



SPRING 2019
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WWW.PIONEEROILMUSEUM.COM

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

Pioneer Oil Museum of New York

Unique Local Collections Donated to Museum

“Empty in October, Full by July” - these words pretty much sum up the activity that took place at the Joyce Building this year.

In November 2017, the building was literally vacant, but a donation of a working engine (a 30 HP Bovaird & Seyfang built in Bradford) by Paul Phillips started things. Soon thereafter, local oilman Joe Bucher donated another working B/S engine, a 40 HP piece which quite often had been started up and hauled in the Pioneer Oil Days parade.

Next came a large donation of a dozen or so Rumsey engines owned by Keith Rumsey of Friendship. His grandfather built these for a variety of uses, one of which was pumping in the local oilfields. Interestingly, one engine powered an early type of vacuum cleaner for cleaning the house, and this was used in the Bradley House located on Boss Street in Bolivar.

Not long thereafter, a once-in-a-lifetime collection arrived on the scene. This collection is familiar to those individuals who visited the Allegany County Fair. Wellsville resident

Lanny Wesche donated his collection of miniaturized versions of authentic nineteenth century steam engines, most of which were built by hand. Included in the collection are a wood-working factory, a blacksmith shop, and numerous other operations that he researched and built. OF COURSE, there is an oil-pumping model which demonstrates surface pumping machinery powered by a steam engine. In his model he has an eccentric which powers the jacks to pump up and down, and oil actually flows into the storage tanks. Much of the

Wesche collection is powered by compressed air, so the museum purchased a used air compressor at auction.

The museum is in possession of two more working engines that soon will become part of the Joyce Building collection.



Lanny and Cheryl Wesche setting up his display

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

The Museum's Own "MASH Signs"

For those of you familiar with the old TV show MASH, you may remember the sign that was featured so prominently on the set. That sign showed mileage and directions to different cities around the world including Seoul and Toledo.

One of the museum's current projects is to replicate that sign, but this time use dates and locations of importance related to the development of the local oil industry. Some signs even re-

late to the international petroleum business.

The signs were designed and painted by Bill Brown, a friend of the museum from Cicero, NY, near Syracuse. The plan is

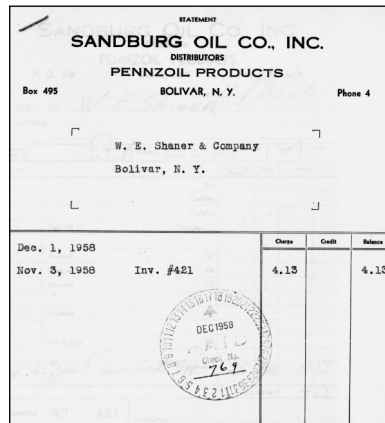
to attach these signs to steel posts at the Hahn & Schaffner site. Work should begin when spring arrives.



Museum Needs Volunteers As It Continues to Grow

Looking for something to do this summer? Would you like to get out of the house once a week? Since we are not getting any younger, **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.** Thanks to the efforts of our volunteers, we are now 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. For the past two years we have stayed open an additional month (September) as visitors travel through on fall days, and we plan on doing that again this year.

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 without your help, the museum couldn't survive.



Above - a 1958 invoice for 25 pounds of grease from Sandburg Oil (which is still in operation today in Olean); right - a Jones & Laughlin ad; this company sold oil well supplies in Bolivar for 33 years from 1923-1956

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.

Fred Shaner, Previous Wall of Fame Inductee

Fred C. Shaner, a graduate of Bolivar Central School and Alfred University, learned about the oil industry through his father and was able to familiarize himself with practically all aspects of the business. He began work as a producer in 1919 and had an active business in which he drilled more than 500 wells.

Fred was a member and director of the New York State Oil Producers' Association as well as director of York Producing Ltd. of Ontario, Canada.

A veteran of World War I, Fred was involved in many civic organizations in the Bolivar area as a member of the Bolivar Fire Department and the Bolivar American Legion. He was a director of Citizens Bank in Bolivar, a trustee on the Bolivar village board, and a charter member of the Bolivar Country Club. He attended the United Methodist Church of Bolivar and was an active member of the Macedonia Lodge F&AM.

