



*The*  
**Carousel**

*News & Trader*

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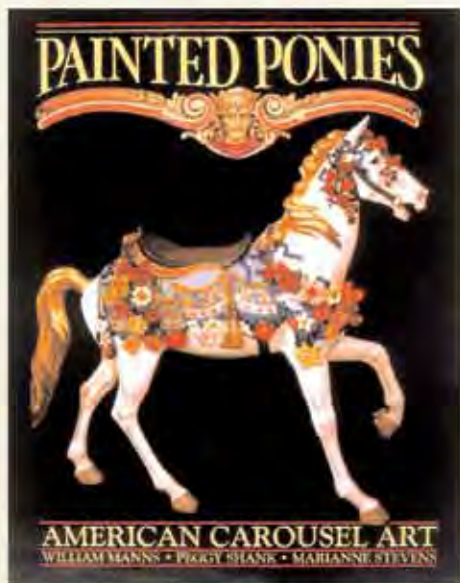
***A Century of Memories at  
Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk***

***LaRonde's 1890s Galopant  
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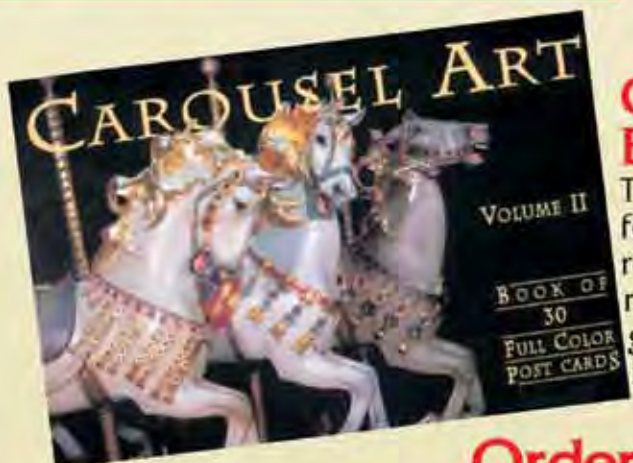
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# ON THE COVER



The Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk celebrates its 100th anniversary this summer. Their prized 1911 Loeff carousel remains the centerpiece to the historic park.

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## From Dan's Desk

Message from the publisher, Dan Horenberger

*These are little bits of information that come across my desk. Some will become bigger stories in future issues of the CN&T, others are just passed-along information.*

After 8,000 miles it's good to be home. Sorry I missed last month's "Dan's Desk". I also miss the cheap gasoline most of the country has compared to California. Summer is here and many carousels are shaking off the winter dust. It's time to get out and ride your local carousel.

**Trimpers Rides** in Ocean City, MD, is in a fight for its life. The value of the ocean front property is exceeding the park's income. The taxes have risen over 150 percent in three years. Without some help this may be the last year for the park. The Maryland Assistant Secretary of Tourism Hannah Byron said this week her office is considering drafting legislation to help save the historic amusement park. If you're in the area, go out and take a ride on their Herschell Spillman menagerie carousel. This park may end up like Astroland and have its final season this year.

Well, here are more reasons a city shouldn't be involved in carousel decisions. **Theodore Roosevelt Park** is still looking for a carousel group to give them a Theodore Roosevelt-themed carousel for free. The whole sales

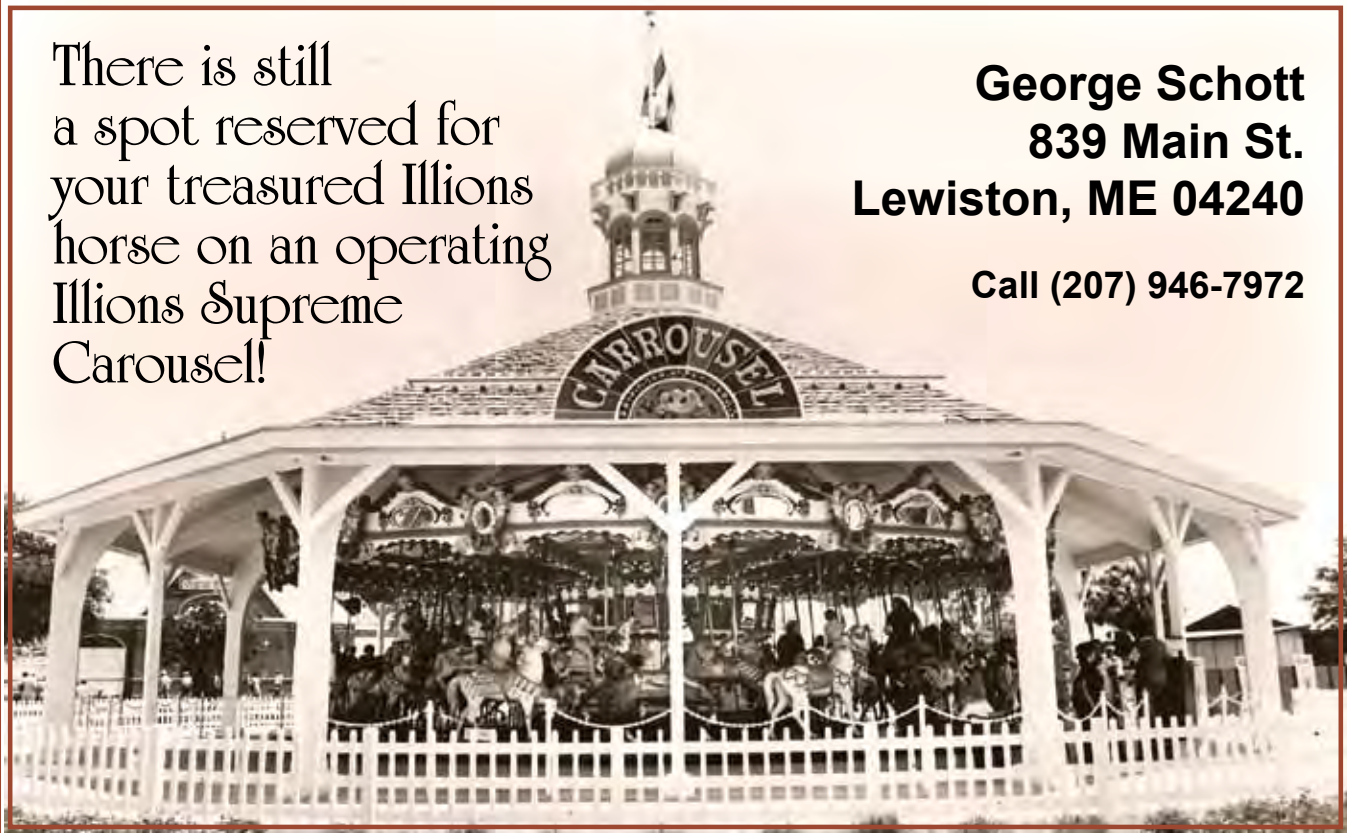
pitch to the locals is "there will be no cost to us." No cost? Over \$100,000 has been spent so far on studies and fees on this "free carousel." Even if they get the free carousel, the city still has to spend tens of thousands of dollars for park upgrades. Plus, there is a lawsuit over the fact that there's a "no carousel" restriction in the park. What a mess. We'll keep you up-to-date.



The 2007 Spirit of Humanitarianism Volunteer Awards from the Leavenworth County Human Services Council were just announced. Among the recipients are the volunteers at the C.W. Parker Carousel Museum. Approximately 50 volunteers maintain the museum building, including cleaning the facility. They also host events, give tours, write grants, build museum displays and operate the carousel. The carousel museum volunteers received two nominations for the Spirit of Humanitarianism Award, with Walt and Virginia Defrees and Jerry and Marilyn Reinhardt accepting the award. Congratulations!

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## Dan's Desk cont.

Grape-sized hail pummeled the Denver area recently in a freak storm. Some intersections had up to three-feet of water. At **Elitch Gardens** Amusement Park, the hail broke lights and toppled small trees forcing the park to close. After a detailed inspection everything was fine and things are back to normal.

Time to put on your tin foil hats. There's a huge movement to build a UFO-themed park in **Roswell, NM**. What was just rumblings is now gaining momentum. New Mexico business people, city officials and entrepreneurs have a new idea for making money in this hot tourist spot — an alien theme park. The proposed amusement park would have an indoor roller coaster that would be something of a mock alien abduction. The city has received a \$245,000 legislative appropriation for planning and the park could be open as early as 2010. City Planner Zach Montgomery said the building of the park would cost "several hundred million dollars." I wonder if they are going to hire **Mari- anne Stevens** as a consultant for the carousel?

**Conneaut Lake Park** continues to seek funds to open for the 2007 season. As of press time the park is closed, but a benefit concert will go on as scheduled. With millions in debt and the rejected sale of property that would have brought in \$1.7 million, the park is in a desperate situation. There is a campaign to raise \$100,000 with \$47,000 already raised before the concert. Around \$300,000 is needed to open the entire park, but the \$100,000 would


be enough to open Kiddieland, Beach Club, Hotel Conneaut, the Midway and some rides for now. Anyone interested in helping with donations should contact George Deshner at (814) 382-5115. Checks made payable to the Conneaut Lake Institute can be deducted from federal taxes as the institute is a 501-C organization. Anyone interested in making a donation without a tax deduction can make checks payable directly to Conneaut Lake Park.

For the past six months it's hardly been a **Ghost Town** at the North Carolina named theme park. Instead, it's an authentic western town turned construction site. "We have re-roofed 148,000 square feet — every roof in the park has been completely rebuilt," says Ghost Town General Manager Bob Cordier. Among the more memorable park attractions are the chair lift ride and the incline railway. Both are going through major renovations. Ghost Town didn't want to lose the nostalgia of the park and although most of the old rides have been refurbished, they still have an authentic look, including the 1959 scrambler and the 1927 carousel. The road leading to the park, the steepest grade in the state, also received a complete upgrade. At an elevation of 4,600 feet, there's quite a view from the park. I hope to make a visit this summer.

