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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 Board Expands

The current (and first-ever) board of directors for the museum took the reins back in 2000. Now twenty years later, the board is expanding by adding an additional eight members. This change to a 15-member board will allow the museum to meet its future needs. These new individuals will make up the associate board, while the original group will constitute the executive board. The change is necessary due to the museum's expansion and improvements. To allow for completion of projects and

activities, it was necessary to seek outside assistance. This new "manpower" will be extremely helpful in completing large jobs. In addition, these new members bring new ideas and energy to the museum. We thank them for their willingness to sign on and help the museum continue to grow and improve.

The new members include: Robert Richards, Dave Collins, Alex Cole, Dave Kottwitz, Chris Kellner, Dave Root, Randy White, with more to follow.

Main Street Site Revitalized

Recently, the Main Street site received a shot of "fresh air" when the front room was painted for the first time in twenty years. Later, the old photographic exhibits in that room were replaced with new displays. Most of the old exhibits were constructed in time for the Bolivar Sesquicentennial held back in 1975. These modern updates were designed by local teacher and Bolivar native, Jeff Margeson. After being provided with many new photos and additional documentation, he created displays on vinyl banners. The topics of the

seven banners range from "The Story of Oil" to "Oil Was Everything" to "Life in the Oil Patch."

Also, working in conjunction with a museum exhibit company in Buffalo, a new 5 foot by 10 foot timeline was fabricated. The theme is "Oil! Gushers and Dusters in New York State." Chronicling the history of oil in this state, the timeline is quite impressive!



Replica Nitroglycerin Factory Built

Last fall the museum completed construction of a replica 1880's nitroglycerin factory in an old threading building at the Hahn and Schaffner site. The plant will have interactive displays including a trough with running water where visitors can pretend to make nitro using this water.

The new attraction includes a touch screen attached to a

computer whereby visitors may select from several videos of wells being shot with nitroglycerin or other videos of working oil production operations.

There are a number of large photos hanging on the walls which relate to shooting oil wells in the region. Some date back to the late 1800's while others are more modern.

The building's interior can be illuminated with regular ceiling lights or small spotlights intended to highlight the wall photos. The museum hopes this becomes a popular attraction.



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

Museum Needs Volunteers As It Continues to Grow

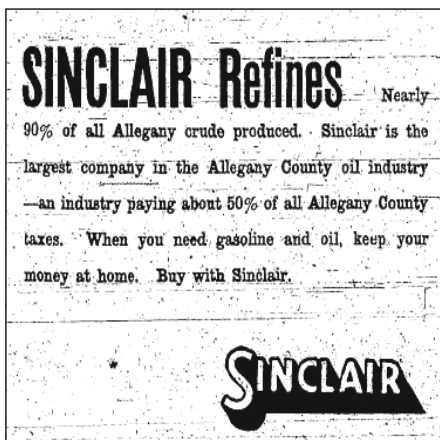
Looking for something to do this summer? Would you like to get out of the house once a week? Since we are not getting any younger, **we need help to stay open for our visitors.** We are looking for volunteers to either fill in a weekly slot or to substitute when one of our "regulars" can't work. Each 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 few 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.

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.



Above - a Bolivar Breeze ad from October 1934

Richard "Dick" Bradley, Previous Wall of Fame Inductee

Richard "Dick" Bradley was a United States Army veteran who served three years in the European Theater during World War II.

After his discharge from the army, he began his career in the oil fields by working for the Homestead Oil Company, which he sold in the late 1970's. In 1961, he was elected president of the New York State Oil Producers' Association.

The following year he searched for, and found, the remains of the first oil well drilled in New York State, a well drilled in Rushford in July 1860.

In 1959, Dick was appointed to the board of directors of the Steuben Trust Company, serving until 1992. He was named a Commissioner of Allegany State Park in 1965, and in 1972 Governor Nelson Rockefeller asked him to continue for another seven-year term as commissioner.



