

# ON THE LEVEL



## THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

# MORRIS CANAL GREENWAY

Over the summer work on the Greenway has continued to expand, with many participants now working toward a common goal. The Canal Society has continued to partner with the North Jersey Transportation and Planning Authority's (NJTPA) Morris Canal Greenway Working Group to turn the Greenway into a reality. The Greenway Conference in June brought together community leaders, open-space advocates and history fans from counties across the state to share projects and promote public awareness. This fall, the Working Group will be forming committees to work on promoting and building the Greenway. If you would like help out, please contact Joe Macasek at 973-292-2755.

In Passaic County Senior Environmental Planner Jason Simmons from the county's Department of Planning & Economic Development is working toward



*Montville's Canal Park got a new Greenway monument sign mounted between stone pillars built by Daniel Trionfo as his Eagle Scout project.*

the start of construction on the greenway trail from Paterson to Clifton. Also in the works is a planned connection between existing Greenway trails in Little Falls and Woodland Park, and work on the

Barnes Street Canal Park in Paterson.

In Morris County, the Canal Society has been working with Roxbury Township Recreation Program Director Sandie DiDomenico and grant writer Bob Canace on plans for a new greenway trail in Ledgewood and Phase II restoration work at Plane 2 East. CSNJ Greenway Committee member Laura Szwak has been working on a land acquisition project in Shippenport. We have already been awarded a Franklin Parker Grant to help finance that transaction.

In Montville, the CSNJ continues to assist Kathy Fisher, President of the Montville Historical Society, with the development of new signage at Montville Canal Park. Kathy has also received grant funding to develop a plan to revitalize the greenway in the Change Bridge area of Montville. ■

## MEETINGS

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

**Friday – September 19, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.** – Refreshments at 7:10

## WATERLOO

### THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

ANDY DRYSDALE

Longtime Waterloo staff member Andy Drysdale will share his experiences working for Percy Leach and the Waterloo Foundation for the Arts. Although many of us remember the lavish displays, costumed interpreters and world-class concerts, not everyone knows the stories of mismanagement and neglect that eventually lead to the Foundation's demise in 2006. Today, as dedicated Canal Society volunteers work hard to bring the Village back to life, the Foundation years are becoming part of its history. In this not-to-be-missed presentation, Andy will take us behind the scenes during those years for a look at, the good, the bad and the ugly!!

*(Continued on page 2)*

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

# THIS SUMMER AT WATERLOO



Carpenter's assistant Don Scott works to rough out the shaped of a canal boat tiller.

This year's Waterloo programming got off to a great start with an outstanding Waterloo Canal Day. Despite the usual delays, we had seven of the historic building open plus live music by Joy Justice and lunch and snacks prepared by folks from the Waterloo Methodist Church. Good weather brought out so many visitors that our volunteers had their hands full with so many people to talk to.

The new carpenter and seamstress shops were a big hit. To make it happen Earle Post and Bill Pegg cleaned out the Peter D. Smith carriage house, installed lighting and built benches to display our period tool collection. The carriage house is such a beautiful building that we also opened up the horse stalls so visitors can see how the Smiths spared no expense in the

care and feeding of their fine carriage horses. Sharon Kuechelmann, our seamstress, took over the little cottage sometimes called Jake's House, added several historic sewing machines and all the trapping of a period dress making shop.

In addition to all the things we planned, at the last minute, we had an opportunity to reopen the sawmill. Although the water powered equipment is still in need of repair, we were able to make the building clean and safe for visitors. Historic reenactor and CSNJ Board member Andy Drysdale is now greeting visitors and explaining how things worked.

## Jeffrey A. Miller Catering

This Summer, State Parks leased

## MEETINGS

(Continued from page 1)

**Andy Drysdale** grew up in Chester Township and received a degree in history at Drew University. His professional experience includes Curator of Education/Historic Sites for the Morris County Park Commission and Executive Director of the Red Mill Museum in Clinton. He has been a historic for many years with wide ranging interests that extend from the French & Indian Wars through WWII. From 1989 through 1997 he worked at Waterloo Village for the Waterloo Foundation for the Art doing everything from blacksmithing to supervising security. He is now the Curator at Shippen Manor Museum for the Warren County Cultural & Heritage Commission. He is also a new member of the CSNJ Board and is back at Waterloo interpreting the sawmill on Waterloo Heritage days.

