

TOBIN FRALEY



101: Stein & Goldstein



102: Carmel



103: Illions

Rare Gary Sinick Photography:

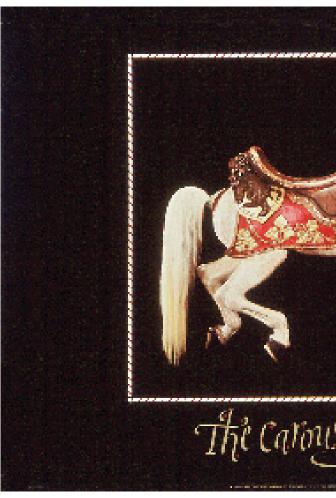
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103: Illions c. 1923 Last Operated: Chafatino's Restaurant Now: Private Collection/Restored Item # 10-1097

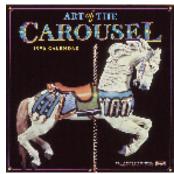


Rare 1985 Promotional Poster for **The Carousel Anim**Signed by Photographer. 20" x 28". Li

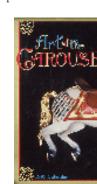
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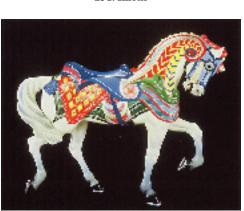
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251: Illions



252: Philadelphia Toboggan Company



254: Philadelphia Toboggan Company

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251: Illions c. 1905 Last Operated: Ponchitrain Park, Louisiana Now: Private Collection/Restored Item # 10-1099

252: Philadelphia Toboggan Company c. 1922 Operating: Santa Monica Pier, Santa Monica, California Item # 10-1100

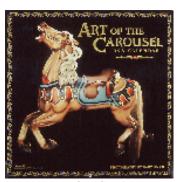
254: PTC c. 1932 (front horse) Last Operated: Asbury Park, New Jersey Now: Private Collection/Restored PTC c. 1925 (rear horse) Last Operated: Americana Amusement Park, Middletown, Ohio Both Horses Now: Private Collection/Restored Item # 10-1101



iel-Animal

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1998 Gary Sinick Item # 10-1109

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1986 Tobin Fraley The Carousel Animal Calendar Item # 10-1108

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ON THE COVER



Although the Myrtle Beach Pavilion has closed, this elaborate horse will ride again as the carousel and band organ will remain.

Photo by Dan Horenberger

In this issue:

Dan's Desk6
Carver's Corner8
Americana Auctions
Erieview, Santa, Catskill Auctions14
Last of Santa's Villages
Myrtle Beach Pavilion
Frontier Village Carousel
Idora Day Remembrance35
Christmas Carousel
Painted Ponies Competition41
Riverfront Fundraiser42
Classifieds



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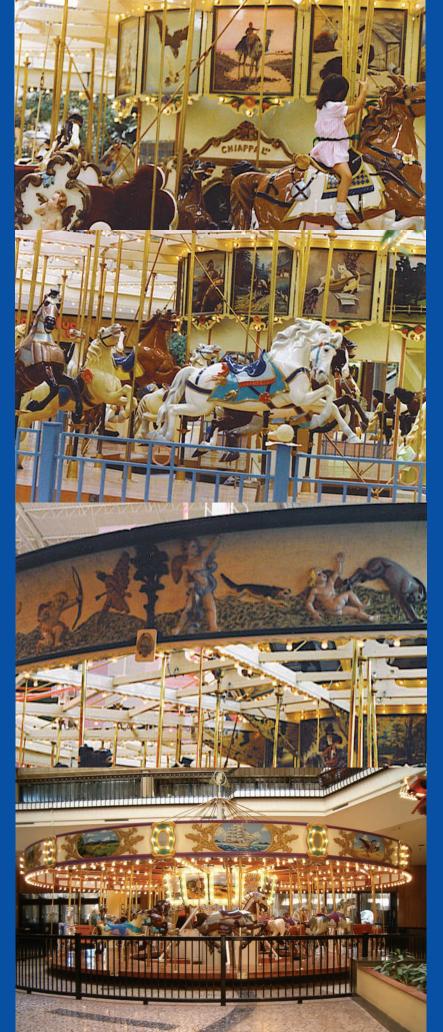
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CLASSIC CAROUSEL FOR SALE

PTC #15 was created in 1907 by the Philadelphia Toboggan Carousel Company in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It was carved by their premier carver, Leo Zoller.

PTC #15 is the most historic, mint-restored carousel in the world.

PTC #15 was the first four-abreast park carousel produced by this distinguished manufacturer. In their attempt to impress and dominate the marketplace, PTC created this signature carousel. Their artful management, special features and enlarged proportions created this stunning and dazzling masterpiece.

The complete ensemble is as follows:
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2 famous lovers chariots
2 boys in a cherubs chariot
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Authentic ring machine complete with light panel
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PTC #15 has a 52 ft. span

Auspiciously, 78 years after its creation, this American treasure came to the attention of the International Museum of Carousel Art. Under their expertise and control, no expense was spared to return this captivating machine to its original intoxicating splendor.

and is mechanically unrivaled.

Meticulous attention to detail and technical upgrades have mechanically prepared #15 to run smoothly for another 100 years.

PTC #15 had an appropriate resurrection debut at the 1986 World's Fair in Vancouver, BC, Canada. It moved from there to Puente Hills, California.

Its pristine 1907 elegance that excites all the senses can be experienced in West Nyack, New York, where it is presently operating.

Also available: 3-Abreast Restored Spillman, and 2-Row Unrestored Spillman

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International Museum of Carousel Art seeking
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commensurate with experience.

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From Dan's Desk

Message from the Publisher, Dan Horenberger

HAUNTED CAROUSEL NIGHTS-

The **Norman & Evans Steam Carousel** was out and running for a haunted time in Mt. Pleasant, IA. Where else can you go and enjoy unlimited rides on a steam train, steam carousel, and a steam traction engine hayride for 5 bucks? It's great to see steam power in action. Even better for me personally, since I found the carousel in storage many years ago in MO. Nice to see another carousel saved and running. It's too late to get there this year, but if you're in the area, put it on the calender for next year.

The **Nashville Zoo** had a great haunted carousel time. I saw some of the layout for the show. If you live in Nashville, go out and support the Zoo and the carousel next Halloween. You'll have a great time.

The list for haunted carousel rides goes on and on. Next year send us some photos if you live in the area of one of these special events.

IN THE NEWS-

NUNLEY: The County recently lost it's fight for the carousel to be placed in Silver Lake Park. The local citizens won the argument that the location wasn't the best choice. For some reason the local museum with a building and a high visitor turnout isn't even in consideration. The County keeps trying to bury the carousel in an out of the way place. Just another example of why politicians shouldn't

be in charge of a carousel. We'll keep you up to date.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS:

In Oakland there are million of dollars in preservation funds up for grabs. The voters will get to decide where the money goes and one of the many possible locations for the money is the



Tilden Park Merry-Go-Round. The carousel received a complete mechanical restoration a few years ago, but the paint preservation needs some attention. Terri does a great job of running the carousel and I'm sure she's been trying to get the vote out in the right direction.

TILDEN, AGAIN: If you live in the area, the Tilden Park Merry-Go-Round is open at nights for Christmas. Terri has tons of hard to find Christmas ornaments for sale during this time. Also, the hot chocolate and Christmas display are some of the best in the Bay Area. Call the carousel for hours as they change night to night. 510-524-6773

NEW DISNEY PRICES: If your planing a trip to **Disney Orlando**, save up. The new entry fee is \$67.00 for a one day ticket. That will kick your winter family vacation in the budget. It also makes for a pretty expensive ticket for those of us who just want to visit PTC #46 and wish it a happy 90th birthday in 2007.

Cont. on page 10



Public Auction

Of Carousel Horses and animals, Antiques and Collector Items

Saturday, April 7, 2007 – 10:00 AM Held At The Lawrenceburg Indiana Fairgrounds

(Route 50, Exit 16 off I-275)

Expecting 50 Carousel Horses and Animals, Wooden Ferris Wheel Seats, Wooden Cigar Indian, Juke boxes and lots of surprises.
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Friday, 10 AM - 5 PM and Saturday, 7 AM - Sale Time

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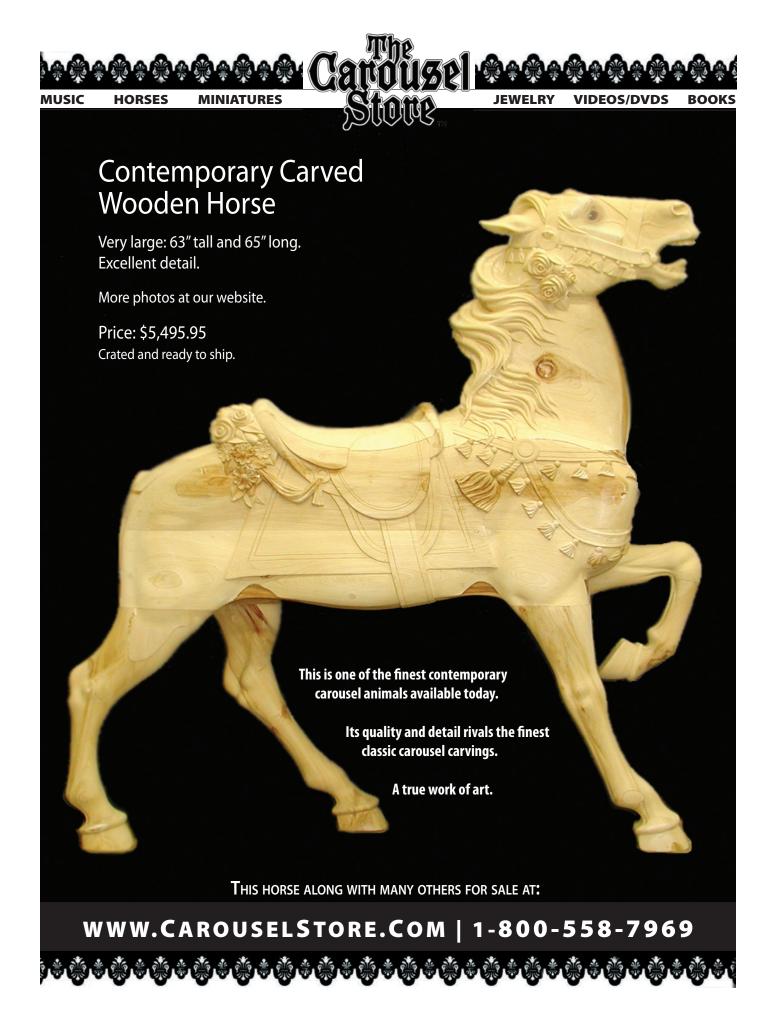
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CARVER'S CORNER: Carving the Legs and Hooves

Carousel Carving Tips and Tricks

By Larry Pefferly Special to The Carousel News & Trader

In last month's issue, I said I would discuss carving the legs and gluing the head and neck in December's column. Due to the amount of text and photos required, the following will only pertain to carving the lower portion of the front legs.

