

FRIENDS OF THE DELAWARE CANAL CANAL NEWS

A Stove for the Shanty

The new, reproduction wicket shanty that stands next to Lock 11 in New Hope is a no-frills structure. Its purpose is to house the mechanisms that are used to open and close the lock drop gate. It also provides storage space and shelter for the locktender while he (or she) is working or just wants to get out of the house.

A good shelter is warm, so wicket shanties have chimneys built to accommodate coal stoves. (What other type of fuel would a canaller use?) When the DCNR engineers were preparing the plans for the Lock 11 shanty, a ready-to-go chimney was included in the design, but no provision was made for acquiring a stove to go with it.

As the walls of the new shanty rose, Friends' member John Sikora started to get ideas, and from the day that the masons finished laying the last chimney brick, he was on a mission. Find an antique coal stove for the shanty that was made in Pennsylvania during the canal era.



John Sikora with his find for the Lock 11 wicket shanty – a Keeley Tiger Pot Belly Stove.

Antique shops and flea markets didn't seem to be good sources, but hot prospects would turn up on e-Bay. After months of searching the listings, placing bids, and losing good stoves to higher bidders, a Keeley Tiger Pot Belly Coal Stove was put up for auction. It was the right size and made circa 1898 in Columbia, Pennsylvania.

The Keely Tiger was the charm. John's bid was good, and the stove was on its way from Rhode Island to New Hope. When the two big boxes arrived, John and Don Macfarlan, who is a New Hope canal boat captain and musician, unpacked it with care and a bit of trepidation. Would it fit? The Keely Tiger fit into the shanty space perfectly, right down to the length of the stove pipe.

The Lock 11 wicket shanty now has its pot belly stove thanks to John's persistence and generosity, and the day will come when the locktender will be able to warm his (or her) bones.

Taking Care of Flood Repairs – AND Moving Beyond

The news about the Delaware Canal is surprisingly encouraging. The pieces of the Canal flood repair puzzle seem to be falling into place, and other funds are being secured to take care of improvement projects that aren't flood related.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved all of the Canal damage assessment reports, and \$17.25 million in federal funding (75% of the total) has been obligated. Based on assurances by Governor Rendell and our State legislators that the required 25% match (\$5.5 million) to the FEMA funds would be provided, the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) assigned its engineering staff the task of preparing detailed repair plans, specifications, and bid documents. The first step was to have the Canal surveyed so that the engineers will have accurate baseline information. An outside contractor is almost finished with the survey, and the ribboned stakes that now line the towpath are a result of that work. With the survey information in hand, the engineers are proceeding. One of the Friends' jobs at this point is to "encourage" the State to accomplish the engineering work in accordance with its self-set aggressive schedule.

There will be no definitive answers as to which areas will be repaired first or how long the work will take until a substantial amount of the engineering is completed. Access, logistics, economics, material supplies, and contractor availability will all come into play.

Moving beyond flood issues, in December Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick announced that \$2.4 million in Transportation Reauthorization Act funds have been secured, which will be used for Canal projects from Yardley to Bristol. The replacement of the Yardley aqueduct has been designated because a flood in 1996 compromised the aqueduct's structural integrity and a lack of clearance exacerbates upstream flooding of Brock Creek. The use of the balance of the funds has not been assigned but may include dredging to alleviate neighborhood flooding near Black Rock Road in Lower Makefield Township or the construction of a pedestrian bridge over four lanes of Route 13 near the Levittown Shopping Center.

At the same ceremony, Congressman Fitzpatrick also presented a symbolic \$40,000 check to the Delaware Canal State Park from the Department of the Interior's "Save America's Treasures" program. These funds will be used to restore or rehabilitate an historic structure within the Canal Park. With receipt of "Treasures" funds, the Canal takes its place among landmarks such as Mount Vernon and the Monocacy Aqueduct on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal.

