



FRIENDS OF THE DELAWARE CANAL CANAL NEWS

Making Progress on All Fronts

Park Manager's Report by Rick Dalton

The PennDOT project to remove the large stone from the Canal south of the Theodore Roosevelt Recreation Area in Raubsville is complete as far as work within the Canal prism. After a storm, PennDOT placed tons of stone on the Route 611/Canal slope as a temporary measure to shore up the road after it had eroded. The stone, which would have blocked the flow of water and compromised the towpath bank, was removed. Then a concrete wall was constructed along the unstable stretch of berm bank. We have been holding the water back at Raubsville due to this project since last fall.



PennDOT's new wall along the Canal in Raubsville.

The Park is replacing the bypass pipe at Lock 20 in the Narrows section of the Canal south of Kintnersville. As I write, this project is underway and is expected to be finished by the end of January. Once the pipe is installed, we will be able to send the Lehigh River water, which is currently being held at Raubsville, downstream.



A gaping hole awaits new pipe at the Lock 20 bypass.

The Park staff took advantage of the dry Canal to make repairs that became evident while we had water in the Canal last summer. These projects included repairs to waste gates, placing clay where leaks were noted, pointing stone work, and other items.

Another important project is the replacement of the culvert that carries the Cutalossa Creek under the Canal near Busick's quarry.

Bids will be received for the work on January 15. This is a large project in scope and will take several months to complete. Our plan is to place a coffer dam across the Canal at the southern end of Lumberville so that we can have water to Lumberville while the project is ongoing. The towpath is CLOSED at this location.

The remaining four towpath obstructions from Morrisville south to Bristol are in varying stages of being overcome. The project to construct a passageway through the railroad embankment that obstructs the towpath just south of Morrisville is in the final stages of development. This should go out to bid in 2015. Also, as part of the larger PennDOT Route 13 project, a pedestrian crossing will be installed across Green Lane and another across Route 13 to provide a safe access to the towpath.

As part of a separate PennDOT bridge replacement project at Tyburn Road, a detour around the Tyburn Road obstruction is to be included. We also have a design to provide ramps and a pedestrian crossing at Bridge Street in Morrisville. When these projects are completed the section of the Canal from Morrisville to Bristol will be much safer and easier to travel along. I would like to thank the Pennsylvania Environmental Council and the East Coast Greenway for their assistance in resolving these obstacles.

We are currently working on the design to rebuild a wall that has collapsed one mile upstream of the Stoney Run Aqueduct in Washington Crossing.

DCNR secured \$12 million through the Department of General Services to address infrastructure needs along the Canal, specifically bridges and culverts. This is quite a windfall and will enable us

There will be no more mad dashes when the obstructions on the southern end of the Canal are eliminated.



to reduce the number of projects on our needs list. We have submitted a list of projects to DGS for approval. There are three bridges currently in design which include Phillips' Mill, Lower Limeport and Redfield, all in the New Hope area.

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At the Board Table



Friends of the Delaware Canal

145 South Main Street
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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.

During the Annual Meeting on November 11, several actions concerning the Friends' Board of Directors occurred. Retiring Board member Greg Taylor was thanked for his valued service, and the membership re-elected Judith Franlin, Joan Fullerton, Stephanie Garomon, and Lynn Vogel for additional two-year terms. Elected to their first terms were Pam Can and David Schaeffer. Here's a bit about our two newest members.

Pam Can –

Growing up a native of Pennsylvania, Pam has fond childhood memories of visiting New Hope on weekends with family and friends to ride the mule barges on the Canal. While she and her husband Stephen have moved their family many places in the Northeast, in 2011, the Cans settled in the borough of New Hope along the Canal, bringing it full circle for Pam. The whole family enjoys hiking and biking along the towpath.

Pam currently serves on the New Hope Park and Recreation Board as Garden Club chair and is also a member of the New Hope Revitalization Committee. Since moving to New Hope, she has participated in Canal Clean-Up Days, the Canal Action Team (CAT), and various Friends of the Delaware Canal functions. She is eager to do what she can to help keep the canal viable and its towpath a destination for families to enjoy together.