The **Story City, IA** Greater Chamber Connection needs volunteers to help run its 1913 antique carousel. Volunteers operate the carousel every weekend, from May through September. Shifts run from noon-3 p.m., 3-6 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, plus Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings, 6-9 p.m. Ride operators enjoy free popcorn and rides for their family during their shift. To volunteer, send the chamber an email at [chamber@storycity.net](mailto:chamber@storycity.net) or call (515) 733-4214

There was a ribbon-cutting for the newly completed **Alder Creek Pioneer Carousel Museum** in Bickleton, WA. Using \$450,000 in state grants, the 5,500-square-foot octagonal building serves as a place to store and display 24 century-old carousel horses and is the town's first museum to preserve Eastern Klickitat County history. Barbara Clark, Jan Brown, Sandra Powers and Lynn Mains led the effort, first by helping to restore and repaint the aging horses, then by recruiting the community to finish the interior of the building after Mountain States Construction of Sunnyside erected the structure last summer. "We had 1,000 volunteer hours on all the work done inside. We didn't hire anyone," Clark said. "Men, women, children and grandchildren scraped, painted and donated. It's a rather magical footprint of our history. We dedicate it to the pioneers who came before us." The museum is open to the public Thursdays through Sundays until Sept. 30.

The carousel world mourns the passing of **John Davis** this past spring. Some outside of California may not know the rich carousel history of the Davis family. Look for a lengthy editorial tribute in an upcoming issue of CNT.



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*In Memoriam*  
*John Oliver*  
*"J. O." Davis*

*Oct. 24, 1915 - March 10, 2007*

John Oliver Davis—"J.O." to his friends, and "Bud" to those he grew up with—was born into a family already established in the carousel business. His grandfather, Oliver Funk Davis, brought one of the first portable carousels to California near the turn of the last century and, with his son Ross, later established a number of stationary carousels throughout California. In addition to being operators, both men became west coast brokers for the Spillman Engineering/Herschell-Spillman Company.

During John's childhood the Davis family operated machines in various California locales, including Mission Beach and Ocean Beach in San Diego, Lincoln Park in Los Angeles, and, for a time, at Belmont Park in Long Beach. As a young man, John helped to establish new machines at Griffith Park in Los Angeles and Tilden Park in Berkeley.

Following WWII military service as a bomber pilot in the Pacific, he acquiesced when his father pressed him to take over the Ross R. Davis & Son business despite John's preference for a career in aviation. He moved with his new wife, Janet Herring, to Berkeley, California, where he established a merry-go-round at the Bay area's Tilden Regional Park. He purchased a portion of the company by working long hours, seven days a week for the first few years until he found a trusted operator in his wife's cousin. He returned to the Los Angeles area to take full control of the Lincoln and Griffith Park machines. To be within minute's commute of both carousels, he moved his family to Glendale.

It was around this time that Walt Disney commissioned Ross and John to find a four abreast, all horse carousel for the nascent Disneyland. They found an appropriate three-abreast machine in Canada, then oversaw the construction of the fourth row of what is now known as King Arthur's Carousel.

In the late 60s, John purchased the contents of the Loeff factory in Long Beach from the Loeff family. To the delight of his four children, each received a horse or menagerie figure for Christmas or birthdays for years to follow. Many of those figures are now in the combined Davis Siblings Collection.

Ross R. Davis & Son remained a viable business until the mid-60s when the turbulent social climate kept families – particularly those with small children – away from the parks and their carousels. Vandalism was an acute problem at both machines, but at Lincoln Park in particular. Some years later – in a sad day for both the Davis family and the City of Los Angeles – the woefully underinsured Lincoln Park Merry-go-round burnt nearly to the ground when squatters started a fire in the store room.

John sold the Griffith Park merry-go-round with the proviso that it be kept as a running machine and sold the Tilden Park machine to the regional parks department. But even in retirement, he continued to sell band organ music and lent many of the carousel figures in the family's collection to museums and exhibits. A slideshow, put together by son, John O. Davis, Jr., was narrated by J.O. to the delight of many audiences. Much of that slideshow will be included in a documentary now being produced by the Davis Siblings Collection.



# Carousel Carving Tips and Tricks



Fig. 1



Fig. 1A

**By Larry Pefferly**

*Special to The Carousel News & Trader*

By now, if you have been following previous months' articles, you are well on your way to carving what I think is the most difficult and the most important part of a carousel horse, the head. We will now finish the nostrils before starting the eyes.

From the point where we stopped last month, let's continue at the top part of the nostril, carve almost straight down about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep, forming the beginning of a 'lip' around the nostril when the inside is eventually carved out. Gradually carve away from the nostril toward the top of the head. You will have an extension of the nostril as it goes upward before blending into the horse's face. Under this area is a passage needed to carry air from those big, flared nostrils to the lungs. Emphasize this area. It should look like a convex shaped tube from the top of the nostril until it blends into the face (see Figure 1A).



Fig. 2

Recall the long pencil line you drew 1" from the center, and the short line next to it that was also the front part of the nostril. Between those two lines, carve a rounded concave groove around the front of the nostril and up toward the front side of the air passage. This groove will fade into the front side of the air passage. From the front side of the air passage, carve out toward the face of the horse to the line that is 1" from the center (see Figure 1). You will accomplish a 2" wide flat area at the very front of the horse's face from which you will make a turn and gradually carve toward the bridle (see Figure 1).

Go back down to the bottom of the nostril. From the groove in front (between the short line and long line), continue carving that groove around the bottom of the nostril until reaching the upper part of the upper lip, blending the groove into the one you previously carved at the back part of the nostril (see Figure 1). Now is a good time to put the finishing touches on it.

The groove you just made at the bottom part of the nostril should continue up the back part of the nostril. Finish up this area as shown in Figure 1A, defining the lip and nostril. When you have done all of the above on both sides, turn the head so it faces you to make sure both sides are equal by using a measuring tape, calipers, or a mirror. I can tell more by closing my eyes and feeling both nostrils in my hands. Try this method and you will be surprised how well it works in determining if both sides are balanced.

When both sides are identical, carve out the inside of the nostrils. The nostril on the horse's right side is shaped like the number 6. The nostril on the left side is shaped like a reversed number 6. The best way to carve the nostrils is to imagine the number 6 as a lip (or face) of the nostril. Everything on either side of the lip will be carved out (see Figure 1A). The inside of the 6's circle will have a soft 'hole' where air goes into the passage. There is





Fig. 3



Fig. 5

a slight 'v' groove where the top of the circle meets the side. At the top of the circle where it looks like a 'v', begin carving toward the front of the nostril, then down into the rounded groove between the two pencil lines. The nostril is almost finished, but is quite flared. You may like this look. If you don't want the nostril flared that much, take some off of the lip of the nostril a little at a time, perhaps taking more off at the bottom and front until getting the desired look. Do both sides the same. You are now ready for sanding. The last step in finishing this section is putting grooves in the horse's teeth.

#### CARVING THE EYES

In my opinion, carving the eyes is the most important part of the horse as the expression dictates mood and feelings. If done correctly, they tie the rest of the horse together. Do not become uneasy about attempting to carve the eyes. If you follow the steps outlined in the next paragraphs, you will not have a problem.

Determine where the eyes will be. Don't have the eyes too close to the ears or too low toward the mouth. If the eye you drew when making the pattern is accurate and looks good to you, use the template as a guide in placing the eye correctly. In general, if you section the horse's head into thirds from the top of the head between the

ears to the longest point of the upper lip, you will have the center of the eye (the center being two-thirds up from the lip). When marking the head into thirds, have a little imagination as to where the forelock between the ears will be. Don't measure from the forelock to the lip dividing that into thirds. You should start as though the forelock wasn't there.

Now that the center of the eye has been established from top-to-bottom, establish the center from front-to-back. This is easy. On a full size carousel horse, the center of the eye is 1½" from the face. The block of wood you cut out and glued together may have some forelock between the horse's ears that covers part of the face beyond the eyes. You do not want to measure the 1½" from the front of the forelock. Draw a line from the front part of the horse's face where you have a 2" wide pencil line in the center, up toward the top of the head to where it turns into the base of the ears. Envision the shape of the horse's face if the forelock wasn't there or refer to the anatomy book. Go back 1½" from that line to find the center of the eye, front-to-back. You should have a place to put one end of the compass to draw a round circle, 1¼" in diameter (see Figure 2).

Everything you do to the eye revolves around that 1¼"



Fig. 4



Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

circle. Make an 'x' in the middle where you put the point of the compass. The next step is critical. Do exactly the same thing on the other side. If you cut the head from the neck so you can turn the head outward, it will be easy to make the other side equal. The back of the head should be flat where it will be glued onto the neck later. Place a square from the back of the head on the flat part, and move it until one part of the square is lined up with the center of the eye (the 'x'). Write down the measurement

you read on the square at the eye's center. Draw a pencil line across the square from the center of the eye to the back of the head (see Figure 3). Place the square on the flat part in back of the head and move it until it lines up with the last pencil line. Draw another pencil line next to the square on the back of the head (see Figure 4). Turn the head to the other side, line up the square one more time with the pencil line on the back, and draw the final pencil line toward the eye on the other side. Before removing the square, make a mark from the square at the measurement you last wrote down (see Figure 5). You now have both eyes identically opposite each other (see Figures, 3, 4, and 5). Use the same method to make the rosettes equal on both sides.

Before carving, make a few more pencil marks beginning with the horse's right eye. Part of the circle you have drawn will be covered with the eyelid. Do not have a perfectly round eye. Beginning from a little left of the circle at the upper left side of the eye, draw a line at an angle down through the top part of the eye, approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$ " into the  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " circle. Continue down to a little past the front of the circle. Continue that line by turning it down to just in front of the eye (the right side of the eyeball or circle). That pencil line will be part of the upper eyelid. Draw another pencil line above the last line, approximately  $\frac{3}{8}$ ", and follow that around, approximately the same distance from the first line. This line will be called the center of the eyebrow. It should look like Figure 6.