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Friends of the Delaware Canal

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Board of Directors

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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 and the towpath trail is continuous. The Friends embrace this mission in order to sustain a unique link to our heritage, care for and protect beautiful open space, and provide recreational opportunities for current and future generations. Our goals are accomplished through advocacy, community volunteerism, and educational and recreational programs.

Park Manager's Report

Greetings

I am pleased to say that things are going smoothly with the plan to repair the Canal. A professional survey of the damaged areas is nearly complete. Some of the information from the survey has been sent to Harrisburg where our engineers and draftspersons are busy converting it into bid documents. The rest of the information should be available shortly. We have set an aggressive schedule, and so far we are on schedule. All of the work has been approved by FEMA and the funding has been obligated. When all the bid documents are developed, they will be released together for the bidding process.

We have recently been awarded \$2.4 million through Congressman Fitzpatrick's office for Canal projects. The rehabilitation of the Yardley Aqueduct will be accomplished, and there will be funds left to use elsewhere on the southern end of the Canal.

Exploratory work has begun with the project to construct a tunnel through the CSX rail crossing in Falls Township. The tunnel is to provide for an open Canal and towpath through a major obstruction.

So, I am very happy to report that not only is the reconstruction project on schedule, but we will also be able to make much needed improvements.

Rick Dalton

At the Board Table

Both the Friends' Board of Directors and the Advisory Board begin 2006 with new members.

Will Rivinus, a true Canal veteran, is returning as a member of the Board of Directors after a well-deserved hiatus. As author of the *Guide to the Delaware Canal* (now in its eighth edition) and creator and long-time leader of the Friends' annual 60-mile Canal Walk, Will has a wealth of knowledge and the ability to share it in most interesting and entertaining ways. When Will last served on the Board, he was instrumental in securing the National Recreation Trail designation for the Canal and preparing the applications that helped the Friends to win several First Place awards in the national Take Pride in America contest. Experienced with more regional aspects of canals, Will served as the first chairperson of the Delaware and Lehigh Canal National Heritage Corridor Commission and published a guide to the many resources within the 150-mile-long Corridor that stretches from Wilkes Barre to Bristol. A resident of Solebury Township, Will's home stretch of the Canal extends north and south of the Virginia Forrest Recreation Area.

By agreeing to serve on the Friends' Advisory Committee, **Jim Greenwood** is continuing a commitment to the Canal that extends back to the 1980's when he was first elected to public office as a Pennsylvania State Representative. Through the years,

Jim has creatively and consistently tried to improve the Canal. While he was a State Senator, he secured a \$50,000 grant for the Friends that was used to prepare the Delaware Canal Master Plan. The Plan provided the framework and impetus for most of the improvements that have occurred within the Delaware Canal State Park for the last ten years. As Congressman for Pennsylvania's Eighth District from 1993 through 2004, Jim corralled federal agency expertise and dollars for the Canal. Now, as a member of the Friends' Advisory Committee, he shares his legislative process expertise and his life experience as a Canal-side property owner, formerly in Erwinna and now in Washington Crossing.

Several changes were made official at the Annual Meeting in November.

Ken Edmonds was thanked for all that he has done to further the mission of the Friends. Not only did he serve as Board President, he also chaired annual Clean-Up Days and was a productive "Sharing the Towpath Trail Days" volunteer. He integrated the East Coast Greenway project goals into the Friends' agenda (the Canal from Bristol to Morrisville has been designated as part of the Greenway route) and is a champion for the inclusion of pedestrian and bicyclist facilities. Ken is a big picture kind of guy, who doesn't ignore the small jobs and the details – a wonderful leader and volunteer.

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~ Calendar of Events ~



Sunday, February 5, 2 p.m.

Winter Festival Walk

Two Towns – Two Canals

Meet by the Caboose behind the Lambertville Station Restaurant.

Put on your mittens and muffler – it's time for the first canal walk of the new year. Join the Friends and the Canal Society of New Jersey for a guided history and nature tour along both of our neighboring towpaths. This popular event, which has become a tradition, is part of the weekend-long Lambertville-New Hope Winter Festival. Come early for the Pancake Breakfast, then stroll the two river towns. There will be ice carvings, Village Snowfolk Art, historic house and inn tours, free hot fudge sundaes, and music everywhere to enjoy.

The first stop on our 2-mile Winter Festival Walk will be the Delaware & Raritan Canal inlet where canal boats once began the cross-river trip from one canal to the other via a cable ferry. From the inlet, we'll follow the path of the mule teams of old as we hike through Lambertville and cross the river bridge into New Hope. Heading west, the Delaware Canal towpath will soon be found. We'll trek southward through town to newly restored Lock 11 and the Locketender's House. Hot chocolate and marshmallows will be waiting inside. For those who want to walk and see just a bit more, we'll venture a short distance south to the New Hope inlet to take in the many historic sites and the glorious vistas of the River and wingdam.

The Winter Festival Walk will be held weather permitting. If in doubt, please call 215-862-2021 for a recorded message.

For more information about the many other Winter Festival events, call 215-862-5067 or visit www.winterfestival.net.

Tuesday, March 14, 7:30 p.m.

General Meeting

The Delaware Canal

– Commerce, Calamities, and Conservation

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

One of the goals of the Friends is to educate the public about the value of the Canal. To that end, we have been presenting programs to schools, community groups, and other organizations since our founding in 1982.

In the early days, Betty Orlemann, who started the Friends, and Frank and Howard Swope, who worked on the Canal before it closed in 1932, would narrate a slide show of old photos. A 1950's vintage film, *Paradise Ditch*, would follow. Frank and Howard enthralled audiences with their firsthand tales of life on the Canal, blowing their conch shell horns and ringing their straps of mule bells. Nothing pleased Howard and Frank more than showing school children how to blow the conch, then passing the horn around the classroom so that each child could give it a try!



With the passing of years, the Friends' public outreach program has changed, of course. Howard and Frank, with their sparkling eyes and sly wit, are no longer with us. Our slide show has undergone any number of updates, and *Paradise Ditch* is only presented on special occasions.

Late last year the Friends moved right into the modern day. With the help of State Park Educator, Lisa Miller, our slide show was upgraded and converted into a PowerPoint presentation. The old, but still trusty, slide projector that was lent to us by the PA Department of Forests and Waters was shelved in favor of a laptop and digital projector.

Now that the "old" show is new in so many ways, we'd like to share it with our members, especially since many have never seen the old "public" program. The show, presented by Executive Director Susan Taylor, features both historic and recent photos, all sharply focused, that tell the story of Canal commerce, calamities, and conservation. As a bonus feature, we'll conclude with some special pictures that illustrate the happenings in 2005. We'll even throw in some popcorn and soda. Canal pictures and popcorn is an offer that we hope you'll find hard to resist.

Saturday, March 25, 11 a.m.

Lunch and Walk

Meet at the old train station parking lot opposite the Lagoon Park on Jefferson Avenue in Bristol Borough.

This year we'll head south to the Canal's terminus in historic Bristol and lunch at a new Italian restaurant, Annabella's. There is much to see on this 2-mile, round trip trek. Following the trail that once was the Canal towpath, we'll explore the beautifully restored Lagoon Park, an excellent example of the power of partnerships and volunteer efforts. A series of interpretive signs, featuring historic photos, will guide our way as we pass by the famous Grundy clock tower, handsome old woolen mill buildings, the site of a Canal "bump bridge", the three Bristol locks, and the "ring" where cargo was unloaded. We'll enjoy Riverfront Park and the Bristol Wharf before we head to Annabella's for a warm, delicious lunch.

Menu

Mixed Baby Greens Salad
Your choice of hearty soups
Minestrone or the Soup du jour
Rolls and Butter
Cannoli
Coffee or Hot Tea



After lunch, we will head back to the train station by way of Radcliffe Street, which parallels the Delaware River and is lined with many of Bristol's most beautiful and historic homes and buildings.

Donation - \$20 per person. Reservations are a must. Please call 215-862-2021 no later than March 17th.

If the weather is just too wintry and walking wouldn't be any fun, we'll still go to lunch and talk about how great the walk would have been.

Are We There Yet? Yes, We Are!

All Mile Markers Contributed

A flurry of contributions to the Delaware Canal Mile Marker Project arrived during the holiday season, and now every engraved granite marker from #1 in Bristol to #58.9 in Easton has been claimed. As soon as the volunteer installation crews finish their work later this year, visitors to the Delaware Canal State Park will be able to gauge distances and know exactly where they are along the length of the towpath.

The Friends are grateful to all the donors who supported this project and shared their reasons for wanting to help.

Fifteen markers have been donated since last autumn.

Mile Marker #2, located in Bristol Borough, is dedicated to **Frank and Howard Swope**, canal boat captains who worked on the Delaware Canal during its last years of commercial operation. Frank and Howard accompanied the Friends to community presentations and delighted people with their Canal tales. Contributions made in memory of Frank and Howard were used for the marker.

Marker #3 will be placed in honor of **Ralph Ratcliffe and Naomi Tomlinson** for their work with the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Middle School "Canal Kids." The Bristol Township section of the Canal that has been adopted by the Kids for their annual service-learning clean-up activities will be home to #3.

Mark Zaharchuk contributed #5 and #9 in memory of his father, Jules Zaharchuk, who served his country in the U.S. Army. The two markers will be set along the towpath in Falls Township.

The two floods put a damper on **Gary and Judy Hyatt's** plans to publish a user's guide to the sister canals – the Delaware in PA and the Delaware & Raritan in NJ. As a gesture of their hope for the canals' quick recovery, they have given #6, which will be installed in Falls Township.

Curt Thomsen donated #7 in memory of his wife, J. Alice Killingworth Thomsen and their walks along the Canal together. #7 will also be located along the towpath in Falls Township.

Virginia and Ron DiLeo, who live along the Canal in Smithtown, demonstrated their support for the restoration of the Canal as a whole by contributing #8, which will be set close to the Falls Township/Morrisville Borough border.

Even though he lives quite a distance from the Canal, **Donald Speth, Jr.** has long appreciated the value of the Delaware and Lehigh canal systems. He chose to show his commitment by donating #50 and #51, which will both be installed in Riegelsville Borough.

Beth Weaver, an enthusiastic Canal organizer, has given #52 to be located close to her hometown, Riegelsville Borough.

Marker #53, which has been placed at the Theodore Roosevelt Recreation Area between Riegelsville and Raubsville, was contributed by the **Board of Directors of the Friends of the Delaware Canal** in honor of Susan Taylor for her many years of dedicated work and advocacy on behalf of the Canal.

Bob and Rita Carlson are looking forward to having the Canal repaired and being able to walk by their contribution, marker #56, that will be set in Williams Township.

Marker #57, to be located along the towpath in Wy-Hit-Tuk Park in Williams Township, has been donated by **Happy and Sam Shipley**, new residents of Erwinna, who wanted to honor Ida Vanselous, the original owner of their property.

Mark Wismer, the contributor of #58 in Easton, comes from a long line of canallers. His great grandfather, Harry Wismer, was a superintendent when the Canal closed for business in 1932. (For those of you who remember the film "Paradise Ditch", Mr. Wismer is the man who is seen cleaning the glass on the nighthawker lantern.) His grandfather, Mark, was a bank boss, and his father, Paul, grew up watching all the goings-on. The family has many a story, which will appear in a future newsletter.

And at the end of the line is #58.9, very appropriately given by **Susan and Paul Sperry** in honor of their father, Pete, and his contributions to the Friends of the Delaware Canal. Pete has been the heart and soul of the Mile Marker project.

So, all that's left to do to is install 40 (!) granite stones, and then the Marker project will be declared complete. As soon as the weather is warmer, more installation crew volunteers will be needed. There are 40 holes to dig, concrete to mix, stones to haul. It's a big job, and your assistance will be welcomed. If you can help, please call 215-862-2021 or e-mail fodc@erols.com.

