

**Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum
The Carousel Society of Niagara Frontier**
P.O. Box 672, 180 Thompson St.
N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

*Post office
487-4324*

Dear NCA Member:

It was our pleasure to co-host the 1987 NCA Conference this past summer. We had been looking forward to sharing with you our dream of a carousel museum in the Allan Herschell Company factory building. We truly enjoyed planning the conference and were excited that so many of you were able to attend.

Those of you who rode our carousel in the original roundhouse most likely noticed that the roof and many of the original walls had been lost under a heavy snowfall in 1984. The canvass roof and temporary walls do not provide permanent protection for our carousel.

We have great news to share! On December 13 Governor Mario Cuomo announced a New York State Preservation award of \$61,000 for the restoration of the roundhouse. We must raise a matching \$61,000 by Sept. 1 order to receive this grant. Your contribution to our fund drive would be greatly appreciated.

The success of our project has been determined by the grass roots support of carousel enthusiasts across the country and by our local citizens. We do not have a corporate or government sponsor. It is my sincere belief that the strength of this project will continue to derive from individual members and volunteers. **OUR SUCCESS IS YOUR SUCCESS** toward our shared goal of preserving the artifacts of the American carousel industry.

Please send your tax deductible contribution to:

ROUNDHOUSE FUND
Carousel Society of the Niagara Frontier
PO BOX 672
North Tonawanda, New York 14120

Thank you for your encouragement and your support. Please be sure to visit us and ride our 1916 Allan Herschell carousel in its newly restored home.

Sincerely yours,

Rae
Rae Proefrock,
Chairman CSNF

WHAT OTHERS HAVE SAID ABOUT US!

NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESER-
TION

"The National Trust is very supportive of CSNF's worthwhile preservation project. We hope this letter of support and financial commitment will assist your organization in raising the additional needed funds." - 1986 Grant Award Letter

FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM SERVICES

"From humble beginning, progress is remarkable in such a short time. There is obviously a very dedicated effort with excellent use of facility," and "very sound financial management philosophy with demonstrated success. Corporate support is badly needed in order to continue professional development." - 1987 Grant Review

COMMISSIONER ORIN LEHMAN, NYS PARKS

"The competition for this second round of historic preservation funding was very keen. I congratulate you on being one of the successful applicants." - 1987

NIAGARA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

"The Society has been operating a 1916 Allan Herschell Carrousel in the original factory building for several summers with a significant growth in public awareness and has been successful in establishing a significant tourist attraction." - 1988 Award Contract

N.T. MAYOR ELIZABETH C. HOFFMAN
TONAWANDA MAYOR DAVID L. MILLER

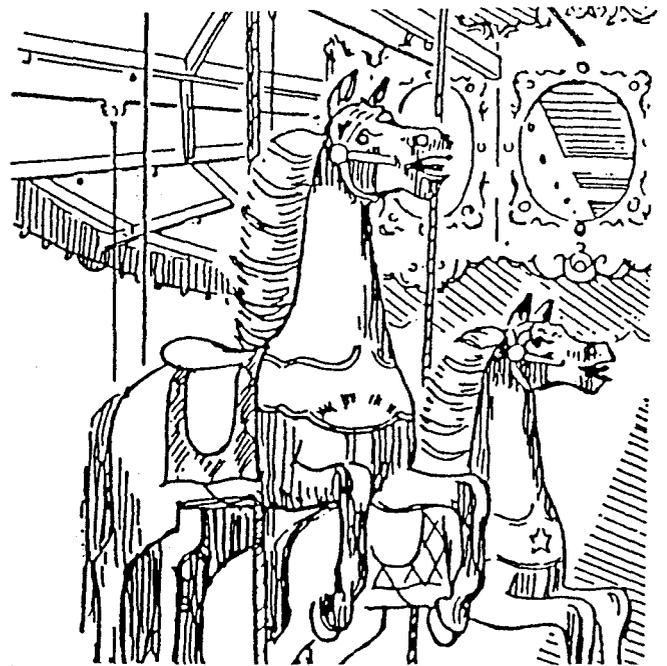
"The Carousel Society of the Niagara Frontier is a dedicated group of volunteers with the purpose of developing a sense of pride for the history of the Tonawandas. We hereby proclaim our support for their efforts to raise the matching funds needed to restore the Roundhouse."

Make your tax deductible contribution to:
The Carousel Society of the Niagara Frontier
P.O. Box 672 • 180 Thompson Street
North Tonawanda, New York 14120

CAROUSEL SOCIETY

of the NIAGARA FRONTIER, INC.

1988 Capital Fund Drive



Artist: J. T. Andrews®

HERSCHELL CARROUSEL FACTORY MUSEUM

180 Thompson Street
North Tonawanda, New York

You remember the magical sounds, lights and feeling of freedom associated with a ride on a carousel. For a few moments in time you could travel anywhere in the world and be anyone you wished. These beautiful, hand carved wooden horses are among America's "Endangered Species".

Of the nearly 10,000 hand carved carousels which once graced our parks and fairgrounds, only 250 remain! The Carousel Society of the Niagara Frontier is dedicated to the preservation of not only one of these national treasures, but also the Allan Herschell Company Factory building in which our carousel was produced.

UPDATES - October 8, 1988

The Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum is the fruit of a grass roots volunteer effort. Our accomplishments are many, and have been recognized by all levels of government.

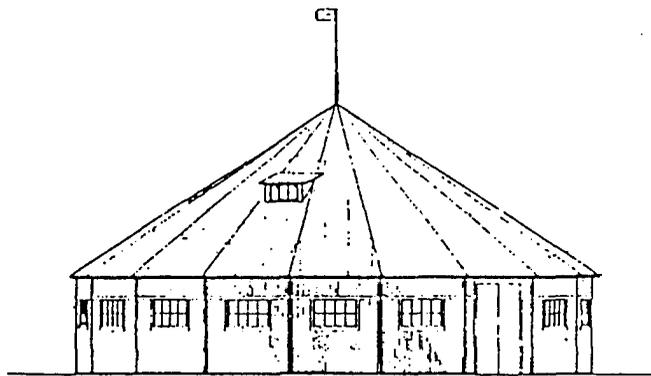
In 1982 we purchased an Allan Herschell carousel, built in the Herschell Carrousel Factory in 1916, and began operating it for the public. We have since purchased and stabilized the entire building complex, which is now listed on the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places.

We now operate a historical museum and offer family cultural activities in the building. Along with exhibits and rides on the carousel, we have wood carving demonstrations and Sunday afternoon professional entertainment.

Support for our exhibits and programming has been granted each year by the Federal Institute of Museum Services and by the New York State Council on the Arts. Over 50,000 people from every state and numerous foreign countries have visited the museum. We are very excited about the potential growth the museum offers for tourism on the Niagara Frontier.



Your contribution today, helps preserve History for tomorrow!



In 1984 the roof and several wall sections of the building where the carrousel was located (called the Roundhouse), collapsed under a heavy snowfall. Since then we have operated under a canvas roof for five summers. In order to provide a year round, safe environment for the carrousel, preserve the remaining parts of the Roundhouse and extend our operating season, *we must reconstruct this building.*

We invite you to share in our accomplishments by contributing to our current capital fund drive. New York State has granted us \$61,000 from the Environmental Quality Bond Act-Preservation Program. (Only 17 of the 148 Applicants across the state were funded.) This award, however, is a "Challenge Grant" and must be *matched by local dollars* before our September 1988 construction date.

Estimated Project Cost	\$180,000
Funds raised as of 4/88	
NYS-EQBA	\$61,000
Fundraising events	\$20,000
Natural Trust	\$15,000
Buffalo Foundation	\$5,000
	TOTAL \$101,000
WE NEED \$79,000 TO REACH OUR GOAL	

Your support at this time will not only ensure the preservation of a National Historic Site, it will contribute to our continued growth as a historical museum and cultural facility. *Won't you accept the challenge of New York State to Preserve our Heritage?* To quote Governor Cuomo: "Restoration and rehabilitation of these sites will be an important element of our legacy to future generations of New Yorkers."

CAROUSEL SOCIETY

of the Niagara Frontier

P.O. Box 672, North Tonawanda, NY 14120-0672



Charter Aims:

- Preserve the history of Carrouseles on the Niagara Frontier •
- Collect and Preserve artifacts, manuscripts and other memorabilia dealing with carrouseles and music machines •
- Establish a Museum dedicated to the Amusement Industry on the Niagara Frontier •

The Carousel Society of the Niagara Frontier is chartered by the New York State Board of Regents as a not-for profit education organization.

• All Donations are Tax Deductible •



Carrouseles

The manufacture of carrouseles and musical instruments on the Niagara Frontier greatly influenced the growth of the amusement park industry. The best known carrousel maker in the United States was the Allan Herschell Company of North Tonawanda.

A native of Scotland, Herschell came to America in 1870. Three years later, he opened a factory with James Armitage on Sweeney Street. Known as the Tonawanda Engine and Machine Company, it burned in 1876, was rebuilt and burned again. Herschell and Armitage built a new factory at Oliver and Mechanics Streets. The new factory, called the Armitage-Herschell Company made steam engines and boilers.

By 1883, Herschell decided to build a steam riding gallery, despite opposition from his partners. A second machine was built in 1884. A third, built in 1885, ran at the World Exposition in New Orleans. By 1890, 60 machines were sold. The next year, one machine a day was being shipped to many parts of the country. Herschell had proved the success of the merry-go-round to his partners.

Competition began in Lockport with the Norman and Evans Company, which manufactured almost the identical machine. Located near the famous locks of the Erie Canal, the company built its first machine in 1898.

Allan Herschell married Ida Spillman in 1882. He and his brother-in-law, Edward Spillman, formed the Herschell-Spillman Company in 1903. This new firm bought out the Armitage-Herschell Company, now financially strapped due to real estate investment losses. The Herschell-Spillman Company was to become the country's largest manufacturer of carrouseles.

