

### The Unloading Event

Last December's unloading event was truly remarkable, with about two hundred people attending. To find that we do have all of the pieces, in remarkably good condition after 64 years in storage, was extraordinary. To our great surprise and delight, we have two elaborately carved chariots, and our ponies have intricate details not usually found on traveling carousels. To revisit the event, Scott Rulander's *"The Unloading Event"* video is linked from our homepage.

A newsletter "inventory issue" will follow later this year.





## The Journey Continues

The ponies have moved (along with everything else).



In March, we moved the entire carousel to climate controlled workshop space (first time in 64 years). SPECIAL THANKS to Sandpoint Movers for moving the ponies!

The Granary warehouse is a great location and it served us well: SPECIAL THANKS to Steve Holt and the *Eureka Institute* for accommodating us.

(We plan to be back there for some events over Labor Day weekend — stay tuned).



Scott Rulander, (Gem Vision Productions) created another great video, "*The Journey Continues*". He utilized some very cool drone shots of the herd and other parts of the carousel in the warehouse, and finished it off with the ponies lined up 2x2 marching off into the moving truck.

Check it out - it's linked from our home page.



## Ponies on Parade

We joined Sandpoint's 4th of July parade (ably put on by the Lion's Club) with a 5 horse float. Lots of fun, and the fireworks display that evening was spectacular!





## Bette Largent

For those attendees at the unloading event last December, you had a chance to hear Bette speak and see her passion for carousels firsthand. Bette has been the curator and master restorer of Spokane's Looft Carousel since 1991, and a board member & president of the National Carousel Association since 1998.

For decades, Bette has part of the core group responsible for saving carousels and their heritage around the country. Without their work, and of organizations like *The National Carousel Association*, far fewer of these great *Golden Age* machines would be operating today, and only about about 152 of them remain from the 3,000+ made.



With great delight, we are pleased to announce that Bette has joined our executive board. Her experience, knowledge, and passion for carousels will be invaluable. We are so fortunate!!!

## Merry-Go-Round Magazine

The official publication of the National Carousel Association



Our story has now gone national, as the cover article in the just released issue of NCA's publication is about *The Carousel of Smiles*. The magazine editor, Daniel Robinson, discovered another serendipitous fact: we knew our carousel last operated in Hutchinson KS in 1952; it turns out that Hutchinson is the county seat of *RENO County, KS*. Go figure...

The NCA is a great organization, dedicated to the "conservation, appreciation, knowledge, and enjoyment of the art of the classic wooden carousel, and especially the preservation of complete wooden carousels".

For those of you whom have caught "the carousel bug"; consider joining the NCA. You will receive all 4 issues of this year's Merry-Go-Round magazine, including this current issue.

(<http://carousels.org/carousel-membership.html>)



## Garden of Artistry

July 21 - 23, 2017

This is an Invitational Fine Art Show (admission is free) with some of the region's finest artists. The Carousel of Smiles will be Hosting the opening reception on Friday July 21, 6-8pm.

We will also have a booth there for the weekend, showcasing some ponies and other parts of the carousel, and discussing the project with specifics on how artists can get involved in the carousel project, such as the "Art Panel Project".

During the event, we will also be debuting and showcasing a set of 6 separate limited edition bronze carousel horses that were created by bronze artist, Gabe Gabel, using our horses as the models. They are truly exceptional, and Gabe has donated her work to support the project.

Come Join us, it will be a great event!



## Restoration



"Capt'n Jack" will be on display at the Garden of Artistry.

We've been documenting all of the parts, and working on the restoration plan: it is coming along nicely. Over the winter, Dan Mimmack worked on one of the horses. True to his words in the "Unloading Event" video ("I see lots & lots of work, but with passion..."), he spent 50+ hrs getting "Capt'n Jack" through initial restoration.



MANY THANKS to Capt'n Dan, who is back this summer touring with his pirate ship, and delighting kids all over the Northwest.



## The Ponies — Out & About

We have a showcase spot on the Cedar Street Bridge.



MANY THANKS to Cindy Bond for allowing us the use of the space. The Bridge is truly alive and prospering with great shops and eateries, — well worth stopping in!

Additional thanks go to Shery Meekings of *Creations*, and to Dan Mimmack, for being the driving force for this exhibit.

Along with a couple of ponies and art panels is Dan's working model carousel. It is a fun part of our exhibit.



A couple of ponies are also on display at Bizarre Bizarre. Part of the CAL operation, BB has such quality items, it's impossible to consider this a "thrift store". CAL does great work, and we appreciate the opportunity for some additional exposure for the carousel, and to be associated with this great organization.

## 501(c)(3) Update

The Idaho not for profit was formed last December (The Carousel of Smiles, Ltd.) and all of the paperwork has been filed with the IRS for the federal classification. It is expected any week.

## The "Unveiling Event"

Though not locked in yet, we are working on the idea of fully assembling the carousel (in it's current unrestored state) and having an "unveiling". The event would be over Labor Day weekend, with the assembly taking place during the week before. We will want some volunteers to help with this (inaugural activity of the "*Gear & Grease Brigade*"!). More on this to follow.

Keep in touch,  
the journey continues...

