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WWW.PIONEEROILMUSEUM.COM

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

Pioneer Oil Museum of New York

Flooding Ravages Hahn & Schaffner Site

On July 17 of last summer, after many days of heavy rains the Hahn & Schaffner site was flooded as water entered several buildings causing damage.

The most severe damage occurred in the main building at that site - the only building that has a drywalled, finished interior. Approximately four inches of floodwater rushed through the building. Fortunately, most of the museum's artifacts and photographs were out of the water's reach, but the water still impacted several items on the

floor and the base of several tables and display cases. The main area of destruction was where the floodwater was absorbed into the wallboard.

To repair the damage, the bottom two feet of drywall and insulation were removed from every wall in the building. Eventually the walls were repaired with new insulation, and decorative tin was installed to replace the drywall. A chair rail was also installed to trim the work. It is hoped that the entire floor will be painted by the time we open this summer.

Railroad Projects Enhance the Museum

With the museum in a state of upheaval all summer due to the flooding and its aftermath, things were quite slow. Fortunately, several projects were still completed, most of these related to the Pittsburg, Shawmut, and Northern (PS&N) Railroad that ran through Bolivar years ago.

In late July, members of the Rochester and Genesee Valley Railroad Museum worked with museum board member, Robert Richards, to lay a section of the original PS&N track in its former resting grounds next to the train depot.

Later, the depot, sitting directly adjacent to this section of track, had a metal roof installed. Also, some additional interior and exterior work was completed at that time.

An old railroad tanker that sat on a lease outside Allentown was refurbished and hauled to town where it was placed on the track, in place for life at its new home.



Local Oilman and Museum Supporter Joe Bucher Passes Away

In December, third-generation oilman, Joe Bucher, passed away. A life-long Bolivar resident, Joe was known not only as a local legend, but he was also the epitome of those individuals who carried out the grueling work of the local oilfields in Pennsylvania and New York.

Joe was an independent producer who drilled for countless companies throughout the area. At one

time he drilled hundreds of wells for Kendall Oil based out of Bradford, Pennsylvania. He also pumped a number of leases in the Bolivar-Shinglehouse area.

Joe was a true oilman as his father, grandfather, and other family members were all producers in the local industry. He became involved with the museum many years ago, and his love for the organization was evident by his commitment of time

and sharing of knowledge.

Anytime a project arose where he could help, he showed up, sometimes with equipment or sometimes ready to dig in and work by hand. His love of Bolivar and the local oil industry was always evident. The museum is eternally grateful to him for everything - his knowledge, his support, and his tireless commitment.

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

Other Happenings at the Museum

Museum board member, Dan Davison, and his wife Jessie opened a store (the Oilman's Mercantile) at the Main Street site. It's a one-stop shop



handling a wide variety of local favorites and specialty foods. They

offer local-made honey, cheese curd, maple syrup, and more, as well as a variety of gluten-free and allergy-friendly options. It's worth the time to stop and visit.

In connection with all of the railroad-related projects completed this summer, the museum acquired a railroad baggage cart. The cart was donated in memory of Keith Wood, a local gentleman who had worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad and Conrail for many years. This cart nicely complements all of the railroad additions



the museum finished last summer.

With a recent grant, the Museum purchased billboards for all three entrances coming into town. Sometime in the spring-summer 2022, we hope to get these installed. A different billboard was erected last summer in Ceres at the old fruit stand.



Top: Local oilman Joe Bucher helping remove an old engine from the woods, one of many museum projects he helped with

Bottom: the PS&N railroad depot with a new steel roof (refer to articles on page one for more information)



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.

John McMurdy, Previous Wall of Fame Inductee

John McMurdy – (1907-1990) John McMurdy was the owner and operator of the W.E. McMurdy and Son Drilling Company of Bolivar. He was also a partner in the W.A.M. Oil Company, also located in Bolivar.

John served the local oil region as a director of the New York State Oil Producers' Association. Eventually he was named "Man of the Year" by that group.

