

ON THE LEVEL

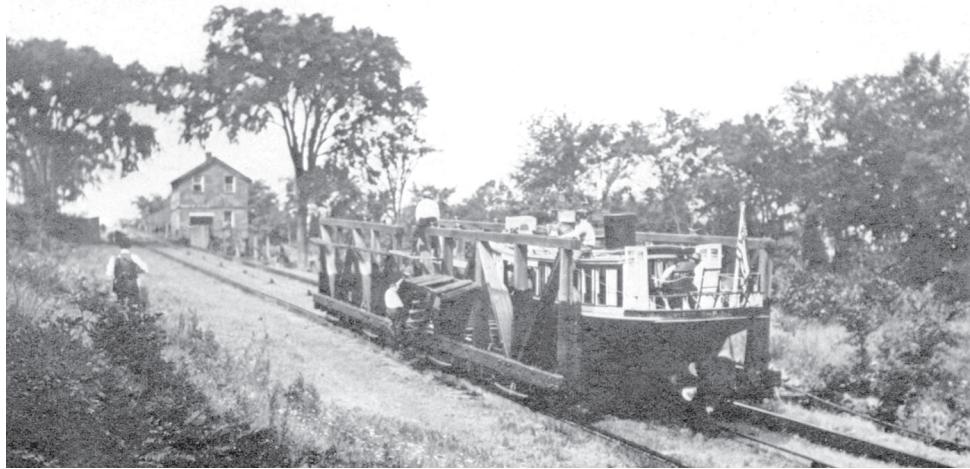


THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

LINCOLN PARK GREENWAY TRAIL

This June, Lincoln Park will open a new section of the Morris Canal Greenway trail. The project is funded by a generous grant from Atlantic Health System/Chilton Medical Center as part of the New Jersey Healthy Communities Network, an organization dedicated to creating healthy communities through active living and nutritious eating. Volunteers have already cleared most of the trail along a water-filled section of canal from Beaverbrook Road to the foot of Plane 10 East. This area was previously so overgrown that it was virtually impassable. When completed, the project will include a bridge to span a low-lying area, drainage pipes with grading of soil to traverse two other areas, and a trail head kiosk with interpretive signage donated by the Canal Society of New Jersey.

Parking for this new section of Greenway trail will be available at the Beavertown Historical Society, 173 Main Street, Route 202, in Lincoln Park. A spur trail



In the 1920s Hudson Maxim hosted an inspection party of officials touring the Morris Canal aboard the steam launch Mystic Shrine, seen here ascending Plane 10 East at Lincoln Park.

will connect to the trail head at the intersection of Windsor Drive and Beaverbrook Road. From there, a tree-lined path along the berm bank of the canal will follow the intact canal prism, passing the Townhouses at Hunting Meadows, to a more remote and heavily

wooded area beyond. The canal towpath once followed the opposing bank of the canal but now runs close to the tracks of the NJ Transit Boonton Line and has, in some places, been covered by the railroad right of way. Near the bottom of Plane 10 East, the canal widens to form a small basin with stone riprap sides still in place. A loop at the trail's end offers an alternate return route.

Future plans include extending the trail partway up the plane to where sleeper stones and the tail race channel can still be seen. Other side trails will allow visitors an opportunity to view the archaeological remains of the gristmill/sawmill that once used the plane's bypass water as a power source.

(Continued on page 2)

MEETINGS

Morris County Cultural Center
300 Mendham Road, Morris Township

Friday – May 19, at 7:30 p.m. – With refreshments at 7:10

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF WORKING WITH TEENAGERS TO PROMOTE MORRIS CANAL AND LOCAL HISTORY

DAVE DETRICK AND MIKE POST

WARREN COUNTY'S ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL, PROJECT EXCEL

Dave Detrick and Mike Post will tell the story of working with teenagers to promote history, a story that has been written over the past twenty-five years.

Both Mike and Dave are now retired after working a combined total of over 60 years as educators in public schools. Many of those years were spent working with alienated or struggling students who were assigned to alternative high school programs.

