

# ON THE LEVEL



## THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY IRENE WAS NO LADY!

**H**urricane Irene hit New Jersey hard and was not kind to our historic canals! The Delaware & Raritan Canal suffered the most with major breaches in Hopewell Township and near Port Mercer in Lawrence Township. Bulls Island will be closed for the rest of the season and major lengths of the towpath have been closed for tree removal and repair of the path surface. A pedestrian bridge at Demott Land (off of Easton Avenue) was ripped from its abutments and will have to be replaced with a new bridge. Port Mercer, Griggstown, Blackwells Mills and East Millstone were hard hit with flooding and the bridgetender's houses at these locations were engulfed with flood waters. Tragically some of these buildings had recently been restored to be offered to new tenants.

The Morris Canal fared better, but Waterloo Village was subjected to a raging Musconetcong River! The river and the canal became one, ripping the



*The D&R Canal and the Millstone River flooded extensively, surrounding several of the historic canal bridgetender's houses.*

Society's pontoon boat from its moorings and depositing it on top of the towpath embankment. The wooden flume carrying water from the lock to the canal, and its associated bridge, were uplifted from their sites and were

hurled onto the river bank and onto the bottom of the canal bed, halfway down toward the church. The two bridges over the gristmill tailrace were lifted up and displaced from their abutments and the lock was filled to overflowing!

The basement of Smith's Store had at least two feet of water, the blacksmith shop was completely surrounded and filled with two feet of water, and

### MEETINGS

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

**Friday – September 16, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.** – Refreshments at 7:10

### THE REMARKABLE HISTORY OF THE RUTHERFURD STYVESANT FAMILY AND THEIR ESTATE

PART OF ALLAMUCHY MOUNTAIN STATE PARK  
AND THE MORRIS CANAL GREENWAY

**RICHARD CRAWN**

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK

**T**onight we will learn about the fascinating history of a famous, wealthy family that was intertwined in American history and created a 5,000-acre estate with a stately mansion, a vast game preserve with imported animals, and expansive farms, many of the sites of which are now contained within Allamuchy Mountain State Park.



*Rutherford Hall*



*The Society coordinated a volunteer with a donated backhoe to re-install two bridges at Waterloo.*

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# MEETINGS

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The Rutherford and Styvesant families extend back to the mid-1700s in Allamuchy, back to the days of the New Jersey Proprietors. Large land tracts were picked up by the family and an early residence was established which by the late 19th century had grown into a massive mansion hunting lodge for the rich and famous of the time. The elite guests included FDR and Eleanor and great sport was afforded to those who chose to hunt the imported European elk and deer found on the game preserve portion of the estate around what is known as Deer Park Pond. Although the old mansion is gone, a later generation 1902 mansion survives and was recently acquired by Allamuchy Township to be preserved and to become a regional center of education and environmental studies. Other remnants of the estate include historic farmhouses, an old hydroelectric plant associated with the 1902 mansion, a private family chapel, the game preserve guest cottage and the tattered fencing that once surrounded the game preserve. In the nearby cemetery in Tranquility an imposing Daniel Chester French sculpture marks the family burial plot, a short distance from the once vast family estate.

**Richard Crown** *is a local historian who was raised in Hackettstown and is a member of the Hackettstown Historical Society. He has undertaken extensive research about the Rutherford and Styvesant families and for the past four years has assisted the movement to preserve the 1902 Rutherford mansion and to obtain its listing on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. He has provided presentations on the history of the Rutherfurds and Styvesants to raise awareness of their history and about their Allamuchy estate on the Warren/Sussex County border.*

**Friday** – November 18, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. – Refreshments at 7:10

## THE SCOTT FAMILY OF POWERVILLE AND THE MORRIS CANAL

**RICHARD J NICK**

Joseph Scott arrived in what is now Powerville in 1771 and became a force in the Morris County Iron industry. His son, William, continued to grow the iron business and operated forges in several Morris County communities as well as extensive magnetite mines in Hibernia and distribution businesses in New York City. The Morris Canal passed in front of William Scott's Powerville home, along the side of his Powerville Forge and through other land that he owned. William built a road between his Powerville Forge and his forge in Old Boonton. William later abandoned the Old Boonton Forge within a short period of time when it became apparent that the Morris Canal would bypass Old Boonton. William's brother, John, was one of the first commissioners of the Morris Canal and Banking Company, chairman of the engineering committee and is credited with designing the successful Boonton Inclined Plane.