Please realize this a condensed tutorial. A much more detailed description of this process as well as many more photos are available in the book mentioned at the end of this discussion.

CARVING THE LEGS AND HOOVES

Start by drawing pencil lines on the leg, beginning at the bottom of the hoof which should be 41/2" wide if you followed the instructions on gluing the leg in last months issue. Draw a pencil mark up to and just below the bottom



of the ankle, and continue that line outward as shown in Figure 1. Next, begin a pencil line at the top of the ankle and gradually go up toward the center of the leg to a point that is 1" from the glue joint at the exact center of the leg. Follow that line, staying 1" from the center of the leg to just below the knee joint (front), or hock joint (back), approximately 3" below the center of the knee where it bends, or the hock, where it bends. Do the same on the other side. The leg should now begin to resemble Figure 1. Finally, go to the two pieces you glued at the top on either side of the horse's leg. The outside should be the longest piece, and will be on the right or left side of the leg, depending on which leg you chose to begin with. On the outside piece, draw a line to the top of the leg in a slightly convex shape. Then, draw a concave pencil line on the inside piece as shown in Figure 1. You are now ready to cut out those lines with your band saw, or with a chisel if you do not have one (see Figure 2 for a leg cut out with a band

saw from the front, as well as from the side).

If you stand the leg up and turn it around, you can see it already looks like a horse's leg, before you start carving.

Before beginning carve the leg, decide if you want to carve horse shoes, or use real ones. For authenticity, I use size #00 aluminum flat shoes (racing plates). They do not rust, and fit a full size



carousel horse with a minimum of bending or shaping. It usually takes a few 'hits' with a hammer to make them



a little more oval in shape. Those shoes can be purchased at most stores that sell horsemen supplies. If you are using an aluminum shoe. now is the time to fasten it to the hoof with small. nonrusting screws. Be sure to pre-drill the hoof, and angle the screws inward so

they will not split the wood. You may need to drill the shoe to counter-sink the heads of the screws. Horse shoes



protect the hooves during the carving process. Do not use shoes with caulks (heels) as the horse will stand only on them, creating a space at the toe (see Figure 3).

You are now ready to carve the leg. At this point, there are two views of it. You will round off the edges, put in muscles, tendons, joints, and bones, and shape the leg to make it look realistic. Beginning now, the horse anatomy reference book should be kept in front of you.

CARVING THE HOOVES

I usually begin at the hoof, and work up the leg (see Figures 4 and 5).



Using a large fishtail chisel, round off the bottom of the hoof and make the hoof smaller as you carve toward the coronet band. The coronet band is approximately 1" from the bottom of the hoof at the back, and approximately 31/4" from the bottom of the hoof at the front. Draw a pencil

line from the front of the hoof around to the back of the hoof to depict the location of the coronet band (see Figure

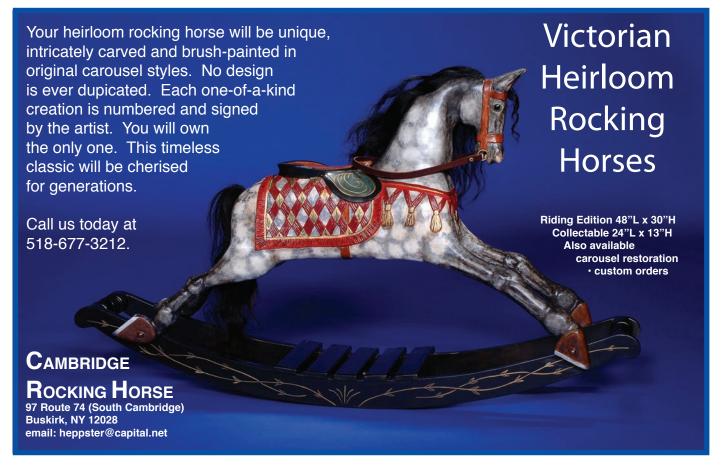
4). The wood should be slightly raised above the coronet band line to indicate the horse's hair (coat) is covering the top of the hoof. The top of the hoof at the coronet band should be about 3½" wide at its widest point when viewed from either the front or back. If a leg is raised, see Figure 6 that shows how to carve the frog on the under-side of the hoof, or refer to the anatomy book. The shoe is removed to show you the carved frog.

Please see the ad in this issue for my book, a complete guide on "How To Carve And Paint A Carousel Horse", with 138 color photos, now available for purchase. In January, I will discuss completing the upper part of your horse's front and back legs, with pic-



tures of each step. Happy Carving.

Master carver Larry Peferly has been carving carousel horses for over 20 years. To learn more about Larry, visit his website at www.carouselcarving.com. To purchase his "How To Carve A Carousel Horse" video or book, visit his site, or www.CarouselStore.com.



Carousel Calendar

FVFNTS

Dec. 2, 2006

Leavenworth, KS. Santa will visit the C. W. Parker museum from 9-11 AM. Children of all ages are invited. For more info contact Bernie Roller at 913-682-7917 or visit them at www.firstcitymuseums.org. The museum is located at 320 S. Esplanade St.

Dec. 2, Dec. 9, 2006

North Tonawanda, NY. Visit Santa on the carousel from noon-4 PM. The Museum is located at 180 Thompson Street, four blocks north of the Erie Canal and two blocks east of the Niagara River. For more information, call them at 716-693-1885 or visit www.carouselmuseum.org.

Dec. 3, 2006

Burlington, CO. The Kit Carson County Carousel Association will host A Carousel Christmas from 2:00 to 4:00 PM at Carousel Park on the Fairgrounds. Free rides, hot cider and homemade cookies! The Wurlitzer Monster Military Band Organ will churn out Christmas music and the animals will be dressed for the holidays. Father Christmas will be present for photos and will have goodies for the kids.

Dec. 31, 2006

Bristol, CT. New England Carousel Museum, First Night Hartford. The Bushnell Park Carousel will be open from 2 PM to Midnight. Take a ride and bring in the New Year. Located at 95 Riverside Avenue, Rte. 72. Phone: 860-585-5411 or visit them at www.thecarouselmuseum.org.

AUCTIONS

TO BE ANNOUNCED

Auburn, IN. Norton's Annual Consignment Auction. Accepting all types of amusement, carnival, carousel, FEC equipment. Call 517-279-9063 or email nortonsold@cbpu.com.

April 7, 2007, 10:00 AM

Lawrenceburg, IN. Annual Kissel carousel and collectible consignment auction. Call Bob at 812-839-3255.

June 23, 2007, 2007, 10:00 AM

Springfield, IL. 5th Annual Great Midwest Carousel Auction. Consignments wanted. Call 217-529-7777.

CONFERENCES

April 26-29, 2007

N. Salt Lake City, UT. NCA Technical Conference. Will include visits to Liberty Park Carousel and Lagoon Theme Park, as well as workshops and more. Contact Al Noren, 303-779-1090 or email to anoren4430@aol.com.

BAND ORGAN RALLIES

May 25-28, 2007

Lake Winnepesqaukah, GA. COAA Rally #1. For more information, visit www.coaa.us.

SEND US YOUR EVENTS!

If you have an upcoming carousel-related event, send it in and we will consider including it in our calendar. Please submit your alert at least 8 weeks prior to the event. Send by snail mail, Fax 818-332-7944; or email to roland@carouselnews.com

Dan's Desk Cont.

Cont. from page 6

ACROSS THE POND: Sad news as the UK's Southport Pleasureland Park closed unexpectedly this Fall. Originally opened in 1913, it was closed due to decreasing attendance. In this case, from 2.1 million in 2004 to 500,000 this year. According to the park owners, Blackpool Pleasure Beach, at this time the closure is just a downsizing. We hope so. I know many US visitors always plan a visit at the park when they are in the area. We hope to hear about a reopening soon.

CONGRATULATIONS to US parks honored in the International Golden Ticket awards:

Ceder Point in Sandusky OH; Best Amusement park (my vote for best carousel if there was a vote for it).

Legoland Carlsbad CA; Best Children's Park.

Holidayworld and Splashin' Safari Santa Claus, IN; Friendliest and cleanest park.

Knoebels Park, Elysburg PA; Best food. (for anyone that's been there the food is worth the trip).

Universal Orlando; Best Halloween event (the voters must have never visited **Knotts Berry Farm** in CA).

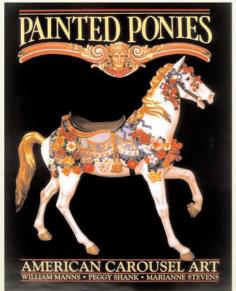
MORE CAROUSEL NEWS-

Our old friend **Gary Sinick** stopped recently. For new people in the carousel hobby, Gary is one of the great photographers who did a number of posters, calenders and other print work especially during the "boom" years. He worked with **Tobin Fraley** on the book *The Carousel Animal*. As it turns out, Gary still had a few of his pieces stored away. He brought them in and signed each one. **The Carousel Store** will be handling this rare find of prints that are over 20 years old, and better yet have his signature. These are very limited and when they're gone they're gone. What a great Christmas gift for the die hard, new, or soon to be introduced to the carousel world collector. See the inside cover of this issue for these special offerings.

A proposed carousel for the **Theodore Roosevelt Wildlife Sanctuary** in Oyster Bay, NY was given a thumbs down by former congressman, Lester Wolf. His feelings; "A carousel is good for Coney Island, this is not Coney Island...[a carousel] reminds me of the nickeling and dimeing the Gold Coast area." A note to Mr. Wolf, "carousels are part of the history of America". Write your *active* congressman if you're in the area. We need all of the carousels we can get. It should also be noted that the outspoken former congressman is only a recent resident of Oyster Bay.

Amazingly, the 1920s wooden "Zippin Pippin" roller coaster from Liberyland (TN) has found a home. The coaster Elvis made famous is going to Roanoke Rapids in NC. Coaster Works International has been hired for the move. The new owners hope to place the coaster in the planned Carolina Crossroads entertainment complex.

Six Flags' new CEO has made some dramatic changes. The newest is a Code of Conduct. Places like Magic Cont. on page 16



\$40 plus \$7 shipping.

