

ON THE LEVEL



THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

ROXBURY TOWNSHIP GREENWAY

State-Wide Greenway

In areas across the state, interest in the Greenway continues to grow, and preservation projects continue to move forward. Passaic and Warren counties and Jersey City have adopted Greenway plans, with professional planners at work on Greenway projects. In Morris County, the CSNJ is working on the community level to support existing projects in the town of Boonton, Rockaway Borough, Wharton, Montville, Roxbury, and Mt. Olive as well as helping finance new projects. We also continue in our leadership role as members of the executive committee of the North Jersey Transportation and Planning Authority's Morris Canal Greenway Working Group. A Working Group meeting in December brought out Greenway stakeholders from across the state.

With all this activity, we must apol-



This canal boat has entered the cradle car in the basin at the top of Shippenport's Plane 1 East. The buildings in the background are part of the community that developed at the head of the plane.

ogize if we sometimes fall short in our reporting. Just listing all the projects and plans is becoming an arduous task. Although this may seem to be a good problem, it is the informed support

from you, the members, that is most important. Now, only a few days into the new year, we are planning the year ahead and awaiting approval on grant applications filed over the summer. Stay tuned for future developments.

MEETINGS

Morris County Cultural Center
300 Mendham Road, Morris Township

Friday – January 16, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. – Light Supper at 7:00

COAL & IRON MINING

EXPLORING HISTORIC MINE SITES

MIKE & GREG HETMAN

Coal and iron ore were the lifeblood of our 19th-century transportation canals. In their time, canals were the most efficient means of transporting vast quantities of fuel and raw materials to power industry and feed blast furnaces. Although mining is no longer an important part of this region's economy, abandoned mine sites are found wherever this industry once flourished. These sites are often ignored and almost never adequately researched and recorded. The speakers are avid explorers of historic mines and their program will be illustrated with pictures from their many adventures.

(Continued on page 2)

Roxbury Township

The past year ended with good news when we learned that the Morris County Preservation Trust awarded the Canal Society a grant to acquire an important piece of Morris Canal Greenway property at Shippenport. When the sale is completed, the property will be donated to Roxbury Township, and together with adjacent properties, become part of the township's trail system and the Morris Canal Greenway.

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Canal Society members who would like to learn more about Shippenport can get a PDF copy of a site map created as part of the Greenway project by e-mailing macgraphics1@verizon.net

PLANNING AHEAD FOR 2015



Don Scott works on a canal boat tiller project in the Waterloo carpenter's shop.

Last year we successfully completed several major projects, and we are now in the process of planning new Waterloo Programming and Morris Canal Greenway projects for the coming season.

This year's goal is expand and improve our programming by getting the sawmill back into operation and by expanding the carpenter shop demonstration to include more canal related projects. We also plan to bring in professional services to help get and keep the waterpower system working, and to do a better job of promoting our efforts and to bring in more visitors.

Greenway efforts will involve following through on land acquisitions and grant application projects started

last year. If our grant requests are successful, we will have our hands full. We will also continue to support ongoing projects in communities across Morris County and develop new projects wherever the opportunities present themselves. The canal passed through 12 county municipalities: our goal is to have a Greenway project in as many as possible.

Board Advisory Committee

To help us accomplish our goals for next year we have asked a number of CSNJ members to join our Advisory Committee. This committee is made up of individuals with special knowledge, experience, or skills. They will be working on specific projects and reporting to the board. The new advisors are:

– **Laura Swazk** will work on Greenway land acquisition projects. She is the Director of Education & Outreach for the New Jersey Conservation Foundation.

– **Kathy Fisher** will help us plan future grant applications. She is the president of the Montville Historical Society.

– **Earle Post** will organize and manage projects that will enhance our Waterloo programming. He is a retired teacher and a skilled woodworker.

– **Lew Wefferling**, a certified public accountant, will help us manage our finances. Lew has an accounting business located in Caldwell.

