No.114, May 2013

ON THE LEVEL



THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

18th Annual Waterloo Canal Day

n Saturday, June 29, the Canal Society will hold its annual Waterloo Canal Day at this intact Morris Canal village in Byram Township. This is our 7th year operating Waterloo Village as a free public attraction. Waterloo is located off Route I-80 at Exit 25 on Waterloo Road and is well signposted.

Hours are 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., followed by a members picnic 6 p.m., with a rain date the following day. If the weather is questionable, check the schedule on the Canal Society website at www.canalsocietynj.org.

Singing historian Roy Justice will entertain us with three performances under our tent adjacent to Smith's Store. Roy has released two CDs of canal music: Down Canal on the Lehigh and Of Canals and Coal, which includes "Great Tiller Sharks," a poem by an Morris Canal boatman that Roy has set to music.



Smith's store at Waterloo, scene here in the early spring, is one of the best preserved canal stores along the canal. This year the store will once again be open to the public with a costumed interpreter to show off its wears.

This year we will be hosting the Hoboken Nine of the Atlantic Base Ball Club as they play the Brooklyn Atlantics in a game of historic baseball. Their club plays by the original rules – no gloves, underhand pitch, and a sports official wearing a top hat and tails.

Along the canal, Rich Brusco and

his son will be working in the historic blacksmith shop, narrating as they heat and hammer iron. We expect to have all in order to continue producing stoneground corn meal by water power at Smith Brothers Grist Mill. However, we are subject to the vagaries of weather.

Smith's Store, the best-preserved Morris Canal store, is fully stocked with vintage merchandise. We will provide narrated boat rides on Waterloo's section of the Morris Canal, taking visitors back to a quiet time in boating. The Rutan Cabin will be interpreted by a volunteer is period attire.

Visitors can view museum exhibits in three buildings, including our New Jersey Canal Museum, which also provides seating for viewers to watch a selection of canal videos. We will offer books and maps as well as our Waterloo T-shirts and hats at the entrance gate and at our sales table by Smith's Store.

Waterloo Canal Day is held in partnership with the New Jersey Division of Parks & Forestry and the Department of Environmental Protection. ■

MEETINGS

Morris County Cultural Center

300 Mendham Road, Morris Township

GEORGE P. MACCULLOCH

Friday - May 17, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. - Refreshments at 7:10

Jane Odenweller, Archivist Macculloch Hall Historical Museum

In the early 1820s, George P. Macculloch, president of the Morris County Agricultural Society, saw that it might be possible to combine interest in Pennsylvania's burgeoning anthracite coal trade with the needs of New Jersey's flagging iron industry. A canal built across New Jersey would provide a direct route from coal fields to markets and provide the Morris County iron masters with the transportation system they needed to compete in a world market. We all know of George Macculloch as the tireless promoter who conceived of the Morris Canal but who was the man behind the dream?

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CANAL WALKS & EVENTS

This new section will list canal related walks and events that may be of interest CSNJ members. Since these events are sponsored be different organizations, please use the contact information supplied to sign up for walks or to obtain additional information.

Morris Canal Greenway

Throughout 2013, the Passaic County Department of Planning and Economic Development will offer a series of walks to promote the Morris Canal Greenway in Passaic County. For more information: www.passaiccountynj.org/MorrisCanalGreenway or contact **Joe Macasek** at macgraphics1@verizon.net

Little Falls - Woodland Park

Sunday, May 19 - 12:00 Noon

Meet at the Woodland Park Library and walk the Greenway route from Woodland Park to Little Falls.

Wayne

Saturday, Sept 7 - 10:00 a.m

Meet at Farmingdale & Dearfield roads in Wayne and explore the feeder lock site and river towpath.

Pompton Lakes

Saturday, Oct 5 - 10:00 a.m

Meet on Mathes Avenue in Pompton Lakes and explore the northern end of the Greenway.

ON THE LEVEL

THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW IERSEY

PO Box 737, Morristown, New Jersey 07963-0737

ON THE LEVEL is published three times a year by the Canal Society of New Jersey.

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Industrial History Tours

These tours are a program sponsored by the Morris County Park Commission. For more information, to sign up for a tour, or for a full list of this year's events please contact **Joe Macasek** at macgraphics1@verizon.net

Ledgewood – Morris Canal Inclined Planes **Saturday, June 22 – 10:00 a.m.**

The Morris Canal's inclined planes were an outstanding engineering achievement, capable of raising or lowering boats up to 100 feet in just a few minutes. Plane 2 East at Ledgewood, one of the best preserved plane sites, has been is cleared for visitors to explore. The tour of the plane will include a visit to the underground turbine (Continued on page 3)

D&R Canal

The D&R Canal Watch is sponsoring a number of hikes along the D&R, a sampling of which follows. For more information consult the organization's website www.canalwatch.org or contact Bob Barth at barths@att.net, 201-401-3121.

Baker's Basin to Trenton Saturday, May 18 – 10:00 a.m.

Walk a less traveled section of the canal park between Baker's Basin in Lawrence Township and Mulberry Street in Trenton, a distance of 4.1 miles, or do a shorter walk, 2.9 miles. Meet at the canal parking lot on Carnegie Road in Lawrence. Carnegie Road can be reached from northbound Brunswick Avenue (Route 1), north of Darrah Lane.