PAINTED PONIES AMERICAN CAROUSEL ART

The definitive carousel book by leading authorities, William Manns and Marianne Stevens

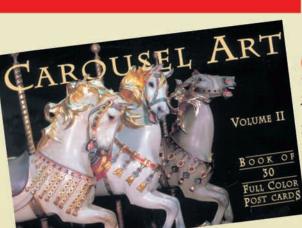
PAINTED PONIES contains useful guides, charts and directories for the collector, preservationist, carver, artist or enthusiast. PAINTED PONIES has become the classic book of carousel art. This extraordinary coffee table style book presents the finest carving examples by the most renowned carousel artists. The rarest horses and most unique menagerie animals were selected from America's premier private collections and antique operating carousels. The classic book of American carousel art with over 650 color photos, 256 pages, hardbound edition.

Painted Ponies 2007 Wall Calendar

The Painted Ponies Wall Calendar is a celebration of the dazzling art of the American carousel. This collection of 12 antique whirling fantasy animals was photographed by William Manns. This is a great reference for artists and carvers. The pictures are each 12"x12".

\$11.95 plus \$3 shipping.

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2007 CALENDAR PHOTOGRAPHS BY

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Sotheby's and Nadeau's Auctions Bring Prices Reminiscent of the Early 90s

Northeast 'Americana' Auctions Boast Phenomenal Carousel Art Sales



The PTC Tiger (above), circa 1904 was most likely carved by E. Joy Morris. It is in second coat, PTC Factory paint with glass eyes; in-use touch ups. It was estimated at \$40,000-45,000. Hammer price with buyer's premium: \$78,000.

Recent auctions held by Sotheby's in New York City and Nadeau's in Windsor, CT recorded some amazing sales of carousel figures with prices reminiscent of the carousel art boom of the late 80s and early 90s.

Interestingly enough, the carousel figures were not the

CLARIFICATION/CORRECTION

In our article last month on Guernsey's Long Island auction, (although it was stated in the article), it should be made clear that the prices quoted did not include the buyers premium.

With premium, the actual sales price of the Looff lion was 36,000.

The article also made mention of a similar lion which Guernsey's sold in December 1989. The sales price for the Eldridge Park, Elmira, NY carousel lion was actually \$53,000, not \$5,000.



Finally, the article reported the sale of an E. Joy Morris tiger (shown) for \$27,500, when in fact, the tiger was not sold. Including buyers premium, the final bid on the tiger was \$33,000 which fell shy of the seller's reserve.

focus of either auction.

The Sotheby's auction dubbed "Americana" featured nine carousel animals among 348 pieces. As well as the carousel animals did, nothing in the auction could come close to lot 318, a Queen Anne carved and figured walnut armchair (1755) which was estimated at \$500,000 to \$1M. It sold for \$2,256,000 with buyers premium. That's one rare chair, and it doesn't even recline.

At Nadeau's auction, there was just the one carousel figure among 511 antique lots.

Whatever the reason for the impressive sales, these auction results, in addition to Guernsey's auction reported last month are good news for the carousel industry.

As fewer and fewer carousels are broken up and sold piecemeal, these classic figures should continue to hold, if not increase in value.

Animals not shown from the auction: A C.W. Parker horse, circa 1912, which was repainted and restored by Walt Youree, sold for \$5,400. Another C.W. Parker horse, circa 1914 also restored by the Youree's sold for \$4,800.

A Dentzel giraffe, circa 1908, estimated at \$17,000-19,000 sold for \$33,000. The standing figure has its head



The unpainted D.C. Mller and Bros. horse (above) was estimated at \$30,000-35,000. Hammer price with buyer's premium: \$90,000. Circa 1909, the horse has glass eyes and horsehair tail (replaced), feet shod with real horseshoes, the saddle blanket with relief carved scrolls, straps and rosettes.



This circa 1911 Herschell-Spillman leaping frog with glass eyes, dappled painted body and saddle blanket, (the frock coat with real buttons), was estimated from \$45,000-55,000. Hammer price with buyer's premium: \$72,000.

raised as if to nibble and was repainted and restored by Tobin Fraley Studios in 1986.

A U.S. Merry-Go-Round Co. goat, circa 1920 wold for \$21,600. A Carmel outside-row stander, circa 1920 sold for \$19,200. A repainted Dentzel stander with left foreleg raised, elaborately layered eagle saddle and blankets, circa 1880, sold for \$12,000.

All prices include the buyer's premium.



This Dentzel goat, circa 1905, last operated at Playland Amusement Park in Seattle. It was restored by Tobin Fraley Studios in 1985. Hammer price with buyer's premium: \$15,600.

The \$103,000 Cat



Never underestimate a cat lover. This circa 1910 Dentzel cat, estimated to bring \$60-80,000, sold for \$103,500 (including buyer's premium) at Nadeau's October 21st auction in Windsor, CT.

The cat is featured in Charlotte Dinger's book, "Art of the Carousel", and was part of her extensive collection.

Nadeau's also sold a Dentzel giraffe in the Spring of 2004 for \$118,000.

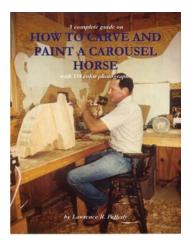
A complete guide on

HOW TO CARVE AND PAINT A CAROUSEL HORSE

with 138 color photographs

By Lawrence R. Pefferly, Carver

This is the definitive book, and a 'must have' for every carver of carousel horses. Lawrence Pefferly, a 3rd generation carver, has written this 140 page book so a novice can confidently follow precise and easy-to-understand, step-by-



step instructions in creating one's own carousel horse. Abundant and beautiful color photographs and illustrations are inserted throughout as ready-references in each discussion.

It can be purchased from the writer's web-site at www.carouselcarving.com for \$39.95, or from

The Carousel Store at www.CarouselStore.com.

Erieview Auction Finds Local Homes for Carousel, Ferris Wheel and Kiddie Train



By Margie Trax Page

Fat raindrops splattered on the Tilt-o-Whirl and ran down the noses of the carousel horses at Erieview Amusement Park as each ride was auctioned off to the highest bidder by Norton Auctioneers of Michigan.

The lights on the Ferris Wheel and Salt 'n Pepper Shaker twinkled and people from Illinois, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Florida, and Nebraska clamored to own a piece of the 61-year-old amusement park.

"Things are going well. I am pretty pleased with the turnout," park owner Don "Woody" Woodward said. "I feel pretty good about this. You can't imagine the things we found for auction," he said.

Nothing was held back. Vintage vending machines, popcorn makers, signs, T-shirts, and even restaurant chairs were held up for bid. More than 300 people attended the auction, snapping up signs for \$500, vending machines for \$200, restaurant equipment for \$50 to \$175, and everything in between.

"We could have had 100 more lots, but we just ran out of time to get it all ready," Woodward said. "Some of this stuff I didn't know we had...it pre-dates me," he said.

Youngstown resident Sue Moderalli had no intention of purchasing anything at the auction, but she wanted to see her favorite amusement park one last time.

"I am so sad to see all this gone. These small parks are so rare nowadays," she said.

Moderalli has been vacationing in Geneva-on-the-Lake for 12 years and said the resort village is like a second home to her.

"I am especially concerned about the carousel. I hope it goes to a nice place, someplace where it will be appreciated," she said.

The carousel won't go far, nor will the Ferris Wheel or the Erieview train. These key components of the park are here to stay. The Ferris wheel will move just a few hundred yards to the Old Firehouse Winery and the carousel will be moved to Geneva-on-the-Lake's Adventure Zone Fam-



ily Fun Center, Woodward said. The beloved Erieview Park train, which gave riders a stunning view of the water, is also staying with a private owner in the Geneva area.

"I am so glad to see the main pieces stay local. Those rides are Erieview's signature rides and it is nice to know where they are".

The smallest rides brought the biggest prices. Though Paddle Wheel Boat owner Kaylee Belle hoped to buy the tiny hand-cranked car ride for \$2,000 for Conneaut Lake Park, the ride sold for \$8,000. Fright Zone, which is the last ride of it's kind, was sold as a whole unit and Woodward hopes it stays that way.

"I would really like to see it stay together. It is history, after all," he said.

Woodward will not reveal his plans for the park, saying only that he has three possibilities lined up for the property and hopes to have some portion of the redevelopment open at the beginning of the next summer season. The rest of the redevelopment will be constructed over two to three years in "logical stages," he said.

Reprinted courtesy of the Star Beacon Print Edition: 10/4/2006.



Sorry Peter and Nancy

Peter Boehm and his wife Nancy with the Indian Pony from PTC #33; the ride they helped save.

My sincere apologies as a photo was swapped in printing and they were mis-identified in our convention article last month.

- Roland Hopkins, editor.

Dundee Santa's "Typhoon" Headed for Sunny California



Over 1,000 were in attendance to witness the final demise of a 50-year famous Chicago tourism icon. Potential buyers came from as far as California, Arizona, Florida, and Mexico.

The Top Gun "Typhoon" roller coaster sold for \$275,000 to a California attraction, despite that hundreds of thousands of dollars will be need to be spent to dismantle, transport, and set it up again. A beloved "Pumpkin Coach", in need of much repair, that toured the grounds since the 1960s sold for a whopping \$14,850!

Other highlights included: a Zamperla Fire Chief bid to \$61,500; a Balloon Race for \$41,500; and an incomplete Chicago Locomotive 20 gauge train for \$19,800.00. The Chance Yo-Yo went for \$49,500; a kiddy Helicopter for \$24,200; an older Tilt-a-Whirl reached \$16,500; and various kiddy rides sold from \$5,000-\$17,000. A Dragon Coaster sold for \$50,000; Water Slides from \$5,500 to \$10,250; Sartori Wheel for \$12,100; a group of Skee Ball alleys were bid to \$4,400; and a cotton candy machine for \$770.00.

The auction was managed and conducted by Norton Auctioneers of Michigan, Inc. For information on upcoming auctions, contact Norton's at 800-279-9063, or visit their website at: www.nortonauctioneers.com.

STOLEN HORSE

This Looff outside row jumper was stolen from a residence in Morgantown, WV on Oct. 31st.

Recently restored with very detailed face, deep brown with purple trappings. The ear has been replaced it has a slightly crooked back leg. Most notable, it has a woman's



bust with bare breasts carved behind the saddle.

If you have any information, please contact, Eugene Sellaro at 1-877-379-1573 (H); 304-288-2424 (cell); or 1-800-379-0241 (W). Or contact the Monongalia county sherrif's office direct at 304-291-7260. Let's get him home for the holidays.

World-Famous Catskill Game Farm Says So Long After 73 Years





For 73 years the world-famous Catskill Game Farm was one of the country's most popular tourist attractions. Three generations of the Lindemann-Schulz family traveled the world in search of exotic and endangered animals never before seen in the United States.