They will all work on both new and ongoing projects. If you think you might like to join the team, please use the volunteer form that you received with your recent membership notice or just send an e-mail to: macgraphics1@verizon.net. ■

MEETINGS

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In addition to this evening presentation, CSNJ member Deb Wefferling will prepare and serve a light supper of lasagna and garlic bread. Deb's culinary skills are renowned, so please come early and enjoy food and friendly conversation before the meeting.

Mike & Greg Hetman are serious mine explores and experts on all things relating to coal and iron mining. They have investigated and photographed numerous historic mines in northern New Jersey, southern New York State, and northeastern Pennsylvania. Mike is a web site designer and musician and Greg is a computer network administrator.

Friday – March 20, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. – Refreshments at 7:10

THE D&R CANAL— TWO NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS

For about fifteen years, Edie Sharp has led the creation of the Delaware River National Scenic Byway along Route 29 and the D&R Canal Feeder, from Trenton to Frenchtown. Preserving the byway's rich history and architecture, spectacular views, and historic sites like Washington Crossing is not an easy task. Edie has brought together many interested organizations and individuals to cooperate in obtaining a national designation and publicizing this beautiful and historic area. Edie has previously served as the executive director of the Delaware River Mill Society.

She will discuss the process of creating this scenic byway and talk about the accomplishments and assets along the way, including the D&R Canal Feeder.

Bob Barth will show a video about the new Millstone Valley National Scenic Byway, which runs from Kingston to Millstone along the D&R Canal. He will discuss the area's history and beautiful scenery, including Rockingham, where George Washington stayed while awaiting the peace treaty from Paris. The D&R Canal is the centerpiece of both of New Jersey's national scenic byways, and it was the Delaware & Raritan Canal Commission that helped preserve this picturesque and historic region.

Directions to the Morris County Cultural Center are available on the CSNJ web site canalsocietynj.org





In November 2014, two massive wooden miter gates were installed at the lower end of the newly reconstructed Lock 2 East at Wharton.

GREENWAY

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This project involves parcels already owned by Roxbury, land that will be donated by a developer and plans to build a trail across the new property to connect with the township's new recreation facility on the Landing Road and the Lake Hopatcong Foundation's newly acquired historic train station headquarters and visitor center. The map on page three shows how the pieces will come together.

