



FRIENDS OF THE DELAWARE CANAL CANAL NEWS

The Return *Rewards and Responsibilities*

“Remember when we used to go ice skating on the Canal? Let’s try that again.”

“Maybe we’ll be able to canoe to Apple Jack’s this year.”

As the Delaware Canal emerges from its flood shambles, people are thinking about all the possibilities that a watered canal and intact towpath trail have to offer. Their inspiration comes from the sections that have been intermittently watered already and the greener than St. Patrick’s Day grass on the towpath banks. Or just the sight of the long-awaited construction equipment at work can lead to visions of fun to come on the Canal.

The flood repair projects continue to progress well, although, of course, winter weather slows things down. The estimated completion timeframe for *all* the projects continues to be summer of 2010 with most of the work being done sooner. This spring (knock on wood), much of the Canal will be back in shape and visitor-ready.

With our *new* Delaware Canal come opportunities and challenges. Of course, we’re all ready to get out there and hike, bike, boat, fish again, but we also need to be ready to tackle our roles as Friends. Our preservation, improvement, and interpretation goals remain true.

The floods gave the Friends lots to do, but they also curtailed many of our organization’s traditional ways of helping the Canal. Annual Clean-Up Days covered only parts of the Canal and our “Adopt – a” program disappeared altogether. With normalcy in sight, we now can revitalize the oldies.

Among other projects, the Friends are reinstating the Canal Tenders program. Similar to PennDOT’s Adopt-a-Highway program, Canal Tender volunteers watch over and care for sections of the Canal from Easton to Bristol. A Canal Tender chooses where he/she would like to work and how long a stretch he/she will cover. (Many past volunteers took on the sections that they already walked on a regular basis.) Canal Tenders collect trash, take on other maintenance tasks if they so choose, and are responsible for notifying the Friends and/or the State Park staff of problems, such as fallen trees, erosion, and bank breaks. The volunteers are asked to submit a short report every other month about conditions along their section.

A new concern for Canal Tenders (and all Canal visitors) will be the emergence of invasive plants along the Canal. The repair work has created miles of new earthen banks that are ripe for invasion by purple loosestrife, mile-a-minute, and other plants that are perfectly capable of besting all the recently planted grass. The topic of the Friends’ General Meeting on March 9 is the identification and control of invasive plants. A full description of the presentation is included in the Calendar on page 3.

We are coming to a new era on the Delaware Canal. Let’s enjoy it and be determined to take advantage of its many opportunities. It will be great to have new things to do!



Wishes do come true! This photo was taken on January 11, 2010 by the recently restored “Thompson-Neely” camelback bridge.

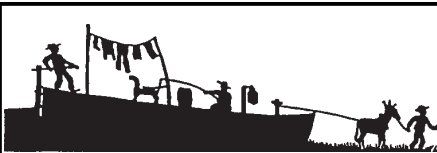
Photo by John Sikora.

Canal Tenders Needed

Adopt a section of the
Delaware Canal –
Be watchful for problems
Help keep it clean

For more info or to volunteer,
Call 215-862-2021 or
e-mail friends@fodc.org.





Friends of the Delaware Canal

145 South Main Street
New Hope, PA 18938
Phone & Fax: 215-862-2021
Email: friends@fodc.org
Internet: www.fodc.org

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Mission

The Friends of the Delaware Canal is an independent, non-profit organization working to restore, preserve, and improve the Delaware Canal and its surroundings. Our primary goals are to ensure that the Canal is fully-watered from Easton to Bristol and the towpath trail is useable over its entire length. We embrace this mission in order to sustain a unique link to our heritage, protect beautiful and diverse natural areas, provide recreational and educational opportunities, and enable the Canal to serve as a community and economic asset.