Dick Bradley and others searching for the first oil well in New York State

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

Jim Bryant	Bob Mead
Robert Richards	Ted Grover
Dr. Rick Freeman	Darla Ostrum
Jack Shaner	Diane Glintz
Chris Evans	Tom Jordan
Wayland Greene	Bryan Perrin
Inez Pervorse	

Hours of Operation

- Memorial Day - October 4
- 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 21-28

Other Happenings at the Museum

In order to improve security and aesthetics, the installation of new exterior lighting on several buildings at the Hahn and Schaffner site was started last year. Much more work on this project needs to be completed this year, but already the results are evident with a fresh, bright appearance at the site.

The Museum was fortunate to receive two local grants over the past year, both of which helped cover the costs of our Main Street restoration (see page one). The Manley Grant, endowed by former Bolivar residents, F.T. and Anna Manley, was used to help cover all the costs of the new banners as well as the cost of two printers to be used for museum business. The second grant from the Allegheny County Area Foundation was used to offset some of the expense of the large timeline on Main Street (see page one).

Last year as part of a project, Alfred State College architecture students were tasked with transforming Bolivar into an alluring destination by focusing on the use of branding, placemaking, and commerce. Their plans incorporated the historic characteristics of the community into a vibrant, walkable, connected village. In their final report, one of their main focuses was the Hahn & Schaffner site, which they called "Pioneer Point," and included a museum visitor center, retail, and dining at the site. We'll see where this goes!

The Natural Gas Industry in Appalachia - A History from the First Discovery to the Present

The vital natural gas industry began in the Appalachian states as an accidental and underestimated by-product of the oil rush of 1859. This book explores the evolution and significance of the natural gas industry. Early chapters discuss the first natural gas discoveries in the 1800s, the ways in which entrepreneurs used the fuel, the consequent displacement of the manufactured gas industry, and the expansion of the Appalachian natural gas network largely initiated by Standard Oil interests into major regional markets. The local oil and gas field is mentioned as are the Bradley Brothers, Edwin C. and Justin B., who played important roles in the local industry.

Later chapters discuss the growth of the Appalachian drilling industry, the first wooden and metal pipelines, the development of gas compressor engines, the pioneering of gas storage fields, and the genesis of gas marketing for lighting, heating, cooking, and industrial use. This book is available for sale at the museum.

Geocaching at the Pioneer Oil Museum

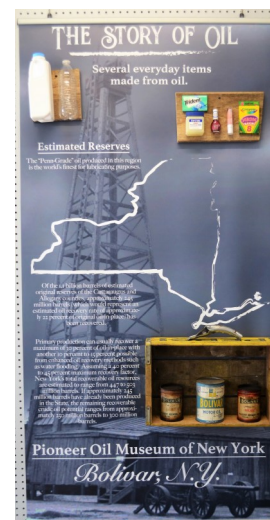
Did you know there is a geocache hidden at the Pioneer Oil Museum's Main Street location?

Geocaching is a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices. Participants navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and then attempt to find the geocache (container) hidden at that location.

Since installing it on July 27, 2015, 51 geocachers have found it, but seven did not. People coming through Bolivar on their way to the Wells-

ville Balloon Rally, Geocache Festival at Allegany State Park, and local sporting events, as well as campers from local campgrounds have stopped by the museum to look for it.

Plans are in the making to have a geocache hidden at the Triangle #1 site this spring!



One of the new vinyl banners on Main Street (refer to this page and page one for more info)

New York State Oil Producers' Association

Platinum - \$5000.00

Charles H. Joyce Joe Bucher
Otis Eastern

Gold- \$1000.00

NYS Oil Producers' Association
McCracken Energy Services

Bronze - \$200.00

Cline Oil Co. Kessel Construction, Inc.
Rinker Oil Corp. Hill Drilling
Paul Phillips Greg Maxson
Plants & Goodwin Bradford Pipe & Supply
Joan Gollaher Root Contracting, Inc.
Thomas Halloran, Jr. (Aqua-Clear, Inc.)

Silver - \$500.00

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

Other

James McAndrew James Walchli
James Hungerford Charles B. Giardini, Inc.
Pennsylvania Independent Petroleum Producers
Woods Oil Co.