David Schaeffer -

David has lived along the Canal in Lower Makefield Township for over thirty years. By erecting no fences on property lines, he and his hillside neighbors share an expansive view of what they feel is one of the finest stretches of the lower Canal. The continuous water, wildlife (especially the foxes, herons, and spring peepers), and undeveloped flood plain on the River side make it impossible not to love the Canal.

With degrees from Brown and Temple, for 35 years David was a software engineer. When relentless squeezing and offshoring caught up with him in May of 2013, David realized that not only would it be extremely challenging to find a satisfactory position at age 61, but his circumstances made that unnecessary. Uncompromising saving and having a spouse with a successful consulting business conspired to make early retirement possible.

David welcomes the opportunity to do more for the Canal than admire it and send regular donations to the Friends. His ability to analyze processes and procedures and to make suggestions for change will come in very handy.

Welcome, Pam and David!

At its January meeting, the Friends' Board of Directors elected its officers for 2015. Serving will be:

Brett Webber – President
Jeff Connell – Vice-President
Judith Franlin – Secretary
Peter Sperry – Treasurer

As always, the Board welcomes your participation and input.

Welcome, New Friends

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Calendar of Events

Sunday, February 15, 2 p.m. The Heart of Yardley

A short walk along the Canal and tour of historic downtown Yardley

Meet at the Mary Yardley Footbridge that crosses the Canal near the intersection of Fuld and Morgan Avenues, Yardley. For map searches, enter "101 Morgan Avenue, Yardley, 19067."

The town of Yardley had two growth spurts in the 19th century. The first came when the Delaware Canal opened in 1831 and the second when the railroad line was laid in 1876. Find out how these transportation innovations transformed Yardley by coming on a 2-mile, roundtrip towpath and town walk.

The Friends and the Yardley Historical Association are partnering for this event. Susan Taylor, Executive Director of the Friends, will lead the first half of the walk along the towpath from the Mary Yardley Footbridge (how else could one get across the Canal to the trolley on Main Street?) to Lock 5 and the railroad bridge. After a stroll along South Canal Street, where canal boat yard workers lived, Charlie Thomforde from the Yardley Historical Association will take over the tour. Stately Victorian homes, built during the era of railroad prosperity, will line the way into the center of town, where Yardley's colonial and canal history is still much in evidence. Hot chocolate and cookies will be waiting inside the Old Library by Lake Afton to fortify walkers for the quick trip back to the start.

The *Heart of Yardley* Walk will provide insights to why the small towns along the Canal are so well loved, and it's a good way to banish those winter blahs. Join us for an afternoon adventure.

The Walk will be held unless the weather makes conditions hazardous. If in doubt, check for a go/no go message on the www.fodc.org homepage or call 215-862-2021 for a recorded message.



A hinge boat being unloaded at Leedom's Coal Yard in the heart of Yardley.



Visit www.fodc.org for
more news

Tuesday, March 10, 7:30 p.m. American Heritage Music and more

A performance by the Long Hill String Band

Stone Hall in the Feinstone Conference Center
The David Library of the American Revolution
1201 River Road, Washington Crossing, PA 18977

American music in the 1800's was melodic, energetic, and bound to start toes a'tapping. Settlers carried tunes from their homelands and created new music that embodied their hardships, joys, and stories from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War and beyond.

The Long Hill String, a group of six local musicians, will perform this Old Time music. With fiddle, banjo, mountain dulcimer, mandolin, bass, and guitar, and voice they will evoke the times when America was growing by leaps and bounds. There may even be some flatfooting and limberjack dancing.

On the program will be canal tunes (yes, there is more to canal music than just the ubiquitous Erie Canal song), reels, jigs, waltzes, square dance tunes, and familiars such as Oh Susannah, Buffalo Gals, and Swing Low Sweet Chariot. Singing, humming, toe tapping and clapping by the audience are part of the fun. Karl Varnai and his fellow band members will also share some of the history of the times and the tunes that they will be playing.

The American Heritage Music program is presented by the Friends of the Delaware Canal in partnership with the David Library of the American Revolution. It is free, and the public is invited to attend.

Reservations are encouraged. Please call 215-493-6776, ext. 100 or send an e-mail to rsvp@dlar.org.