You are now ready to carve the eye. Using a large fishtail chisel, carve a 'v' groove between the two lines as shown in Figure 7. With the point of the chisel at an angle a little below the eyebrow pencil line, score an angle cut to make the top part of the 'v'. Do the same on the outside of the eyelid, scoring another cut to finish the 'v' groove. By carving the groove this way, you won't need to use a mallet and possibly take a chance on damaging the wood.

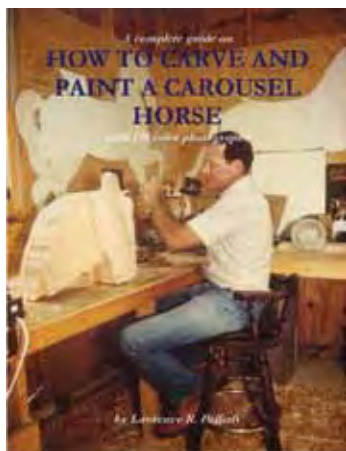
Carve away the outside of the eyebrow (see Figure 8). This will make the center of the eyebrow raised. At this point, the entire eyebrow is flat. Separate the forelock from the front of the horse's face, as it will help when fin-

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Fig. 9

ishing the front part of the eye. Draw a small circle on the upper part of the horse's eyebrow, as shown in Figure 8.

The eyebrow should not remain flat, so this needs to be attended to (see Figure 8). Remember you are working on the horse's right eye. As you look at it, the front of the eye is to the right of the  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " circle drawn for the eyeball. In Figure 8, I drew a small circle just above the eyeball and on the center of the eyebrow. Never carve within that small circle anymore. Begin carving behind the small circle at an angle, approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep toward the rosette. Carve from the right of that small circle (the front of it) toward the part of the eyebrow where it turns down in front of the eye. The goal is to gradually take away wood until you reach the bottom right corner of the eyebrow, about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " of wood being removed. Re-draw the center of the eyebrow line in the front, and in the back of the eye, as you just carved the last line out. At this point, the front part of the eyeball protrudes past the front part of the eyelid (see Figure 9).

The eyeball should not protrude as shown in Figure 9. Change it by placing the point of the compass in the center of the eyeball that you used to make a circle, pressing in the point as deeply as you can into the wood, straight down. As you will be carving away part of the eyeball, this



Fig. 10



Fig. 11

will allow you to not lose the center spot of the eyeball. Carve away the front half of the eyeball without touching the back line of the eyeball circle, and gradually carve toward the front eyelid. Carve it so it is reasonably close to the front eyelid and the eyeball is no longer protruding above the front part of the eyebrow. Take the compass, set to  $1\frac{1}{4}$ ", place one end in the center of the eyeball, where there is still a mark (if you had pressed down hard enough), and draw a new circle minus the part that goes under the upper part of the eyelid. Re-draw any other lines that have been carved out, such as the eyelid in front of the eyeball. Carve the groove back in between the front part of the lid and brow. At this point, the eye will look like Figure 10.

As shown in Figure 10, a short pencil line is drawn at the top left corner of the eye from the upper lid down to the circle of the eye. There is also a short pencil line drawn at the bottom right corner from the circle of the eye to the eyelid in front. Carve the area below those short lines, beginning where it intersects the upper eyelid, including the circle around the lower part of the eyeball, and over to the front part of the eyelid. Carve out a rounded concave groove about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep to make the lower eyelid. Make a cut approximately  $\frac{1}{8}$ " deep all around the circle of the eyeball and across the bottom of the upper eyelid. Remove the wood where the glass eyeball will eventually go. More work will need to be done in this area, but not at this time. The carving will now look like Figure 11.

I hope you were able to get a lot out of this installment, and, if you are carving as you read this, your horse should be starting to come alive. In the August column we will put the glass eye in and carve the ears.

Happy Carving

*Master carver, Larry Pefferly has been carving carousel horses for over 20 years. To learn more about Larry, visit [www.carouselcarving.com](http://www.carouselcarving.com).*

*To purchase his "How To Carve A Carousel Horse" video or book, visit [www.CarouselStore.com](http://www.CarouselStore.com).*

Special Event Planned for 10th Anniversary of the Carousel Auction July 19-22

# Euclid Beach Park July Celebration Arch is Back, New Plans for Pier



A carousel postcard from 1911.

By Elva Brodnick

Special to *The Carousel News & Trader*

It's been 10 long years since a small but dedicated band of Euclid Beach Park enthusiasts rallied to save Cleveland's most beloved carousel from being broken up at auction.

That same group of enthusiasts, Euclid Beach Park Now, is currently mobilizing to finally bring the Euclid Beach PTC #19 carousel back to its North Collinwood home, at its original site in Euclid Beach State Park. To bring attention to the carousel's plight, Euclid Beach Park Now is planning an exhibit "The Euclid Beach Park Carousel – Coming Full Circle" at the Arts Collinwood Gallery and Cafe Marika, opening the evening of Thursday, July 19th at 7:00 p.m., and running through Sunday, July 22. (Gallery and Cafe hours are Thursday and Friday 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) With the focus being *The Story of the Euclid Beach Carousel*, this new exhibit will feature carousel horses and many photos and historical objects from Euclid Beach Park and the carousel that have never been exhibited before, bringing alive fresh memories of Cleveland's most beloved amusement park, Euclid Beach Park.

After the 1997 auction at which the carousel was purchased as a whole and not broken up, the horses and chariots were restored. Since then, they (and the carousel's mechanism), have been in storage at the Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS). To date, the WRHS has no apparent plans to bring this wonderful piece of Euclid Beach Park and American history back to life. This is unfortunate for Clevelanders both old enough to remember Euclid Beach Park, and too young to remember (but having heard stories all their lives about the wonderful

park) as they are being denied the chance to "Ride Back to Euclid Beach Park." 10 years is long enough. It is time to finally bring our carousel home!

The carousel's place in North Collinwood's Euclid Beach State Park is officially part of the City of Cleveland's Lakefront Plan. The carousel, as well as the old pier, are part of Northeast Shores Development Corporation's original Lakeshore Boulevard Revitalization Plan which was approved by the City of Cleveland's Planning Commission. Bringing the carousel home has the support of Ward 11 North Collinwood's Councilman Mike Polensek, State Representative Kenny Yuko, the Sun Papers, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Cleveland Lakefront, as well as the support of the people who live and work in the North Collinwood neighborhood.

The carousel was the heart of the park, a ride all ages could enjoy, while the pier was a popular feature of the old amusement park used for fishing or for just enjoying the lake. By bringing both the carousel and the pier back, with the Humphrey Field Sports Complex across Lakeshore Boulevard, this part of Lakeshore Boulevard would become a family-friendly place for good times today, as well as for remembering the good times of yesterday.

Euclid Beach Park Now was founded in 1989 to help preserve the memories and memorabilia of Cleveland's beloved Euclid Beach Amusement Park. Over the years, we have sponsored many memorabilia shows bringing people together to remember all the good times at Euclid Beach Park. Our current efforts include the restoration of the Shuffleboard Courts, the annual September event at the State Park, "Remembering the Sights and Sounds of Euclid Beach Park" event, as well as supporting the plans to bring the Euclid Beach carousel "back home".

For more information, visit [www.euclidbeach.com](http://www.euclidbeach.com).



A Euclid Beach Park postcard from 1914.



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The 1880s Belgian Carousel Appeared at the 1964 World's Fair in New York

# Carousel Magic! Restores Historic Gallophant for LaRonde in Montreal



*An installation worker setting up the historic Gallophant carousel at LaRonde in Montreal. Photos courtesy of Carousel Magic!*

**By Andrea Nelson**

*Special to The Carousel News & Trader*

**I**n January of 2007, five semi containers rolled up to Carousel Magic's Mansfield, OH, shop to deliver the components of the LaRonde Carousel for a complete restoration to operating condition. In May 2007, four moving vans returned those components, repaired, refurbished and ready for years of beautiful use, giving joy to riders. This was an exceptionally fast turn-around, considering the age of the carousel and the extremely dilapidated condition in which it arrived.

This carousel was built in Belgium in the 1880s. It has passed through several owners and many maintenance workers, with widely varying levels of expertise, have worked it over. Some of the repairs that were made over the years did extensive damage to the beautiful old machine. The challenge of this restoration was how best to



*LaRonde's Gallophant in its new building.*





***The massive ornate chariots are a signature of the Gallopant.***

preserve the nineteenth century beauty and character of this valuable antique, while making it safe and durable for operation well into the twenty-first century.

The age and state of deterioration of the machine complicated the restoration process. All component parts of the machine were hand-made, so no two components of the same type matched each other. For example, no cornice panel (rounding board) exactly matched any other in size. Safety and durability demanded the manufacture of new parts that matched the damaged antique ones. Carousel Magic's artisans selected the best-preserved example of each component to use as patterns for manufacturing all new parts. All new cornice panels, frieze (center surround) panels, shields and other structural parts were made to match the old ones.

The decorative hand-carved wooden scrolling was severely damaged and in an advanced state of disintegration. The best example of each decoration was used to make a mold for casting replacements.



***A section of bright new wood stands out between the aged wood. The new wood replaces wood that was too rotted to repair.***



***A massive nail held this horse's leg in place, one of the damaging repairs removed in the restoration process.***



***A Carousel Magic worker removing damaging metal screws and strap repairs.***



***Carousel Magic's head painter, Debbie Fulks, with one of the decorative angels.***





**Freshly restored horses taking a last look at the components of the carousel they will ride when they get back home to LaRonde in Montreal.**

The new decorations were cast from a flexible resin compound. This flexibility makes them more resistant to impact breakage and to damage from machine motion and vibrations. They are also lighter weight, reducing the mechanical stresses on the mechanism.

