SA

STRUT + AXLE MAGAZINE

Inspiring Tomorrow's Pioneers

SPECIAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN EDITION

A Publication for Members & Friends of the Owls Head Transportation Museum

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ON THE COVER—OHTM's campus drawings courtesy Stephen G. Smith Architects

The Owls Head Transportation Museum is a nonprofit educational organization. Its mission is to collect, preserve, exhibit & operate pre-1940 aircraft, ground vehicles, engines & related technologies significant to the evolution of transportation for the purpose of education. *Strut+Axle* is a quarterly publication of the Owls Head Transportation Museum's Lang Education Center.

OWLS HEAD
TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM

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VIEW FROM THE
COCKPIT

Propelling the museum into the future

BY JOHN BOTTERO

On December 16, 2022, The Board of Trustees named John Bottero as the new Executive Director of the Owls Head Transportation Museum effective January 1, 2023. Kevin Bedford has transitioned to serve as the campaign's Major Donor Director until his well-deserved retirement at the end of June 2023.

For the past year and a half, John has served as the museum's Director of Operations and supported Kevin through the initial phases of the capital campaign, which included the building of the new storage building, planning and initial construction phase of the new aviation and auto workshops and the design of the new education spaces. The Board is proud and grateful for the leadership of both men.

Owls Head Transportation Museum has always been a special place for me. My first introduction was back in the late 1970s when my family visited the fledgling museum. At one point in time, Emeritus Executive Director, Charlie Chiarchiaro referred to the museum as having "gravity," a phenomenon meaning great things just seem to happen at OHTM. He was right and my brother Dave and I couldn't seem to get enough of the place!

Back then volunteer work was an all-hands effort and we were tasked with general housekeeping chores, ranging from raking the grounds to wiping-down the planes and automobiles. Oh, how we wished for rainy days to get that hands-on experience with the collection! I will never forget the first time that we were able to get close to a WWll Spitfire and T-6 fighter trainer that were based at the museum those summers. They took on a whole new perspective for a couple of kids as they roared to life and taxied out onto the runway, and beyond.

John Bottero [left] and Kevin Bedford inspecting the construction progress of the new restoration workshops.

At that time one of the best shows on TV was a series starring Robert Conrad as Major Greg "Pappy" Boyington and a band of mischievous aviators during the war in the Pacific, Solomon Islands. In each episode the cast would seem to get into every type of trouble imaginable, but when they were in the air, it was all business. Witnessing that kind of transformation from mere mortal to superhero whenever that plane broke contact with the earth—my brother and I spent hours imagining what it would be like to take flight in one of these magnificent machines.

This plan was thoughtfully conceived and was summarized by three simple words: "Inspiring Tomorrow's Pioneers."

One day as we were wrapping up our volunteer duties at the museum, a tall gentleman asked, 'would you like to go up for a ride?' Few decisions in my life have been made faster, and before I knew it, we were airborne. Without realizing it, that inspirational moment set the hook that would keep bringing me back to Owls Head Transportation Museum for decades.

40 plus years later, I found myself as a Trustee, and now, Executive Director of OHTM, listening to a plan to propel the museum into the future. This plan was thoughtfully conceived and was summarized by three simple words: "Inspiring Tomorrow's Pioneers."

What a noble purpose it is to inspire, and OHTM seems to do it effortlessly. The unique ability to witness these rare automobiles driving and vintage planes flying overhead gives inspiration to all of us—from first time visitors to lifelong members;

young and old alike come together to share stories and imagine future adventures.

In August 2022, the museum unveiled a $9.75 million capital campaign, based on a master plan that highlights four connecting elements. Each of these elements are critical to the success of the plan, and together, set the stage for long-term growth and opportunities for years to come.

In August 2022, the museum unveiled a $9.75 million capital campaign, based on a master plan that highlights four connecting elements.

First, the museum is simply out of space. As the museum's world class collection of aircraft, automobiles, and other pieces representing the evolution of transportation continues to grow, we need more space to properly store these wonderful examples of our past. A new 10,000 sq ft state-of-the-art storage annex on OHTM's campus is now a reality.

Second, a 13,000 sq ft addition to the existing aviation hangar will provide expanded restoration workshops for both automotive and aviation to maintain the museum's collection. When complete, this building will consist of 20,000 sq ft of open area with additional dedicated spaces for a breakroom/classroom, woodworking shop, machine shop, welding and grinding area and a self-contained paint spray booth. This building is designed with radiant in-floor heating and features an observation area where guests can safely look onto the floor to observe ongoing restoration efforts as a part of the enhanced visitor experience.

Third, with the auto shop moved into the newly expanded workshops building, the entire area in the main building– from the lobby to the old auto shop– is slated to be transformed into flexible education spaces. Under the direction of the museum's new Education Director Megan Galinsky, the museum is already at capacity hosting grades K-8 with STEM education programming. In this new space, retractable walls will be able to go from five smaller spaces to a single open space, creating a learning environment capable of accommodating up to 120 participants.

Fourth, the museum's enhanced visitor experience will graciously and comfortably accommodate our valued visitors. A new aerodynamic entrance design, architectural patio connecting the museum to the workshops, and expanded on-site food services are all in the works to meet the needs of the community and promote OHTM as a significant Maine attraction.

As you read through this special capital campaign edition of *Strut+ Axle* and get a glimpse of what has been taking place behind the scenes here, I hope that you become inspired and continue to be a part of the OHTM family. Please join us in our dedication to inspire future generations for years to come.

JB—Executive Director

the First 40 Years

Our Motto: Planes will Fly, Cars will Run

The Owls Head Transportation Museum's first building, the Auto Restoration Workshop, was completed in 1975. It was the outward expression of the museum's ethos that "planes will fly, cars will run, and carriages will be pulled."

The following year, the museum installed a Corliss steam engine in a newly constructed Energy Room to educate the public about how energy transitions affected transportation – from horses to steam and then to refined fuels like oil and gas. In 1979 the museum expanded its exhibit space again by adding the Wright Display gallery focused on historic aviation design.

The decade of 1980-1990 the museum built the East Wing Display Gallery, the Barn Fresh Gallery, and a new lobby entrance with archival storage and office space.

