



FRIENDS OF THE DELAWARE CANAL CANAL NEWS

A Perfect Storm

A perfect storm of circumstances foiled the operation of the New Hope Canal Boat Ride this season.

- Water from the Canal leaks into the building just north of the Locktender’s House at a rapid rate. Despite many attempts, the Park has not been able to stem the flow necessitating that the Canal remain empty in the area of the Boat Ride landing.
- The Ferry Street, Bridge Street, and Rabbit Run bridges are all scheduled to be replaced in the near future. Each of the projects lies along the Boat Ride route and has the potential to seriously disrupt the operation.
- The ten-year concession operation agreement for the Boat Ride ceased on 12/31/2007.
- The lease agreement between the PA Bureau of State Parks and the American Legion for the parking lot adjacent to the Boat Ride also ended in 2007.

To ensure that the New Hope Canal Boat Ride returns, a coalition of stakeholder is working to forge a sustainable plan for Ride’s future. The Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, the Borough of New Hope, Bucks County Conference and Visitors Bureau, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Friends of the Delaware Canal are committed to developing a new, viable organizational framework for the Canal Boat Ride.

The new organizational plan will most likely involve the establishment of a local 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization that would work with the stakeholders to prepare a practical business plan to ensure the successful continuation of the Canal Boat Ride in the future. The non-profit would have the option of either acquiring the necessary assets and hiring an experienced staff to operate the Ride or contracting out the Ride, pursuant to appropriate performance standards, to a qualified, responsible operator.

The Board of Directors of the non-profit would consist of stakeholders and interested members of the community who could provide the expertise and commitment required to ensure the preservation of the Canal Boat Ride, an iconic community asset. The non-profit organization would provide a way for donors to make tax-deductible contributions to the mission of preserving and enhancing the Canal Boat Ride experience. It would also serve as an entity that would seek and secure grant funds that are not available to for-profit enterprises or governmental agencies.

The Canal Boat Ride is one of Bucks County’s signature attractions. It allows the public, at all age levels, to experience a

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Reminiscing Rather Than Riding

Since the “Perfect Storm” has prevented the New Hope Canal Boat Ride from operating this year, the Friends won’t be able to have their most traditional event – the Canal Boat Dinner aka Barge Dinner. Held on summer Sunday evenings since 1990, the dinners were always well attended, a lot of fun, and raised significant funds for the Friends.

Here are some memories of Barge Dinners past.

Zabel Davis, Friends’ fundraiser extraordinaire, orchestrated the Dinner for years. Her attention to detail drove her to comb crafts stores for wooden slat baskets so that each person could have his / her own picnic basket. To make the food presentation even more special, she sewed cloth napkins to line each basket. She considered it a victory if she could find pretty cloth that sold for less than \$1 per yard.



The first Barge Dinners weren’t catered. The food was made at home by Zabel and her patient team of volunteers. It was extraordinary to see Nancy Boylan surrounded by what seemed to be tons of cooked white rice. Chicken Marbello, an entrée that was meant to be served at room temperature, was standard fare for years.

Before the days of ever-so-portable, battery-operated keyboards, a ragged, full-size upright piano was dragged up the towpath and laboriously maneuvered onto the party boat so that Bud Keeler could entertain the crowd. Sing-alongs were standard with Betty Orlemann using her lovely voice to try to keep everyone reasonably in tune.

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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

I am pleased to report that flood repairs have begun in earnest. Work is progressing in the first section from Easton to Raubsville. Along with these repairs, a second contractor is working on the structure repairs in the Easton area (Palmer fish ladder, Easton fish ladder, including the locks). The second contract for Canal repairs from New Hope to Yardley has been awarded and work will start there soon. The second contract for structures repairs has also been awarded which includes structures at the following locations; Wy Hit Tuk, Raubsville, Durham, Gallows Run, and Kleinhans Aqueduct. DCNR has also opened the bids for a third section of Canal Repairs from Raubsville to Bridgeton Hill Road. This contract should be awarded shortly.

By this fall, all eleven contracts for flood repairs will be underway. As sections are repaired, we will introduce water to those sections as we are able.

