

ON THE LEVEL



THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

DENVILLE AQUEDUCT PIERS ENDANGERED

Last year Denville Township proposed flood control measures that called for the removal of the piers that once supported the Morris Canal's Rockaway River Aqueduct. When the canal was abandoned the piers were kept in service as supports to carry the Rockaway Valley Regional Sewerage Authority's new trunk line across the river. Although that line has been rerouted, the piers still stand as the best-preserved aqueduct remains along the entire Morris Canal. In response to Denville's proposal, the CSNJ passed a resolution calling for preservation of the piers and observing that the remains of the canal are protected by the New Jersey Register of Historic Places Act.

Since then, Denville have applied to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for authorization to proceed with their project. As part of this process this application was presented to the New Jersey Historic Sites Council (HSC) at an



This historic view of Denville's Rockaway River Aqueduct shows the wooden trunk supported by three stone piers.

open public meeting this February. Canal Society members attended the meeting as an interested party and to give testimony in support of preservation. After hearing a lengthy presentation made by Denville Township's engineer, the HSC postponed the application to the next meeting in April. The Council requested documen-

tation that had not been supplied by the applicant and requested additional information. The additional information requested from the applicant is to be compiled by an accredited hydrologic engineer(s) because the applicant's data do not support the claims that the piers, located far downstream from the town center, have any effect on flood conditions. The postponed application was to be heard at the next meeting in April; however, Denville asked for the matter to be moved to June 19.

A team from the Society will be attending the next meeting. Interested parties are welcome to attend.

The Canal Society believes flood control is a serious matter and supports efforts to reduce flooding in Denville. However, we believe that destroying the piers would constitute a major negative
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MEETINGS

Morris County Cultural Center
300 Mendham Road, Morris Township

Friday – May 16, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. – Refreshments at 7:10

CANAL TROLLEY FOR LAMBERTVILLE

CAPTAIN BILL MCKELVEY

This historical-technology program will explore the canal, rail, river, and transportation history of the D&R Canal Feeder in the Lambertville area. Bill will focus on the current initiative for putting the tracks along the feeder back into service. This plan would promote tourism by providing a trolley shuttle service that would transport visitors between parking areas at the Holcomb Jimison Farmstead Museum to the popular, but parking-deficient, Lambertville Railroad Station.

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Pages 3 & 4 contain lists of upcoming walks and events that you can pull out and keep handy for future reference.

WATERLOO – 2014



Waterloo seamstress Sharon Kuechelmann.

This year we will be expanding our Waterloo programming once again. Woodcarver and craftsmen Earle Post will be setting up a carpentry shop in the old weaving barn where he will relate researched “tales and stories” while working on canal-related project. He hopes to be building feed boxes and perhaps working on a canal boat rudder. Many of the projects will involve the cooperation of the blacksmiths. Visitors to the blacksmith shop will see iron parts being forged to complete boat repair work being undertaken by the carpenter.

In a nearby cottage, award winning seamstress, Sharon Kuechelmann will be setting up an authentic 19th century shop. She will be using a vintage treadle powered sewing machine to re-

create garments worn by people who would have lived and worked in the village. Visitor will learn the history of the sewing machine and try working on an historic machine. Some of her projects will include fancy cloths that would be appropriate for the Smith family while other garments might be for the canalers, to be offered for sale in the store.

In addition, new Canal Society board member, Andy Drysdale will be helping us develop new first-person interpretation scenarios we hope to use at Waterloo.

With all this going on, it's going to be a busy summer. Please come by to see how we are doing or contact Bill Pegg if you would like to help out. ■

williamlpeggjr@gmail.com

MEETINGS

(Continued from page 1)

Captain Bill McKelvey is a retired Insurance Safety Engineer and a life member of the Canal Society and has served as board member and vice president. As tour organizer he has taken society members on over a dozen trips to explore canals in England, Wales, Ireland, Holland, France, and Canada. Bill is widely known as a life-long proponent of transportation history. Throughout the years Bill has taken on the role of author, publisher, tour director, collector, and leader in the effort to preserve all forms of New Jersey's transportation history. He is the current chairman of Liberty Historic Railway and a Director and Site Committee Chair for the United Railroad Historical Society of New Jersey.

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 wide left curve, look for a sign for the MUA on the right, pointing toward the driveway, which is marked by a street light and lighted 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. ■

WATERLOO SCHEDULE 2014

Waterloo Canal Days
Saturday, June 28 – 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Rain Date June 29

Waterloo Heritage Days
Saturdays – 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

– July	12 & 26
– August	9 & 30
– September	13 & 27
– October	11 & 25

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

We would like to introduce three new CSNJ Board Members.

Andy Drysdale
Rick Giles
Anita Norris



MORRIS CANAL GREENWAY

State-Wide Greenway Conference

The New Jersey Transportation and Planning Authority and the Canal Society of New Jersey held a state-wide Morris Canal Greenway Conference this spring at Morris County's Frelinghuysen Arboretum. Over 100 state and county officials, local historians and interested parties attended. After opening remarks by NJTPA Executive Director Mary K. Murphy and Morris County Freeholder Kathryn DeFilippo, Grace Hanlon, Executive Director, New Jersey Division of Travel and Tourism explained that the Greenway can contribute to and benefit from the state's effort to promote heritage tourism.

