

ON THE LEVEL



THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

12TH ANNUAL WATERLOO CANAL DAY BRINGS CANAL TOWN TO LIFE

Waterloo Village will come to life on Saturday, June 30th between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. History will emerge from its misty shroud of the distant past and will take form for the visiting public.

The Canal Society of New Jersey's 12th Annual Waterloo Canal Day will be an extraordinary day! The Morris Canal will be alive once again as a mule-towed boat plies the cool green waters of the historic waterway. And, a canal boat captain will be on hand to greet the public and tell stories about his life laboring on the canal in the good ole days.

The historic canal town at Waterloo Village will open its gates for the day and welcome the public to experience the Morris Canal, the fascinating heritage which gave birth to the village and promoted its growth. This is an opportunity to stroll the lanes and paths to enjoy the serene beauty of this Musconetcong River Valley setting within the North Jersey Highlands.



Upper and lower left: Last year's Waterloo Canal day featured our pontoon boat ride on the canal, towed by Clyde the mule and led by his owner, Harold Kafka. Right: Performers Richard Pawling and Bob Entler will entertain us this year at Canal Day.

MEETINGS

Friday – May 18, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. – Refreshments at 7:10
The Passaic River: 81 Miles of History
 Morris County Cultural Center – 300 Mendham Road, Morris Township

PHIL JAEGER
 Former member CSNJ Board of Directors

Several years ago Phil and Jean Jaeger went on the first of 21 planned Strips in New Jersey in search of fine county dining. The idea was to use lesser-traveled roads to discover a little history and some interesting restaurants. In their excursions they frequently crossed the twisting Passaic River and thought it would be interesting to find its origin.

The program will begin with their trip to the river's headwaters in Mendham Township. The slide show will follow the river through

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Free Admission

In cooperation with the New Jersey Division of Parks & Forestry, the Canal Society of New Jersey is pleased to celebrate its 12th Waterloo Canal Day and the continuation of the treasured historic village. Despite all the recent publicity, Waterloo is alive. On this special day the village will be available for the public's enjoyment at no charge.

Many featured events will commemorate the Morris Canal, the growing Morris Canal Greenway and the remarkable history of Waterloo Village. The

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Smith's General Store at Waterloo is a time capsule, representing the most intact original Morris Canal store remaining along the historic alignment of the waterway.

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Canal Society's boat, powered by an impressive mule in gleaming harness will offer public boat rides. As the boat glides silently along the canal's waters, Canal Society guides will explain the heritage of this remarkable waterway and its importance to the economy of northern New Jersey.

Canal Captain to Visit

Captain John Hummel, a canal boat captain from the 1870s will come to life to meet and greet the public! Renowned historian Richard Pawling will recreate the canal boat captain as he wears period clothing and, in first-person interpretation, spins his yarns of the past. Visitors to the village will also

enjoy period music performed by Pawling and his associate.

The Canal Society will have its acclaimed New Jersey Canal Museum open for public tours. Society members will also offer several guided tours of the many canal features within the village. A Canal Society display and sales table will offer books on canal history and other items for purchase by the public.

We also hope that the Smith Canal Store can open its doors, enabling the public to walk back into the era of a general mercantile establishment that provided vital goods to the passing canal boat captains and their families. The Smith Store is one of two remarkably intact Morris Canal stores left in the entire state.

Other organizations will join us to make Canal Day an exciting experience! The Waterloo United Methodist Church is truly living history in the village. Located in its charming white frame building with the pointed steeple, the church has continuously operated since 1859. The church will be open on Canal Day so that the public can visit its historic interior and rest in its pews.

Railroad & Iron Heritage

A special exhibit on the Sussex Mine Railroad and the Sussex Branch Railroad will inform the public about Waterloo's railroad heritage, a little-known aspect of the village. In the mid-19th century, mules pulled iron ore-filled cars from the productive Andover Mine to the banks of the Morris Canal at Waterloo.

Here the ore was loaded onto canal boats and taken to the Cooper & Hewitt iron blast furnaces in Phillipsburg. Pig iron was then taken to Trenton and transformed into some of the earliest high-quality railroad rails at the time.

Andover ore was also used in the first structural iron beams produced in this country. The Cooper Union in New York City is still supported with these beams, as is the dome on the U.S.