Park Manager's Report

"Baby, it's cold outside." Flood repairs have slowed along the Canal because of the winter conditions. There are some jobs that just can't be done when the ground is frozen, such as the trail repairs. We have one section of Canal prism repair that is underway from Upper Black Eddy to New Hope. At the onset we had four of these large projects to complete. Now three are either complete or are complete with the exception of grass growth which will be evaluated in the spring. Contractors are also working to repair three stop gates, Lock 12 and a handful of waste gates. As we've said all along, we will return water to the Canal as sections become available. Unfortunately, because of these projects, we do not have any sections ready to be watered.

I want to thank all of our neighbors along the Canal who have permitted the contractors to access to the Canal for repairs. Without you the work would have been more difficult if not impossible.

It looks like we are on schedule to have the repairs completed by fall 2010. (Editor's note: This is Rick's conservative estimate.)

The project to reline the Canal north of Lock 11 in New Hope is complete with the exception of grass growth. We will need to water the Canal to determine if the project worked to stop the leaking in that area.

All seems quiet on the budget front for the moment. We are still operating on the budget we were given for the year. Our operating budget and the number of our staff have been cut significantly. Please bear with

us in these slim economic times as you will see a reduction in services in the Park. Hopefully, we will not see any further cuts before the end of the budget year in July.

I'll finish my report with good news. Pennsylvania's State Parks competed with the best systems in the country and were honored with the 2009 National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management by the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association. This top award is given for outstanding long-range planning, resource management, volunteerism, environmental stewardship, program development and professional development.

As always, thanks to the members of the Friends for your continued support for the Canal.

Rick Dalton

(Another editor's note: John Norbeck, Director of the PA Bureau of State Parks, had to pay his own way to the conference in Utah where the Gold Medal was awarded. Good evidence of the extent of the State's fiscal crisis.)

Welcome, New Friends

Ruby Anderson
Ken Bobst
Valerie Brown
The Caligiuri Family
Pamela Campbell
Richard T. Evans
Alix Hansen
Geraldine Happ
Cynthia Henderson
Carl Holstrom & Mary Beth Kineke
Dr. James Kahn & Carol Wierbowski
Wesley & Michelle Morton
Bernard & Judith Newman
Rebecca Payonk
Michael Polios
Dan Rentillo & Tom Smyth
Jim & Diana Resek
River Road Business Alliance
Dr. and Mrs. Bennett M. Shapiro
Drs. Curt and Denise Shreiner
Linda Sghiatti
Drew Sujet & Jean Allured
Univest National Bank & Trust Co.
Mary Van Praet
Tim & Janine Wade
Janice Wetherill
Mary-Elizabeth Wise
Mollie Wood

The End is in Sight

Less happens when it's winter, so the full Flood Repair Project **Progress Report** isn't included in this issue. Please visit www.fodc.org and click on *What's New - Breaking News* to view the latest chart. You'll be impressed by the high numbers shown in the "% Complete" column - 100, 99, 75, 99 %... When the grass sprouts in the spring, the 99% projects will move to 100%, and all the remaining projects are underway. The anticipated completion date of summer 2010 is still valid (knock on wood) with water returning to some areas sooner.

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, March 9, 7:30 p.m. General Meeting

Out, Out, Bad Plant! – Invasive Species 101

*The Old Library by Lake Afton
46 West Afton Avenue, Yardley*

More and more of the local landscape is being dominated by plants that know no bounds. These plants, labeled as invasive species, will drive out wide varieties of other vegetation if they are left to flourish. Miles of the Canal towpath and berm banks are now prime targets for invasion. The earth on the banks has been disturbed during the flood repair work, and the newly planted grass will be hard pressed to repeal the seeds and runners of the “bad” plants.

It’s time to understand the enemy and be prepared to take action (from plucking out the offending plants to reporting their existence to the State Park staff). At the Friends’ March meeting, Michael Van Cleef, an ecologist with his own consulting firm Ecological Solutions, will tell us what we need to know. During his illustrated talk, he will elaborate on why established and newly emerging invasive species are such a problem. He will reveal where the plants are likely to be found and how to identify them. Control strategies and techniques will also be discussed.