1974

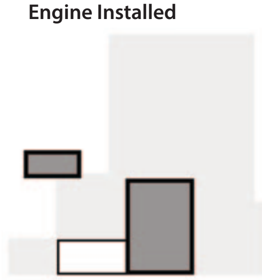
Rockefeller and Lang arranged the purchase of 48.2 acres and donated it to the museum, making a total of 111.4 acres. A road was cut in from Route 73 donated by Tom Watson and the original 50 x 100 foot workshop was completed by April of 1975.

1975

First Building Auto Restoration Workshop

1976

Main Display and The Energy Room with Corliss Steam Engine Installed



1976 **Charles Chiarchiaro was hired for the first paid position - curator then director. A workshop program for volunteers initiated to maintain, operate and restore old engines to operating condition.**

"Now is the time to scale-up, and we are a natural for it"

An interview with Tom Rudder

Tom Rudder, who has been an active pilot for over 60 years and involved with OHTM for over 20 years, has served as the museum's board chair since 2018 In his professional life Rudder's companies have performed restorations of buildings ranging from the exterior of the White House to the interior stone restoration of the United States Capitol, and the exterior stone restoration of the Forbidden City in Beijing for the Olympics.

Rudder has led the Board's mission to double-down on its commitment to education. "You have to reinvent yourself from time to time," said Rudder. "It's clear that society needs more education," he observed. "With new technologies – all businesses are having to reinvent themselves. Whatever you do for a living, you must have an understanding of the level of technology underneath you."

Looking back at the past several years, Rudder recognized the important role the museum's education programs play. "I've seen it at a small scale at the museum and it can really change lives. The museum has lots of beginning machines – the most basic engines of cars, motorcycles and airplanes. It's a great place to start if it's taught well." Rudder is emphatic, "Now is the time to scale up. There is clearly a need for our education program and we are a natural for it." ■

During the following decade between 1990-2000, the museum expanded its woodworking and aircraft restoration spaces, built a new State of Maine display wing, and added important storage spaces.

During these years, the museum's Board of Trustees consistently invested proceeds from expanding admission fees and other earned income sources from summer events to expand new display and exhibits areas and to regularly rotate its collection of historic aircraft and automobiles.

The last building expansion in the State of Maine Display Wing was completed almost a quarter

1979

Wright Display

Also added this year:
The 60-acre Nature Park is dedicated to Paul D. Merriam for use by Knox County residents and museum visitors.

of a century ago in 2000, while the museum's collection has continued to grow with important new acquisitions.

The last building expansion was completed almost a quarter of a century ago in 2000.

To address the museum's vision for its future, the Board has been inspired by the commitment of by Board Chair Tom Rudder and Capital Campaign Chair, Bud Woodworth. Rudder and Woodworth have led the museum's plan to double the space for an integrated automobile and aircraft restoration shop, while transforming the museum entrance and commitment to a forward-looking educational program to inspire the next generation of transportation and energy pioneers. —*The Editors*

"Be Imaginative"

An interview with Lawrence "Bud" Woodworth

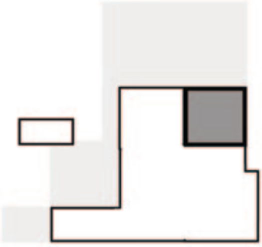
When Bud Woodworth, a professional engineer, recalled his early days at the museum as a trustee, he began thinking back on a myriad of building issues that he recognized needed to be

1980

East Wing Display

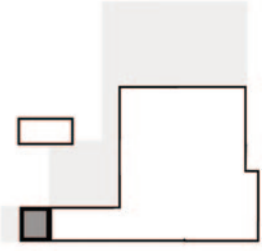
1983

Barn Fresh Gallery



1986

Metal Workshop



1981 **Beginning of Museum Exhibitions. The entry road is paved and an old Bangor and Aroostook Railroad caboose is transformed into the Hungry Pilot Cafe to serve light lunches and snacks.**

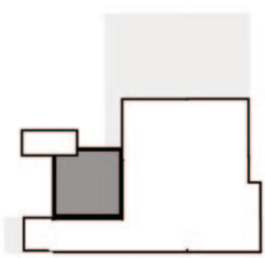
addressed. Up to that point, issues with the museum's interconnected buildings had been considered on a case-by-case basis. Instead, Woodworth recommended that the board develop a master construction plan for the museum to address a host of needs and requirements.

The board recognized that the museum had become a destination site for its many tens of thousands of visitors annually, and the museum needed to consider the kind of amenities visitors want.

The museum needed more exhibit space for its growing collection. It was also essential to move the automobile shop out of the main building, which would create the opportunity to integrate it with the aircraft shop. The board recognized that the museum had become a destination site for its many tens of thousands of visitors annually, and the museum also needed to consider the kind of amenities visitors want after traveling to Owls Head -- often from far away. At a minimum, Woodworth believed, it was important to offer better food service than it had and so he

1988

1st Floor Lobby & Offices
2nd Floor Lang Center

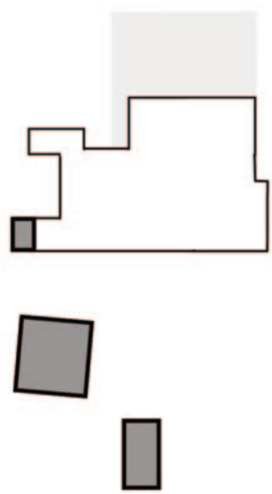


1990

Exhibition Pavilion is added as an all-purpose, special events building; the Lang Library opens to the public one day a week.

1990, 1992, 1995

Woodworking and Aircraft Restoration Workshops plus Exhibit Pavilion



organized the construction of a first-rate kitchen for a restauranteur he aimed one day to attract.

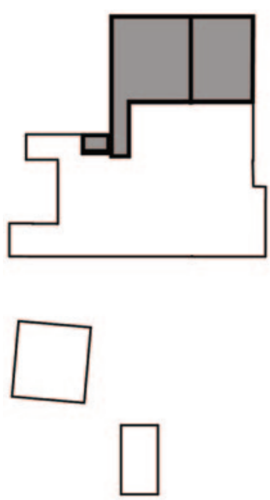
Woodworth's committee urged the architects to be imaginative. "I wanted to have a 'wow' factor for visitors.

