



New England News

2017 Summer Meeting Edition

NEAAPA Newsletter

Welcome To Summer Meeting At Edaville

Welcome to the New England Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions' (NEAAPA) Annual Summer Meeting — being held for the first time at Edaville Family Theme Park.

Ellis D. Atwood gave this historic amusement park its name, derived from his initials (E.D.A.). He started the park's railroad following World War II by purchasing most of the surviving equipment from Maine's once expansive network of two-foot gauge rails and had them trucked south to Carver,



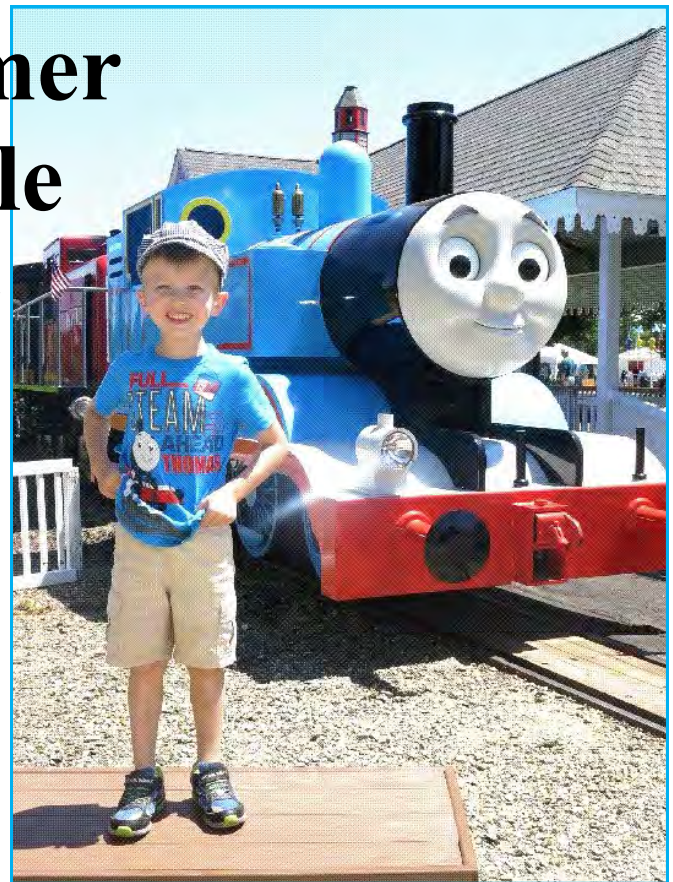
Mass. This was the making of Edaville Railroad.

Atwood used the trains to service his cranberry bogs on the property as well as hauling paying customers through the plantation for sightseeing.

The operation evolved into a "Family Fun Park" with an emphasis on carnival-type rides, bright lights and extravagant Christmas displays. Edaville Railroad became a local institution, and drew visitors from far and wide.

In 2002, Jon Delli Priscoli purchased Edaville and its 250 acres. There have been many exciting changes under his ownership, including the reconfiguration of the entire rail course and the incorporation of vintage amusement rides such as an antique carousel and an illuminated Ferris Wheel.

Other attractions throughout the year include, Dino Land,
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Edaville Is Home Of Thomas Land.

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**Next Edition: IAAPA
Expo In Florida**



IAAPA Tools Of The Trade Held In New England

The International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (IAAPA) held its Tools of the Trade networking event June 7-9 at a number of New England properties. The 33-member tour is shown above during a stop at Quassy Amusement & Waterpark in Middlebury, Conn. Park President Eric Anderson (left) explained the advent and impact of Quassy's Splash Away Bay waterpark, which opened in 2003 and has expanded in recent years. Other stops for the group included The Barnum Museum, Bridgeport, Conn., Six Flags New England, Agawam, Mass., Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, Conn., and Lake Compounce & Crocodile Cove, Bristol, Conn. (NEAAPA photo)

Summer

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character breakfasts, character meet and greets, "Not So Spooky Halloween" in October, and the Christmas Festival of Lights, offering train rides through brilliant displays lit with more than 18 million lights during the Christmas season.

In 2015, the latest and greatest addition to the park debuted: Thomas Land! This section includes 11 new rides, along with a stage show and multiple dining and shopping venues while bringing the fictional island of Sodor to life in the picturesque New England landscape.



Holiday In The Park Coming To Six Flags

AGAWAM, Mass.—Six Flags New England has announced its season of thrills will be extended in with the addition of Six Flags Entertainment's annual holiday festival Holiday in the Park.