Along with these projects, the project to replace the Black Rock Road culvert along with dredging from Lock 5 to Ferry Road is going to be done this summer/fall.

The Park staff has been busy with our regular maintenance tasks and items above and beyond the normal. We replaced the four inlet gates behind Odette's in New Hope. This allowed us to have a "Portadam" we were renting removed from the site. The dam was being used to keep river water out of a large towpath blowout just south of New Hope. This blowout will be repaired as part of the flood repair contract in that area.

We contracted to have grout pumped into the Canal wall in the area next to the Locktender's House at Lock 11 in New Hope to stop a leak that flows into the building next door. This didn't work. During the second week of July we will have a contractor completing a hydraulic study at the location to try to determine the source and path of the leak.

With the assistance of our Equipment Rental Contractor, we removed trees that had fallen along the Canal. As we do every spring, we continually maintained the two fish ladders for which we are responsible. This work entails cleaning and monitoring water flows to enable Shad migration through the ladders. Another spring task is to assist with the removal of the trash collected from the various Canal clean ups. Thank you to everyone involved in these events.

I also want to thank our neighbors at Bridge 5 in Smithtown who got together and painted the bridge. It looks great!

We continue to remove invasive species from the Giving Pond Recreation Area and replant with natives species. In this effort, we planted fifty trees at the site.

As we have each spring, our staff assisted with the Memorial Day Service at the Soldier's Graves site at Bowman's Hill in the northern section of Washington Crossing Historic Park.

We had to close the southern pedestrian crossing of the Ferry Street Bridge in New Hope due to the deterioration of the steel supports. Were it not for the efforts of Park staff who fabricated and installed additional bracing for the northern pedestrian crossing that would have been closed also.

Lest we forget that our staff is also responsible for Ralph Stover State Park, we have also done required maintenance there including painting the restrooms, replacing fencing, replacing playground surface, and regrading the parking lots.

So it is a busy time here at the Park, especially with the work progressing on the flood repairs. I am looking forward to the completion of these projects and to the return of this Park to the beauty that it was before.

Rick Dalton

Calendar of Events

Sunday, August 3, 2 p.m.

The Critter Scape Walk

Meet at the lagoon adjacent to the Canal just off Route 532 in the southern section of Washington Crossing Historic Park.

One of the virtues of the Delaware Canal is that one short walk can lead to many very different things. In the case of the *Critter Scape Walk*, we'll be exploring both the creations of nature and Upper Makefield Township.

Sarah Bellois, the Delaware Canal State Park Education Specialist, will explain why the Canal and the lagoon attract creatures; what kinds of mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, and insects live there, and, with luck, point out some live examples – perhaps, even the shy and threatened red bellied turtle.

After exploring the natural world, Susan Taylor will lead a short tour of Upper Makefield Township's new Washington Crossing streetscape project. An attractive, tree-lined pathway extends from Traditions, an adult community, to the Delaware Canal and Washington Crossing Historic Park, and then leads to local businesses and the Park Visitor Center along the River. The path invites visitors to easily experience all the area's offerings.

This one-mile walk is free and will be held weather permitting.



Saturday, August 23, 2 p.m.

The Bridge Tales Walk

Meet at the I-95 Park and Ride lot in Yardley at the intersection of Taylorsville and Woodside Roads.

This walk was scheduled for last May, but the rain was pouring down that afternoon. So we'll try again and hope for sun, but not too much.

Quirky stories abound about the Delaware Canal, and the 3-mile stretch that will be hiked during the *Bridge Tales Walk* claims more than its share. As we travel from Yardley to Washington Crossing, we'll be walking under bridges that are still known by the unusual names that they were given a century or more ago. These names relate to happenings on the adjoining properties – properties that have colorful histories, both long ago and recent. Complementing the stories will be the Canal's lovely scenery and late summer wildflowers.

When Washington Crossing is reached, walkers can choose to double their day's exertion by returning to the Yardley Park and Ride on foot or they can ride back via a carpool. The free walk will be held unless it rains again. Reservations are helpful. To let us know that you're coming, please call 215-862-2021 or e-mail friends@fodc.org.