"We also needed to get some outside advice," Woodworth continued, and so he suggested the museum hold an architectural competition. The committee, which Woodworth led, spoke with five architects and offered stipends for three to submit their conceptual plans. Woodworth's committee urged the architects to be imaginative. "I wanted to have a 'wow' factor for visitors."

The board selected architect Steve Smith of Smith Architects in Camden, who has advised the project to bring the board's vision to reality since winning the competition. Woodworth is excited by such features as the Diamond Portal – a flexible event and exhibit space and the dramatic archway structure linking the main building and with the expanded restoration shops. "Be imaginative," has always been the campaign's guiding principle. ■

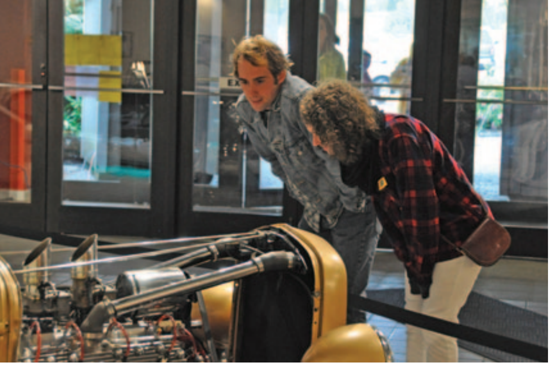
1997
Lang Library donation established the Archives and Research Collection at the museum

2000
State Of Maine Display Wing and On-Site Storage



2007-2008
Volunteers donate enough hours to the museum to equal $750,000 of restoration work.

2021
The museum launches a capital campaign to expand its education program and restoration workshops and enhance the visitor experience.



NEW

Expanded Workshop Spaces Offer Visitors Unique Access to Projects

For the past 25 years, the museum's extensive collection of historic aircraft, automobiles, bicycles, carriages, and engines has been maintained in increasingly crowded workshop buildings. By doubling the size of restoration facilities, the museum will expand volunteer education while enabling visitors to get a first-hand look at Maine's tradition of mechanical arts.

Through the museum's capital campaign, a new restoration shop specially designed to accommodate historic aircraft will be built, with integrated space for a specialized wood shop, machine shop, paint booth and classroom space.

One of the goals of this part of the building program is to create opportunities for visitors and students to see the mechanical

One goal of the building program is to create opportunities to see the mechanical arts of the restoration process.

The aviation hangar and workshop before construction in 2022.

Workshops

arts of the restoration process, as part of its informal education program. Every volunteer project at the museum is a labor of love, sometimes requiring several years to complete with dozens of volunteers working together.

Ground Vehicle Conservator Warren Kincaid comments, “Since its inception, OHTM has accomplished big things with small resources. If you stop to look closely at projects like the Wright Brothers “Flyer” or the Ford Model TT Bus, you will see what I mean. It takes an extra talent to fill

(above) Drawing of the new aircraft and restoration workshops.

Ground Vehicle Conservator Warren Kincaid [front left] and volunteer crew fire-up the museum's 1925 Ford T Beach Wagon and a summer event.

the gaps between "few tools" and large tasks. We stretch our abilities daily. However, there are limits that can't be overcome. Volunteers have been good to us, contributing specialized skills and even their own tools and equipment when we have reached our own limits."

Volunteers have been good to the museum, contributing specialized skills and even their own tools and equipment.

From its earliest days, the museum has attracted a core of volunteers who have helped maintain the historic collection of ground and air vehicles. Part of the museum's mission requires growing the pool of people able to maintain and operate the collections.

Throughout the year, over 100 volunteers learn and practice a variety of skills including mechanical work to keep engines running. But volunteers can also learn or adapt existing skills to help the museum care for diverse collections like leather upholstery, intricate woodworking on car and carriage bodies, and the art of covering an airplane wing in fabric so it can fly. Over the past several decades, total volunteer hours have been valued at between a half and three quarters of a million dollars per year.

"I've been involved in lots of living museums. This is the best volunteer program I've ever seen. The new space will give volunteers more organization and the opportunity to complete new projects in a time effective manner," said Aircraft Conservator Karl Erickson.

"I've been involved in lots of living museums. This is the best volunteer program I've ever seen."

–Karl Erickson

Expanding the restoration workshops will create more productive spaces for maintaining the historic collection of working automobiles and aircraft while allowing for visitors to observe restoration processes.

"The potential of this modern shop and learning areas will be to broaden the spectrum of the museum's audience, not only displaying older skills, but by teaching younger students and volunteers through the more experienced life skills of mature volunteer leaders," said Kincaid, who was first hired at the museum in 1982; his time at OHTM would also include time as a volunteer, and led "shop night" for six years.

"At last we can fulfill the potential of donated vehicles that we once had to pass by. With the new storage building (also being built now) we can store worthwhile future projects until we are ready to turn them into viable restorations.

"Not long from now we should be able to add precision metal work, gas and electric welding, auto body and painting as well as pro quality woodwork to the list of projects we can accomplish. Not only that, but we'll be able to pass those skills onto others.

"I know that the Founders had all of this in mind when OHTM opened its doors in the beginning. Now is a good time to visit the museum if you haven't in awhile, or wander back if you used to volunteer. Help us build up the shops as they need to be," said Kincaid. —*The Editors*

Aircraft Conservator Karl Erickson [far left] and aviation volunteer crew stand proudly by their work: the museum's 1917 SPAD XIIIc.I restoration.

FOCUS

From the Owls Head Transportation Museum's earliest days, its educational programming has been an integral component of its success.

The capital campaign will expand the museum's opportunities to serve more broadly as a cultural learning center. With flexible spaces, the museum can draw on its expertise, experience and resources to offer exciting new educational programming for members and visitors.

With its new plan, the museum will apply examples of experimentation and discovery developed by pioneering inventor-entrepreneurs, within the framework of a modern STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) educational environment. The program will connect the museum's historic collection with student activities in the newly redesigned

On Education

A group of young pilots enjoy snacks and story with Aircraft Conservator Karl Erickson.

Energy Room and complement existing education programs encompassing high school and college apprenticeships, and volunteer education programs.