Herschell, forced to retire because of ill health, sold his business interest in 1911. However, he returned in 1915 and with John Wendler and Fred Fritchie formed the Allan Herschell Company. The Herschell-Spillman Company was reorganized in 1920 and became the new Spillman Engineering Corporation. In 1923, Herschell retired, and died four years later. In 1945, the Allan Herschell Company bought out the Spillman Engineering Corporation.

THE CAROUSEL SOCIETY OF THE NIAGARA FRONTIER, INC.
P.O. Box 672 • 180 Thompson Street
North Tonawanda, New York 14120

UPDATES - October 8, 1988

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 111
N. Tonawanda, NY

Herschell was not the only manufacturer of carrouseles on the Niagara Frontier.

In 1879, Carl Landow settled in Wolcottsburg, a German community near Lockport, New York. The cabinet maker, with his brother-in-law Carl Newman, manufactured a crude carrousel which toured the countryside. Its horses are now part of the Circus Hall of Fame in Florida.

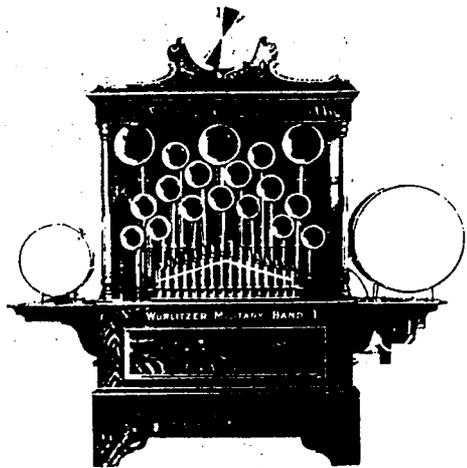
The Norman and Evans firm in Lockport was owned by William L. Norman and Spaulding Evans. In 1898, they introduced the first steam switchback merry-go-round in America. The company produced about seventy-five machines per year until the death of Mr. Norman in 1904. Evans continued the business under the name Evans and Company for one more year.

Its success influenced the formation of the American Merry-Go-Round and Novelty Company in Lockport. It manufactured a switchback driven by electricity, claiming to be the first electrically driven carrousel. The firm dissolved in 1901.

Gillie, Godard and Company made steam riding galleries and whirling panoramas in Tonawanda in 1893. George Gillie was a part of the original Tonawanda Engine and Machine Company.

The distinctions of carrousel manufacturers can be found in the carving of their animals. The development of the early carvings parallels the rocking and hobby horses. Horses on the Tonawanda machines were supported by a stirrup-shaped bracket and hinge underneath. This permitted the rocking and galloping motion. By 1883, the animals moved with wheels on a circular track. They were hinged on supports fastened to the platform.

The "Lumber City" of North Tonawanda provided an abundant supply of wood carvers. The Armitage Herschell, Herschell-Spillman, Allan Herschell and Spillman Engineering Companies showed a resemblance of sophistication and life-like realism in their animals.



Band Organs

As exciting as the ride on the delicately carved horses, is the music of the band organ. The gaudy facade of the band organ with its variety of pitches and tones makes the ride irresistible.

About 1890, the Tonawanda carrousel makers found the import tax too expensive for the European organs they had been using. Eugene DeKleist was brought to North Tonawanda from Germany and began to manufacture organs in nearby Martinsville. Armitage-Herschell Co. sold DeKleist land where he built the North Tonawanda Barrel Organ Factory, the first in America. In 1903, the name was changed to the DeKleist Musical Instrument Company.

In 1908, DeKleist sold his firm to the Wurlitzer Company that had been established in Cincinnati, Ohio, since 1856. By 1925, Wurlitzer had eighteen different models of band organs, which he sold to the local carrousel manufacturers.

In 1908, the North Tonawanda Musical Instruments Works established a small factory on Payne Avenue at the Lockport Junction Lines. The "perfected" military band organ came with pneumatic action and was operated by endless paper music. The firm was eventually incorporated with the Remington Rand Company, which produced organs into the 1920's.

The Niagara Musical Instrument Company in North Tonawanda produced instruments of equal quality with the North Tonawanda Musical Instruments Works.

At Erie and Division in North Tonawanda, the Artizan Factories Inc. made organs and music rolls. Artizan and Wurlitzer organs were used by the Spillman Engineering Corporation.

Radio and amplified phonographs replaced the music of the carrousel organs by the 1920's.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

THE CAROUSEL SOCIETY OF THE NIAGARA FRONTIER, INC.
P.O. Box 672, 180 Thompson Street, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 • (716) 693-1885

Name: (Mr., Mrs., Mr., Ms., Miss.)

Street Address:

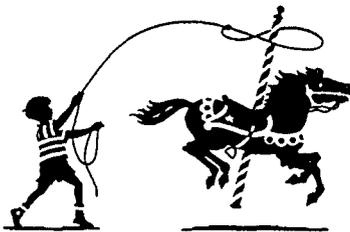
City: State: Zip:

Phone: (.....) Date:

Enclosed is my check for membership made payable to the "CAROUSEL SOCIETY" \$

- Benefactor Individual \$15.00 Sr. Citizen Single \$10.00
 Family \$20.00 Sr. Citizen Double \$15.00

- New Membership Membership Renewal



SAVE THE MERRY GO ROUND
FOR HOLYOKE.

July 12, 1988

- PRESIDENT**
John Hickey
- VICE PRESIDENT**
Kathleen Dunn
- TREASURER**
Raymond McGarrigle
- CLERK**
Atty. Gregory Schmidt
- DIRECTORS**
Frank Banks
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Maurice Molod
Daniel Overton
Mark Parent
Doris Ransford
Warren Rhoades
Thomas Ripa
Rep. Robert Rohan
Ernest Ross, Jr.
St. Germain
Shiel
J. Whiting, Jr.
Zoea Wright
Joseph Wright
- GENERAL
CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRMEN**
Aldermen Karen Cavanaugh
John Hickey

Mr. Charles J. Jacques, Jr.
President
National Carousel Association
P.O. Box 157
Natrona Heights, PA 15065

Dear Charles:

On your good advice, we engaged Fred Fried for an appraisal of our merry-go-round, and his lecture on the History of Carousels. Both were accomplished on June 24.

We have become incorporated and our new logotype is atop this sheet.

Three thousand attended a 'last ride' event at the now inactive Mountain Park.

Small checks are coming in, unsolicited, from many individuals. Letters have been sent to all area clubs asking for their help in fundraising. School-children have raised funds without our encouragement (\$147 and \$770).

Coin contribution cannisters are being designed. A limited edition litho is being done by a good local artist. A donor has offered to pay for its reproduction. A grant application has been filed with the State. We expect to receive \$250,000 from that source.

The Alderman are planning a Ball. Our T-shirts are selling briskly, at \$10 each. Four hundred were sold at the 'last ride' event.

The State has consented to the merry-go-round's location in the downtown State Heritage Park. Agreements for its operation and maintenance, into the future, have been drafted. Preliminary sketches of the new building have been done, pro bono, by a local architect. Fred Fried gave us helpful advice on the building's design.

Lynne Brown, at Bushnell Park, Hartford, has given us a good deal of practical advice on merry-go-round

UPDATES - Oct. 8, 1988

operation and marketing. Your new resource library book is a goldmine of ideas. We have no dearth of volunteers for the project. A talk and slide show is being prepared for presentations to clubs. Publicity, print and TV, has been very good.

The solicitation of heavy support from business and industry will begin after Labor Day. We are organizing for that now...the same as we would for any local capital fund campaign such as the United Way, Hospital, YMCA, etc. We plan to woo large contributors with cocktail parties at the merry-go-round itself...husband/wife affairs for different groups on different days...professional people, industrialists, downtown businessmen, bankers, etc.

The generosity of these businessmen will be crucial to our need to raise over \$1.3 million.

The purchase agreement is complete except for signatures, which will come quickly now that we have Fred's appraisal.

Editorial support has been very favorable. Some very prominent citizens will help with the canvas of business. The Mayor is 110% behind our effort, attending every meeting.

Thanks very much for your help. Let's keep in touch.

Very truly yours,



John T. Hickey
President

JTH/dkk

UPDATES - October 8, 1988

Waterloo's Pride and Joy

Fireman's Park Parker

by Gordon and Margo Cronin

Our pride and joy is a 1911 C.W. Parker 28-horse, 2-chariot carousel built in Leavenworth, Kansas. It was purchased and moved to Waterloo in 1925. It is housed in Firemen's Park under a high, domed structure, until 1987 protected only by chicken wire fencing around it. For many years the horses were removed in the fall, stored in a shed on the premises and returned to the carousel in the spring, causing much wear and tear to the animals.

The carousel is intact, with all of its original horses and chariots. It was operated on the 4th of July and Labor Day, and for any other special event in the park. In recent years, many preschools and kindergarten groups have rented the carousel (at \$35.00 per hour) for their outings.

Originally it had a band organ, but this is nowhere to be found. It is assumed, after much questioning of local people, that it was in such disrepair that it was discarded. What a crime! We hope to replace this band organ... some day. We use cassette tapes now.

The carousel had been repainted several times; unfortunately, by non-professionals. The last group to do a "restoration" and painting used a blow torch to remove old paint, destroying the original colors. They nailed pieces of tin over breaks, then painted the horses hideous colors, and stenciled inappropriate names on the horses' chests.

Our first priority was a safer housing... something better than the domed roof and chicken wire fence!

The first money, about \$6,000, was spent for a 30' high cement wall around the carousel, connecting the wooden frames below the dome. We purchased metal roll-down locking doors for each opening, leaving an entrance and exit door which also has the roll-down doors when not in use.

Realizing that restoration had to start soon if we were to have anything left to restore, the committee from the 125th anniversary of Waterloo in 1984 designated the residue of the funds, \$1800.00, for carousel restoration. The chairman of that committee wanted it registered as a Historic Landmark immediately. Since that wasn't accomplished, the project was dropped, with the funds being held in a C.D. until 1987.

