Governor Christie’s Administration is recommending that the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission be abolished and that its review responsibilities be conveyed to the Department of Environmental Protection. The Canal Society of New Jersey strongly opposes this move which has the potential for tragic results for the D&R Canal and the State Park. Our reasoning is stated below.

The Delaware & Raritan Canal is one of two historic towpath canals in the state and is a cultural treasure which is listed on both the National and New Jersey Registers of Historic Places. It is one of the most intact (if not the most intact) 19th-century towpath canals in the entire U.S. The preserved state of the canal and the protection of its watershed and natural and cultural surroundings are the result of the diligent oversight of the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission over the past nearly 40 years. The creation and operation of the Commission is a true success story over the decades and is evidenced in the fact that a million state residents cherish and enjoy recreation in the Delaware & Raritan Canal State Park annually.

The Commission was established through legislation to safeguard the all-important natural and historic resources associated with the canal and its watershed. These resources remain threatened by develop pressures and are still very much in need of the focused planning and heightened protections afforded by the Commission.

The Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission is one of New Jersey’s few regional planning entities. It coordinates the activities of several state agencies, five counties and dozens of municipalities. The Commission was created to develop and oversee implementation of a master plan for the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park and to implement regulations to ensure that both public and private projects adhere
MEETINGS

and is targeted for future development into a greenway. Several specific sites of greenway and park development have been focused on Plane 9 West in Stewartsville, Lock 7 West (the Bread Lock) in New Village, the Strykers Road section of the canal (near the foot of Plane 9), and more recently the site of Plane 10 West. The presentation this evening will provide an update on the various initiatives underway on the Morris Canal Greenway in Warren County and the efforts and projects of the Warren County Morris Canal Committee. Many of the best-preserved sections of the Morris Canal, including lock and plane sites, are present in Warren County and provide wonderful opportunities for future historic preservation, interpretation and recreation.

Dave Detrick is a long-term Chair of the Warren County Morris Canal Committee and in that capacity spearheads much of the canal preservation activities. He is also one of the founders of the Highlands Project, a group that works with youth offenders who are performing community service as they help to develop the greenway sites. Jim Lee II is Jim Lee’s son, is a member of the County Committee, and is carrying on the family tradition of promoting the heritage and preservation of the Morris Canal and the greenway concept in Warren County. Myra Snook is another active member of the Committee and a long-time member of the Canal Society.

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

INVESTIGATING THE CONCEPT OF ESTABLISHING THE MORRIS CANAL GREENWAY IN PASSAIC COUNTY

Jennifer Gonzalez, Passaic County Planning Department and Joe Macasek

For the past several months, the Passaic County Planning Department has been holding a series of meetings and field visits to explore the opportunities for extending the Morris Canal Greenway across the County, from Wayne to Clifton. Much of the canal alignment still exists, since a major section of it was reused as the corridor for the water supply aqueduct of the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission. Wonderful hiking opportunities are available along the aqueduct as it follows the site of the Pompton Feeder and the main canal, continuing into Little Falls. In fact Little Falls and Woodland Park (formerly West Paterson) have already been undertaking recreational trail development along the canal sites in their respective municipalities. Long-time Canal Society member, Jack Kuepfer has worked tirelessly for decades to develop (Continued on page 4)
On October 23, 2010 the Canal Society wrapped up another year of canal programming at Waterloo. This is the fourth year that the Society has been implementing Canal Heritage events at the village since the Waterloo Foundation for the Arts ended its tenure at the site. Our season was kicked off with our 15th Annual Waterloo Canal Day on June 26th. And what a season it was! We were able to add several new attractions and draw much larger numbers of the public!

The addition of the reopened and operating Blacksmith Shop was a wonderful expansion of our programming. The public was fascinated by the working blacksmith demonstrations. We are extremely grateful to Andy Drysdale and Bruce Hartnett for volunteering to provide outstanding interpretive demonstrations of the blacksmithing trade and specifically how the Waterloo shop serviced the adjacent Morris Canal. Andy also made it possible to catalog the many tools and implements in the shop and undertook a major cleanup of the building so that it would be presentable to open to the public. He also convinced the State that it was safe to have a fire in the shop’s forge.