Their 1,000 acre complex, billed as "America's Zoological Playground" was one of the world's largest privately owned zoos. Citing lack of tourism, rising taxes, escalading costs, and more stringent permits and regulations, the family chose to auction the vast holdings. The auction was organized and conducted by Norton Auctioneers of Michigan.

The two-day Catskill auction attracted over 1,000 potential bidders from across the nation, Canada, and Mexico. Selling the first day were the amusement park rides, restaurants, gift shops, and related items. Day two was comprised of over 900 animals, vehicles, and farm and construction equipment.

A 1951 Allan Herschell Merry-go-Round with aluminum horses sold for \$39,500; a Venture Lady Bug ride sold at \$8,800; Kiddy Helicopter for \$7,000; Kiddy Car Ride at \$8,300; and a Venture Himalaya fetched \$7,700.

Animal highlights included two rhinos that went for \$6,000 and \$9,250 to an organization that will place them for the International Rhino Association. A female Warthog astonished animal dealers as she sold for \$9,900, and five Reindeer fetched \$4,725.

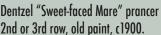
15

FOR SALE

Muller "Indian Pony" style 2nd row prancer, early restoration by Nina Fraley, horsehair tail, c1908.

Carmel stander 2nd row, from Woodland Park, Seattle, painted in Moorish trappings by Wanda Hoelscher, c1910.







Illions 3rd row jumper from Lake Pontchartrain/Boblo Island, gold mane & horsehair tail, c1915.

Horses are in excellent condition. Custom oak and brass stands included.

Call 206-328-3410

Dan's Desk Cont.

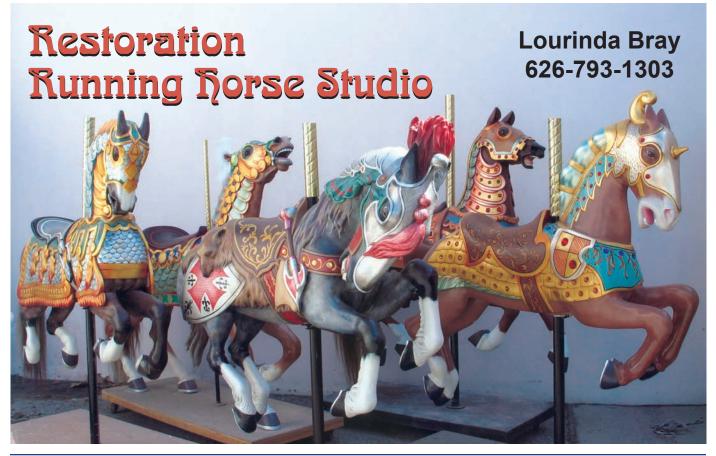
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Mountain have had several incidents of gang violence. This new code will allow the Six Flag parks to stop the problems before they happen and make them more family-friendly. We hope this helps, so the closure of the Six Flags Parks will end. Many have closed and a lot more are in danger. So far no carousels of importance have been affected other then the Astroworld Carousel that was saved.

FINALLY-

SANTA'S VILLAGE AUCTION: I was there. A very sad day. It was my one and only amusement park while growing up. The auction was extremely well attended. Dave Norton did a great job in getting the people out. His promotion is second to none. The one roller coaster sold for over \$250,000. Close to a record price. All because of Dave. Selling of the coaster was a show in itself. Just like all of his auctions, it was well worth the time to go and see him work.

I also want to say **thank you** to the carousel community. The carousel industry has been very good to me. I've been allowed to work on some of the finest carousels in the country over the last 30 years. Even better I've been able to meet and work with some of the finest people in the world. I wish all of you and everyone you know a Happy Holiday season and hope you have a great New Year.



Originating in 1955 in Sky Forest, CA, the Last of the Villages is Now Closed

Fond Memories of Pixies, Elves, Reindeer, and Santa's Villages



By Lourinda Bray, Running Horse Studio Special to The Carousel News & Trader

nce upon a time there were three small magical locations. Here a child and his or her family could visit Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus, reindeer, Elves and Pixies most of the year round. Two of these magical parks were in sunny California of all places. One at Scotts Valley, near Santa Cruz; and another in Sky Forest, near Lake Arrowhead. The third was in Illinois at Dundee, near Chicago. They were named "Santa's Village".

The last of these villages closed this Fall and the assets were auctioned off by Norton of Michigan, Auctioneers, the last week in October.

The children-friendly theme parks were the brain child of Southern California Developer, Glen Holland, with Putnam Henck as General Contractor. The first "Santa's" was built in 1955 on Highway 18 in Sky Forest, CA among the spruce, white oak and cedar trees on property owned by the Henck family. It covered 15 acres of the 300 acre tree farm with a one mile long loop around which were located rides and shops. It was closed in 1998.

An early postcard from Santa's Village Santa Cruz.

The second "Santa's" was build in 1956, opening in 1957 in Scotts Valley, CA, but referred to as Santa Cruz, amid a redwood forest. It was closed in 1979.

And the third in Dundee, IL opened in 1959 and was sited in a broad-leaf forest. This was the largest of the "Villages" with a meandering road looping through the park. As mentioned, it closed in October of 2006.

Each of the Santa's Villages took nine months to build and cost around \$1 million apiece. They all started out with the same buildings and many of the same rides and attractions. Over the years the parks changed hands. New owners meant new ideas and often new rides and additions.

The first of the Santa's Village in Sky Forest was operated under Bill Holland's Management until 1963 when he stepped down as President of Santa's Village Corporation due to financial problems with the park. Charles Pole, of North Pole Corporation, ran the park for the next 6 months before Putnam Henck (who built the park) took on the Santa's Village Corp. In 1966, Santa's Dundee



was sold to Everding Management of Illinois. Henck dissolved Santa's Village Corp. in 1978 and formed Pace-Way (the name derives from the first initials of the four partners), which ran the park until 1997, ending with the auction in 1998.

The Santa Cruz property was purchased from Holland in 1966 by Bill Billawalla, a Santa Clara County entrepreneur. He continued to lease the property to Santa's Village

Corp. until it declared bankruptcy in 1977. Billawalla continued to run the park, but after two more bad seasons, the park was closed permanently in 1979.

Everding Management ran Santa's Dundee through 1972 when Medina Investors took over. They ran the park until 1978. The current management is (was) North Pole Corp. (who also ran Sky Forest for 6 months).

IN THE BEGINNING

To go to one Santa's Village was like going to all of them. They shared the same philosophy: an amusement park geared for small children from ages 3 to 12 and their families where Santa would be available with a hug any time.

The following comes from Scotts Valley Historical Society and describes all of the "Village" buildings.

"As you look at the buildings...one observes true log cabin construction; typical rectangular structures with logs placed horizontally together and with corners notched together. The buildings had steep pointed roofs strengthened by rafters of trussed construction. These log rafters were fixed horizontally with 2" x 12" ship-lapped redwood boards."

The roofs were painted in strong pastel colors and had white snow shaped trim on top. The peaked eaves over the doors were faced with snowy facia boards and had half-timbered areas that ended at the top of the doors.



Sky Forest's "Lolli-Pop Lady" was actually Pamela Henck. When she passed away, the spirit of the place left with her.

The areas between the timbers were painted in deeper shades than the roofs; or as Mr. Henck told me when I was asked to paint the park from eye-level down, "It's as if big beautiful butterflies have lit in the forest.".

The windows had wonderful shutters made of two vertical planks with a pattern cut out of the center. For example, the toy shop had a train engine shape with part on one side and part on the other. The insides of the cuts

were painted a contrasting color to the shutter.

All three parks had a North Pole—a column of ice formed around a refrigerated steel pipe—with a Pixie sitting on top. Giant mushrooms were everywhere and were painted with stripes, swirls and spots, with the gills the same lavender as the underside of the peaked eaves.

During the auction for Sky Forest, people discovered that there was as much mushroom under ground as above. The maintenance men did a tidy business uprooting and delivering mushrooms all over the mountain. Giant steel candy canes marked the entrances to the park and one acted as a sign



would be available with a hug any Phillip Wenz, long-time Santa at Dundee.

post in the parking lot.

RIDES AND ATTRACTIONS

In the beginning, all three parks shared the same rides: a Bobsled (possibly Allan Herschell), Twirling Christmas Tree and Miniature Train (Hurlbut) reindeer pulled sleigh, Alice in Wonderland Maze, and a Puppet Theater. Sky Forest had the only monorail (with Bumble Bee carriers). It was made as a prototype by American Hoist and Lift, another of Glen Holland's enterprises. There were also trained chickens who played the piano and ducks who printed a Santa's Village Newspaper. Elves (local teenage boys who had gofer and cleanup jobs) and Pixies (local teen girls who worked in the shops and Pixie Pantry)



were dressed in costumes: brown leotards, leather vests and felt caps for Elves; and green tunics, tights and caps for the Pixies—plus curled toed shoes for all. Some ride operators may have worn lederhosen as well.

Each park had a petting zoo including displays of deer and reindeer. Creatures from Alice in Wonderland, Jack Pumpkinhead, the Easter Bunny and the Good Witch wandered through the park visiting with the guests. Sky Forest had the Lollipop Lady, clothed in a tiered pink dress hung with lolli-pops and a flowered sun bonnet, who gave a treat to each child who came to see her. She was actually Pamela Henck, Mr. Henck's wife, and she was the soul of the park. When she passed away, the spirit of the place left with her.

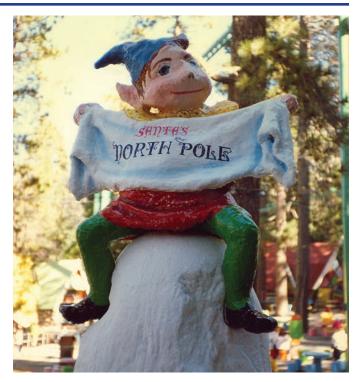
Each park also had the same buildings: Toy Shop, Mill Wheel (ornaments], Good Shepherd Chapel, Candy Kitchen (with enormous candy canes forming the eaves), Good Witch Bakery, Reindeer Barn, Pixie Pantry, Doll House, Spice Kitchen Souvenir Shop, Exit/Entrance building (which also housed the offices upstairs).

And we can not forget Santa's House. This is where children could sign Santa's Guest Book–sit on his knee, tell him their Christmas wishes, and get a photograph.

Sky Forest had three locations through the park for heavy use days. When the line reached a certain mushroom, the parent was given a slip of paper where the location of a second or third Santa was waiting. You never saw more than one Santa at any time in the park, though. One Santa liked to walk up to the Chapel—we thought to take a breather. When I cleaned and redecorated the Chapel I found a huge stash of peppermint Schnapps bottles on the rafters.