Memorials 2019

In memory of Lanny Wesche
by Cheryl Wesche
by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry
by G.B. Cochran

In memory of J.W., Kathryn, and Betsy Bucher
by Cathy and Eric Johnson

In memory of Herb MacDonell
by Nancy MacDonell and family

In memory of Earl Harriger
by Robert and Susan Weber

In memory of Ruth Thompson
by Karen Sarrafian

In memory of Karney Cochran
by G.B. Cochran

In memory of Tony Sallazzo
by the Lounsberry, Gould and Sarrafian families

In memory of Dale "Ponch" Pinney
by Allegany County Federation of
Snowmobilers, Bolivar Chapter

In memory of Rob Eberling
by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Laverne "Bones" Chadderdon
by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Betsy Bucher
by Dale and Rose Feenaughty
by Rick and Kris Gould
by Karen and Stephan Sarrafian
By Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

"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!



Museum Loses Key Supporter

Last fall, Rob Eberling, a local oil producer who lived in Rochester, passed away after a sudden illness. Rob pumped a lease in Richburg and was involved with oil production in other areas. He loved the museum and was the impetus behind the museum's purchase and development of an outdoor exhibit at the Triangle #1 site.



He also coordinated a project to digitize the museum's vast collection of photographs. Working with the local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, he was able to scan hundred of invaluable documents for future reference. Rob will be greatly missed.

'NITRO' EXPLOSION KILLS SHOOTER

Charles Mansfield of Bolivar Blown to Bits When High Explosive "Lets Go" Near Emporium, Pa.

Charles H. Mansfield of Bolivar, manager and shooter for the Bolivar Glycerin Company, Inc., was instantly killed in a nitro-glycerine explosion which occurred on the main highway, about four miles north of Emporium, Pa., between 3 and 4 o'clock Monday afternoon. Just what caused the explosion is not known. The supposition is that, in driving over a rough piece of road, the jar set off a can of the high explosive in the rear of the truck.

Mr. Mansfield had shot a well for the Tress Oil company on the Davitt farm, town of Bolivar, Monday morning. During the forenoon, accompanied by Henry Rogers, extra shooter in the employ of the company, he left here for Emporium in a Ford delivery truck. Mr. Mansfield had been obliged to leave his International truck in Emporium on account of a broken spindle.

With the truck in first-class repair, Mr. Mansfield started for the Pennsylvania Powder company factory, located one-half mile from that borough. Mr. Rogers, about the same time, left on the return trip to Bolivar with the Ford truck. He says Mr. Mansfield said to him as he was leaving, "I'll see you in Bolivar if not sooner, maybe."

McEwen Bros.

BOLIVAR, N. Y. WELLSVILLE, N. Y.

Oil & Gas Well Supplies

Spang, Chalfant Pipe - Crane Fittings
Ingersoll Rand Pumps, Compressors
New Bedford Cordage
Williamsport Wire Rope
U. S. Rubber Belting
Single Cylinder Oil and Gas Engines
National Transit Pumps
Lincoln Electric Motors
International Harvester Gas and Oil Engine Power Units
Kohler Lighting Plants
800 Watt to 10,000 Watt A.C. and D.C. Full Automatic or Manual Control
Contractors for Installation of Pressure and Pumping Power Plants

No Job Too Large or Too Small!

PHONE

Bolivar 58

Wellsville 21



Above: Norene Ferris, granddaughter of NYSOPA Wall of Fame inductee Thomas Crowley, accepts his plaque from Pioneer Oil Museum board member Paul Plants

Left: a May 1938 advertisement from McEwen Brothers which had a location in Bolivar

Right: an article from the March 27, 1929 edition of the Bolivar Breeze; nitro explosions such as this were relatively common

DONATIONS 2019

OIL BARON - \$501 or more

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

WILDCATTER - \$51-100

Wendy Lanterman	Bob's Auto Body
Chuck Thompson	Dick Harmon
Bea West	Bob & Char Mead
Sarah Kinley	Dave & Chris Evans
Amy and Randy Spagg	Angela Ninos
Ralph Compton	Chuck Loucks
Tom Miller	Bob Harriger
Steve & Terrie Morrison	Thomas Tighe, Jr.
Dan & Julie Baldwin	Jim & Sharon Leonard
Kenny's Friendly Service	Paul & Eloise Plants
Dempsey Steel Pipe Co.	
Little Genesee Garden Club	
Order of the Eastern Star #109	

