

FRIENDS OF THE CANAL NEWS

Trying Times

The days of May were glorious along the Delaware Canal. In Easton, the abundant water being fed from the Lehigh River filled the Canal all the way south to the Virginia Forrest Recreation Area, 1.3 miles north of Centre Bridge. (At this location, the water had to be released into the Delaware River so that the Redfield Bridge replacement construction site was not inundated.)

A new, more efficient pump, purchased by the Friends and New Hope for Our Canal, supplied River water into the Canal filling the Centre Bridge to Lock 11 section in New Hope nicely.

After extensive culvert cleanouts in the southern end, the Delaware River water flowing into the Canal through the New Hope inlet filled the Canal so high that its water was overflowing the coffer dam at the Lagoon in Bristol Borough.

The key word is "filled." The many sections that typically have had water were brimful. New to the watering scene were Smithtown, Point Pleasant, Devil's Half Acre, and Lumberville – communities that haven't seen consistently high water since 2004. The Canal levels from Morrisville to Bristol Borough were also uncommonly high.

Only 1-1/2 miles of dry-ish Canal prism prevented the achievement of our goal of a "fully watered Canal." So tantalizingly close.



A water-filled Canal in Lumberville on May 8, 2016.

Then came the discovery of a leak in the Kleinhans Aqueduct, which spans Fry's Run, seven miles south of Easton. The DNCR engineers confirmed that a previously identified issue with several of the structure's steel beams had become an immediate problem.

Much to DCNR's credit, it quickly moved forward with the installation of two 60" diameter pipes and associated coffer dams that allow Canal water to continue to flow through the aqueduct structure without exacerbating the structural problem.



These pipes are allowing water to flow through the damaged Kleinhans Aqueduct.

The amount of water coming through the pipes is impressive, but the flow volume through the aqueduct has been reduced. The use of the two pipes, rather than the full rectangular aqueduct structure, has limited the Canal flow to an amount that reached only as far as the north end of Point Pleasant. A donor paid the electricity bill for a week-long experiment to determine whether a boost from the 6,000 gallon per minute Durham pump would push water farther south. The boost seems to have produced a low level of water extending to the northern end of Lumberville, but a final determination of the effect is still in progress. The cost of operating the Durham pump is \$180+ per day, so careful evaluation of cost and benefits is necessary.

The Kleinhans Aqueduct pipes are a temporary fix. Replacement or substantial repair of the aqueduct, which fortunately is the shortest one on the Canal, is the permanent solution. Replacement or repair is the only way to get a significant flow of "free" Lehigh River water flowing through Point Pleasant, Lumberville, Centre Bridge and New Hope again. DCNR has included the project in its 2016-2017 budget.

Another remedy may be the diversion of water from the Point Pleasant Pumping Station into the Canal at the southern end of the *(continued on page 5)*



Friends of the Delaware Canal

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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

It is truly an honor for me to be named the new Park Manager at the Delaware Canal State Park Complex. I am looking forward to working with the staff, the local communities, and multiple partners seeking to improve the park. This is an excellent opportunity, and I am looking forward to the new challenge in my career.

I began my career with the Bureau of State Parks in 1994 working as a semi-skilled laborer at Neshaminy State Park. I have held positions as a semi-skilled laborer, intern, and DCNR Ranger at several state parks and as a Park Manager trainee at the Park Region 4 Office. In 2005, I was named the Assistant Park Manager at the Hickory Run State Park Complex, and in 2007, I was named as the Park Manager of Neshaminy State Park.

I hold a bachelor's degree in Recreation from Lock Haven University and will be moving to the Pipersville area with my wife and three children.

We currently have two projects in progress – the culvert replacement on Airport Road in Bristol Township and the Redfield Bridge replacement in Solebury Township. Also, in 2016, a large wall repair will be taking place at Mile Post 21 in Upper Makefield Township. We are anticipating that the replacement of the Phillips' Mill Bridge and Lower Limeport Bridge, both in Solebury Township, will take place later this year or early in 2017. Also in 2017, we are planning for several projects. They include the tunnel through the railroad embankment just south of Morrisville and a large capital project to replace 12 bridges and culverts along the Canal.