Over the years, the parks added new rides. Sky Forest added an Allen Herschell carousel and an Eli Bridge ferris wheel in 1980; both purchased from Frontier Village in San Jose, CA The Pony Rodeo (a stagecoach themed ride) and Flying Elephants and Dragons were added about 1994; both made by Zamperla.

Dundee added the most to its assets and that may have been why it lasted so long. Spinning Tea Cups, Bumper Cars, Snowman ride, Theel aluminum carousel, English Rotor, Skyliner, and Typhoon Coaster were among the additions. Plus there was a wonderful looking Helter Skelter



(spiral slide) painted to look like an enormous candy cane. They also had an ice rink from September through April.

My memories are only of Santa's in Sky Forest. I visited the park with my parents and a local friend the summer it opened and loved it immediately. There was something about the air and the way the music played through the trees, the wonderful colors and the giant mushrooms. It was the same year that Disneyland had opened, but I liked Santa's best. There was a Wet Boat ride and Antique Cars at the front with a mule ride in the trees beyond. Cinderella's Pumpkin Coach took you for a ride through the forest behind the attractions at the top of the park. I remember the smells most of all: cinnamon from the Candy Apples being made in the Candy Kitchen, gingerbread from the Bakery and a mixture of spices and herbs from the Spice Kitchen. I remember thinking, as I saw all the teens working in the park that it would be wonderful to work there someday.

I next visited Santa's in the spring of 1982, when I found out that a carousel had been added to the rides. I had been collecting wooden ponies for eight years by then and had been photographing rides whenever I could. I volunteered for the refurbishment of a pony on site the summer of 1984 and began my 13 year association, (working from August to early November) with Santa's Village and Mr. and Mrs. Henck. I have so many remembrances of those times in the park; from hiding from a bear while painting the carousel to finding the original colors on the buildings and repainting them during the month we were closed in September for maintenance. I made friends among the reindeer (Fido, the bull, thought I was part of his herd) as well as the staff and I still see a few of them from time to time.

The hardest day for me was not the auction day as I

was focused on bringing "my" carousel home. So many people had come from all over to participate and find a souvenir of a beloved memory. I saw many local friends as well as those from out of state that day. I met Paul

Reubens (PeeWee Herman) as we were waiting in line to pay for our purchases in Nortons silver trailer. (He bought the Rabbit costume.) The worst for me was November 4, 1997, when I drove out through the dark park, empty of guests, knowing I had painted there for the last time. I had enjoyed each day; working for Mrs. Henck

on her puppets or other park projects...painting the carousel, working with Bruce Grow and the maintenance staff, greasing the rides into the night, helping with animal care, and visiting with Mr. Henck. Five of my cats came from Santa's, as well as Miss Misery squirrel. I kept my horse at the pony barn and rode all over the tree farm through the most astounding forest filled with oak, spruce and bracken fern.

The park is only a memory, though the buildings and monorail still stand, having been spared in the fires of 2003, though several of the roadside trees burned.

I recently found a number of pieces from Santa's at a pumpkin farm in Oregon that raises money for children with cancer. The have the Pumpkin Coach (of course), the North Pole (minus the Pixie—it was a favorite thing for Rim High School seniors to steal), four reindeer, Humpty

Dumpty and the Three Men in a Tub from the Magic Train ride, plus the Jack Pumpkinhead costume.

The Twirling Christmas Tree is now a Twirling Pumpkin Pile at Remlinger Farms; a U-Pick-It raspberry, pumpkin

and birthday party farm in Carnation WA.

Santa's bed, dresser, and armchair from Santa's House, as well as the North Wind chair from the second location are on display at the Country Furniture Store in Blue Jay, CA.

The miniature train is running at the Anaheim Botanical Garden in Anaheim,

CA and mushrooms are all over the mountain.

The carousel is with me, as I had promised the ponies before I drove away that last night.

The closing of the last of these magical parks should be a wake-up call to everyone who has fond memories of a favorite amusement park. If it is still there, we need to return and visit it often to keep those memories fresh. It is up to use to keep these wonderful places going toward the future. And if we have a favorite carousel, we all should find a way to help support it with donations of time and/or money. Sometimes, these days, all that stands in the way of a carousel being sold apart is people willing to help keep it together.

More information on these three Santa's Villages can be found on the web at: www.alamendaininfo.com and also at http://groups.msn.com/SantasVillage.

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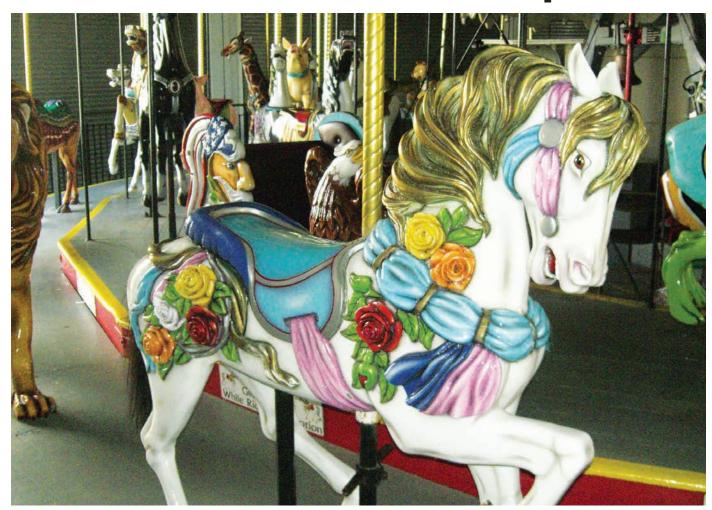
Also restoration services available.

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Though the Park has Closed, the Carousel and Organ Will Remain at Home

Farewell Myrtle Beach Pavilion; Welcome Home Herschell-Spillman

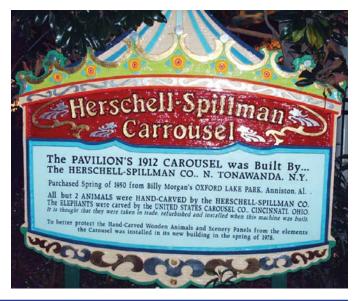


n September 24, 2006, the Myrtle Beach Pavilion amusement park officially closed its gates. Its 11 acres and 40 or so rides, which had been a staple attraction for vacationers and locals alike for over 50 years, is just one of many waterfront amusement parks to close in recent decades, ending for many, much more than an era of family fun.

THE EARLY PAVILION

Although the park officially opened in 1948, the first Pavilion building dated back to around 1908. The onestory structure was attached to Myrtle Beach's first hotel, the Seaside Inn. This first Pavilion was used as a gathering place for Inn guests as well as an entertainment center, dance hall, and even hosted town meetings until it burned to the ground in 1920.

In 1925, the second Pavilion building opened. It was inside this larger, two-story complex that the dance craze



21



"shagging" became popular. Once again, in 1944, this Pavilion burned to the ground.

In 1948, a third new Pavilion building was unveiled sporting reinforced concrete walls. This was the first reinforced concrete building on the Grand Strand and survived Hurricane Hazel which destroyed much of the Myrtle Beach waterfront in 1954. This latest Pavilion structure remains standing today.

A PARK IS BORN

The same year that christened the new indestructible Pavilion building, 1948, would also christen the opening of the park.

The Husted Brothers' travelling carnival company was playing at the annual Tobacco Festival in nearby Conway, SC that year and representatives of Burroughs & Chapin, the owner of the Pavilion and surrounding properties had an idea.

A deal was made and the Husted Brothers travelling carnival would travel no more. They made a permanent home next to the Pavilion. Ice skaters, bear acts, dance troupes, and talent shows were added. In 1950, Burroughs & Chapin bought Central Amusement Company and added their 14 rides to the new park. Concession stands followed and the owners were continually on the look out for





bigger and better rides to expand their new venture.

Over the years, the park's inventory of attractions would grow to include a wide variety of rides commonly found at traveling carnivals as well as a few created exclusively for the park. They boasted everything from kiddie rides to thrill rides and water rides.

The park continued to expand until recently, adding the Mad House in 1998 and the Hurricane: Category 5 roller coaster in 2000 to compliment the \$2M Arrow Dynamics roller coaster, the Log Flume and the Hydro: SURGE.

THE CAROUSEL & ORGAN

Along with the 14 rides added to the park with the purchase of Central Amusement Company was the addition of the carousel. The 1912 Herschell-Spillman menagerie. The original location of the ride is unknown as with many from this era, but it last operated at Oxford Park in Alabama before being purchased and moved to the Pavilion.





The ride features a two-tiered floor, sixteen jumpers, eleven standers, 2 chariots and twenty-three menagerie figures. Populating the menagerie are 2 Elephants, 2 Dogs, 2 Pigs, 2 Roosters, 2 Ostriches, 2 Cats, 2 Frogs, 2 Zebras, a Tiger, a Giraffe, a Camel, a Deer, a Dragon, a Lion, and an Elk.

One of just fifteen Herschell-Spillman machines still operating in the country, this carousel is considered to be one of the most elaborate. It is also considered among the best kept of these rides, thanks to the care of the owners, and the metal doors lowered each night to protect it from the harsh ocean weather.

The Myrtle Beach band organ is among the most notable antiques of its kind in the country. First exhibited at the World Exhibition in Paris in 1900, the organ was built at Waldkirch Baden, Germany by A. Ruth & Sohn. The ornately carved organ is 20-feet long, 11-feet high, and seven feet deep. It weighs approximately two tons boasting 400 pipes and 98 keys. It still operates with old-style cardboard music, much of which was composed over 50 years ago.

Possibly overlooked by many as one of America's great amusement parks, the pay-per-ride park was recently voted the #1 Family Attraction by the Travel Channel.

THE FUTURE

Prior to the start of the 2006 season, the owners of the park since its inception, Burroughs & Chapin Company announced it would close in the Fall of this year. With the announcement of its closing, Myrtle Beach Pavilion saw the largest annual growth in attendance and profit in the park's 58 year history.

Yet, the park did in fact close to the pubic on September 24, 2006. On September 30, a select group of people were invited to attend a "Last Ride" event before dismantling of the park begins.

Shortly after, Burroughs & Chapin Company, Inc. of Myrtle Beach, made the announcement everyone wanted to hear.

In addition to the carousel and band organ, they intend to "preserve as many artifacts from its Myrtle Beach Pavilion Amusement Park property as possible and will reuse as many of those items as possible within the redeveloped Pavilion site and at its other properties".



Coming from the keepers of the park from long before its inception, as well as throughout its growth and glory, it is obvious that the companies commitment to the park has not suffered in its closing.

"The Pavilion represents a significant part of our company's history and it played a key role in the early development of Myrtle Beach," said Burroughs & Chapin Vice President of Corporate Communications Pat Dowling.