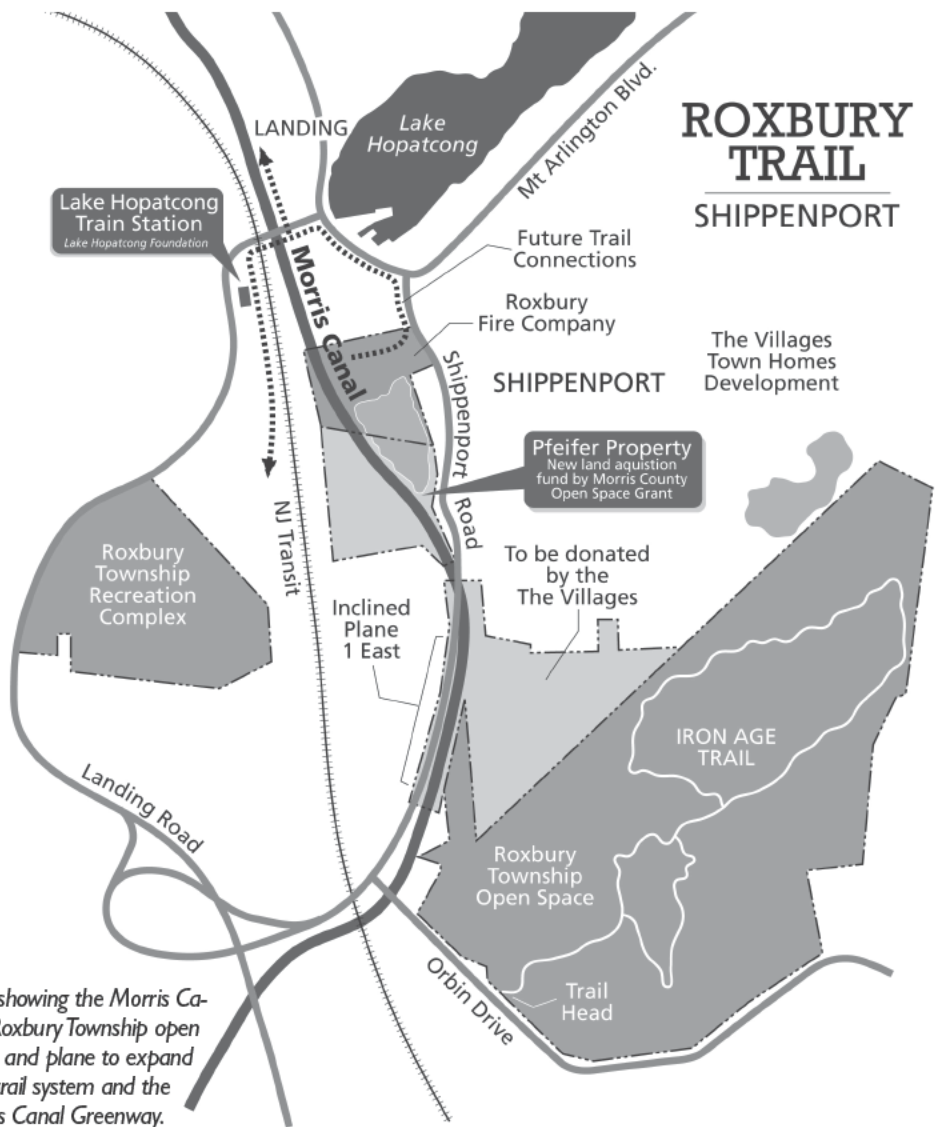
For CSNJ, the important feature of this project will be the preservation of the historic canal features at Shippenport where Inclined Plane 1 East raised and lowered canal boats, and provided water power to operate both a sawmill and bloomery forge. Parts of the plane, towpath, and the waterpower system are still extant. The task will be to combine preservation, future road widening, and private ownership issues to secure the integrity of this site for future generations.

Additional projects include a Roxbury Township grant application to establish a Greenway corridor from Plane 3 East through Canal Park in Ledgewood that will include archaeology, landscaping improvement, and signage at Plane 2 East. Also, as mitigation in a bridge replacement project, a multi-panel kiosk will be installed along Main Street.

Rockaway Borough

CSNJ also plans to partner with

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Map showing the Morris Canal, Roxbury Township open space and plane to expand their trail system and the Morris Canal Greenway.

WATERLOO MULE BRIDGE

The mule bridge at Waterloo has been collapsing for more than ten years. Finally, plans to repair the bridge are in the works, sponsored by the Friends of Waterloo Village and supported by funding from the CSNJ. This bridge con-

nects the main part of the village with the Morris County side of the Musconetcong River. Without the bridge, it has been difficult to interpret important canal feature such as the inclined plane and ore dock. Friends group mem-

(Continued on page 5)



The Waterloo mule bridge in 2007, just as it began to deteriorate.

D&R CANAL 2015 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

Sunday, January 25 – 2 p.m.

Two-Canal Walk. Meet outside of the Lambertville Station restaurant, near the caboose. We will begin on the D&R Feeder on the New Jersey side and then cross the Delaware River to walk along the Delaware Canal in New Hope. Cookies and hot chocolate await at the locktender's home.

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

Saturday, February 7 – 10 a.m. (Walk 1)

Hike the D&R Canal towpath 5.7 miles from Bulls Island to Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum (the meeting place) or choose the 3-mile walk to Prallsville Mill. Leader: Pamela V'Combe, 609-635-2783.