In addition to his work in the oil industry, he also performed numerous civic duties. He was the mayor of the Village of Bolivar from 1955-1957, and he was a member of the Bolivar Country Club. He belonged to the Macedonia Lodge F&AM #258 in Bolivar and the Coudersport Consistory.



Museum Information

- Hours of operation to be determined!
- If you'd like to visit the museum, call 585-610-2038 and leave a message. We love to entertain groups of people as long as we have advance notice.
- E-mail: bolivaroil@yahoo.com Pioneer Oil Days: June 19-26
- Facebook: Pioneer Oil Museum of New York
- Website: pioneeroilmuseum.com

SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

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.

Bolivar's Industries
(One A Week)

One of the largest used oil and gas well supplies, wood tanks and receivers industries is the firm of **M. C. Bascom & Co. of Bolivar.** They deal exclusively in pipe cutting and threading; pulleys, shafting and hangers.

This concern is said to be the largest of its kind in the east and is well-known throughout the oil fields as being a firm ever ready to fulfill any amount of material on short notice. The company employs several men throughout the year and is one of Bolivar's fast growing industries.

Above - from April 9, 1931; one of a series in the Bolivar Breeze entitled "One A Week" highlighting Bolivar businesses; this company was the original business that stood at the museum's Hahn & Schaffner site



Eric McEnroe and family donated this plaque and bench in honor of William R., Walter J., and Chester A. McEnroe whose company established the first successful water flooding operation in Allegany County in 1921.

Walter McEnroe pumped what was considered New York State's richest five acres of oil property near Allentown. According to "Empire Oil," by 1949, this five-acre parcel produced an average of almost **30,000 BARRELS PER ACRE!** This illustrates the huge volume of oil recovered in the local field.

"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!



Members of New York State Oil Producers' Association

Platinum - \$5000.00

Otis Eastern Service/Charlie Joyce

Silver - \$500.00

Joe Bucher

Other

- James McAndrew
- Lindhome & Songster, PC
- Rinker Oil
- James Walchli
- Miller and Brandes

Gold- \$1000.00

McCracken Energy Services
 Joan Gollaher

Bronze - \$200.00

- Hill Drilling
- Cline Oil
- Allen Oil Corp.
- Dorchester Minerals Operating LP
- Bradford Pipe & Supply
- Jim Hungerford



Purchased through a Manley Grant, this billboard was erected in Ceres last summer

Memorials 2021

In memory of Jim Euken

by Rick and Lois Whitney

by George Bradley

In memory of Jeff Wolcott

by Bob Mountain

In memory of Betsy Bucher

by Joe Bucher

by Jim Pizzolanti

In memory of Marjorie LaBella

by Phillip LaBella

In memory of Robert "Tub" Murphy

by Mary Murphy Smith

In memory of Willard Cline & Carl McCall

by PA Independent Petroleum Producers

In memory of Michael & Josephine Italiano

by Angelo Italiano Ninos

In memory of Cawley Family

by Bill and Nancy Walsh

In memory of Jerry Chadderdon

by Mary Lou Joyce

by Karen and Stephen Sarrafian

by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Marcia Fagouri O'Brien

by Bob Mountain

In memory of David Duke Haskins

by Mark Haskins

In memory of Larry Rossman

by Kris and Rick Gould

by Karen and Stephen Sarrafian

by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Cathy Ryan

by Karen and Stephen Sarrafian

by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Diane Mountain

by Dominic and Donna DiGirolamo

In memory of Ron Stabley

by Bob Mountain

by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Earl Harriger

by Dianne Safford

In memory of Walter Sturdevant

by Jim Reynolds

In memory of John A. Casey

by Tom Manning

In memory of Beverly Monroe

by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Dean Phillips

by Phillips family

In memory of Art Van Tyne

by NYS Oil Producers' Association

by Doug and Marie Patchen

by Bill and Niki Barnes

by Richard Nyahay

by Jim Walchli

by Gordon Yonel

by Hall, Kistler, & Co., LLP

by Mary Ellen Manning

by Thomas O'Neill Jr.

by James Paige (Paige Development Corp.)