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MEETINGS

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seven counties, from its source to its end at Newark Bay, with an emphasis on activities and structures along the river in past centuries. Topics include early mills, Glacial Lake Passaic, canal/railroad/trolley crossings, the first successful test of a submarine, extant Lenape art and constructions, the country's first planned industrial city and the heroic exploits of the hero Sam Patch, known as The Great Descender.

Phil Jaeger, a resident of Cedar Grove, is a retired math and computer science teacher. He and Jean have been members of the Canal Society for twenty-five years. Over those years Phil's involvement has included leading tours along the Morris Canal, three terms on the Board of Directors, and membership on the Morris Canal guidebook committee and the speakers bureau. He is the author of *Montclair: A Postcard Guide to Its Past and Cedar Grove*, both published by Arcadia Press in the *Images of America* series. Phil is a trustee of the Passaic County Historical Society and Jean serves on the Cedar Grove Board of Education.

For directions to the Morris County Cultural Center see page 10.



The Canal Society is striving to have the historic locktender's house at Lock 4 West restored and adaptively reused within Allamuchy Mountain State Park. This building is one of a very few surviving original Morris Canal locktender's houses.

MORRIS CANAL GREENWAY UPDATE

GRANT AWARDED TO CANAL SOCIETY'S SAXTON FALLS PROJECT

The Canal Society was recently awarded a \$39,000 grant by the New Jersey Historic Trust. These funds will support a management and feasibility project, which is a first step toward preservation, enhancement and possibly even restoration of key Morris Canal features in the Saxton Falls section of Allamuchy Mountain State Park.

This grant was made possible by the generosity of Canal Society members who contributed \$13,000 toward the project. This sum was required as a match before the New Jersey Historic Trust would consider the Society's application for funding.

Thank you to all our members who stepped up to support our efforts! You made it happen!

The Society's Saxton Falls project focuses on state-owned Morris Canal Lock 4 West, its associated frame locktender's house, Lock 5 West, and the adjacent connecting section of canal towpath. This path extends along the edge of Saxton Lake and on a man-made causeway a short distance out into the lake. In the future, we hope to see the following improvements at Saxton Falls:

- The restoration of the lock at Saxton Falls,
- The adjacent section of canal bed filled with water,

- A Morris Canal boat ride on Saxton Lake,
- The canal towpath reestablished as a trail along Saxton Lake,
- The Lock 4 West locktender's house at Guinea Hollow restored and adaptively reused, and
- The Lock 4 West site preserved and interpreted.

The house at Lock 4 West is one of the few surviving Morris Canal locktender's houses.

Once underway, the feasibility study should last for about six months. The effort will be closely coordinated by the Canal Society, New Jersey Parks & Forestry and the project consultant, HJGA Consulting, Architecture & Historic Preservation, Inc. based in Montclair.

The Saxton Falls project dovetails nicely with the Canal Society's long-term, ongoing projects in Allamuchy Mountain State Park and a long relationship with the New Jersey State Park System. Over past years Society volunteers cleared a three-mile trail along the Morris Canal site within the park, worked with State Park officials to develop interpretive signage, and collaborated with the State to develop a management plan for the Saxton Falls area, focusing on the historic canal sites. The Canal Society is
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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

In this late edition of *On the Level*, our big news is that Waterloo Village is alive and well, although a bit down at the heels. Beginning with public hearings in late January, Waterloo had taken up much of the board's time. President Brian Morrell and Vice President Joe Macasek met with state officials several times, and Brian has had countless phone discussions with officials at all levels. He summarizes this work in two feature articles – Waterloo Canal Day and the Waterloo Update.

Our museum stands out as vital and welcoming among the general deterioration in the village. State officials have been impressed with our crisply painted exterior and the professional arrangement of our collection. Museum Director Bruce Tell provides a glimpse of the museum renovation project. [See page 7]

Our museum is a major asset, and State officials view our concept of Waterloo as a canal town quite favorably. The Canal Society is recognized as an established organization with a commitment to Waterloo as a canal town. This could be the change needed to revitalize the entire village.

The only other building that remains open is the Waterloo United Methodist Church. The church has lost a significant source of revenue from weddings this year. We have partnered with our neighbor for food service during Waterloo Canal Day and look forward to building our relationship with them.

Sadly, we lost incumbent board member Bob Angland early in the year. More recently, Jim Lee passed away at age 89 in late April. Personally, I've often thought that Jim Lee did more to promote the Morris Canal than any individual since George Macculloch! We
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Canal Society members practiced launching and piloting our pontoon boat in preparation for last year's Wharton Canal Day, held in August in Hugh Force Park.

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delighted to be able to bring \$52,000 to Allamuchy Mountain State Park to help preserve and enhance its unique Morris Canal resources!

MORRIS CANAL GREENWAY BROCHURES FUNDED

A \$3,000 grant was recently received by the Canal Society to print two self-guided walking tour brochures of sites within the Morris Canal Greenway in Ledgewood and Wharton. This grant was administered by the Morris County Heritage Commission for the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders and was funded by the New Jersey Historical Commission, a Division of Cultural Affairs in the Department of State.

Ledgewood

The brochure for Ledgewood will include information on the King Canal Store and House, the Silas Riggs House, two canal basins and two inclined planes within the community. Special emphasis will be devoted to Plane 2 East, one of the best preserved inclined planes from the Morris Canal. This plane has been the subject of a recent planning study, funded by the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust Fund. Major masonry work is required to preserve the subterranean

turbine chamber and adjacent stone arched tailrace. The Canal Society and Roxbury Township are collaborating on efforts to see that this preservation work is completed in a timely manner.

Wharton

Wharton contains a one-quarter mile section of intact Morris Canal, located within Hugh Force Park. It is a remarkably beautiful site that closely reflects the appearance of the canal when it was in operation. In addition, the site of Lock 2 East is within the park, with the adjacent stone ruin of its locktender's house.

The lock is the subject of an ongoing restoration effort to safely excavate and repair/reconstruct the lock to operating condition. Archeological testing and planning have been underway over the past year, funded by the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust Fund. The new brochure for Wharton will describe the canal features that can be visited in Hugh Force Park and explain their context within the overall Morris Canal Greenway.

Both brochures will be designed by Society Vice President Joe Macasek in collaboration with President Brian Morrell. Distribution will be through local schools, libraries, historical societies and postings on the Society's website as downloadable PDF files.

The goal is to inform the public about the extraordinary canal resources present in both Ledgewood and Wharton, to spread awareness regarding the Morris Canal Greenway, and to promote the historic, educational, and recreational aspects of the Morris Canal. The project will be completed in approximately six months. The Society is very grateful to the Morris County Heritage Commission for its generous support!

STATE FUNDING GRANTED TO OTHER CANAL PROJECTS

The recent grant round of the New Jersey Historic Trust has awarded funding to the King Canal Store and House in Ledgewood and to Lock 2 East in Wharton.

Ledgewood

The Ledgewood sites received a \$49,000 grant to support development of an historic preservation/management plan which will include studies of the two buildings by an architectural historian and a structural engineer. The canal store was originally built in 1815 and was subsequently operated by Albert Riggs and later Theodore King.

It is a remarkably intact historic Morris Canal store, rivaling Smith's Store at Waterloo Village for its unaltered condition. Adjacent to the store is the King Homestead, built in 1880. Both buildings are owned by Roxbury



A Morris Canal Greenway blaze marks the Greenway Trail within Allamuchy Mountain State Park. Approximately three miles of trail follows the canal towpath between Waterloo and Saxton Falls.

Township and leased by the Roxbury Historic Trust. The Trust has undertaken many years of painstaking restoration efforts to ensure that these remarkable historic sites are preserved. Both buildings are open to the public on designated weekends during the month.

Wharton

A \$37,424 New Jersey Historic Trust grant was awarded to the Borough of Wharton to support the continuation of planning and engineering investigations leading to the anticipated restoration of Lock 2 East within Hugh Force Park. Test excavations, conducted at the lock last fall, revealed that the lock remains substantially intact in the ground. Enough evidence was exposed to confirm that future restoration of the lock would be possible, if the necessary funds become available.

The New Jersey Historic Trust grant also provides funding for design and development of interpretive signage for Hugh Force Park and the canal lock site. The Borough of Wharton hopes to restore Lock 2 East and have an associated boat ride in the park as part of efforts to generate an economic revival of the nearby Main Street area.