Michael Van Cleef is an expert in his field, who already has been working with the Delaware River Greenway Partnership to devise control strategies for the greater river valley. He has a Ph.D. in ecology and twenty years experience working on the evaluation and management of rare and invasive species, white-tailed deer management, forest health monitoring protocols, and natural resource policy.

Our “new” Canal will need us to be watchful, so please come out and become a better-informed Friend.



*Sherwin Williams paint isn't the only thing that covers the earth. Here mile-a-minute and honeysuckle rule the land.
Photo by Ian Kindle.*

Saturday, March 27, 10:30 a.m. Lunch and Walk

Meet in the rear parking lot of the David Library of the American Revolution, 1201 River Road, Washington Crossing, PA 18977

The Friends follow the news, so we’re Washington Crossing bound for this year’s Lunch and Walk. Starting out to the north with a short tour of the David Library of the American Revolution, we’ll find out what goes on there and learn why it is the leading repository of Revolutionary War-era records – second only to Great Britain. From the Library, we’ll follow the restored towpath to Washington Crossing Historic Park where we’ll hear some stories from history and talk about the serious challenges that the facility is facing. The village’s handsome pathway will lead us to the fabled Washington Crossing Inn where we’ll indulge in lunch in a private dining room.

Menu

French Onion Soup
Caesar Salad with Grilled Chicken or Salmon
New York Cheesecake or Chocolate Raspberry Torte
Coffee, Tea, Water

After lunch, we’ll head back to the Library, checking out the wildlife in the lagoon and Canal along the way. The round trip walk will be just over 3 miles.

Donation - \$25 per person. Reservations are required.

Please call 215-862-2021 or e-mail friends@fodc.org no later than March 19th. If it is raining or snowing, we won’t be walking, but we will meet at the Washington Crossing Inn at noon for lunch and lively conversation.

Delaware Canal Clean-Up Day Saturday, April 17, 9 a.m.

The flood repair contractors will probably still be working in the area around Lumberville, but the rest of the 58.9 miles of waterway, towpath, and berm bank is going to be ready and waiting for some spring sprucing up. Even the newly completed sections of the Canal need a little help. This year we are going to include invasive species as well as trash and debris among our targets.

To accomplish the Clean-Up in a coordinated fashion, the length of the Canal is divided up into sections. Community coordinators and workers are needed for the sections, particularly the Falls Township and Tullytown Borough areas. Please call 215-862-2021 or e-mail friends@fodc.org to volunteer and watch for the Canal Clean-Up Day location lists that will be posted on www.fodc.org. And, if you know of a group that may be able to participate, please let us know.

Many hands make light work!



At the Board Table

Three new members were welcomed to the Friends' Board of Directors during the final months of 2009. **Brett Webber** was elected by the membership at the Annual Meeting in November, and **Virginia DiLeo** and **Steven Spatz** were appointed by the Board in December.

Brett Webber, AIA, LEED AP, is Principal of Brett Webber Architects, PC, an award-winning architecture and design firm specializing in high performance, sustainable design. His office is located in Philadelphia, and he plans to open a new office in Bucks County to serve clients throughout the river valley. Brett is active in a number of local organizations and his firm is a Business Member of the Friends. He and his family have relocated from Philadelphia to a historic farmhouse in Tinicum Township just above the Canal in Erwinna and look forward to continued participation in the Friends events including the annual Clean-Up Day. A longtime champion of industrial and architectural heritage preservation and environmental conservation in Philadelphia and Bucks County, Brett is pleased to join the Board this year and add his professional design and construction expertise to current and future projects.

A Friends' member since 2003, **Virginia DiLeo** and her husband Ron live in a cottage nestled between the Delaware Canal and the River in Smithtown. She is a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Hearthside in Doylestown. Lucky enough to have the Canal in her backyard, Virginia has a true appreciation for the importance of the Friends' improvement, restoration and preservation efforts. She remembers the Canal in all its glory when it was watered and fully functional and decided last year to join the *Faces and Places* planning committee to raise money for the Friends' efforts. "The Canal is a gateway to my sense of self. Long walks along the towpath enable me to sort through personal and professional challenges, restore my energy level, uplift my spirit and sustain my bond with nature".