JONES & LAUGHLIN
SUPPLY CO.
 Corner Liberty Street and Railroad Avenue
 Succeeding FRICK-REID SUPPLY CORP.
Oil and Gas Well Supplies
 Phone 149

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 | Bryan Perrin |
| Melody Robinson | |

Hours of Operation

- Memorial Day - October 1
- 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.
- E-mail: bolivaroil@yahoo.com Pioneer Oil Days: June 23-30

Other Happenings at the Museum

The museum again received a Manley Grant which was endowed by former Bolivar residents, F.T. and Anna Manley. This year's grant was used to construct a replica 1880's nitroglycerin factory in one of the Bucher Threading Buildings at the Hahn & Schaffner location. This plant will be interactive for our visitors and have working features. One feature will allow the visitor to actually "make" nitroglycerin using water. Don't worry - no real nitro will be used! In order to enhance the visitor's experience, a multimedia presentation will feature videos of wells being shot.

The front room of the Main Street location will have received a major overhaul by his coming summer. This fall the room received a coat of paint for the first time in 20 years, and, additionally, many of the exhibits were reorganized and updated. Local artist Jeff Margeson worked on upgrading the visual displays that were first designed for the Bolivar Sesquicentennial in 1975.

Miguel Chirinos, a Venezuelan author living in the United States, donated a collection of South American money as well as a copy of his book, "Simon Bolivar in the United States of America." The book describes Bolivar's visit to the U.S. (but not Bolivar, NY) in 1807.

Improvements at the Hahn & Schaffner Site

By this summer you will notice many improvements at the Hahn & Schaffner location. The Joyce Building will have new interior lights and outlets installed which will help as we get the equipment in there up and running. Several of the buildings at the site will have new exterior lighting to help illuminate the site for both aesthetics and security. Much of the funding for this project has been provided by Otis Eastern and the Charles

Joyce family, huge supporters of the museum.

Last summer we had the Shaner Exhibition Building cleaned and stained, a project which enhanced the beauty of the building and assisted with its preservation for years to come. Lance Shaner really came through again as he provided the backing for this endeavor.

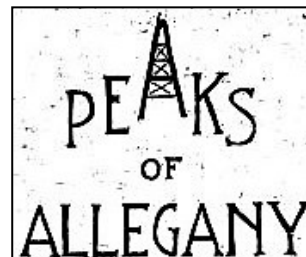
We can't give enough thanks to both of these gentlemen for all they have done for us.

EMPIRE OIL - the Definitive History of Oil & Gas in New York State

Written by John Herrick - an oil producer, former president of the New York State Oil Producers' Association, and published author - this masterpiece provides information about the little-known petroleum industry in New York State and is as close to a "Bible" on the subject of oil in this region as anyone will ever write.

The book includes a brief resume of oil from antiquity to the mid-20th century. Early discoveries in the Bradford field in Cattaraugus County and the local Allegany Field are discussed at length, but work in the minor oil-producing counties of the state is not ignored.

Other topics include the use of nitroglycerine in the oil industry, pipe lines, and refineries. Secondary recovery of oil is explained in detail allowing the reader to see how the industry exploded, transforming this area one of the wealthiest regions of the state. Not to be forgotten is the history of natural gas in the state. This book is available for sale at the museum.



From the 1940 "Breeze" - the design on the cover of a booklet containing NYS facts highlighted by a symbol showing Allegany County's lead in oil and gas production; designed by Bolivar native Hubert Bliss

New York State Oil Producers' Association

Platinum - \$5000.00

Charles H. Joyce (Otis Eastern)

Silver - \$500.00

Ram Forest Products Nathan Petroleum Co.
Dorchester Minerals Operating L.P.

Bronze - \$200.00

Cline Oil Co. Kessel Construction, Inc.
Minard Run Oil Co. Howard Drilling
Hill Drilling Paul Phillips
Greg Maxson Jim Walchli
Penn Gold Well Services, Inc.

Gold- \$1000.00

NYS Oil Producers' Association
McCracken Energy Services

Other

James McAndrew Woods Oil Co.
Paul Evinczik Rinker Oil
Richardson & Stout, Inc.

Memorials 2018

In memory of Diane Woodruff
by Bob Mountain

In memory of Tom Ferris
by Ron and Linda Stabley

In memory of Frank Hungerford
by Camela Moskin

In memory of Doug Fitzsimmons
by Camela Moskin

In memory of Betty Ferris
by Bob Mountain

by Lounsberry, Gould and Sarrafian families

In memory of Mary Hungerford Fitzsimmons
by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Jim Webb
by Bob Mountain

In memory of Bob Sherwood
by Bob Mountain

In memory of Loren Luzier
by Bob Mountain

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

In memory of Jim Watkins
by Bob Mountain

In memory of Jerry Codispoti
by Codispoti family

by Jim Codispoti



The family of Arthur Yahn Sr. took part in the induction ceremonies for the NYSOPA Wall of Fame. He was the second member of the Yahn family to be inducted as his son Arthur Yahn Jr. was inducted in 2011. The Yahns were instrumental in the introduction of five-spot water flooding into this area.

“Amazon Smile” Support the Museum

One great way to support the museum while you shop online at Amazon is to use the “Amazon Smile” feature.

When you use this feature, Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to the museum. Amazon Smile is the same Amazon you know with the same products and same prices.

Just remember that you must always start at “smile.amazon.com” to support the museum. Just type the phrase “pioneer oil museum” when asked which charity you wish to support. Many thanks for your assistance!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.



A “Yellow Dog” - an early type of lantern used to illuminate oil derricks

Bolivar Jury List Includes 114 Men; No Women Selected

Oil Field Workers and Producers Comprise Largest Number of Those Selected to Serve as Trial Jurors for Ensuing Year; List Submitted to County Clerk

One hundred and fourteen names appear on the list of persons selected to serve as trial jurors for the coming year. From this and similar lists prepared for every township and submitted to William W. Bush, county clerk, the jurors for different court sessions during the year will be chosen.

Although for the first time this year women are allowed to serve as jurors no names of women appear on the Bolivar list.

Following are the names of those drawn for duty:

William Baldwin, farmer; John Baldwin, farmer; Lloyd Baldwin, farmer; George Bartlett, oil field worker; Joseph A. Bucher, oil producer; Paul Buell, oil field worker; Bert Bracey, oil field worker; Benjamin Bates farmer; Archie Baldwin, farmer; Paul Crandall, oil field worker.

Clifford Clark, oil field worker; A. H. Curry, oil field worker; Thomas R. Crowley, oil producer; James Crowley, oil producer; Walter Conner, farmer; Harlan Cowles, oil field worker; Lynn Carrier, oil field worker; Patrick Dougherty, bank clerk.

Robert J. Dermitt, oil producer; Simeon Dickerson, oil field worker; George Fanton, oil field worker; George W. Greer, oil field worker; George Gleason, oil field worker; James Griswold, oil field worker; Frank Husak, farmer; Lee Hepler

The newspaper article (right) from the August 12, 1937 Bolivar Breeze shows a partial list of local trial jurors. Notice how many of these individuals (men only - women weren't allowed to serve yet) worked in the local oilfields. Several names jump out. Joseph A. Bucher was the first of three generations of Buchers who were local oilmen. Thomas R. Crowley just happens to be one of the inductees into this year's NYSOPA Wall of Fame. One of the last names on the list is Patrick (Patsy) Dougherty, a professional baseball player - the first player to hit two home runs in one World Series game. Lots of other local names are found as well.

DONATIONS 2018

OIL BARON - \$501 or more

Lance Shaner	Joe Bucher
George Bradley	Bolivar Lions Club
Charles H. Joyce Family	
Madison Community Foundation	
(Marcia Bradley)	

SHOOTER - \$101-500

Wilber & Bev Dawson	Joe Yehl
Rick & Kris Gould	Robert Mountain
Heritage Aflame	David Hart
Kelly & Lois Lounsberry	James T. Ingalls
Sue Lindquist	Ralph Compton
Mr. & Mrs. Dave Herne	Larry & Linda Poelma
Rick & Lois Whitney	Mary Lou Shaner Joyce
Karen & Stephan Sarrafian	Joe Schaffner
Mr. & Mrs. Dominic DiGirolamo	