The Long Hill String Band

Close, but Not Quite

Last fall several more sections of the Canal were adopted by Canal Tenders. The goal of having complete coverage for the entire 58.9 miles is closer to fulfillment.

Janice Armstrong and Stephen Schlosser – Berm Lane to Lock 19 in Upper Black Eddy

Jose Acevedo – Canal Lagoon Park to Beaver Street in Bristol

Thank you to our new volunteers and all the other Canal Tenders who are at work all year long! There are still some sections that need to be adopted. Please let us know if you're interested.

Calendar of Events

Saturday, March 28, 11 a.m. Lunch and Walk

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

We've been invited to see some new sights, so we're off to historic Bristol Borough for this year's Lunch and Walk. Our 2-mile, roundtrip trek will begin at the beautifully restored Lagoon Park, where we'll walk out to the Gazebo to see the recently installed Mercer tiles, which depict highlights of the town's past. The story of the rebirth of the Gazebo is fascinating, and we hope to have Joe Sagolla, the man who reconstructed the landmark using pieces of the 1915 structure that he pulled from the bottom of the Canal as models.

From the Lagoon we will follow a trail that was once the Canal and was lined with Bristol's industries. First we will encounter the Grundy Mill and Clock Tower. Then we will come to Canal Works, a complex of handsome stone and brick buildings built in the late 1800's to be used as textile and wallpaper mills. The complex has been beautifully restored and rehabilitated by Bernard Mazzocchi. Inside the Mazzocchi family has created several extensive photographic displays illustrating a timeline of the history of Bristol and of the Delaware Canal. We have been invited inside to view the building and the displays after lunch. We will continue on the trail past the sites of Locks 3, 2, 1 and the boat basin, where canal boats waited their turns to be towed downriver to Philadelphia.

Our arrival at the Delaware River means that it's time for lunch at the King George Inn. The establishment's long and rich history (its name was changed to the Fountain House during the American Revolution, a time when being associated with the King wasn't too popular), wonderful River views, and hospitality have made it a Bucks County icon.

Menu

Your choice of:

Cobb Salad – “Mixed greens tossed with your choice of dressing and topped with hard boiled egg, avocado, tomato, chicken, red onions, bacon, and bleu cheese.”

Tavern Burger – “6 oz. beef burger with lettuce, tomato, onion, pickle, cheese on a pretzel bun” with French fries or coleslaw.

Shrimp Po Boy – “Battered shrimp on a long roll topped with cole slaw and tomato” with French fries.

Vegetable Panini – “Sun dried tomato pesto, fresh mozzarella, roasted zucchini, eggplant, red peppers, and red onion on ciabatta bread” with French fries or coleslaw.

Coffee, Tea, Iced Tea, or Soda

A Surprise Dessert

After lunch, we will head back to Canal Works to see the photo displays. Our route will be along Radcliffe Street, which parallels the Delaware River and is lined with many of Bristol's most beautiful and historic homes and buildings. You may view the displays at your own pace and then walk the short distance back to the train station parking lot.

Donation - \$25 per person. Reservations are required. Please be prepared with your lunch choice when you reserve. Call 215-862-2021 or e-mail friends@fodc.org no later than March 18. If it is snowing or raining, we won't be walking, but we will meet at the King George Inn at noon for lunch and lively conversation.



Touring the interior of the restored Canal Works and its historic Bristol and Delaware Canal photo displays is a special addition to this year's Lunch and Walk.

SAVE THE DATE

Canal Clean-Up Day Saturday, April 11

Nearly the entire length of the Canal will be ready and waiting for the Friends' annual spring cleaning on April 11. If you have questions or would like to volunteer either as a worker or as a community coordinator, please call 215-862-2021 or e-mail friends@fodc.org. And if you know of a new group that may be able to participate, please let us know.

The Clean-Up Day Work Areas will be listed in the spring issue of *Canal News* and posted at www.fodc.org. Keep an eye open.

Making Progress - *continued from front page*

A feasibility study is being conducted of the proposal to construct a Park Office/Visitors' Center in New Hope where the concession building is now located next to the Locktender's House. The concept is to move our administrative staff into the new center along with an interpretive area and a space for the concession operator.