D&R Feeder

Sunday, July 20 - 10:00 a.m.

Walk the D&R Canal Feeder between Scudder's Falls and Church Road in Titusville (3.6 miles), or do a shorter walk of 1.2 miles. Meet at the Scudder's Falls parking lot.

D&R Feeder

Monday, September 2 - 10:00 a.m.

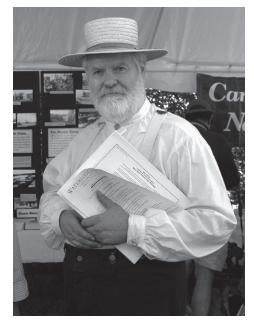
Walk the D&R Canal Feeder between Church Road in Titusville and the Lambertville lock (5.2 miles), or do a shorter walk of 3.2 miles.

Brian Morrell resigns as Canal Society President

fter taking up the office of president of the Canal Society of New Jersey in 2004, Brian Morrell took this organization in new directions. In 2005, with the help of the Morris Land Conservancy, we created a Morris Canal Greenway Strategic Preservation Plan. Then, using that plan as a guide, we began partnering with local communities across Morris County to fund the acquisition of Greenway properties and secure those properties in public ownership for future generations.

In Ledgewood we worked with Roxbury Township and the Roxbury Historical Society to fund emergency repairs at Inclined Plane 2 East and in Wharton we worked with the Borough on a six-year project that ultimately lead to the restoration of Lock 2 East in Hugh Force Park. In all these cases, Brian was the one who organized the funding that made it possible to accomplish these projects.

Then in 2007, when the Water-loo Foundation for the Arts filed for bankruptcy leaving the future of Waterloo Village in jeopardy, Brian led the way as the Canal Society stepped up to take an active role in keeping the village open to the public. Since then we have become an Officially Recognized Friends Organization and part-



Brian Morrell at Waterloo Canal Day.

nered with the State Park Service to bring the village back to life. Although this seemed like a daunting task, Brian rallied volunteers to clean, inventory, and interpret first the Smith's Store, then the Blacksmith Shop and Rutan Cabin. Since then the Canal Society has expanded its programming to include the Gristmill and White Barn.

Now with Brian is moving on to other endeavors, the Canal Society wishes to thank him for his years of service and for taking us to a new and higher level of involvement in the historic community. We wish him well and hope that, in the future, we will be able to move forward with the projects that he started.

Industrial History Tours

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chamber, recently completed restoration work, a walk along the canal towpath and a visit to a nearby iron mine. We will meet at Canal Park in Ledgewood.

D&R Canal – Kingston to New Brunswick **Saturday, July 20 – 10:00 a.m.**

The Delaware & Raritan Canal, completed in 1834, was built to carry Pennsylvania coal to the New York market. Unlike the Morris Canal however, the D&R chose an easier 44-mile route

across the waist of New Jersey from Bordentown to New Brunswick. A 22-mile-long feeder brought water from the upper Delaware River to a junction with the main canal at Trenton. Today, most of the canal is still in service supplying drinking water to towns along its route and offering recreational activities as the D&R Canal State Park. On this tour we will follow the canal from Kingston to New Brunswick making several stops along the way. We will meet in the parking area at the Kingston Lock.

MEETINGS

(Continued from page 1)

In this program Jane Odenweller, archivist at Morristown's Macculloch Hall Historical Museum, will use personal letters, maps and documents from the museum's collection to delve into Macculloch's personal life and tell us about the man behind the dream.

Jane Odenweller is a trustee and past president of the Macculloch Hall Historical Museum. She has been the archivist since 1979. Passionate about history, she had previously served as the interpretation chairman for the model ship, Deliverance at St. George's in Bermuda. She is archivist for a local church and for an elementary school on Long Island, and has organized private papers.

A graduate of Smith Collage, she is a poet and author of the epic novel in verse, The Penelopeia (David R. Godine, 2003.) She has held readings in cities across the country.

MEMBERS PICNIC WATERLOO



June 29 – 6:00 pm

Please join us for Canal Day at Waterloo Village and then stay on to enjoy great food at the CSNJ Members Picnic.

If you plan to join us, please let us know by sending a quick e-mail to:

macgraphics1@verizon.net or call 973-292-2755

Wharton Canal Day Bigger & Better

Hugh Force Canal Park

270 West Central Avenue, Wharton

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

This year's Wharton Canal Day will be bigger than ever. In addition to the newly restored Canal Lock and the CSNI Canal Boat ride there will be more vendors and live music than ever before. The Canal Day site will now include several additional acres of land along West Central Avenue recently acquired by the Borough of Wharton. Rail fans will be interested to know the old Wharton & Northern bridge abutment on that site will be preserves and press back into service as a band shell.



Wharton's Lock 2 East after the completion of the first phase of its restoration project.

ALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday **May 11** **Spirit of the Jerseys State History Fair**

Washington Crossing State Park

Friday

May 17 7:30 p.m. **Membership Meeting** Morris County Cultural Center

Saturday

June 29

Waterloo Canal Day - 10:00 to 5:00

Members Picnic - 6:00 to 8:00

Saturdays

July thru Oct

Waterloo Canal Heritage Days August 10 September 14 October 12

July 13 July 27

September 28 October 26



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

www.CanalSocietyNJ.org

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