Saturday, February 28 – 10 a.m. (Walk 2)

Hike the D&R Canal towpath 5.3 miles from Fireman's Eddy to Prallsville Mill (the meeting place) or choose the 2.6-mile walk to the Holcombe-Jimison Farm. The tour will include the historic remnants of the feeder canal outlet lock and expansive views across river.

Leader: Pamela V'Combe, 609-635-2783.

Saturday, March 14 – 10 a.m. (Walk 3)

Hike the D&R Canal towpath 5.3 miles from Fireman's Eddy to Washington Crossing (the meeting place) or choose the 4.1-mile walk to Church Road in Titusville. Leader: Pamela V'Combe, 609-635-2783.

Saturday, April 18 – 10 a.m. (Walk 4)

Hike the D&R Canal towpath 6.2 miles from Washington Crossing to Ellarslie, the Trenton City Museum in Cadwalader Park (the meeting place) or choose the 2.4-mile walk to Scudder's Falls. Leader: Pamela V'Combe, 609-635-2783.

Saturday, May 2 – 10 a.m. (Walk 5)

Hike the D&R Canal towpath 4.5 miles from Whitehead Road to Ellarslie, the Trenton City Museum in Cadwalader Park (the meeting place) or choose the 2.5-mile walk to the Trenton Battle Monument. Leader: Bob Barth, 201-401-3121.

2015 INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE WALKS

March thru May

Mar 28 – **Hibernia** – Morris County Mining Town

Apr 11 – **Split Rock Furnace**

Apr 25 – **Easton & Phillipsburg** – Canals, Coal & Iron

May 9 – **Shippenport** – Morris Canal Greenway

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

MORRIS CANAL WALKS

Throughout 2015, 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, March 29 – 10:00 a.m.

Clifton – Meet at Clifton Canal Park and explore the Greenway route along Broad Street.

Sunday, April 12 – 10:00 a.m.

Paterson – Meet at Lambert Castle and explore the Greenway route at Garret Mountain and through Paterson to the Great Falls.

Sunday, May 10 – 10:00 a.m.

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

For more information:

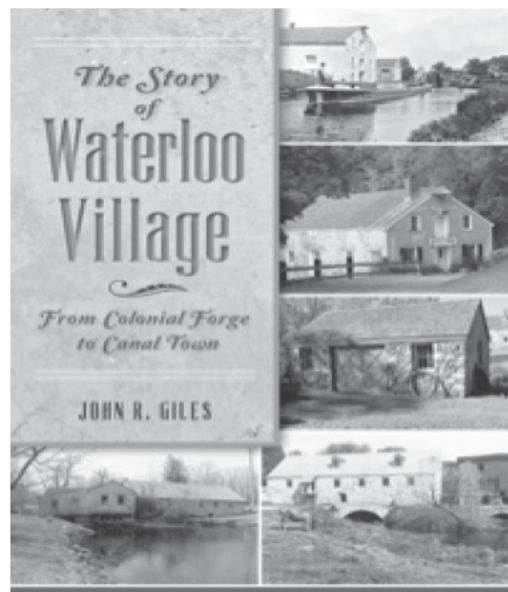
www.passaiccountynj.org
MorrisCanalGreenway

Joe Macasek

macgraphics1@verizon.net

The Story of Waterloo Village

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



GREENWAY

(Continued from page 1)

Rockaway Borough to preserve a second Greenway location. Last fall Rockaway was awarded a Morris County Preservation Trust grant to acquire a property that will allow the Greenway to make a through connection around a privately owned parcel. Since the grant covers only the cost of the land, CSNJ will help out by covering the soft cost associated with closing the deal.

Lock 2 East – Wharton

Over the summer, the Lock 2 East restoration project has continued to move forward with the reinstallation of the capstones that line the tops of the lock walls. In late fall the new miter gates arrived. These massive structures were built by a firm in Pennsylvania, transported to the site, and carefully lifted into place at the lower end of the lock. The new gates are as historically correct as possible and built to be operational. Plans for the next phase of restoration will include the fabrication of additional lock hardware including the machinery to open and close the miter gates as well as the upper drop gate and operating equipment.

