RAILWAY VILLAGE MUSEUM

BOOTHBAY — EST. 1964

save the dates

IRON HORSE
ANTIQUES + GENERAL STORE

GRAND OPENING WEEKEND
May 29+30

MUSEUM SEASON OPENING
June 20

BOOTHBAY RAILWAY VILLAGE MUSEUM — EST. 1964 —

CARS & COFFEE
LAST SUNDAY EVERY MONTH MAY-SEP

FATHER'S DAY TRAIN
JUNE 20

OLDE VILLAGE DAYS + MAINE 200+1 EXHIBIT OPENING
JULY 3 + 4

ANTIQUE AUTO DAY + SOCK HOP
JULY 17

Visit RAILWAYVILLAGE.ORG for complete calendar of events

All Aboard!

The Train is Finally Leaving The Station

by Lori Reynolds

2020 was a wild ride.

But now it's time to step off the roller coaster and onto a leisurely train ride, for a peek at Maine and the way life used to be!

We have so many exciting announcements, it's difficult to know where to begin.

In our last Village Voice edition we shared an impressive list of museum enhancements accomplished by our hard working team. We are pleased to report that positive momentum has continued to pick up speed, and thanks to several generous community members, our project completion list has surpassed our greatest expectations. (full story p.2)

Meanwhile, our creative team completed a daunting rebrand project that has been in the works since 2019. The decision for the 'new look' was not made lightly, and we are so thrilled to debut our new brand and share the story of how it came to life (full story p.4).

Our development team focused on the New Iron Horse Antiques + General Store, and built an amazing family of antiquarians, artists and makers, to create a sensational treasure hunting experience for every type of shopper (full story p.4).

Our event team developed a collection of community gatherings that check off all the necessary boxes: **Safe yet Social. FUN, Festive + Free Range... and of course, the celebration of Maine's 201st Birthday!**

Our Preservation team developed a new App for visitors to enjoy a self guided tour from their own phone.

And that's just a sampling of what we have on track for you this season. So get ready for the best year yet at the Boothbay Railway Village Museum!

What's NEW In the World of OLD? And Who's Making History Doing it?

Without community involvement, the museum simply wouldn't exist. Our community has been 'making history' at the village for more than half a century. This colorful history began 57 years ago when George McEvoy purchased a 15- acre parcel of land to serve as the forever home for the train station that was closing in Freeport, Maine. When George learned the station was being sold, his passion for railroad memorabilia inspired him to place a bid on it. And the rest, as they say, is history. The remarkable events that transpired thereafter; to dismantle the building into 9 pieces and move it 39 miles north, literally took a village. And so it went, for the next 5 decades. As the museum grew, community involvement grew, making the museum what it is today.

To learn more about this fascinating piece of Maine history, visit our new website at RailwayVillage.org Or better yet, visit the museum this season!

Freeport Station was one of the newest in the state when it was constructed in 1912. During its heyday, the station managed outgoing and incoming passengers and freight coming and going from New England, national and global locales.

photo courtesy of L.L. Bean, circa 1950's

Our Most Recent History Makers

Gary Arsenault, owner and operator of Northern Lights Electric Inc. was instrumental in the execution and completion of the underground electric project.

Longtime friends and museum supporters, **NA Reny Construction** provided the excavation for our underground electric project, and the resurfacing of our parking lots.

Thanks to George McEvoy, Maine's Merci Car (a gift from the people of France), has a new roof to protect and preserve her forever more.

We LOVE Farm 23! And not just because they make amazingly delicious, hand crafted deserts! We also love their community spirit and generosity! Their secret ingredient? LOVE

FUN FACT The removal of the unsightly overhead wires will enhance the nostalgic museum views, like this beautiful train station clock that is due to arrive onsite any day now!

Sam Patterson & Sons donated the repair of our parking lot aprons, so you can enjoy a smooth ride into the Village this season!

Daylily Hybridist, Don Cellar of Boothbay Harbor donated his time and energy to plant 1,500 daylilies below the Freeport curve, and around the pond.

Bob Crink, our resident photographer plays an integral role in preserving the museum's history by capturing hundreds of memorable moments each year. Bob's shots are often seen in this newsletter and on our website.

THE VILLAGE PEOPLE

Opening season on the coast of Maine is much like Santa and his elves preparing for Christmas...

So much to do and not nearly enough time to do it! The Village 'elves' have been scurrying about in every direction, determined to place the final touches on the mountain of projects tackled over the past year and a half. The team may be small in number, but certainly not in accomplishments.

We don't want to spoil all of the surprises before you get here, but we will give you a few hints just for fun.

NEW This Season! Hobby Repair Shop at the Model Railroad Exhibit

Exciting news for our model railroad enthusiasts! Not only can you now have your locomotives diagnosed and repaired by our experts, but you might even find some hard to locate items in our stock.

Model Railroad Experts Tony Lippincott and Lorna Durfee have been spending their time following their passion for history and model railroading at the Railway Village Museum since 2014. If you've been to the Spinney Model Railroad Building in recent years, you've most likely been warmly greeted by Tony and Lorna. These seasonal attendants live, eat and breath model railroading! They can be found generously volunteering their time making upgrades, building our annual Northern Lights Exhibit for LL Bean, or preparing for the opening of our Hobby Repair shop! The shop will be open by appointment only.

JOIN OUR PASSIONATE TEAM!

Current Employment Opportunities:

BUILDING & GROUNDS ASSISTANT
BUSINESS MANAGER

For complete job description visit our facebook page or contact Steve at Steve@RailwayVillage.org

We wish to thank Donna Brewer for her hard work and dedication. We wish her well in her new endeavors.

The Next Generation of Historians

Delly Clarkson of Edgecomb has been working diligently as the Railway Village's first curation intern. For the past four months she has researched and cataloged over 150 artifacts from the museum's Toy Shop collection. Delly has also assisted our curator with various other tasks in preparation for our highly anticipated 2021 season. We have thoroughly enjoyed her time with us, and are incredibly grateful for her hard work and positive attitude!

If you are a high school junior or senior, or college student interested in museum studies, curation, or historic archaeology, contact our Director of Curation, Dr. Whitney Lytle, to discuss next semester's internship program.

Get hands on experience while helping the museum reach its long term growth goals!

The Vision of the Boothbay Railway Village is to utilize its unique village setting to engage adults and children in hands-on activities designed to create a better understanding of Maine village life throughout the period. We aspire to transform the way we view and relate to Maine's rural past through interactive visitation, educational opportunism, and a variety of dynamic programs to enrich our daily lives.

THE STORY BEHIND THE REBRAND

'We had no idea!' If we had to choose the most common visitor phrase, this would be among the top five.

The fact is, most people (including locals), have NO idea what happens beyond the railroad tracks until they've visited. 'We thought it was just a train ride'. Is another common phrase.

So we knew it was time to find a new way to tell our story. That was the easy part. The big challenge was HOW? How do we rebrand in a way that honors our past, yet moves us forward?

We began with a color palette, and chose the primary colors of the museum buildings; historic reds and greens. From there, we examined the name. Although we did not want to change the name, we felt it was important to include what we are: A Museum. We then dissected each element within the museum. And there we faced the biggest challenge of all. How do we successfully tell such a big story in a tiny little nutshell? In the end, it came down to all of you. What did our visitors tell us were the biggest mysteries? The Antique Auto Museum and the extensive replica of a Maine Village. So we set out to create an abbreviated scene of the story behind the tracks.
From there, we created our 'sub brands.' Iron Horse was actually the original name of the store when George McEvoy opened it a half century ago. The 2 represents the 2nd Iron Horse store, as well as the '2' on our Steam Train*.

*Wikipedia: "Iron horse" is an iconic literary term (currently transitioning into an archaic reference) for a steam locomotive, originating in the early 1800s when horses still powered most machinery, excepting windmills and stationary steam engines.

A fun fact about the Wedding logo. The beautiful vintage flower was inspired by the fabric on the pews in the Spruce Point Chapel. Be sure to take note next time you visit the chapel.

We wish to extend a very special thank you to our brand leader and expert, Mali Welch of All Over It, in Portland, and our Web designers, Reach Maine. It was hard work but we couldn't be more thrilled with the results. And thanks to the talented team at Carrot Signs of Wiscasset, you will soon see our new brand LARGER THAN LIFE, every time you pass by the Boothbay Railway Village Museum!

IRON HORSE 2 ANTIQUES + GENERAL STORE

Grand Opening May 29 & 30

We couldn't be more excited for the Grand Opening of the new Iron Horse Antiques and General Store on Memorial Day Weekend, **Saturday and Sunday from 10a-5p.**

Our thirteen vendors have been very busy getting ready for opening day, and their spaces look sensational! Shoppers will enjoy a creative atmosphere filled with heirlooms, collectibles, hand mades and art. You can learn more about our consigners by visiting our new website at RailwayVillage.org

The store will also feature Antique Appraisal events on the 4th Thursday of each month, beginning in June. Bring your items in, and our resident appraiser Richard Plunkett will appraise them for you. (S5 per item or 3 for S10!) 100% of proceeds will benefit the museum.

Another spectacular reason to shop local and support Maine businesses!

One of our Featured Virtual Tours: Maine 200+1 Bicentennial Exhibit a collaboration between the Railway Village Museum and other local historic institutions including museums and historical societies. The exhibit features artifacts from the Railway Village collection, as well as those on loan from our partners, representing individuals and families who contributed to the fabric of our state's past 200 years.
The Bicentennial exhibit runs from Jul 3-Aug 1.

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