Many mechanical parts were either worn out or missing entirely. Restoring the drive mechanism required the fabrication of many replacement parts. The carousel was originally powered by a steam engine. An electrical motor now replaces the steam engine, due to safety and efficiency concerns. However, Carousel Magic also restored the original steam engine to display condition, and it will be displayed at LaRonde in the center of the carousel. The carousel retains its original center pole.

The 24 horses were all extensively damaged. They all had harmful prior repairs made with nails, screws and metal straps that were then covered over in layers of fiberglass and heavily painted. Carousel Magic's artisans removed all such damaging repairs, replaced rotten or missing wood and stabilized decomposing wood with epoxy injections. They carved new parts for those that had



**A cornice panel and several partition panels near completion at the Carousel Magic shop.**



**Detail painting on a frieze panel.**



**Detail painting on a junction strip.**



**Carousel Magic painter Liz Eustace applies detail paint to one of the LaRonde carousel horses.**





***The new carousel building goes up at LaRonde.***

been lost, returning to each horse its correct complement of four legs, two ears and one tail. An unusual feature of this carousel is that the horses ride on wagons that move the horses up and down, rather than being on a solid deck with jumping telescope mechanisms.

Another unusual attribute of this carousel is its four massive gondolas (chariots). Each is unique in its carving and decorations, which include large angels and elaborate human figures. The restored gondolas were painted



***The Galloping steam engine, a gondola and a lumber delivery for the LaRonde decks at Carousel Magic.***



***Raising the center pole.***



***The original steam engine.***

in different colors, making it easier to appreciate the distinctive features of each.

Carousel Magic also restored the large band organ façade that goes with this carousel. Unfortunately, the band organ itself is not operable. Rather than playing from music rolls, it plays from “books” that are accordion folded. Most of the existing books for this band organ are torn and worn out and it is almost impossible to get replacement books for this type of band organ.

Many cosmetic features of this carousel are there to add flash and glitter. The horses and gondolas were deco-





**A whole stable of pretty, prancing ponies ready to ride once again.**

rated with a large number of mirrors, some of which were broken and all of which were dulled and tarnished. Carousel Magic re-silvered the existing mirrors and cut new ones into the curved and curling shapes on the gondolas. The brass decorations on this carousel are distinctive. Layers of old finish and tarnish had to be stripped from the brass, then it was repaired, polished and sealed. The installation of over 1,000 new electric lights completed the refurbishing of the cosmetic components of the carousel, adding sparkle and flash to its daily operation.



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Photo circa 1920. Courtesy of LaRonde.

**The carousel was built in 1885 in Bressoux, a small town near Liège. The first owners of the carousel were Léon Bolland and his sons Richard and Raymond. In 1932, Le Galopant was bought and renovated by Jacques and Mélanie Bairoille, known worldwide for their involvement with carousels. For more history on Le Galopant, see CNT February 2007.**

La Ronde is the largest theme park in the province of Quebec and the second largest in Canada after Canada's Wonderland, with about 2.5 million entrances in 2006.

The park encompasses 146-acres on Saint Helen's Island in Montreal on the site of the 1967 Montreal World's Fair. The park hosts *L'International des Faux Loto-Quebec*, the most important international fireworks competition in the world.

La Ronde was opened in 1967 as a part of Expo 67 and now features 39 rides, including nine roller coasters. Among them includes Le Monstre, a 131-foot high wooden double-tracked roller coaster, which currently holds the record for highest double-tracked roller coaster in the world.

In May 2006, La Ronde opened its ninth roller coaster, The Goliath, a 175-foot high Bolliger & Mabillard Mega Coaster. It reaches speeds of 68 mph, making it the tallest and the fastest roller coaster in Canada.

La Ronde also includes a Nintendo-sponsored video game center. Inside are the latest Nintendo video games and attractions.

The park was owned and administered by the City of Montreal until it was sold to Six Flags in a deal completed on May 4, 2001. They acquired all of the assets of the park and have a long-term contract to lease the land from the city. Before the announcement of the Six Flags pur-

chase, the city had considered offers from other bidders including Paramount Parks, Cedar Fair, and Parc Astérix. Since then Six Flags has invested millions of dollars in new rides and improvements, such as Vampire, Splash, Goliath and most recently the restoration of the carousel, as well as adding a new main entrance.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of LaRonde, which will be celebrated by a number of special events throughout the season. For more information on planning your visit to LaRonde, call (514) 397-2000 or visit them at [www.LaRonde.com](http://www.LaRonde.com).



**The Galopant at La Ronde in the 70s was beautiful on its own, but it will certainly benefit from the protection of its new building.**



## *Carousel News & Trader Acquires Tobin Fraley Archives*



*The Carousel News & Trader is happy to announce the acquisition of the Tobin Fraley Archives. This is part of our continuing effort to promote the history of carousels. We now have hundreds of original photos of carousels from the turn of the century. Nearly every major classic carousel ever made. Many of the pictures are factory photos.*

*Soon, all of these photos will become accessible to the public through our web site in order to allow everyone to enjoy and research these historic carousels. It will be an interactive web site that not only will allow you to view and research but to add pictures and comments of your own. Everyone can help clarify the history of the carousels. Answers as to origins and locations may follow or sometimes not. But, as time passes and less and less informed people are around to help, the more carousel history will be lost. Too much has been lost already.*

*The turn-of-the-century Loeff photo above is just an example of one of the many lost but not forgotten carousels we will be trying to identify and place in history. Many more will follow. The history of carousels has been hidden in boxes and filing cabinets long enough. It's time to make it public information and The Carousel News & Trader is committed to making all of its archives public.*

*If you have a carousel archive you wish to share or to sell please contact us:*

*The Carousel News & Trader  
11001 Peoria St., Sun Valley, CA 91352  
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**NCA member, Dee Lynch (center) displays the quilt she made using past NCA convention t-shirts.**

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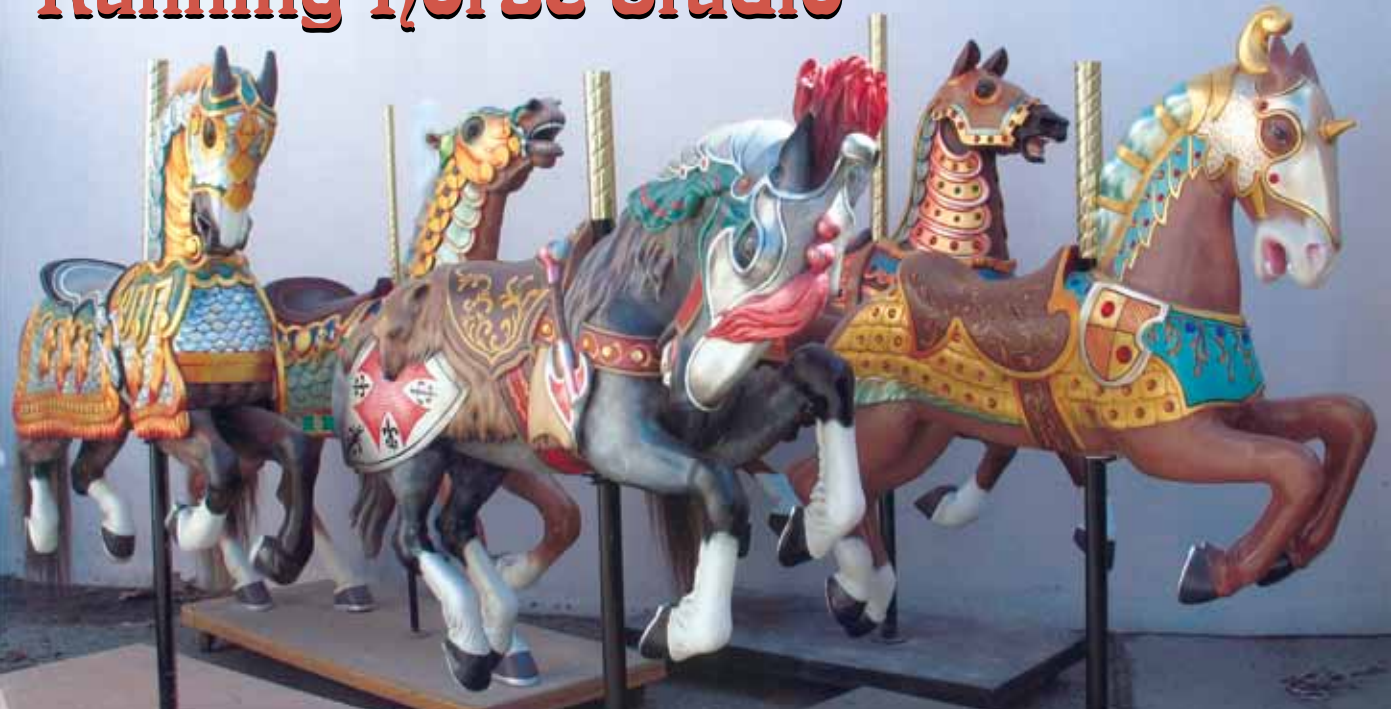
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# Numerous Special Events Planned Including a Visit from the Moscow Circus **100 Years and “Millions of Memories” For Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk**



*The 96-year-old Looff carousel offers views of the Pacific ocean.*

Photos courtesy of Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk archives

**By Brigid Fuller**

*Publicist, Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk*

**T**he Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk and adjoining Coconut Grove Casino mark “100 Years and Millions of Memories” in 2007 with a year-long centennial celebration. In addition to free summer beach concerts, fireworks and special events, a book and a documentary DVD have also been released. The Boardwalk’s archivist is uncovering amazing photographs and artifacts from 100 years of colorful history, many of which have never been seen outside of the company.

Located on picturesque Monterey Bay, the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk is to California what Coney Island is to New York. The Boardwalk has a distinctive place in California history, showing incredible endurance as a tourist destination. With annual attendance reaching 3,000,000 visitors, the Boardwalk is the most popular theme park in Northern California and recognized by many as the best seaside amusement park in the country. The Boardwalk



*The Beach Boardwalk in the early days.*

has clearly managed to survive the test of time, retaining its old-fashioned charm while keeping pace with the latest amusement park trends.