Steven Spatz lives outside of Newtown with his wife Michelle and daughters Emma and Sara. He is a Vice President of Marketing for AVL Inc., the world's largest CD and DVD manufacturer catering to independent musicians and filmmakers, as well as the largest aggregator of indie-produced music for iTunes, Rhapsody and all other online music services. A native of southern Oregon, Steven and his family moved to the East Coast in 1998, eventually settling in Bucks County in 2005. Two years ago his family discovered the joys of biking and hiking on the Delaware Canal towpath, and Steven joined up with the Friends in support of his new favorite pursuit. His talents and generosity were much in evidence last year as he jumped right into helping to produce *Faces and Places*.

Four members of the Board chose to retire at the end of the year – **Marianne Fluehr**, **George Luciani**, **Bill Trainer**, and **Marc Zaharchuk**. We will sorely miss the energy, expertise, and enthusiasm that they brought to the Friends and can't thank them enough for their years of service. They are all superb ambassadors for our cause.

The members of the Board welcome your assistance, questions, and advice. If you are interested in learning more about becoming involved in a Friends' committee or becoming a member of the Board of Directors, please call President Jack Donohue at 215-297-8319 or e-mail jackdonohue1@comcast.net.

Who Could Deserve It More?

Our founder Betty Orlemann has been presented with the first Lifetime Achievement Award from the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor. At its Partners Recognition Dinner held in November, the D&L recognized Betty's outstanding leadership in creating the non-profit Friends of the Delaware Canal in 1982 and serving on the Heritage Corridor Commission since its inception in 1988.

"I am very honored. Participating in the creation and evolution of the Heritage Corridor has been so enjoyable — and what an education!" said Betty. During her term, Betty traveled throughout the 165-mile corridor, which extends from Wilkes Barre to Bristol. She learned about the culturally rich and diverse region and shared her knowledge of canal issues and organization-building. From the top of a mountain to the depths of the No. 9 Coal Mine, she toured it all, ever mindful of the roles that mules played in history. In fact, the Heritage Corridor's *Miles of Mules* public art project was Betty's idea. She encourages everyone to go out and explore what the Corridor has to offer. Visit www.delawareandlehigh.org to find out more.



Betty Orlemann, winner of the Lifetime Achievement Award, with Heritage Corridor President Allen Sachse.
Photo by Veronica Morton

The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor is a joint effort of private groups and interested citizens, county and municipal government, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the federal government to conserve cultural and natural resources. Its mission is to restore historic places, conserve green space for public use, and preserve and interpret our heritage to enhance life for generations to come.

The Corridor passes through three distinct areas: the Wyoming Valley and Carbon County, home to many of Pennsylvania's former anthracite mines; the Lehigh Valley, where the discovery of coal to the north spawned iron and steel industries; and the Delaware Valley, through which coal-laden boats traveled to Philadelphia and other markets. Its path follows the Delaware and Lehigh Canals and the railroad lines to the north.

Betty Orlemann has worked hard to help the Corridor and the Friends achieve their goals, and she is most deserving of this honor. Betty, we're very proud of you!

Our Business and Institutional Members

Learn more about these Friends by clicking on their links at www.fodc.org.