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

Promoting the Preservation of the Delaware Canal - 1930's Style

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

Lance Metz, the National Canal Museum Historian, will share two treasures that have made their way to the Museum's archives. In 1930-31, W. W. Chambers produced two 20-minute, black and white silent films. The first was made to present the case that the Delaware Canal should be preserved and highlights scenes of the waterway when it was in commercial operation. The second film has two segments. One is about the New Hope School artists, William Lathrop and Edward Redfield; the second features the ceremony during which the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company gave the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 40 miles of the Canal, and it was designated a Pennsylvania State Park by Governor Gifford Pinchot.

After the show, Ken Edmonds, a Friends' member and former Board President, will present one of his "finds" to Lance Metz, so that it will be preserved in the Museum archives. In 2003, Ken purchased a copy of the 1950 Damon & Foster Canal Report from an acquaintance who found it at a book sale in Newtown. The Damon & Foster Report detailed "Proposed Improvements to the Delaware Division of the PA Canal from Mile Post 24 to Mile Post 60" – New Hope to Easton and placed a price tag on the work of \$3 million. In its time, the report was used by the Commonwealth to foil those who wanted "water in the ditch" by citing the "prohibitive" cost.

If you want to learn more about the Canal's history, this is the program for you. To reserve your place, please call 215-862-2021 or e-mail friends@fodc.org.

Stop by the Friends' booth at

- New Hope Farmers' Market on Thursday, September 25 from 3:30 to 7 p.m.
- Yardley Harvest Day – Saturday, September 27 from 10 a.m to 4 p.m.

We'll have shirts, books, mules of many types, and other canal goodies. Excellent information, too.

Mark Your Calendar Canal Walk 2008 October 4, 11, 18, and 25

No matter what, the tradition continues. The flood repair projects may necessitate that we be creative about what sections of the Canal are walked this year, but we'll do as many of the 60 miles as we can. Be prepared for discoveries and new adventures. The fall issue of *Canal News* will contain a full itinerary, and a schedule will be posted on www.fodc.org.

Perfect Storm *(continued from front page)*

historic resource firsthand in a reasonably authentic fashion. The plan to restore the Canal Boat Ride must consider the community's vital interest in establishing a responsible stewardship program, which recognizes the unique historic, cultural, educational, and economic contributions of the Canal Boat Ride to New Hope and Bucks County.

Efforts to continue the Canal Boat Ride in 2008 were unsuccessful. There was not enough time to set up an organization to ensure an authentic, high quality experience for the customer and find a short-term operator. The stakeholders thus felt it was better to briefly pause than to provide an unsatisfactory product. Rather, enough time will be taken to develop a plan that is sustainable and one that will lead to a more innovative educational and interpretive experience that will benefit both the local economy and Bucks County's cultural assets.

The coalition of stakeholders is dedicated to devising and implementing a plan that will return the Canal Boat Ride to New Hope next year. Every effort will be made to ensure that the new ride is a first class operation that reflects the charm of the old while incorporating more entertaining and educational features.

All involved in this effort wish to thank the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce for its support in providing a means to solicit voluntary contributions through its non-profit *Business Cares* organization. These tax-deductible contributions will be used to support the Canal Boat Ride in future years.



Lest We Become Complacent

This poem was written by 10-year-old **Erin Miller** from California, who was visiting her grandmother and aunt, **Doris** and **Peggy Kennedy**, in Washington Crossing during the one of the floods. She won a second place prize in a school contest.

Delaware River

Pocono spring rains pour in
Foaming pulsing flood
We sandbag, the river wins.