(Continued on page 4)

Thanks for Renewing Your Membership

Dues notices for calendar year 2017 went out in December. Your membership is important. Thanks for being on board!

However, if we haven't heard from you in over two years, this will be your last newsletter.

LINCOLN PARK GREENWAY TRAIL



The new Lincoln Park Greenway Trail will follow the berm bank of the canal from Windsor Drive to the bottom of Inclined Plane 10 East. Future plans include extending the trail up the plane as far as the Montville border.

(Continued from page 1)

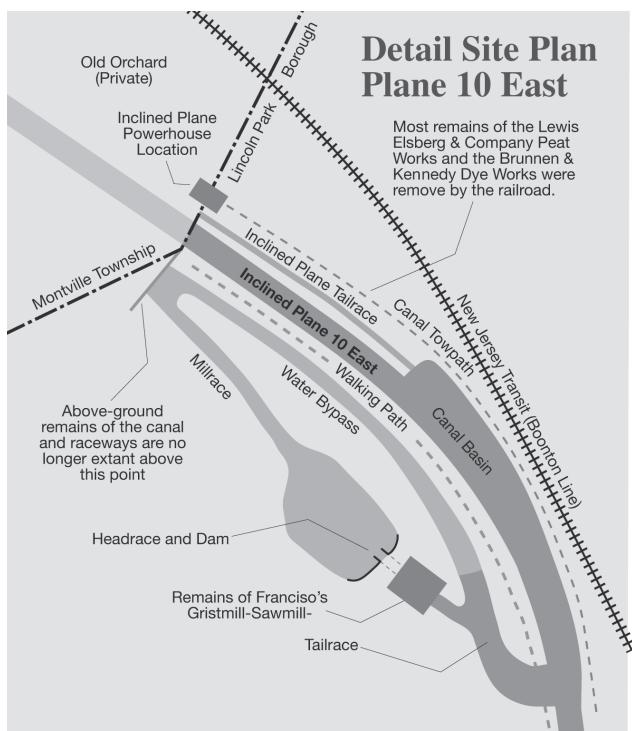
Beavertown

Lincoln Park, originally known as Beavertown, lies among the fertile lowlands at the confluence of the Passaic and Pompton Rivers. The available farmland was expanded in 1811 when the New

Jersey legislature allowed the vast marshland of the Bog and Vly Meadows to be drained for agriculture. Later, Beavertown experienced further development when the Morris Canal was opened to through traffic in 1831, providing access to an interstate transportation system. In 1872, the name of the town was officially changed from Beavertown to Lincoln Park.

Township border, the canal begins its climb from the coastal plane into the North Jersey Highlands. The fall of water created by the plan led to the development of several water-powered industries that included Franciso's Gristmill-Sawmill (remains of which can still be seen), Brunnen & Kennedy Dye Works, and the Lewis Elsberg & Company Peat Works.

The Canal Society of New Jersey is proud to partner with the Borough of Lincoln Park to help make this new section of the Morris Canal Greenway a success. Please join an opening kick-off walk along the canal on Saturday, June 3 (rain date Sunday, June 4). The event will be held from 10:00 a.m. until noon, starting at the American Legion Post 279, at 133 Main Street, Lincoln Park. Members will receive additional details via Canal News e-mail. ■



This detail shows the complex layout of features at the bottom of Inclined Plane 10 East. Unfortunately, remains of the upper end of the plane are no longer extant and the property is private.

WATERLOO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

This year our dedicated Waterloo volunteers need some help. Please consider lending a hand. You don't need to be a trained interpreter. Volunteers learn as they go. Best of all, it's fun! Let us know when you might be available.

*To learn more please contact Joe Macasek
973-292-2755 or macgraphics1@verizon.net*

NJTPA GREENWAY CORRIDOR STUDY

This year the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), guided by the Morris Canal Working Group (MCWG), will fund a statewide Morris Canal Greenway Corridor Study. The NJTPA is the federally funded metropolitan planning organization for northern New Jersey. Its job is to provide comprehensive long-range transportation planning and oversee federal transportation funding for the region. Its mandate includes the support and development of pedestrian and bicycle assets such as the Morris Canal Greenway.