Photos by Emily Bush

The entire Boardwalk and adjoining Coconut Grove property is designated as a California Historic Landmark. The Beach Boardwalk is also home to two National Historical Monuments: the 1911 Loeff Carousel and the 1924 Giant Dipper wooden roller coaster.

The Giant Dipper, a classic scream-inducing wooden coaster, has had more than 50 million riders. It has been described by the National Park Service as “the only wooden roller coaster on the west coast that remains the centerpiece of an active amusement park.”

The Loeff Carousel is one of the few remaining carousels carved by master craftsman Charles I.D. Loeff, with hand carved horses, a ring machine, and the original band organ.

The admission-free Beach Boardwalk includes 35 rides, multiple game arcades, miniature golf, laser tag, a bowling alley, special event facilities, plenty of shopping, and numerous restaurants.



Free summer band concerts every Friday night bring nostalgia bands from the '70s and '80s to the Boardwalk's beach bandstand. The Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk delivers everything an amusement park should, all with an incredible beachfront location.

#### Centennial Celebration

There are a number of special events planned to help celebrate the 100th summer of the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk.

In addition to the events, the new book, *The Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk: A Century by the Sea*, is now in bookstores. There is also the new DVD available.

Through September 2, The Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History will host special Boardwalk exhibits and events, visit them at [www.santacruzmah.org](http://www.santacruzmah.org) for more information.

The Santa Cruz County Bank will host “Down By the Sea,” an exhibit of new works by local artists that capture the beauty of the Boardwalk, plus a display of children’s artwork, and a collection of historical photos in all three of its banking offices through the end of August.







The acrobats, gymnasts, aerialists and clowns of The Moscow Circus will perform two free performances a day, Sundays through Thursdays at the Beach Bandstand from July 8 through Aug. 16.

One of the most popular movies ever filmed at the Boardwalk, "Lost Boys," will be screened outdoors at the Beach Bandstand on July 25.

And, if you can't get to the Beach Boardwalk this year, or if you can but find your visit is just too short, then stop by [www.beachboardwalk.com/memories](http://www.beachboardwalk.com/memories). Here, in addition to the Boardwalk's own extensive archives, you will find many interesting stories and photographs that have been submitted by employees and friends of the Boardwalk. You can also post your own photos and memories to share with all.

### **The 1911 Loeff Carousel**

Whether you call it a merry-go-round, carousel, or whirligig, visitors have always been enchanted with the Boardwalk's oldest ride.

In 2007, the Boardwalk's Loeff carousel celebrates its 96th anniversary at the historic amusement park, charming children of all ages with its magical horses and chal-

lenging ring arm.

In August of 1911 one of the great carousel carvers of all time delivered the merry-go-round to the Boardwalk. Danish woodcarver Charles I.D. Loeff had achieved success with his first complete carousel placed at Coney Island in 1875 and went on to create several more around the country, including Santa Cruz. Charles' son Arthur Loeff later designed the Boardwalk's Giant Dipper.

According to his great-granddaughter, Charleen Cowan, Charles I.D. Loeff was an immigrant to America as a young man when he chose his middle initials. Ellis Island officials told Loeff he had to have a middle name "for his I.D." (or identification), so he chose "I.D." Loeff's sense of humor and personality also show up in his hand-carved horses.

Several of the Boardwalk's carousel horses display their teeth in open smiles, others are more serious, with a gentle demeanor and closed mouths. Each horse has unique, colorful details, from swords at their sides to garlands of flowers around their necks. Real horse hair tails, muscular bodies, and decorative, jeweled trappings also add to the charm. In all, the carousel is home to 73 horses





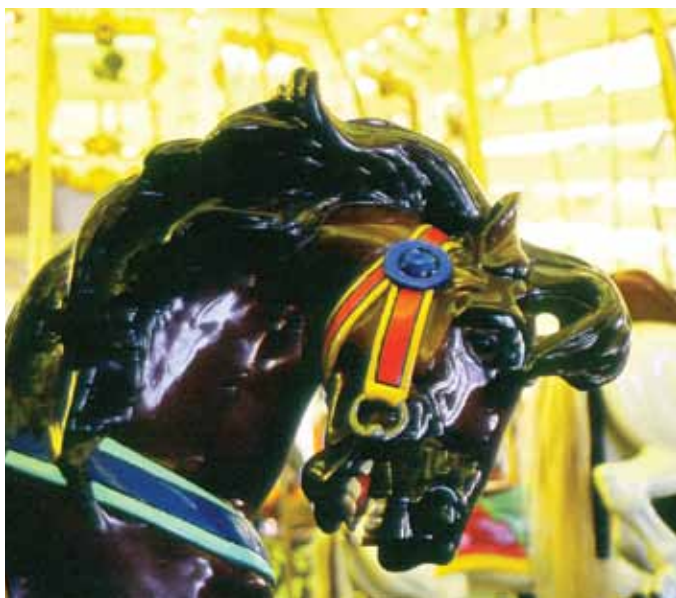






**1911 Loeff Carousel**  
*Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, Santa Cruz, CA*  
*circa 1968*





(71 jumpers and two standers) and two Roman chariots decorated with the heads of rams and cherubs.

It is also one of only a handful of carousels in the world still featuring a working ring dispenser. Rings were once hand loaded by “ring boys,” as the young employees were called. The process was mechanized in 1950. Steel rings are used today, with brass plated rings added on special occasions. Riders on outside horses can grab rings from a dispenser as they spin, then toss them into a large clown’s gaping mouth, rewarded by bells and flashing lights.

The German-made Ruth und Sohn band organ, built in 1894, is one of the last of its kind. When it was renovated in 1979 many of the parts had to be handmade, a process which took months. The antique band organ underwent another major refurbishment in 1993 at a cost of over \$25,000. In 2001 the Boardwalk added a computer-controlled kiosk that plays music synchronized with the original organ.

With the passing of Loeff and his peers, the art of carving carousel horses has almost disappeared. Due to



scarcity, they have become collectible and increasingly valuable. The Boardwalk’s entire carousel cost \$18,000 in 1911; now, a pair of the Loeff horses are valued at more than that.

Carousel horses seem magical, ethereal, and even immortal; the reality is that these beautiful carved figures are sturdy but all too mortal. Over the years some of the Boardwalk’s Loeff horses have been lost to the ravages of time and wear. However, the Boardwalk was able to reinstate its collection in 1978 with the acquisition of additional Loeff horses from parks in Myrtle Beach, SC, and Belmont Park in San Diego, CA. To preserve their beauty and enhance their value, the Boardwalk has restored many of the steeds and continues to do so.

The hard-working antique carousel has been seen in a variety of feature films, commercials, and made-for-television movies. Film credits include “The Lost Boys” and “The King of Love” (1987), “Brotherhood of Justice” (1986), and “Sudden Impact” (1983).







### SANTA CRUZ BEACH BOARDWALK HISTORY

The Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, founded in 1907, is operated by the family-owned Santa Cruz Seaside Company. It is California's oldest surviving amusement park and one of two seaside parks on the west coast of the United States (the other is the Santa Monica Pier). The west coast once hosted many more beach parks, including The Pike in Long Beach and Playland at San Francisco's Ocean Beach. Both have long since closed, but the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk survives as a reminder of a bygone era in amusement.

The Boardwalk extends along the coast of the Monterey Bay, from just east of the Santa Cruz Municipal Wharf to the mouth of the San Lorenzo River. At the western edge of the park is the Casino, which contains a video arcade, an indoor miniature golf course, a laser tag arena and the Cocoanut Grove banquet room and conference center. "Laffing Sal," from Playland-at-the-Beach, entertains passers-by near the miniature golf course. (The Casino does not offer gambling.)

East of the Casino, the "boardwalk" portion of the park stretches along a wide, sandy beach that visitors can easily access from the park. The eastern end of the board-

Photos by Emily Bush







**Reaching for the brass ring.**

Photo by Emily Bush

walk is dominated by the Giant Dipper roller coaster, one of the best-known wooden coasters in the world and one of the most visible landmarks in Santa Cruz. The Dipper and the Looff Carousel, which still contains its original 342-pipe band organ built in 1894, are both on the United States National Register of Historic Places as mentioned before, with the park itself is a California State Historic Landmark.

In many ways, the Boardwalk has changed little from its turn-of-the-century origins. Old-fashioned carnival games and snack booths can be found throughout the park. The atmosphere can be said to invoke that of East Coast seaside parks, such as Coney Island in Brooklyn, NY, and the many parks on the Jersey Shore.

The Boardwalk was founded by Santa Cruz businessman Fred Swanton, who aimed to create a “Coney Island” for the west coast. Swanton began his project in 1904 with the original Casino. Twenty-two months after it opened, the building was gutted by a devastating fire



**The star attractions at the boardwalk in the 21st century remain the same as they did in the 19th century, the Looff carousel and the 1925 Looff roller coaster shown here.**



**Touching up the carousel horses keeps painter Jimmy Raun-Byberg busy at the boardwalk.**

that started in the kitchen. Rebuilding began just a few months later; the original Boardwalk, a pier and a new Casino opened in 1907.

In 1911, woodcarver and amusement park pioneer Charles Looff created the Looff Carousel. His son, Arthur, suggested that the park owners replace the park’s first “thrill ride,” the aging L.A. Thompson Scenic Railway, with a “modern” wooden coaster—the Giant Dipper, which was designed by the younger Looff and opened in 1924.

Business slowed down during the Great Depression and World War II, but the Casino’s Coconut Grove Ballroom was at its peak, attracting popular big band leaders like Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw and Lawrence Welk.

Beginning in the 1950s and 1960s, the amusement industry went through many important changes. Interstate highways and affordable airline travel gave people greater options for where to spend their vacation time. Disneyland and the Six Flags parks drew visitors away from many older local parks, including The Pike and Playland-at-the-Beach. The Boardwalk, however, survived—and thrived—by introducing many new attractions and undergoing an extensive renovation in the early 1980s.