Reminiscing *(continued from front page)*

It wasn't a true Barge Dinner unless something out-of-the-ordinary happened, usually involving the mules. On one trip, someone had tied a canoe to a pole along the towpath. Somehow the canal boat towline, which connects the mule team with the boat, got entangled with the canoe rope. As the mules walked north, the canoe followed. It bumped and clunked and made such a racket that the team spooked. Off they shot up the towpath with the boat going so fast that it was making a wake. The muletender yelled and took off in hot pursuit. To add to the drama, a cook from a canalside restaurant ran out shouting and wielding a big kitchen knife. Fortunately for all, by Bridge Street, the towline broke. The mules escaped into the neighborhood, and everyone on board had an extra glass of wine. Before too long, the muletender and his charges returned to the Canal (the mules hadn't ventured very far into strange territory), the rope was reattached, and the journey continued. No one cheered for fear of causing another incident.

And then there was the time when the captains of the two canal boats that were being used to accommodate the crowd decided that they would pass each other. In accordance with the rules, one boat stopped and dropped its towline to the bottom of the Canal. The other boat proceeded to glide over the towline. But things didn't quite work according to the rules. The rudder of the passing boat caught onto the dropped towline, was ripped from its pin, and flew into the Canal. What to do?!? Well, the captain of the stopped boat climbed up on top of the boat to get a better vantage point. Seeing nothing, he stripped down to his boxer shorts, jumped into the Canal, and proceeded to search. Back and forth, up and down, he trudged through the muck with 80 people offering suggestions about where it might be. At last the rudder was found, and put back into place. The captain was able to put his pants back on, too. And the journey home continued.

As you may have noticed in all of these stories, in spite of interruptions and incidents, the journey always continued. We have faith that the New Hope Canal Boat Ride will be back and the tradition of the Friends' Canal Boat Dinner will continue.

New E-mail Address

Yes, we know that we included a new e-mail address in the last newsletter, but we found a better one.

Here to stay is

friends@fodc.org

Send us a message anytime!

The Wonderful Evening Wasn't an Illusion

The guests who attended the Friends' fundraiser, *Illusions*, on May 30th anticipated an amazing and mysterious evening with good food, wine, and company. They weren't disappointed. Glorious weather and scenic views were enjoyed by those who flocked to the outdoor balcony of the Sand Castle Winery "castle" during the cocktail hour. Dinner inside the tent was festive, and, just when it seemed as if Illusionist Wayne Hoffman had performed a disappearing act, he strode through the front door. Members of the audience were more than willing to help Wayne show off his talents at reading minds and making things do what they just can't. The preparation of Cherries Jubilee and Bananas Foster provided a flaming finale to the event.



The Friends thank all those who made *Illusions* a success, especially our event sponsors.

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And special thanks to Marianne Fluehr, our event chair, who worked endlessly.

At the Board Table

The Friends of the Delaware Canal Board of Directors is two persons stronger with the recent election of **Veronica Morton** and **Jack Donohue**.

Veronica found the Friends last fall when her partner Wolfgang signed them up to participate in the 20th annual Canal Walk. They completed all four of the walks, 36.3 miles, and Veronica took more than 2000 photographs along the way. Later, she compiled imaginative photo albums for fellow walkers and created a power point and music video presentation that has been shown at several events during the past year.

Veronica is a Director of Information Systems and has been in that field for the past 25 years. She is a member of the Cosmopolitan Club of Philadelphia and serves as a member of its Technical Committee. A resident of Furlong for the last seven years, Veronica enjoys gardening, cooking, traveling with Wolf and sharing their experiences with others. She hopes to share her enthusiasm for the Friends through her active participation on the Board of Directors.

Jack and his wife Claire have lived "above the Canal" in Lumberville for a year and a half. After retiring early as a Sonoco VP of Information Systems, Jack tackled a variety of consulting projects in a variety of places and has now settled down in the village of Lumberville for what he hopes is his last old house rehabilitation project.

His memories of bringing his daughters to the Canal to walk and bike ride on the towpath 30 years ago and his current affinity for biking led him to the Friends. "After looking at the various organizations in the area, the Friends seems to be the one facing the greatest and most diverse challenges, and I'd like to help in any way I can."

A 25th Anniversary P.S. – The handsome, wood table around which the Board sits was made and contributed by Dorsey Reading of Erwinna in 1993.

Seize the Opportunity

Yes, we all want water back in the Canal, but while it's water-challenged, take this opportunity to do things that will be more difficult to accomplish when water is present.

