

We've Come A Long Way!

A review in pictures



The December 2016 "Unloading Event" — After 64 years of hibernation - finally free!

The Carousel of Smiles project was launched in Sandpoint with our two big events:

The Unloading Event, where the public participated in unloading this carousel from its' trailers for the first time in 64 years (the carousel was last operated and then abandoned in 1952); and *The Unveiling Event*, where over 1,000 people came by to see the assembled (unrestored) carousel at the fairgrounds on a December weekend in 2017.



Curtain Draw at the 2017 "Unveiling Event"



A picture worth a thousand words!!!

2 yr old Monroe Curry claps for the unveiled carousel

Photo Credit - Mary Malone, Boner County Daily Bee.

To revisit either of these events, Check Out their videos on our website or our Youtube Channel —

Ponies & Paintings - On Parade

The Dec 2018 Exhibit at 113 Main

To celebrate the initial work of our pony restorationists and painters, and the work of the first group of artists participating in the *Art Panel Project*, we held a weekend reception at a newly renovated space - 113 Main. It was great to see some of the ponies "back in paint", and the talent of our participating artists!



The Ponies are back in Town!



We have moved the workshop/studio into town, to the "Cedar Street Station" building on 5th & Cedar (better known as the Misty Mountain Building (502 Cedar street, suite A).

When people are working, the doors are open so stop in and see what we are doing. You can also always e-mail us to set up a specific time for a visit -

inbox@thecarouselofsmiles.org



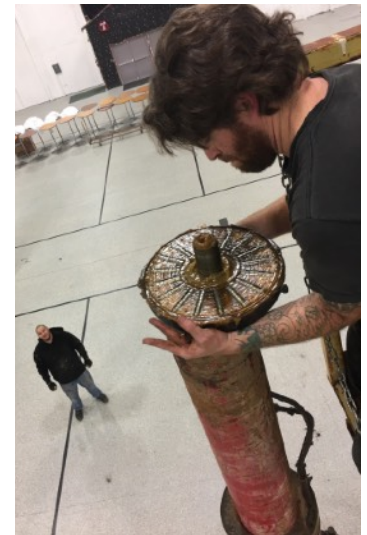


Restoration & Our Volunteers

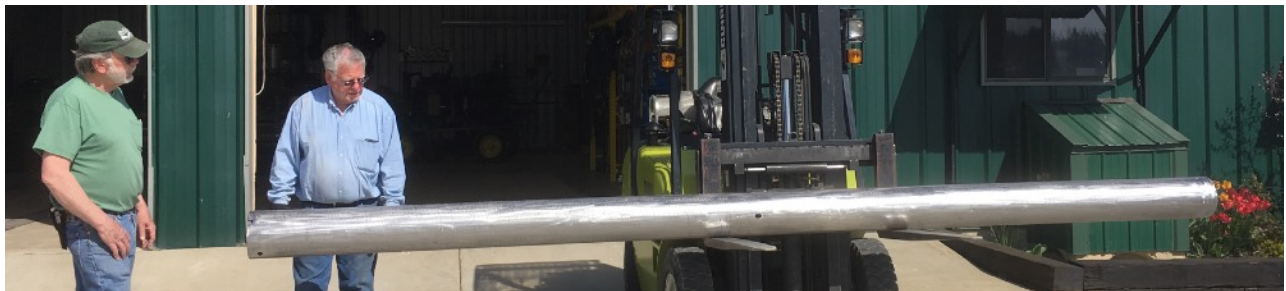
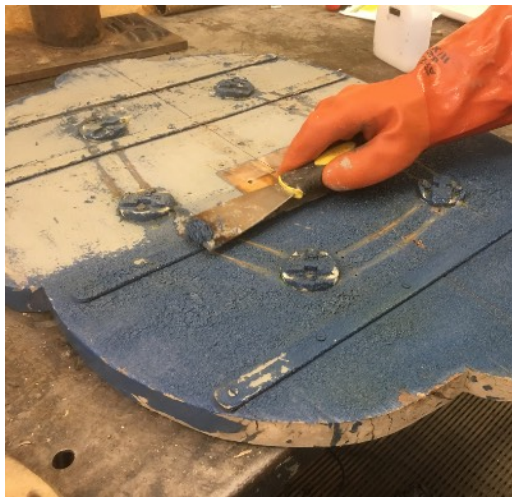
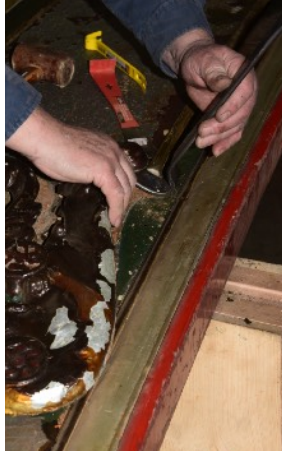
Collaborative Participation in
(acknowledged to be)

Idaho's Largest Public Art Project

The Gear & Grease Gang the first group of volunteers that was assembled to tackle restoration of the Carousel. Mechanically minded, this group prepped and checked the components of the carousel prior to its assembly for the first time in 65 years, in December 2017.



The Gang continues to grow, adding woodworkers and painters, and assistance from a slew of local businesses as we commence a “bottom to top and top to bottom” restoration of the mechanism and frame - piece by piece. More gang members to be added this Fall, stay tuned.



The Center Pole - refurbished by three businesses on Triangle Drive - *Full Circle* did the sandblasting, *Selkirk Power* some refurbishment, and *Northwest Autobody* the painting. Thanks to All!!!

Two ponies welcome back the Center Pole

The Ponies — Wood Restoration

The Godfather Squad is the group handling the fundamentally important wood restoration of the ponies, the largest time consuming aspect of the entire Carousel restoration effort. All 36 of the wooden horses need full wood restoration prior to regaining their life and character with paint, and the heads needs to be removed as part of this process.

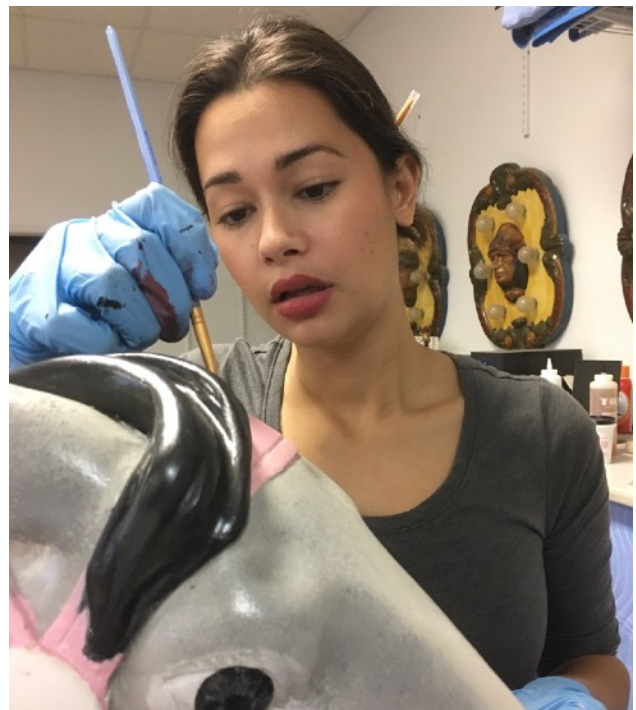
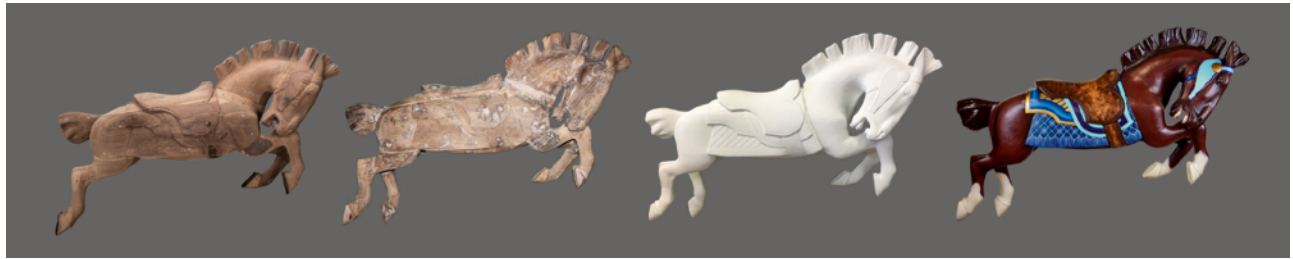
This growing group is comprised of sculptors, wood workers and general enthusiasts, all of whom are willing to be “trained” in the proper techniques to restore these 100 year old works of art.



The Ponies — Pony Painting

The primary attraction on every carousel is naturally the painted horses. We have 36 of them, and all 12 outside row horses are jeweled (rare for a traveling carousel).

Painters of the Lost Art is the group of enthusiastic volunteer artists tackling this aspect. Workshops in pony painting techniques (specific to working carousels) were conducted last Fall by Bette Largent (curator of Spokane's 1908 Looft Carousel and an authority on Historic Carousels and Pony Painting) along with her protege, Sue Baldwin from Republic Washington. Another round of workshops will be held this Fall, as we paint another 6 ponies and involve more of the 50 volunteers that have volunteered to help with this aspect of the project.



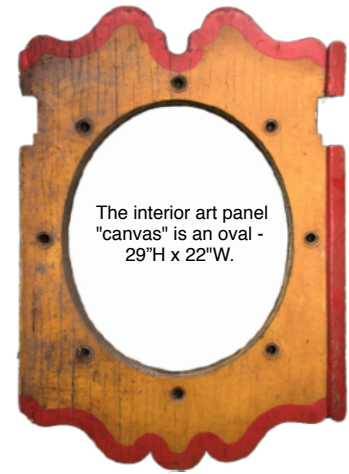


The Art Panel Program - Phase 1: The Interior Art Panels

New paintings, both on the interior art panels and the rounding boards, will adorn *The Carousel of Smiles*, with themes reflective of its home in N. Idaho. *The Art Panel Program* is the opportunity for local and regional artists to showcase their talent and create a unique art piece for the Carousel. Launched in October 2018, reception to this idea was tremendous, with art submitted in a variety of mediums.

This program remains open for artists wishing to participate: submissions for the interior art panels should be a canvas, size should be 24" w-x-30" h. The replicated wooden frame will allow the paintings to be easily removable, thus *The Carousel of Smiles* will literally have a revolving exhibition space.

No other carousel project has taken such a broad inclusive approach for creating its artwork; for artists, this is perhaps the most exciting aspect of the entire *The Carousel of Smiles* project.





Just a few examples of the submitted Art Panel Paintings (one of these is a quilt). More submissions welcome - 24"x30"

Location - Location - Location

In August of 2016, we learned the City was going to undertake a master plan for the City Beach, and part of that vision was the desire of city officials to develop year round activity for this underutilized “Gem of Sandpoint”.

“In the wintertime, here we have this gem that sits right out of our downtown core, which has the ability to support business drawn tourists and be a huge resource year-round.”

J. Stapleton - Bonner County Daily Bee, September 17, 2016.

The Carousel of Smiles can be the catalyst to achieve these goals.

Carousel projects around the country have demonstrated benefit to their adoptive communities, both in the quality of life and in bringing together various aspects to enhance and positively impact economic development. A Carousel educates, entertains, and supports its community.

In order for a carousel to achieve these goals it must be designed to do so, have a consensus of support and be placed in the right location. The City Beach is the ideal location for this historic Carousel to best benefit the community of Sandpoint, Bonner County and N. Idaho.

The Carousel of Smiles project is structured to achieve its restoration, and the creation of its facility, as a true “private/public partnership”: we are not expecting to use any tax revenue to achieve success with this project.

Now is the first opportunity to express to the City Administration support for *The Carousel of Smiles* and its location at the City Beach. Please participate in the Public Survey that is part of Sandpoint’s City Parks and Recreation Master Plan. There are multiple questions that give you the opportunity to express thoughts and support.

This is an important step in the process that will determine the location for the new home for *The Carousel of Smiles*.

Follow the link to take the survey. [CLICK HERE](#)



Existing Building



Conceptual Rendering for Illustration Only

The Artwork for Fundraising Program



3 of the 6 ponies in Gabe Gabel's *Mini Herd*

The *Artwork for Fundraising* program was also launched during the Unveiling weekend.

The first pieces of original art in this program were on exhibit and available for purchase.

Gabe Gabel's bronze *Mini Herd* (6 original bronze horses based on selected actual ponies from the carousel).

The limited edition & signed print of Valeria Yost's original painting — *Chasing a Dream*.

Details on these beautiful art pieces, generously donated to the cause by the artists, can be found on the website, along with info on how to purchase them in support of the carousel's restoration efforts.

(or just drop us an e-mail)
inbox@thecarouselofsmiles.org



11" X 14" Limited Edition Print by Valeria Yost

Business Friends of the Carousel

A newly created part of our sponsorship program is *The Business Friends of the Carousel*. Many local businesses are helping with this project, either with needed and useful "in kind services" or with an outright donation. As a way to recognize these "business sponsorships", our webmaster has created a scrolling and linkable logo banner on our website home page. Check it out, and support our supporters!



If interested in participating, fire us an e-mail: inbox@thecarouselofsmiles.org.

“From The Horse’s Mouth”

Our Radio Show update
is still going.

As part of *North Idaho Thursday with Bob Witte*, we broadcast our 10-15 minute monthly segment on the last Thursday of every month at 12:15 pm +/-.

Reno provides updates and interesting tidbits about project specifics and other carousels in general. Tune in to hear it —
from the horse’s mouth...



Winter Carnival Parade 2019

The Carousel of Smiles participated in the Chamber Sponsored Winter Carnival Parade.

We put Stormy in a snow globe - a really cool effect - and won “Best In Theme” for our float.

In a couple of years, maybe Winter Carnival will once again have events at the City Beach...

Keep in touch
the journey continues...