As a member of the MCWG executive committee, the Canal Society of New Jersey will be working with other stakeholder groups to guide a carefully chosen consulting firm in the creation of a planning study to support the development of a continuous greenway along the historic Morris Canal. This effort will involve inventorying and mapping the entire route, conducting public outreach, and preparing design guidelines and recommendations for



Hugh Force Canal Park in Wharton is one of the many Morris Canal Greenway sites that the NJTPA Corridor Study will help link together into a unified statewide greenway.

bicycle and pedestrian use. The study will recommend strategies for developing new projects and recommendations for making the greenway sustainable in years to come.

The goal of this study is to help bring together what has been accomplished so far as a unified concept with a strong identity and public support. To get the public involved, meetings will be held in communities along the corridor. Although public meetings are important, often the person with the loudest voice is the one who has the

most input and impact. It is important that CSNJ members and history fans contribute to this process by attending public meetings and voicing support for this project. The results of the study will be only as good as the work that goes into it. The CSNJ will be working hard to share all the information at our disposal as well as the passion of the countless volunteers who have worked on the greenway over the years. We will keep you informed as the process unfolds. Please contribute your support when it comes time for the public to be heard. ■

A NEW WEBSITE FOR THE CSNJ

A professional web designer has been hired to design and develop a new and improved Canal Society website using the existing address (www.canalsocietynj.org). Our plan is to eventually have a website that is both attractive and intuitive so that users can find canal information, news, projects, upcoming events, and publications with ease. The site will also have a historic photo archive and a link to Morris Canal Greenway information. We also plan to make the site capable of processing memberships and accepting event registrations online so that applications and checks will no longer have to be mailed to us. The existing site will continue to be functional during the development phase so that we can continue to provide you with Canal Society updates with no site downtime. The Canal Society of NJ is very excited about this new website and we will provide you with additional updates as work progresses. ■

CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

Program Meeting and Election of Officers and Board Members

The following slate of officers and board members will be offered for election at the May 19, 2017, program meeting of the Canal Society of New Jersey, 7:30 p.m., at the Morris County Cultural Center, 300 Mendham Road, Morris Township:

Officers (two-year terms)

- Joe Macasek, President
- Rick Giles, Vice President
- Judy Keith, Treasurer
- Tim Roth, Communications Officer

Board Members (three-year terms)

- Dick Draper
- Anita Norris
- Ken Roser

Members may submit nominations in writing, to the Nominating Committee chairman, prior to the election. Contact Bill Pegg at williamlpeggjr@gmail.com. Nominations must have a second and the consent of the nominee. Nominations may be made at the election meeting and proxy votes, in writing, shall be permitted.

WATERLOO CANAL DAY

The 2017 Waterloo season will kick off with our annual Waterloo Canal Day Festival on June 24, followed by Waterloo Heritage Days two Saturday a month through the summer and into the fall. See the schedule on page 5 for exact dates. This year's programming will include lots of live music with several new performers who are sure will entertain.

A major addition to this year's programming will be an all-new exhibit featuring the Highlands Canal Boat artifacts recently donated to the soci-

ety. To make room, we have reacquired the use of the Waterloo's White Barn, the former Samuel T. Smith Carriage House, as exhibit space. Although the building is not large enough to reassemble the entire boat, the bow and several sections of the bottom of the boat will be displayed intact. In addition, several canal boat artifacts from our museum, including the feed box and rudder post, will be relocated and become part of the new exhibit. Work on interpretive panel displays is under way and the first phase of the new

MEETINGS

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Among other roles in their careers, both presenters worked at Warren County's Alternative High School, Project Excel. They have also served as trustees and members of the Highlands Community Service Project, a program that partners volunteer adults with teenagers who have been assigned community service hours by the courts.

Over the past two-and-a-half decades, teenagers have worked with numerous adults to help establish local history museums and build lifelike models to interpret history. Teenagers have been involved in developing and presenting history-related programs as well as demonstrations to younger children and the general public. They have also helped establish a historic park and built pavilions, bridges, staircases, picnic tables, and sign kiosks to enhance several other historic parks.