- ✓ Clear the berm bank.
- ✓ Remove trash and junk from the bottom of the canal prism.
- ✓ Fix walls.
- ✓ Check for small holes, etc. that may create problems when the water is let back in the Canal.

In 2010, when the Canal is back in shape, we don't want an epidemic of "If only I'd..."

Exelon Power Partners with the Friends

Just before Clean-Up Day in April, Mary Kehoe, the Bristol Borough Clean-Up Coordinator, received a call from Melissa Gohlke of Exelon Power. "We saw the article about Clean-Up Day in the newspaper and checked out your website. We like what you do and want to help."

Always a go-getter, Mary immediately suggested that perhaps some Exelon employees could assist with the clean-up in Bristol Borough. Unfortunately, it was too late to coordinate such an effort, but Melissa did say that Exelon would consider helping the Friends financially. Hearing those excellent words, Mary referred Melissa to Susan Taylor, the Friends' Executive Director. After discussing the goals of both the Friends and Exelon Power, a grant proposal was sent requesting that Exelon support the Bristol Borough Daylighting Study or the replacement of damaged interpretive signs in Bristol.

Just a few weeks later, an e-mail arrived at the Friends' office stating that a \$5000 grant had been approved! On June 11, Tom Williams and Susan Taylor traveled south to Exelon's Croydon Station to receive the contribution. Standing by the Delaware River, Paul Weeks, Exelon Power Peaking Manager, and Kevin Harris, Croydon Station Manager, presented the Friends with a "big check." "The Friends of the Delaware Canal have worked for 25 years to preserve and restore this link to the past," said Exelon Vice President Regulatory, Environmental, and Safety, Vicky Will. "Exelon shares FODC's mission to provide recreational and educational opportunities for current and future generations. We're pleased to be able to help move this project forward."

The Friends are most grateful for Exelon Power's generosity and concern. We will indeed move forward. And this contribution does prove that Clean-Up Day benefits the Canal in more ways than one.



A \$5,000 check is presented to the Friends by Exelon Power: (l-r) Paul Weeks, Susan Taylor, Tom Williams and Kevin Harris.

PA Canal Society Field Trip

Thirty-five members of the PA Canal Society toured the southern end of the Delaware Canal on Saturday, April 19th. Interestingly, almost half of the participants hailed from states other than Pennsylvania. Ohio was very well-represented, with New Jersey, New York, Maryland, and Massachusetts making a good showing.

After starting out with a Friday night orientation session at the trip's Holiday Inn headquarters, everyone was ready to set forth on their tour at 8 a.m. the next morning. The day offered both bus tours and walks along the route of the Canal. Vern Wiegand, a member of both the Friends and the PA Canal Society Boards, was the event host. Will Rivinus, author and Friends Board member, provided the narration from Bristol to New Hope. A special stop was made at the Thompson-Neely House where the sheep were being shorn of their hot winter wool. In the evening, back at the Inn, a "Taste of Italy" buffet satisfied the hungry field trippers, and Delaware Canal State Park Manager Rick Dalton gave an excellent talk about the repair plans.

We hope that the PA Canal Society will return for another visit when the other half of the Canal from New Hope to Easton is repaired and looking like a canal again.



Most visits to locks don't include encounters with strange sculpture, but Ryn Agnew of Allenwood, PA was happy to meet "Boomer," the dog/dinosaur with a very long tail who guards Lock 11 in New Hope.

Visit the Friends' website
www.fodc.org for flood repair
progress reports and other
updates.



Ready for Action

The Friends contributions to the “New Paths to Travel” trail were ready and standing proud on June 5th, the day of the trail’s dedication. Representatives from the PA Historical and Museum Commission, Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve, the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, Delaware River Greenway, and the Friends, as well as State Representative Bernie O’Neill and the press, gathered in the northern section of Washington Crossing Historic Park to do the official ribbon cutting and take a short, but a bit muddy jaunt to the Canal and trail intersection. There they found and admired the recently restored Thompson-Neely camelback bridge sporting its newly applied coats of barn red paint and the interpretive sign developed and contributed by the Friends.