"We hope to be able to preserve as many park items as feasible. Our first priority will be The Attic building where we will concentrate on salvaging and storing for later reuse in our Pavilion site redevelopment everything from a healthy portion of the dance floor to unique signage and other materials."

Due to their size, they will not be able to keep the Hurricane coaster, HydroSurge, Log Flume, Haunted House or the Treasure Hunt building.

The Herschell-Spillman Carousel, which dates back to 1912, and the Baden Band organ, which was first exhibited at the World Exposition in Paris in 1900, will remain in the Myrtle Beach area. The company hopes to integrate both Pavilion icons









into its Pavilion site redevelopment.

"Ever since the closing of the park was announced," Dowling said, "the two items that residents and visitors have most often requested us to save and reuse somewhere in Myrtle Beach are the carousel and the organ. To many, these two items represent the past allure and history of the Pavilion era. Our shareholders and board of directors have always felt the same way."

Dowling said that the gradual preparation of the site for redevelopment will begin in mid-October and proceed in a deliberate but unhurried manner.

"Because this is such an important step, we have not set a deadline for completion of this deconstruction and preservation effort," Dowling said. "Our focus is to be creative, careful and resourceful in how we remove and preserve for future use the artifacts, signage, hardware, select rides, some building materials and other aspects of the park."

Fencing will be erected around the amusement park. The fencing is a normal construction site precaution that protects the public from harm during the deconstruction process. Park security has also been enhanced.

Although the company is not yet ready to announce its





redevelopment plan for the 11-acre Pavilion site, preliminary plans for that redevelopment are underway.

"Our Board of Directors has reviewed and suggested changes to some preliminary drafts of a Pavilion site redevelopment plan, and most likely there will be other drafts and changes to come," Dowling said. "It is critical to our success and the success of downtown redevelopment in general that we 'get it right', as opposed to just 'getting it done' in order to meet an artificially set deadline."

Over the past several years, the Myrtle Beach City Council and the Downtown Redevelopment Corporation (DRC) have outlined and promoted a vision to the Myrtle Beach community of the creation of a 12-month economy in downtown Myrtle Beach.

The leadership of the DRC invited Burroughs & Chapin to participate in the implementation of that vision by closing the Pavilion and redeveloping the 11-acre site. In essence, the redeveloped Pavilion site is to serve as an engine that sparks redevelopment of the larger 300-acre downtown area.

"We still share in and believe in their vision," said Dowling. "It is important not just to downtown but to all of Myrtle Beach. This 300-acre area within Myrtle Beach that extends along the oceanfront and back to Kings Highway needs and deserves attention. It is important to everyone's secure and positive future that we work together to provide that necessary attention."

Dowling said that when the company's leaders feel they have a viable redevelopment plan in hand, they look forward to sharing it with City Council and the DRC, and eventually with the community.

"As a company, we have various goals and objectives that we need to accomplish on our 11 acres," Dowling said, "but we are very aware that City Council and the DRC also have goals for all of downtown. It is our desire to continue to work with them to make sure that our

plan also reflects as much as possible their hopes and dreams. The best of both worlds would be a plan that is mutually acceptable and implemented according to a mutually agreeable schedule, and one that the general public also finds beneficial."

Dowling said that the company understands that in order to make the redevelopment of the Pavilion site a successful and profitable one, hundreds of millions of private dollars must be reinvested in the site.

However, the company also recognizes that this private investment alone will not guarantee successful redevelopment. In order for the Pavilion site redevelopment and downtown redevelopment in general to be successful, a partnership is required with the City, the DRC and other downtown property owners.

To paraphrase the remainder of the official release, atop the list is the re-design of the mile-long oceanfront boardwalk, which will serve as a new magnet to attract people to the downtown area.

Dowling said. "The road to success downtown requires a positive partnership approach and we are confident that the goals of the City, the downtown business community, the DRC and our company can be met through positive, timely and coordinated planning and investment."



If the commitment from local officials and businesses proves to be half as strong as Burroughs & Chapin, we can all expect a visually stunning and eternally memorable ride on one our great carousels soon.

And, don't forget the band organ.

Visit www.burroughschapin.com to keep an eye on the progress of the redevelopment. They also have some really cool memorabilia for sale including a poster of this month's center photo.

OWN A PIECE OF CAROUSEL HISTORY

From the collection of Maurice and Nina Fraley



Mexican Goat primer paint w29" x h32" \$1800.00



Canvas Ring Toss Clown w38" x h45" \$500.00

Spillman Inside Panel original paint w59" x h39" \$1000.00



French Swan Chariott primer paint w25" x h30" \$2000.00



Contact Maurice Fraley at 707-944-2213 or vial emailat mauricefraley@yahoo.com.

The National Carousel Association

2007 Technical Conference Keeping in Touch

North Salt Lake City, Utah April 26 - 29, 2007

On Day One of the conference, participants will visit the following locations:

- The 1950s vintage Carousel at Liberty Park
- Trolley Square (historic mission-style collection of vintage trolley-car barns)
- Private tour of The Family History Library (billions of free family tree, family history, ancestry, genealogy and census records).
- The c.1906 Herschell-Spillman Menagerie Carousel at Lagoon Theme Park.



Lagoon Theme Park Carousel

On Day Two, conference goers will be presented with unparalleled state-of-the-art presentations from some of the foremost experts in the carousel field.

Workshops will include:

- Carousel Maintenance and Safety Issues
- Use of NCA and Utah State Archives
- Using the Internet to Inform and Promote Your Carousel
- History of Utah Carousels and Their Builders
- * New Carousel Videos (after dinner entertainment)



Liberty Park Carousel

This year's tech conference will also provide an opportunity to learn about Utah's present and past history of its carousels, including the 1910 Looff carousel which operated from 1910 to 1957 at Saltair Park and for another thirty years in American Fork, Utah.

Friends of Utah's carousels are encouraged to attend and will learn from carousel owners, operators and enthusiasts from around the country with the goal of beginning a carousel friends group in that state.



For more information please contact:

Al Noren 7061 So. Quince St. Centennial, Co. 80112 303-779-1090 anoren4430@aol.com



The circa 1923 Allan Herschell is being Restored to its Natural Beauty

Santa's Frontier Village Carousel Now a Restoration Labor of Love



By Lourinda Bray, Running Horse Studio Special to The Carousel News & Trader

he carousel at Santa's Village in Sky Forest, CA was purchased from Frontier Village in San Jose, CA in 1980. While the carousel was made circa 1923, there is no documentation of where the carousel was used prior to joining Frontier Village, sometime in the 1950s. It was a three-abreast Allen Herschell with 36 horses (2 skin horses and 6 roached mane) and 2 chariots (one with a grass and flower theme and one with a scroll motif) housed in an open sided pavilion.

The ride was missing 3 horses at the time of purchase, which were replaced with 3 Barango fiberglass castings of the same Looff 2nd-row pony. The rounding boards were made of tin with a stencil design resembling a lion face and had wooden moldings at the top and bottom. The shields were carved wood with iron faces: prince, king, princess and Indian.

The center pole housing was simply made of plywood sheets with curved molding over the seams. And, the oak center mirror panels were all there, but were missing half of the beveled mirrors. The over-all color scheme of the

The carousel at its rustic setting in Sky Forest, CA.

trim was robin's egg blue and yellow. The sweeps and center pole were painted orange and the plywood covered flooring was gray.

The horses had been covered in fiberglass, probably at San Jose, sometimes over stripped wood and sometimes over park paint. The latter was most fortunate because once the glass was peeled away by softening it with a heat gun, I came to an old oil paint layer underneath which was very dark varnish and then the original factory layer. I believe that the horses came from 2 different machines, and possibly a third, because of the differences in saddle design and original colors. All had the usual roman numerals on the belly, which may have corresponded to a model of design produced on the tracing lathe. It is not the position on the ride as I have several horses with the same XXXX mark and we know there were no A-H machines with more than 36 horses.

I first met the carousel in the spring of 1981 when the patrol service who looked after my mother's summer home at Lake Arrowhead told me that Santa's had acquired a Merry-go-round. It was a misty day with pearly light and it





The horse above, photographed in 1981, has been restored as a beautiful chestnut (right).

was wonderful to be able to walk into the park after such a long absence. I could see only some of the detail on the trappings of the horses and knew that the fiberglass would have to be removed before the real carvings could be seen. I volunteered to strip, repair and repaint a piece that summer. It was a second row roached-mane jumper whose back had cracked under a rider.

The cook from the Pixie Pantry had already stripped and repainted two outside row roached manes (one she painted blue and one yellow) so she had developed a technique for getting the glass off by holding a small halogen photo flood light near the surface to soften it. The lamp would get hot and the wood would char if you weren't careful. I was





able to acquire a variable temperature heat gun that was much safer for all concerned. During the heat gun process, resin gases off and is extremely toxic; so ventilation is very important. My "office" was upstairs in the maintenance loft in the Reindeer Barn. I had doors that I could open that had three heavy wires across the opening to keep me from falling out. The Bumble Bee Monorail went by within 4 feet of my opening, so I often had an audience.

The pony had been striped before he was coated so, after the glass was peeled away, I still had to squeeze the resin out of the wood with more heat and a stiff putty knife, so that it could be chemically stripped. It was popular

in those days to spray automotive primer as an undercoat on carousel animals. It provided an easy, smooth coat that could be painted without sanding. It turned out that this type of primer acted like an egg shell at Santa's because of the constant weather changes in the un-enclosed pavilion. By the next summer, the paint, primer and all, was popping off in chunks and I had to re-strip, repair and paint him all over again; this time using marine primer.

Over the years, I repaired and painted one pony in the park during my three months in the mountains from August to early November and brought one home with me to work on over the winter.

I did the first one in the basement of my home and the rest at my shop in Irwindale, having purchased a ware-



This horse as he looked at auction in 1998 (above), below as he looked in 1991 and bottom as he looked when I first met him in 1981.



as a private contractor with part of my pay being a 12' white fir and an incense cedar at Christmas time. I also took on other jobs in the park as well, such as finding the original colors of the buildings and repaint-

house in an industrial park to house

my growing collection of wooden

After that first

agreed to hire me

ing them, making

Santa's

animals.

pony,



and painting vignettes for the Story Book Forest, and designing and/or refurbishing the three locations where kids could visit Santa.

In 1990 or so, I decided to repaint the whole ride and try to get it looking better. I did one row, touching up the others, each summer for three summers and also repaired, aluminum leafed and tinted the two chariots. Mr. Henck ("Santa" owner and manager) already had the maintenance shop make a new spruce floor for the ride that spring, but they had not coated it by the park's opening. So, I had to paint one side one week and the other the next so that the 2 part urethane coating could dry.

It was rainy much of the time, so the pavilion was given some heaters and wrapped in plastic. It still wasn't very warm after sunset. I could only do so much work on the carousel in September, when we were closed during the week, and October when we were closed every day pre-

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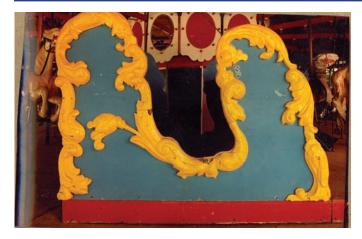
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paring for the coming winter season.

Toward the end of October, I had to paint into the night by the light of the carousel to get everything done. There were so many horse shoes, eyes and tongues. The last thing, was the striping which I always did the last three days of my stay. It was often very cold by then and my fingers would become numb even with gloves. I had to look to see where they were on the brush or if I was even still holding it. Beyond, in the dark, I could hear the reindeer moving about, raccoons chittering and the occasional bear snuffling around in the leaves just uphill a bit on the Magic Train track.

I was told of the permanent closing of the park the summer of 1997 and made an offer to buy the carousel. It was thought that it would be a big draw for the auction, so my offer was turned down. I knew that if I ever was going to know what was under all that fiberglass, I had better get it off that summer.

Every day, hour after hour, as soon as the park closed in September, I took off the glass from the trappings and parts of the body with the horses on their poles—anything that was loose I took off. If the saddles were still tight, I left the glass on, but most of them peeled off in one great wad—some without heat. I washed off the old paint and varnish with acetone and documented the underlying colors using and Evergard paint sample book for color reference. I then filled cracks, smoothed them, primed the newly un-glassed areas, and repainted. I did 4 or 5 horses a week that way.

I discovered that the hoofs of all the horses with factory paint had been coated with roofing tar instead of tube oils. I think to keep the moisture from rain, snow and fog from collecting and rotting them. They are, after all, the lowest point on the ponies.

I had to remove several animals from the ride due to dry rot in the chest and rump, which was falling out in great chunks. They had been built up with strips of lath and many nails, which had disintegrated.

Two were replaced with 2nd and 3rd row Chance fiberglass pones that arrived beautifully painted with an autumn leaf theme on the 3rd row and a snow/winter motif on the 2nd row. I also added a Bradley and Kaye fiberglass Parker to replace another animal while I worked on

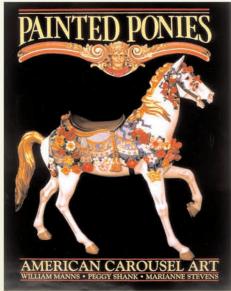


it in the shop. And I replaced another 3rd row pony with an aluminum Parker. I sent a repaired horse back that Spring and maintenance brought down an outside row roached mane to replace it. However, with no time to start a repair, I sent up a 2nd row fiberglass Dentzel jumper made by Ronart Glass and Animation. All the replacements sold with the ride as I had traded the ones I owned for the wooden ones, hoping someday to repair them and put them back on the ride.

In 1990, the shields, many of which had dry rot, were replaced with fiberglass castings made by Ronart, and the faces remounted. The simple tin rounding boards were replaced in 1992 with new Ronart fiberglass castings modelled after an original A-H rounding board. I painted them the usual yellow and blue with a creamy white center oval in which I stencilled Christmas themes; poinsettias, holly and candy canes, and Christmas balls on fir boughs. I also painted one panel with Santa and Mrs. Claus and another with a pair of Elves and the North Pole.

After a memorable bidding war at the auction, the carousel is now with me at my property in Irwindale, CA. The mechanism and trim is in a 25' trailer, and the horses and chariots are in the shop. Bit by bit I am having the ponies repaired and am putting those whose color palettes I know back into original factory paint. I intend to use the mechanism for the El Cajon A-H horses with some Santa ponies to fill in the gaps. The rest will stay on display and not have to work again—just be admired by all the people who visit the museum/ shop each year.





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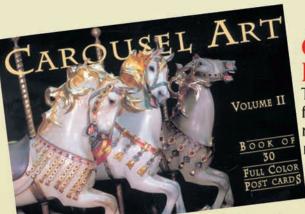
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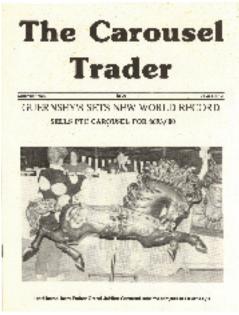
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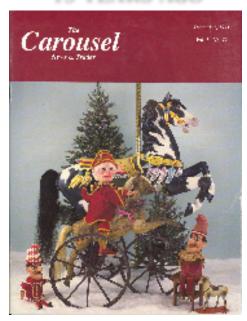
Carousel News & Trader Through The Years

20 YEARS AGO



IN THIS ISSUE: "Painted Ponies" published; Miracle Jewels; Guernsey's sells PTC #54 to Fall River, MA in world record auction.

15 YEARS AGO



IN THIS ISSUE: Hoppes Family; PTC #15; Casino Pier; Prospect Park; Kissel Auction; Flying Horses in Martha's Vineyard; Tony Orlando interview.

10 YEARS AGO



IN THIS ISSUE: Charlotte Dinger Memorium; Miniatures; NCA Convention in Washington D.C. and Maryland; National Cathedral Carousel.

5 YEARS AGO



IN THIS ISSUE: Wheaton Regional Park; Mega Stinson Organ; Canadian Carousel News; Island Park Carousel; NE Carousel Museum.

Idora Day and DeBence Museum Celebrate the Memories and Sounds



Martin Anderson standing next to Idora's Wurlitzer 153 flanked by personal pictures of Idora's PTC #61 Carousel, donated by Sue R. Moderalli of Youngstown, OH and Kris Wilson of New Springfield, OH.

On a daily basis from April thru October, DeBence Antique Music World comes alive with the sounds of over one hundred antique mechanical music machines, ranging from music boxes to player pianos, to nickelodeons, to band organs. But on Sunday, August 21st, the museum featured the Band Organ from Idora Park in Youngstown in one of it's monthly Mini-Events. Much to the delight of a large contingent of music lovers as many of them came from Youngstown to relive the sights and sounds of Idora Park.

Jake DeBence purchased the Wurlitzer model 153 Du-



plex Orchestral Band Organ from Idora Park in 1965. It originally had an ornate front façade, but Jake was primarily interested in the Music, so he did not purchase the front piece. It is a 54 key organ, which plays 46 notes, actuates 6

stops, and plays two drums and a cymbal. This model was produced from 1916 through 1936. The one at De-Bence was probably built in the early twenties.

Also, on display were a side piece from the rounding board of the original carousel, several replicas of the horses, tickets, postcards and pictures. One member of the audience was a former concessionaire from the Park.

This event will be repeated in June of 2007.

The Museum also contains music boxes, player pia-



nos, nickelodeons that are part of a guided tour. The lower level is self-guided, and houses examples of early radios, console model hi-fi's, parlor organs, and a fantastic Hammond Organ collection.

DeBence Antique Music Museum is located at 1261 Liberty Street in Franklin PA. For more information, visit www.debencemusicworld.com.

To learn more about PTC #61 once located in Idora Park, don't miss next month's *Carousel News & Trader*.

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Original frame with outside row of Bradley and Kaye replacement horses. These are original Bradley and Kaye not the new Chance Carousel pieces.

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Once a Christmas Gift, the Restored Carousel Will Have a New Home in NC

Allan Herschell 'Christmas Carousel' **Emerges From 50 Years in Storage**



By Marsha Schloesser with Jan Linville Special to The Carousel News & Trader

wo years ago I attended the Carousel Convention in Bristol, Connecticut. It had been the first venture out after the second worst event of my life. It was

4 weeks after having been hit by Hurricane Charlie, Jean and the third I can't even remember the name. I spent half the convention fighting tears of stress..

Little did I know the challenge Bette Largent, President of the NCA, had given me when she handed me the tape I bid on at the auction. It was a premonition of better things to come, and as the famous saying goes... here is the rest of the story.

call to their wooden Bette's challenge was to add to the video tape I won, photos of a undiscovered carousel--sure, you'd like to think there is one waiting around every corner, but, in this case, there actually was.

Not too many months after the convention I got a

Hal, (left) seems to have a new friend.

phone call from a wonderful man who had just purchased a 3-row Allan Herschell Carousel that had been in storage for over 50 years.

Wayne Dellinger, a prominent citizen, and ex-mayor

of Newton, North Carolina had heard rumors about a carousel being stored away somewhere, not too far from him. After a few years, he finally tracked it down to a Mr. and Mrs. Henry and Alice Revels. It took 15-20 years to pursue them and convince them that the Merry-Go-Round, as they refer to it, will be kept intact, not ever split up, and put into public use. They also had another carousel, a Parker, that went back to Babylon, New York in pieces.

Ahh, but this story has a very romantic twist. She is a very special carousel. She

was purchased by Henry as a gift for his wife Alice, for Christmas in 1974. What a present! (Actually, he was the carousel lover). They had purchased it from a private

My real horses were

very curious abut the

newcomers...

They even seemed to

have an opinion and

occassionally would

counterparts.



party, Reverend Paul Staley, in Fairfield, Virginia. The ride was once part of a city park that had gone defunct. It arrived, sight unseen, in a trailer, and was delivered to the Revels. The carousel might possibly have come from Lynchburg, Virginia in a park run by the Lions club. They believe it was a 1928 or 1929, Allan Herschell. We do not know the history before this. We have been in contact with the Allan Herschell Museum for help too.

They had planned to repair it and take it on the road. Henry had worked in furniture factories, and for R.C. Lee Rides, and Johnson Amusements, whenever they came to town. He would help tear down the Merry-Go-Rounds, so he could learn about them. The couple never took the carousel out again because Alice did not want to go out on the road. Setting it up on their property was out of the question because of a jealous neighbor. Afraid to put it in a warehouse that it might be vandalized, it was already disassembled and piece by piece brought down to be stored in their basement. There, 30 horses, and the mechanism sat for 50 years.

Alice and Henry were very careful not to tell any one about their treasure for fear of unwanted visitors. Around 2004, Alice finally convinced Henry it was time to consider





Wayne (left) and Kenny loading horses.

selling it and they spoke to several people, all of whom wanted to break it up and sell off the horses and parts. They refused!

The shining Knight, AKA Wayne, came back on the scene, and they knew they had found the right man. Alice convinced Henry this was the best for them and the carousel, and they could visit the carousel in its new home.