SULLIVAN TRACT PRESERVED IN DENVILLE

We are happy to announce that the Sullivan property in Denville, containing a wonderful section of the Morris Canal site, was recently acquired by a partnership of the Morris County Park Commission and Denville Township. This property is located across Diamond Spring Road from Attilio's Kitchen, an Italian restaurant in the historic Peer's Canal Store.

The wooded tract of approximately ten acres contains an intact section of the canal prism and towpath. Our Morris Canal Greenway Committee has been advocating for the acquisition of this site for several years. The Sullivan property is an important link in the Morris Canal Greenway and encompasses a substantial length of the canal site between Diamond Spring Road and Cedar Lake Road.

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Waterloo's picturesque Morris Canal lock was a combination lock and aqueduct and spanned the nearby gristmill's tailrace. The blacksmith shop is to the left of the lock.

UPDATES ON WATERLOO VILLAGE

PUBLIC UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTS PRESERVATION

On January 24th the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) hosted two public hearings at Waterloo Village. These forums were an opportunity for the public to comment regarding the future of this remarkable historic and cultural site.

Between 250 to 300 people attended these sessions, including state legislators, municipal and county officials, many representatives from the Canal Society of New Jersey, school teachers and their students, citizens from local and more distant communities, and the press.

The common sentiment expressed by these diverse groups was that Waterloo Village is a treasured resource. It must be preserved and reopened to the general public and school groups as soon as possible. The public's comments were a clear mandate to the State of New Jersey.

Canal Society President Brian Morrell emphasized that Waterloo is a unique Morris Canal site of national significance. It has the potential to be a major tourist attraction. Preservation and restoration of the Morris Canal structures should be a priority at the Village.

NJDEP officials explained that in December 2006 the Waterloo Foundation for the Arts' lease of the Village had been rescinded by the State since the Foundation no longer had the financial resources to operate the site. The representatives from the State clearly expressed NJDEP's commitment to preserving Waterloo Village.

Officials promised to undertake timely steps to renovate its extensively deteriorated buildings and to actively seek a new operator for the site. Structural issues and code violations at the site's numerous buildings make it impossible to reopen the site quickly. The State estimates that it will take at least a year before the site can be reopened on a regular basis to the general public.

State Launches Efforts to Seek New Operator

In late February, NJDEP convened a meeting with a small number of concerned parties to discuss the future of the Village and how it will be operated. The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation has pledged to act as a facilitator throughout this process and their representatives were present at this session.

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PHOTO CONTEST

SHARE YOUR FAVORITE CANAL PHOTOS

Do you have photos of Waterloo Village or towpath canals in New Jersey, lower New York state, or eastern Pennsylvania? If so, then enter our photo contest on Waterloo Canal Day!

CATEGORIES:

- Waterloo Village
- Morris Canal
- D & R Canal
- D & H Canal
- Lehigh Canal
- Delaware Division Canal

RULES:

- Each contestant may enter up to three (3) photos, all in one group or divided among categories
- Black and white or color
- Sizes: 5 x 7 or larger
- Entries must be matted or mounted - No frames or glass, please.
- Mark the back of each photo with an arrow pointing to the top
- No writing or text on the front of the photo
- Contest open to amateur photographers only
- For information or questions call: 973-728-0316 or 609-886-8577
- Previous winning entries are not eligible

Photos will be on display at Waterloo Canal Day, June 30th.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbons will be awarded in each category by a panel of guest judges.

TO ENTER: Submit photo(s) at the Information Desk by 12 noon.

Judging will take place at 3:30 pm.

All photos must be picked up by 5:30 pm.

Winning entries will be posted on the Canal Society's web site.

12TH ANNUAL WATERLOO CANAL DAY

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Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. Iron ore shipping on the Morris Canal was a very important component of the waterway's commerce for many years.

Other Activities

The Warren County Morris Canal Committee will bring its display showing progress on the Morris Canal Greenway in Warren County. This enthusiastic group is expected to bring other materials relating to the Morris Canal in Warren County.

Kevin Wright, an employee with

the New Jersey State Parks, has spent several decades researching the history of Waterloo. He has been invited to provide a special presentation on Canal Day to bring the stories of the former residents of the village to life.

Also invited are some of the last surviving descendants and acquaintances of the former inhabitants of the village. We hope these individuals will be able to share some of their stories about when the village was a living community.