In New Hope, the Bureau has been developing conceptual plans for the relocation of Odette's and the development of an enhanced visitor services area located by the old mule barge concession.

Finally, work is progressing by PADOT to improve the towpath crossing at Green Lane and Route 13 in Bristol Township. The pedestrian crossing should be completed by the end of the year.

Enjoy the Canal!

Josh Swartley, Park Manager

Better and Better

More than 350 people turned out this spring for the Friends' annual Canal Clean-Up Day. Thirty-two coordinators organized coverage of all 58.9 miles of the towpath and waterway. Most of the trash picking and brush clearing took place on showery Saturday, April 2, but some Canal Tenders and other groups chose other days with Falls Township Boy Scout Troop 46 finishing off the effort on May 7.

THANKYOUALL!

We were especially pleased to have several new coordinators step up to carry on their predecessors' traditions of successful group clean-ups – Pam Can in New Hope Borough, Mayor Dave Rivella in Morrisville, and Ed Armstrong of GOAL (Greenbelt Overhaul Alliance of Levittown.)

The very good news is that the Canal Clean-Up Day volunteers say that they find the Canal cleaner every year. In a May 11th Letter to the Editor to the Bucks County Courier Times, Friends' member Joe Linus of Washington Crossing wrote "I annually volunteer to clear trash from the Delaware

Canal towpath. I am always amazed at how little trash we find. This year, I and four others could not fill even half a trash bag."

Another validation of "the cleaner the Canal is, the cleaner it stays."



The volunteers who covered the Green Lane to the Lagoon section of Bristol Borough pose with the fruits of their labor.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, July 24 10 a.m. to noon OR 1 to 3 p.m. Paddling on the Canal

Meet at the Black Rock Road Picnic Area at the intersection of the Canal and Black Rock Road in Yardlev.

Our paddling programs have been especially popular, so this season we've scheduled three. You will have six opportunities to see the Delaware Canal from the water, and you don't even have to own a boat to do so. State Park Educator Ian Kindle will be leading two sessions of paddling on July 24 and has equipped kayaks ready to be loaned. These sessions are perfect opportunities to find out whether kayaking is for you.



Paddle a kayak to the Canal widewaters and see lots of turtles.

The leisurely, 1-1/2 hour paddling adventures — one in the morning and one in the afternoon—will head south from Black Rock Road through the widest of the Canal's widewaters. Trees tower overhead while herons catch fish, turtles bask, and dragon flies flit—all where, in the 1800 and 1900's, muledrawn canal boats pulled over to the side to get out of the way of "traffic."

You may bring your own canoe or kayak and personal flotation device or you may borrow one of the fully equipped kayaks that the Park staff will have on hand. There will be 17 seats available in 11 single kayaks and 3 tandems.

Registration is required for this activity, and early registration is highly recommended. You may sign up by calling 215-862-2021 or e-mailing friends@fodc.org. If you are planning to use Park equipment, a \$10 donation per person is requested.

See you on the water at the widewaters!

Sunday, August 7 10 a.m. to noon OR 1 to 3 p.m. Paddling on the Canal II

Meet at the Theodore Roosevelt Recreation Area aka Groundhog Lock, 229 South Delaware Drive (Route 611) in Raubsville.

Ready for a bit of a workout? We'll be heading northward on this paddling adventure toward the rush of Lehigh River water that feeds the Delaware Canal in Easton. The source of the incoming water may be six miles away, but there is still a noticeable current near Groundhog Lock.

You may have to put just a little more oomph into your paddling, but launching kayaks and canoes is easy. There is a wooden boat launch at the Lock; no muddy banks to scramble up and down. The scenery is lovely in this section of the Canal, and there are great stories to be told from the lost town of Uhlersville to the remains of a hydroelectric plant that powered the trolley line.

State Park Educator Ian Kindle will be leading two sessions of paddling and will have fully equipped kayaks available to borrow. The details shown in the July 24th notice apply to this event as well. It's always good to get your registration in early, particularly if you're planning to paddle with family or friends.

