

The VILLAGE VOICE

Old Stories ~ New Beginnings



So Much More Than A Train Ride



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Where history moves you.

Cover photos courtesy of Bob Crink

REBUILDING IN 2020

by Lori Reynolds

For the first time in 56 years the Railway Village kicked off the summer season without a train whistle. Yet another sign of our *new normal*.

'But sometimes the challenges we face are the very things that make us stronger and allow us to grow' BRV Executive Director Steve Markowitz wisely reflected in his announcement of the closure last month.

Of course, it goes without saying that the *old normal* is dearly missed, especially now, with the nostalgia of *Summer on the Coast of Maine* upon us. But we are indeed growing stronger in the face of the unimaginable, and discovering things about ourselves, and one another, that we may not have otherwise discovered.

We are discovering that we are incredibly resilient and can rise to any challenge. And that life *will* go on, no matter how much it changes. We are taking time to reflect on what is truly important in life. We are reconnecting with our homes and our families, and searching for ways we can help our neighbors in need.

In many ways, we are taking a step back in time, to a simpler and more meaningful way of life. Much like the way we feel when we visit the Village, and wander through the old buildings of yesteryear.

(Rebuilding cont'd on page 2)



WHAT'S NEW IN THE WORLD OF OLD ?

It was an exciting day at The Village when this beauty arrived to her forever home earlier this month!

The 1923 Buick Roadster came all the way from East Patchogue, Long Island, generously donated by Mrs. Lois Stewart.

Lois visited the museum last August and felt it was the perfect place for their Roadster to call home! Sadly, Lois passed away earlier this year and her family wanted to honor her wish to have the car donated to the Village.

We are incredibly grateful to Lois and her family for their generous donation.

The 1923 Buick Roadster and The Stewart family are now members of the elite club:

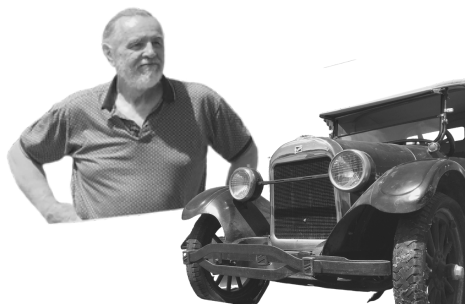
Who's Making History at the Village. (see story on page 3)

PRESERVING OUR PAST

Do you have a piece of the past that you would like preserved and displayed as part of Maine's history? If so, the Boothbay Railway Village is a wonderful place to call home.



Board members Ted Foss and Nat Wilson pictured above. Ted was instrumental in arranging the exchange and shipment of the newest member of our family!



Auto Museum Attendant, Larry Burrige was Lois's first contact at the Village last summer. His warm personality and passion for antique autos were among the reasons she knew the Roadster belonged here.

REBUILDING IN 2020

(cont'd from page 1)

But it is also a time that can feel lonely, with our ability to connect as a community so greatly compromised.

So the BRV team decided it was the perfect time to introduce *The Village Voice* series. Since you can't come to us, we will come to you with the Happy Days of the past. We hope you will enjoy the Old Stories and New Beginnings within the pages of *The Village Voice*.

We are all rebuilding in our own way, and together we are going to build a stronger and brighter future.

As for the Village, we're rebuilding *with a twist*. We are polishing up the things you already love (not too much polish, we promise) and we are introducing new things for you to fall in love with. Things like Campfires, Cocktails and Concerts on the Green, Maine 200 (and 1) celebrations, and an awesome new store. Just to name a few.... you will have to wait until Spring of 2021 to see them all for yourself!

Things to look forward to...

Until then, Wishing you Peace, LOVE and endless good ole fashioned, summertime fun!

The BRV Team

VINTAGE EVENTS

Looking for the perfect spot to host your special event?

Whether it's an intimate gathering or a larger event with need for social distancing; the Village has it ALL, with a charming, vintage flare!

We are still open for private events. FMI contact

RailwayVillageEvents@gmail.com

THE VILLAGE PEOPLE

It Takes A Village of devoted, passionate and talented people to build {and re-build} an antique village.

With a never ending Fix-It list and constant TLC needed, passion is an actual job requirement to be one of the *Village People*. And there is certainly no shortage of that on the BRV team.