**Friday – November 21, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.** – Refreshments at 7:10

## POST-CANAL HISTORY OF INCLINED PLANE 9 WEST

**JIM LEE, JR. & JIM LEE, III**

In the 1950s, long before there was a Morris Canal Greenway Project, Jim Lee, Sr., acquired the site of Inclined Plane 9 West in Warren County and moved his family into the plane tender's house. In this presentation Jim's son and grandson will tell how three generations of the Lee family have explored, restored and interpreted the site for thousands of visitors and are now helping to develop Plane 9 as a Warren County Heritage Area. We will hear about the history of the property, see pictures of the archeological digs that inspired a generation of canal fans, learn of the challenges that lie ahead, and hear about plans for the future.

**Jim Lee, Jr.,** is a retired engineering manager previously working for Bowe Bell & Howell at various locations for 38 years. He grew up at (Continued from page 3)



Sharon Kuechelmann, dressed to the nines, stands in the door of her new shop.

## MEMBER NEWS

### Fred W. Bruehne

This past May long time CSNJ member Fred W. Bruehne, of Madison, New Jersey past away. Fred will be long remembered for his unassuming domineer and gracious generosity. Thanks you Fred. ■



the non-historic part of the Village to Jeffrey A. Miller Catering, from Philadelphia. The company specializes in organizing high-end events at a selection of historic venues in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The plan is to use the income derived from the lease to help pay staff and Village restoration without interfering with the historic streetscap. To accomplish this, the two parts of the Village will be kept separate by creating a new entrance. The ticket booths from the old entrance have already been moved to the south end of the parking lot, from which a stairway will lead onto the main street. A new ADA entrance ramp is already in place.

With the Meeting House now leased to the caterer, the State Park office has been moved to the Seymour Smith House. Although this grand Victorian residence still needs lots of work, the front porch has been repaired and the first floor is now open with office space looking out across Main Street.

So far the plan had worked well. The new entrance is actually a great idea. Visitors will soon enter directly into the village past an interpretive kiosk that sets the stage for our Canal Town interpretive programing.

Later this year, as the caterer's business plans takes shape, we hope that the CSNJ, State Parks and Jeff Miller will be working together to continue the progress in bringing the Village back to life. ■



Steve Lauf explains the operation of the hand-cranked corn sheller to a young visitor. The machine is very popular with visitors of all ages.



ABOVE: Carpenter Earle Post and assistant Bill Pegg examine a grind stone newly acquired for the carpentry shop.

Right: On the Canal Day, so many visitors stopped to see what was going on at the Waterloo Blacksmith shop that the doorway was overflowing.



## DENVILLE AQUEDUCT PIERS

In June the Historic Sites Council met once again to consider the Borough of Denville's application to demolish the Morris Canal's historic aqueduct piers. Despite hours of work spent preparing our case in favor of historic preservation, the outcome of the meeting was not good. We discovered that Denville had been allowed to take their case directly to DEP. Although it was admitted that the piers could not be linked to the flooding in downtown Denville, it was decided that they could affect flood conditions along Diamond Spring Road. With only three members of the Sites Council in attendance the vote was divided and the results deceptive. The application was temporarily denied with conditions. Disappointingly, the conditions were so easily satisfied that the fate of the piers is now sealed. Two of the piers will be removed leaving the center one in place. If you find these results disturbing please let your local, county and state officials know that you find this sort of arbitrary destruction of historic sites unacceptable. ■

The full story will be covered in more detail in an upcoming e-mail addition of Canal News.



# 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](mailto: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, 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 to 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 to 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.