On June 25, 2006 the new ride WipeOut opened, featuring music written by the park’s very own Audio Specialist, Donaven Staab. This spring, the Boardwalk installed a rare Wurlitzer 165 band organ to use along with the original Adolf Ruth & Sohn organ already in place.

The Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, “the most popular seaside amusement park on the west coast,” is located at 400 Beach Street in Santa Cruz, CA.

For further information or to plan a trip to Santa Cruz, visit [www.beachboardwalk.com](http://www.beachboardwalk.com) or call (831) 423-5590.



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Host to 1925 Spillman Carousel and 1920s C. W. Parker Ferris Wheel

# A Century of Good Old Fashioned Fun at Tuscora Park in Ohio



*The 1925 portable Hershcell Spillman landed at Tuscora Park in 1941.*

Photos by Frank Brodnick

**By Derek Wise**

*Reprinted Courtesy of Tuscora Park*

**W**hat can 75 cents get you these days? 75 cents? A can of pop or a candy bar if you are lucky. Some chewing gum maybe?

Take a visit to Tuscarawas (pronounced: tuhss cuh rrar wuhss) County just northeast of Columbus, OH, and you may find the best 75 cent investment you ever made. Nestled away in a 37-acre city park in northwest New Philadelphia is a wonderful little treasure known for a century now as Tuscora Park.

The park was opened on June 1, 1907, by the Reeves family of Dover, Ohio, who wanted to create a Coney Island-type of park in Ohio. One of the

park's first attractions at the park was a swimming pool which opened on Independence Day in 1907. Many area residents came to enjoy the refreshing waters of the pool and the picturesque setting surrounding the picnic park.

The park continued to operate under Jeremiah Reeves and family until 1915 when the city of New Philadelphia purchased the entire place. It has remained a municipal facility ever since then. Though the city bought the park in 1915, the actual deed to the park was not turned over until 1923. The popularity of the park grew so much that Northern Ohio Traction Co. constructed a switch which allowed streetcars to make a run to the park's entrance from the main boulevard in town. This is unlike other trolley parks







Photos by Patrick Wenzel

which were built at the end of trolley lines to increase trolley usage on weekends. The trolley actually sought to add this park to its line. Because they did, access to the park was made a little easier. Thousands of people visited the park in the summer. The park was now earmarked the Coney Island Park of eastern Ohio.

Management tried to keep guests happily entertained every summer. As the era of ballroom dancing came into the limelight, the park built a large dance hall which provided much local entertainment for Ohioans. This dance hall was popular during the Great Depression. And like many parks of this day, the park probably survived the Depression because of the popularity of the dance hall. A story has been told that a young gentleman came by the park office to see if he could book his band for a performance. Unfortunately the dance hall was booked up for the next several weeks and he and his band did not have a chance to perform. He left behind a card with "L. Welk" on it. It is believed that this was Lawrence Welk who went on to television and big band fame years later.

As ballroom dancing faded into history, the park converted this building into a roller skating rink on the upper floor and an arcade on the lower floor. During the summer months, the lower area was also used as a picnic area.

The skating rink was a big attraction for the youth of the area as they could use it to skate year round. A small zoo was added, with squirrels, bears, peacocks, monkeys, and parrots housed in cages next to the roller rink.

Sadly, on January 11, 1961, the building caught fire and burned to the ground. A skating party had been held at the rink the evening before until 9:00 p.m., and Wayne Kiser, the man who leased the arcade and rink, left the building around 10:30. Two hours later the fire was blazing through the roof. By the time fire fighters reached the building, it was too late to save it. This was a big tragedy for the park. They not only lost the roller rink and arcade, but also lost many of the items stored inside the building including the park benches, picnic tables, kiddie auto ride and plane ride parts, and the Ferris wheel cages.

The building also contained men's and women's changing rooms for the pool, a paint shop, and the work room for park repair and routine maintenance. Most of the zoo animals were killed in the fire as well. Damage was estimated at over \$100,000 and insurance only covered a portion of the loss. The rink and arcade were never rebuilt. The zoo faded into history as well as surviving animals died off, and no new ones were brought in to replace



A dragon chariot with the Wurlitzer 153 in the background.





**Long-time carousel operator, Dave Miller (left) celebrates his 40th year at the park in 2007. He was actually married on the merry-go-round 20 years ago. He is shown here with long-time Tuscora park fan, Patrick Wentzel.**

them. However, new changing rooms were rebuilt on the same site for the pool patrons.

### **The Carousel and Ferris Wheel**

One of the first rides at the park was the Herschell Spillman carousel, which was built in 1925. The portable carousel became a permanent part of the park in 1941. The records of its whereabouts prior to 1941 were lost in the fire. This carousel is a beautifully crafted piece of artwork with 36 hand-carved wooden jumpers and two chariots. There are 14 original oil paintings as well as 350 lights. A Wurlitzer 153 band organ provides music as patrons ride along the 40-foot diameter platform. In 1988, Jerry and Donna Schwab built a building to house the carousel in memory of their ten-year-old son who died. Their son, Douglas, always enjoyed the park and spent time playing



**Pat Wentzel takes his youngest grandson, Aaron, on his first carousel ride at Tuscora Park.**

there. A small brick wall with a plaque stands near the entrance as a memorial for the young boy. The carousel also had the benefit of a full restoration around this time thanks to the tireless efforts of the late Jerry Betts. For those of you who have the book "Grab the Brass Ring" by Anee Hinds, you can see the Tuscora Park carousel on the front cover sleeve.

Other kiddie rides at the park include an airplane ride; a Herschell rocket ship ride which came from Tilton's Amusements, a company in West Virginia just across the Ohio River from Marietta; and a car ride. The original car ride had pedals on it, in which riders moved the car around the track. There was a horse also out in front of the car. Though this ride has been replaced by another one, a piece of this homemade ride lives on at the local Dairy Queen. The airplane ride was also homemade. The



**A carousel operator works the manual clutch.**  
Photo by Frank Brodnick







**Photos on this page by the late Jerry Betts, taken in the late '80s after the completion of the restoration that he worked so hard to see to its fruition.**

current planes on it were made by one of the locals who put his talent to work to help entertain young children.

The Ferris wheel is an unusual one. It is one of only 10 made by the C. W. Parker company of Leavenworth, KS. The wheel came to Tuscora literally by accident. The carrier of the ride was involved in a locomotive accident as it traveled through town. The damage was extensive enough that the carrier could not be moved. The company just left the wheel there. It became a part of the park and



has been there ever since. The hydraulics and framework were overhauled in 1984. The only other Parker Ferris wheel left is at Crossroads Village in Flint, MI. The swing ride was added in the late 1980s. It came from Xenia, Ohio. A Lions Club housed this ride and another kiddie ride. One of the club members contacted the local Rotary Club and offered to sell both to the park. Several members made the trip to Xenia, purchased the rides, and added these to the growing park.

The train ride was purchased for \$3,000 from a closing park in Illinois in 1984. Several Rotarians loaded up the ride on a semi and delivered it to the park. (It would appear that the train may have come from Dispensa Kiddie Kingdom, which closed in 1984, as it was the only park in Illinois to close that year).

The latest addition to the park is the Mini Coaster, which is a kiddie coaster designed by Bradley and Kay. It is the Little Dipper design, the same as the one at Memphis Kiddie Park. Both parks allow adults to ride. The track is oval and it has one train with three cars on it, seating up to four people, two per row. The coaster has been at the park since 1990 when it was purchased from the defunct Vollmar's Park outside of Toledo. The Rotary paid \$3,000 for the coaster and again hauled it to the park in a semi.

If it seems I am mentioning the local Rotary often, it is because they have had a big impact on keeping the park open. Tuscora has struggled over the past several years, especially with paying the high insurance rates for







running the rides. Several years ago, the ride part of the park almost closed because there was not enough money to pay the premiums. This is when the Rotary stepped in and formed a nonprofit group called RTY. By doing this, insurance could be purchased at more reasonable rates. Any money made through this is pumped directly back into the park. The Rotary runs all the rides and concessions. The shelter houses are still run by the city. The Rotarians' work to save the park just goes to show what mighty things can be accomplished by a few individuals with love and commitment.

In addition to the rides, the park offers an Olympic-sized swimming pool and a second pool with diving boards (built around 1984). It also has tennis, basketball and volleyball courts, two baseball diamonds, several batting cages, and an 18 hole miniature golf course. Picnic tables surround the park on the shaded hillside. Park admission is free. A hillside amphitheater is also a part of the park where local talent perform on Saturday evenings (also free). There is a fireworks celebration on the Fourth of July each year which I'm sure will be impressive this year on the park's centennial celebration.

If you have never been to Tuscora, what better time to visit than this year to help celebrate its 100th season.

Tuscora Park is open Memorial Day through Labor Day, seven days a week and some weekends in the fall. It is located at 161 Tuscora Ave., NW, New Philadelphia, OH 44663. For park hours, special events and more information on your visit, call (330) 343-4644 or visit them at [www.tuscora.park.net](http://www.tuscora.park.net).



## A Look Back At Jerry Betts and Tuscora Carousel



*Jerry Betts with Mary Lynn Schwab, whose family donated a large sum of money for the carousel pavilion in memory of Douglas Lee Schwab (CNT photo 1989). A longtime NCA member and officer, Betts was also an associate editor for the Carousel News & Trader. He worked with Tuscora for 15 years to get the carousel the restoration it deserved. Sadly, Jerry passed away in 1990.*

### By Leah Farnsworth

*Special to The Carousel News & Trader*

A celebration of Tuscora Park would not be complete without remembering Jerry Betts who worked so hard to get the money, volunteers, and politicians all together to finish the job of properly restoring the historic carousel.

Jerry had an incredible memory. He lived in the Chicago-area as a young man where he ran several kiddie park carousels in the northwest suburbs.