So, in case you were wondering what goes on at the Village when a pandemic forces us to STOP in our tracks, we wanted to assure you that we are operating at full speed ahead!

In fact, since the 2020 season is the first in 56 years to close its doors to the public, this small crew is busier than ever, with more than FIVE decades of maintenance to tackle!

Dave, Josh and Karen have been on the ground, in the air, and everywhere in between since early spring. Replacing roofs, painting buildings, grading roads, repairing drainage, landscaping, fixing machinery... the list is far too long for print, but we invite you to follow their progress on the BRV facebook page and cheer on our dedicated crew with comments and likes!

We also wish to thank Maureen Stormont for 32 years of dedication to the Village! Maureen will be enjoying her retirement in Florida to be closer to her family. We will miss her and wish her the very best.

And we are excited to welcome Donna Brewer who has joined the team as our Business Manager. She is already a great asset to the Village and we are thrilled to have her on board!



Josh Dave



Dave



Karen



Maureen



Donna

WHO'S MAKING HISTORY

The history of the Village is made of countless special individuals. Without their generosity the Village simply would not exist.

Among them is Ken Schaller, a long time volunteer, Conductor and now, donor.

Sadly, Ken passed away last year, and per his wishes, his HO scale model railroad was donated to the museum. Ken spent many hours working on this layout and we are honored and humbled to have it as part of our collection! Ken's memory will forever live on as part of the Village history.



Another generous and super fun donation was this Coca Cola Parade Car, donated by Elaine Stevenson of East Boothbay! Be sure to look for us whenever we are allowed to have parades again! We will give it a paint job and plenty of TLC!

As you can see, it is already getting plenty of love! It fits you perfectly, Dave!



SHARING THE LOVE

The Village is a very special place and we want to share the love as much as we can.

We are pleased to welcome our fellow NPO's at the Town Hall...

Rotary meeting: Aug 13th

**American Red Cross Blood Drive:
Sep 1 | 1pm-6pm**

Rotary meeting: Sep 17th

ADOPT A PROJECT PROGRAM



2020 kicked off with great promise and anticipation for the BRV team. In addition to a jam packed events calendar, we were excited to debut a new store (see **On The Horizon**), and several workshops and programs, to include the *Adopt A Project* Program.

Then came COVID, and the train of excitement came to a screeching halt. But we are back on track and the *Adopt A Project* program is up and running, even while we are closed.

The {AAP} program is much like it sounds... choose a project and make it your own, from start to finish. Many of the projects require a specific skill set, ranging from carpentry and mechanical, to landscaping and artistry. Qualified volunteers can either supply their own team, or request a team to work under their direction. An alternative option is for an individual or a group to adopt a project to fund, and the BRV team will lead the project to completion. This rewarding program offers volunteers an opportunity to give back, while doing something they love.

The program is not a new concept at the Village, in fact, it has been in motion for many years. Our inspiration to expand on it came from a generous man named Fred Fahlsing. Fred adopted the complete restoration of the Bridgton & Saco River Coach 11 (the only surviving baggage/RPO coach from the iconic Maine Two Footers) back in 2012, and is still at it today! Fred has donated countless hours and infinite passion to the restoration and plays a key role in preserving Maine's history.

A historic timeline of Fred's restoration is in the works and will be available on the BRV blog later this summer.

A list of projects available for adoption can be found at RailwayVillage.org



ON THE HORIZON

...In our new world of uncertainty, one thing is for certain: the sun will meet the horizon each day. Which means we still have reason to hope, dream, plan and build our futures. Here are a few exciting things we have on the horizon...

53RD ANNUAL

FALL OCTOBER 10 & 11, 2020
FOLIAGE
FESTIVAL

BOOTHBAY RAILWAY VILLAGE

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
ARTISANS · VINTAGE · MAKERS

Good News Kiddos!

COVID or Not...

Santa WILL Be

Coming To Town!



CONSIGNERS WANTED

IRON HORSE
& ANTIQUES
VILLAGE SHOPS

BOOTHBAY RAILWAY VILLAGE

ANTIQUES · VINTAGE · ARTISANS · MAKERS

Space Limited, Reserve Now

GRAND OPENING SPRING 2021

Event Contact Info:

RailwayVillageEvents@gmail.com

or Call Lori at 207-671-7676