## MEETINGS

*(Continued from page 2)*

*the Morris Canal's Plane 9 West near Stewartsville where he assisted his late father in preservation efforts there and in the excavation of the turbine chamber. He presently lives at Plane 10 West near Philipsburg on property that has been lived on by members of his family since before the canal was abandoned. Jim is a member of the Warren County Morris Canal Committee, a volunteer organization that is an adjunct to the Warren County Planning Dept.*

*Jim Lee III is an archeologist with Hunter Research and is following in the footsteps of his well-known grandfather, Morris Canal historian Jim Lee. He currently resides at Plane 9 West.*

## 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. ■

# 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, 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:

[www.passaiccountynj.org](http://www.passaiccountynj.org)  
[MorrisCanalGreenway](http://MorrisCanalGreenway)

**Joe Macasek**

[macgraphics1@verizon.net](mailto:macgraphics1@verizon.net)

## Sunday Walk at Waterloo October 5th

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](mailto:bbarth@att.net) or 201-401-3121. ■

## Morris Canal Eastern Division

The Pennsylvania Canal Society will be running a tour of the eastern section of the Morris Canal from Jersey City to Lake Hopatcong on Oct 18. For information and cost contact Bob Barth at 201 401 3121 or [bbarth@att.net](mailto:bbarth@att.net)

## Thanks for being 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.

Joe Macasek, President CSNJ  
[macgraphics1@verizon.net](mailto:macgraphics1@verizon.net)



# 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 the WCMCC website at [www.morriscanal.org](http://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

September thru November 2014

SIXTEENTH YEAR

September 6 – **Raritan Power Canal**

October 11 – **Waterloo Inclined Plane**

November 1 – **Chester Furnace**

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

For information & reservations, please e-mail:  
[macgraphics1@verizon.net](mailto:macgraphics1@verizon.net) or call 973-292-2755

## Bloomfield Morris Canal Greenway Hike

**Saturday, November 8, 2014,**

**10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.**

This four-hour excursion includes a 3-mile hike on the path of the Morris Canal in Bloomfield and a 1-hour bus ride. A \$2 donation is requested to cover the cost of the bus. Space is limited; reservations are required. Email [MorrisCanal@gmail.com](mailto:MorrisCanal@gmail.com) for reservations or information.

## New Waterloo History

This great new book written by CSNJ member Rick Giles is now on available at the Society's sale table or directly from the author. To get copy now send \$25, that includes packing and shipping, to:  
Rick Giles, 18 George Street  
Succasunna NJ 07876

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## THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

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

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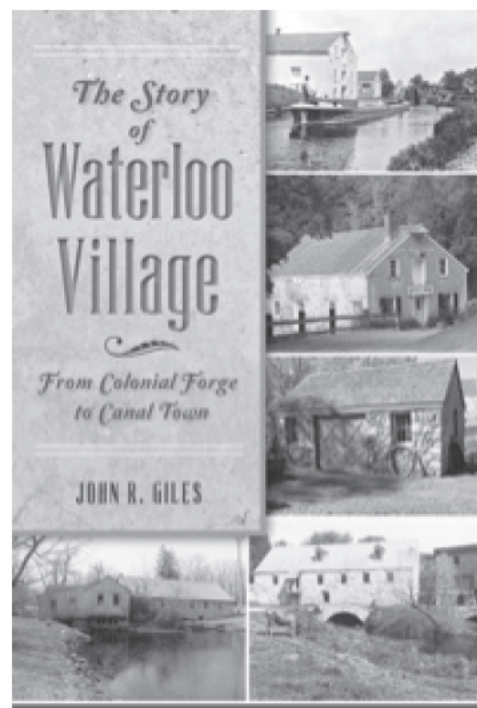
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# WHARTON LOCK PROJECT – PHASE II

In Wharton, Phase II of the Lock 2 East Restoration Project is now underway. The original capstones have been re-installed and the lock walls brought up to their historic height. Meanwhile, new miter gates for the lower end of the lock are being built by a company in Pennsylvania and will be delivered and installed in the fall. In addition, damaged interpretive panels are being replaced and a new panel created with help from a grant from the Morris County Heritage Commission. Plans for Phase III include rebuilding the upper drop gate and making the lock operational. ■



Lock 2 East at Wharton is scene here with stone work almost complete, waiting the new miter gates to be install at the far end.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>Friday</b>	<b>Sep 19</b> 7:15 p.m.	<b>Membership Meeting</b> <i>Morris County Cultural Center</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Nov 21</b> 7:15 p.m.	<b>Membership Meeting</b> <i>Morris County Cultural Center</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sep 13 &amp; 27</b> <b>Oct 11 &amp; 25</b> 11:15 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.	<b>Waterloo Heritage Days</b> <i>Morris County Cultural Center</i>

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

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



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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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