

North Creek Railway Depot Museum Newsletter Fall 2020

Board of Trustees

Ellen S. Schaefer
President

W. Roger Thomas
Vice-President

Linda Quintavalle
Secretary

Gregory J. Schaefer
Treasurer (Acting)

David Braley

Joseph Elliott

Suzanne Anderson

Pete Hoskins

Advisory

William Bibby

*Volunteers & Docents
Needed for 2021*

*Contact Joe at:
518-251-3836*

North Creek Railway
Depot Museum
PO Box 156
North Creek, NY 12853



COVID-19 Derails 2020 Plans

This is the year that was! For the North Creek Railway Depot Museum, the year 2020 joyfully roared on January 2, 2020, full of warmth, possibility, creativity and dreams. The Board was excited to ring in the new year with an extraordinary gala, "A Salute to a Vigorous Life," Dinner with Teddy Roosevelt that featured famed re-enactor, Joe Wiegand, as the President. In addition, our local actors and students, under the tutelage of Robin Jay from Gem Radio Theater, and funded through our LARAC Grant, were able to mingle through the audience in costume as their characters: Edith Roosevelt, Art Draper, Lois Perret Schaefer, Alice Roosevelt and young "Teedie" Roosevelt.

Audience members were delighted with the performances, and enthusiasm for the new season at the Depot ran high with plans for so many new activities to continue to engage future community involvement.



Regrettably, in February 2020 COVID-19 reared its ugly head, and brought our country and community to a sobering halt. Meeting Covid protocols, maintaining social distancing and sanitizing the exhibits became for too much for our volunteers to protect both our patrons and our dedicated docents. Thus, the Board made the difficult decision to close for the season and pull back on our plans for a "Roaring 20's Gala" to raise funds for the museum, curb our school literacy lessons funded through LARAC and postpone our next round of Young Actor workshops.

Luckily, our partnership with the Adirondack Experience garnered for us two exhibit display cases which are currently being painted and rewired for lighting and visual presentations. One cabinet will be dedicated to winter sports and the early roots of the National Ski Patrol which grew out of the efforts of Lois Perret Schaefer and the advent of rope tows and the Snow Train in North Creek.

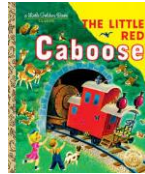
This year also marks the 40th Anniversary of the 1980 Winter Olympics in Lake Placid. Plans included an exhibit of beautiful memorabilia on loan from Ellen Schaefer who served as a volunteer during the games. So our second display case will be outfitted with this personal collection.

Furthermore, 2020 marks the 75th Anniversary of the end of World War II, so we are working to upgrade our 10th Mountain Division exhibit and have loaned some materials to the Adirondack Experience. Hopefully, we can add more visual material and refresh the current collection.



Little Red Caboose

Thanks to our LARAC grant, Robin Jay of Gem Radio Theater and Snarky Aardvark Films our video of The Little Red Caboose is ready to be presented in the caboose once renovations are complete. Currently, the caboose roof has been repaired, patched and painted and the sides are being scraped and prepped for new paint and should be completed by the end of October.



Education Center

Donations of time, labor and materials from the Quintavalles, Keitan Millington and Murphy Lumber will allow for new flooring and paneling in the Owens House Children's Education Center and will allow the room to be transformed into the "Depot Waiting Room" complete with child size tables, literacy materials and toys. Funded through the Community Fund for the Gore Mountain Region, a hands-on train set will be purchased for children to use once pandemic restrictions are lifted.

Fill the Christmas Caboose

All of us realize that this Holiday Season will be different from others while the pandemic still looms over the Depot, and the Town. However we are still attempting to plan a special philanthropic event. Dressing up "Santa's Christmas Caboose" and the Depot Platform will give the Community a chance for a one-way caboose walk through, an outdoor photo shoot, and an opportunity to donate much needed personal care items to the Adirondack Community Outreach Center's Pantry. Personal care items are not covered by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or the Regional Food Bank. We would like to help make someone's Christmas a little more special by collecting non-

food essentials such as tooth brushes and tooth paste, shampoo, conditioner, soap, feminine hygiene products, and more. These items will then be included in the ACOG holiday baskets, as well as to those who visit the pantry for supplemental food. Help us make someone's holidays a little bit brighter by donating. Cash donations will also be accepted.



5th Annual History Weekend

Due to the COVID-19 Corona Virus, we were unable to hold our annual History Weekend celebration in the traditional sense. Thanks to the generosity of Robin Jay and her Gem Radio Theater, the "Voices from the Past" Graveyard Walk was recorded and is available to be viewed through a link on our website: www.northcreekdepotmuseum.com Local actors portrayed more famous citizens from our town bringing their stories to life. We are extremely grateful to Robin and Gem Radio Theater. Please visit our website to experience this virtual graveyard walk and learn about some of the wonderful residents of our Town and how they helped to shape our community.



Depot Museum Grant Awards Further Our Mission- Thanks to the generosity of the Community Fund for the Gore Mountain Region, we are producing a virtual tour of the Depot Museum. Look

for updates on our website.

HELP SAVE THE MILK CAR

We are in a race to get a new roof on the circa 1900 Delaware & Hudson milk car before winter weather sets in. This car is one of only a handful known to have survived. Your donation will help us pay for a new roof this Fall and with plans to restore the car in 2021.

We Need Your Help!

Like many other Museums and not-for-profit organizations, COVID-19 meant that we could not open the Museum in 2020. We rely on donations from visitors to the Depot for 30% of our operating budget. Insurance, fuel, and utilities are paid from these funds. Please consider donating to the North Creek Railway Depot Museum, PO Box 156, North Creek, NY 12853, a 501c3 not for profit and NYS charitable organization. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you.