

Today we recognize the Pittsburg, Shawmut and Northern Railroad Historical Society.

On May 24, 1981, a meeting was held at the fairgrounds to see how much interest there was in forming a group to perpetuate the history of local railroad.

At an informal meeting, the first set of officers were elected and a charter for the organization drawn up. Leslie Haggstrom, a recent law school graduate, did the necessary work on the charter at no cost and by October of 1981, the society was organized.

1982 was a banner year. Rail and ties were placed on the fairground. The car body of Coach No. 278 was moved to the grounds in June of 1982 and displayed the week of the fair.

In 1985, measurements of the former Shawmut Depot at Farmers Valley, PA were taken before it was demolished. These measurements were used to build the replica station on the fairgrounds.

Engine No. 88 was built by the members and completed in 1989. The engine and its coal tender toured the country in 1997 to promote a McDonald's Monopoly game.

The private car, Clara, officially Coach No. 99 joined the display in 1998. After two years of hard work and restoration it was officially dedicated in 2000.

The most recent piece of rolling stock added to the museum is the Bobber Caboose No. 175, originally built by the Shawmut in their Angelica Shop in 1912. It arrived at the fairgrounds in November 1999 and has been completely restored.

The Pittsburg, Shawmut and Northern Railroad Historical Society continues to grow and promote the rich history that was the Pittsburg, Shawmut and Northern Railroad.

John Muchler, would you please join us at the podium.

This year the Allegany County Agricultural Society would like to dedicate this year's 2024 Allegany County Fair to the Pittsburg, Shawmut and Northern Railroad Historical Society.