Years ago I called him when a small carnival set up about one mile from our home. The carnival had an Allan Herschell carousel in original paint and other rides that it bought from a kiddie park near Chicago. After learning more details, Jerry said it was the Kid-dieland Park Carousel, one of the ones that he used to run. That was the park where my mom and dad would take me for ice cream and a carousel ride on hot summer nights when I was young.

With this information, I was excited to go and see my childhood carousel again. I had a young neighbor who was living with a life-threatening illness and that evening I took her for her first carousel ride. She was thrilled to ride the carousel and to know that it was the same carousel I rode when I was young.

In addition to his extensive knowledge, Jerry will always be remembered for his sense of humor and generosity. Shortly after Jerry's sudden passing, his wife had his beautiful band organ delivered to the Merry-Go-Round Museum in Sandusky, OH, where it remains today for all to see and hear.

Jerry, thanks for the memories.





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# The Rare Carousel Figures Were on Display in Wisconsin April-June **A Peek at the Perron Carousel Exhibit at the Leigh Yawkey Art Museum in Wausau**



**A 1912 armored Stein & Goldstein in the entry way to the gallery space that held the restoration display and chariots from many different carvers.**

**By Leah Farnsworth**

*Special to The Carousel News & Trader*

The Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum in Wausau, WI, hosted an exhibit of Duane and Carol Perron's carousel animals from their International Museum of Carousel Art in Hood River, OR. I hope that many carousel lovers were able to enjoy this exhibit which was on display between April 7 and June 10.

We made the four-hour drive north and met with Marcia Theel, the museum's associate director for an interesting and educational afternoon. The beautiful displays were housed in the museum's two-story



**Peter and Leah Farnsworth with a 1907 Dentzel tiger.**

Photos by Peter and Leah Farnsworth



**Part of the restoration display, a Herschell Spillman horse expanded to show its components.**





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**Leah Farnsworth (left) and Marcia Theel, associate director of the museum, pose with an 1877 J. H. Muller lion.**

gallery which is used for special exhibits like this. Each animal and chariot had a plaque telling the year carved, country of origin and other information. There were some rare and seldom seen animals, including dragons and a turkey from England.

In addition to the gallery and artwork in the original part of the home, there is a sculpture gallery and a formal English garden on the four-acre estate in the residential area. The museum is closed Mondays and admission is free.

Although photography is not allowed in the museum, we were allowed to share a few photos of part of the exhibit with the readers of *The Carousel News & Trader*.

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**1914 white Carmel, 1905 D. C. Muller, 1902 Muller carved for Dentzel.**



**1914 Illions, Coney Island-style; 1907 PTC, Philadelphia-style; 1907 C. W. Parker, country-style.**



## Two Complete Carousels To Be Sold at Saugerties, NY, Auction July 25 Norton to Auction Beachview Carousel Center



*Historic 1930s Allan Herschell carousel.*

Norton Auctioneers of Michigan will handle the sale of Beachview Carousel Center in Saugerties, NY, on Wednesday, July 25. Every item will sell to the highest bidder with no minimum price and no reserve.

Without a doubt, the star attraction of the auction will be the 1930s classic Allan Herschell carousel. The carousel is listed on the NCA census of historic wooden carousels and hosts 20 jumpers (10 wood and 10 1/2 and 1/2) and one chariot. The ride was restored in 1998 with limited indoor use since. It will be sold all together.

There is also a three-row Allan Herschell carousel with

aluminum Horses. This machine is stored in a trailer and needs restoration. It will also be sold as a unit only.

Other carousel items up for auction include a Mangels Kiddie Carousel, and a 1915 Allan Herschell jumper. There are also a number of antique arcade games and player pianos, circus and amusement park collectibles and vintage vending machines.

For more information on this and other upcoming auctions, contact Norton Auctioneers of Michigan, Inc. at 517-279-9063 or visit [www.nortonauctioneers.com](http://www.nortonauctioneers.com).

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# Carousel Calendar

## AUCTIONS

**July 25, 2007, 10:30 AM**

Saugerties, NY. Beachview Center, Antique Fun Center. Two antique Allen Herschel carousels; one restored, one with racked trailer; carnival & amusement park collectibles, two player pianos, antique arcade machines, pipe organ parts, old soda fountain, etc. Call 517-279-9063 or email us at nortonsold@cbpu.com.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**July 19-22, 2007**

Cleveland, OH. "The Euclid Beach Park Carrousel – Coming Full Circle" at the Arts Collinwood Gallery and Cafe Marika. Opens Thursday at 7:00 p.m. and runs through Sunday. New exhibit will focus on the story of the Euclid Beach Carrousel with Carrousel horses, photos and historical objects from Euclid Beach Park that have never been exhibited before. For more information visit [www.euclidbeach.com](http://www.euclidbeach.com).

**July 25, 2007**

Santa Cruz, CA. "Lost Boys." An outdoor movie on the Beach Bandstand featuring one of the most popular movies ever filmed at the Boardwalk and carousel. 8:30 p.m. on the Bandstand. For more information on this and other special centennial events including The Moscow Circus, visit [www.beachboardwalk.com](http://www.beachboardwalk.com).

**September 12-16, 2007**

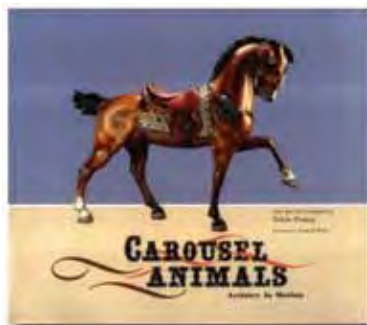
NCA 2007 Convention. Washington and Oregon States. We'll be traveling to see 7 carousels, one carousel museum & Mt St Helens. Contact Linda or Tom Allen at [alleniana@comcast.net](mailto:alleniana@comcast.net) or 206-860-6167

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The Source of Course, Continues...

## Building a Research Library



**By Marsha Schloesser**

*The Carousel Workshop*

Quite often the questions come up: "What resources do you use to find out about the horses?" and "Why pay someone when you can do it yourself?" You can do it yourself if you want to spend the time and the money to develop a full library. Yes, the Internet is a great resource, but not complete, nor easy to access without a lot of time and research. So here is a listing of many carousel resources you can find in print (or out-of-print\* in many cases).

**The Carousel News & Trader**

1986-2007 (over 250 issues)

**Carousel Art** by Marge Swenson

1980s\* (68 issues)

**Painted Ponies** by Bill Manns

**Fairground Art** by Weedon and Ward\*

**Carousel Animals** by Tobin Fraley

**History of the Carousel** by Fred Fried\*

**Restoring the Glen Echo Park Carousel**

**Carousels** by Tobin Fraley

**Manges D'Autrefois** by Gourarier\*

**Carousels in Motion** by Bartash

**Carousel Art** by Chronicle Books

**American Antiques** (carousel Edition)\*

**Art of the Carousel** by Charlotte Dinger

**The Carousel Keepers: An Oral History of American Carousels**

by Carrie Papa

**An Intimate Portrait of the Carousel Horse**

by John Cork\*

**The Great American Amusement Parks**

by Kyriazi\*

**The Great American Carousel** by Fraley\*



**Carousel Horses** by Anderson\*

**Fairground Architecture** by Braithewaith\*

**Grab the Brass Ring** by Hinds\*

**Carousel Magic** by Hoppes

**Pictorial History of the American Carnival** by McKennon\*

**American Folk Sculpture** by Bishop\*

**Roundabout Relics** by John Barker

**Vintage Funfairs** by Brian Steptoe

This is just a few of the more popular carousel books available. Past years' carousel calendars and old auction catalogues can also be good resources.

A number of these can be found at [www.carouselstore.com](http://www.carouselstore.com).



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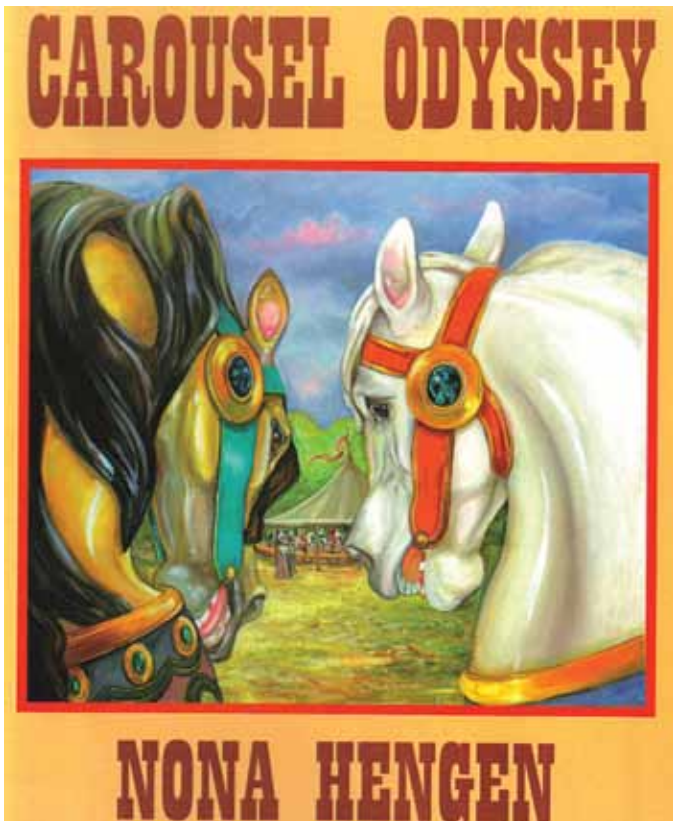
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## BOOK REVIEWS:



Two of the 44 illustrations by Nona Hengen.



### CAROUSEL ODYSSEY

By Nona Hengen

#### Book Review By Dee Lynch, NCA Member

Having grown up at Bertrand Island Amusement Park, Lake Hopatcong, NJ, and having spent many summers working at my parent's Illions Supreme Carousel, needless to say, my DNA is all carousel. Imagine my delight when I had the opportunity to read this lovely book by Nona Hengen. It took me to a secret place where I spent many wonderful hours as a child.