The annual Canal Photo Contest will also be featured throughout the

day. Any amateur photographer is eligible to enter. [See inset for details]

Refreshments

Refreshments will be sold throughout the day, provided by the Waterloo United Methodist Church as a fundraiser. Canal Society members and the general public are encouraged to patronize the church to ensure that its food concession is profitable.

Our 12th Annual Waterloo Canal Day is an event you won't want to miss! It's a great occasion to enjoy the serenity of Waterloo Village and steep in its history. It will also be a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate to the State of New Jersey how much we value Waterloo! It will be a rain-or-shine event.

Member Barbeque

At 6 p.m. the Canal Society will enjoy its annual member picnic at Waterloo Village. It's a great way to relax and enjoy the company of other members after a busy day. This year, an all-you-can-eat barbeque will be provided by the Waterloo United Methodist Church at the cost of \$22 per person.

The menu is barbequed ribs and chicken, homemade salads (tossed, potato, and cole slaw), baked beans, rolls and butter, and assorted raw vegetables; cake, brownies and cookies for dessert; and iced tea, hot tea, and coffee as beverages. Advance reservations are required and can be made by contacting Canal Day Chair Mark Hamill at 908-561-1250. We ask that reservations be made by Monday, June 25th.

- **Brian Morrell**, CSNJ President



A canal boat in Lock 3 West at Waterloo.

UPDATES ON WATERLOO VILLAGE

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Other participants included the Canal Society, Centenary College, Sussex County officials, The Growing Stage (a children's theater group from Netcong), and former employees of Waterloo Village. The State has indicated that most of these attendees, and some possible additional parties, will serve as a blue-ribbon committee to establish the Village's mission and seek a nonprofit operator.

NJDEP officials pledged to commission a documentary history of the Village and to engage historic preservation professionals to assess the condition of the Village's buildings and to prioritize necessary structural repairs. The State has allocated \$500,000 toward the most urgently needed construction work. Contractors are expected to begin work on the most critical issues this spring. NJDEP also pledged to negotiate with the Waterloo Foundation for the Arts to ensure that important parts of the Village's collection are retained at the site.

State officials acknowledged that access to the Morris County side of the river is an important issue. An NJDOT grant, allocated several years ago for the reconstruction of the canal tow-path bridge across the Musconetcong River, is still viable and can be implemented by the State as a step toward reestablishing access.

Following this meeting, the Canal Society participants were given a tour of many of the Village's two-dozen buildings. It was a shocking and disheartening experience to observe firsthand the deteriorated conditions of the structures and how much of the buildings' former contents had been removed by the Waterloo Foundation for the Arts.

The Smith Canal Store and our New Jersey Canal Museum remain intact. In fact, State officials have repeat-



Museum Renovation

In the fall of 2004, twelve happy, hard-working canal society volunteers spent two weeks watching the leaves turn color while scraping, painting, and repairing the exterior of our New Jersey Canal Museum at Waterloo.

On the interior, mold was removed from the ceilings, the curtains were cleaned, and the museum was vacuumed thoroughly. The dust-catching spaces behind the paintings were carefully cleaned.

Artifacts were rearranged for a better flow and two new exhibits were added. New items include photos, a map, and a canal boat model. All interpretive signage was updated and replaced throughout.

The prior year, the exterior metal artifacts were sanded, scraped, wire brushed, primed, and painted, giving them a fresh, new look.

Both inside and out, our museum is inviting to visitors.

— Bruce Tell, Museum Director

edly lauded the Canal Society for the high quality of its appearance, collection, and interpretation. [See sidebar.]

The Canal Society's Future Role at Waterloo

It is crucial for the Canal Society to maintain a major presence in guiding the future of Waterloo and to ensure that its unique Morris Canal sites are preserved and restored to become focal points within the Village. The Society has indicated to the State that we wish to continue to operate the New Jersey Canal Museum. The State welcomes our presence and has issued a letter of intent for negotiating a lease with the Society covering our museum building.

The Canal Society has also indicated our wish to provide ongoing canal-related programming at Waterloo

during the normal 2007 season. Society volunteers will have the canal museum open to the public on designated weekends each month from June to October and will offer guided tours of canal sites within the village to the general public.

On a limited schedule, we hope to offer public boat rides on the canal.