“What the museum offers is a magnificent network of problem solvers and engineers, a stellar collection of highlights of transportation which show all the problems past inventors and innovators had to overcome to shape what the future would look like today. In Maine there are a wide variety of opportunities in environmental and biological education sciences, but there are just a few museums that are focusing on the physical sciences,” said Ruth Kermish-Allen, who sits on the museum’s Board of Trustees.

“Few museums are focusing on the physical sciences.”

–Ruth Kermish-Allen
Maine Math and Science Alliance

Since joining OHTM in 2022, Education Director Megan Galinsky has made a strong commitment to the capital campaign’s “race to power the future” by

Dr. Ruth Kermish-Allen
OHTM Board Member

When OHTM Trustees decided to launch a new program focused on inspiring Maine students to focus on science and technology skills, they turned Dr. Ruth Kermish-Allen, the Executive Director of the Maine Math and Science Alliance (MMSA), for help. In Maine, Kermish-Allen is the most widely recognized state leader in developing environmental Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education programs for K-12 educators. Kermish-Allen recognized the museum's exciting opportunity to leverage its extensive collections to inspire student learning in a variety of technical fields, which is lacking in most Maine schools.

With Kermish-Allen's guidance, the museum's STEM program is centered on "The Race to Power the Future," through which students experience what earlier innovators faced in developing automobiles and aircraft as they are challenged to design and implement new approaches to energy and transportation.

Kermish-Allen then helped lead the museum's national search for a dynamic Education Director to launch the STEM-based programs – both at the museum and out on the road through ambitious outreach programs. After helping to shape the museum's new curriculum, Dr. Ruth Kermish-Allen then joined OHTM's Board in early 2022. ■

developing several STEM-based program. "STEAM and STEM are such dynamic teaching methods because they create an explorative, rapid prototype and testing learning method. Through this type of learning, students are presented with a challenge or question then encouraged to do research through either the Scientific Method or the Engineering Design Process to complete a real-world problem. Students are given background knowledge to understand their challenge and then given materials to design, build, test and retest their ideas of a solution for their real-world problem. This method may have students fail the first iteration, but through failure they are gaining confidence, knowledge and understanding in themselves and what they are designing but also in the curriculum making them have a "light bulb" realization there is more than one way to create a solution," said Education Director Megan Galinsky.

Students are given materials to design, build, test and retest their ideas of a solution for their real-world problem.

Galinsky has created a number of STEM-based programs since she joined the museum in 2022. These programs are giving students access to, and hands-on experience with working models of four energy production concepts:

- Steam Power
- Combustion Engine
- Aerodynamics and Wind Power
- Solar Power

Our outreach programs are designed to help immerse students in their learning of STEM through hands-on activities.

School group gathered around their Lego derby race cars after exploring forces that are involved in racing.

"We are eager to get students in our building through our in-house programs to expose them to past creations and encourage them to make connections to the modern day transportation they used to get to OHTM, but also challenge them to make a prototype of future transportation. Our outreach programs are designed to help immerse students in their learning of STEM through hands-on activities of science, technology, engineering, art and math and living history through our unique collection," said Galinsky.

School group learning about the history of racing in "race cars" they built for themselves.

Megan Galinsky
Director of Education

Megan studied at Texas Tech University and Arizona State University to receive a B.S. in Anthropology, with a focus on Cultural Anthropology. She started her museum career in museum education as a volunteer at the Bell County Museum that led to her passion of Museum STEM Education.

This passion has brought her all over the country building educational programs, developing departments and now to Maine to be our Education Director. Megan enjoys being able to travel to new places which allow her to learn about local culture, explore museums and visit the area's attractions. When she is not at the museum, she is with her family hiking, going to the dog park, or reading a new mystery. ■

Three core goals for student participants:

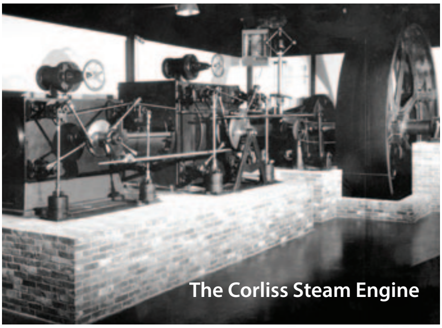
■ Leverage engineering design thinking to understand the technological and mechanical arts of how machines have worked in the past, how they currently function, and how they could function in the future.

■ Inspire understanding of how the technological world we live in has been developed over time and will continue to evolve as future technologies are created.

■ Create hands-on and interactive learning experiences that provide the opportunity to design solutions to engineering problems related to energy and transportation.

"OHTM's STEM education programming will fill a unique niche in both Maine's STEM education community and Maine's educational museum landscape. The unrivaled collections at OHTM provide an excellent foundation to build a STEM education program that is unlike any other in New England. While many of the STEM education resources available to Maine's educators and students are focused in the life and earth sciences,

The unrivaled collections at OHTM provide an excellent foundation to build a STEM education program that is unlike any other in New England.



The Corliss Steam Engine

OHTM has the capacity to focus efforts on engineering and the physical sciences related to transportation," said Galinsky.

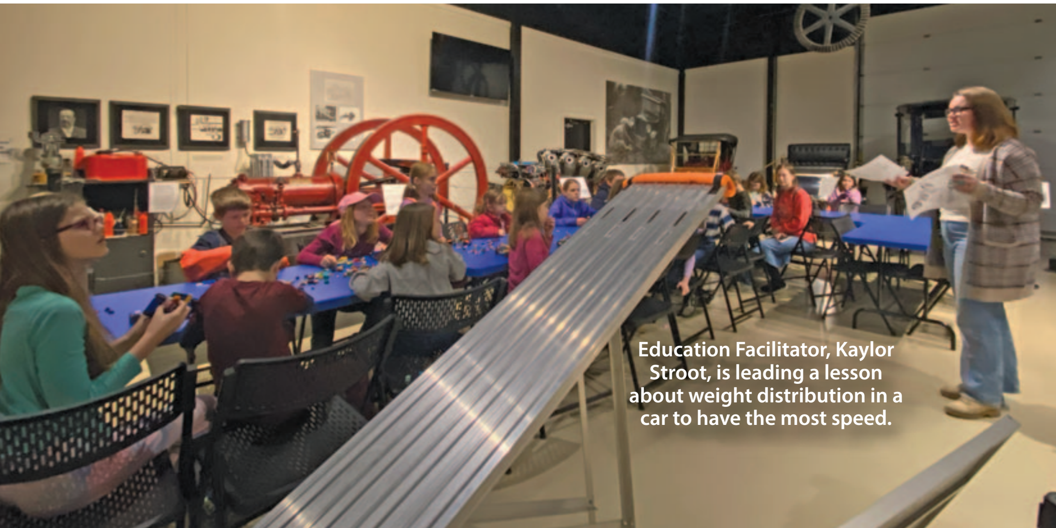
Additionally, while Maine's 9th-12th graders have a wealth of experiences available to them through growing career and technical education programs across Maine, there is no cohesive pathway for students in grades K-8 to experiment with engineering design, which is a key learning outcome for these grades. OHTM can use its extensive collections of historic transportation technologies to design an experiential STEM education program for students in grades K-8 that addresses the core goals above.