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Barley Sheaf Farm Estate & Spa, Holicong
Scannapieco Development Corp., New Hope

Benefactor

Capital Planning Advisory Group, Yardley
Fine, Kaplan and Black, Philadelphia
George E. Michael & Co., New Hope
William B. Parry & Son, Ltd., Langhorne
Sand Castle Winery, Erwinna
Addison Wolfe Real Estate, New Hope

Patron

Arkema, Inc., Bristol
Carlton Pools, Inc., Warminster
DeLuca Enterprises, Inc., Yardley
First Savings Bank of Perkasio
Gratz Gallery & Conservation Studio, New Hope
Howard Gallery of Fine Art, New Hope
Logan Inn, New Hope
McCaffrey's Markets, Yardley
Newtown Bicycle & Fitness Shop, Newtown
Nimaris, Bath, PA
Shearer Penn Corp., Trenton, NJ
The Tattersall Inn, Point Pleasant
The Thompson Organization, Doylestown
Tinsman Bros., Inc., Lumberville
Yardley Borough

Member

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Ahlum Gallery, Easton
Baldi & Jenei, P.C., New Hope
Borough of Morrisville
Brett Webber Architects, P.C., Philadelphia
Bristol Borough Business Association
Bucks County Riverboat & Trolley Companies, Upper Black Eddy
The Canal Bar, Upper Black Eddy
Cramer Bakery, Yardley
David Library of the American Revolution. Washington Crossing
Dilly's Corner, Centre Bridge
Ellenoff, Underwood & Norman, Doylestown
First National Bank & Trust Company of Newtown
First Savings Insurance, New Britain
T. Foster & Co., Inc., Yardley
Golden Pheasant Inn, Erwinna
The Grundy Commons, Bristol
Havana Restaurant and Bar, New Hope
Hobensack & Keller, Inc., New Hope
Kurfiss/Sotheby's Realty, New Hope
Leisure Craft, Warrington
Mail Boxes Etc., Buckingham
The Mansion Inn, New Hope

(continued)

Lisa James Otto Country Properties, Inc., Stockton, NJ
John Paton, Inc. Doylestown
Peddler's Village, Lahaska
Penn Valley Construction, Inc., Morrisville
Pete's Bike & Fitness Shoppe, Flemington, NJ
Porches Bed & Breakfast, New Hope
River Road Business Alliance, Erwinna – NEW Member
Solebury Township Historical Society
Stephan's Design Center, New Hope
Univest National Bank & Trust Co. – NEW Member
The UPS Store, New Hope



The Challenge Has Been Met!

The fall issue of *Canal News* announced the Legacy Fund Challenge. A generous anonymous donor promised to contribute \$5000 to the Friends' Legacy Fund if members would collectively donate a matching \$5000.

Four months later and five months ahead of the deadline, the challenge has been met. The balance of the Fund has increased by \$10,000 because of the initiative and now totals just over \$88,000.

Many, many thanks to those who stepped forward. Challenge donations were not only an investment in our organization's future, but also a tribute to each contributor's concern for the fulfillment of the Friends' mission to preserve and improve the Canal and its surroundings.

Legacy Fund Challenge Contributors

William W. Farkas

Marianne Fluehr

(upon her retirement from the Board of Directors)

Yardley Borough Recreation Board

(proceeds from a 5K Run and Walk)

Edward Cohen

Robert and Marie McEwan

Lynn R. Busch

And, of course, the anonymous Challenge originator

Bill Farkas, who serves on the Friends' Advisory Board and Finance Committee, accompanied his contribution with a note. "We've really built momentum in the last year with the help of the Challenge. My hope is that the Fund will meet its \$100,000 goal in 2010."

When the Legacy Fund tops \$100,000, by vote of the Board of Directors, investment income may be used to support the activities of the Friends. Please consider making your contribution to the Fund to help the Friends do more to improve the Canal. We're only \$12,000 away.

Friends of the Delaware Canal — 2009 Members

We thank those who demonstrated their support with membership contributions in 2009.

