

BABBIE RURAL & FARM LEARNING MUSEUM

Vol. #6 2014 Fall Newsletter

From the Desk of the CEO...

The CEO & Board of Directors would like to sincerely thank all the businesses and individuals who made donations to or sponsored the museum or purchased memberships for the 2014 Season.

With your support we were able to complete many necessary projects that enhanced the museum.

Cystic Fibrosis Fundraiser

A Cystic Fibrosis Fundraiser, put on by "Team Cookie" was held at the museum this summer. In lieu of an admission fee, visitors to the museum were asked to make a donation to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. There were games and prizes for the kids, a bake sale and a multiple prize raffle.

FAM Tour

In Sept., the North Country Chamber of Commerce scheduled a familiarization tour of local museums and wineries for 30 tour group leaders who plan motor coach tours. The Babbie Museum was included and the feedback from the tour group leaders was very positive. We are hoping that we may get some bus tours next season.

Exciting New Acquisitions!

- 1951 Automated Chicken Plucker - a device using many rubber "fingers" to pluck feathers, which were quicker than the human hand. The invention revolutionized the poultry business.
- 1901 Studebaker Wagon that was used at the Carnes Granite Mines in Ausable Forks, NY.

Summer Parade Participation

The museum participated in 3 local parades this season – the Mooers Labor Day Parade (where the museum won 2 first place trophies), the Applefest Parade and the Battle of Plattsburgh Parade. Our float this year depicted an old one-room schoolhouse with the theme "Continue Your Education at the Babbie Rural & Farm Learning Museum".

Milking Cow Simulator

Our new model-milking cow has been given a name. A naming contest was held and several noteworthy names were forwarded to the board that ultimately decided on "Apple Blossom". Apple Blossom proved to be a popular exhibit and she was "milked" by young and old.

Goshen Store Update

Phase I – moving the building onto museum property – was completed in Spring 2012. This Fall, a group of volunteers worked diligently on building a foundation to stabilize the store. Drain tile has been installed and a floor will be built, weather permitting. The hope is to have a preliminary exhibit open soon that will show our vision for this work in progress.

Absolute Charter Petition



In July 2014, the museum's Board of Directors petitioned the NYS Department of Education for its Absolute Charter. As part of the process, we had a site visit from the Charter Coordinator on Oct. 13th. It will be several months until we hear the results of our petition. A charter is granted by the Board of Regents as an instrument of incorporation to museums and historical societies that satisfy Regents standards of organizational and educational quality. Because of the judgment implied in its granting, considerable prestige is associated with a Regents Charter.

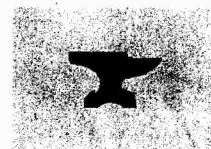
New Board Members

We would like to welcome new Board Members Trista Sheehan and Gene Chauvin. Sharron Morrow and Roger Bonner have completed their terms after several years of service. Many thanks to Sharron and Roger for your service and support.



New Blacksmith Shop Opens for the Season

The blacksmith shop was completed for the opening of the 2014 season. A BIG THANKS to Bill Umbreit and Leroy Conners for making this possible. Bill Umbreit, our resident blacksmith, did demonstrations throughout the season and during our school field trips.



Museum Emergency Disaster Plan

A small group of board members worked throughout the summer developing an Emergency and Disaster Plan for the museum. The plan is on file at the museum and anyone is welcome to review it.