Our annual Canal Day on Saturday, June 30, will be a kick-off to our summer season. [See feature article.] NJDEP has welcomed the Society's offer to maintain a presence and offer programming relating to the Morris Canal at the Village over the summer. We look forward to our new, expanded partnership with the State at Waterloo Village.

— Brian Morrell, CSNJ President

FALL FIELD TRIP

TOUR THE CANALS OF EASTERN NEW YORK STATE

Friday, October 5, through Monday, October 8



Pictures clockwise from upper left: Lock 17 on the Erie Canal at Little Falls, Lock 4 on the Champlain Canal, Lock 12 on the Champlain Canal at Whitehall, The Half Way House at North-Western along the Black River Canal.

The Canal Society of New Jersey is sponsoring a four-day bus tour of canals in eastern New York State over Columbus Day weekend. This is an opportunity to visit canals of the Empire State in fall color. The price is \$600 per person, based on double occupancy.

To register for this trip, please send a deposit of \$100 to:

Jakob Franke
424 Tappan Road
Northvale, NJ 07647

Please make check payable to
"Canal Society of New Jersey"

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Jakob:

201-768-3612 (Evening)
212-342-0178 (Daytime)
201-638-0582 (Cell)
e-mail: jf31@columbia.edu

Participation requires membership in the CSNJ (\$25/yr). See Canal Society website:

<http://www.canalsocietynj.org>

TENTATIVE ITINERARY:

- Fri., Oct 5** Depart Mahwah, NJ for D&H outlet lock in Eddyville. Visit the one remaining original powerhouse on Champlain Canal. Boat ride on Champlain Canal, including locking through Glens Falls Feeder. Evening lecture by Glens Falls Feeder Alliance. Overnight in Glens Falls.
- Sat., Oct 6** Visit the flight of five locks in Waterford. See sites along the original Clinton's Ditch. Stop at Lock 17 in Little Falls, the highest lift lock in the NYS canal system. Tentative boat ride on the Erie Canal, weather permitting. Evening lecture by Canal Society of New York. Overnight along Erie Canal.
- Sun., Oct 7** Erie Canal Village in Rome. Follow partial route of Black River Canal – aqueduct, locks, and watered sections. Tentative visit to the Forestport Feeder. Overnight in Rome.
- Mon., Oct 8** Trace route of the Chenango Canal. Visit remnants of the Chenango Canal and a feeder reservoir. Return to Mahwah, NJ.

JAMES S. LEE, SR. 1917–2007

ICON OF THE MORRIS CANAL

With great sadness we announce the passing of Jim Lee, Sr. at the end of April at the age of 89. It is difficult to sum up what Jim Lee meant to the Morris Canal and the Canal Society of New Jersey. Through his love of the canal, he documented the stories of the boatmen and their families, preserving them for posterity in books, photos, and video productions on public television.

His countless slide lectures and his wry sense of humor spread an awe and reverence for the Morris Canal that ignited public interest in the old waterway and the people who worked on it. In many ways Jim kept the canal alive, even though it was closed and dismantled when he was a child. His work ensured that the canal would live on in memory as a “beauty mark” across northern New Jersey. His legacy thrives today in the Canal Society and other organizations across the state which strive to preserve the remnants of the Morris Canal.

Jim and his wife, Mary, and their children made their home on the canal at Plane 9 West in Stewartville, where he devoted many years to clearing the turbine chamber and uncovering historic artifacts. His property became a museum, where people came to learn about the history of the Morris Canal. Over the years, Jim welcomed many visitors, including international travelers, to the museum in his home and the plane site.

In 1979, the hydraulic turbine at Plane 9 West was designated a National Civil Engineering Landmark by the American Society of Civil Engineers. More recently, Warren County acquired Jim’s property for use as a public museum. It is a fitting legacy that this crown jewel of the Morris Canal will continue in the public domain.

Jim was a charter member of the Canal Society of New Jersey. He was a driving force in the nascent organization, and was always ready to participate in any effort to promote the history of the Morris Canal. He served on our Board of Directors for 20 years (1979-1999). Jim donated his working model of

Plane 9 West to our museum.

Jim was also a founding member of the Warren County Morris Canal Committee, which has served as an advisory body to the county planning board since the early 1980s. This group continues to drive efforts to establish a Morris Canal Greenway across Warren County.