The Corliss Steam Engine currently resides in an "Energy Room" near the entrance to the museum. The Energy Room will be expanded to include additional exhibits of a combustion engine, wind lift and aerodynamics displays based on propeller and wing design as well as a display of solar power conversion in batteries that are in electric cars.

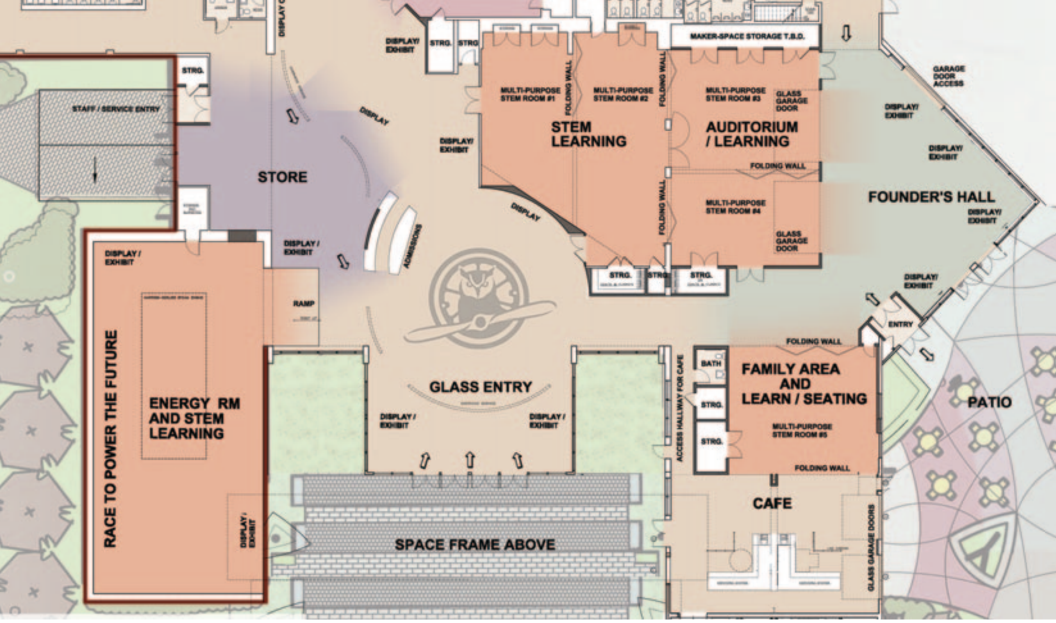
We created come-and-go programs that introduce new STEM concepts to participants that have a unique connection to the museum's history and collection.

–Megan Galinsky

Before the new Energy Education Room is completed, OHTM's STEM Education program will design and build a Mobile Unit with models that demonstrate these energy concepts, which can be transported to schools throughout Maine to introduce school students and teachers to its STEM programs.



Education Facilitator, Kaylor Stroot, is leading a lesson about weight distribution in a car to have the most speed.



Rendering of proposed education spaces by Stephen G. Smith Architects.

Currently OHTM's Education Facilitator, Kaylor Stroot, is working on programs that will enhance the engagement of a participant while they visit the museum. We created come-and-go programs that introduce new STEM concepts to participants that have a unique connection to the museum's history and collection.

OHTM's new traveling and on-site exhibits and associated educational experiences will enable participants to experience and observe the leading sources of mechanical power that were, are, and could be competing to define the energy sector, starting in the late 1800s to the near future. Using collection items across multiple platforms, the educational exhibits will identify the advantages and disadvantages of steam, electric and combustion power in consumer applications, and why combustion ultimately won the popular vote for how the world would move during the 20th century.

This expansion provides a place for schools, individuals and surrounding areas to come together and be at the forefront of the "Race to Power the Future."

–Megan Galinsky

"We encourage the community to come to our museum and play through the STEM Education Center's programs and events. When we create a community of learners, we create a family and friendship that encourages and inspires each other to continue their education in STEM," said Galinsky.

OHTM's STEM Education plan is part of a larger strategic expansion for the museum's future. As part of the museum's "Inspiring

Tomorrow's Pioneers" capital campaign, OHTM will repurpose the current Energy Room square footage to expand its floor space thus providing more room for STEM-focused educational programming.

Exhibit Stops:

- Steam Power = Corliss Machine
- Fossil Fuel Combustion Power = Otto Machine
- Wind Power = Airplane Propeller and Turbine Blade Designs
- Solar Power = Solar Cell *(need to add to collection)*

Components of each exhibit station:

- Actual operational machine
- Examples of how each power source is used in stationary and mobile uses
- Interactive exhibit that highlights how the power in each machine is generated and the outputs it creates *(movement, waste, etc)*
- Design challenge illustrating the concept for each power type
- At each station, visitors can see and experience period clothing and associated equipment

Our Capital Campaign is putting Education full STEAM ahead! This is great because Maine has so many students and participants excited for the future and aching for a place to learn. This expansion of our museum is monumental in the community to providing a place for schools, individuals and surrounding areas to come together and be at the forefront of the Race to Power the Future. —*The Editors*

[above] School Vacation Camp—students design a prototypes to be tested in the vertical wind tunnel to understand aerodynamics.

[below] Education facilitator, Kaylor Stroot, demonstrates a rotary engine during a field trip.