by Carol Bradley

by Wynona Imfeld

by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Mike Church

by Bob Mountain

In memory of Lee Evans

by Bob Mountain

In memory of Howard Compton

by Ralph Compton

In memory of Sharon Leonard

by Kevin McCarthy

by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

by Judith Wood

by Susan and Scott Walters

by Nancy Beaton

by Margie Hoffman

by Diane Glintz

In memory of Joe Bucher

by Kris and Rick Gould

by Karen and Stephan Sarrafian

by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

by Mark and Gayle Thompson

by Diane Glintz

by Bill and Niki Barnes

by Marilyn Lester

by Rich and Michele Dunbar

by Greg Bucher

by Karen Perrigo

by Beth and Dave Dietz

by Wendy Lanterman

by Rose and Dale Feenaughty

In memory of Ed Mitchell

by Wayne Pullen & Lisa DeRosa

by Kelly and Lois Lounsberry

In memory of Bill Graffius

by Bob Mountain

DONATIONS 2021

OIL BARON - \$501 or more

Mr. & Mrs. Lew Barnes Lorraine Joyce
 Cathy Bucher Johnson Jim Ingalls
 Bolivar Lions Club John Childs (Reich Metals)
 Heritage Aflame (Dave Herne)
 Madison Community Foundation (Marcia Bradley)

SHOOTER - \$101-500

Jeff Bradley
 Kevin Langworthy
 Monica Corwin
 Joe Yehl
 Lance Shaner (Shaner Oil Company)
 Bob Mountain
 Mary Lou Joyce
 Jim Pizzolanti
 Sue Lindquist
 Amy Spagg
 Bill and Pam Graffius
 Andy Bucher
 Kelly and Lois Lounsberry
 Rick and Kris Gould
 Allegany County Area Foundation
 Joe and Eileen Schaffner
 Robert Harriger
 Dan and Judi Dempsey, Jr.
 Margaret Bryner

WILDCATTER - \$51-100

Steve and Terrie Morrison Jim Hahn
 Jim and Sharon Leonard Robert Selden
 Cheryl Wesche Dick Harmon
 Chuck Thompson Robert Weber
 Fred and Mimi Shaner Sarah Kinley
 Dave and Chris Evans Mike Fuoco
 Nancy MacDonell Crelly Nagle
 Deb Fenner

ROUSTABOUT - \$26-50

Wendy Lanterman	Mary Bowen
Karen Perrigo	Diane Glintz
Scott MacDonell	Barb Schiralli
Theo Bullock	Larry Poelma
Bob & Charlotte Mead	Jean Sexton
Laurie Lounsberry Meehan	Nancy Repp

WELL PLUGGER—\$25 or less

Carol LaGrasse	Georgia Phillips
Wayne Milliman	Maureen Kelley
Cattaraugus County Museum	Edith Freaney
Mr. & Mrs. John Boll	

Flooding at the Hahn & Schaffner site - July 2021



NYSOPA TO Honor Wall of Fame Inductees

The Pioneer Oil Museum is pleased and honored once 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. Since the induction ceremonies were cancelled from Covid the past two years, this year's class covers three years and has been expanded to six inductees: Jim Joyce, Clarence (C.O.) Fulton, Riley Allen, Joe Bucher, Will Burdick, and Art Van Tyne.

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 24, 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 complex.

The last class inducted was in 2019, and that group included Thomas Crowley, R.B. Moore, Grant Wisel, and Melford "Coon" Taylor.

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 exploring the facility to learn about the amazing heritage of the local oil fields.



Removing the roof from the Pittsburg, Shawmut, & Northern Railroad depot; it was replaced with a metal roof (refer to page one for more information on both photos)

**TENTATIVE EVENT -
MAY BE CANCELLED
AT ANY TIME**

WINE-AND-CHEESE TASTING TICKETS

Friday, June 24, 2022
6:30 - 8:00 Hahn & Schaffner Site

\$20 per ticket - available May 23

Once again a number of wines and hard ciders will be available for tasting. These will be in addition to many other tasty snacks, cheeses, and other items.

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



Laying a section of track from the Pittsburg, Shawmut, & Northern Railroad; the rails are original pieces that were laid where the train once ran through the current Hahn & Schaffner site