As a direct result of Powerville's absence of main highways and controlled development, many of the structures that the Scotts and the Morris Canal & Banking Company built in Powerville still exist today. In addition to the history of the Scott family and its relationship to the Morris Canal, the presentation will highlight those structures that can be seen in and around Powerville relating to their efforts.

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*The bridge over the Waterloo gristmill's tailrace is being lifted back into place.*

## IRENE WAS NO LADY!

*(Continued from page 1)*

the basement of the gristmill was flooded with four feet of water. The raceway leading to the mill became one with the river and the arches at the upstream side of the gristmill and at the enclosed tailrace ends were completely concealed by the flood.

The Canal Society has been helping the State cleanup Waterloo in preparation for the upcoming Canal Heritage Days. Our boat has been rescued and we arranged for a volunteer with a backhoe to reset the two bridges over the mill raceway and the part of the canal flume extending over the open raceway channel. Extensive work has been done to cleanup the blacksmith shop and the basement of the mill. Water levels in the river remain high, sending excess water cascading from the flume that leads to the gristmill's waterwheel. And now we are getting more rain! Although a fair amount of cleanup has been required at Waterloo, overall we were very fortunate that the damage was limited to the river edge and did not affect most of the village's buildings. ■



*The gristmill's intake flume was flooded with the high river level, which had receded considerably at the time of this view.*

# 2011 WATERLOO PROGRAMMING A GREAT SUCCESS!

The fifth year of the Canal Society's programming at Waterloo Village, in partnership with the New Jersey State Park Service, is still in progress but is continuing to be a great success! The season was kicked off with the 16th Annual Waterloo Canal Day on Saturday, June 26, drawing between 500 – 600 attendees. Our many Society volunteers hosted visitors in Smiths Store, the Blacksmith Shop, our New Jersey Canal Museum, and the Rutan Cabin; engaged them in period games and other special exhibits; and provided them with a boat ride on the Morris Canal. A new major attraction this year was the reopened gristmill which was operating on waterpower.

Getting the mill in a condition to open and operate was a huge task, taking hundreds of hours to clean the building, reestablish water flow to the raceway and waterwheel, and careful assessment of all the machinery and waterwheel to make sure that they were in sound condition and could be operated safely. We greatly appreciate the extensive consultation with Andy Drysdale, who guided us through the



The reopened Waterloo gristmill was a great attraction during Waterloo Canal Day and the subsequent Canal Heritage Days.

examination of the mill machinery and the waterpower system. Andy is a former employee of the Waterloo Foundation and at one time operated the Waterloo mill. At another time in his career he helped run the Morris County Park Commission's Cooper Mill in Chester.

Contractor Ken Dunham provided volunteer services to partially rebuild the timber flume that delivers water to the waterwheel, making it possible to run the breast wheel that turns the mill's grindstones. Joe Macasek produced graphic panels

to illustrate how gristmills operate and with information about this particular mill which was owned by the Smith Family. Judy Keith went above and beyond in laboring to make the mill presentable and to provide general support for whatever was needed. And, Bruce Hartnett graciously volunteered his time to demonstrate the blacksmithing trade. All in all it was a great day which was capped off with the annual membership picnic, held on the banks of the Morris Canal and catered by the Waterloo United Methodist Church.

We are very grateful to the many Society members who worked to get the Village ready for Canal Day and to staff it. It takes a very big effort to accomplish this and we all should be proud of the results! We are also very grateful to the New Jersey State

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FALL 2011 WATERLOO CANAL HERITAGE DAYS

The Canal Society's next Canal Heritage Days are coming up on September 10 and 24th and October 8th and 22nd. These Saturday events run from 11 am until 5 pm and require many volunteers to interpret the various historic buildings, operate our boat ride and guide tours. The Heritage Days are a wonderful opportunity for the public to experience the unique Morris Canal sites and the associated most intact Morris Canal town. We are counting on our members to help staff these special events. Staffing is needed for our Ca-

nal Museum, to lead tours of the village and canal sites, to help with operating our pontoon boat, provide interpretation in Smith's Store, the Rutan Cabin, the Gristmill and to greet people at the entrance gate. Individuals interested in volunteering should contact the Society at 908-832-2888.