SHOOTER - \$101-500

Wilber & Bev Dawson	Joe Yehl
Rick & Kris Gould	Jim Hahn
Rick & Lois Whitney	Jeff Bradley
Karen & Stephan Sarrafian	Sue Lindquist
Mary Lou Shaner Joyce	James T. Ingalls
Kelly & Lois Lounsberry	Joe & Eileen Schaffner
Fred & Mimi Shaner	Norene Ferris
Dianne Safford	Mark Thompson
Jerry & Laverne Chadderdon	

ROUSTABOUT - \$26-50

Penn Brad Museum	Diane Glintz
Phil & Marjorie LaBella	Jean Sexton
Nancy Shaner Repp	Mary Smith
Steuben Trust	Jeff Pierson
Bill & Nancy Walsh	Mike Fuoco
Larry & Linda Poelma	Barb Schiralli
Megan Marks	Matt Ferris
Ron Stabley	Bob Yehl
Dan & Judi Dempsey	

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."



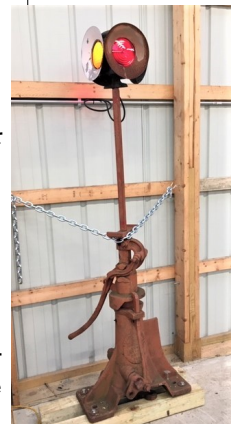
The museum is currently looking for donations of any unusual equipment or machinery. This would include one-of-a-kind jacks, engines, etc. We are also looking for an antique oil tanker truck. Limited space impacts what we can accept, but we are on the look-out for unique oilfield equipment.

WELL PLUGGER—\$25 or less

Bill Cossaboon	Edith Freaney
Nancy MacDonell	John & Anna Boll
Allegany County Federation of Snowmobilers (Bolivar Chapter)	

To the right is a throw bar switch light, also known as a switch throw. This piece of equipment was used on the local Pittsburg, Shawmut, & Northern Railroad for opening and closing a pair of moveable rail tracks to guide a train from one track to another.

It was donated to the museum by Nancy Lindquist in memory of her father, Hank, who was inducted into the NYSOPA Wall of Fame in 2018.





Alumni of Bolivar-Richburg Central School in attendance at the annual wine-tasting



Paul Phillips and Denny Griesbaum, huge supporters of the museum, ride in style on parade day



The family of Melford "Coon" Taylor accepts the plaque for his induction onto the Wall of Fame



Many members of Grant Wisel's family attended the induction ceremony from out-of-state



Learning at an early age at the tractor pull



John Hogan accepts the Wall of Fame induction plaque of R.B. Moore



BRCS first-graders patiently (?) await a museum program and then a tour

Museum Happenings 2019



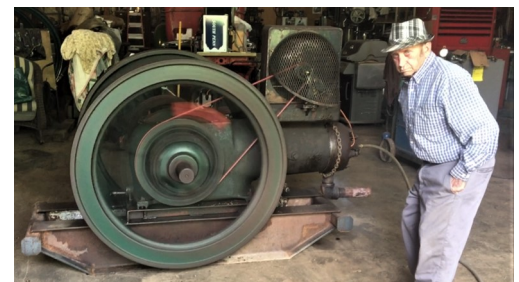
One of the three engines donated by Gary Harms of Belmont last year



Bolivar native Mark Stopha at the wine-tasting; owner of the Alaska Wild Salmon Company in Juneau, he donates smoked salmon to the wine-tasting each year



The Museum's new sign showing local, national, and international sites important to the oil industry; the sign was supported by the three daughters of previous Wall of Fame inductee Earl Harriger



Local oilman Joe Bucher with the newly-renovated, working Fairbanks and Morse engine that he donated

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 2020 class of inductees includes Jim Joyce, Clarence (C.O.) Fulton, Weldon Foster, and Riley Allen. 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 26, 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 Thomas Crowley, R.B. Moore, Grant Wisel, and Melford "Coon" 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 26, 2020
6:30 - 8:00 Hahn & Schaffner Site

\$18 per ticket - available May 26

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 in 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 family of Thomas R. Crowley was out in full force the night of the Wall of Fame induction ceremony



New oil museum board member Chris Kellner built this model of a working pump jack for the museum