Other new additions this past year were the Canal History & Technology Exhibit in the White Barn, behind the Society’s New Jersey Canal Museum, and an exhibit delineating the full footprint of the Lock 3 West lock/aqueduct adjacent to Smith’s Store. We also were able to greatly expand the contents in Smith’s Store to better reflect a mercantile establishment of the late 1800s-early 1900s. This year we began some hands-on demonstrations of old-time implements in the store and discovered that children were fascinated with operating coffee grinders to grind up whole coffee beans!

We are also extremely grateful to and proud of the nearly 50 Canal Society volunteers who made it possible to have the village open for 11 days this past season. It was only through the dedication and hard work of these many individuals that our opening of the village was possible. Carpenter/contractor Ken Dunham, who provided his pro bono services to us, was crucial for making the White Barn carriage house Canal History & Technology Exhibit and the Lock 3 West Exhibit possible. Of course the partnership with the State Park Service and especially State Park Superintendent Helen Maurella and her staff were indispensable for making the village open and available!

This past season at Waterloo was exceptionally rewarding. We welcomed a total of 3,500 members of the public to all of our canal programming days combined. This number far exceeds previous years. And most rewarding of all was the tremendous public interest, enthusiasm and gratitude.

(Continued on page 4)
The Canal Society of New Jersey re-
ceived an operating support grant from
the New Jersey Historical Commission,
a division of the Department of State.

REMARKABLE SEASON OF PROGRAMMING AT WATERLOO!

(Continued from page 3)
tude for what the Society is doing at
the village. This year we also had four
of the village’s buildings open for in-
terpretation during the Wine Festival.
Again this proved to be a wonderful
experience due to the public’s genu-
ine interest and appreciation for the
village and its history.

Reflecting over the past four years
the Society has much to be proud of
regarding our programming at Wa-
terloo. Unquestionably we have kept
the village alive! Since 2007 we have
invested nearly $20,000 to support our
programming at Waterloo, including
buying back part of the Foundation’s
collection to refurnish and refurbish
Smith’s Store and the Rutan Cabin so
that they could once again be opened
to the public. We’ve also now re-
opened the Blacksmith Shop and the
White Barn. During these four years
combined we have provided interper-
tative programming for approximately
10,000 people! These are remarkable
accomplishments and we look for-
ward to implementing an even better
season in 2011!

DELAWARE AND RARITAN CANAL

(Continued from page 2)
in the face of explosive growth in the
area over the past several decades.

Due to continuing State fiscal con-
cerns, in 2007 the legislature amended
the statute creating the Canal Com-
mission to allow the Commission to
charge fees. These fees now cover the
cost of its operation.

DEP cannot fulfill the role of the
Delaware and Raritan Canal Com-
misson. Its regulations are less strin-
gent than those of the Commission’s
and DEP has to focus its review across
the whole state, not just the watershed
of the D& R Canal. DEP also cannot
enforce the Master Plan for the D&R
Canal State Park. For the above rea-
sons, it is imperative that the Gover-
nor’s office and your State Legislators
receive letters strongly urging that the
Delaware and Raritan Canal Commis-
sion be allowed to continue to func-
tion in its current capacity. This entity
serves the public well, providing im-
portant functions in a highly efficient
manner without cost to the public.
Letters to the Governor should be
addressed as follows: Office of the
Governor, PO Box 001, Trenton, NJ
08625. You can find your State Legis-
lators and their addresses by going to
the State of New Jersey Legislature’s
website and searching for your Sena-
tors and Assemblypersons. Your help
is urgently needed to preserve New
Jersey’s canal heritage! We cannot af-
ford to lose the gem represented by
the D&R Canal!
The purpose of the Morris Canal Greenway is to preserve the surviving historic remains of the Morris Canal and its associated natural environment, to interpret canal sites to the public, and to offer recreational opportunities. The Greenway is an ongoing project of the Canal Society and is attracting growing interest amongst municipal, county and state agencies.

In addition to the activities at Waterloo and Passaic County, progress related to the Greenway has been occurring in Warren County as part of the Warren Heritage Byway. This Byway corridor extends along Route 57 from Hackettstown westward to Greenwich Township. A team of representatives from Hackettstown, Mansfield Township, Washington Township, Washington Borough, Franklin Township, Greenwich Township, the Warren County Morris Canal Committee, Hunterdon County Parks and the Canal Society have been collaborating for about a year to compile a Route 57 Corridor Management Plan. This plan is devised to protect, enhance and call attention to the many historic and cultural resources present along the Route 57 Corridor. Included amongst these are the Morris Canal and the associated Greenway. The project is being guided by Heritage Conservancy and NJDOT as part of the National Scenic Byway Program. Designation of the Route 57 Corridor and adoption of the associated management plan make the area eligible for grant funding to enhance the resources present within the corridor. Some of the first priorities for funding include Bread Lock Park on the Morris Canal in Franklin Township. As of the end of 2010 all of the municipalities within the Warren Heritage Byway had adopted resolutions of support for the corridor management plan. A presentation on the plan is about to be presented to the Warren County Planning Board for its concurrence. We look forward to the potential for additional funding to further improve canal-related attractions.

**Joyce Draper**

We were shocked and greatly saddened at the passing of Joyce Draper on October 16, 2010. Joyce and Dick Draper have been extremely loyal and dedicated members of the Canal Society, especially devoting large amounts of time to the operation of our pontoon boat for public interpretive rides.

Joyce was originally from Detroit, graduating from Western Michigan University. During her work career she was a journalist, a computer programmer and a technical writer. She retired from Bell Telephone Laboratories in 1997. While at Bell Labs she helped scientists, including some Noble prize winners, explain their work to a wide range of readers. In her personal life she had many talents – gardening, photography, birding, and quilting. We extend our deepest sympathy to Dick and the rest of the family.

**Dick Gerhold**

More recently we learned that Dick Gerhold had passed away on December 18, 2010. Dick and his wife Anne were long-time members of the Canal Society and participated in and helped with numerous Society events, including many, many trips. In more recent years they had relocated to a retirement community in the southern part of the State so they were unable to continue to be active with us.

Dick was originally from Queens, served in the US Army in World War II in Europe, earned an engineering degree at Polytechnic Institute of NYU, Brooklyn and ultimately was promoted to senior engineer at AT&T, being responsible for the design and maintenance of all heating and air conditioning systems in AT&T facilities across the country. Dick and Anne loved to travel and visited many parts of the globe, besides enjoying numerous Canal Society trips. We express our sincere sympathy to Anne and the rest of the family.

**Mary Ann Smith**

Mary Ann Smith, widow of the Canal Society’s founder and first president, Clayton Smith, has advised us that she has now moved into an assisted living facility in Florida. She is very interested in continuing to receive news and updates about the activities of the Society and provided her address for those who might want to correspond with her:

Mary Ann Smith
2674 Winkler Avenue, Apt. 229
Fort Myers, FL 33901

*“Gone fishing” or contemplating a swim at 2010’s Waterloo Canal Day.*
op a wonderful canal park in Clifton, adjacent to the Garden State Parkway. These and other opportunities present an exciting concept for extending the Morris Canal Greenway across Passaic County. With a smart growth planning grant from the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions and funding through the Passaic County Open Space Trust Fund, the County Planning Department has been exploring the options for the greenway. Tonight’s presentation will summarize the findings of the study and the many canal resources which could be available for historic interpretation and recreational enjoyment across Passaic County.

Jennifer Gonzalez has been leading the study of the canal corridor across Passaic County on behalf of the County Planning Department.

Joe Macasek has been participating with the initiative, helping to provide information on the canal and its resources in the County. He is Vice President of the Canal Society, is a member of the Society’s Morris Canal Greenway Committee and operates his own graphics design firm.

### 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.

### Winter Weather Alert!

The Society’s winter program meetings are subject to cancellation if severe weather makes it unsafe for members to attend. We will make every effort to post any meeting cancellations on the Society website by 10:00 a.m. of the day of the meeting. If access to our website is not convenient, call the Society phone at 908-722-9556 for information about the cancellation of meetings.
During this past fall State Parks continued to implement school field trips at Waterloo for approximately 1,500 school children. Despite budget constraints and cutbacks on field trip allowances, schools continue to recognize the unparalleled educational values of the village and are very anxious to bring their classes.

State-funded renovation work has proceeded on the Meeting House, pretty much completing its exterior. In addition, the former museum gift shop building has received a sorely needed new roof. Some repairs are about to commence on the Seymour Smith carriage house (former apothecary) and the State has installed new gutters on Smith’s Store. This latter work was of primary importance since the failed built-in gutters were allowing rainwater to permeate the interior of the building’s stone walls, causing masonry damage and spalling off the historic exterior stucco.

The Canal Society’s volunteer contractor, Ken Dunham was able to complete the exterior scraping of peeling paint on the white carriage barn behind our New Jersey Canal Museum and protected the overall building with a good coat of primer. He also was able to replace the front porch deck on our Canal Museum, which had become quite soft and spongy and was in urgent need of rebuilding. We are extremely grateful to Ken for all of his work at Waterloo which has been a wonderful help toward maintaining our museum and assisting in the implementation of our Canal Heritage programming!

Another major event this past fall was the Wine Festival, held on October 2 and 3 at Waterloo. Other than the Dodge Poetry Festival, held at the village in the fall of 2006 and fall of 2008, the Wine Festival was the first major public event to be held at Waterloo besides the Canal Society’s programming and the State’s school field trips. Many thousands of people attended the Wine Festival and the State derived revenue which can be applied toward much needed repairs on the village’s buildings.

You have recently received a notice that it is time to renew your annual dues for the Canal Society of New Jersey. As indicated in this and other recent newsletters, many exciting things are happening in the Canal Society. We are having more events and public programming and are actively engaged in several preservation projects. We hope that we can count on your continued support to make it possible for us to sustain our many activities and projects. If you have not already sent in your dues, we ask you to do so as soon as possible. We greatly value your support! Together we can do great things to preserve and enhance New Jersey’s canal heritage!
NEW JERSEY CULTURAL TRUST GRANT SUPPORTS CANAL SOCIETY

The New Jersey Cultural Trust has recently awarded the Canal Society a $9,300 grant to support strategic planning and program assessment. The Society’s current long-range plan was projected to cover a five-year period, which now has been exceeded. Furthermore, new opportunities and challenges, such as the Waterloo Village situation, have developed. Consultant Les Loysen will be working with the Society on the new strategic plan, helping us reevaluate our organizational vision and goals and to develop the mechanisms to fulfill them. Specifically Les will guide us through the process of addressing the Society’s needs in the areas of: Mission Fulfillment; Membership Development; Board Development and Governance; Financial Stewardship; Resource Development; and Operations, Management and Facilities, all as part of articulating a Vision Statement for the Society’s future. Mr. Loysen previously helped the Society with a board development project in 2004 under an earlier New Jersey Cultural Trust grant.

As a second component of the grant, Susan P. Coen of the Coen Consulting Group will conduct program assessment and audience research to determine the needs and expectations of our audience and how best to fulfill them. She will be reviewing all of the Society’s programs and will help with audience surveys and other evaluation tools so that we can refine our approach, as needed to meet the expectations of our audience. Ms. Coen is the former Director of the Union County Cultural & Heritage Commission and the originator of the very successful “Four Centuries in a Weekend” initiative that revitalized and united the many small local historical societies in Union County.

The Canal Society is very grateful for the Cultural Trust’s support and looks forward to beginning implementation of the grant-funded program in the near future.

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