Canal Heritage Days are a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the picturesque setting of Waterloo, while bringing the Morris Canal to life for the visiting public. It is always a fun and worthwhile experience! We look forward to seeing you there! ■

WATERLOO MILL

SAMUEL T. SMITH  
& BROTHERS

✦ FLOUR & FEED ✦  
✦ FINE PLASTER ✦  
✦ LUMBER CUT TO ORDER ✦



The gristmill's operating waterwheel was a fascinating exhibit for the public.

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Mr. Nick began his investigation of the Scott family of Powerville after he retired and could devote the extensive amount of time required to complete the work. He uncovered more than 400 individuals who are descended from or related by marriage to Joseph Scott. The six volumes of work that have been accumulated under this project have been donated to the Morristown and Morris Township Public Library.

**Richard J Nick** served the Historical Society of Boonton Township for many years. He was one of the original founders, an incorporator and for a number of years served as its Treasurer and a Trustee. He has written and published several articles on the history of Boonton Township as the historian in Township's quarterly paper called *The Township Times*. Mr. Nick prepared and published a brochure entitled *A Driving Tour of Boonton Township's Historic Homes* featuring more than 30 historic structures. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Nick, a CPA, was Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of a management advisory firm. He also served on the Board of Directors of several domestic and international privately held companies.



*The Scott Mansion at Powerville.*

## 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 board 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. ■



*Helen Maurella*

## HELEN MAURELLA RETIRING!

Earlier this summer Hopatcong State Park Superintendent Helen Maurella announced that she would be retiring from the New Jersey State Park Service, as of October 1, 2011. She has been with the park system for 33 years and came nine years ago from Worthington State Park to become superintendent at Hopatcong, Lake Musconetcong, Allamuchy Mountain State Park, Stephens State Park and the Grover Cleveland Birthplace. Helen has been a wonderful supporter of the Canal Society, our Morris Canal Greenway efforts and more recently with Waterloo Village! She received the major responsibility for Waterloo Village after the December 2006 bankruptcy of the Waterloo Foundation for the Arts. Helen has collaborated very closely with us to make the village available and to support our efforts to reopen and refurbish several of its historic buildings. Because of the Society's refurbishment of the Smith's Store, Blacksmith Shop, and the Rutan Cabin; our continued maintenance of our New Jersey Canal Museum; and the State's restoration of the Lenape Village, Helen was inspired to reestablish school field trips at Waterloo after their absence for several years. We will greatly miss Helen and wish her the best as she leaves the State Park Service! ■

# DELAWARE AND RARITAN CANAL COMMISSION CARRIES ON!

Despite Governor Christie's executive order to dissolve the Commission and DEP's directive to turn over its review operations, the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission is carrying on business as usual! Last May the situation had come to a head. The Commission's Executive Director was retiring as of June 1, no other paid staff remained on board and the DEP Commissioner had directed that all of the Commission's responsibilities be turned over to DEP.

At an emergency meeting in mid-May, the D&R Canal Commission hosted over 30 representatives from many of the major advocacy groups for both the Commission and the D&R Canal. Most of these representatives spoke movingly to urge for the preservation of the Commission and described the vital role that it plays in the protection of the D&R Canal. Canal Society President Brian Morrell was present and spoke about the

extremely important historic aspects of the D&R Canal, many of which he had observed first hand during nearly ten years of cultural resource consulting work during major dredging and rehabilitation projects involving the waterway's historic structures. He stated that the Canal Commission plays an essential role in protecting the historical, environmental and recreational aspects of the canal and that the Canal Society strongly supports the continued existence of the Canal Commission to protect this remarkable resource that is such an important aspect of New Jersey's history and landscape.