It’s impossible to think of the Morris Canal without Jim Lee, and of Jim Lee without the Morris Canal. But we can take comfort in knowing that his legacy will live on in all who love the old canal and are dedicated to keeping its memory alive. His books, *The Morris Canal: A Photographic History* and *Tales the Boatmen Told*, will continue to be cherished and his memory will live on as the Morris Canal Greenway spreads along the alignment of his cherished waterway across northern New Jersey.

Please keep Jim and his family in your thoughts at this time of sorrow and loss. Cards may be sent to his son,



Conductor Jim Lee waves good-bye as the last of the Budd cars leave Phillipsburg.

James Lee, Jr., 476 Lock Street, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865-2765. Contributions in Jim’s memory may be sent to Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church, 17 Greenwich Church Road, Stewartville, NJ 08886. This historic stone church was an important part of Jim’s life and its peaceful graveyard is fitting as his final resting place.

– Brian Morrell, President

TRAGIC LOSS OF DEDICATED CANAL SOCIETY BOARD MEMBER



As the result of a tragic skiing accident this past January, Board Member Bob Angland passed away at the age of 57. Bob was a remarkably dedicated member of the Canal Society and its Board.

He spent countless hours working on Society activities. He organized our headquarters in Phillipsburg, and helped

with the refurbishment and operation of our pontoon boat. He also served on the Finance Committee, coordinated our meeting schedule with Honeywell, and participated in many other ways to demonstrate his support and enthusiasm for the Canal Society and its mission.

Professionally, Bob was a logistics manager at GAF Materials in Wayne, NJ, and previously was with Best Foods in Englewood Cliffs for 27 years. He earned an MBA from Baruch College in New York and was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. Bob was also an accomplished athlete, finishing six marathons, and was an avid downhill skier.

Bob’s passing is a great loss to the Canal Society and we extend our deepest sympathy to his wife, Nancy. The Society has made a donation in Bob’s memory to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in Bethesda, Md. It is our sincere

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

D.A.R. Honors Myra Snook

In February 2007, Myra Snook received the History Award given by the Chinkchewunsk Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. A retired school librarian, she was honored for her many years of work on a variety of research projects in Warren and Sussex counties. Among other efforts, her work includes signage, brochures, and walking tours for various sites along the Morris Canal.

Myra recently completed a massive archival project for the Canal Society – sorting and documenting more than 800 photographs and 150 documents from the Barbara Kalata collection. She has also created exhibits for our museum. She was instrumental in the first major upgrade of our museum in the late 1980s, and served as co-director of the Canal Museum for several years. Congratulations, Myra!

Other Milestones

The Society expresses its deepest sympathy to our Museum Guide Coordinator Arthur Bird on the recent passing of his wife, Juliana. CSNJ has made a donation in her memory to the Shrine of St. Joseph in Stirling.

We also note the passing of Percival Leach in February 2007. Mr. Leach played a major role in the transformation of Waterloo from a sleepy Morris Canal hamlet to a tourist attraction. He was a founder of the Waterloo Foundation for the Arts, the entity that oversaw the village for more than 40 years. ■

MORRIS CANAL GREENWAY

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Denville also has recently acquired a permanent access easement extending from Savage Road to the Interstate 80 bridge over the Rockaway River. This easement is extremely important since it provides public access to the Morris Canal site as it extends along the river and the western edge of Denville to Beaver Brook and the Rockaway Borough border.

Denville already owns an extensive tract of land along Beaver Brook, adjacent to the Morris Canal site. Our Morris Canal Greenway Committee is encouraging acquisition of the balance of the canal site along this section of the Rockaway River to preserve the prism and provide public access from Savage Road to the Rockaway Borough border.



Tom Edmunds from the Morris County Park Commission presents Canal Society President Brian Morrell with a check at the January meeting

MORRIS TRAILS CONSERVANCY AWARDS \$550 GIFT TO CANAL SOCIETY

At the Canal Society's January 19th meeting, Tom Edmunds presented the Canal Society with a \$550 check. Tom handles trail mapping and GIS work at the Morris County Park Commission and is a coordinator for Morris Trails Conservancy. This generous gift is in recognition of the series of six hikes that were collaboratively organized by the Morris Trails Conservancy and the Canal Society along the Morris Canal Greenway in Morris County.