WILDCATTER - \$51-100

Chuck Thompson	Norene Ferris
Rich & Michele Dunbar	Tom Miller
Bob & Kelly Ingalls	Annie Barnes
Dave & Chris Evans	Margaret Bryner
Jim & Sharon Leonard	Dick Harmon
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Morrison	Angela Ninos
Dan & Julie Baldwin	Sarah Kinley
Terry McQueeney	Bea West
Hydroacoustics, Inc.	Jack Shaner
Oswayo Valley Hist. Society	
Chautauqua Lake Region Antique Auto Club	

ROUSTABOUT - \$26-50

Bob & Charlotte Mead	Penn Brad Museum
Jerry Chadderdon	Jean Sexton
Nancy Shaner Repp	Mary Smith
Wendy Lanterman	Jeff Pierson
Bill & Nancy Walsh	Mike Fuoco
Dick & Bev Monroe	Barb Schiralli
Megan Marks	Jim Dick
Order of the Eastern Star #109	
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 the oil region's "American Pickers."

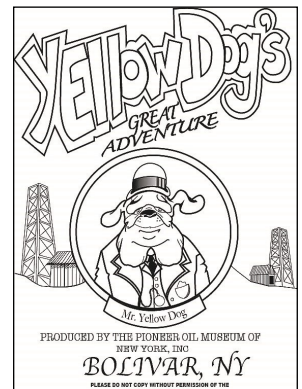


The museum is currently looking for donations of any unusual equipment or machinery. This would include one-of-a-kind jacks, engines, etc. We are also looking for an antique oil tanker truck. Limited space impacts what we can accept, but we are on the look-out for unique oilfield equipment.

WELL PLUGGER—\$25 or less

John and Anna Boll	Edith Freaney
Diane Glintz	Phillip LaBella

To the right is the cover of the museum's activity book, "Yellow Dog's Great Adventure." Designed for children ages 7-11, the book has a wide range of activities and information regarding the local energy industry. The pages were drawn and designed by Jeff Margeson's Digital Media II class at Bolivar-Richburg Middle/High School.





The family of Hank Lindquist accepted the plaque for his induction onto the Wall of Fame



The tractor-pullers opened the week-long Pioneer Oil Days celebration in style



Jim Beckwith's family was out in force for his induction onto the Wall of Fame



Richard Frost and the antique generator he donated; this powered standard oil rigs on the Hatch and Friar lease from 1920-1949



The front room at the Main Street site after it had its first coat of paint in many years



One of the Rumsey engines; this piece is 12 HP and ran equipment in the oil fields



An oil lease service truck owned by Greg Maxson of the JJ Bucher Producing Corp.

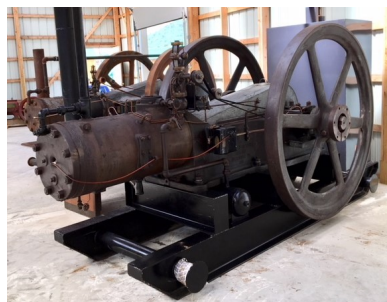
2018-
Lots to See and
Do at the
Pioneer Oil
Museum



Retired local oil man and museum volunteer, Ted Grover (left), has a ton of knowledge to share with visitors



Some of our youngest visitors from Bolivar-Richburg Elementary School



A 40 HP B/S engine donated to the museum by Joe Bucher and on exhibit in the Joyce Exhibition Building



The New York State Oil Producers' Association celebrated its 100th birthday in 2018

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 2019 class of inductees includes Thomas Crowley, R.B. Moore, Grant Wisel, and Melford "Coon" Taylor. 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 28, 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 Henry Lindquist, Jim Beckwith, Don Miller, and Arthur Yahn, Sr. 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 28, 2019
6:30 - 8:00 Hahn & Schaffner Site

\$18 per ticket - available May 27

Once again this year a variety of hard ciders will be available for tasting. 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
- ♦ 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 Lanny Wesche collection (see page one); this section shows the oil lease with working jacks and pumping oil



The Don Miller family turned out in droves to support his induction onto the Wall of Fame