of the depot are greatly appreciated.

**WATER WELL DRILLERS**  
**Copper Tubing Needs**

COPPER TUBING . . . rigid or flexible. A fine material for plumbing lines. Easy to install. Makes neat, permanent installations. Rigid copper tubing comes in 20-foot lengths. Flexible copper tubing in 20-foot and 60-foot coils. Sizes in stock: 1/2" through 2".

**1/2-INCH FLEXIBLE**  
**\$21.84 Hd. Ft.**

**1/2-INCH RIGID**  
**\$18.97 Hd. Ft.**

**SOLDER FITTINGS**

Carefully machined copper fittings for soldered type connections. All sizes. Easy to install. Also blow torches, sanding tape, tubing cutters, solder and flux.

PIPE CUTTERS      PIPE WRENCHES  
PIPE REAMERS      PIPE THREADERS  
PIPE VISES          BRASS VALVES

**THE NATIONAL SUPPLY CO.**  
BOSS STREET   BOLIVAR, N.Y.   PHONE 180

1950 Bolivar Breeze ad for National Supply Co.

## DONATIONS 2017

### **OIL BARON - \$501 or more**

Charles H. Joyce Family            Joe Bucher  
Sara Kinley  
Madison Community Foundation  
(Marcia Bradley)

### **WILDCATTER - \$51-100**

Chuck Thompson            Beatrice West  
Mike Hogan                  Mary Lou Shaner Joyce  
Joe & Eileen Schaffner    Dan & Julie Baldwin  
Hydroacoustics, Inc.      Sue Lindquist  
Bob & Kelly Ingalls        Rich & Michele Dunbar  
Jean Sexton                  Mr. & Mrs. Dave Herne  
Bob & Charlotte Mead    Karen Sarrafian  
Dan & Judi Dempsey  
Dempsey Steel Pipe Co.  
Steve and Terri Morrison  
Penn York Oil & Gas Affiliates  
(Desk & Derrick Club)

#### **Triangle Number One**

##### **Project Supporters**

- ◆ Levi Feely Construction
- ◆ Roy Emerling who donated the land
- ◆ Walter Sturdevant for unending volunteer work at the site
- ◆ Cummins Construction, Cuba, NY
- ◆ Mary Karst (Howard Hanna Real Estate) for brochure holders
- ◆ Rob Eberling for his original inspiration

The museum thanks all of these supporters for their help in completing the first part of our project.

Cummins Construction donated the building materials in honor of Clyde and Will Burdick and all their years of service and sacrifice in the local oil and gas fields.

### **SHOOTER - \$101-500**

Wilber & Bev Dawson	Joe Yehl
Rick & Kris Gould	Robert Mountain
Jim Hahn	Dave Hornburg
Tauck Tours	Jeff Bradley
Kelly & Lois Lounsberry	James T. Ingalls
John McQueeney	Ralph Compton
Gary Herne	Bolivar Lions Club
Rick & Lois Whitney	Ram Forest Products

### **ROUSTABOUT - \$26-50**

Betty Ferris	Gary Rhodes
Dick Harmon	Megan Staffel
Herb MacDonell	Theo Bullock
Mary Murphy Smith	Anne Thorwart
Barb Schiralli	Mary Pat McQueeney
Bob Dean Auto Shop	Nancy & Bill Walsh
Robert Harriger	

### **WELL PLUGGER—\$25 or less**

John and Anna Boll	Edith Freaney
Dr. & Mrs. Julian Woelfel	Phillip LaBella
Allegany County Federation of Snowmobilers (Bolivar Chapter)	

### **Collecting Oil and Gas Field Memorabilia**

The museum is always on the lookout for cans, signs, or any other memorabilia from the local fields in New York and Pennsylvania. In fact we will accept “petroliana” from just about everywhere. Check your old barns, cellars, and garages, and then head to the museum to give your treasures a new secure home where they can be enjoyed by many people. Why just keep them to yourselves when others can enjoy them? Just think of us as Bolivar’s “American Pickers.”



The museum is currently looking for donations of any unusual equipment or machinery. This would include one-of-a-kind jacks, engines, etc. We are also looking for an antique oil tanker truck. Limited space impacts what we can accept, but we are on the look-out for unique oilfield equipment.



The "Lindquist Ladies" had a great time at the wine and cheese tasting



Students from the summer STEAM camp visited the museum



This new sign sponsored by the museum will replace a dilapidated sign outside Bolivar



Harry Maddren and Dave Hornburg, descendants of O.P. Taylor, did a wonderful job at the Wall of Fame ceremony



Students from Bolivar-Richburg Elementary learned about their local history during a June visit



Family members of Joel Putnam after the Wall of Fame ceremony



Grandchildren of Jim O'Connor accepted the plaque in his honor

2017- Lots Going On at the Pioneer Oil Museum!



Jeff Pierson of Warren, PA provided a wonderful presentation about nitroglycerin production to the museum board



This beautiful replica Mobil gas pump was raffled off at Halloween



Members of the Desk and Derrick Club of Bradford visited the museum last summer



Another great tractor pull kicked off Pioneer Oil Days' week-long celebration last June



## NYSOPA TO Honor Wall of Fame Inductees

The Pioneer Oil Museum is pleased and honored again to announce the newest class of inductees into the New York State Oil Producers' Association "Wall of Fame," which is located at the Hahn & Schaffner site of the Pioneer Oil Museum. The 2018 class of inductees includes Henry Lindquist, Jim Beckwith, Don Miller, and Arthur Yahn, Sr. If you have any interesting anecdotes about this year's inductees, please feel free to forward them to the museum.

Each man will be honored for his contributions to the local oil and natural gas industry with a plaque in his honor. This plaque includes a photo, biographical data, and contributions to the local business. Induction ceremonies will take place on Friday, June 22, at **6:00** immediately before the wine-and-cheese tasting that is described in the column to the left. This ceremony will take place at the Hahn & Schaffner site.

Last year's class included John D. Bradley, Jim O'Connor, Joel Putnam, and O.P. Taylor. A large audience turned out that evening to witness the induction ceremonies.

Those in attendance for the Wall of Fame induction ceremony are invited to stay and participate in the wine-and-cheese tasting as well as tour the site. Spend some time touring the facility to learn about the amazing heritage of the local oil fields.

## WINE-AND-CHEESE TASTING TICKETS

Friday, June 22, 2018  
6:30 - 8:00 Hahn & Schaffner Site

\$17 per ticket - available May 20

**New this year - a variety of hard ciders will be available.** These will be an addition to the tasty snacks and variety of cheeses along with a wonderful sampling of wines.

Tickets may be purchased several ways:

- ♦ writing to the museum at the address below
- ♦ stopping at the Bolivar Free Library during regular hours
- ♦ stopping at the museum once it opens for the season after Memorial Day
- ♦ on-line by emailing the museum at [Pioneeroilmuseum.com](mailto:Pioneeroilmuseum.com)
- ♦ Personal messaging the museum through our Facebook page

Checks may be made payable to:  
Pioneer Oil Museum of New York  
PO Box 332  
Bolivar, NY 14715

Bolivar Free Library hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 6:00-8:00

Tuesday and Friday: 9:30-4:30



The family of John D. Bradley, a Bolivar legend in the oil and gas industry, celebrates his induction into the Wall of Fame



Paul Phillips donated the first working engine to be displayed in the Joyce Exhibition Building