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AARCH MATTERS

Your Preservation News for the Adirondack Region

"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower."– *Albert Camus*

Although Autumn is traditionally a season of reflection and letting things go, it can also be a season of renewal and rebirth. It can be a time to adopt a fresh new outlook on life and find enjoyment in the little things. There may be fewer flowers, but there are plenty of ripe fruits to be found! Fall is a great season to get out outside with friends and family. As our tour season winds down, we are already thinking about next year and the new, enriching adventures we will be sharing with all of you.

This past Saturday, AARCH held our Annual meeting and our favorite event of the year; the Annual Preservation Awards. It was a great opportunity to introduce our new Executive Director, Erin Tobin, to experience a superb restoration project at the historic Hotel Saranac, celebrate our friends and neighbors' wonderful accomplishments, and meet the AARCH board and staff, and enjoy each other's company. After COVID hindered the usual way we come together to celebrate our annual awardees last year, it was a joyous occasion to gather and honor this year's awardees. You can read more about this year's winners below.

Thank you to all of you for your support and enthusiasm for the work we do at AARCH. Our new Executive Director, Erin Tobin, has already received a warm welcome from many of you since we announced hiring. We are excited to start this next chapter when Erin begins in November.

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AARCH staff at the 2021 AARCH Awards (left to right) Christine Bush, Samantha Johnson, Erin Tobin (incoming Executive Director), Steven Engelhart, Nolan Cool
Image courtesy of John Eldridge

Image: Travis Proulx accepting his award for his work at the Basselin House.

2021 ANNUAL AARCH PRESERVATION AWARD WINNERS

Our AARCH Preservation Awards *recognize exemplary historic preservation work throughout the region. We honor examples of sensitive restoration, adaptive reuse, community revitalization, and long-term stewardship. Our 2021 recipients represent the wide range of projects, places, and people who are helping to preserve and enhance the unique heritage and built environment of the Adirondacks.*

This year our annual awards presentation was held at the historic Hotel Saranac, a 2018 AARCH Award Winner.

Image: Adirondack League Club

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE OUR 2021 AWARD WINNERS!

Our 2021 Preservation Award Winners (from left to right) Ted Comstock – Adirondack League Club, Ben Strader & Adam Bailey – The Blue Mountain Center, Travis Proulx – The Basselin House, Beryl & Bob Ierardi - Camp Paradiso Trovato

Image Courtesy: John Eldridge

Image: The Blue Mountain Center

Image: The Basselin House

The Adirondack League Club*for the long-term stewardship of the Adirondack League Club*
Town of Webb, Herkimer County

The Blue Mountain Center*for the long-term stewardship of The Blue Mountain Center*
Town of Blue Mountain Lake, Hamilton County

Travis Proulx for the rehabilitation of the Basselin House
Town of Croghan, Lewis County

Bob & Beryl Ierardi for the Restoration of Camp Paradiso Trovato
Town of Essex, Essex County

Image: Camp Paradiso Trovato

You can read more about each of these projects**HERE**.

ADIRONDACK FIRE TOWERS

DID YOU KNOW?

AARCH has been involved in the preservation and public use of fire observation towers since 1994!

FIRE TOWER PRESERVATION PROJECTS

AARCH has been involved in the preservation and public use of fire observation towers since 1994 when Howie Kirschenbaum served on the Blue Mountain Fire Tower Committee. Since then we have supported the preservation and public enjoyment of Adirondack fire observation towers

by sponsoring four fire tower "Friends" organizations and in a variety of other ways. This work has included:

1. **Friends Organizations**. Six "Friends" organizations do or have operated under our 501 c) 3 auspices, including the Friends of Poke-O-Moonshine, the Friends of Mt. Arab, the Friends of Bald Mountain, the Azure Mountain Friends, the Friends of the St. Regis Mountain Fire Tower, and the Friends of Hurricane Mountain. These groups have or are restoring fire towers and cabins, doing public educational work and trail improvement projects.

2. **National Register**. In 2000, AARCH sponsored a thematic National Register nomination that placed many of the fire towers in the region on the National Register and others have been added since the initial nomination.

3. **Advocacy**. AARCH has been an advocate for the preservation of three other threatened fire observation towers, on Mt. Adams, Hurricane, and St. Regis mountains and has provided technical support for several other fire tower "Friends" organizations.

YOU CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT FIRETOWERS**HERE**.

Here's a **short documentary on the history of Adirondack fire towers** made in the spring of 2021 by students in the Documentary Film class at SUNY Plattsburgh.

SUPPORT

Please join the Adirondack Architectural Heritage Board of Directors in honoring Steven Engelhart's 30 years with AARCH and 27 years as its executive director by making a contribution to the **Engelhart Education Fund**.

Proceeds from this fund will be used to further AARCH's educational work in a variety of ways, including to develop new programs, fund new publications, bring more educational content online, and reach and educate new audiences.

The fund will ensure that AARCH's programming will continue to be innovative and far-ranging far into the future. The AARCH Board of Directors has established a goal of raising $200,000 from AARCH's members and friends over the coming year.

You may mail in a contribution or**DONATE ONLINE**. THANK YOU for honoring Steven and ensuring the continuation of our remarkable educational programming with your support!

ADIRONDACK ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

Preserving the architecture and communities of the Adirondack region through education, advocacy, and action.

THANK YOU

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We are most appreciative for the many years of great support from **Adirondack Classic Designs**.

Founded by the company's owner and President, John Hamilton, in 1992, Adirondack Classic Designs, Inc. has been a premier custom home builder in the Adirondacks since its very early days.

Adirondack Classic Designs, Inc. offers an array of in house build services that other builders are often required to subcontract out. This allows us greater control over project timing, costs and quality.

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