

ON THE LAZY BENCH

Penn Brad Oil Museum strives to preserve the history of the Bradford Oil Field and the unique culture that developed along with it. It also honors the people and their families whose lives contributed to making Bradford the "Highgrade Oil Metropolis of the World."

A Quarterly Newsletter

Vol. 1 - No. 1 - Fall 2015

Oil In Bradford

1871 saw the first producing well in Bradford ...

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**Memorials**

See a list of current memorial and honorarium gifts. A coupon is available to send your own honorarium or memorial gift.

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Fry Gas Pump

A Fry "Visible Gas Pump" has recently



found a home at Penn Brad Oil Museum.

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Remembering
Gary W. Silsby

Page 3

Warming Up!

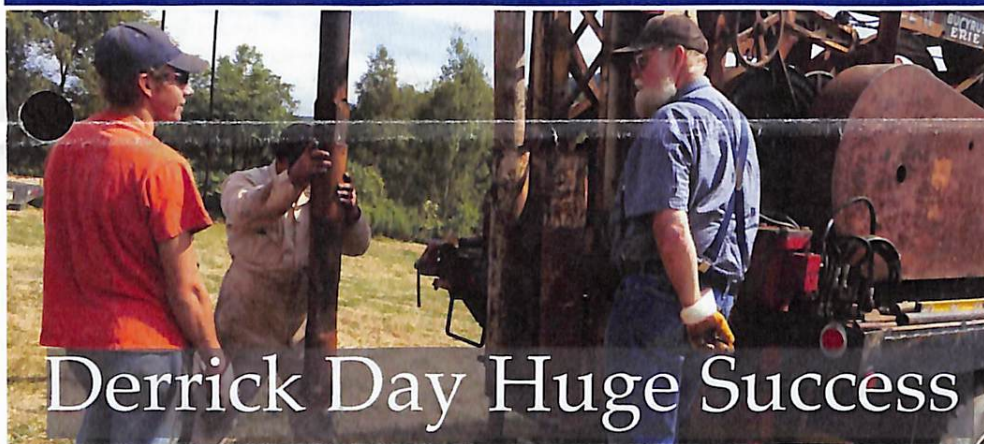
A new heating system was installed at Penn Brad Oil Museum.

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**Annual Membership Drive...**

Coming soon to a mailbox near you.

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Derrick Day Huge Success

Jordon Roeder, George Silsby and Paul Phillips, prepare the rig for the demonstration for Derrick Day.

Visitors were greeted by enthusiastic golf cart chauffeurs escorting them to the fun-filled events of the 2015 Derrick Day Festival.

With a much greater than expected turnout, the pathways of the museum were lined with visitors viewing the many unique oilfield engines, exploring the vendors craft displays and visiting the "food truck" for a snack.

At the helm of the Derrick Day Committee was Harvey Golubock who, along with board members Tom Miller and Paul Phillips, provided leadership in planning the event. The entire festival was given an enthusiastic boost by

Amber Price-Cline who offered her expertise in securing vendors, arranging the venue and providing a festive touch to the entire day.

Golf carts, generously provided by Penn Hills Club, gave our guests a welcome ride from the parking areas to the museum. Direction signs were provided by museum board treasurer Joyce Cline.

Volunteers from the PYOGA Desk and Derrick Club, the Landmark Society and friends of the museum helped staff the event.

Among the many displays and demonstrations, Paul Phillips and the staff of Phillips and Dart Oilfield

Services, Inc. operated a Bucyrus Erie 22 drilling rig.

Tom Miller, museum board president demonstrated a Clark Bobcat Engine, made in Olean, NY. There were many other engines as well.

Our visitors had a great time and we all are looking forward to another, even better, Derrick Day Festival 2016. Our date for next year's festival will be Saturday, August 13, 2016 so mark your calendars and plan to be with us.