Canal Society President Joe Macasek and Past President Bob Bath outlined the canal's history. Then, throughout the afternoon guests heard how Greenway projects in communities across the state are bringing the canal back to life. Kathy Fisher, President, Montville Historical Society; John Manna, Grants Specialist, Wharton Borough; and Jason Simmons, Passaic County Environmental Planner told how the Greenway is coming together with the completion of projects both large and small.

Enthusiasm generated by the Greenway Conference spilled over into the following weeks and led directly to talks with Elliott Ruga, head of Boonton's Historic Preservation Commission, and Sandie DiDomenico, Roxbury Recreation Program Director, about developing new projects in Morris County.

Mt. Olive Township

On April 28th, Mt Olive's Morris Canal Greenway-Braille Trail officially opened with a formal ribbon cutting ceremony. This new trail along a water-filled section of the Morris Canal between Stanhope's Inclined Plane 2 West and Lock



Mark Texel, Director - New Jersey State Parks; John Trombley, Vice President - Givaudan Operations, North America; and Rob Greenbaum, Mayor Mount Olive Township cut the ribbon to open the Greenway-Braille Trail.

2 West is a partnership between Givaudan, a worldwide manufacturer of fragrances and flavors, Mt. Olive Township, and New Jersey State Parks. Company officials, local mayors, state officials, Canal Society members and about 50 guests

attended along the event.

Although the path is equipped with a rope railing to assist sight-impaired visitors, it is intended for the use of the public at large. A planned

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MEMBER NEWS

IN MEMORIAM WILLIAM J. MOSS

Bill Moss, past president of the Canal Society of New Jersey, passed away in mid-April. Bill grew up in Kearny, and spent ten childhood summers at Camp Kiamecha in Stillwater, NJ, where his love of the outdoors began. He graduated from Kearny High School and served as an officer in the Army during World War II, stationed in the South Pacific. After the war, he graduated from Stevens Institute of Technology with a BS and MS in mechanical engineering, was employed in industry until 1968, and taught physics at Union County College until he retired.

Bill was an avid outdoorsman and longtime Boy Scout leader. His interest in history led him to the Canal Society of New Jersey, where he gave many years of service as a Board Member, six years as Vice President, and eight as President.

Long-time members remember Bill's meticulous attention to organization and detail. Some recall the trips he organized, others the programs he planned, but all who knew him remember his high level of enthusiasm for the Canal Society and



Bill Moss

(Continued on page 6)

D&R CANAL

2014 WALKS & EVENTS

These walks and events are sponsored by the D&R Canal Watch. The walks are free, but donations are welcome and appreciated. For additional information contact Bob Barth at 201-401-3121 or bbarth@att.net.

WALKS

These walks are part of a series of interpretive hikes that will give walkers an opportunity to explore the D&R Canal from Landing Lane in New Brunswick to the northern end of the feeder canal at Bull's Island.

Saturday, May 17 – 10 a.m. (Walk 4)

D&R Canal towpath from Griggstown to Kingston Lock 8, 5.0 miles. Meet at the Kingston Lock; then we will travel to the starting point. A shorter, 3.1-mile hike will be available.

Saturday, July 5 – 10 a.m. (Walk 5)

D&R Canal towpath from Kingston Lock 8 to Alexander Road, 3.8 miles. Meet at Turning Basin Park on Alexander Road; then we will travel to the starting point. A shorter, 2.2-mile hike will be available.

Saturday, September 13 – 10 a.m. (Walk 6)

D&R Canal towpath from Alexander Road to Carnegie Road, 5.5 miles. A shorter, 2.6-mile hike will be available. Meet at Carnegie Road, off U.S. Route 1; then we will travel to the starting point.

Saturday, October 4 – 10 a.m. (Walk 7)

D&R Canal towpath from Carnegie Road to Cadwalader Park, Trenton, 6.0 miles. Meet at Ellarslie Mansion (the city museum) in Cadwalader Park, Trenton; then we will travel to the starting point. A shorter, 2.4-mile hike will be available.

Saturday, November 8 – 10 a.m. (Walk 8)

D&R Canal Feeder from the Ellarslie Mansion in Cadwalader Park to the junction with the main canal at Old Rose Street, 3.8 miles. Meet at Ellarslie Mansion (the city museum) in Cadwalader Park, Trenton. See the Pedicaris waste gate and bridgetender's homes.

EVENTS

D&R Canal Watch Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 8 – 2 p.m.

Meet Ashbel Welch, chief engineer when the canal opened in 1834. Actor Bob Gleason will portray this important Lambertville resident, who instituted many changes on the canal. The meeting will be held at the old Lawrence Township Municipal Building, across the parking lot from the police headquarters, Route 206, just south of I-95.

4th Annual East Millstone CanalFest

Saturday, October 18 – 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tours of the bridgetender's house, music, food, crafts and vendors.

Location: Market Street off Amwell Road (Rt 514) in East Millstone.

