

ONE MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION HOSTED "MEMORIES OF PEN MAR"

Pen Mar Park Maryland was and still is a treasure located along the Blue Ridge. For it brought entertainment, relaxation, fun, and great food for people from Washington, Baltimore, and the surrounding communities. Many wonderful memories that have lasted for decades were made at this beautiful park. Well over 300 people came and enjoyed themselves recreating some of those times gone by in "Memories of Pen Mar" at the Fort Ritchie Community Center on Saturday, May 22, 2010. The event was also an One Mountain Foundation member appreciation day to recognize and thank our loyal members. The event was open to the public with most activities free to all.

Many attending walked around looking at the memorabilia brought in by collectors. They reminisced about going to the park as children and taking fried chicken Mom made because they couldn't afford to eat in the restaurant. Or spending hours riding the carousel and trying to catch a brass ring. Or listening to the music with a favorite friend. Or riding the small steam train. There must have been dozens of stories and memories shared. There were a lot of smiles and sighs as folks looked at the pictures and antiques. Bill Coyle displayed a park bench where one could still see someone's initials carved into the wood. Working models of the carousel and seaplane ride were on display. A painting of High Rock from the Southeast that was donated by William Kaminski to OMF for eventual display in the future Mountain Heritage Museum was also on display.

The Rocky Birely Combo added to the enjoyment of the day. Couples danced on the small dance floor in the gym. The music also brought out stories of couples meeting at the Park, some even getting engaged during their visit. Nearly half the attendees saw the new Historical Entertainment film *The Grand Hotels of the Blue Ridge*, a story taken from the memoirs of John J. Gibbons, Sr. written when he was 99. Each showing was packed. Even those in line for the next showing and being served fresh popped popcorn provided by Susann Posey and Jim Bittner of St. John's United Church of Christ in Sabillasville was enjoyable.

Great food was served by the Sons of the American Legion Post #239. Since the event was also an OMF member appreciation event, OMF members were admitted to the film for free and treated to ice cream from Antietam Dairy.

A huge THANK-YOU goes out to a number of people who made this event so special and such a success:

- Organizing and conducting the event: Bev Coyle and her husband, Bill. This great event would not have happened without their drive and energy, and Bev's persistence on the telephone arranging for our guests to come and display their memorabilia and obtaining 25 tables of beautiful memorabilia.
- Donating the use of the FRCC gym: The Board of Directors, Fort Ritchie Community Center.
- Financial sponsorship: Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Tom Riford, President/CEO.
- Production and viewing of *The Grand Hotels of the Blue Ridge*: Historical Entertainment, Russ Richards, CEO
- Preparation of food and refreshments: The Sons of the Legion Post 239.
- Providing hot popcorn for the shows: Susann Posey and Jim Bittner.

- Providing delicious ice-cream: Antietam Dairy.
- Great period live music: The Rocky Birely Combo.
- Setting up the gym, moving tables & chairs: Nina Rouzer and the boys from Catocin Summit and Tom Rouzer, Jeff Coyle, Bill Coyle.
- Staffing the One Mountain Foundation Information Table: Kim Harbaugh and Heather Carter.
- William Kaminski for donating the oil painting "High Rock".
- PenMar Development Corporation for the loan of the miniature near replica of the Pen Mar Park Carousel and the Seaplanes Ride.
- Artist Carol Smith for her beautiful art work.
- All the folks who love to display their collections and memorabilia. Grand memories flooded back to many attendees. The stories told could fill volumes.
- Tony Mulieri and Marie Gilbert from The Herald-Mail, Matt McLaughlin from The Record Herald, Debbie Heishman from the Public Opinion, and Lou Scally and Tom Riford of WJEJ for the media coverage over the past couple of weeks.
- And last, but not least, to all the people who came to reminisce, to show their children and grandchildren an earlier day, to see the new historical Entertainment DVD, and to listen and dance to the music, One Mountain Foundation thanks you and hopes that you will return for other OMF Events.

The following are pictures from the various events and activities during the day:

<p>25 tables of Pen Mar Park memorabilia and artifacts of the Park and of the heyday of the railroad and hotels in and around the Cascade/Blue Ridge Summit mountaintop displayed by Pen Mar Park collectors and One Mountain Foundation members.</p>	
 <p>Blossom Reed's evening dress (provided by Bill Coyle).</p>	 <p>Mel Halderman at his display tables.</p>



Chic Hutton at his carousel display.



Terry Barkdoll at his display tables.



Western Maryland Railroad memorabilia.

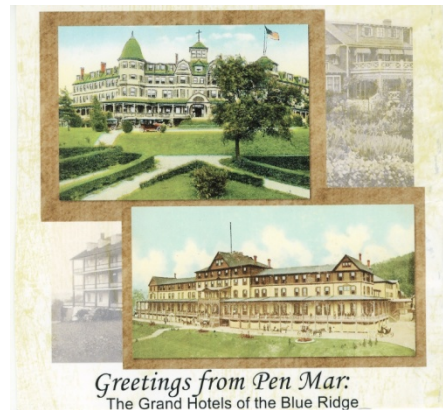


One Mountain Foundation memorabilia.



Russ Richards, Historical Entertainment Executive Producer, & Bev Coyle, Event Coordinator, talking to Tom Riford, Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau CEO and his wife.

Premier of a new Historical Entertainment DVD, *The Grand Hotels of the Blue Ridge*, with an admission fee for non-OMF members and free to OMF members.



Music by the Rocky Birely Combo



Antique car display

Miniature near replica of the Pen Mar Park Carousel. Chic Hutton spent 1,038 hours to build (1997-1998). On loan from the PenMar Development Corporation.



"High Rock"

A last quarter of the 19th century oil on canvas, unsigned and undated. Donated by William Kaminski, Blue Ridge Summit PA to the "Future" Mountain Heritage Museum.



Jim Bittner enjoying the memorabilia.



Model of Seaplane Ride.

On loan from the PenMar Development Corporation.



Antietam Dairy Ice-Cream.

Food and refreshments on sale by the Sons of the American Legion Post 239.



Tom Rouzer (SAL) taking orders for food.



Bill Coyle and Dave Saunders preparing outstanding food.



Jeff Coyle (SAL) serving food.