Passaic County

In Passaic County, construction on the Greenway trail from Paterson to Clifton remains stalled. With engineering work complete, the project is awaiting the release of federal funds to start work on the ground.

Meanwhile, CSNJ will work with the county's Department of Planning & Economic Development to develop an interpretive area at the Pompton Feeder Lock. Although the property is already owned by the county, we will need improved access, signage, and parking. It may be possible to expose and stabilize the remains of the lock as part of the interpretation. ■

MEMBER NEWS

Bob Barth Retires for the CSNJ Board

This past December, Bob Barth resigned from the CSNJ Board of Directors after 30 years of service to the society. Over that time Bob has served as a director, vice president, president for seven years, and then past president. We will miss his depth of knowledge, business sense, and his frequent reminders to not neglect the history of the D&R Canal. Members will remember the many trips that Bob and his wife Linda organized to visit canal sites all over the northeast. Bob will continue to serve on the board of the Friends of Waterloo Village and the Advisory Council of the D&R Canal Commission. ■



Jack Kuepfer Passes Away



On November 14th longtime CSNJ member Jack Kuepfer passed away at age 94. After retiring in 1984, Jack discovered a neglected section of overgrown Morris Canal in Clifton. He contacted the property owners, PSE&G and the Garden State Parkway, and arranged for the site to be leased to the City of Clifton. Over the next three years he organized a volunteer clean-up effort and on May 17, 1987, the Clifton Canal Park was dedicated. For years, Jack remained the central figure, restoring a short section of canal and bringing in additional stakeholders to help with the upkeep.

Last year the park was threatened when PSE&G planned to upgrade one of the high tension tower in the park. Fortunately, larger towers on either side of the park now take their wires over rather than through it.

With Jack's passing, Clifton's Recreation Department and Department of Public Works will take over the management and care of the park. In addition, the park will also become a part of Passaic County's Morris Canal Greenway initiative with bike and pedestrian trail construction scheduled to begin in the spring. We hope that Jack would be proud that his park will go on as an important asset for the community. ■

MULE BRIDGE *(Continued from page 3)*

bers Wayne McCabe and Bob Barth, with the help of State Parks, have brought together the assets needed to do the repairs. Although this is only one of the many things that needs doing to halt the deterioration of Waterloo's historic assets, it is a project with high public visibility and appeal. With the bridge available, we can do a better job of what we do best: engage visitors with the story of Waterloo. We hope that work will start this season and be completed as soon as possible. ■

TRAVELING EXHIBIT GETS A FACELIFT

The CSNJ's traveling exhibit "Canals of New Jersey" was created in 1985 in part to commemorate the society's 25th anniversary. Many longtime members such as Bill Moss, Bill McKelvey, Bob Goller, and Bob Barth took part in its fabrication. Since then, it has seen years of service and been on display in countless schools and libraries. For years CSNJ member Janet Spain and her late husband Fred handled all the details.

This year the exhibit is getting a facelift, with new titles and art work, before going on display at Macculloch Hall Historical Museum in Morristown from March until October. ■



As seen here, the traveling exhibit has spent several recent summers on display to hundreds of visitors at Waterloo Village.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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| Friday | January 16 7:15 p.m. | Membership Meeting <i>Morris County Cultural Center</i> |
| Friday | March 20 7:15 p.m. | Membership Meeting <i>Morris County Cultural Center</i> |
| Saturday | May 8 11:00 A.m. – 5:00 p.m. | Spirit of the Jerseys History Fair <i>Monmouth Battlefield State Park</i> |
| Saturday | June 27 | Waterloo Canal Festival Day <i>Waterloo Village</i> |



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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FIRST CLASS MAIL

CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY