

1899 Bugatti Carriage at Fryeburg Fair

Sutton “Sut” Marshall, of Conway, NH, is a very serious collector. He is effusive in thanking his wife, Margaret, for putting up with his addiction to collecting antique carriages and wagons. Enter Ken Wheeling, of Monkton, Vermont. Wheeling stopped at Plusch’s Antiques in North Conway, NH, about 25 years ago. During a conversation with the owner, Richard Plusch, he asked if he knew of anyone who collected antique carriages. They got Sut Marshall on the phone and the rest is antique carriage and wagon history. Marshall and Wheeling have been close friends ever since. Marshall refers to Wheeling, former director of The Shelburne Museum, retired teacher, historian and writer as “The Professor.” Wheeling is an antique carriage expert and advises Sut Marshall on his “hobby.” Besides carriages Wheeling has been commentating the draft horse shows at Fryeburg Fair for over 35 years. He was hired by Dr. Eugene Hussey (1920-2006), local veterinarian, Fryeburg Fair trustee, and owner of draft horses.



Ken Wheeling & Sut Marshall with automaker Ettore Bugatti’s carriage, built in 1899, on display October 1-8 at Fryeburg Fair’s Horse-Drawn Wagons Building

Marshall says Hussey called him one day and said, “If we build a building at Fryeburg Fair for you to display your wagons in, would you do it?” Marshall enthusiastically agreed, made a hand-shake deal, and in 2004, Hussey called back to say, “Your building is ready.”

Marshall says, “The Fair Family has been phenomenal. Everyone works together. Everyone is helpful.” Fryeburg Fair is the only place Marshall will display his collection.

Marshall & Wheeling were at the Horse-Drawn Wagon barn at Fryeburg Fair last week meticulously putting together this year’s outstanding selections. Fryeburg Fair 2017 will feature a new acquisition to Marshall’s collection, the personal carriage of Ettore Bugatti (1881-1947) built in 1899. The wagon was custom-built for Bugatti, Italian-born, French automobile designer and creator.

Be sure to stop by the Horse-Drawn Wagon barn at Fryeburg Fair October 1-8. Hours are 9-9 daily and 9-6 on the last Sunday. The collection is spectacular and rare. Ken Wheeling, when not at the draft horse shows, will be available to visit and answer questions. Sut and Margaret Marshall are often available as well.

For more information on Fryeburg Fair, go to www.fryeburgfair.org or see us on Facebook.

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Ken Wheeling & Sut Marshall with an original Concord Coach, built in Concord, NH. At one time this wagon ran routes between Bridgton and Harrison, Maine.