Thank you to everyone who supported this project! It is a statement of faith that the Delaware Canal will be back even better than it was before, and people will be walking, jogging, biking, and watching the ducks swim by – soon.

At the Board Table

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Beth Weaver, who was appointed to the Board in 2005 to fill an unexpired term was elected to a two-year position. **Will Rivinus** was elected to a two-year seat, and veteran members **George Schweickhardt**, **David Strawbridge**, and **Vern Wiegand** were re-elected.

In December, the Board, in accordance with the by-laws, elected its officers:

Jan Wolters – President
David Strawbridge – Vice President
Marc Zaharchuk – Vice President
Beth Weaver – Secretary
Pete Sperry – Treasurer

The Board will be working hard to meet flood challenges, complete ongoing projects, spark new initiatives, and sustain our organization. They welcome your assistance, questions, and advice.

Delaware Canal State Park Mile Markers

<u>Mile</u>	<u>Milestone Donor</u>	<u>Location (miles measured from Bristol to Easton)</u>
1	Bob Ketler	0.04 mi N of Washington St , Bristol
2	In memory of Frank & Howard Swope, Canalboat Captains	0.12 mi S of Green Lane
3	In honor of Ralph Ratcliffe & Naomi Tomlinson	0.09 mi S of Edgely Rd
4	Sperry Family	0.02 mi S of Levittown Shopping Center culvert outlet
5	Marc Zaharchuk, in memory of Jules Zaharchuk, U.S. Army	0.33 mi N of Route 13
6	Garry & Judy Hyatt	0.10 mi S of Wheatsheaf Rd
7	Curt Thomsen in memory of his wife, J. Alice Killingsworth Thomsen	0.35 mi N of Old Route 13 (Old Bristol Pike)
8	Ron & Virginia DiLeo	0.29 mi N of Tyburn Rd
9	Marc Zaharchuk, in memory of Jules Zaharchuk, U.S. Army	0.31 mi S of Route 1
10	Bob Ketler	0.04 mi S of E Franklin / 0.08 mi N of E. Palmer
11	Ann Webb in honor of Janie Scurti, dedicated friend and running partner	0.31 mi N of E Ferry Rd
12	George & Peace Baxter	0.26 mi S of Black Rock Rd
13	Zabel Davis	0.34 mi S of Lock 5
14	Thomas Simonet	0.02 mi N of Afton Ave
15	Architectural Stone Company	0.23 mi S of Woodside Rd. (0.12 mi S of I-95)
16	Susan & Paul Schneider in memory of Indiana M. Schneider	0.10 mi S of Mt Eyre Rd bridge
17	Bob Ketler in memory of James P. Hughes	At Hough's Creek Aqueduct / Aqueduct Rd
18	Karl Mousley in honor of Robert & Lois Mousley	0.15 mi N of Route 532
19	Marcia Szatmary & Stanley Gitler	0.12 mi S of David Library bridge (Malone's Upper Bridge)
20	Bucks County Road Runners	0.02 mi S of Route 32
21	Alan Cohen & Karen Kaplowitz	0.46 mi S of bridge N of Brownsburg Rd / Route 32
22	Alan Cohen & Karen Kaplowitz	0.20 mi S of camelback bridge
23	Bucks County Road Runners	0.05 mi S of Ferman's Creek.
24	Bucks County Road Runners	At Odette's bridge entrance
25	Anonymous	0.36 mi N of Bridge St
26	Ivor Moore	0.14 mi S of bridge near Phillips Mill
27	Anonymous	0.20 mi N of Lower Limeport bridge
28	Daniel Schwager	0.32 mi N of Rt 263, Centre Bridge
29	Architectural Stone Company	0.03 mi N of Virginia Forrest RA entrance bridge
30	Ron Levine in memory of Jean DeCicco-Levine	0.09 mi N of Busik's Bridge (Delaware Quarries)
31	Ron Levine in memory of Jean DeCicco-Levine	0.02 mi S of Lumberville Lock 12