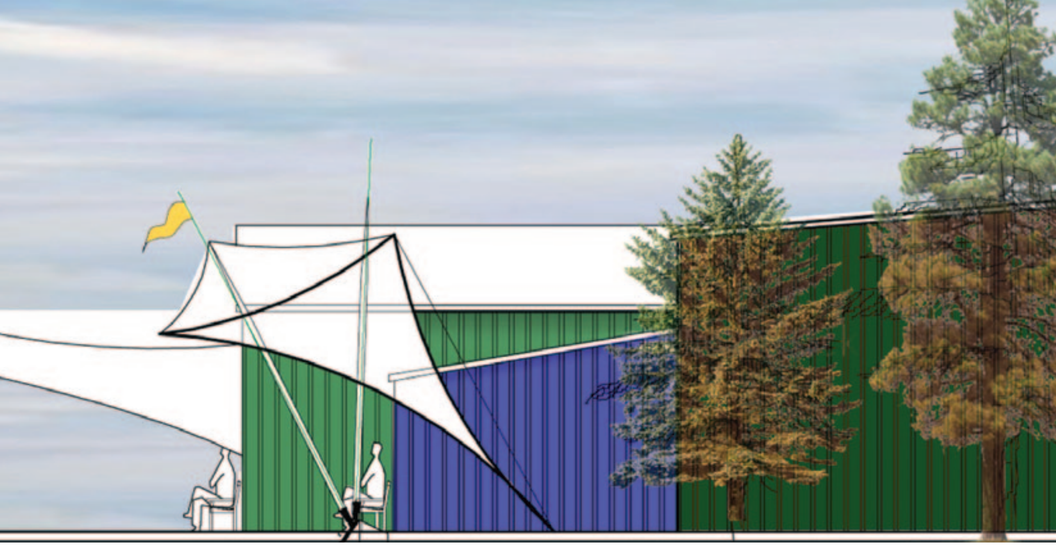
An Inspiring Future

The Owls Head Transportation Museum's Community is Growing!
In order to meet present and future needs, the museum must do more than expand our vision; we need to expand our facilities. We currently host 30,000+ visitors per year on-site, 1,800+ members, 5,000 youth admissions, 2,000 exhibitors displaying vehicles at summer events, 200+ volunteers supporting museum activities — and this increases every year.

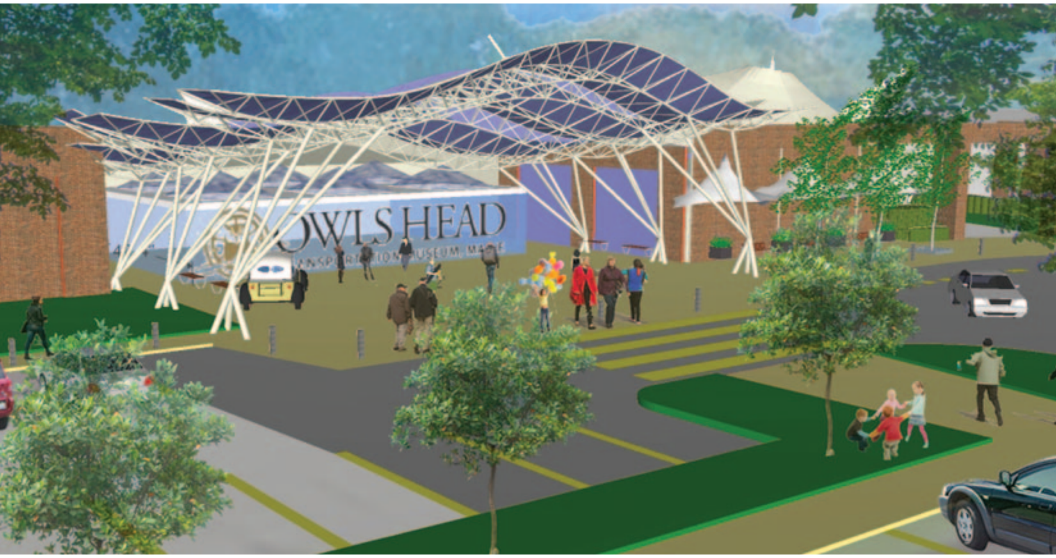
Through a design competition, the museum board approved a building and site plan that will greatly enhance our ability to execute the mission of the museum and improve the overall experience of the tens of thousands who travel from around the world to visit Owls Head.

New Arrival and Glass Entry
The museum's new entrance is an exciting free-form tensile structure that immediately provides visitors with a novel user experience. The aerodynamic entrance materials, developed by NASA for use in the space program, reflect the cutting-edge technologies that have always inspired transportation pioneers. In addition to its beauty, this new entrance design also serves as a gathering place for visitors and school groups to assemble.

On-Site Cafe and Food Service
Currently, food service, available in nearby Rockland, requires visitors to leave the museum and limit their stay. As part of the capital campaign, the museum will create a café and indoor/outdoor dining spaces



Rendering of proposed patio pavilion, connection the workshops to the main museum building by Stephen G. Smith Architects.



Rendering of proposed arrival and glass entry.

in order for families to extend their visit to the museum where there will be more opportunities to interact with volunteers, staff and each other.

Family and Dining Common Areas

The museum has always tried to present compelling experiences for family members of all ages. The museum is creating new space for families who need a place to sit down or have quiet time for tired children. Visitors to the museum often travel long distances to attend events and tour the exhibit halls.

Rendering of the new entryway and patio pavillion.

Patio Pavilion

Architecturally, the museum's main exhibit spaces will be connected by a distinctive patio pavilion to the airplane and automobile workshops. The pavilion also provides space for outdoor dining and a secondary entrance to accommodate larger tour groups.

Site Improvements

The museum hosts 8-10 major events annually, which bring tens of thousands of visitors to Owls Head from not only the region, but all around the world. To accommodate visitors, the museum has redesigned the surrounding landscaping for improved traffic flow and signage, extensive new parking areas and a new entrance approach.