This 25-year journey has involved dozens of adults and hundreds of young people working together to learn and share the wonderful stories of the Morris Canal and our local history. On behalf of all the people involved, Mike and Dave are pleased to share a recap of all that has been accomplished and learned by the young and old alike. ■

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.

OFFICERS

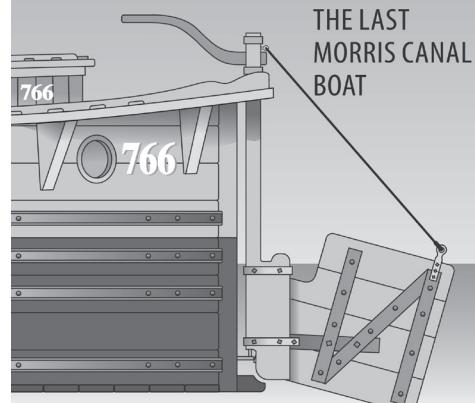
President:	Joe Macasek
Vice President:	Rick Giles
Treasurer:	Judy Keith
Recording Secretary:	Vacant
Communications Officer:	Vacant
Past President:	Vacant

DIRECTORS

Bob Bodenstein	Carl Loutzenheiser
Richard Draper	Anita Norris
Rod Howarth	Bill Pegg
Steve Lauf	Rich Richter
Jim Lee III	Bierce Riley, Newsletter Editor

973-292-2755 – nj-cnal@googlegroups.com – www.CanalSocietyNJ.org

HIGHLANDS CANAL BOAT



Panels explaining how Morris Canal boats looked and were operated will be a feature of the new exhibit.

exhibit will be open to the public on Waterloo Canal Day.

In the carpenter shop, wood worker Earle Post and his assistants will continue the canal boat theme with a new project. Over the coming season they will be crafting a full-size canal boat rudder using authentic materials. Since slow moving canal boats required a large rudder to provide adequate steering, this will be a big project. When completed it will be a meaningful addition to the new canal boat exhibit.

At the gristmill, CSNJ board member Steve Lauf has spent hours repairing and rebuilding the gates that control the mill's waterpower system. Last year low water and leaky gates kept the mill out of operation for several Heritage Days. This year we hope to run the mill more efficiently and more often. ■

We Need Help! New CSNJ Web Site

The Canal Society needs an organized person with moderate computer skills to help organize materials from our archives for placement on our new web site. If you are interested, please contact

Joe Macasek at
macgraphics1@verizon.net

D&R CANAL 2017 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 the tour leaders at:

Bob Barth 201-401-3121 or bbarth@att.net
Pamela V'Combe 609-635-2783 or pjvcombe@gmail.com
Frank 570-234-9945 or fallen1947@yahoo.com

Saturday, May 13 – 10:00 a.m.

Walk 6.2 miles on the D&R Canal Feeder towpath between Washington Crossing State Park and Ellarslie, or choose a shorter hike of 2.4 miles. Meet at Ellarslie, the Trenton City Museum in Cadwalader Park. Questions? Please contact Pamela V'Combe, 609-635-2783 or pjvcombe@gmail.com.

Saturday, May 13 – 11:00 a.m.

2017 Spirit of the Jerseys State History Fair. Experience five centuries of New Jersey's history all in one place – a historical festival for all ages. This free, award-winning event is a fun-filled adventure into New Jersey's past with living history demonstrations, military reenactors, tours, exhibits, period music and dance, and historical organizations and museums from around the state. Monmouth Battlefield State Park, 16 Highway 33 Business, Manalapan Township, NJ; 732-462-9616.

Saturday, July 1 – 10:00 a.m.

History Bike Tour on the D&R Canal towpath from Kingston to Griggstown and back, 10 miles round trip. Explore the structures along the D&R Canal with Canal Watch trustee Bob Barth. Meet at the locktender's home in Kingston. Bring water; helmet required. Leader Bob Barth.

Saturday, July 22 – 10:00 a.m.

A Walk Through History. Hike 2.9 miles on the D&R Canal towpath between Carnegie Road and Port Mercer. Meet at the parking lot at Port Mercer. 2-3 hours. Leader Bob Barth.