On June 7th, in the midst of the heat wave, six people were intrepid enough to want to explore the length of the “New Paths to Travel” trail and turned out for a walk sponsored by the Friends. Water bottles in hand, the group started at the River, read the interpretive signs at that location, and then set off for the Canal. Along the way, walk guide Susan Taylor told some stories about the trials and triumphs of the trail project.

The next stop was the fabled Thompson-Neely House. From there the perspiring group followed the trail down to Pidcock Creek and under the River Road/Route 32 stone arch bridge. (This is the best, most scenic, and safe way to cross River Road.) Continuing on to the Neely Grist Mill, the walkers heard about the restoration of the mill and the perils of mold and bat guano. The mill raceway was followed to the Wildflower Preserve, which is accessed through a gate in the deer fence. A turn and uphill climb led to the Preserve Visitor’s Center and its exhibits and gift shop where donations are gratefully accepted.

From the Center, the trail wound through the Preserve to the roadway that heads to Bowman’s Hill Tower. This is the point where the adventurous spirit of the group kicked in. One of the walkers suggested that the road be abandoned and the pretty and shady Preserve trails be used instead. Everyone agreed. After uphill, downhill, turns, and only one backtrack, another deer fence gate was found, and the way up to the Tower was clear. Back on the road for the last stretch, the group tested its heat endurance on the steep uphill climb. Whew.

At the Tower, some wanted to ride the elevator to the top, and others, after a rest, were just ready to go down. And here the spirit of adventure struck again. Marsha Zelle, a new Friends’ member, said that she remembered taking a trail from the Tower down to River Road as a girl. And an opening in the woods reminded her of that trail. So off she, her husband, and other walker went followed in due time by the crew who went up to the top of the Tower. The remembered trail was now more of a drainage swale than a pathway, but it surely did get the walkers down quickly. All arrived intact at the bottom and made their way to the starting point, enviously watching kids splashing in Pidcock Creek.

Have an adventure of your own and try the “New Paths to Travel” trail, preferably on a less than 96 degree day. There’s lots to discover.



Along the “New Paths to Travel” trail – the restored Thompson-Neely Camelback Bridge and a new Canal interpretive sign.



The Friends’ volunteer painting crew, (from back to front) Bill Trainer, Tom Williams, Gordon Heisler and Pete Sperry (not shown because he was busy taking the picture) worked diligently on the Thompson Neely Bridge. And no, Tom Williams, shown lying on the bridge deck, wasn’t sleeping on the job – just trying to get to a hard to reach spot.

— We Need You —

If you haven’t responded to the membership renewal request that you received in early May, please ferret out the response envelope or visit www.fodc.org to renew on-line. Just click Members/Volunteers on the navigation bar, then New/Renew Membership. The Friends’ strength comes from you and your fellow members who care about the future of the Canal.

Progress Report

Now that twelve different flood repair and capital project contracts are in various stages of completion, keeping track of progress is quite a task. In an effort to make the information about each contract and the project as a whole more understandable, the chart below was developed.

The data shown is as of 6/20/2008. A similar, but more detailed chart, is also posted at www.fodc.org under Press Room – Breaking News and Updates. It is updated twice each week, so visit it often to keep up with the work.

Project Location	Description	In Design	Bid Let	Bid Opening	Award	Amount	Contractor	Notice to Proceed	Contractual Completion Date	% Complete
Forks of the Delaware to Locks 22/23(Easton to Raubsville)	Towpath, prism rehabilitation	complete	6/11/07	7/10/07	3/1/08	\$10,720,410	Popple Construction	3/3/08	2/26/09	20%
Locks 22/23 to Bridgeton Hill Road (Raubsville to Upper Black Eddy)	Towpath, prism rehabilitation	complete	5/5/08	6/17/08	bids under review					
Bridgeton Hill to Odette's (Upper Black Eddy to New Hope)	Towpath, prism rehabilitation	complete								
Odette's to Ferry Road (New Hope to Lower Makefield Twp)	Towpath, prism rehabilitation	complete	3/19/08	4/17/08	5/16/08	\$3,396,456	Tri-State Dredging	mid-July		
Easton	Chain Dam, Fish Ladder repairs	complete	6/13/07	7/12/07	2/28/08	\$265,664	BiState Construction	2/28/08	12/1/08	10%
Williams Twp., Raubsville, Durham	Stop gate, waste gate, footbridge, other repairs	complete	3/26/08	4/29/08	5/15/08	\$330,602	Bill Anskis	mid-July		
Point Pleasant, Centre Bridge, Bowman's Hill	Locks 13 & 14, wastegate, other repairs									
Lumberville	Lock 12 repair									
Williams Twp.	Rocky Falls stop; waste gate repair									
Reigelsville	Stop and control gate repair									
Easton	STP stop gate, pedestrian bridge repair									
Other Projects										
Lower Makefield Twp. and Yardley Borough	Black Rock Road culvert replacement and dredging from Lock 5 to Ferry Road	complete	3/26/09	5/15/08	6/20/08	\$2,937,975	James D. Morrissey			

Popple Construction at work at Locks 22-23...



...and heading north.

“Daylighting” the Canal in Bristol Borough

The Historic Delaware Canal Improvement Corporation and the Friends of the Delaware Canal are co-sponsoring a study by the Heritage Conservancy of Doylestown to unearth portions of the historic Canal located in Bristol Borough.

The study is intended to set the stage to “daylight” or unearth the buried portions of the Canal between the Delaware Canal Lagoon Park and the Snyder-Girotti Elementary School in order to revive the history of and improve access to the Canal, as well as to help stimulate revitalization efforts in Bristol Borough.

The project will provide an analysis of the history and existing conditions, development of conceptual plans of the proposed canal resurrection, as well as economic generation projections attributable to the project for the area within the primary study area.

There will also be a cursory reconnaissance of conditions west from the Snyder-Girotti Elementary School to the intersection of old US Highway 13 and Mill Street to survey for physical evidence of the Canal’s location.

The first of three public meetings about the study findings was held on June 25th. During this presentation, the Research and Site Evaluation information was aired. Two more meetings are planned for this fall during which the results of the Conceptual Planning and Economic Effects phases will be presented, followed at a later date by the Final Report.

The primary goals of the Friends of the Delaware Canal are to ensure that the Canal is fully-watered from Easton to Bristol and the towpath trail is useable over its entire length. This project, hopefully, will help us in reaching our goals.

Tom Williams, President

Welcome, New Friends

Jason & Kathy Anderson
Brian & Joanne Dougherty
Marian Sumner & Jeff Hogan
Victor and Lois Stevens
Kevin & Kathleen Weidling
Drew Williams

Our Business Members

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

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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
Lisa James Otto Country Properties, Inc., Stockton, NJ
John Paton, Inc. Doylestown
Penn Valley Construction, Inc., Morrisville
Pete’s Bike & Fitness Shoppe, Flemington, NJ
Porches Bed & Breakfast, New Hope
Stephan’s Bridge Street Furniture Gallery, New Hope
The UPS Store, New Hope

Spring Cleaning

Many, many thanks to the more than 150 local volunteers and community coordinators who took up the challenge of giving the Delaware Canal a good spring-cleaning. The turn-outs in New Hope and Morrisville were especially impressive because of the involvement of scout and church youth groups.

In most places along the Canal, the adage, "Clean places attract less litter," holds true, and each year Canal Clean-Up volunteers find less to handle, but it's still astounding to see how many full trash bags await pickup by the Delaware Canal State Park maintenance staff.

Thanks also to the three Clean-Up Day Section coordinators – Tom Williams, Kim Madarasz, and Marianne Fluehr – and all the businesses that contributed refreshments and supplies.

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Cleaning up Lock 11—no small task.



(Left to right) Steven Sandy, Wolf Bogacz, and Denise Sandy put a discarded pallet that they found to good use hauling trash in Upper Black Eddy. Photo by fellow clean-upper, Veronica Morton.



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