With the passing of Arthur R. Setz, a native Waterloo son and dedicated fireman and park supporter, many memorials were earmarked for carousel restoration. Setz's daughter and son-in-law, Margo and Gordon Cronin, realized from these memorials that there was an interest in restoring our precious carousel. Upon their urging, two members of the Waterloo Fire Department and two members from the city council were appointed to form a carousel restoration committee.

Meetings started in March of 1987. In the fall of 1986

Waterloo Has A Lot to Offer . . .



Home of the Carousel

UPDATE 2 (3/25/89)

Lisa Parr of Old Parr's Studio in Chicago had revisited our carousel, and begged us to get going on restoration. Even she didn't realize the desperate condition the horses were in. Lisa contracted to do our restoration in her studio in Chicago, starting with two horses. Two of the

steeds, beautifully refinished, were returned to our city in the fall of 1987. One was the Arthur Setz Memorial horse; the other a gift of the restoration by Lisa Parr.

Our fund raising started July of 1988 with a house-to-house canvass, collecting \$4,000, which was matched by Perry Printing Corp. of Waterloo, plus a \$1,000 donation by the company's president, Roger Perry. The residue of \$2200 from an estate was given to the fund, and other donations trickled in. In the fall of 1987 we started our Adopt-A-Horse program asking \$400 per horse, with some giving the full \$500 we'd contracted for. The local bank has

given funds for doing the two chariots, and as of October 1, 1988, all the horses have been adopted by various families and groups. A metal name plate will be placed below each horse when it is in its final position on the carousel, designating the contributor or the person in whose memory the funds were given.

Our restorer painstakingly hand-scrapes each horse, searching for original coloring. A recent find was a ticket inside of the horse from the Belmont, Wisconsin Faire, and a metal token, indicating to us that this had once been a traveling carousel. Even more recently several tickets were found with the wording Carry-Us-All on them with the Curtis Bros. name also on them. An even bigger find was the printing on both of the chariots: C.W.Parker, World's Largest Manufacturers of Amusement Devices, Leavenworth, Kansas!

This find strengthened our belief that Lisa Parr's method for removing the paint on the horses is the correct one. We have resisted pressure by a local tank stripping business (with national headquarters in Waterloo) to use their method to speed up the job.

The brass poles supporting the carousel platform and the poles on which the horses ride were stripped with an acid and then coated with a polyfilm to prevent tarnishing.

Still to be done is the restoration of the rounding boards — removing all the old paint, painting the boards with unfurled flags and red roses on one half of the panels, and Waterloo old-time scenes on the other half. Research found that there were golden eagles on the top of each rounding board panel, sixteen in all.

The sixteen medallions need stripping, and either paintings or mirrors that will catch reflections as the people ride around. Some reflective material is also planned for the panels covering the motor, etc. Also, we need more lighting.

We've been offered a gift of \$6,000 from the local Karl Juninger Foundation, which will start the rounding board restoration. Money-makers include the sale of a metal carousel horse pin for \$3.00, with the Lions Club donating



all the profit to the carousel fund. There will be a total of 700 pins sold. There are plans for a second pin to be designed, since this was such a success.

In a nearby town, a couple who deal in antique children's farm machinery, etc., are selling metal 1917 Ford Van banks with a Waterloo decal on the side with a small drawing of the dome and several of the horses. They sell for \$17.80, plus shipping charges, with \$3.00 from each truck sale being donated to the restoration fund.

A local clothing merchant has had T-shirts and sweat shirts printed with a carousel design and gives a donation of \$2.00 per shirt to the restoration fund. We are planning other money-making projects to keep the restoration ongoing. We're seeking other townspeople to become involved.

We have had marvelous cooperation from our new local newspaper editor, and Jerry Amberling has done several articles in his column in a Madison newspaper, which has helped our project.

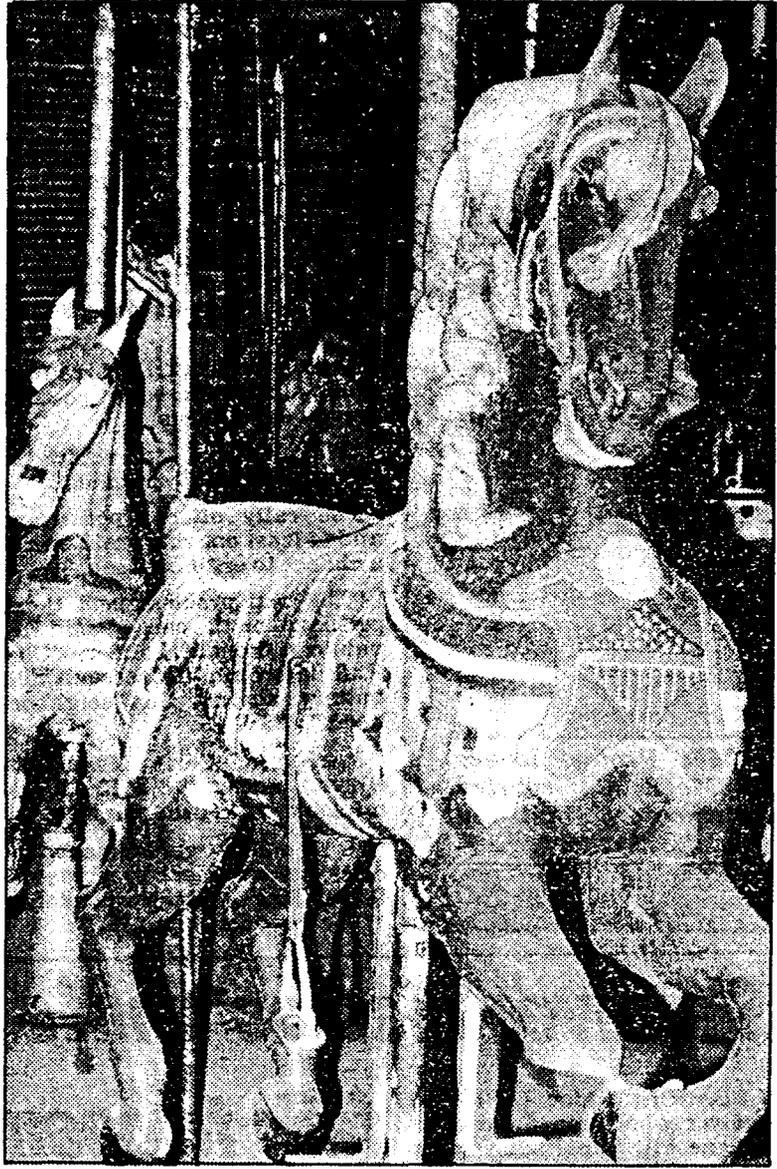
Our local postmaster, in conjunction with the issuance of the carousel stamps, helped plan an observance at our carousel site the Sunday the stamps came out. The city government has had a city seal designed featuring the carousel, which is used on all stationery and city documents. The library has just had a new logo designed featuring a carousel horse on two books which they will be using on their stationery. The Waterloo Chamber of Commerce uses the carousel design that was drawn for the first Lion's Club pin quite a few years ago, as their logo. It features the domed housing with several horses. This same design appears on the Chamber's welcoming signs at the edges of town.

We are pleased with our progress to date, with 16 horses being completed, and back on the carousel. We realize what a precious possession we have!

There are plans that it might be run every summer Sunday afternoon when it is completed. We hope to see completion within a couple of years.

UPDATE 2 (3/25/89)

NY Post - 3/15/89



Robert Goodwin

SEND OUT THE CLOWNS. . . as well as the horses (left) for a long-overdue dose of tender loving care and a \$300,000 face lift to restore the hand-carved masterpiece.

Fixes mean old B'klyn carousel has come full circle

By SONIA REYES

For three decades, the Prospect Park Carousel was one of Brooklyn's treasures — a rare handcarved masterpiece that blended music and magic for those who rode it.

But it fell into neglect and, in 1983, had to be closed. Now the carousel is making a comeback — thanks to \$300,000 raised by the Prospect Park Alliance.

In the next weeks, the wood

horses and chariots will be hauled off for a painstaking face lift that will return them to their original splendor.

The ride could be back in business — with children once again spinning round to the strains of a Wurlitzer organ — by next year.

"There's a magic to old carou-

sels that can't be reproduced," said Tupper Thomas, Prospect Park's administrator.

The carousel was hand-carved by Russian craftsman Charles Carmel around 1910.

Officials plan to strip the 56 wooden figures to bare wood before starting up the carousel again next year.

UPDATE 3
(5/30/89)

FUND
RAISING
73

Go-round will be merrier

By JARED McCALLISTER

Daily News Staff Writer

Several excited youngsters peered in amazement through the partially open metal gate yesterday at the large wooden horses and other animals of the Prospect Park Carousel.

The youths were entranced by the flowing manes and flared nostrils of the carved figures suspended in mid-gallop on the large wooden platform.

But their guardians quickly discovered that the carousel was closed, and left with the children in tow.

Since 1983, the classic carousel has been still and its vintage Wurlitzer organ silent. However, through the efforts of the city Parks Department, the Prospect Park Alliance and private contributions, the ride is to be restored and reopened in about a year.

"Many children have never



OLD PAINT: Rosa Ragan and Larry Jones give the horses a fresh coat of paint at the Prospect Park carousel yesterday. ANTHONY PESCATORE DAILY NEWS

ridden on one, and when we get this running again, we'll introduce a whole new group of kids to carousels," said Larry Jones, the architect in charge of the restoration project.

Jones and Rosa Ragan, a restoration specialist from

North Carolina, spent Wednesday and yesterday assessing the damage and wear on the old merry-go-round, located in the southeastern end of the park near Flatbush Ave. and Empire Blvd.