Saturday, August 26 – 10:00 a.m.

Walk 2.9 miles on the D&R Canal towpath between Mulberry Street, Trenton, and Carnegie Road. Meet at the parking lot at Carnegie Road, off Route 1 North. 2-3 hours. Leader Bob Barth.

Saturday, September 2 – 10:00 a.m.

Walk 3 miles on the D&R Canal Feeder towpath between Upper Ferry Road and Ellarslie. Meet at Ellarslie, the Trenton City Museum in Cadwalader Park. 2-3 hours. Leader Bob Barth.

2017 INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE WALKS

May through October

May 13 – **Fort Hancock** – Homeland Security 1895

May 27 – **Mt. Hope Mines and Mineral Railroad**

June 10 – **Finding Moses Hopping's Forge**

July 15 – **Morris Canal Inclined Planes** – Ledgewood

Aug 12 – **Lincoln Park/Montville** – MC Greenway Walk

*Industrial Heritage Walks are sponsored by the Morris County Park Commission.
For information and reservations, please e-mail macgraphics1@verizon.net or call 973-292-2755.*

WATERLOO

SAVE THE DATE

Waterloo Canal Day Festival

Saturday, June 24, 2017

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Rain date: Sunday, June 25

Canal Heritage Days

July 8 & 22 Aug 5 & 26

Sep 9 & 23 Oct 14 & 28

Members will receive Canal News updates on what's going on at Waterloo.

MORRIS CANAL WALKS

Throughout the year 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 7 – 12:00 p.m. NEW

Mountain View – Meet at the Mountain View train station and explore the old village of Mead's Basin and part of the Morris Canal Feeder.

For more information:

www.passaiccountynj.org

www.MorrisCanalGreenway.org

Joe Macasek at
macgraphics1@verizon.net

Wharton Canal Day

Saturday, August 19
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

*Old-time country fair
celebrating the Morris Canal*

- Restored Lock 2 East
- Music, crafts , art shows
- Narrated canal boat rides
- Blacksmithing
- And more!

For further information please visit
<http://www.canalday.org/> or contact
John Manna at 973-989-0237

CANAL & LOCAL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM A SUCCESS

This March, the Canal Society of New Jersey, in partnership with the Morris County Heritage Commission, hosted its second annual New Jersey Canals and Local History Symposium. The enthusiastic sold-out crowd heard presentations on a wide range of topics that included John Manna's update on the restoration of Lock 2, Joe Macasek's talk on the history of the D&R Canal and C&A Railroad, Joyce Kanigel's explanation of how it was sometimes "rough and

tumble on the Morris Canal," and Rick Giles's by-the-numbers account of the coal trade on the Morris Canal.

After lunch, Rich Rockwell spoke about the Morris Canal in Bloomfield, Andrea Proctor detailed what's happening at Waterloo, Bill McKelvey gave us a look at the D&R Canal before photography, and Joe Macasek wrapped up the day with the story of the recently rediscovered Highlands Canal Boat.

This full-day event started with coffee,



An enthusiastic crowd filled every seat in the Haggerty Education Center at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum.

tea, and pastries, and included lunch. The CSNJ sales table was especially active, offering a selection of books on canal and local history topics.

The hours of planning and the help of a dedicated group of volunteers paid off as everything went smoothly. Evaluation sheets filled out by attendees gave the event high marks for quality presentations, great food, and a good opportunity to socialize with other history fans.

Don't be left out next year – reserve your seat early. If you have a presentation you would like to give, tell us about your ideas and work with us to find a place for your talk at our next symposium. Contact us at macgraphics1@verizon.net. ■

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday May 19

Membership Meeting

Teenagers Helping Promote the Morris Canal
Dave Detrick & Mike Post
Morris County Cultural Center, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday June 3

Lincoln Park Greenway Trail Opening

Beavertown Historical Society
173 Main Street
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Saturday June 24

Waterloo Canal Day Festival

See page 5 for a complete Waterloo schedule.

www.CanalSocietyNJ.org

nj-cnal@googlegroups.com

CanalSocietyNJ.org

CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

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