

Newsletter – January 2017

Old Ski Movie Night Returns

The North Creek Railway Depot Preservation Association will hold its second "Old Ski Movie Night" fund raising event at the Tannery Pond Community Center on February 11, 2017 at 7:30 P.M. Admission will be \$5.00 and children under 12 only \$2.00.

The films to be shown were produced and filmed in the 1930's by William Gluesing of General Electric "House of Magic" fame. Bill was one of the early promoters of Gore Mountain skiing. The films were shown as far away as New York City to promote the early Snow Trains and skiing

in the North Creek region. According to event organizer Greg Schaefer, movie titles this year will include "Ride Up-Slide Down," "White Ecstasy," and "First Snow Train." There will be a brief introduction by Greg to show how the trails developed and where they were located in relation to the current terrain. While some of these films were shown last year, additional videos have been added to this this year's event.

All funds raised at this event, including a raffle for ski related items, will help sustain the North



Creek Depot Museum. The museum focuses on several aspects of local history including the history of the Snow Trains and the development of skiing at Gore Mountain, the original Thomas Durant "Adirondac" Railroad and its effect on the region, the story of Theodore Roosevelt's midnight ride to the Presidency, and D&H Railroad history. All are invited and refreshments will be served.

The event last year was a sell out so patrons are encouraged to get tickets ahead of time. Pre-sale tickets are available at Community Bank in North Creek. For more information please contact Greg Schaefer at 518-251-5451.

From the President:

Dear Friends;

Thanks to your generous support, we have had a remarkably successful year. Our town-wide History Weekend on September 23 and 24 proved very successful. Many organizations including the Johnsburg Historical Society, Our Town Theater Group, Tannery Pond Community Center, and the North Creek Rotary Club participated on the Saturday events. In addition, the movie filmed by Caitlin Stedman has provided us with a lasting legacy of the event, and will be an excellent introduction to the Museum to enhance the work of our fine crew of docents.

Our fundraising efforts were also successful, and I particularly want to thank Susan Murante, Pat Filkin, Susan Forrest, and Greg and Ellen Schaefer for the three major events that were organized. We raised at least \$8000 largely as a result of their efforts. This allowed us to complete several major maintenance projects on our historic buildings.

The Depot roof and basement siding were repaired as well as the ducts to the heating system. We also painted the Owens House. In addition, the County made substantial parking lot and landscape improvements to the River Front Park area, and thanks to Joel Beaudin and the North Creek Business Alliance, our Gore Mountain Gondola got a facelift with a fresh coat of paint.

One of the biggest improvements to the Museum was repair of the Railway Diorama. Clarke Dunham and his company made significant repairs including enhancements to the large number of the

historical figures and repairing the backdrops.

We plan continue our successful history weekend in 2017, and will focus on a historical reenactment including one of our most illustrious historic residents, Dr. Thomas C. Durant, founder of the Adirondac Railroad. We have successfully applied to LARAC for funding to support this effort.

Our challenges in 2017 are many. While we completed about \$13000 of repairs in 2016, we have many more repairs and updates that we would like to complete this year. Our historic buildings are still in need of repairs, and repainting, and we would like to upgrade our exhibits to make them more interactive in both the Teddy Roosevelt room and Ski History area. Our pace will be controlled by the cash on hand, so your continued generosity to the museum is greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much for your generous support.

Roger Thomas, President North Creek Railway Depot Preservation Association

THANK YOU AND CONRATULATIONS DOCENTS

Thanks to our dedicated volunteer Docents, we were able to open the Depot Museum on May 28th, and continued operation until October 10th, 2016. Our dedicated volunteers kept our museum open for a total of 83 days and welcomed almost 4000 visitors. A fantastic job was done by all! This year we added four new docents: Barbara Bianco, Marion Fuller, and Jane and Steve Hartenstein. Their contributions to the museum on many days made the difference between closing and remaining open. Thank you!

Our model train expert, Bill Bibby, was always there when needed in order to keep our sometime unpredictable train running.

To all our docents: Barbara Bianco, Bill Bibby, Dave Braley, Joe and Fran Elliott, Pat Filkins, Ray and Jacquie Flanigan, Susan Forest, Marion Fuller, Rita Gleason, Mary Goddard, Jane and Steve Hartenstein, Helen and Burt Miner, Susan Murante, Nan Sargent, Greg and Ellen Schaefer, John Sleckman, Paul Sonricker, Roger Thomas, Bob Wiedeman: without you our museum would not exist. We are lucky to have such wonderful dedicated people willing to give their time and talent to the success of our beautiful and historic museum. Thank You!

Joe (Elliot)

AN OLD-FASHIONED ADIRONDACK SOCIAL

NCRDPA Board Member and Coordinator

for Docents

The evening of August 27th, 2016 proved to be a beautiful late summer Adirondack evening at the Alpine Meadows Bed & Breakfast in Olmstedville, NY. With the sponsorship of North Creek Rotary Club, this was a successful fundraising event. A bounty of gourmet food was prepared and provided by Susan Forrest.

Special thanks go to Susan Murante and Pat Filkins who co-chaired this event and to Barry and Peggy Mix, the proprietors, for sharing their lovely home and business. True friends of the Depot Museum, they have generously offered to host this event on the 2nd week-end in September 2017. Save the Date!

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

Are you interested in local history? Do you have a few hours to spare? Do you know someone who might?

We have a great group of dedicated men and women who help us by guiding visitors through the Museum and providing them with a narrative of Teddy Roosevelt, our history as an early leader in the ski and recreation industry, and the importance of the Adirondack and D&H railroad, but we can always use more. Please consider volunteering a few hours of your time during the summer months and Fall weekends to help us out. For more information on becoming a docent, please contact Joe Elliot at: franjoee@frontiernet.net

Interested in helping us to expand our Gift Shop? Or maybe your area of expertise is in fundraising or running events. We can use your help here too. Please contact ellen.schaefer@frontier.com or (518) 251-5451 for more information on how you can help.



INAUGRAL TOWN OF JOHNSBURG HISTORY WEEKEND

AND "DINNER WITH A PRESIDENT"

The North Creek Railway Depot Preservation Association and the Town of Johnsburg Historical Association joined forces to host the first Town of Johnsburg History Weekend on September 23 – 25, 2016. The weekend included an art and photography exhibit opening at Tannery Pond Community Center that featured railroad themed watercolors by Tom Ryan and photographs by Chip Perone at the Widlund Gallery, an evening of music provided by the Morehouse Family Band, and a Teddy Bear Picnic.

After spending an entire day interacting with students at Johnsburg Central Schools, Teddy Roosevelt Reprisor Joe "TR" Weigand rode the Saratoga & North Creek Railway from Saratoga to North Creek on Saturday, September 24th, arriving at noon to a platform of period-dressed actors for the Our Town Theatre Group and local volunteers. After addressing the crowd, "Teddy" proceeded to River Front Park to an Old-Fashioned Picnic in the Park that featured quilting, spinning, and other craft demonstrations, and early 1900's games provided by the Town of Johnsburg Historical Society. Children had the opportunity to turn the crank on the hand-crank ice cream freezer and enjoy a sampling of homemade ice cream. The North Creek Rotary Club sold homemade cookies, and held a raffle for a Teddy Roosevelt Bear, and hot dogs and hamburgers were available for purchase thanks to Ande Waldron and her daughters, Alex and Hillary.

Over 120 people enjoyed a dinner of Turkey, Venison, and other favorites of "TR", including his mother's Sand Dollar cookies, at the Loghouse Restaurant at Garnet Hill Lodge. Guest enjoyed a captivating performance by Joe "TR" Weigand. A "Bag" Auction Raffle and Silent Auction added to the evening with many items donated by local businesses. This "Dinner with a President" event helped to raise much needed funds for the Depot that when to the repair of our Railroad Diorama exhibit and building updates.

We want to thank everyone who participated in any way, and especially our sponsors:

Stewarts Shops Barton Industries Saratoga & North Creek Railway Basil & Wicks

T.C. Murphy Lumber

Community Bank, NA

Joe & Fran Elliot

Greg & Ellen Schaefer

Bert & Helen Miner

Here are a few photos from the weekend.













NORTH CREEK RAILWAY DEPOT PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Become a PARTNER in local history by joining the North Creek Railway Depot Museum. Your generous donation will support the museum's dedication to education and preservation.

Name:	Enclosed annual membership gift of \$
Address:	
Phone: Home: Cell:	
Your Email Address (to save us postage):	
Please select a membership level/donation amount:	
Individual \$35 Family \$50 Benefactor \$1	00 Corporate \$300(and above)
Please make checks payable to NCRDPA and mail to:	
North Creek Railway Depot Preservation Association PO Box 156 North Creek, NY 12853	
Visit us online at: www.northcreekdepotmuseum.com or contact us at: Info@northcreekdepotmuseum.com We Thank You!	

North Creek Railway Depot Preservation Association

North Creek Depot Museum PO Box 1565 Railway Place North Creek, NY 12853