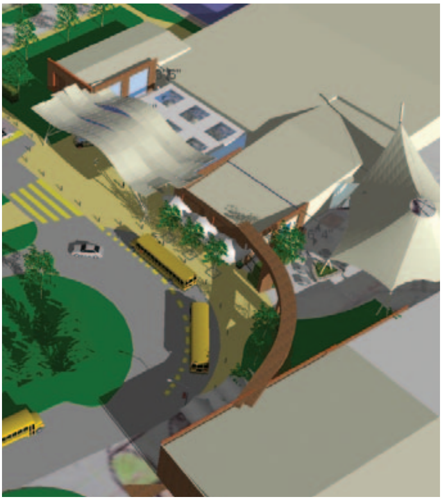
Stephen G. Smith, Architect

"The museum's trustees wanted a new image as part of the architectural challenge, something that would complement the museum's exceptional collection," recalled Stephen Smith of Stephen G. Smith Architects in Camden. "Everyone recognized that the museum had grown in a piecemeal fashion, to create 180,000 square feet of space over four decades." Smith said he identified key areas where he would recommended the museum focus its design guidelines: visitors should be able to easily locate the museum entrance which is currently not obvious. The entrance is the obvious place for visitors to find inspiration from the history of flight.

Circulation throughout the museum should connect visitors to the automotive and aeronautical workshops, which Smith proposed to address by designing an arcing tensile structure over a patio courtyard "to tie the museum's architecture together," he said. ■

The Next 40 Years Starts with YOU!

By Kevin Bedford
Director of Major Gifts, Capital Campaign



Aerial view rendering of the new entryway and patio pavillion.

May 13th will mark my 21st and final anniversary at Owls Head Transportation Museum. It is a big deal for me, but only a fraction of the 48 seasons this impressive institution has seen. I am passing the baton of leadership to the extremely talented and capable new director John Bottero, in whose hands the museum is poised for further success.

From the start, my life at OHTM has been a deeply rewarding challenge. There were rarely times to rest. It's always been, "Sink or Swim!" "Action" and "Show Time!" and I loved all of it!

Our strategy from the outset has been to build on our strengths.

A big turning point came in 2017 as we were beginning to burst at the seams. The board and staff took a deep breath during a retreat to chart the museum's future. We recognized we needed to build more space for our invaluable volunteers. We also needed to provide more space for families who had often traveled distances to visit the museum. We understood that mem-

Construction Updates

RESTORATION WORKSHOPS

- Doubling the size of the existing workshops to a total of 20,000 square feet, roughly 200 ft long x 100 ft wide
- Radiant floor has been completed in existing space and will also be added to the addition
- Steel uprights and roof beams are in place, insulating and sheathing are underway as well as electrical installation

STORAGE ANNEX

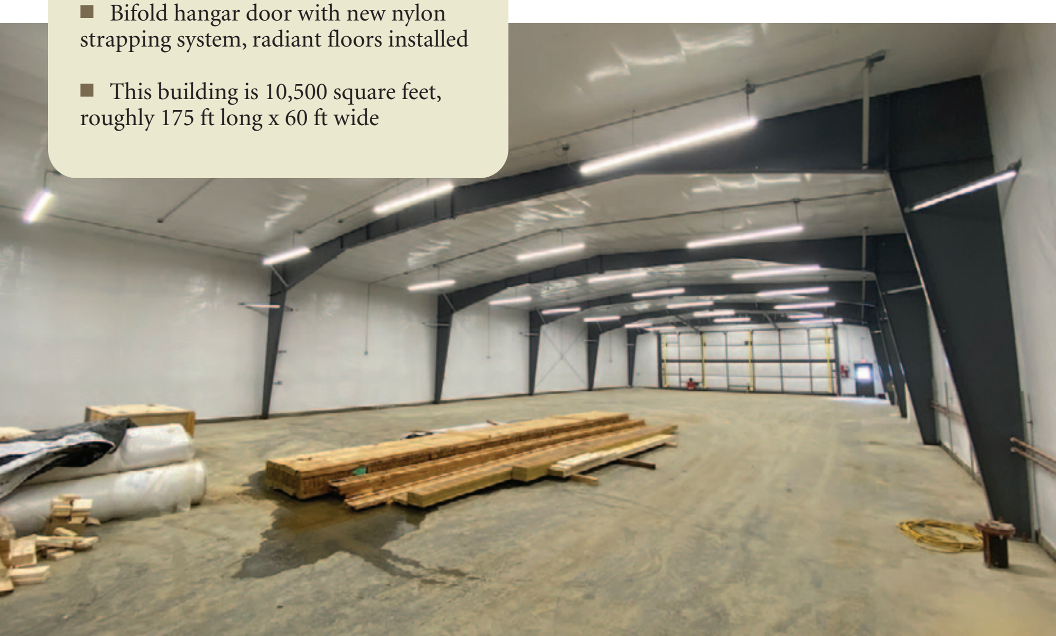
- Temperature controlled, 2 story area is complete, roughly 30 ft wide x 50 ft long
- Bifold hangar door with new nylon strapping system, radiant floors installed
- This building is 10,500 square feet, roughly 175 ft long x 60 ft wide

bers wanted more amenities, including improved food service. At the same time we wanted to expand the museum's audiences, particularly to younger generations. Thus, we began carefully planning an ambitious expansion of the museum's "campus."

Our hope is that with our expanded spaces we can engage a larger spectrum of visitors and become an educational hub in the area.

–OHTM Board Member, Lawrence Woodworth

Our strategy from the outset has been to build on our strengths. We are planning for the continued explosive growth of the annual New England Auto Auction ™. At the same time, experts we recruited have helped us focus on the great need for today's young students to be exposed to



OHTM's Capital Campaign has raised $5,882,100 toward our goal of $9.75 million

new fields of technology -- what educators call STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math-- where so many jobs of the future will be. We know that our awe-inspiring, world-class collections can provide keys to unlocking the curiosity in young minds.

To accomplish our ambitious forward-looking building and grounds expansion plan, the museum launched a major capital campaign that will guide its future in the years and decades ahead. Led by the generous support of the Board of Trustees and with the help of some of the most loyal members, OHTM's Capital Campaign has raised $5,882,100 toward our goal of $9.75 million. With significant funds in hand, this past fall, we broke ground on the $2.2 million construction of the ground vehicle and aeroplane restorations shops, which we will complete this summer.

We have also configured temporary classroom spaces for the museum's highly successful K-8 STEM education programs and have hired a dynamic new director of education who has filled the museum with hundreds of school children this past year. These young minds are learning and seeing first-hand how their lives will be shaped by rapidly evolving transportation technologies through both hands-on and virtual programs we call the "Race to Power the Future."