Besides both being schoolteachers, Nona and I share something else in common. No, I am not a talented illustrator, as is Nona. We share vivid imaginations wondering where the carousel horses were before we learned to know them and where they go after they leave us.

My parent's carousel was broken up and sold at auction and is now being re-assembled by George Schott in Lewiston, Maine. In my childhood imagination, especially after reading this book, I can only wonder at the excitement of the horses being re-united. (You have to be a "carousel nut" to think this way, but come and join the fun. It's painless and a lot nicer to think about than some of the world's problems.)

I am also helping with the return of the Rocky Springs Carousel to Lancaster, PA. This book, speaking through the eyes of carousel animals, is so alive that it made me want to sneak into our warehouse and see if the Dentzel

animals are comfortable or need anything.

The real joy of the book is that you do not have to believe every word, just sit back, relax and let your childhood imagination take over.

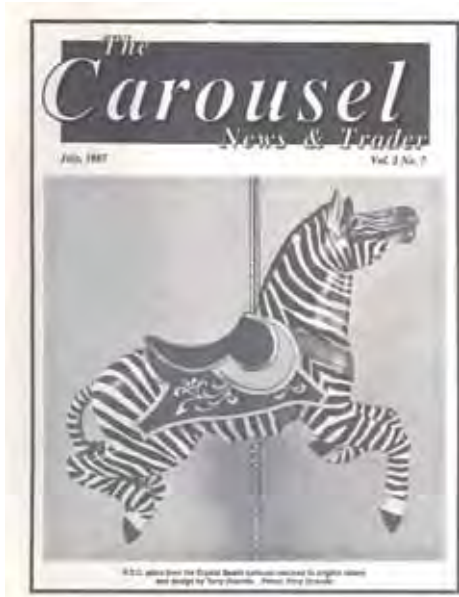
It's a wonderful ride. Thank you, Nona.

For information on purchasing this or any of Nona's other books, visit [www.palousepress.com](http://www.palousepress.com).



# Carousel News & Trader Through The Years

## 20 YEARS AGO



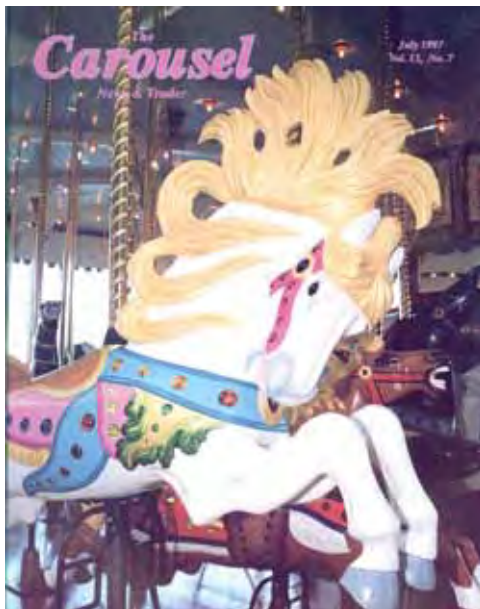
IN THIS ISSUE: 1987 ACS Convention, Lake Erie  
Crow Canyon Park Museum Auction • Tony Orlando  
ACS mini-convention at Riverside Park

## 15 YEARS AGO



IN THIS ISSUE: Nancy Loucks Memorial Issue  
Euro Disney's Carrousel • Mid-West Carousel Expo  
in OH • Fort Wayne Zoo welcomes 1937 Parker

## 10 YEARS AGO



IN THIS ISSUE: Fariground Art Auction in England  
PTC #85 • Norton Auction for Conklin Shows Jantzen  
Beach C. W. Parker Hosts NCA Tech Conference

## 5 YEARS AGO



IN THIS ISSUE: NCA Tech Conference in Washington  
State visits Riverfront Looff and others • Fraley's  
*Carousel Animals* • Woodbine Center in Toronto

To purchase these and other collectable back issues of CN&T see our ad in this issue or visit [www.CarouselNews.com](http://www.CarouselNews.com)



## NCA Members Visit PTC #61 Jane's Carousel in Brooklyn



*Vickie Stauffer, Jane Walentas and John Caruso.*



*Waiting for Jane outside of the carousel building in DUMBO are NCA members Vickie Stauffer, Jeff Stebbins and Jean Bennett.*

## 2nd Annual Antique Show at Elm Bank Estate, July 28-29

BOSTON, MA – The 2nd annual antique show at Elm Bank Estate will take place Saturday and Sunday, July 28 and 29, 2007 on the grounds of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society headquarters in Wellesley. Antiques will be displayed in outdoor tents surrounded by lush gardens with a select number of items to be showcased inside the Elm Bank mansion, the Cheney Estate. Dealers also will occupy the air-conditioned Hunnewell Building, a converted carriage house. This distinctive indoor/outdoor show allows guests to explore the vast collection both outdoors and inside a historic 18th century mansion.

Over 150 dealers will be on-hand and will feature hundreds of items. Antiquities from the 18th to the early 20th century will be available, including Federalist and Victorian furniture, European and Asian ceramics, china, sterling silver, art, estate jewelry, antique toys including miniature carousels and much more.

Dealers exhibiting at Elm Bank Estate come from all over the northeast and beyond, and are selected for the quality of their items. Additional antiques available at the show include Native American art and baskets, 19th and 20th century oil paintings, Victorian majolica, sewing items, quilts and linens, British enamelware, antique walking sticks, historic flasks, American Coin silver, antique lighting, European porcelain and Bohemian glass, silver heirlooms, Japanese art, period frames and mirrors, New England country and formal furniture, antique cupboards, brass bells, clocks, and 18th and 19th century vanity and desk accessories and other unique home furnishings.

Admission to Antiques at Elm Bank Estate is \$10 per person. Hours are Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Elm Bank Reservation is located on Route 16, just west of Wellesley College.

For more information call (781) 862-4039 or visit [www.NEAntiqueShows.com](http://www.NEAntiqueShows.com). Free parking is available.

Antiques at Elm Bank Estate is managed by Marvin Getman of New England Antiques Shows.

Jane's Carousel is now open (for viewing only) Friday, Saturday, Sunday, from noon to 6:00 p.m.

The carousel is located at 56 Water St. in the revitalized DUMBO section of Brooklyn, NY.



# JUNE ISSUES...

Corrections and clarifications, by Roland Hopkins, editor.

## PTC #47

This photo of PTC #47 was submitted by Barbara Williams, but photo credit should have been properly given to Bob Guenther.



## Knott's Berry Farm Dentzel(s)

This Dentzel lion from the Lagoon Carousel graced the cover of *The Carousel News & Trader* in Oct. 1990. As part of the Bud Hurlbut collection, it was bid to \$76,000 at the August 25, 1990 auction handled by Norton Auctioneers. Hurlbut's collection brought a reported total of \$2.3 million.



In last month's photo essay on the Hersheypark Dentzel later relocated to Knott's Berry Farm, there was some confusion on my part as to the machines. Knott's was host to two historic Dentzels. One remains there, a 1902 Dentzel that still has some original animals on it. The other was the Lagoon Dentzel built in 1905. The photos in last month's CNT were of the 1905 Lagoon Dentzel, not the 1902 Dentzel at Knott's today.

The animals from the Lagoon Dentzel were auctioned off in 1990 along with Dentzel animals from the Castle Park, CA, machine and others in the collection of Bud Hurlbut. Although it is believed that the Lagoon Carousel mechanism is still in operation at Castle Park, that is actually a mechanism from Albuquerque, NM. The Lagoon mechanism is in storage according to Hurlbut.

## Sorry, Bob. My Bad...

Although I have spoken to Bob Kissel many times, we have never met. Barb Nelson did a very nice job on the auction story; much better than I did on the captions. I mistakenly identified Jack Richmond as Bob in two of the pictures. My apologies to Bob, Jack and Barb.



Bob Kissel looks on (right) as Darren Spieth gets the auction started.



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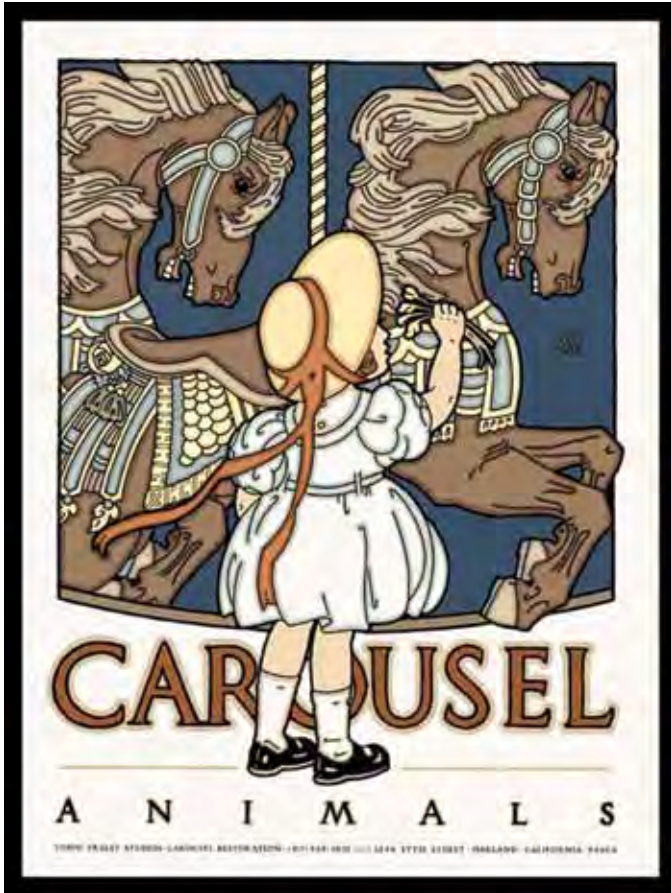
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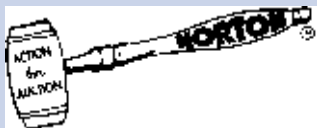


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