



This 1928 Nash rum runner resurrected from a barn find. During restoration bullet holes were found. It is presumed this was likely one of the cars used in the rum running days in the Annapolis Valley, an occupation in many parts of Nova Scotia including Parrsboro.

## Kerwin Davison: Creator, Designer, Builder

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and do the marketing and distribution. This was a great financial relief to not have to invest in that area. Kerr had a big truck with products including the "Scotsman" that went all over including NFLD and Maine. Now the business was growing fast. The current facilities were no longer sufficient for their needs.

A building at Cross Roads was constructed by others, but the people never went forward with the business so Kerwin and Floyd purchased what was only about a 30x50 foot wooden structure.

A little after 1976 there was a young man working for the CIBC who Kerwin knew a bit, he worked in Halifax (from Apple River originally). Kerwin went to Halifax, asked for the money to buy the necessary equipment for a factory and was given \$100,000. At the same time at a Parrsboro Board of Trade meeting a man from the government was there who helped with grants. Kerwin told him he was thinking of starting a company to build furnaces and the gent took it from there and the company did receive grants. Kerwin went to Montreal and purchased the necessary equipment with the \$100,000.00 including a 200 ton press, and 12 foot shear, all still in use in the plant today. When the equipment arrived on 4 trucks, the government's man said it looked like a pile of junk.

Floyd Brown, Kerwin's partner, was very smart and had worked with a lot of

Equipment in Toronto so he had the experience and knowledge to operate it all and now they were ready to ramp up.

A 190 ft metal addition was added to start, later additions included a 60x190 foot long metal section, then another 200+ foot section at an angle. Kerwin knew an exec at Simpsons in Halifax and when Simpsons did an upgrade they gave all the existing fluorescent fixtures to Kerwin, two truckloads, and that got the plant its lighting.

Some of the former employees of the electrical business came to work at the new Metal Fab enterprise, like Ronny Dunphy. The Electrical business he gave to John Atkinson who had worked for him at that business.

There was also a building on Western Ave the NS government built for lease but was not occupied so Metal Fab also ended up using that facility for several ideas in the process stage.

Eventually Metal Fab rented an additional place in Debert and had a branch in Truro. They hired other engineers with a lot of other products coming on line including a smaller furnace called the "Scotty" and a boiler called the "Titan". A company in Quebec made tanks but was failing, Kerwin bought that equipment including an overhead rail line and then made tanks here in Parrsboro.

Kerwin designed an automated assembly line to move the tanks through the plant including going through a 30x60



To scale this working model of Train #4 is one display with several cars in a special place that attracts several thousand tourists each year. Volunteers help erect and dismantle the annual display.

## Live in Concert at the Wentworth Recreation Centre Internationally-Acclaimed Bluegrass Recording Artists **The Spinney Brothers**



**Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 7:00 pm, doors open at 6:00 pm.**

This is an all-ages event. Admission is \$35 and tickets can be purchased online at [wentworthrecctr.com](http://wentworthrecctr.com); or by contacting Laurel at 902-899-3634; or by sending an email to [wentworth.rec.ctr@gmail.com](mailto:wentworth.rec.ctr@gmail.com) (May also be available at the door.)

The Wentworth Recreation Centre is located at 13752 Highway 4, Wentworth Nova Scotia.



Encased in a professional display case the V12 working replica of the Handley Page engine is included as part of the annual downtown display of Kerwin's creations.

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