Obviously, we cannot accomplish these important goals alone. We need your help. Together with the support of members, friends, visitors and collaborating institutions we can create a museum of the future firmly grounded in an understanding of our past. There are many ways you can contribute. Obviously monetary contributions are important. But there are many other ways for members to give as you can see in the accompanying Ways to Give outline. And, we are always available to answer any questions you might have. Please give us a call or write!

Help ensure that the next 40 years of your museum's history will be exciting and impactful to the lives of thousands.

We sincerely hope you will be inspired by the plans we have described in this issue of *Strut+Axle* and that you will respond as generously as you can. When you do you will be helping to ensure that the next 40 years of your museum's history will be as exciting and impactful to the lives of thousands upon thousands of individuals, of all ages, as you help the museum build on our impressive shared history.

Thank you! — *Kevin Bedford*

Your donation makes a difference

OHTM'S CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

We cannot accomplish our ambitious capital campaign goals alone. We need your help. Together with the support of members, friends, visitors and collaborating institutions we can create an inspiring museum of the future which is firmly grounded in an understanding of our past.

Over the years, the museum has received gifts ranging from aircraft and automobiles to tangible assets and real estate that have been donated and used to build our collection and support our programs. Scores of donors have left an important legacy that has helped Owls Head Transportation Museum grow. Supporters of the Owls Head Transportation Museum's Capital Campaign may choose from a wide variety of methods for making gifts to the campaign. The personal satisfaction of helping the Owls Head Transportation Museum and it's capital campaign is enhanced when personal objectives can be achieved at the same time.

Cash Donation

Remember, any amount helps us achieve our goals!

Cash contributions give the Owls Head Transportation Museum capital that is immediately accessible and allow the donor to deduct the amount of the gift as an itemized deduction in computing his/her income tax. Most donors find they are able to make more significant contributions and accommodate personal cash flow more easily if pledge payments are spread out over a 60-month or five year tax period.

OHTM is not responsible for any donors' tax benefits, and tax law and regulations for charitable donation deductions are complex. Prospective donors should consult a qualified tax advisor before claiming any deductions.

Use this QR Code to make your donation online /or/ use the enclose donation envelope!

ohtmcampaign.org

Think outside the box

DONATION

1960 Jaguar XK150 Drophead Coupe

This stunning 1960 Jaguar XK150 Drophead coupe was recently donated to the Owls Head Transportation Museum by a generous friend of the Museum for the purpose of supporting the capital expansion project. In 2013, this Jaguar was the top seller at the New England Auto Auction and had recently undergone a full high quality restoration. The donor loved the look and style of this automobile and when the time came to move on from the car their first thought was to give it back to help support Owls Head.

Automobiles Motorcycles Aircraft

Wondering what to do with that vehicle that you just don't drive much anymore?

Over the years, Owls Head has received gifts ranging from aircraft and automobiles to tangible assets and real estate that have been donated and used to build our collection and support our programs. Scores of donors have left an important legacy that has helped Owls Head Transportation Museum grow.

Did you know...

Your gift of an automobile, motorcycle or any motorized vehicle can help our "Inspiring Tomorrow's Pioneers" capital campaign meet its goals. At OHTM, our New England Auto Auction™ gives us the unique opportunity sell your donated vehicle and apply 100% of the pro-

with your donation!

ceeds towards this important campaign. You may be eligible to claim tax benefits for the value of donated property, but you should consult a tax advisor.

Each August bidders from around the world participate in the New England Auto Auction and compete for the chance to take home a car. Your gift of a vehicle can be an antique or late model, the sale will help us in reaching our goal. It's our way of thinking outside of the box.

For more details contact:
Toby Stinson (207)594-4418 x116
ts@ohtm.org
/or/
John Bottero (207)594-4418 x127
jb@ohtm.org

DONATION

1970 Pontiac GTO

In 2022 a beautiful 1970 Pontiac GTO was donated by the owner. The donor decided that it was time to move on from the car and wanted to give it to the Owls Head Transportation Museum, knowing his donation would make a difference. The vehicle was donated to the museum as a legacy gift in the memory of his father, who was a longtime friend and trustee of the museum. Proceeds from the sale were earmarked to the current capital campaign to expand the museum and meet future collection and educational needs.

There are many ways to contribute.

What's right for you? Supporters of the Owls Head Transportation Museum may choose from a wide variety of methods for making gifts to the campaign.

Real Estate and/or Personal Property

Did you know... Gifts of real estate which allow donors to continue to occupy their residence, vacation home or farm for life, would allow eligible donations to claim a tax deduction *(gifts of real estate with a retained life estate).*

IRA and Retirement Assets

Using an IRA to make a charitable donation can help lower your tax bill and help the Museum.

Did you know...

People who are age 70 ½ or older can contribute up to $100,000 from their IRA directly to the Museum and avoid paying income taxes on the distribution.

Giving Securities

(Publicly traded, non-marketable or closely held securities)

For many donors, giving stock to the Owls Head Transportation Museum may be preferable to giving cash. Federal tax law offers special incentives for non-cash gifts of property, particularly if that property has appreciated in value.

Corporate Giving

Under current tax laws a corporation may claim a charitable deduction up to 10% of free tax net income. Any excess in the year may be carried over to as many as five years. The maximum federal savings of such charitable gifts is 35%.

Naming Opportunities

There are exclusive naming opportunities available in the museum during the Capital Campaign. These curated redesigned areas encompass a variety of uses, from restoration areas, the entrance pavilion and classrooms to family rooms and research archives. If there is something that you are passionate about, we would be honored to consider a naming opportunity for your gift!

Naming Opportunities already reserved:

Auto Restoration Workshop
Volunteer Common Room
Paint Spray Booth

Have questions about the different ways to contribute and what might be right for you?

Kevin Bedford (207)594-4418 x111
info@ohtmcampaign.org
/or/
John Bottero (207)594-4418 x127
jb@ohtm.org

Use this QR Code to find out more about OHTM's Capital Campaign

ohtmcampaign.org

OWLS HEAD
TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM, MAINE
P.O. Box 277, Owls Head, ME 04854

Inspiring Tomorrow's Pioneers