



Schedule of Oil 150 Events, 2008 - 2009



September 12, 13 & 14, 2008

2nd Annual Film Festival & Oil City's OIL 150 Kickoff Event

The region's 2nd Annual Film Festival, hosted by the Venango Digital Film Association, will feature a nationwide script writing competition with the theme of "Oil Boom Days in Western Pennsylvania". This event will serve as Oil City's kickoff event for our OIL 150 celebration and dignitaries will make opening remarks beginning at 6:30 p.m. The showing of films will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The winning screenplays will be filmed and premiered here and will go on to compete in the Great Lakes Film Festival. The resulting film will belong to the community and will be available for screening throughout the OIL150 celebration. The event will take place at the Crawford Center in Emlenton, Pa, on Sept. 12; The Latonia in Oil City, Pa. on Sept. 13; and, The Barrow Civic in Franklin, Pa. on September 14. In conjunction with the event, an 'Art Walk' will be held from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. on September 13, 2008 in Oil City. For more information, call 814-677-1260 or visit www.tinyurl.com/venango.

September 20, 2008 **"Oil on the Brain"**

The historical drama 'Oil on the Brain' will highlight the historical development of Pennsylvania's Oil Region from the first discovery of oil by the Seneca Indians; to the boom and bust period; and, to the present and future aspirations of the area. The performance will be held at Clarion University-Venango Campus. The characters in the production are Pat Boyle, Union Soldier; William Phillips, a river pilot; Madam Wood, a saloon keeper; and, P.C. Boyle at age 72, a newspaper man. In conjunction with the drama, area actor Gary Dittman will do an impersonation of Rattlesnake Pete's bartender. Fee: \$20 per person for dinner (catered at Venango Campus) and the show, or \$12 for attending the show only. Contact: Venango Museum of Art, Science and Industry, 814-676-2007.

September 20, 2008 **Picnic in the Park**

Come out and enjoy an old-fashioned 'Picnic in the Park' at Hasson Park in Oil City. The event is free and open to the public. It will provide lots of family fun. Hot dogs and light refreshments will be served between 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.. Attendees are welcome to bring their own food and picnic baskets, as well. The event will feature old-fashioned games, some of which were quite popular during the oil-boom era. Games will include sack races, 3-legged races, bocce ball, croquet, badminton, etc. Music will be provided by the Allegheny String Band and some attendees will be dressed in

period costumes. The event will begin at noon and conclude at 5:00 p.m. Contact: Rosie Griep, 814-676-5785, ext. 106.

October 21, 2008

The Official Blues Brothers Revival

While not specifically tied to our oil history, the Arts Council arranged this wonderful concert to provide added entertainment during the Oil 150 Celebration Period. The concert will be held at Oil City High School at 8:00 p.m. For further information or to inquire about ticket costs, contact: Oil City Art's Council, 814-678-3017 or visit www.ocartscouncil.com.

November 8, 2008

Oil City Garden Club Flower Show

The theme for this year's flower show is "Shades of Oil." The show will take place at the National Transit Building, at 206 Seneca Street, from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. The public is invited and the cost is \$2 per person. Contact: Linda Morrison, 814-676-9763.

November 9, 2008

Birthday Party for George Bissell

A birthday celebration for George Bissell will be held at the Venango Museum. Local historian Neil McElwee will speak about George Bissell. Bissell was one of the early pioneers of oil production. In 1859, his company sent Colonel Edwin Drake to the Titusville area in search of oil. Oil City's Bissell Avenue was named after George Bissell. Refreshments will be available and a silent auction will be held. Time: 3:00 p.m. Cost: \$ 5.00. Contact: Venango Museum of Art, Science and Industry, 814- 676 -2007.

November 20, 2008

Fourth Annual Harvey Center Lecture, featuring Steve Weinberg

Fourth Annual Harvey Center Lecture, featuring Steve Weinberg, author of *Taking on the Trust*, the story of the breakup of the Standard Oil Company. The lecture will be held at the Robert W. Rhoades Center, Clarion University, Venango Campus, Oil City, PA. Contact: Jerri Gent, Clarion University, Venango Campus; jgent@clarion.edu; 814-676-6591, ext. 1215

November 28, 2008 through December 31, 2008

Gusher of Lights Exhibit

A Gusher of Lights, presented by Communities That Care, will shine brightly throughout the holiday season and will be on display from 11/28 to 12/31. This evening festival of lights will be located at Hasson Park of Oil City. Proceeds will support the participating non-profit agencies. Contact: Stephanie Felmlee, Event Coordinator, 814-346-7222, ext.#6.

December 6, 2008

Yuletide Medieval Feast

This outstanding Madrigal Dinner will be held at the Arlington Hotel in Oil City. The Madrigal Singers from Clarion University of Pennsylvania will provide the entertainment. A Medieval Dinner will be served. Tickets are \$25 for Oil City Arts Council members and \$28 for non-members. Tickets will be available at the Transit Fine Arts Gallery and from Oil City Arts Council Board members. Contact: Oil City Arts Council, 814-678-3017 or visit www.ocartscouncil.com.

December 31, 2008

First Night Oil City

First Night, Oil City, an alcohol-free, family-oriented celebration of the arts, has been held annually since 1998 under the sponsorship of the Arts Council. Since its debut in 1997, First Night has received high praise for the quality and variety of entertainment and experiences it offers. This year's First Night fireworks display will include a special display in celebration of our region's oil heritage. For further information, contact the Oil City Arts Council at 814-678-3017.

February 7 & February 14, 2009

Oil History Workshops

Oil History Workshops in Oil City. Topic: Pennsylvania's Great Oil Companies. Speaker is oil historian and author Neil McElwee. Join us on Feb. 7th & 14th at 1:00pm. Oil City, PA. Oil City Library, Central Ave. Free Admission. Contact Oil Region Alliance (814) 677-3152 ext. 110 or tkresinski@oilregion.org.

February 13, 14, & 15, 2009

Oil Country Bluegrass Festival & Songwriting Competition

The 2nd Annual Oil Country Bluegrass Festival will be held at the Arlington Hotel in Oil City with different Bluegrass Band performing every half-hour on Friday evening, Saturday afternoon and evening and Sunday morning. This year's festival will feature an Oil Heritage songwriting competition among participating bands. The songs will be featured at the festival. Contacts: Ron Shoup at 814-676-3465, rshoup@conline.net; or, Bob Flath at 814-797-1504, flabas@hotmail.com.

March 7, 2009

Oilman's Ball & Latonia Theatre's 80th Birthday Celebration

The Oilman's Ball will be a masquerade ball and attendees are invited to attend as their favorite person from the oil era. For further information and costs, contact: Latonia Enterprises LLC, 814-677-1260 or e-mail: thelatoniat@verizon.net.

March 27, 2009

Metales M5

While not specifically tied to our oil history, the Arts Council arranged this special concert to provide added entertainment during the Oil 150 Celebration Period. The concert will be held at Oil City High School at 8:00 p.m. For further information or to inquire about ticket costs, contact: Oil City Art's Council, 814-678-3017 or visit www.ocartscouncil.com.

May 26, 2009

5th Grade Scavenger Hunt

Oil City Area School District 5th Graders will learn more about Oil City's history by visiting sites of former establishments and speaking with enactors in costume, storytellers and community volunteers. Contacts: Kay Dawson, kdawson@mail.ocasd.org, or Carrie Ritchey, crichey@mail.ocasd.org.

June 6 & 7, 2009

Community History Days

The third annual Community History Days, sponsored by the Barbara Morgan Harvey Center for the Study of Oil Heritage, will be held on June 6 and 7, 2009. The two-day festival features lectures, displays, story-telling, entertainment, great food, and activities for all ages celebrating the area's rich history. For more information, contact: 814-676-6591, ext. 1269 or 877-VENANGO, ext. 1269.

June 21, 2009

Ida Tarbell Victorian Garden Walk

Enjoy a self-guided tour of six beautiful Victorian Gardens in Oil City from 5:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.. Local historian Margo Mong will be at some of the sites and she will be portraying Ida Tarbell. The event is sponsored by the Oil City Garden Club, it is open to the public and the cost is \$5. Contacts: Jane Stephens, 814-676-6465; Linda Emanuele, 814-676-1113; or, Donna Boocks, 814-677-7089.

July 3, 2009

Jolly July 3rd Festival

The annual Jolly July 3rd Festival is sponsored by the Oil City Arts Council will again be held in Justus Park in Oil City. The festival provides a variety of events, food vendors, great entertainment and a fireworks display. Oil-related activities may occur in conjunction with this festival. Contact: Libby Willams, 814-677-2391.

July 9, 10 & 11, 2009

**Oil and Gas Extravaganza -
Historic Oil Heritage Area Swap Meet**

Oil City Rotary's "Oil and Gas Extravaganza" oil and gas memorabilia trade/ auction/ swap meet with vendors from all over the US. This is a tremendous annual extravaganza and will include numerous wonderful events over a three day period. Contact: David Wagner; dandjwagner@msn.com, (814) 676-9901.

July 22, 2009

Walking Tour

Historic Downtown Oil City

Learn about Oil City, "The Hub of Oildom", by visiting sites of former establishments and speaking with enactors in period costume, storytellers and community volunteers. The event will be held in conjunction with the 31st Annual Oil Heritage Festival. Tour groups must register at the National Transit Building at 6:00 p.m. and depart from there. The cost is \$2 per person. Contacts: Kay Dawson, kdawson@mail.ocasd.org, or Carrie Ritchey; crichey@mail.ocasd.org.

July 17 & 18, 2009

"Melba, The Toast of Pithole"

Community Playhouse, Inc. will present the musical satire "Melba the Toast of Pithole" by Patrick Fay at 8 p.m. on July 17 and 18, 2009 at The Latonia Theatre Building. Melba is a Headliner at the Sporting Palace, which is owned and operated by the wickedest man in the world, Ben Hogan. She offers her help to the poor Widow Miller to keep Granny from losing her farm (and its oil) to the unscrupulous Mr. Hogan. You won't want to miss this old time "hissing and booing" melodrama about the discovery of oil! Tickets are \$10 each. For further information, contact Mary Jane Busard; 814-676-3615.

July 23, 24, 25 & 26, 2009

31st Annual Oil Heritage Festival

This community-wide celebration is held in various locations throughout Oil City, PA and features nightly concerts in Justus Park, food vendors, arts & crafts show, parade, Oil Heritage Queen coronation, and a fireworks display commemorating Oil City's oil heritage. In celebration of OIL 150, the parade will have an oil-related theme. Contact: Venango Area Chamber of Commerce, (814) 676-8521 or 1-800-726-7040 or visit www.venangochamber.org.

November, 2009

**Fifth Annual Harvey Center
Lecture**

The Fifth Annual Harvey Center Lecture will have an oil-related theme and will be held at the Robert W. Rhoades Center, Clarion University, Venango Campus, Oil City, PA. Contact: Jerri Gent, Clarion University, Venango Campus; jgent@clarion.edu; 814-676-6591, ext. 1215

Ongoing - May, 2008 through
December, 2009

Oilfield Photo Display

Stop by the Venango Museum of Art, Science and Industry, located at 270 Seneca Street in Oil City, and see Dr. Dick Dunlap's collection of contemporary oil-related photographs that were taken throughout Venango County. Included in the display are pictures of engine houses, eccentric gears, tanks, trucks and various machines once used to collect Pennsylvania crude Oil.

Ongoing Exhibit

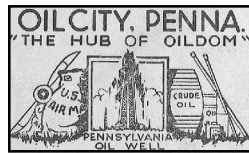
**Venango Museum of Art, Science
and Industry**

Black Gold or Black Magic

Black Gold or Black Magic is the story of how the discovery of oil still affects our lives today. You will wander through ten thematic areas and answer the question was the discovery of Oil Black Gold or Black Magic. This artifact laden exhibit area opens up to reveal wondrous examples of the change oil has wrought in the way we live, work and play. Visitors may meander freely about the exhibit clusters, discovering multiple conceptual connections between them. Contact: Venango Museum at 814-676-2007.

Websites to check out for regional Oil 150 events:

- www.oil150.com
- www.oilregion.org
- www.venangomuseum.org
- www.drakewell.org
- www.venangochamber.org
- www.oilcity.org
- www.clarion.edu/venango
- www.ocartscouncil.com
- www.thederrick.com
- www.titusvilleoil150.org
- www.franklinpa.gov
- www.franklin-pa.org



The overall OIL 150 Celebration initiative is under the coordination of the Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry and Tourism.

**Events for Which Dates have
Not Yet Been Determined**

Speech/Debate Activity

(Event will likely occur in March/April, 2009)

Oil City Area Senior High School students will engage in a debate about a topic/issue related to our region's history and/or historical characters. The event will be held in the Senior High School Auditorium and open to the public. There will be a nominal cost to attend. Contact: Deb Hardy at 814-677-9992 or by e-mail, dhardy@ocasd.org.

September, 2009 ??

Oil Driller's Breakfast

An Oil Driller's Breakfast will be held at 8:00 a.m. to mark the "bringing in" of either an oil or gas well within the Oil City limits, providing that permissions are granted by the City of Oil City and the Department of Environmental Protection. The event will be open to the public and attendees will include local drillers, Pennsylvania Independent Petroleum Producers and oilfield workers. The site will be announced once a DEP drilling permit is issued. A special guest will be Gib Morgan, 'Minstrel of the Oil Fields' portrayed by Bill Stumpf. Numerous other events may occur in conjunction with the Oil Drillers Breakfast. Contact: Ron Black, 814-677-3569.



At this time, approximately 50 individuals have agreed to attend one or more of our OIL 150 events dressed in period clothing to help celebrate our region's unique and rich oil history.

Additional volunteers are welcomed to help with events, to dress in period clothing or to assist in some other capacity.

Interested parties may contact:

Take Pride in Oil City Oil 150 Co-Chairs:

Ron Shoup, 814-676-3465
rshoup@csonline.net

Debbie Sobina, 814-676-6591, Ext. 1208
dsobina@clarion.edu



Take Pride in Oil City

Notice: The events, dates and times listed in this brochure are subject to change or cancellation due to unexpected circumstances.

Oil 150



**Event Calendar
Oil City, Pennsylvania**

"Colonel" Edwin L. Drake and the Seneca Oil Company struck oil in Venango County near Titusville, Pa. in 1859. In the aftermath, the entire region prospered and was the world's hub of the oil and pipeline industry. Oil City, Pa. has often been referred to as the "Hub of Oildom."

In that August 27, 2009 marks the 150th anniversary of oil, Pennsylvania's Oil Heritage Region is commemorating its proud heritage in the oil industry with an OIL 150 Celebration that begins on August 1, 2008 and extends through December 31, 2009.

Celebration activities will be taking place throughout Venango County and the Take Pride in Oil City Committee has put together this overview of OIL 150 events that have been planned to take place in Oil City. As the celebration continues, additional events will be added to the roster and will be mentioned through additional publicity.

We encourage all area residents and visitors to participate in the OIL 150 events that will be held throughout the county!

31 st Annual Oil Heritage Festival	Jolly July 3 rd Festival
Oil and Gas Swap Meet	Special Concerts
Oil Country Bluegrass Festival and Songwriting Competition	"Oil Boom Days" Screen Competition
Community Scavenger Hunt & Numerous Tours	Art Shows and Exhibits
Theatrical Productions	Oilman's Ball
Photo Displays	Community History Days
Oil Driller's Breakfast	Lectures
First Night Oil City	Museum Events
Additional Events	Period Enactors