We repaired the pump and electrical infrastructure at the Durham location and operated it for a period of about two months to evaluate what the capacity of the pump would be. I would like to thank the Friends along with DC21 for funding the payment of the electric for this test.

As you read through this, you can see that there are many good things on the horizon for the Canal. As always I would like to take the opportunity to thank your organization for the support that is a valuable resource to me and the Park. Recent examples of accomplishments by the Friends are the repairs to the Hazzard's Camelback Bridge and the Mechanic Street Bridge, and the timber sill replacements at Locks 18 and 15/16. These were definitely needed and greatly enhance the Canal's stability.

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

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The UPS Store, New Hope
Yardley Borough

Hot Music/Cool Location

A Three Concert Series with Dinners at the Home of Linda Kenyon

Saturday, February 21

Avi Wisnia

Vocalist and Pianist

"A great voice, an exciting stage presence, and songs finding inspiration in classic Brazilian bossa nova, acoustic American folk, 1950's west coast jazz, and contemporary pop. He plays the piano like he was born to it."



Saturday, March 28

John Daniels

Vocalist and Pianist

"Bucks to Broadway connections — music by Oscar Hammerstein, Rogers & Hart, and works by artists who have lived in Bucks County such as Paul Simon, Robert Hazzard, and Patty LaBelle."



Saturday, April 25

Tim Farrell

with Pat Robinson

Acoustic Guitarist and Pianist

"Through his mastery of the intricacies and melodic grace of fingerstyle guitar, Tim Farrell has created a sound that is to be felt as well as heard." Tim will play a guitar made by George Nakashima for several numbers.



All will be held at 6 p.m.
3015 North Sugan Road
New Hope, PA 18938

At each you'll enjoy two sets of music, wine, beer, hors d'oeuvres and an elegant dinner that would make Julia Child proud.

\$75 per person for each concert or \$200 for all three.

Make your reservations now for one or all of these very special evenings by calling 215-862-2021 or e-mailing friends@fodc.org. Please reserve early; seating is limited and much in demand.

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We thank those who demonstrated their support with membership contributions in 2014.

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 Alan and Renee Glickman

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 Sharyn Keiser and Sandra Santello
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 Don and Mary Woodruff
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Boatman

Reverend Edward Dillon
 Carl Elston, Jr.
 Diana Evans
 Domenic and Sheila Falcone
 Sophia Feller
 Charles Gullage
 Shirley Guzikowski
 David Hewitt
 James B. Kahn, M.D. and Carol Wierbowski
 Amy Keating
 Robert and Eileen Schmidt
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 David and Susan Yates

Friends of the Delaware Canal, Inc.

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Thank You So Much!

The New Year is off to a great start thanks to all of you who so generously responded to the Friends' Year-End Appeal. We asked you to help us do more in 2015, and you did just that. Your contributions have certainly helped to replenish the Canal Improvement Fund.

The Friends are very grateful to Greg DiNardo, President of Bi-State Construction Company, for contributing half of the cost of the additional work that was required to correctly complete the timber sill replacement project at Locks 15/16 in Smithtown. The masons did an exemplary job of removing rotted wood, replacing wood, repositioning and replacing stone – all done at the bottom of the 20-foot-deep lock chamber. The Friends were literally able to keep the walls from tumbling down at Locks 15/16 and Lock 18 in Uhlerstown by funding the replacement of deteriorating timber sills. By utilizing contributions, the Friends were able to pay \$57,751 for these painstaking projects. Mr. DiNardo donated \$7,655 of his company's services.



The Bi-State masons at work at the bottom of Locks 15/16 in Smithtown.

New Hope for Our Canal

The local group, New Hope for Our Canal, was honored at the Friends' Annual Meeting. It was commended for its enthusiastic campaign to improve the appearance and functionality of the Canal in the New Hope area. Working in partnership with the Friends, they raised over \$43,000, which has been used to pay the electricity bills for the pump that provides river water for the 3.4 mile section of the Canal from Centre Bridge to Lock 11. The funds also have allowed two historic stone walls to be repaired and invasive vegetation to be removed.



From left to right: Committee members Geri Delevitch, Judy Franlin, Susan Taylor, Connie Gering, Dee Dee Bowman, and Friends' President Brett Webber.