President Brian Morrell and Vice President Joe Macasek led the hikes, which were well subscribed and highly successful. The series of hikes covered much of the 30 miles of the canal site as it crosses Morris County's rugged terrain. The Morris County Park Commission graciously provided vans that shuttled hikers between hike sections and back to their parked cars. The Canal Society is grateful for the partnership with the Morris Trails Conservancy and for the generous donation. We look forward to future collaborative hikes on the Morris Canal and associated historic sites.

– Brian Morrell, CSNJ President

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 white picket 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.

CANAL HERITAGE DAYS AT WATERLOO VILLAGE

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT TO HELP

In cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the Division of Parks & Forestry, the Canal Society of New Jersey is planning to provide Morris Canal programs at Waterloo Village this summer. Activities will take place during the late spring, summer, and into fall of this year. Our goal is to offer the public an opportunity to experience the unique canal heritage of the village, despite the closure of the site for building tours and other programs.

In addition to our annual Waterloo Canal Day on Saturday, June 30, we plan to open our New Jersey Canal Museum and offer guided tours of the Morris Canal sites within the village. Canal Heritage activities will take place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the following Saturdays:

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| June 2 & 16 | Sept. 8 & 22 |
| July 7 & 21 | Oct. 6 & 20 |
| Aug 4 & 18 | |

We tentatively plan to offer mule-drawn canal boat rides for the public once a month. We need Canal Society

volunteers to staff the museum, the village gate, lead canal site tours and help with the pontoon boat. Members willing to offer their services should contact Art Bird, Museum Guide Coordinator, at 908-903-1468.

Canal Heritage Days will be a perfect opportunity to enjoy the picturesque setting of Waterloo Village while bringing the Morris Canal to life for the visiting public. Since there may be some change in the currently scheduled dates, we suggest that Canal Society members consult our website for confirmation and/or call our phone at 908-722-9556. We look forward to seeing you there! ■

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

(Continued from page 3)

Thank all members who came to the wakes or funerals and sent condolences to the families.

Also, Canal Society President, Brian Morrell, lost his father over the winter. With increased family responsibilities, Canal Society business, and Waterloo, it's just short of a miracle that he found time to be writer-in-chief for this issue of *On the Level*. Our plans for summer activities at Waterloo were finalized with the State on April 30, which is the major reason we're running late.

For future issues, however, we welcome cub reporters to alleviate the burden on our president. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact us at our website.

Bierce Riley
Managing Editor



Bierce Riley in the turbine chamber at Ledgewood.

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. The Managing Editor is Bierce Riley – Bierce.Riley@att.net. Canal Society Administrative Assistant, Phyllis Stanaback – 908-832-2888

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CALENDER OF EVENTS

- Friday, May 18** 7:30 p.m. Membership Meeting
Morris County Cultural Center
- Saturday, June 2*** Waterloo Canal Heritage Day
- Saturday, June 16*** Waterloo Canal Heritage Day
- Saturday, June 30** 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Waterloo Canal Day
- Saturday, July 7*** Waterloo Canal Heritage Day
- Saturday, July 21*** Waterloo Canal Heritage Day
- Saturday, Aug 4*** Waterloo Canal Heritage Day
- Saturday, Aug 18*** Waterloo Canal Heritage Day
- Saturday, Sept. 8** Waterloo Canal Heritage Day
- Friday, Sept. 21** 7:30 p.m. Membership Meeting
Morris County Cultural Center
- Saturday, Sept. 22*** Waterloo Canal Heritage Day
- Fall Field Trip** Fri – Mon, Oct 5 – 8
Canals of Eastern NY State
- Saturday, Oct. 6*** Waterloo Canal Heritage Day
- Saturday, Oct. 20*** Waterloo Canal Heritage Day

*Tentative, check CSNJ website or call 908-722-9556 for confirmation.

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CanalSocietyNJ@email.com

TRAGIC LOSS OF BOARD MEMBER (Continued from page 9)

hope that Bob's spirit has gone to a place where he can enjoy his passions for all things outdoors and can engage in conversations with canal boatmen who have passed long before him.

In recognition of his interest in canals, Nancy Angland presented the Canal Society with Bob's collection of canal-related books, papers, and ephemera. Included are 35 books, and numerous other items including maps, brochures, and photographs. We are honored that Nancy thought of us and hope she continues to remain active with us. ■



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077482333 COL17

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY