

# ON THE LEVEL



## THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

### 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WATERLOO CANAL DAY: COME CELEBRATE A MORRIS CANAL TOWN!

For the sixth year the Canal Society is honored to be able to partner with the New Jersey Division of Parks & Forestry and the Department of Environmental Protection to co-sponsor Waterloo Canal Day, opening our treasured Waterloo Village for the day for the public's enjoyment, *free of charge!*

Our 17th Annual Waterloo Canal Day will be held this year on Saturday, June 30th between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. In the event of heavy rain on that day, Canal Day will be held the next day on Sunday, July 1st at the same time and with the same participants. Check the schedule on the Canal Society website at [canalsocietynj.org](http://canalsocietynj.org) if the weather is questionable. This year we will continue to highlight the fascinating heritage of the Morris Canal and the various historic elements of Waterloo, the most intact, surviving Morris Canal town!



*Canal Society volunteers operate our pontoon boat ride on the Morris Canal at Waterloo. The boat ride is always a major attraction on Canal Day and subsequent Canal Heritage Days.*

Canal boat captain John Hummel will once again be spinning his yarns about life laboring on the canals in the good old days and our pontoon boat

and crew will be providing boat rides for the public on the village's section of the Morris Canal. Live period music will help provide the setting for reliving the canal era.

## MEETINGS

**Morris County Cultural Center**  
300 Mendham Road, Morris Township

**Friday – May 18, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.** – Refreshments at 7:10

### MORRIS CANAL GREENWAY PARK DEVELOPMENT AT PLANE 9 EAST, MONTVILLE TOWNSHIP, NJ

**KATHY FISHER** – *President, Montville Township Historical Society*

**JOE MACASEK** – *Vice President, Canal Society of New Jersey*

Montville Township contains an extensive length of the Morris Canal as its alignment extends between Boonton and Lincoln Park, all located within Morris County. Three inclined plane sites are situated within Montville – Planes 8, 9 and 10 East – as the canal passes through the villages of Montville and Towaco. Substantial physical remains of the canal survive within the township and a Municipal Historic Preservation Commission and an Historic Preservation Ordinance are in

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### Guided Walking Tours Will Be Offered

Guided walking tours of the canal sites and the village will be offered for the public throughout the day and the Society's New Jersey Canal Museum and the carriage barn behind it will provide many exhibits and video presentations for the public's enjoyment. A Canal Society display and sales table will offer books on canal history and other items for purchase by the public.

We are very excited to be able to once again feature Smith's Store and the Rutan Cabin for public tours. The general store is the best-preserved Morris Canal store and offers a fascinating pic-

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# WATERLOO CANAL DAY

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ture of a mercantile establishment of the late 19th-early 20th century segment of the canal era. We continue to add more vintage merchandise of a bygone era and anticipate once again implementing some hands-on activities such as grinding coffee beans and churning butter.

The 1820s Rutan Cabin, constructed of logs, has many period furnishings to illustrate the era of a rural farmstead at the time of the Morris Canal's original construction. Society guides will explain the lifeways at that period and will show the various implements that were an everyday part of living in the early 19th century.

We hope to be able to have the Blacksmith Shop open once again with an operating forge and demonstrations of ironworking along the

Morris Canal. The shop suffered flood damage last September from the hurricane and tropical storm that followed. As of this writing, repairs have not been made by the State, but we hope that they will occur in time for Canal Day. Also once again we are planning on having the Gristmill open for public tours. If neither drought nor floods occur and the Musconetcong River cooperates, we will once again operate the mill's waterwheel and its run of millstones. Our photo exhibit of historic landscape views of Waterloo at the turn of the 20th century will once again be featured. These views depict Waterloo's landscape, comprised of a gritty industrial core surrounding the Gristmill, Blacksmith Shop and the Morris Canal. Behind and in between the residences were a cluster of agricultural buildings, extensive gardens and

then expansive fields with crops under cultivation. All of these elements are well illustrated in this exhibit, depicting landscapes that contrast with the beautiful, bucolic setting we see at Waterloo today.

The Waterloo United Methodist Church, now in its 153rd year, will again open its doors for Canal Day, offering guided tours of its charming historic sanctuary and selling lunch and snack foods throughout the day as a fundraiser. Canal Society members and friends are encouraged to patronize the church to ensure that its food concession is profitable. The church is the true Living History in the village, operating there since 1859.

Come join us for our 17th Annual Waterloo Canal Day! It's a great occasion to enjoy the serenity of Waterloo, to partake of its great history and to continue to demonstrate to the State of New Jersey how much we cherish our State Parks and especially Waterloo!

## **Volunteer Help Greatly Appreciated!**

Many volunteers are necessary to make Waterloo Canal Day a great success! If you are able to help us on Canal Day, please contact the Society at 908-832-2888 to offer your services. We greatly appreciate your help and are confident that you will have a great day!

## **Membership Picnic Always a Great Treat!**

The Canal Society's annual picnic at Waterloo, held at 6 p.m., is a great way to relax and enjoy the company of other members after a very busy but rewarding day. For more information and to make required advance registrations contact the Society at 908-832-2888. We ask that reservations be made by June 25th. ■

## MEETINGS

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place to oversee the Morris Canal's protection and preservation within Montville. Portions of the canal are owned by the township, including the sites of Planes 8 and 9 East. This evening's program will focus on the Montville Township Historical Society's efforts to establish a linear pocket park along the portion of Plane 9 East's site, extending from the plane summit to the intersection of Emery Lane and Route 202. Volunteers from the historical society and the Canal Society are working to clear brush and debris from the plane site to create the park. A financial contribution from an adjacent developer is funding the development of interpretive signage for the park. Interesting remnants of the plane survive above ground and will be enhanced and interpreted as part of the park development. Society members and friends are encouraged to attend this meeting to learn about these park creation efforts.

**Kathy Fisher** is President of the Montville Township Historical Society and the former head of the Township Historic Preservation Commission. Through her efforts many recent grants have come into the township to restore the Doremus House on Route 202 and other historic sites within Montville. The Historical Society also operates a museum in a former one room school. Kathy is a very active historic preservationist and is a Trustee of the Morris County Trust for Historic Preservation.

**Joe Macasek** has been working with the Montville Township Historical Society to create a layout and interpretation for the new park. He is Vice President of the Canal Society, is a member of the Society's Morris Canal Greenway Committee and operates his own graphics design firm.

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# UPDATE ON WATERLOO

## School Field Trips Continue at Waterloo

Winakung at Waterloo Inc., led by Andrea Proctor, continues to welcome school, scout and other group tours to the recreated Lenape village and the historic Morris Canal town at Waterloo this spring. Information about tour offerings can be found on Andrea's website: [winakungatwaterloo.com](http://winakungatwaterloo.com) or by calling 862-266-3979. Group tours are available during April through June and from September through November. The Canal Society has had a significant role in making these trips possible through our refurbishing and/or cleanup and reopening of Smith's Store, the Rutan

Cabin, the Blacksmith Shop and the Gristmill. We wish Andrea continued success with her tours and look forward to providing her with a helping hand whenever we can!

## Friends of Waterloo

The Friends of Waterloo is holding another Music Festival at Waterloo on July 7th as a fundraiser to generate money to continue badly needed restoration work at the village. Waterloo will come alive with the sound of music once again and crowds of enthusiasts and history buffs will join in the celebration! Canal Society members may be able to have at least some of the historic buildings open for that event.

In April the Friends funded the replacement of cedar shingle roofs on the Gristmill and Blacksmith Shop. The Gristmill was sorely in need of a new roof and was experiencing water damage to its interior from extensive leaks. Congratulations to the Friends on their first restoration work at Waterloo!

## State Renovations

The State is investing considerable funds to fully renovate the Meeting House in the hopes of attracting a caterer to lease the facility and once again operate it as a dining hall. New windows and doors and HVAC systems are being installed and ADA-compliant parking is being added. ■

## CANAL HERITAGE DAYS AT WATERLOO VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT TO HELP

For the sixth year the Canal Society is partnering with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the State Park Service to co-sponsor Canal Heritage Days at Waterloo. These days will be held on the second and fourth Saturdays during July through October, rain or shine. On these days the grounds of the village will be open to the public, guided tours will be offered of the village and the canal, our New Jersey Canal Museum will be open, and on most of the dates our boat ride on the canal will be offered. In addition, Smith's Store, the Rutan Cabin, the Blacksmith Shop and the Gristmill will be open for interpretation. The Society continues to work with the State to be able to make other buildings in the village available to the public in the future.

This year's Waterloo Canal Heritage Days will be held on July 14 and 28, August 11 and 25, September 8 and 22 and October 13 and 27. On all of these Saturdays Waterloo will be open to the public from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. free of charge. Our goal is to offer the public an opportunity to



*Canal Society director Joyce Hussa leads a group walking tour at Waterloo.*

experience the unique canal heritage of Waterloo, despite the fact that the site is closed during much of the year. We are counting on our membership to volunteer to help staff these Canal Heritage Days. Staffing is needed for our Canal Museum, to lead tours of the village and canal sites, to help with operating our pontoon boat, provide interpretation in Smith's Store, the Rutan Cabin, the Gristmill and to greet people at the entrance gate. Individuals interested in volunteering should contact the Society at 908-832-2888.

Canal Heritage Days are a wonderful opportunity to bring the Morris Canal to life for the visiting public. Typically on these days we meet the most interesting people, including blacksmiths, descendants of canal workers, and many tourists from foreign countries who are amazed at Waterloo! It is always a fun and worthwhile experience! We look forward to seeing you there! ■

## CANAL NEWS



This January, Canal Society members started receiving a new e-mail newsletter the "CANAL NEWS"

Be sure you don't miss out. If you are not receiving CANAL NEWS please send your e-mail address to [macgraphics1@verizon.net](mailto:macgraphics1@verizon.net)

## MEETINGS

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### Directions to the Morris County Cultural Center

**From the Morristown Green,** turn right onto Washington St (County Route 510, formerly NJ Route 24). Travel 3.5 miles west toward Chester. Pass the roads to the Delbarton School and Lewis Morris County Park on the left. After the curve and long board fence, look for a sign for the MUA on the right, pointing toward the driveway, which is marked by a street light and lighted directional sign. Make a sharp left turn and drive uphill to a Spanish-style stucco building at the top. Parking is in the lot to the left at the top of the hill. Once inside the main entrance hall of the Cultural Center, the auditorium is to the left. Restrooms are upstairs, with elevator access.

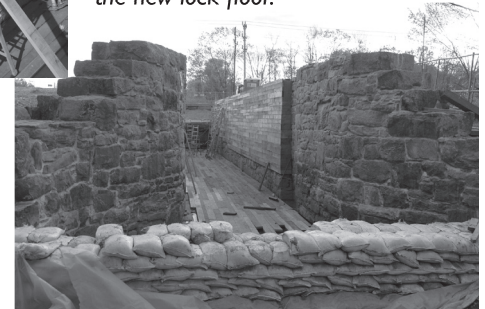
**From Route 287 South,** take Exit 35, Madison Ave. Turn right at the top of the ramp onto Madison Ave (Route 124). Bear right at the next light onto South Street, continue straight through a series of traffic lights and around the Morristown Green. Turn right onto Washington St. (County Route 510, formerly Route 24). Continue as described above.

**From Route 287 North,** take Exit 35, South Street/Madison Ave. At the end of the ramp, turn left onto South St, continue straight through several lights and travel around the Morristown Green. Turn right onto Washington St, (County Route 510, formerly Route 24). Continue as described above. ■

## LOCK 2 EAST RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT



Above: The walls at Lock 2 East have been rebuilt to almost their original height. A line of cap stones wait to be installed in the next phase of the project. Left: Workmen install the plank sheathing that will line the north side of the lock chamber. Below: At the lower end of the lock, the newly completed stonework rises high above the new lock floor.



## ON THE LEVEL



### THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

PO Box 737, Morristown, New Jersey

**ON THE LEVEL** is published three times a year by the Canal Society of New Jersey.  
*Canal Society Administrative Assistant, Phyllis Stanaback – 908-832-2888*

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## MORRIS CANAL GREENWAY

will be held in the upcoming months.

**NEW JERSEY STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONFERENCE – *Sustaining the Past – Inventing the Future*** will be held at Rider University on Thursday, June 7. One of the sessions during the day-long conference will feature a panel discussing the Morris Canal Greenway. Representatives from Passaic County, Warren County, Sussex County and the Canal Society of New Jersey will be participating. This will be a wonderful opportunity to promote the Morris Canal and the Greenway concept to preservationists from across the state. ■

908-722-9556 – nj-cnal@googlegroups.com – www.CanalSocietyNJ.

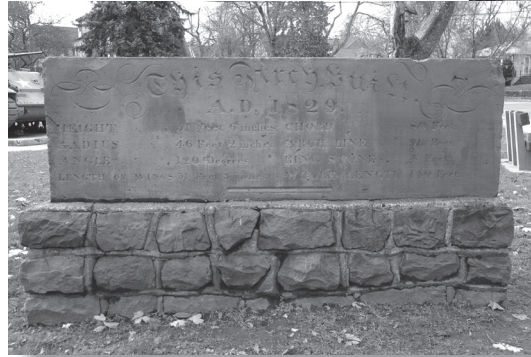


# UPDATE ON THE MORRIS CANAL GREENWAY

*The purpose of the Morris Canal Greenway is to preserve the surviving historic remains of the Morris Canal and its associated natural environment, to interpret canal sites to the public, and to offer recreational opportunities. The Greenway is an ongoing project of the Canal Society and is attracting growing interest amongst municipal, county and state agencies.*

**WATERLOO** – As reported last winter, the Canal Society is seeking funding to undertake a comprehensive cultural resource survey of the Morris County side of the village to identify and document the various historic features there. Part of the study will discuss the historical significance of the archeological and above ground remains, which are of vital importance to the overall village. A grant of \$11,000 has been awarded by the New Jersey Historical Commission toward supporting this \$33,000 project. An additional grant request has been submitted to the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust Fund, seeking support for the balance of the project cost. While investigating and documenting the Morris County side of Waterloo, it is our intention to have the National Register District designation for the overall village upgraded and expanded so that it will also include the Mount Olive Township part of Waterloo. It is also our intent to continue to build impetus for the reconstruction of the towpath bridge across the river so that the two portions of the village will once again be connected.

**PASSAIC COUNTY** – *The Morris Canal Greenway Feasibility Study* that was sponsored by the Passaic County Planning Department has been awarded a 2012 Smart Growth Award by New Jersey Future. The award will be presented at a June 7th reception, held at the Newark Club in downtown Newark. Canal Society Vice President Joe Macasek worked extensively with Passaic County to represent Society interests involving the Greenway Plan and will be participating in the awards ceremony. Passaic County's interest in the Morris Canal Greenway was generated by



Above: The newly completed entrance to the Little Falls Morris Canal Bikeway. Left: Date stones from the Passaic River Aqueduct are being preserved in Little Falls Memorial Park. Below: Clifton Canal Park & Jack Kuepfer Sr. Nature Preserve, an important element in the new Passaic County Morris Canal Greenway plan.

the Society's Morris Canal Greenway Plan, which was developed for the Morris County portion of the canal's alignment. We are very grateful for Passaic County's recognition of the importance of the Morris Canal and the great benefits that the historic preservation and recreational values of a Greenway can bring not only to county residents but from people from all over New Jersey.

**NORTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AUTHORITY** – A Morris Canal Working Group has been formed by the Transportation Planning Authority to bring together the various stakeholders along the entire route of the Morris Canal. The intent is to create a collaborative effort to promote the concept of a Green-

way along the Morris Canal site as it extends across northern New Jersey. An initial meeting was held in Newark last March. Additional meetings (Continued on page 4)

## REMINDER TO MEMBERS!

If you have not yet paid your annual membership dues, please do so. Your support is critical to the Society's ability to sustain its programs and preservation efforts!

# WHARTON CANAL DAY

The Annual Wharton Canal Day will be held this year on Saturday, August 18, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Borough's Hugh Force Park. The event features crafts, historic exhibits, the Canal Society's exhibit and pontoon boat ride on the canal, guided walking tours and music. This year the major restoration of Lock

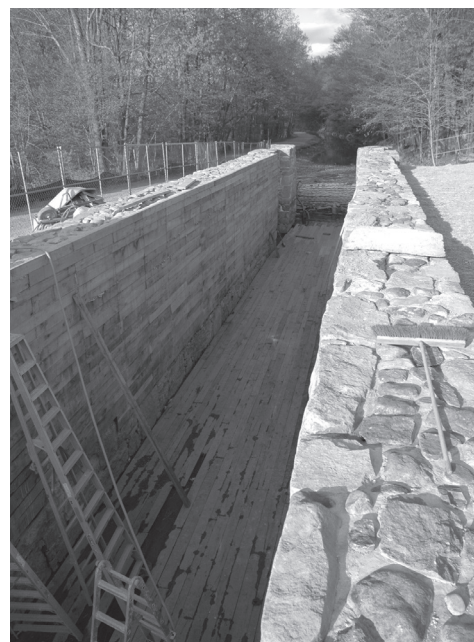
2 East will be on exhibit and will offer an extraordinary opportunity to see what should be a nearly functional Morris Canal lock! Be sure not to miss this event which celebrates the Morris Canal and its contribution to the development of the communities along its banks. ■

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>Friday</b>	<b>May 18</b> 7:30 p.m.	<b>Membership Meeting</b> <i>Morris County Cultural Center</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>June 30</b>	<b>Waterloo Canal Day</b> <i>Rain date July 1</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>July 14</b> <b>July 28</b>	<b>Waterloo Canal Heritage Days</b>
	<b>August 11</b>	<b>September 8</b>
	<b>August 25</b>	<b>September 22</b>
		<b>October 13</b>
		<b>October 27</b>

[www.CanalSocietyNJ.org](http://www.CanalSocietyNJ.org)

[nj-cnal@googlegroups.com](mailto:nj-cnal@googlegroups.com)



The reconstruction of Lock 2 East at Wharton is now near the completion of phase one. Phase two will include adding the cap stones and the building of new lock gates.



The Canal Society of New Jersey received an operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

FIRST CLASS MAIL