In a bold move at this meeting, the Commission acted to reject DEP's order to surrender its review capacity. It asserted its intention, as an independent body established by the State Legislature, to interview and hire a new Executive Director and other support staff to continue to function as it has for the past several decades. The

audience was greatly heartened by this determination and congratulated the Commissioners for their steadfastness under difficult circumstances. Since that time the Commission has hired Marlen Dooley as its new Executive Director and the State Senate and Assembly Environment Committee passed resolutions in support of the continued operation of the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission.

The Commission is continuing today in its review capacity over projects along the D&R Canal. It is very gratifying that the people of New Jersey have rallied to express how much they cherish the D&R Canal and how essential it is to protect it for future generations! ■

## WATERLOO SUCCESS!

*(Continued from page 3)*

Park Service, and especially Superintendent Helen Maurella, for all of the support to maintain the park for the public's enjoyment.

### Canal Heritage Days Are Continuing

The Society's Waterloo Canal Heritage Days have been continuing on the second and fourth Saturdays of July and August. These special events, celebrating and highlighting Waterloo's canal sites, will run through October. Thus far, combined with Waterloo Canal Day, 1,400 visi-



Visitors to Smiths Store enjoy learning about the period merchandise on the shelves.

tors have come to the village to enjoy the Society's programming. These numbers might well have been even higher, except one of our open days saw record breaking 103 degree temperatures (only the truly dedicated history enthusiasts braved these temperatures!) and our August 27th date had to be cancelled due to the pending hurricane which caused the State to close all State Parks. We look forward to continuing the rest of the season showcasing our treasured Waterloo Village and all of the wonderful historic resources that it has to offer! ■



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

## REMINDER TO MEMBERS!

*Although many members included their e-mail addresses on their membership renewals, we are still missing addresses for many of you. In the future it will be more and more important that we be able to communicate with you in a speedy and inexpensive way via e-mail.*

*We are about to start a new e-mail program which will bring you news, events, and meeting reminders and more. Don't be left out!*

*Next time you are online please send us a quick e-mail message with just your name and e-mail address. Those members without e-mail will continue to receive communication in the post and everyone will still be getting their Newsletter in the mail.*

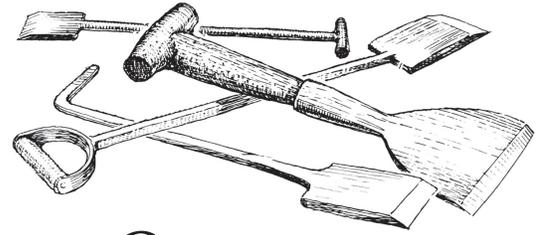
*Please send e-mails to:*

**macgraphics1@verizon.net**

# NEW JERSEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION GRANT

The Canal Society recently learned that it will be receiving a \$7,500 general operating grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission. This funding will support bookkeeping services, grant-

writing and some of the other operational expenses of the organization. The grant is an important boost to the Society and is especially appreciated during this tight time for public funding! ■



## GENEROUS DONATION OF HISTORIC TOOLS

Earlier this summer Charlie Klein presented the Canal Society with a remarkable collection of historic tools that he had been collecting for many years. This extensive assemblage of tools represents once common implements from carpentry, slate roofing, and numerous other fields and will make a wonderful future exhibit at Waterloo to demonstrate nearly forgotten trades and crafts. We are truly grateful to receive this wonderful donation and thank Charlie for his very kind generosity! ■

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>Friday</b>	<b>Sept 16</b> 7:30 p.m.	<b>Membership Meeting</b> <i>Morris County Cultural Center</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sep 24</b> 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	<b>Waterloo Canal Heritage Day</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Oct 8</b> 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	<b>Waterloo Canal Heritage Day</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Oct 22</b> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.	<b>Waterloo Canal Heritage Day</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Nov 18</b> 7:30 p.m.	<b>Membership Meeting</b> <i>Morris County Cultural Center</i>

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

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**New Color**  
Waterloo Tee-shirts  
will be available at  
Upcoming Meetings

CanalSocietyNJ.org  
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