A Parks Department spokesman said that \$500,000

will be needed for the restoration and that more than \$300,000 of that amount has already been raised through contributions from several foundations. Other fund-raisers are expected to be held to meet the restoration goals.

The United States was

home at one time to as many as 4,800 colorful hand-carved carousels. But today, the Prospect Park merry-go-round is one of less than 200 left. Built in the mid-1920s, during the "Golden Age of Carousels," the ride was first located in Coney Island.

UPDATE
3
(5/30/89)

PROSPECT PARK ALLIANCE
SUPPORTERS

1986 - 1988

Corporations

Abraham & Straus
American Express Co.
American Savings Bank
Benderson/Feldman
Brooklyn Union Gas
The Chase Manhattan Bank
Chemical Bank
Citibank
Con Edison
Consumers Flavoring Extract
Crossland Savings Bank
Dime Savings Bank
East New York Savings Bank
East River Savings Bank
Einhorn & Co.
Emigrant Savings Bank
Greater New York Savings Bank
Greenpoint Savings Bank
Hatzipetras & Pantelidis
Independence Savings Bank
Integrated Resources, Inc.
Kings Plaza Shopping Center
R.H. Macy & Co.
Manufacturers Hanover Trust
Company
Mid County Motors
Miller Beer
Morgan Guaranty Trust
New York Telephone Company
Pfizer Inc.
Philip Morris Companies, Inc.
Prospect Park Health & Racquet
Club
Roosevelt Savings Bank
Sunnydale Farms
Williamsburgh Savings Bank
Wingate & Cullen

Foundations

The Vincent Astor Foundation
Charina Foundation, Inc.
Community Service Society
Constans Culver Foundation
Aaron Diamond Foundation
Fund for the City of N.Y.
Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Fdn.
Horace W. Goldsmith Fdn.
The Charles Hayden Fdn.
The Heckscher Foundation
for Children
The J.M. Kaplan Fund
Ezra Jack Keats Foundation
James MacDonald Foundation
Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation
New York Community Trust
The Prospect Hill Foundation
Punia Foundation
Helena Rubinstein Foundation
Jack Rudin Foundation
Salovaara Foundation
The Scherman Foundation
Stanley Smith Horticultural
Trust
The Starr Foundation
Surdna Foundation
Zeitz Foundation

Gov't and Civic Supporters

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Brooklyn Women's Club
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Preservation
New York Council on the
Humanities
New York City Dept. of
Cultural Affairs
N.Y.S. Bicentennial
Commission
N.Y.S. Council on the Arts
Prospect Park Track Club

1/10/89

UPDATE 3 (5/30/89)

Prospect Park Gets a Boost from a New Alliance

A happy group of Brooklyn park boosters gathered in the Blue Room at City Hall on April 6 to hear Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden and Mayor Ed Koch announce the launching of the Prospect Park Alliance, a new non-profit organization which will help raise funds for the park and oversee progress on the City's 20-year master plan for the 526-acre jewel of the city's park system.

"I have long been dedicated to Prospect Park and have worked for its renaissance," said Golden, "because it is Brooklyn's premiere green space. For Prospect Park to have an advocacy arm like the Alliance is another exciting example of the cultural and economic revival that is taking place throughout Brooklyn.

Mayor Ed Koch, who stood with his Parks Commissioner, Henry Stern, to announce the long-awaited start of the efforts of the organization, said that he was excited because "Prospect Park will now follow Central Park's lead by establishing a vital partnership between the public and private sectors."

Koch pledged that the City would continue its major commitment to fund and maintain Prospect Park and its programs, while the Prospect Park Alliance will help the park to increase the corporate and individual support it now receives. "That means a more gracious park environment for the citizens of New York," he said.

Headed by Henry (Terry) Christensen III, a Flatbush resident and partner at the law firm Sullivan and Cromwell, the Alliance has 19 members who span virtually every aspect of life and affairs in Brooklyn. "There



At the City Hall announcement of the formation of the group are, from left: Park Commissioner Henry Stern; Tupper Thomas, Prospect Park Administrator; Mayor Ed Koch; Alliance president Henry "Terry" Christensen; and Borough President Howard Golden.

is a great need for City government and people in the private sector to get together and work to improve the environment of the city," Christensen said. "The Prospect Park Alliance is a vehicle to reach that goal."

For Prospect Park Administrator Tupper Thomas, the announcement of the Alliance is an important step in the resurgence of the park that has occurred since her office was

established in 1960. Since she began her work, \$17 million has been spent on restorations in the park, including the Long Meadow, Boat House, Picnic House, Tennis House, 9th St. Bandshell and the Grand Army Plaza Arch. Also, in connection with the increased user-ship in the park, extra horticultural and monument crews have been put to work.

In addition to Christensen, members of the

Prospect Park Alliance Board of Directors are: Michael A. Armstrong, editor and publisher of The Phoenix Newspaper; Leslie Eichner, vice president, Chase Manhattan Bank; Anthony Fahnestock, senior vice president, Desai Capital Management; Alan Goldberg, partner, Einhorn and Co.; David Jones, general director, Community Service Society; Elwin Larson, president, Brooklyn Union Gas; Wilbur Levin, chairman, Independence Saving Bank; Wilfredo Lugo, president, Daqui Construction Corp.; Joseph

For Prospect Park to have an advocacy arm like the Alliance is another exciting example of the revival of Brooklyn.

F. McDonald, partner, Lord, Day & Lord; Mary Macchiarola, community activist; Carmel Carrington Marr, consultant and former commissioner of the NYS Public Service Commission; Joel Motley, associate, Lazard Freres & Co.; Connie Nuzum, educational specialist; Duncan Stewart, partner, Wilkie Farr & Gallagher; and David Trager, dean, Brooklyn Law School. Ex-officio members of the board are: Howard Golden, Brooklyn Borough President; Henry J. Stern, Commissioner, Department of Parks and Recreation; and Tupper Thomas, Administrator, Prospect Park.

UPDATE 3 (5/30/89)

EDITORIAL

Brooklyn,
INC

An Alliance of Government and Private Sector

At City Hall in Manhattan last week an announcement was made that will have an important impact on Brooklyn over the years to come. Mayor Ed Koch and Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden joined to announce the creation of the Prospect Park Alliance, a new support group for our park that will join private business and government in an alliance to help polish this jewel to a lustre it has probably never experienced in its 130 year history.

There are some places that are the essence of Brooklyn to each of us and to the broader world. Coney Island may be

what first leaps to mind among those who know us from the outside. Those of us who live and work here, however, know that it is Prospect Park and the complex of educational and cultural facilities around it that are the center of our city, no matter what part of Brooklyn we call home.

A thriving economy offers the opportunity now to bring to Prospect Park an extra measure of support to supplement the commitment that City government is making toward improvements in the park. This private initiative is a welcome new role for enlightened Brooklyn business people.

BUDGET SUMMARY
1988-89

Expense Budget:

	<u>INCOME</u>		
	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Foundations	\$ 65,000	\$ 171,000	\$ 236,000
Corporations	52,800	25,200	78,000
Individuals	66,000	21,000	87,000
Revenues	87,600	0	87,600
Overhead	<u>72,500</u>	<u>(33,000)</u>	<u>39,500</u>
Total Income	\$ 343,900	\$ 184,200	\$ 528,100

EXPENDITURES

I. Alliance Operations		\$ 200,600
II. Administrator's Office Operations		25,000
III. Visitor Services		233,800
A. New Prospects	\$ 59,000	
B. Visual Arts	17,500	
C. Lefferts Homestead Programs	19,500	
D. General	137,800	
IV. Horticulture		<u>65,500</u>
Total Expenditures		\$ 524,900
Surplus/(Defecit)		\$ 3,200

Capital Budget:

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Foundations	\$ 411,000	Carousel	\$ 438,000
Corporations	60,000	Lefferts Roof	75,000
Individuals	20,000	Planning Studies	10,000
Rollover	81,500	Signage	<u>10,000</u>
Overhead	<u>(39,500)</u>		
Total Capital Income	\$ 533,000	Total Capital Expenses	\$ 533,000

6/30/88

UPDATE 3 (5/30/89)

EXPENSE BUDGET
1988-89

I. Alliance Operations

A. Salaries and Fringe	\$ 102,800
B. Contracted Services	29,200
C. Auditor	4,500
D. Insurance	18,500
E. Printing	11,500
F. Promotional	4,000
G. Office Equipment and Supplies	16,300
H. Rent and Utilities	13,800
Total	\$ 200,600

II. Administrator's Office Operations

A. Computer Needs	\$ 13,000
B. Staff Education	3,000
C. Office Operations	4,000
D. Maintenance and Operations	5,000
Total	\$ 25,000

III. Visitor Services

A. Personnel	\$ 65,800
B. Picnic House Needs	20,000
C. New Prospects	59,000
D. Special Events	13,500
E. You Gotta Have Park!	15,000
F. Visitor Center	8,000
G. Visual Arts	17,500
H. Lefferts Homestead Program	19,500
I. Volunteer Recognition Activities	1,000
J. News Guide	10,500
K. General Operating	4,000
Total	\$ 233,800

IV. Horticulture

A. Tree Care	\$ 16,300
B. Turf Management	11,000
C. Special Projects	10,000
D. Intern Programs	9,000
E. Plant Materials	6,000
F. Tree Trust Campaign	5,000
G. Education and Consultants	2,400
H. Fertilizers, Pesticides and Chemicals	2,300
I. Tools and Equipment	2,000
J. Dutch Elm Disease Program	1,500
Total	\$ 65,500

Total Expenses \$ 524,900

6/30/88

THE NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY, APRIL 6, 1987

Nonprofit Group to Nourish Once-Shabby Prospect Park

By SUSAN HELLER ANDERSON

When Tupper W. Thomas became the Prospect Park administrator seven years ago, "we had the opposite problem from Central Park," she recalled. "People were just not using the park."

Since then, the city has poured \$17 million into Prospect, and the number of park visits has tripled to more than 5 million annually.

And, seeking to insure that the rebirth of the park continues, Mayor Koch is to announce today the creation of a nonprofit organization, the Prospect Park Alliance, to raise money and awareness at the once forlorn and shabby park.

"This recognition of Prospect Park," Mr. Koch said, "is the recognition that the renaissance of Brooklyn is in full bloom."

'Significant Private Dollars'

The alliance is patterned on the Central Park Conservancy, a private nonprofit group that aids Central Park, said Henry J. Stern, the Parks Commissioner. "This is another sign of Prospect Park coming into its own," he added.

"I would hope we can raise significant private dollars for enrichment funds for projects the city cannot take on," said the chairman of the alliance, Henry Christensen 3d. He said he hoped the alliance would raise funds "in the high six figures."

The bandshell, the picnic house, the boathouse and the tennis house, all previously closed, have been restored by the city, along with the Long Meadow, which will reopen next month with seven new baseball diamonds. The zoo will be closed next spring and be transformed into a children's zoo, run by the New York Zoological Society.

Prospect Park was created in 1866

by the designers Frederick Law Olmstead and Calvert Vaux, following their success with Central Park. On its western edge, elegant Park Slope homes look proudly over the park, but on its eastern border, burned-out, abandoned buildings turn windowless facades toward it. Prospect Park occupies 526 acres, Central Park, 843 acres.

There is plenty to restore, said Brenda O. Corbin, the park horticulturist, who came from Central Park in 1980. "The first year, I just walked around and scratched my head," she said. "We planted and planted and planted. In a couple of weeks, things will begin to show and the planting we did three and four years ago will be knit together. So there will be a few more hillsides looking like they should."

One criticism of the restoration is that more effort is spent on buildings than blossoms. "The renovated tennis house and picnic house are all admirable," said William J. Novak, chairman of Friends of Prospect Park, a citizens' group that is restoring the Vale of Cashmere on the park's northeast edge. "But they point to an architectural orientation. I would like to see the same type of enthusiasm for horticulture."

"We did spend a lot on structures," Ms. Thomas said. "But the landscape had to be studied so we could treat it like the landmark it is. Now we've done the Long Meadow." Next will come the ravine and the Swan Boat Lake, she added.

No day is complete
without
The New York Times.

THE PROSPECT PARK ALLIANCE
PROPOSAL TO NEW YORK TELEPHONE
FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE CAROUSEL IN PROSPECT PARK

FEBRUARY 9, 1988

UPDATE 3 (5/30/89)

INTRODUCTION

In 1983 Prospect Park's magnificent hand-carved carousel ground to a halt. Situated just inside the second major entrance to the Park, this shuttered building is a vivid reminder of the Park's decline during the 1970's. Despite a remarkable revival, the Park still needs many improvements. The Prospect Park Alliance has taken on the reopening of the carousel as its first major capital project. Nothing would more dramatically signal the Alliance's role in the rebirth of Prospect Park than the restoration and return of this beloved and magical ride to the children of Brooklyn.

THE PROSPECT PARK CAROUSEL

Carousels flourished in the United States between 1880 and 1930. For children and adults alike, they offered instant transportation to a secret, shining world away from the noise and grime of city life. Less than 300 of the thousands of wooden carousels carved and assembled in this country remain today; most were destroyed by fire, hard wear and neglect. Many were unceremoniously junked -- too costly to repair, too big to move.

In the heyday of these magical rides, Brooklyn was the center of the carousel carving art in America. It was the home for 16 carousels, each one hand-carved, a unique folk creation. Today, only a few remain. One sits in Prospect Park.

Merry-go-rounds have been part of the charm of Prospect Park since 1874. The figures of this most recent one come from an old Coney Island carousel run by the McCullough Bothers and are widely recognized as superb examples of this art form. Each of these 66 rides - mostly horses with a goat, lion, giraffe, zebra and sleigh - is hand carved and ornately painted. According to Frederick Fried, founder of The National Carousel Association and noted American folk art expert, "This carousel in particular merits restoration. It contains a marvelous collection of figures some of which are very old, dating back to the early 1900's. They represent the work of some of the finest carvers of Brooklyn."

Housed in an octagonal red and tan brick building with colored glass skylights, this gentle ride has delighted hundreds of thousands of visitors, young and old, for years. Children have loved riding up and down on these magnificent animals to the thumping sounds produced by the carousel's Wurlitzer player organ.

-2-

Unfortunately, these horses came to a halt as each of the wooden figures was badly in need of repair and the central mechanism was damaged. Further use would make its deterioration irreversible. Vandalism as well as neglect on the part of the operating concessionaires were the culprits.

SITUATED IN PRIME PARK AREA

The Prospect Park carousel is located across the street from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden and just inside the Willink Entrance, the second most used entrance to the Park. This entrance is located at the intersection of Empire, Flatbush and Ocean Avenues, a transportation hub for bus and subway lines. Willink is also the gateway to the Zoo, Lefferts Homestead and Boathouse Visitors Center. The Carousel joins with these other places to form a dense activities area inside the Park, particularly for children.

The City of New York has targeted this section for major reconstruction having committed \$22 million to rehabilitate the Zoo and another \$2 million to restore the surrounding landscape and connecting paths. The Prospect Park Alliance plans to restore the Lefferts Homestead, an historic house museum, and to see that its ongoing educational programs are significantly enhanced. Each of these projects will attract an increasing number of visitors.

The Zoo is scheduled to be closed in the summer of 1988 for a three year period. It will reopen as the largest children's zoo in the world to be operated for the City by the New York Zoological Society. What better place for a magnificent restored carousel than next to the largest children's Zoo in the world?

THE ROLE OF THE CITY AND THE PROSPECT PARK ALLIANCE

The Prospect Park Alliance, a non-profit organization, was established in 1987 by a group of influential private citizens to work in partnership with the City of New York towards the revitalization of Prospect Park.

In this public-private partnership, the City and The Alliance have separate but complementary budgets and are each committed to specific aspects of the Park's renewal. The City has pledged ongoing funding, spending at least \$3.5 million annually for daily maintenance, horticulture and program services.

-3-

Additionally, the city has made a major financial commitment to large-scale landscape and architectural restoration projects in accordance with the Park's Master Plan. \$17 million has been spent so far on capital improvements, with another \$45 million (including \$22 million to restore the Zoo) committed to capital projects over the next five years.

Concurrently, The Prospect Park Alliance has taken responsibility for funding those aspects of the Park's operation which the City cannot afford. The Alliance will provide to the Park's millions of users essential additional services and programs. Please see the enclosed brochure for a description of the Alliance's programs.

One of the Alliance's priorities is to undertake selected capital improvements which the public wants but would be best financed by the private sector. The restoration of the Carousel is an excellent first capital venture because:

- * It can be done quickly, more efficiently and less expensively than the City can do it by avoiding a cumbersome capital budget process which is suited to much larger jobs. Bureaucratic red-tape could delay the project for two to four years.
- * The Alliance can hire the best artists and craftsmen possible and insure the artistic quality and timely completion of this restoration. As the Carousel is in pretty good shape, it should take only five to seven months to complete.
- * The project itself would be a wonderful symbol of the Park's overall rehabilitation and specifically attest to the private sector's role in this effort.

MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE CAROUSEL

Not only is the Prospect Park Alliance best able to restore the carousel but is also the best candidate for managing and operating it, according to a study conducted by the New School for Social Research in 1985. Neglect by concessionaires in the past led to the carousel's demise. The Alliance would have a strong interest in maintaining the carousel properly under the

-4-

direct supervision of the Park Administrator. Any excess revenue generated in the operation of the ride could be used for the care of the carousel and, given enough funds, other projects benefiting the Park. As Park attendance increases (as it has in the last six years with some 4.4 million visits annually), more people will ride the Carousel which will produce greater revenues.

REQUEST

The Prospect Park Alliance requests a grant of \$100,000 from New York Telephone towards the \$443,000 needed to restore the carousel. In turn, the Alliance will work with your Publicity Department to ensure that your participation receives proper credit and visibility. These efforts could include credit in Park publications and on a plaque, and press coverage of your sponsorship of an opening day party with free rides on the carousel.

CONCLUSION

In summary, by reopening Prospect Park's carousel, The Alliance will:

- 1) Return a popular amenity to Brooklyn's children,
- 2) Add to the overall restoration of this heavily used area of the Park,
- 3) Reinstate an important piece of folk art,
- 4) Produce revenue for ongoing maintenance of the carousel.

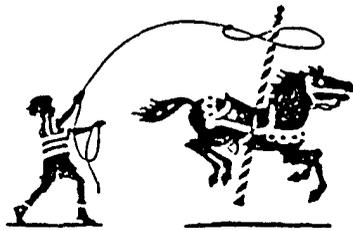
This project will take five to seven months to complete. In the end, each figure will be lovingly restored to its original character, music will sound and the carousel twirl, beckoning children to the haven of Prospect Park. Your participation will ensure that this symbol of Prospect Park will once again bring delight and joy to Brooklyn's children.

UPDATE 3 (5/30/89)

CAROUSEL BUDGET

Carousel Figures & Organ	\$ 212,380
Carousel Building Resoration (roll gates, iron grills, roof & woodwork)	149,770
Professional Fees	50,000
Overhead	31,000
Total	\$ 443,150

UPDATE 3 (5/30/89)



SAVE THE MERRY-GO-ROUND
FOR HOLYOKE.

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$ 50.00. Your donation will help save the Mountain Park Merry-Go-Round to the perpetual delight of many children, parents and grandparents...as well as to promote a tourist attraction for our City.

In appreciation of your gift, we have some for you. They are noted below:

Category	Contribution	Commemorative Gift
1. <input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,000	POSTERS (valued at \$15.00 plus categories 2, 3 & 4 gifts)
2. <input type="checkbox"/>	\$500 - 999	MERRY-GO-ROUND T-SHIRT (valued at \$10.00 plus categories 3 & 4 gifts)
3. <input type="checkbox"/>	\$250 - 499	NOTE CARDS DISPLAYING MERRY-GO-ROUND (valued at \$4.00 plus category 4 gifts)
4. <input type="checkbox"/>	\$100 - 249	SIX FREE RIDE TICKETS (valued at \$.50 per ride) Name listed as Charter Member on plaque in pavilion Two additional ride tickets for each \$50 over \$100.
5. <input type="checkbox"/>	\$50	TWO FREE RIDE TICKETS (valued at \$.50 per ride)

If you wish to receive the item(s), your tax deduction is the amount of your contribution less the value of the items received. If you do not wish to receive the item(s) the full amount of your contribution is tax deductible.

For the items checked-off above (other than ride tickets) will you please stop-in at our campaign headquarters, 1 CANAL Street, between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., and accept them by the presentation of this letter.

The names of contributors of \$100 or more will be engraved on a brass plaque and permanently installed in the Merry-Go-Round pavilion.

Your name will be shown as follows:

If you wish to make a change, please make the correction on the line below and return this sheet to us within ten days.

(please print clearly)

*Mary: Mary Th...
Angela Wright
campaign
co-chair*

UPDATE 4 (11/15/89)





"If anything has been done for joy that has made you a bit happier, hand it on to somebody else, just as soon as you can. That's the way to keep square with the world"

George F. Johnson
July, 1934

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Juanita M. Crabb
Mayor

The Recreation Park Carousel

Every City has a special place set aside solely for the purpose of dreaming - a place where children go to dream of things yet to be - a place where adults go to dream of endless possibilities. Such a place is the City of Binghamton's Recreation Park. For more than 120 years, Recreation Park has embodied the spirit, the heart, and the vision of the people of the City of Binghamton.



George F. Johnson
Industrialist

Never a Fence

Given to the City of Binghamton in 1921 by renowned industrialist and philanthropist George F. Johnson, the land was to forever remain a public park to be used for the "recreational needs of mothers and children." There were never to be any fences at Recreation Park and its free use for innocent pleasure was to be unrestricted.

A Timeless Treasure

Recreation Park became the centerpiece of the City's public park system and at the center of this beautiful 22 acre park is a timeless treasure - a 60 horse Herschell Carousel with a two roll frame Wurlitzer Military Band organ.

Rides for Free

Donated in 1925 by George F. Johnson's daughter Lillian Sweet, this magnificent carousel has been operating for more than six decades at no charge to the riders. And even more remarkably, of the 6,000 carousels operating in 1930, the Recreation Park Carousel is one of only 170 wood carved carousels left in the United States and Canada.

Over its 120 year history, Recreation Park has been known by many names. At first it was simply call "The Grove" because of its many oak and pine trees. Later it became "Bennett's Park" because it was part of the estate of Able Bennett. Since 1921, when it was given to the City of Binghamton by George F. Johnson, the park has been called Recreation Park.

Since the time of the Civil War, the tightly packed area of trees known as the "The Grove" has be favorite Binghamton picnic spot.

This Priceless Living Museum Needs Your Help

The Recreation Park Carousel is a priceless living museum that affords enthusiasts, both young and old, the opportunity to experience the joy and magic of America's past. But the Recreation Park Carousel desperately needs your help. Age has seriously taken a toll on the mechanisms and carvings that make this carousel so special. The time has come for a complete restoration of the Recreation Park Carousel.



*Allan Herschell
Carousel Maker*

In the Tradition of George F. Johnson

While other communities have the luxury of using rider fees to fund their carousel restoration efforts, in the tradition of George F. Johnson, we turn towards one another to make this important restoration a reality. Join in the Recreation Park Carousel Project. Give what you can. More important than the amount of your gift is that each person who has ever shared in the pleasure of the Carousel shares in this restoration as an expression of thanks to the Carousel itself.

Help Binghamton bring this precious part of our past back as a vital part of our future. The Recreation Park Carousel.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Juanita M. Crabb".

Juanita M. Crabb
Mayor

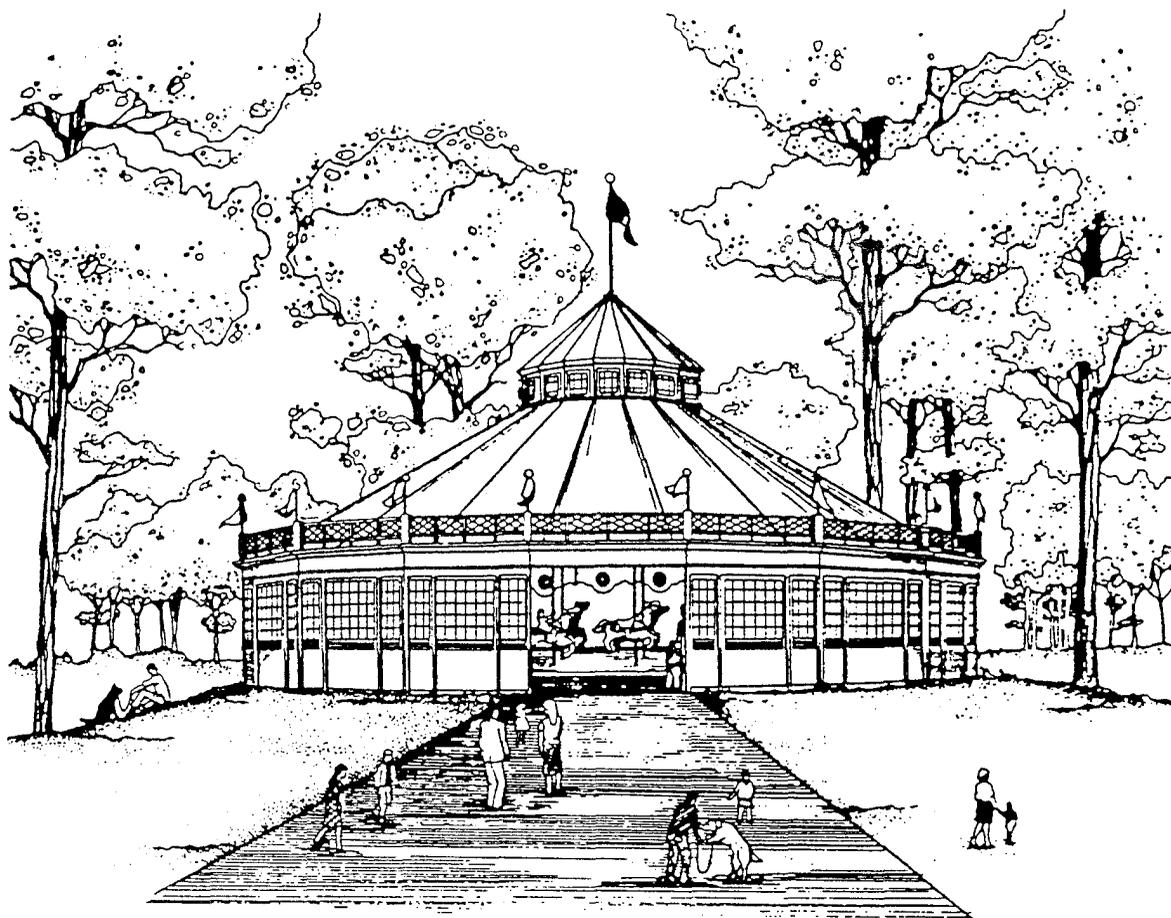


In the late 1800's, a special trolley line was built to take people from the city to "Bennett's Park" as a destination point.

In 1921, the property that was to become Recreation Park was sold to George F. Johnson for \$190,000.

Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, it is estimated that more than 27,000 rides are given on the Recreation Park Carousel.

UPDATE6 (8/10/90)



The Restoration of the Recreation Park Carousel

The origins of the carousel, also called merry-go-rounds, can be traced back 750 years to the 13th century.

In the 15th century, royal horsemen in Europe practiced for a tournament event called "carrosello" by riding wooden horses suspended from a rotating beam. These early carousels were rotated manually by attendants.

For unknown reasons dating back to their inception, carousels rotate in a counterclockwise direction, except in England.

Restoration of the Recreation Park Carousel involves restoring the horses, chariots, rounding boards, scenic panels, window panels, interior benches, pavilion, and mechanical components to their near original condition.

The Recreation Park Carousel was created by the master craftsmen at the Allan Herschell Companies of North Tonawanda, New York. Installed in 1925, the carousel has 60 hand-carved hardwood horses, two chariots, and a refurbished two roll frame Wurlitzer Military Band Organ.

Each horse is constructed around a hollow hardwood box to which the legs, tail, neck, and head are attached. Only the head and the tail are made from a single piece of wood. The remainder of the horse is made of a series of

laminated hardwood blocks.

The Recreation Park Carousel horses were originally constructed without any nails. Each piece was doweled and glued into place. Herschell carousel horses have two coats of lead based primer paint and had a finish coat of lead based Japan oil paints under several layers of varnish.

Mechanically, all of the horses on the Recreation Park Carousel are jumpers and have been mounted on active poles which allows the horse to have a jumping action.

The Recreation Park Carousel horses are all showing signs of loosened joints (joint separation) and mild cracks following the grain of wood. A majority of the horses have small gouges in the body and legs where riders rest their feet.

Several saddles have begun to show heavy wear and cracking at the point where the center pole goes through the body. The painted surfaces are worn and on several horses the primer coat is now visible.

The estimated total cost of restoring the antique Recreation Park Carousel to its original grandeur and to improve the pavilion which houses and protects the carousel is \$250,000. More than \$65,000 has already been secured in the form of a State of New York Urban Cultural Park Grant. The remainder of the restoration costs must be raised from other sources. That is the goal of the Recreation Park Carousel Restoration Project.

Allan Herschell completed his first carousel, which he called a "steam riding gallery" in 1883.

In 1885, after an unsuccessful twelve week run with his troubled third carousel in New Orleans, Herschell's less than enthusiastic partners advised him to throw the machine in the Mississippi River and return to the foundry in North Tonawanda.

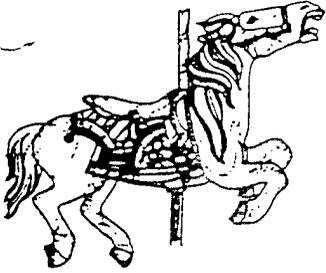
By 1887, Herschell had perfected his carousel and by 1891, 160 Herschell carousels had been sold.

The Allan Herschell Companies are noted for creating carousel horses that are oddly proportioned. Herschell horses typically have short legs that are drawn too close to the body and large heads with rounded muzzles and high set eyes.

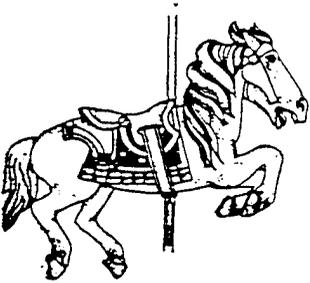
The Recreation Park Carousel Horses have a round dish style English saddles accompanied by two saddle blankets.

The average Recreation Park Carousel horse is 40-45 inches in height, 48-52 inches in length, 11-14 inches in width, and 75-100 pounds in weight.

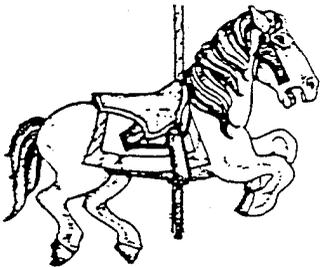
The Restoration Process



The Recreation Park Carousel horses are carved in six basic positions with variety in the elaborate tack (saddle and saddle blankets) detailing.



Each side of a carousel horse is carved differently depending on the viewing perspective. The more elaborately carved side of the carousel horse is the side facing the outermost edge of the carousel. This is called the "romance" or "fancy" side. The inner facing side of the carousel horse is carved in a much plainer fashion since it is not readily viewed by the public while the carousel is operating.



The plans for the renovation of the Rec Park Carousel pavilion, which will eliminate the unsightly chain-link fence, restore the building to the design outlined in the original 1925 architectural blueprints.

The painstaking work of fully restoring the Recreation Park Carousel will begin with the gentle removal, layer by layer, of the accumulated paint. Unlike other stripping processes which dip the figure into chemicals, each of our carousel horses will be stripped by hand with only a small section of the horse exposed to the mild stripping agent at a time.

Once the stripping is completed, the horse will be checked for damage. Any area needing repair will be carefully removed, recarved and rejoined to the figure with dowels and glue. Any previous repair done with nails or screws will be redone with the dowels and glue the original carousel masters would have used.

Each carousel horse will then receive four coats of primer and two finish coats of Japan oil paints. Once the oil paint has dried, gold and silver leafing will be applied followed by four coats of marine spar varnish.

Since the Recreation Park Carousel horses have previously been stripped down to the bare wood, no trace of the original colors remains. Fortunately, a similar period Herschell carousel has been researched and restored in Raleigh, North Carolina and that information will be available for the Binghamton project.

It is estimated that the hand restoration of the 60 horses and 2 chariots from the Recreation Park Carousel will take approximately six months.

UPDATE 6 (8/10/90)

Levels of Participation

The Restoration of the Recreation Park Carousel is a project dedicated to ensuring the continuation of the timeless art of carousel entertainment in our community. It is also a project that was designed to appeal to contributors of all ages and financial abilities. Contributions to the Carousel Project can be made in the form of cash sponsorships, services in kind, or the donation of time.

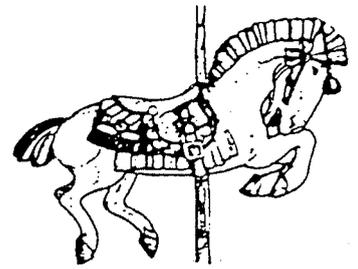
Restoration Support

Individuals, organizations, and businesses can choose to pay for restoring one of the antique carousel horses or sponsor the restoration of one of the many unique features of the carousel such as rounding boards, scenic panels, windows panels, carousel chariots, or benches. Undesignated contributions to the Carousel Project of any amount will be used where they will be most helpful in the restoration effort. Major support is also being sought for the improvement of the carousel pavilion.

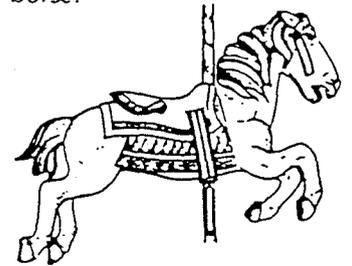
Major Sponsorship Categories

One Carousel Horse	\$ 2,000
One Carousel Chariot	\$ 2,500
One Rounding Board or Scenic Panel	\$ 1,500
One Window Panel	\$ 1,000
One Carousel Bench	\$ 500
Carousel Pavilion Sponsorships	\$50,000

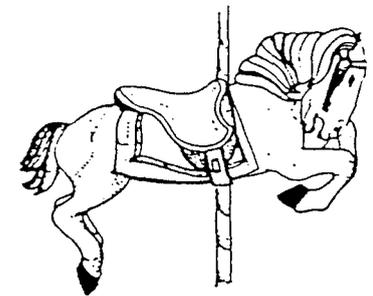
Each donor in a major category will be recognized with a special permanent name plaque on the item restored with their donation. In addition, supporters of a carousel horse restoration will have the privilege of actually naming their horse, perhaps to honor a grandparent, child, spouse, special employee, company, favorite race horse or just for fun.



Most carousels have one horse that is more elaborately carved than all the others. This horse is called the "lead horse."



On the upper outside rim or cornice of the carousel, the craftsmen often carved beads in full relief. Sometimes women, cherubs or gargoyles were used to dress up the exterior of the carousel. The Rec Park Carousel's cornice features 16 carved faces reminiscent of the European Middle Ages.



Cities similar in size to the City of Binghamton have the luxury of raising upwards of \$80,000 each season from charging a 50 cent admission fee for carousel rides. The gift of the Recreation Park Carousel from the Johnson family came with the stipulation that our carousel rides were to be forever "free for all."

Services In Kind

The Recreation Park Carousel Restoration Project is also seeking business professionals interested in donating their services to the restoration effort. Much needed materials include electrical and lumber supplies, paint for the exterior and interior, window glass, and hardware such as nails, screws and hinges.

Donations of Time - Carousel Corps

One of the most precious resources anyone has to give the Recreation Park Carousel Restoration Project is his or her time. Once the carousel is fully restored, proper maintenance and care will be needed to preserve its rejuvenated condition. To that end, the City of Binghamton will be forming the volunteer "Carousel Corps" to conduct weekly inspections in season of the carousel horses and mechanisms, clean the horses with the gentlest solutions, polish up the brass fittings and become the Carousel's caretakers for the future. Everyone is invited to join the Carousel Corps.

Benefits of Participation

Supporters of the Recreation Park Carousel Restoration Project will be recognized in a number of ways:

A permanent display listing the names of all contributors will be erected at the Recreation Park Carousel.

All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation.

All project participants will be invited to join in the VIP reception at the Grand Opening of the restored carousel on Memorial Day Weekend in 1991.

Contributors donating \$35.00 or more to the restoration effort will receive a copy of the beautiful "Binghamton Carousel Capitol" poster.



4th Floor City Hall
 Binghamton, New York 13901
 (607) 772-7001

Make checks payable to the
 City of Binghamton, Rec Park Carousel.

Contributions are tax
 deductible to the limits
 of the law.

Carousel Restoration Pledge

I (we) want to join in the Restoration of Binghamton's Recreation Park Carousel.
 Here is my (our) contribution for the restoration of:

- One Carousel Horse \$2,000 _____
- One Carousel Chariot \$2,500 _____
- One Rounding Board or Scenic Panel \$1,500 _____
- One Window Panel \$1,000 _____
- One Carousel Bench \$ 500 _____
- Carousel Pavilion Sponsorships \$50,000 _____

I (we) would like to be a part of this restoration effort.

Use my contribution where it can be most helpful. \$100 () \$50 () \$25 () \$10 () \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