More than one million LED lights, beautiful Christmas trees, thrilling rides, enchanting shows and state-of-the-art decor will create the perfect magical atmosphere this holiday season.

Holiday in the Park will be the largest holiday celebration in New England, delighting guests of all ages with sparkling lights, festive shows, tasty holiday treats, and photos with Santa.



Six Flags' Holiday In The Park.

Park-goers will be transported to a magical winter wonderland featuring more than 50 rides, shows and attractions, roaming interactive holiday characters, storytelling with Mrs. Claus, warm and toasty fire pits, synchronized lighting displays, a breathtaking nightly snowfall and other holiday experiences that can only be experienced at Six Flags New England.

"Holiday in the Park will be a wonderful must-see spectacle for families to enjoy. We are thrilled to offer our guests the opportunity to enjoy a summer of thrills including New England's largest water park—Hurricane Harbor, our scariest Fright Fest ever and then complete the year with a trip to the North Pole," said Six Flags New England Park President John Winkler. "The benefits of a 2017 season pass or membership to Six Flags New England just got better with the addition of Holiday in the Park."

Holiday in the Park will premiere on select dates through

Storowton Village Sets Stage For Youth Summer Days

WEST SPRINGFIELD, Mass.—Children 7-12 years of age can participate in the rich, educational environment at Storowton Village's Early American Summer Days at the Eastern States Exposition (ESE) here. The program runs 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Aug. 7-11.



"Try on" the lifestyle of the past by stepping into 19th century New England. By offering children a unique, hands-on approach, they can expect to make unforgettable memories that will make their summer one to remember. The week is packed with

interactive games, crafts and activities to reflect the life of youth in the old days. Also, 19th century clothing is provided for each child to immerse them in the realistic experience.

To register a child for this popular program, or for more information, contact Storowton Village Museum at 413-205-5051. A downloadable brochure and registration form for Early American Summer Days is also available online: www.storowtonvillage.com.



104 Attend Annual Meeting

Justine Brewer Inducted Into Hall Of Fame

SPRINGFIELD, Mass.— Justine Brewer, who, along with her family own and operate Southwick's Zoo in Mendon, Mass., was inducted into the New England Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (NEAAPA) Hall of Fame during the organization's 104th Anniversary Annual Meeting and Education Conference.

The March 28 gala had 104 in attendance at the Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place Hotel here.

"It's a great honor," she said of the tribute. "It left me speechless and totally amazed! I can think of many members that are more deserving than me."

As a former member of NEAAPA's Board of Directors, Justine and her family business have supported the association for many years.

Justine became the 37th person to join the prestigious hall since it was founded in 1998. See the complete story in the Annual Meeting Edition of *New England News*.

(See ANNUAL MEETING, Page 5)

President's Award

In the photo to the right, Erik Beard (left), of Wiggin & Dana, LLP, received the President's Award from outgoing NEAAPA President Ryan DeMaria.



Newest Member Of The Hall

NEAAPA Hall Of Fame inductee Justine Brewer (left) holds the award with new President Dorothy Lewis. At the podium is Hall of Fame Committee Chairman Ed Connor, a past president and hall of fame member. (NEAAPA photos)



Annual Meeting

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The evening included other annual awards presented by NEAAPA.

Outgoing President Ryan DeMaria, Canobie Lake Park, Salem, N.H., presented the President's Award to Erik Beard, Wiggin & Dana, LLP, Hartford, Conn.

NEAAPA Awards Committee Chairman John Guertin, Guertin Graphics & Awards, Worcester, Mass., presented the following awards:

Paragon Award for excellence in graphic promotion – Six Flags New England, Agawam, Mass., for its GradNite promotion.

Pinnacle Award presented to a student employee that has demonstrated "peak perfection in guest/customer service." – Frank Hamedl, ride supervisor at Quassy Amusement & Waterpark, Middlebury, Conn. He also received a \$500 cash award from the association.

Alan E. Ramsay Safety Award – Marie Provost, Six Flags New England.

Meritorious Service Award – Paul Cavanaugh, Daly Cavanaugh, LLP, Wellesley, Mass.

New President

Those in attendance also elected a new president: Dorothy Lewis, Xpress Posts, Danbury, Conn., during the general business meeting.

Gold sponsors of the event were: Allied Specialty Insurance Inc., Treasure Island, Fla.; Carousel Family Fun Centers, Fairhaven, Mass.; Fetchrev, Tempe, Ariz; Dippin' Dots, LLC, Paducah, Ky.; Premier Rides, Inc., Baltimore, Md.; Naughton Insurance Inc., Providence, R.I.; S&S – Sansei Technologies, Logan, Utah; Six Flags New England, Agawam, Mass.

Workshop topics during the day included social media and livestreaming, ADA compliance, tourism marketing, birthday parties, regional employment regulation changes, and networking with new people.

A vendor showcase was packed with many NEAAPA manufacturer and supplier members providing updates to attendees.



Meritorious Service Award

Paul Cavanaugh (left), Daly Cavanaugh, LLP, Wellesley, Mass., received the Meritorious Service Award. Presenting in both photos is John Guertin, NEAAPA Awards Committee chair.



Marie Provost, Six Flags New England, accepted the Alan E. Ramsay Safety Award.

IAAPA Expo Edition Deadline

New England News will publish its IAAPA Expo Edition in November. Deadline for submissions is Oct. 10. E-mail stories and photos to ron@quassy.com and secretary@neaapa.com for consideration.

Projects At Member Parks Highlighted In Photos



Back On Track At Lake Compounce

Extensive work was being completed in June on the Wildcat roller coaster at Lake Compounce, Bristol, Conn. The classic coaster also received a new set of trains. (Lake Compounce photos)



Structural and track upgrades were made to the award-winning Boulder Dash coaster at Lake Compounce during the off-season.

Ghost Hunt (below) has new guns, targets, lighting and other improvements for the 2017 season at Lake Compounce. The dark ride is a favorite of all ages.



Additional Photos Of Projects At Member Parks



No Joke

Six Flags New England, Agawam, Mass., opened The Joker 4D Fly Coaster this spring, supplied by NEAAPA member S&S Worldwide of Logan, Utah. (Six Flags photo)



New Rides At Quassy

Two new rides opened on the lakefront at Quassy Amusement & Waterpark, Middlebury, Conn. Skipper's Clippers (top photo) was supplied by SBF/VISA Group through NEAAPA member Rides4U, Somerville, N.J. The Up, Up & Away balloon ride is from member supplier Zamperla, Boonton, N.J. Both rides accommodate children and adults. Quassy's new taffy-marking operation (left) features century-old machines recently refurbished for Bella & Bessie's Sweet Shoppe & Pizzeria. The new structure took the place of the old popcorn stand. (Quassy photos)



Golden Ticket Awards Sept. 8-9

Member Parks To Host Event For Working Industry Professionals

“The Networking Event of the Year” is right around the corner!

The charming Lake Compounce & Crocodile Cove and Quassy Amusement and Waterpark in Connecticut are the host parks for *Amusement Today*'s annual Golden Ticket Awards this year.

Mark your calendar for Friday and Saturday, Sept. 8-9 and plan to visit with old industry friends and enjoy meeting new colleagues during this “don’t miss” two-day bash. The complete itinerary, registration and hotel information are now available at www.goldenticketawards.com.

“We’re certainly excited about bringing the awards to New England and these two iconic properties,” said Gary Slade, publisher and editor-in-chief of *Amusement Today*. The publication is a member of NEAAPA.

The Golden Ticket Awards event will officially kick off on Friday, Sept. 8, at Quassy with networking opportunities, a cocktail reception, entertainment and rides and a grand dinner overlooking Lake Quassapaug. The evening will end with a bang with 3D fireworks shot from barges on the lake.

On Saturday, Sept. 9, attendees will enjoy play time at Lake Compounce (the oldest continually operating amusement park in America), specialty tours and the awards show itself, which will be held in the historic Starlight Ballroom with dinner and plenty of fantastic entertainment.

Working Professionals Invited

This event is reserved for working professionals in the amusement industry. Representatives from parks and attractions, manufacturers, suppliers, consultants and more will come together to network and celebrate another industry season.

The Double Tree by Hilton in Bristol, Conn., will serve as the host hotel for the event. Please refer to www.goldenticketawards.com for specific information and rates or call the Double Tree by Hilton at 860-589-7766. Mention “Golden Ticket Room Block” when calling or use group code GTA when making online reservations at www.doubletreebristol.com.

This is the 20th annual year for the Golden Ticket Awards; they are presented to the “Best of the Best” in the amusement industry and are calculated from an international poll conducted by *Amusement Today*.



Lake Compounce (left) and Quassy Amusement & Waterpark to host Golden Ticket Awards.

Big E Announces Entertainment Schedule

WEST SPRINGFIELD, Mass.—Ten Years After, The Lovin' Spoonful, Fastball and The Machine performs Pink Floyd join the lineup of musicians who will be taking the stage at The Big E this September.

All shows on the Court of Honor Stage, sponsored by xfinity, are free with gate admission. Advance admission tickets to The Big E, taking place Sept. 15 - Oct. 1, are available at The-BigE.com and The Big E Box Office.

Ten Years After, 3 & 8 p.m., Sept. 25 - 26: Ten Years After, best known for the tracks, "I'm Going Home," "Love Like a Man," "Hear Me Calling," and of course, "I'd Love to Change the World," charted a total of twelve albums on the Billboard 200 over their career.

The legacy of the iconic British Blues Rock band is carried on by current members, Chick Churchill, Rich Lee, Marcus Bonfanti and Colin Hodgkinson.

(See BIG E, Page 10)



The Lovin' Spoonful

Storowton Village Museum At ESE Has New Director



Jessica Fontaine

WEST SPRINGFIELD, Mass. - Jessica K. Fontaine, of Chicopee, Mass., has been named as the new director of Storowton Village Museum at the Eastern State Exposition (ESE) here.

Fontaine has been an integral volunteer in the Village for nearly 20 years. She comes to ESE from her position as director of Student Conduct, Rights and Responsibilities at Hampshire College.

Her history in the village dates back to the time when her grandmother, Betty Kaeding, began volunteering in the early 1990s. Kaeding would dress her granddaughter in period-costume and bring her to village events. This evolved into Fontaine attending the Early American Summer Days program, becoming a counselor at age 14 and eventually assuming the duties of program supervisor for a few summers.

As an instrumental member of the volunteer force, Fontaine has been involved in nearly every program offered in the village. She has experience in demonstrating many 19th century trades – fireplace cooking, crafts, blacksmithing, quilting, weaving, and her specialty, loom knitting. Fontaine even sews her own costumes, and wears an uncommon period-outfit with pants – a bloomer suit.

Fontaine, who has an interest in education in a non-traditional way, holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Westfield State University and a Master of Education in Psychology from Springfield College.

As director of Storowton Village Museum, Jessica has aspirations of growing and enhancing the programming by introducing new ideas, reviving previous projects, and ultimately, allowing Storowton to adapt to the 21st century.

Big E

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The Lovin' Spoonful, 3 & 8 p.m., Sept. 27 –28: Combining the best of Folk, Rock and a touch of country, The Lovin' Spoonful gave us the hits, "Do You Believe in Magic," "Daydream," "You Didn't Have to be So Nice," "Nashville Cats" and the anthem for a hot July evening, "Summer in the City." The Rock & Roll Hall of Famer's songs dominated the charts and established the group among the greats of the mid-sixties era.

Fastball, 3 p.m., Sept. 29 - Oct. 1: Fastball, rockers from Austin, Texas, first hit the airwaves with their album, All the Pain Money Can Buy, featuring "The Way." The album reached platinum sales within six months of its release and stayed on the Billboard 200 chart for a year. The Grammy-nominated trio continues to release new music, with the latest addition to their beloved body of work being, Step Into Light. The album embodies all of the qualities that have endeared Fastball listeners throughout the band's 20-year career. Fastball's hit, "Out of My Head," was recently adapted by Machine Gun Kelly and Camila Cabello for the chorus of their No. 1 song, "Bad Things."

The Machine performs Pink Floyd, 8 p.m., Oct. 1: The Machine, America's top Pink Floyd show, has carried on the legacy of Pink Floyd for more than 25 years. The Machine's stellar musicianship, dramatic production and passionate delivery set them apart from the rest. Every show is an authentic Floydian experience with a diverse mix of the Rock & Roll Hall of Famer's extensive 16-album repertoire, with faithful renditions of well known hits and obscure gems.

The Big E returns to Eastern States Exposition, Sept. 15 - Oct. 1. Entertainment announcements and fair-time updates will continue every week through the beginning of August.

Sign up for The Big E's mailing list and connect on social media to be the first to get exclusive announcements. Visit TheBigE.com/Entertainment for more information.



Donation To Parish Cupboard

The Eastern States Exposition (ESE) donated a prize steer to the West Springfield Parish Cupboard. Acting on behalf of the exposition and its board of directors, ESE President Gene Cassidy bid on and purchased the Highly Commended Steer at the 4-H Beef Auction, held during last year's Big E. Pictured above: Cassidy (right) Martha Tighe, Parish Cupboard director, and Chef Bill Cawthra with some of the 750 pounds of beef donated to the local food pantry. (ESE photo)



New England Association Of Amusement Parks And Attractions

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