Somehow Wayne found us and we talked and decided on a plan. He brought us down about 20 horses to start on. Well things have a way of working out. I have lectured for years on Disaster Planning, (after being a survivor of Hurricane Andrew), our government helped me reconstruct, and we moved forward with a wonderful project to research and look forward to, all at the same time. Almost 20 years of restoring and painting this project really makes you feel like you've made a difference, and done something extra special.

When Wayne arrived with his entire family, two vans, the trailer and the horses, we unloaded a few animals to see what we were dealing with. All the horses had many layers of paint. All the legs, neck to body seams, and many side seams were separated; a few with breaks, but there was a glimmer of hope that there might be original paint under all that!

My real horses were very curious abut the newcomers as well. They even seemed to have an opinion and oc-





casionally would call to their wooden counterparts.

And yes, there was original paint under most of the horses. They had 6-10 layers of paint, the last coat being gray and brown decking paint. I photographed and documented each horse, and realized how smart, and easy they made this for the factory. The entire carousel was consistent, all the same colors used throughout. I made a master pallet and went on from there.

Stripping and repairing 30 horses is not like working on a few at a time. We needed to add to our crew, so our little 1-2 man/woman operation grew to 4-5 people. You cannot imagine our excitement every time we found more details. Most of the original rhinestones were discovered under layers of paint and the horses began to come back to life.

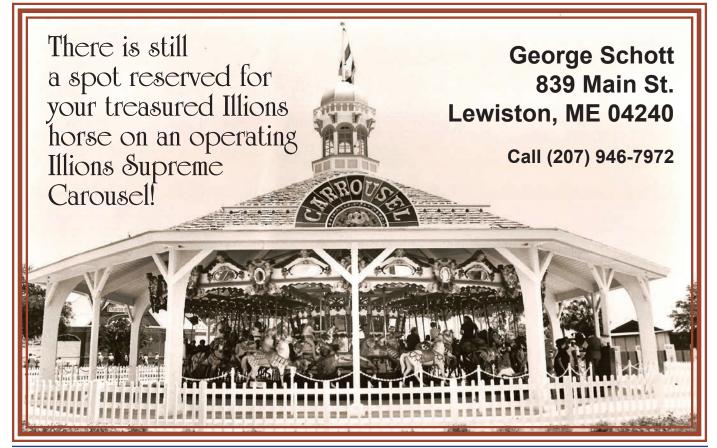


Marsha and Micky in the workshop.

Our crew now consisted of Richard, our own personal stripper (now doesn't everyone want one of those), Mary and Mary Ann, who with Richard had the laborious job of sanding and cleaning.

Jack, who has been my right arm, repairman and carver forever needed help, and we were lucky to have Micky join our family. Mickey is now a true carousel man. Almost a year of hard work has gone into this project so far. Of course we have had a few casualties—we killed 3 compressors, a few sanders, and a lot of carving tools. Gallons of primer, paint, and clear coat have been used.

Let me tell you, even with our new building, it gets a lit-





tle crowded with all those horses and all of our other ones as well. We soon realized we need more space again.

My good friend Jan and I brought the first 10 finished horses back to North Carolina in January and picked up the balance of them. Going through the agricultural station is always interesting when they ask what you have in the trailer. I love to see the expressions on the inspectors faces when we say "we have 10 horses in there, but they are a little stiff."

We got to meet Alice and Henry, and while Wayne, Kenny, and I unloaded the horses, Jan had a wonderful conversation with them. Jan said that Henry would almost prefer to see the real horses kept safe and reproductions put on for the kids to ride now. He does not want them harmed, he is a real carousel lover. They were just about both in tears when they saw the newly painted horses come in. That turned to appreciation and admiration when they had time to really look them over. (In tribute to Alice, Henry, Wayne, all their names are somewhere on each of the carousel horses.) When it was time for them to leave, Alice cried, and Henry again seemed near tears. When all the horses are assembled in their new home I am sure they will be there, and thrilled to see it finally happen.

It did not snow on this journey, but the snow was on the mountain tops and this beautiful water wheel was frozen. (I made Jan do a U-turn so I could take these photos.) Between the cold and the mountains—this flat lander Floridian was more than ready to go home.

When the second group was ready for delivery, it was hurricane season again. We had gone almost the whole season with out one, and now all along the coast we were listing to another warning of an approaching storm. Wayne hightailed it down here to pick up the animals and we were all getting a little nervous; but luck was on our side, and the storm passed us by.

By the time you read this article, all the horses should be completed. They have all been repaired, and the last 6 are currently being painted. I am now touching up the head shields that were on all the corner rounding boards. We still have the rounding boards to paint. Wayne and



his crew of two; Kenny and Rick, have been working on the mechanism and have done a wonderful job sanding, scraping and painting and hope to be finished soon. With Wayne's love and appreciation of old cars which he collects and restores, his love for the old Merry-Go-Round, was a natural.

Newton, North Carolina will soon have a beautiful restored carousel. Wayne is deciding on the building expansion to construct and it will be part of his Pin Station Bowling and Amusement Center. It will be open to the public, and hopefully maybe within a year or so you will all be invited for the grand opening. We hope to have another project like this one again. If any of you out there have any history on this Carousel or any old photos we would love to add it to the book on this carousel.

Please contact me via email at carouselworkshop@yahoo.com. And Wayne, thank you...

Marsha Schloesser, Carousel Workshop.



January 15, 2007 Deadline for "America the Beautiful" Themed Contest

Trail of Painted Ponies Announces 2nd Annual National Art Competition



Following the hugely successful and historic national art competition, "The Native Art of Horse Painting," the Trail of Painted Ponies is announcing the theme of its second art competition: "America the Beautiful." A call for designs is being issued to artists across America interested in imaginatively trans-

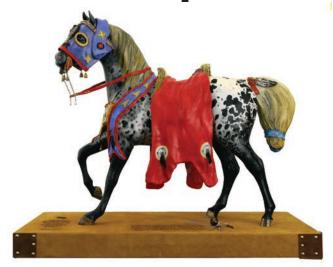
forming 2-foot tall horse sculptures into original works of art that celebrate what is special and unique about our nation.

Artistic submissions are being requested in three categories:

1) The American West: From frontier and pioneer times to the present day, our western heritage and the people, places and events that shaped the American West have served as an inspiration to artists. In this category we are looking for traditional designs that evoke our romantic notions of the American West, as well as colorful and creative, contemporary perspectives on the legendary West of yesteryear.

2) The American Spirit: Designs that celebrate the "Spirit of America" in visual terms are sought in this category. This includes patriotic and even military designs, as well as dramatic presentations that evoke the hallmark principles of freedom, equality and independence.

3) Americana: This category would include designs that cleverly represent historic aspects of American cul-



ture, including everything from baseball, apple pie, land-marks, Norman Rockwell, to folk music, primitive decor, cross-country travel and vintage cars. A distinguished panel of judges will select five finalists in each category. The fifteen winners will be given a 2-foot tall horse sculpture, cast in bonded marble, to paint or embellish. All finalists will receive a \$1,500 honorarium and promotional benefits. Images of the winning Painted Ponies will be exhibited on the official Trail of Painted Ponies website, and America will be given the opportunity to vote online for "The People's Choice Award." The winner will receive

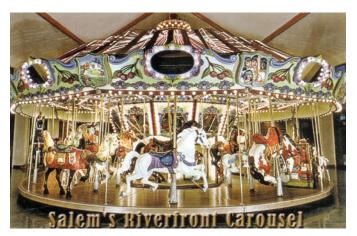
a cash prize of \$5,000.

The Trail of Painted Ponies started out in 2001 as the organization behind the Santa Fe, New Mexicobased public art project that exhibited over 100 life-size fiberglass horses around the Southwest. It has evolved into a company that continues to explore the possibilities of the horse as a "canvas" through original Painted Pony artworks, and produces a line of figurines that have become one of the most popular collectibles in America.

To learn more about the competition, and to download an application and submission form, go to: www.trailof-paintedponies.com. For more information contact: Rod Barker, President, or Karlynn Keyes, Vice-President The Trail of Painted Ponies www.trailofpaintedponies.com.

THE DEADLINE FOR DESIGN SUBMISSIONS IS JANUARY 15,2007.

Riverfront Carousel Fundraiser Looks to Bring the Brass Ring to Salem





Auction items included the poster, a frog rocker, a miniature of Nugget and an original oil painting, circa 1968.



At the carvers table: center front is Suzette Cunningham; to her left, Mary Suddarth; barely visible is Lois Witherspoon; operations manager, Mel Johnson sporting his Hawaiian shirt; master carver, Everett Koontz; Sharon Johnson standing; and Don Wegner, volunteer and long time supporter.



Hazel Patten (center) is attributed with bringing the dream home to Salem. On her left is Bill Bonnicksen, past board memeber and long time supporter. They are joined by friends and family. This year's fundraising proceeds will go toward brining a brass ring machine to the carousel.



Michael Moyer checks in with gift gallery manager, Debbie Crooks (seated) and financial bookkeeper, Janelle Rasmussen. Graphic marketing coordinator, Carrie Langham looks on.



Erick Fenske, platform assistant holds up original artwork by Sandy Walker as board member Ozzie Rose conducts the auction.

"Lillie Belle"



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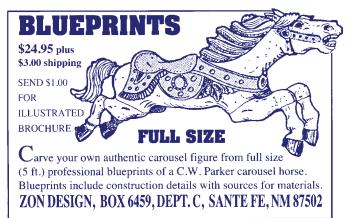
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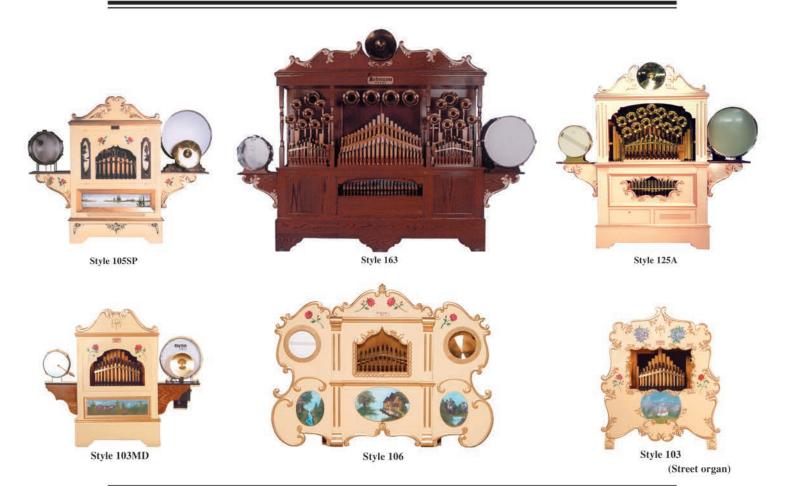
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