PENN BRAD OIL MUSEUM

email: pennbradmuseum@icloud.com

facebook: [penn brad oil museum](https://www.facebook.com/pennbrad.oil.museum)

901 South Avenue • Bradford, PA 16701

Phone: 814-362-1955

Open annually from
April 1 to November 1:

Monday to Friday

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Saturday

9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Admission Cost:

Adults - \$5.00

Seniors. - \$4.50

Children - Free



Discovery of Oil In Bradford

Research-Susan Gibson Perry

Oil was discovered in the vicinity of Bradford in 1861. November, 1871 saw the first producing oil well in the Bradford field brought in on the Hinchey farm near the cross roads at Foster Brook.

FIRST WELL . . . 1871

A depth of 1110 feet was needed to bring in the first producing well. This was four times the depth originally required in the Venango field.

James E. Butts, C. H. Foster, and Job Moses, who formed the Foster Oil Company, brought in the first oil well.



The old Moses well derrick and the spring pole, used earlier, were reproduced in 1909 for Old Home Week festivities in Bradford.

GROUNDWORK . . . THE 1860'S

Drilling began in the Bradford district in the early 60's with the primitive spring pole method. The Barnsdall well on the Whitney farm near Bradford, first abandoned at 200 feet, was deepened in 1865-66 to 875 feet by a group of Bradford citizens. Soon afterward a well was drilled to 900 feet on the Sheppard farm near the site of Custer City. Job Moses drilled several shallow wells near Limestone, NY. It took time to find the depth of the oil sands as well as the location.

OIL, HELL OR CHINA

The failures of the 60's and the repeated evidences of oil spurred Butts and his associates in 1871 to the determination to find a productive sand by drilling deeper than anyone had ever drilled before.

The Bradford field was the only large field developed during the first 30 years of the oil industry.

The main Bradford oil pool underlies 85,000 acres of land in McKean County, PA and Cattaraugus County in NY. Smaller Detached pools totaling 8,500 acres lie around the eastern and southern margins of the main pool.



Job Moses

70 BARRELS . . . 1874

A 70-barrel well aroused Bradford to oil consciousness in 1874. This well was drilled by Butts and Foster 2.5 miles northeast of Bradford on the Buchanan farm in Buchanan Hollow.

Memorial & Honoring Gifts

In Memory Of:

Edgar Newman Bill & Joyce Cline
American Refining Co.
Susan Perry
Francis McCoy Bill & Joyce Cline
Susan Sinclair Bill & Joyce Cline
Susan Perry
Gary Silsby Zippo Manufacturing Co.
Samaritan Regional Health System
Susan Perry

Given By:

In Honor Of:

Willard "Bill" Cline Eugene & Gloria Lattin
Gene & Helen DeFrank
Michael Robertson
Jason & Lisa Spain
Nancy & Ronald Reynolds
John Bulmer
Paul & Betsy Aiello
Chip & Judy Saf
Mila K. Howard
Harrijane Hannon Moore
Janice & Rolf Daeaschner
Frederick Fesenmyer
David & Carol McDougall
Deborah Cline
Michael & Jeanne Coyne
Leland Swanson
Susan Cline-White & Paul Korthas
Sundahl and Co.
Mary Jo & Ed Szweczyk
Bruce Galati
Robert Esch
Ralph & Judy Rose
Penn Brad Oil Museum Board of Directors

Given By:

Remember or Honor a Loved One with a Gift to the Penn Brad Oil Museum

Memorials received after Oct. 15 will appear in the next newsletter.

Memorials are available by calling 814-368-6824, or by mail to: Penn Brad Oil Museum, P.O. Box 163, Bradford, PA 16701. A notice from the Museum will be sent to the recipient.

Penn Brad Oil Museum is a 501 (c)(3) entity and all donations are tax deductible.



Clip and Mail Coupon to Address Above

(PLEASE CHOOSE IN MEMORY OF OR IN HONOR OF)

MEMORIAL/HONORING GIFTS

(PLEASE PRINT)

IN MEMORY OF	OR	IN HONOR OF
SEND CARD TO	FROM	
STREET	STREET	
CITY/STATE/ZIP	CITY/STATE/ZIP	

Fry Visible Gas Pump

Restored by Jeff Bell and donated to the museum by Chip and Barbara McCracken of McCracken Oil & Gas.



Gasoline pumps were made in a generic fashion without any particular oil company's information. Later they were equipped with a lighted glass globe with the oil company name and logo and signs were applied to the pump itself. This FRY model is sometimes referred to as the "Mae West" because of its skinny middle and wide bottom.

The gasoline pump with a glass reservoir at the top was developed so that the skeptical public could actually see the amount of gas that they were paying for. The motorist would first tell the pump attendant how many gallons they wanted and it would then be pumped up into the glass cylinder. The gas pumped manually by operating the long handle on the base of pump. The attendant would then open the valve at the base of the glass cylinder and let it flow by gravity into the customers gas tank.

Events Calendar

2015

October 17 - 11:00 AM New Lebanon Church
October 22 - 1:00 PM Twin Tiers STEPS
October 24 - 2:00 PM Wrap Up Celebration
November 1 - Museum suspends operation for winter.

November 6 - 7:30 AM Museum board meeting
November 18- 6:00 PM PYOGA Desk & Derrick

April 1 -

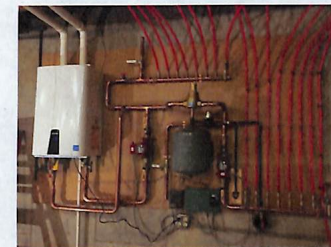
Museum re-opens for Summer visitors

Board Of Directors

Penn Brad Oil Museum Board Members

The Penn Brad Oil Museum Board of Directors is as follows:

Thomas Miller, President
Fred Fesenmyer, Vice President
Beverly Roberts, Secretary
Joyce Cline, Treasurer
Gayle Bauer
Harvey Golubock
Dan Palmer
Stanley Pecora
Paul Phillips
Jordon Roeder
Isabelle Champlin
Matt Kropf
William Pantuso
Susan Perry
Stephen Pratt
Dale Smith



Warming Up!

New heating system control board, pumps, expansion tank and instant hot water heater.

The Penn Brad Oil Museum heating system is completed and running. It was installed by Ed Szweczyk from Szweczyk Plumbing Heating & Air Conditioning - 4880 Buffalo Rd, Erie, PA. It uses instant hot water to supply coils of plastic (poly-butylene) pipes imbedded in the concrete floor.

The heating system was given to the museum in honor of Willard Cline of Cline Oil by his daughter and son-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Ed Szweczyk.

Museum Website

A new website has been developed for the museum.

Shane Hvizdzak of 1st Labs has developed a website for the museum. The domain name is pennbradoilmuseum.org. While still partially under construction, the site contains history, facts, engaging materials for children and general information. It will also house the "Penn Brad Oil Museum Educator's Resource Guide," that is available to elementary and middle school teachers to prepare for a group visit to the museum.

Remembrance...

Three generations: George, Uncle Evert and Gary W. Silsby at Derrick Day - 2013



Gary W. Silsby, from Moody Hollow, Rixford, passed away March 24, 2015. He was a great supporter of the museum. In August a memorial brick was installed in the museum sidewalk.

Where is this Photo ?



Mathew's Quaker State Service - Congress Street.

Smethport 5th & 6th Grade Visitors...



Smethport Area School District 5th and 6th grades visited the museum. Thanks to Krystle Howard and all our volunteers for making this happen. The students were very interested in the museum talks and displays, and were extremely well behaved.

Annual Membership Drive...



*Coming soon to a mailbox near you is the **Annual Membership Drive** for the **Penn Brad Oil Museum**. The museum receives no funding from the State or Federal Government. Therefore, funding from your membership keeps the museum open, makes it possible for continuous improvements as well as upkeep of the property and museum artifacts. Your continued support of the museum is greatly appreciated.*