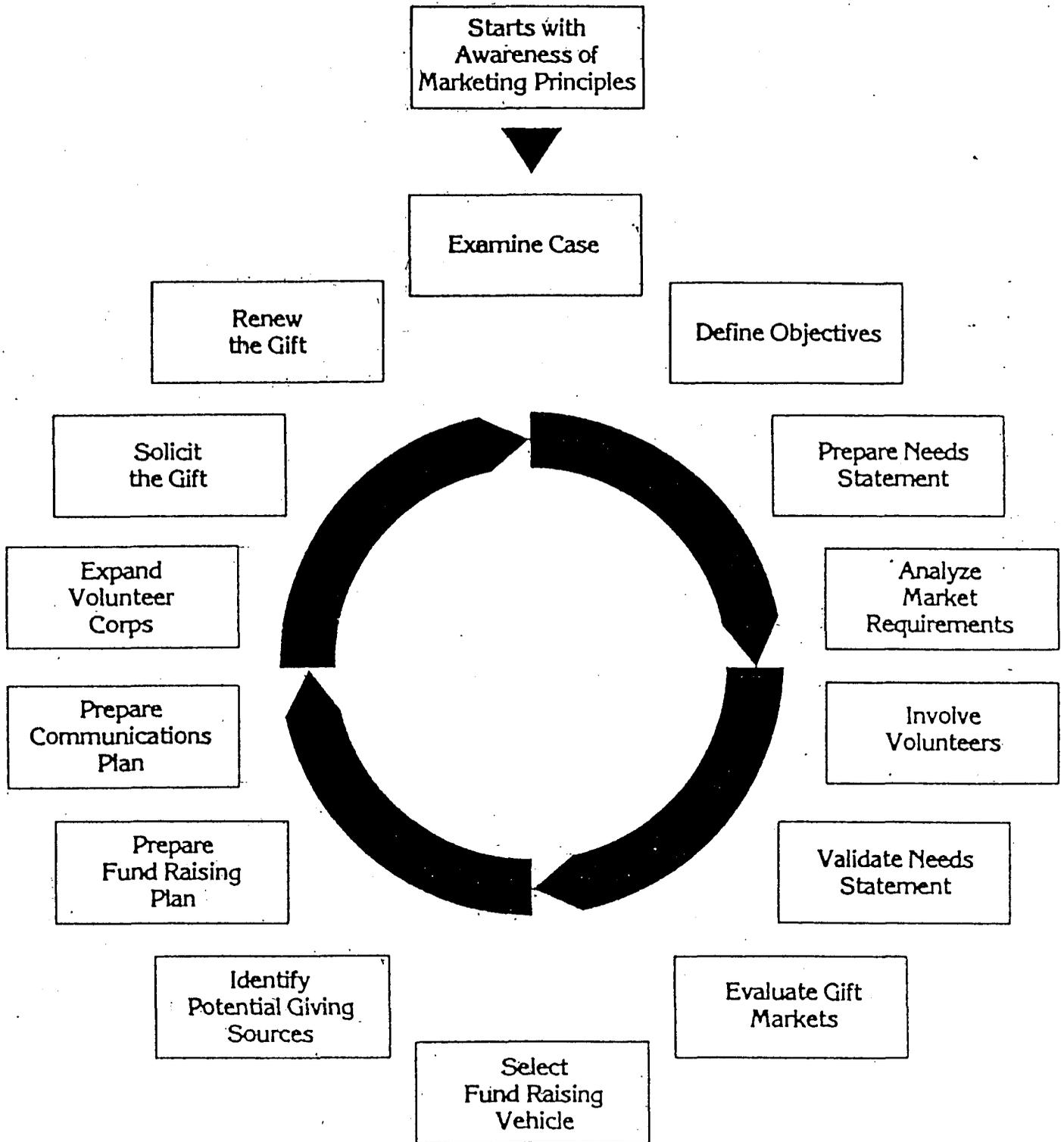
Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Signature: _____

Full amount enclosed ()

Bill me ()

The Fund Raising Cycle





October 10, 1990

National Carousel Association
 c/o Charles J. Jawues, Jr.
 P.O. Box 157
 Natrona Heights, PA 15065

Dear Mr. Jawues:

The Genesee County Parks & Recreation Commission and the Friends of the Crossroads Village Carousel are pleased to inform you that the "Adopt-a-Horse" project to make possible the restoration of 36 hand-carved 1912 C.W. Parker carousel horses is nearing completion. To date, 29 horses have been restored and "adopted"; four "adopted" horses, including the armored lead horse, await restoration. Only three horses and the ornate chariot are available for adoption.

- Chariot - The ornate carousel showpiece - \$5,000.
- Horse 1 - Inside row, brown with checkered (carved) saddle blanket; cow horns on saddle cantle.
- Horse 2 - Center row, white with ornate purple saddle blanket, and cow horns on cantle.
- Horse 3 - Middle row, brown, with ear of corn on cantle.

The above horses may still be "adopted" at \$2,000 per horse.

As the "adopter" of one or more horses, you are being notified of this opportunity. "Adoptions" are on a "first-come, first serve" basis, and restoration is by Master Craftsman Daniel Gosnell.

The carousel is now protected by a beautiful lighted and heated carousel building dedicated in November 1989 in time for use at Christmas at Crossroads. Custom-made horse blankets, by Friends' volunteers, protected the horses from buckles, etc. on boots and winter clothing. The building, made possible by the C.S. Mott Foundation, is equipped with an electronic security system.

The four metal kiddie horses have been "adopted" and restored. While restoring the mother's bench, the original Parker mother's bench was found under the exterior. The bench has been restored to its original red with white pinstriping. It too has been "adopted" and named "Nanny's Bench".

The beautiful Victorian, Parker-style ticket booth constructed by Gosnell and the Marc Ferrand's painting of "Chappo" and "Ralphie" were featured in color in the July 1990 issue of The Carousel News & Trader. The Friends

CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVES:

- CHARLES E. OLIVER, JR.
PRESIDENT
- ARCHIE HALFORD, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
- EUGENE E. GRICE
SECRETARY
- WILLIAM C. LUCAS II

GENESEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- ROSALYN A. BOGARDUS
- ARTHUR A. BUSCH
- CANDACE A. CURTIS

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:

- DONALD E. BECKER
CHAIRMAN, GENESEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
- EDWARD W. MOREY
CHAIRMAN, GENESEE COUNTY BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS
- ANTHONY RAGNONE
GENESEE COUNTY DRAIN, COMMISSIONER
- JAMES L. BASSETT
DIRECTOR

UPDATE 8 (1/15/92)

5045 STANLEY ROAD

FLINT, MICHIGAN 48506

PHONE (313) 736-7100

MICHIGAN RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION

AFFILIATED WITH

NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION

sponsored the ticket booth and the production of 1,000 prints of the Ferrand painting on acid-free paper - \$10.00 for regular prints and \$25.00 for signed copies. Income goes to the carousel fund.

The Commission has acquired the only existent 1910 Parker Ferris Wheel, diligently sought and negotiated by the Friends' founder, John Hayek. The ferris wheel, containing closed cabs, is in excellent condition and last operated in Lansing, MI. The Friends recommended its acquisition. The ferris wheel will be placed in the Village Park near the carousel.

The unsightly cabinet that housed music rolls for the band organ has been replaced by a beautiful cabinet constructed by Dan Gosnell. The cabinet was sponsored by the Friends.

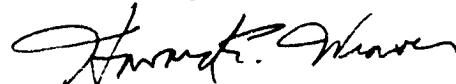
Another important advancement has been the participation by a special committee of Friends and the Village Manager in a series of long-range planning sessions under "Strataplan" with consultants from the Michigan Association of Community Arts Agencies, and sponsored by the Ruth Mott Fund. Outcomes will include the incorporation of the Friends in Michigan (underway) for IRS tax exemption under 501 C-3. An endowment fund is also being created to insure the long-range protection and preservation of the carousel and its components. This had been recommended by the Ruth Mott Fund.

We hope you were pleased with the quality restoration of your "adopted" Horse(s) and that your horse(s) and "Adoption Certificate" have continued to bring you great satisfaction. We are confident we have proven worthy of your confidence.

Please contact me immediately if you are interested in the chariot or one of the horses.

Again, thank you for your interest in Crossroads Village and the "adopt-a-horse" program.

Sincerely,



Howard E. Weaver
Curator, Ret./Consultant

HEW:jkp

cc: James L. Bassett, Director
Genesee County Parks & Recreation Commission
Sheldon Siegel, President
Friends of Crossroads Village Carousel

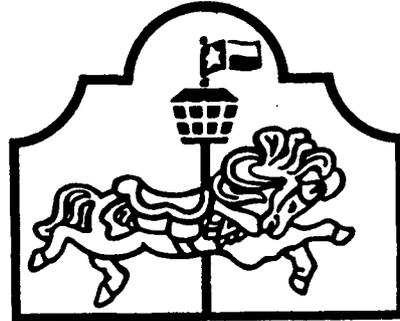
CATCH

THE

BRASS

RING!

UPDATE 10 (5/15/93)



**San Antonio
Carousel Foundation
4242 E. Southcross, Suite 4
San Antonio, Texas 78222**

For additional information
or more arm-twisting, please
call 333-7510 or 657-1461.

SAN ANTONIO



**CAROUSEL
FOUNDATION**

FUND RAISING - 100

THE CAROUSEL . . .

The C.W. Parker Amusement Company produced more than 800 "CARRY-US-ALLS." One of these is now in the process of being restored. The carousel is a rare circa 1917 Grand Jubilee model, which was one of the biggest and fanciest machines Parker ever built.

It consists of 52 jumping horses in a 4-abreast configuration and 2 chariots. Some of Parker's best and most elaborate examples of carved carousel horses were mounted on this merry-go-round.

This Parker carousel was operated in Brackenridge Park for a year and then in Playland Park for 39 years until 1980, when Playland closed. It was enjoyed by thousands of people--maybe even YOU! Bell's Amusement Park in Tulsa, Oklahoma, enjoyed it until 1985. In Feb 88, the carousel was auctioned off in San Antonio, piece by piece.

Today, there are less than 170 operating antique wooden carousels in the United States, but we have within our grasp another chance to see this Parker carousel spin.

THE FOUNDATION . . .

In Sep 89, the San Antonio Carousel Foundation (SACF) was organized by local carousel enthusiasts who want to see this grand carousel operating again in San Antonio (Hemisfair Park, maybe?) in all its splendor. We are currently working on the machine itself and have acquired a few of the beautiful hand-carved wooden horses. But a few volunteers and a few dollars are not enough!

. . . AND YOU

Your membership in the SACF will make it possible to preserve this carousel. Membership entitles you to:

- * A periodic newsletter.
- * Apply your skills or learn new ones by working on the carousel.
- * Share in the experience of helping to preserve one of San Antonio's unique antiques.

This unique example of Americana art is part of our national artistic heritage that needs to be preserved not only for us but for our children and their children.

Yes! I want to be a member of the San Antonio Carousel Foundation and help restore this carousel. Enclosed is \$10 for **EACH** person listed.

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE # _____

In addition, please accept a contribution of \$ _____ (SACF is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.)

Please make check/money order payable to SACF.

Mail to:
San Antonio Carousel Foundation
4242 E. Southcross, #4
San Antonio, Texas 78222

Thank you for your support!