32	Edward & Nesta Gallas	0.34 mi S of Mountainside Inn
33	Cynthia Dee Wilson in memory of 4 generations of the Geddes Family & Horace Mann	0.16 mi N of Pt Pleasant Pike
34	Neal Toward	0.05 mi N of Bridge 2
35	Marge & Tom Copenhaver	0.18 mi S of Bridge 3 (Lock 15/16)
36	Peter Batts & Karyn Person	0.12 mi N of Bridge 5 / 0.19 mi S of Lock 17
37	Barbara Faure - Golden Pheasant Inn	0.18 mi S of bridge at Tinicum Aqueduct
38	Robert & Alice Vernon in honor of Peter Sperry	0.24 mi S of Headquarters Rd
39	Ann Geddes & Matt Moore	0.40 mi N of Tinicum Park (picnic area parking)
40	Dedicated to the residents of Uhlerstown	0.05 mi N of Uhlerstown Rd (at waste gates at Lock 18))
41	Dave & Kathy Weidemoyer in memory of Kiska	0.18 mi N of Jugtown Hill Rd (near pond and quarry)
42	Charles Broadwater in honor of his years as a Delaware Canal State Park Ranger	0.17 mi N of Red Cliff Rd (0.24 mi N of Lodi Lock 19)
43	Bob & Kathy Stalgaitis	At Canal Lane bridge
44	Sylvianne Roberge in memory of her parents, Leslie and Sylvia Zsuffa	0.15 mi N of Route 32
45	Michael, Deborah & William Chapman	0.11 mi N of a bridge (name not known)
46	Architectural Stone Company	0.16 mi N of Narrowsville Waste Gate (Indian Rock Inn)
47	Betty Orlemann, in memory of her husband, Bob	0.14 mi S of Gallows Run Aqueduct
48	Leo & Donna Bennett	0.24 mi S of Trauger's Bridge (Upper Island Rd)
49	Fred & Mindy Poorman	0.21 mi S of Durham Lock 21
50	Donald Speth, Jr.	0.34 mi S of Canal Rd bridge, Riegelsville
51	Donald Speth, Jr.	0.33 mi S of Rocky Falls stop gate
52	Elizabeth Weaver	0.14 mi S of Fry's Run/ Kleinhaus aqueduct
53	Board of Directors of the Friends of the Delaware Canal in honor of Susan Taylor	0.10 mi S of bridge at Roosevelt Recreation Area
54	Hal DiGiacomo	0.29 mi N Canal Rd bridge, Raubsville
55	Ivor Moore	0.27 mi N of bridge near Brown's Terrace/Rt. 611
56	Bob & Rita Carlson	0.57 mi S of bridge and stopgate
57	Happy & Sam Shipley in honor of Ida Vansalous	0.43 mi N Wy-Hit-Tuk foot bridge & stop gate
58	Mark Wismer in memory of his father, grandfather, and great grandfather	At foot bridge & stop gate (near Municipal Plant)
58	Susan & Paul Sperry in honor of their father, Peter	At Lock 24, Easton

Reigelsville Canal Supporters Hit the Trail

By Beth Weaver and Tom Speicher

Despite torrential rains during the week prior to a scheduled October clean-up activity for a two-mile section of the Delaware Canal in the Reigelsville area, the sun came out and so did 35 energetic volunteers. Tom Speicher, town resident who organized the clean-up, was pleasantly surprised to find out that not only did volunteers come from Reigelsville, but also from New Jersey and Glendon. Local Borough Council members Tom Stinnett and Steve Lance and Borough Manager Tammy Macaluso showed their support and donned their work gloves for the activity. Several Cub Scouts from Pack 13 Wolves also came out to help clear the trail. John Croft, Robert McClure, Jr., and Robert Speicher had their weed whackers roaring. Others collected trash and some cut trees growing in the towpath. Downed trees blocking the path were cut up by local tree surgeon Dan Weeks.

A few hours later, a one-mile section north of the Canal bridge to Mueller's Country Store was cleared. Towpath walkers can now enjoy an unobstructed path as they once did prior to the flooding of 2004 and 2005. Although the trail is still very rough in spots, a couple who ventured out to walk their dogs later in the day commented on how nice the path looked again. They said they had been avoiding it previously because it was all overgrown.

Beth Weaver, a Reigelsville resident and Friends' Board member, is working with the Reigelsville Borough Council, the PA DCNR, and the Friends on a project to repair a 2-mile section of the Canal from Durham Lock to Mueller's Country Store. This section runs right through the quaint village center of Reigelsville. Beth has been advocating that a higher priority be put on fixing sections of the Canal that people use daily. Beth is an avid supporter of the Canal and never underestimates what can be accomplished once people put their minds to it. Tom and Beth thank all who came out and appreciate all the hard work that the volunteers did to make the area attractive.

The Friends have established a special fund to be used to for the Reigelsville section repairs. \$500 has been received from Reigelsville Borough Council, as well as \$200 from two private donors. If you would like to contribute to this effort, please send your donation to FODC, 145 South Main Street, New Hope, PA 18938



Thanks to All

- The Friends are starting 2006 on firmer financial ground thanks to the generosity of our members who responded to the Year-End Appeal.
- We grateful to the Tincum Civic Association for its \$600 contribution, which was accompanied by a note, "The flood damage to the Canal was heartbreaking. We are so thankful that your organization is working so hard to put things back to right."
- Our New Hope neighbors, the Home Association of the Edgar H. Denson American Legion Post 79, donated \$100 to the Friends, and \$500 was received from the Asplundh Foundation.
- Solebury Township contributed \$1000 this year to our flood-repair efforts, and the Board of Supervisors has placed \$12,500 in the 2006 budget so that the Friends can undertake Canal and towpath restoration work within Solebury Township. This unprecedented demonstration of support will allow us to jump start repairs in the Lumberville area.

— Mark Your Calendar — Delaware Canal Clean-Up Day Saturday, April 8

After finally acknowledging the wisdom of the volunteer who told us three years ago that the first Saturday in April is reputed to have the worst weather of any Saturday of the entire spring, we've switched Clean-Up Day to the second Saturday and hope to avoid the snow, rain, and/or sleet that we've experienced in the past.

Community coordinators and workers are needed. Call 215-862-2021 or e-mail fodc@erols.com to volunteer and watch for the Clean-Up Day list that will appear in the Spring issue of *Canal News*.

Flood Repairs *(continued from front page)*

In anticipation of federal funding, exploratory work has begun on the project to construct a tunnel through the CSX rail crossing that obstructs the Canal in Falls Township. This obstruction makes it necessary for towpath users to either climb up and down a steep embankment covered with loose gravel or detour onto a path directly adjacent to the Amtrak high speed line.

All in all, the Canal's circumstances are improving. May the momentum increase.

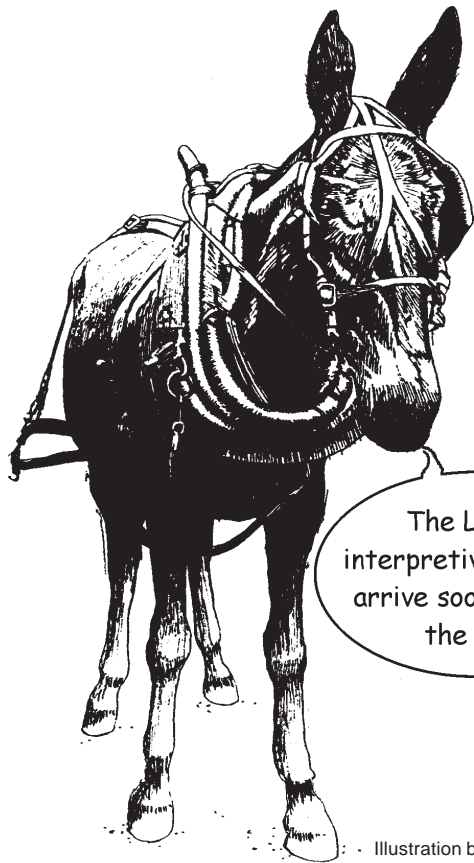


Illustration by Dennis Gerhart

Welcome, New Friends

Sara & Ray Altieri	Michael & Loretta O'Brien
Carol Beam	Amy & Axel Olsen
Carl J. Bowden	Karen & John Piznak
Axel & Carola Braun	Candace & Stephen Phillips
George J. Britton	Hope Plasha
Liliana Rosignoli & Roberto Cetrullo	Mary & Marcia Pontius
Chris & Carol Czumbil	Melissa Reilly
Mr. & Mrs. Dominick Dito	Andrea & Lawrence Rossi
Scott Elliott	Peter & Joyce Rosswaag
Richard Gacek	Mary Ryan
Ron & Connie Gering	Guy N. Saxton
Paul Greger	Stefanie Saxton
Tom & Vera Haskins	Ruth Anne & Glen Schultz
Fred L. Israel	Celeste Posta & Alan Scott
Charles A. Klein	J. Kent Smith
Stan & Estee Klein	Ingeborg Snipes
David A. Lee	Liza & Greg Taylor
Dawn Serra & Jamie Lennox	Terry Tracy
Priscilla G. Linden	Melitta VanderBrooke
David B. Long	Sarah & Dave Witter
Susan Perlman & Ken Nelson	

Our Business Members

These businesses support the Friends with annual membership contributions and in-kind services. We urge you to support them.

Founder

McGrath Homes, Langhorne
Scannapieco Development Corp., New Hope

Benefactor

Capital Planning Advisory Group, Yardley
Fine, Kaplan and Black, Philadelphia
Penn Color, Inc., Doylestown
Sand Castle Winery, Erwinna

Patron

Acadia National Mortgage, LLC
Cramer Bakery, Yardley
Ever May on the Delaware, Erwinna
First National Bank & Trust Company of Newtown
Gratz Gallery & Conservation Studio, New Hope
Havana Restaurant and Caterers, New Hope
Logan Inn, New Hope
Newtown Bicycle & Fitness Shop, Newtown
Penn Valley Construction, Inc., Morrisville
The Tattersall Inn, Point Pleasant
William B. Parry & Son, Ltd., Langhorne
William Penn Savings and Loan, Levittown

Member

The 1740 House, Lumberville
Baldi and Jenei, P.C., New Hope
Crossing Vineyards & Winery, Washington Crossing
DiAntonio's Catering, Newtown
Dilly's Corner, Centre Bridge
Ellenoff, Underwood & Norman, Doylestown
T. Foster & Co., Inc., Yardley
Golden Pheasant Inn, Erwinna
The Grundy Commons, Bristol
Hobensack & Keller, Inc., New Hope
The Interfinancial Corp., Houston, TX
Leisure Craft, Warrington
Robert C. Lewis Insurance, Inc., New Britain
Mail Boxes Etc., Buckingham
The Mansion Inn, New Hope
Odette's, New Hope
Lisa James Otto, Doylestown
John Paton, Inc. Doylestown
Shearer Penn Corp., Trenton, NJ – Increased Membership
Stephan's Bridge Street Furniture Gallery, New Hope
Tinsman Bros., Inc., Lumberville
Wildflowers, New Hope
C. A. Worthington Insurance, Yardley

Other Contributing Businesses

B-By-The-River-Antique Haven, Durham
Dogwood Haven Family Campground, Upper Black Eddy
Porches Bed & Breakfast, New Hope
Walk for All Seasons, Easton

Friends of the Delaware Canal, Inc.

145 S. Main St.
New Hope, PA 18938



*Repairing the towpath in the 1930's.
Quite a contrast to the ways in which today's repairs are done.*

Photo courtesy of the National Canal Museum, Easton