Paddling on the Canal in the summer time is a cool treat.



State Park Educator Ian Kindle leads the way on a paddling expedition.

Saturday, August 27 10 a.m. To Easton We Go

Meet in the parking lot of Wy-Hit-Tuk Park, South Delaware Drive (PA Route 611), Easton, PA 18042. (The closest street number that we can provide is 615 South Delaware Drive. The entrance to the park will be within eye sight of this address.)

Join us for a jaunt along the towpath between the "Monet Bridge" in Wy-Hit-Tuk Park and the Forks of the Delaware in Easton. On our 5.5 mile, round trip walk, we'll take in lovely river vistas and come upon five different means of transportation from an overhead interstate highway to a steam railroad.



The scenic "Monet" bridge connects Northampton County's Wy-Hit-Tuk Park with the Delaware Canal towpath.

When we reach Easton, we'll explore the Forks of the Delaware Recreation Area. Here the Lehigh River flows into the Delaware River, and a dam supplies water to the Delaware Canal. We will examine the existing locks and learn about the now-gone weigh lock. You'll be amazed by what spawning fish are willing to tackle when you see the many-chambered fish ladder. Across the River in New Jersey, you'll spy the stone arch entrance to the Morris Canal and find out how it determined the design of the boats used on the Delaware and Lehigh Canals.

On our walk back to Wy-Hit-Tuk, we'll take in what we missed on the way north. We will arrive at Wy-Hit-Tuk Park in time for you to drive the short distance into the City of Easton for lunch on your own. To complete your day, consider taking a trip out to the National Canal Museum by the Lehigh Canal. In addition to all the canal exhibits, you will be able to visit a new exhibit about Easton's iconic industry, Dixie Cup.

No reservations are required for this walk. It will be held weather permitting. If in doubt, check the event page at www.fodc.org for any notifications.

Calendar of Events

Thursday, September 15 7:30 p.m.

The Lehigh Navigation – The Connection to Coal and Industry

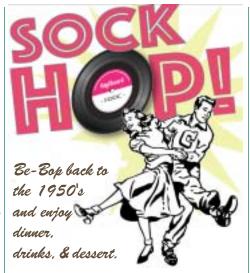
The Point Pleasant Community Baptist Church, 35 River Road, Point Pleasant, PA 18950

Coal was by far the predominant cargo hauled in the mule-drawn boats on the Delaware Canal, but how did the coal get from the mines in northeastern Pennsylvania to the head of Canal in Easton? Part of the answer is the Lehigh Navigation, which runs from Easton to Mauch Chunk, now known as Jim Thorpe.

Why is this body of water, which we now call the Lehigh Canal, more appropriately called a Navigation? How did it spur extensive development along its route, including the one of America's first industrial parks?

Martha Capwell-Fox, the Museum and Archives Coordinator for the National Canal Museum/Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor in Easton, will present an illustrated program that will answer these questions and more. She will explain the many differences between the Delaware and Lehigh Canals, even though they were both part of the Pennsylvania Canal system, and tell how a local industrial revolution was born. The decline and the revitalization of the Lehigh Canal will also be related.

Find out about the Delaware Canal's connection to the north. It's a fascinating story.



Saturday, September 17 6:30 — **10:30** p.m.

at the iconic night club . . .

JANUARY'S

Hope Ridge Farm

2050 Aquetong Road, New Hope, PA

Sponsored by:
Johanna Foods Inc.
Strategic Partners Fund Solutions
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Melson's Service Center

FODC Members - \$90 per person Non-members - \$100 per person Reserve your tickets online:

www.fodc.org or contact the Friends at 215-862-2021 or friends@fodc.org.

Sunday, September 25 10 a.m. to noon OR 1 to 3 p.m. Paddling on the Canal III Meet near the General Sullivan Picnic Pa-

Meet near the General Sullivan Picnic Pavilion in the northern section of Washington Crossing Historic Park. Use the park entrance on River Road opposite Aquetong Road in New Hope, and then travel over the Canal to the parking area between the Canal and the River.

The water should still be warm, but the air will be crisp and the first touches of autumnal red and yellow appearing for our last paddling event this year. The launch site will be the Pidcock Creek overflow. Paddlers will be venturing south to the Bowman's Hill stop gate and then north through the scenic widewaters toward New Hope. There will be plenty of wildlife to see and history, both Revolutionary and Canal, to experience.

State Park Educator Ian Kindle will be leading two sessions of paddling and will have fully equipped kayaks available to borrow. You also may use your own kayak or canoe. See the July 24^{th} notice on page 3 for details. Register early for this early Fall paddle.

The High Work

The Locktender's House in New Hope is a "bank building" set into the canal bank at Lock 11. It rises three stories high on its South Main Street side, and two stories up on its towpath side. This spring three slates fell from the house roof on the towpath side, and the copper gutter on the Main Street side was miserably clogged.

To the rescue came Jeffrey DeFrehn, Sr. and Jeffrey DeFrehn, Jr. of **DeFrehn Roofing** of Langhorne. They offered to fix the slate roof and clean the gutter at no charge because "we love historic buildings and want to help those who work to preserve them." We are so thankful to the DeFrehns for this very necessary help. Jeffrey DeFrehn has been in the roofing business for over 40 years, and he and his team handle roofing projects from historic buildings to new construction expertly and efficiently.



Begun in 1832, the Abbott Street industrial area was developed by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company to take advantage of the Lehigh Canal's abundant water and its transport abilities. This photo was taken circa 1885; by 1900 almost all of the industries had ceased operation.

Photo credit: Delaware and Lehigh Canals – Hugh Moore Historical Park and Museums Center for Canal History and Technology.

Trying Times (continued from page 1)

village. DCNR and DC21 have been working on an agreement with the Forest Park Water Authority to allow this diversion, which was first tried more than 15 years ago.

Now on to the Canal from New Hope to Bristol. The prolonged lack of rain has caused the Delaware River to drop below the level of the canal inlet located behind the former Odette's in New Hope. This inlet supplies Delaware River water into the Canal and is the only significant water source for the southern 25 miles of the Canal from New Hope to Bristol. When the River drops below the inlet level, the Canal drops.



The level of the Canal in Yardley Borough on June 27, 2016.

In earlier issues of Canal News, you have read about the Friends' investigation into the installation of an Archimedes Screw pump near the inlet location. This investigation continues, but, meanwhile, the feasibility of installing a 6,000 gallon per minute centrifugal pump at the inlet location is also being pursued as a quicker fix to the need for water augmentation.

Another consequence of the dry weather is that evaporation and tree and vegetation absorption are outrunning the Centre Bridge pump's ability to keep its section reasonably full.

The best and easiest cure for the water woes from New Hope to Bristol is moderate rainfall. Rain dances by all are most welcome.

Bi-State Construction is making good progress with the replacement of the Redfield Bridge just north of Centre Bridge. The project extended beyond its anticipated duration because the east abutment had to be replaced rather than repaired. The project's completion will be happy news to the bikers and walkers who use this popular Centre Bridge/Lumberville/ Bulls Island/ Stockton/Centre Bridge canal loop trail.

Work on all the component parts of the Redfield Bridge project is underway.



Additional project updates are included in the Park Manager's Report on page 2. For the latest information, check the Breaking News page on www.fodc.org.

The Delaware Canal does present its challenges, but we have come so far and the magnitude of the challenges continues to decrease. We always keep on trying during trying times because the glorious days of May have proven that the Canal is more than worth our efforts.

Ducks, Ducks, and More Ducks

This year's Delaware Canal Festival has evolved into a series of summer-long events.

On June 17 the Delaware Canal Festival kicked off in Historic Bristol Borough. Lagoon Park and the green at Grundy Mill were filled with people who bought their dinner at a variety of food trucks and then stayed for the fun. The local Irish folk band, The River Drivers, set the rhythm for a parade of decorated boats and paddleboard exercisers who plied the calm waters of the Lagoon. Kids and adults decorated ducks for the big contest, played games, visited the tables of community groups, and sat relaxing on a perfect summer evening.



So many ducks to admire at the Delaware Canal Festival!

Photo credit: The Advance of Bucks County

The Delaware Canal Festival will arrive in downtown New Hope on Saturday, July 30. From noon to 4 p.m. come see plein air artists at work along the towpath, Civil War re-enactors at the Parry Mansion, and performers from the Bucks County Folk Song Society at Ferry Street Landing. There will be duck decorating at the Locktender's House, a scavenger hunt, a guided walking tour of the Canal and an Instagram con-

And there will be more duck decorating at the Delaware Canal Festival in Morrisville on Saturday, September 10. The State Park educators will be offering the opportunities to paddle kayaks in the Canal, and there will be plenty of good music, food, and fun, too.

Don't miss out on the rest of the ducky Canal Festival season!

The Delaware Canal

Just What the Doctor Ordered



Dr. Jennifer Kitchen Dr. Charles Whitney

DATE



PRESCRIPTION:

Go for a walk!

Dosage: __30 minutes

Refills: Daily

Directions

Join our doctors and other community members looking to improve their health at the next FREE Walk with a Doc event!

When 2 Wednesday of each month (weather permitting) Times 12:00pm - 1:00pm Locations Delaware Canal Towpath (Entrance at parking lot on Rt. 532 in Washington Crossing)

Call our office or view our website for more information: www.RevolutionaryHealthServices.com Kate: 215.321.1371

Doctor Signature:

Dispense as written

No substitutions

At Revolutionary Health Senton, our mission is to create health for 20,000 lives through empowering our partients to live well!

Welcome, New Friends

Paul and Roberta Butler Vincent Colletti Michael and Alberta Duncan Clara Salati John Ehling

David and Mindy Emerson

Maria Fell

Sue Ann Rainey Gillen Susan Grady

Jonathan Hendler Jane Johnson

Frederick Klein Lizzy Kuhlken

Lynn Mastrelli Steve Saddlemire

Gale Griffiths and Laurie Sauter

Joanie Schultz **Babs Simon** J. Brian Stalter Thomas Stinnett

Paul and Donna King Trenchard

Lou White Maureen Williams Jeffrey Witte

Save the Date!

Faces & Places

Down the Canal to Yardley and Morrisville Sunday, October 16

You are cordially invited to join the Friends of the Delaware Canal for Faces and Places, A Celebration of the Arts and History Along the Delaware Canal. This seventh annual signature event, which benefits our preservation and improvement efforts, promises to be exceptional.

This year we will be going down the Canal to Yardley and Morrisville. Guests will gather at the riverside Yardley Inn and then set off on their journeys aboard old-fashioned trolleys.

- In Morrisville, the door to Summerseat will be open. This colonial mansion was home to two signers of the Declaration of Independence, and George Washington really did sleep
- In Yardley, artistic endeavors past and present will be on view during a visit to the studio of acclaimed sculptor Elizabeth Miller McCue, who resides in the Victorian home of the noted 19th century father and son artists Jonathan and William Trego.
- Our exploration of North Main Street will continue with a tour of a magnificently restored Yardley family mansion and its canal-side grounds
- At the Continental Tavern, owner Frank Lyons will share stories about the establishment's Underground Railroad connection and the Prohibition-era shenanigans that went on
- Drinks and dinner back at the Yardley Inn will end the day in style.

For details and to make reservations on-line, visit www.fodc.org and click on the Faces and Places event link on the homepage, or you may call 215-862-2021 or e-mail friends@fodc.org.

Individual tickets are \$150 each; patron tickets are \$250. Sponsorship opportunities are available as well.



Looking for some adventure, these canallers were headed to Yardley and Morrisville as we will be for this year's Faces and Places.

Our Business and **Institutional Members**

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

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Tinicum Civic Association

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Appalachian Mountain Club, Delaware Valley Chapter

Borough of Morrisville

Bucks County Cottage on the Delaware, Yardley

Bucks County Riverboat & Trolley Companies, Upper Black Eddy

Dilly's Corner, Centre Bridge

Edgar H. Denson, Post #79 American Legion, New Hope

Donnelly Marketing Services Associates, LLC

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First National Bank & Trust Company of Newtown

First Savings Insurance, New Britain

T. Foster & Co., Inc., Yardley

Fox Chase Bank, Lahaska

Gratz Gallery & Conservation Studio, New Hope

The Grundy Commons, Bristol

Hobensack & Keller, Inc., New Hope

Holly Hedge Estate, New Hope

Homestead General Store & Coffee Roasters, Upper Black Eddy

La Chele Medical Aesthetics, New Hope

Leisure Craft, Warrington

Liberty Bell Wanderers, Philadelphia

Lions Cross Country Booster Club, New Hope

Logan Inn, New Hope

McCaffrey's Markets, Yardley

Mueller's General Store & Kitchen, Easton

NAM Planning & Design, LLC, Lumberville

OMNIA Group Architects, Hatboro

Pete's Bike & Fitness Shoppe, Flemington, NJ

Porches Bed & Breakfast, New Hope

River Road Business Alliance, Erwinna

Sand Castle Winery, Erwinna

Univest National Bank & Trust Co

The UPS Store, New Hope

Wild Birds Unlimited, Buckingham

Yardley Borough

Canal Walk 2016 October 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29

Break in your hiking shoes because the Friends are embarking on their 29th annual 58.9-mile-long Canal Walk this fall. Conducted over five successive Saturdays, the Walk is starting at the Forks of the Delaware in Easton and ending at Waterfront Park in Historic Bristol Borough.

Join in one or all of this year's walks. The full Canal Walk 2016 itinerary will appear in the fall issue of Canal News and on-line at www.fodc.org. We hope that this is your year to take part in the challenge, the camaraderie, and the fun.



A blast from the conch shell horn starts each day of the Canal

Memories of Canal Walks Past

"I'm thankful that I walked the entire length of the Canal back in the '90's. I have the stock certificate framed and hung on my bedroom wall to remind me of the thrill I had taking the walks, and I still recall them when we ride along River Road where the towpath is visible. I feel so proud and happy that I took the walks. "

Friends of the Delaware Canal member ever since her first Canal Walk



and see a new photo of the Canal every day

Friends of the Delaware Canal, Inc.

145 South Main Street New Hope, PA 18938



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New Canal Tenders Step Up to the Task

Annette Heintz and "The Housewives of Rolling Hills" have adopted the Uhlerstown to Lock 17 section in Tinicum Township.

Sheree Cote and Tom Lurz are taking care of the Mountainside Inn to Lock 12 section in Plumstead and Solebury Townships.

Monica Hemmers and Steve Heimann are back at work on the Lock 12 to Virginia Forrest Recreation Area section in Solebury Township.

Ricki Fisher is covering the Rabbit Run Bridge to Bridge Street section in New Hope.

The work of our Canal Tenders truly makes a difference, and we're very grateful to have these new volunteers. We also thank the people who have taken care of these areas in the past – Joe Cloran, Sally Getchell, Nan Kirstein, and Bill Rorer.

You can be a Canal Tender, too!

Here are the sections of the Canal that need adoption:

- Bridge Street to Lock 9 (New Hope) .5 mile
- Railroad Obstruction to Tyburn Road (Morrisville to Falls Township)—1.1 miles
- Tyburn Road to Wheatsheaf Road (Falls Township) .6 mile
- Levittown Shopping Center to Green Lane (Bristol Township)
 1.9 miles

- Green Lane to the Bristol Lagoon (Bristol Borough) 1 mile
- Beaver Street to Riverfront Park (Bristol Borough) .8 mile.

Only 5.9 miles of the Canal's 58.9 mile length remain orphans – just 10%. Please help to bring our orphan rate down to 0%.



Plein air artists will work along the towpath during the Canal Festival in New Hope on July 30. (See article on page 5.)