Canal Superintendent

Joseph Dera
Harry T. and Shirley Dozor
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Scott and Anne Reines
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Bennett M. Shapiro
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Paul and Harriet Gratz
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Marshall and Susan King
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Julie Koeppen
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Deborah Lang
John and Lynn Langdon
Richard Lee
Tom Lurz and Sheree Cote
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Ken and Megan Peterson
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Ronald Portman
Christina Preis
Michael Pucciarelli
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Arthur and Natalia Ritter
Dave Rivella
Willis Rivinus
Jeff and Jeanne Robinson
Ed Rockel
Susan Rorer
Herbert Ross
Lawrence and Andrea Rossi
Douglas Sardo
Ernest Schaille
Bill Scheetz
Paul and Susan Schneider
Mike Schwartz and Louise Wile
Jurgen Schweickhardt
Paul Sebelist
Klaus and Joyce Senss
Linda Sghiatti
Richard Shaginaw
Curt and Denise Shreiner
Matt Sinberg and Sue Schneck
Gurney and Faith Sloan

(continued)

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Robert Starling and Margaret Fischer
Michael and Anke Stieglitz
Rich and Maggie Strucker
Michael and Linda Tadlock
Tom Tauber
Jack and Karen Taylor
Jerry and Susan Taylor
Charles and Laura Thomforde
Robert and Barbara Tiffany
Terry Tracy
Mary Van Praet
Robin Vannote and Jessica Gorman
Jim Vaseleck and Hank Cochran
Robert and Alice Vernon
Gabriele and Helen Villa
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Jason Vodicka and Derek Cressman
Lawrence Vogel
George Ward
Andrew and Elaine Warren
Sam and Elizabeth Warshawer
Jonathan Wiedorn
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Thomas and Edith Woodman
Greg and Jane Wuerstle
Richard Yarnall
Marc Zaharchuk

Mule Tender

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Joan Aichele
Henry Alcalay
Theresa Alexander
Jane Allen
Bill and Pam Altier
Ray and Sara Altieri
Arthur and Janet Anderson
Jason and Kathy Anderson
Ruby Anderson
Ken and Vivian Andrews
Richard and Sharyn Arnold
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Our Thanks Run the Gamut

Help comes to the Friends in many ways.

- We're most grateful to the contributors who generously responded to our year-end appeal. Your gifts give us a boost into 2010.
- The Yardley Borough Recreation Board sponsored a benefit 5K Run and Walk along the Canal and River Road last year and then donated \$1000 to the Friends.
- The Tinicum Civic Association again recognized the Friends' efforts with a \$1000 contribution. The Association shares its revenue from its annual Arts Festival, Antique Show, and Stover Mill Art Shows with organizations that improve life in the Township.
- The Locktender's House has an excellent new artifact also thanks to the Tinicum Civic Association. A canal boat nighthawker (the lantern that sat atop the boat to light the way through the early morning and late night) was amongst the articles in the Stover Mill. Seeking to keep their Mill collection pure, the Association chose to contribute the non-related lantern to the Friends' museum.
- Artist Jeff Gola contributed an outstanding original egg tempera painting of the Canal to the Friends for fund-raising purposes. It was raffled off in December garnering nearly \$1800 in contributions. Nancy Schimek of Newtown was the winner.
- William Foster has inherited the entrepreneurial talents of his parents Suzanne and Tim Foster. At Yardley Harvest Day, he and several friends set up a lemonade stand to cater to the festival crowd. They made some decent dollars, which they split amongst

their favorite causes. William's was the Delaware Canal, and he presented the Friends with \$32.73.

- The members of the environmental club at Solebury School, under the guidance of Richard McLaughlin, cleared the overgrowth that surrounded the Goat Farm camelback bridge south of Washington Crossing. It was a job that needed to be done, and they did it very well.
- Intriguing historical documents about the Delaware Canal were contributed by Glen Hayes of Rahway, NJ and Gary Swangler of Yardley. Excerpts will be shared in the *Canal News* as space allows.
- "Strokes of Luck" was a fundraising hit at *Faces and Places – A Celebration of the Arts Along the Delaware Canal* in October. We thank all the businesses that provided gifts and services. To view a full list, go to www.fodc.org.

The Friends do have a lot of very good friends! Thank you all!!



William Foster and Marissa Fonte squeeze lemons into dollars for the Canal.

Photo by Suzanne Foster.

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