Information: Visit the web site at www.franklinfoodbank.org/events/canal-fest.htm or call Franklin Township Food Bank at 732-246-0009.

MORRIS CANAL

WALKS

Throughout 2014, the Passaic County Department of Planning and Economic Development will offer a series of walks to promote the Morris Canal Greenway in Passaic County.

Sunday, May 4 – 12:00 Noon

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

Sunday, Sept. 14 – 12:00 Noon

Wayne – Meet at Farmingdale & Deerfield Roads in Wayne and explore the feeder lock site and river towpath.

Sunday, Oct. 12 – 12:00 Noon

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

For more information:

Morris Canal Greenway Project

www.passaiccountynj.org

MorrisCanalGreenway

Joe Macasek

macgraphics1@verizon.net

Sunday Walks at Waterloo

Join tour guides Bob Barth and Diane Cece for an interesting and informative stroll through Waterloo Village. These Sunday tours start at the main gate at 1:00 p.m. Afterwards there will be an option for a more challenging two-mile walk to visit historic canal features on the Morris County side of the Musconetcong River. Please register by contacting Bob Barth at bbarth@att.net or 201-401-3121.

May 18 – July 13 – August 17

AQUEDUCT PIERS

(Continued from page 1)

impact to a National and State Register Historic District while doing nothing to solve the real problems. The Society strongly urges SHPO's Historic Site Council to carefully consider all the facts before making a final ruling. ■

WARREN COUNTY CANAL BUS TOUR

The Warren County Morris Canal Committee is pleased to announce that a fall tour has been scheduled for Saturday October 4.

The tour will be a half-day bus ride along the canal corridor through Warren County. The bus will leave from the Warren Hills Regional Senior High School, located on Jackson Valley Road, in Washington Township, at 9:00 a.m., and return at approximately 3:00 p.m. During the trip, a box lunch will be served at the Jim & Mary Lee Museum, located at Plane 9 West. The Lee family lived in the planetender's house and did extensive work preserving the canal on this property, which is now owned by Warren County and operated as a museum open to the public the second Sunday of each month. People have traveled from all over the world to review this remarkable engineering wonder. For information about the Morris Canal, please visit our website at www.morriscanal.org.

Reservations are required. The cost is \$15.00 per person and includes the box lunch. Checks should be made payable to the County of Warren. Seating is limited to a first-come basis. Please call the Warren County Planning Department at 908-475-6532 to make your reservations. ■

2014 INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE WALKS

May thru October 2014

SIXTEENTH YEAR

May 10

– **Morris Canal Inlined Planes:** Ledgewood

June 7

– **High Line:** Manhattan (NEW)

June 21

– **Upper Rookaway River Forges**

July 19

– **Greystone Park**

August 16

– **D&R Canal**

September 6

– **Raritan Power Canal**

October 11

– **Waterloo Inlined Plane**

*Industrial Heritage Walks are sponsored by the
Morris County Park Commission*

For Information & reservations, please e-mail:

macgraphics1@verizon.net

or call 973-292-2755

ON THE LEVEL



THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

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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Recording Secretary: Dennis Furbush
Corresponding Secretary: Vacant
Past President: Robert Barth

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THANK YOU MEMBERS

All the things we do: Waterloo programming, Morris Canal Greenway, advocating for historic preservation, tours and events, are all made possible by your help and support. If you didn't care, we couldn't do the things we do.

*Thanks for being
Members!*

Joe Macasek, President CSNJ

macgraphics1@verizon.net

SPIRIT OF THE JERSEYS HISTORY FAIR

Washington's Crossing State Park

Saturday, May 10 – 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This year's fair is shaping up to be the biggest event to date. There will be over 200 exhibitors, over 860 individual participants and many exciting programs. Eighteen gourmet food trucks will provide visitors with a wide range of food choices to fit every budget.

The Canal Society of New Jersey and D&R Canal Watch will be among

the many historical groups on hand. The CSNJ's canal boat will offer rides to visitors throughout the day. Also on hand will be reenactors, vintage motor vehicles, games, vendors, and demonstrations from all periods of our state's history. ■

*Come and celebrate New Jersey's
350th anniversary.*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday May 10

Spirit of the Jerseys State History Fair

Washington Crossing State Park

Friday May 16

7:15 p.m.

Membership Meeting

Morris County Cultural Center

Saturday June 28

10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

Waterloo Canal Day

Waterloo Village

Saturday August 23

10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

Wharton Canal Day

Hugh Force Park, Wharton

www.CanalSocietyNJ.org

nj-cnal@googlegroups.com

MORRIS CANAL GREENWAY

(Continued from page 3)

two-mile-long second phase will connect this trail with the popular Sussex Branch Trail Head at the intersection of Waterloo Road and Continental Drive. ■

WILLIAM J. MOSS

(Continued from page 3)

its members. His notes and memos are legendary among board members. In later years he organized the Society's archives, leaving a legacy of carefully cataloged files.

All who knew him remember him as a good friend and good company on a trip, hike, or socializing after meetings. He will be missed. ■



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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED