



FRIENDS OF THE DELAWARE CANAL CANAL NEWS

Ben is Back

Ben, our favorite mule, is back, standing tall amidst the asters and string beans in the Locktender's House garden. For a four-year-old, he has quite a history.

Ben and his 170 brothers and sisters were created in 2003 for the *Miles of Mules* public art project led by the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor. The goals of the project were to increase awareness of the region's heritage, raise funds, and have fun. Local artists, supported by sponsors, painted and decorated fiberglass mules in a myriad of ways. The mules were then displayed along roadways from Scranton to Bristol during the summer of 2003. In November three auctions were held to benefit the Corridor and other non-profits.

The Friends of the Delaware Canal, of course, participated in "Mules of Mules". After contributions were secured for the sponsorship fee, the Friends were given a portfolio of artists' proposals from which to choose. Based on his sketches that depicted scenes from the Delaware Canal and the Delaware and Raritan Canal in wonderful, witty ways, the Friends selected artist James Feehan to create *the mule*. When "Illustrated Canal Mule" emerged from Feehan's studio, he immediately stood out among his peers and was soon renamed "Ben", in honor of Ben Toy, who was a faithful Friends' member and Board Treasurer.

Ben held court in the Locktender's House Garden during the official *Miles of Mules* summer exhibit. In late fall he was transported to Union Square for the gala benefit auction. When Ben came on the block, the bid amounts started high, and got higher and higher with the gavel falling on a bid of \$15,000! Ben had been sold for much more than any of his brothers and sisters.

Jack and Loraine Thompson bought Ben along with two other mules, one of which was painted by Mrs. Thompson. Ben was taken to the family farm and securely sheltered in their barn; the other two mules greeted people in front of the Thompson Organization auto dealerships in Doylestown. This year, Laura Barnes, the Thompson's daughter, suggested that Ben be contributed to the Friends and moved back to his original home. The Friends were more than pleased by the thoughtful offer and gratefully accepted.



John Thompson, Jack Thompson, Susan Taylor, Jan Wolters, and Betty Orlemann admire Ben, the Miles of Mules mule, on the day of his return to the Locktender's House Garden. Ben was contributed to the Friends by Jack and Loraine Thompson.



"What was that in that truck?" Ben was quite the sight as he made his way into New Hope. Here John Thompson and John Sikora unload Ben's concrete pedestals at the Locktender's House.

On August 25th, Jack Thompson and his son John stopped their truck and trailer in front of the Locktender's House. With much effort, the two 150 pound concrete pads to which Ben would be secured were unloaded and placed in the center bed of the garden. Then came Ben, a comparatively light-weight at 80 lbs. Installation was accomplished quickly followed by lengthy admiration.

The Friends are most grateful to the Thompsons for choosing to contribute Ben. He will be treated both as a work of art and an interpretive tool because there are so many good stories that can be shared using the scenes that Jim Feehan painted. He will be on display at the Locktender's House until January when he will be taken inside for the winter.

**Canal Progress Report
on page 6**



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, not-for-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 opportunities, and enable the Canal to serve as a community and economic asset.

Park Manager's Report

Things are busy along the Canal. Repairs have been completed to blowouts in Upper Black Eddy near Trail's End Lane and at the Matlock property a little farther north. Work started in mid-September on repairs to the Bowman's Hill Waste Gates and to the large blowout just south of Stemmie's restaurant near Easton. Our Park staff worked to reline the Canal at Lock 11 in New Hope to stop a leak. We have completed temporary repairs to the road leading to the Delaware River inlet behind Odette's in New Hope. The repairs allow us to get the "Zabel Belle" long-arm track excavator out to the end of the inlet, where it is used to pull debris out of the inlet opening. A clean inlet allows river water to flow to the southern 25 miles of the Canal. Our staff will begin trail

repairs from Bowman's Hill south. This work had been delayed because just about every piece of equipment we have at the Yardley Maintenance Area broke down at the same time.

The "walk through" to estimate the damage from the June flood is scheduled for September 26, 27, and 28. Representatives from FEMA, PEMA, DCNR Bureau of Facility Design and Construction, and Park staff will walk the entire length of the damaged areas. After this we will have a better understanding of the differences in the extent of damage between the April 2005 flood and the June 2006 flood.

Rick Dalton

At the Board Table

This summer the Friends' Board of Directors welcomed two new members and thanked another for his service.

After raising two children and living in Princeton, NJ for ten years, **Steve Casper** and his wife Liz were taken by the beauty and charm of Bucks County and moved to New Hope in January 2005. Steve and Liz have been enjoying the many restaurants, shops, and cultural attractions that the County has to offer. They presently live along the Canal in New Hope's Waterview development and enjoy long walks on the towpath several times a week.

A graduate of Villanova with a degree in Civil Engineering, Steve was employed by IBM Corporation for twenty years, serving in various marketing and management positions. He left IBM in 2002 and is currently teaching finance at Temple University and working to complete his Ph.D. dissertation in Business Administration.

Steve and his wife are partners, along with Steve and Christine Ebersole, in the Mansion Inn in New Hope, as well as several other commercial and real estate ventures/businesses in New Hope and New Jersey.

Well versed in assisting the Delaware Canal, **David Child** assumed a new role as he took his place at the Board table in August. He and his wife Vicky have been

Canal Clean-Up Day coordinators since 2000, each year recruiting local scout troops to help make the section from Phillips Mill to Route 202 spring tidy.

David and Vicky are Solebury Township residents and local business owners. They own a Mail Boxes, Etc. franchise in Buckingham Green, the UPS Store at Logan Square in New Hope, and Masterpiece Shipping and Moving Service.

David holds three engineering degrees: mechanical, electrical, and a graduate degree in engineering management. He served as president and COO of a Pennsylvania environmental engineering company and opened and developed the Pennsylvania division of an employee-owned international environmental engineering company. He is now retired from engineering.

Active in other civic affairs, David and Vicky served as fundraising chairpersons for Buckingham 300, the Buckingham Township anniversary celebration.

Bob Ferrari, who was elected to the Board in 2003 and served as Treasurer, submitted his resignation. His teaching schedule in New York made it increasingly difficult for him to participate in Board activities. Bob was a very willing and talented volunteer, and we thank him for his dedication to the needs of the Friends.

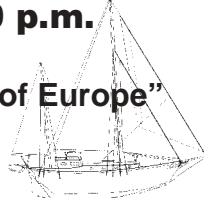
Autumn Calendar

Tuesday, October 10, 7:30 p.m.

General Meeting:

“Sailing through the Canals of Europe”

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



Our old friend Lance Metz, Historian at the National Canal Museum in Easton, is going to share his latest find. The Museum Archives recently acquired a copy of a vintage National Geographic Society film, and Lance immediately knew that it was something that the Friends would enjoy seeing.

“The ‘Yankee’ Sails Across Europe” chronicles the adventures of Irving Johnson as he sails through Holland, Germany, France, and Belgium in a ketch specially constructed for use on the canals. This entertaining film captures the character of the canals and the countryside during the 1960’s while the Cold War was still on.

Irving Johnson was a renowned professional sailor who made several trips around Cape Horn aboard the “Peking”, a four-masted barque. It is moored today among the historic vessels at the South Street Seaport in New York City. After World War II, Johnson intended to sail around the world taking young people along with him to teach them about sailing techniques and other cultures. Unfortunately, age caught up with him, and his around-the-world journey was shortened to a European expedition that was documented in the National Geographic film that will be shown.

This showing of “The ‘Yankee’ Sails Across Europe” will appeal to both those who want to visit the European canals and those who have already been there.

Cool Help on Hot Days

- As the August Board of Directors’ meeting approached and the temperature on the third floor of the Locktender’s House reached an intolerable level, the Cock ‘n Bull Restaurant in Peddlers Village came to the Directors’ rescue. The Board was allowed to meet in one of the restaurant’s upstairs rooms chilled by efficient air-conditioning and ice water.
- Although the August 20th walk was billed as a “Shady Stroll Along the Towpath” and thoughts of cool breezes danced in our heads, the day turned out to be on the hot side. The walkers were more than pleased to be welcomed into the Golden Pheasant Inn by owner Barbara Faure and her daughter, who offered iced tea and superb cheese cake to all. A wonderful treat.

The Friends thank both establishments for their hospitality.

Tuesday, November 14, 6:30 p.m.
Annual Meeting and Covered Dish Dinner

Jericho Valley Community Center

At the intersection of Street and Lurgan Roads, New Hope

It’s time to get together with your fellow Friends, sample each other’s great cooking, and find out more about what’s happened during the past year and what’s to come in 2007.

The covered dish dinner always comes first. It’s an old-fashioned spread of tempting entrees, salads, and desserts. (You can always count on having delicious deviled eggs, yummy pie, and an amazing variety of other things from which to choose.)

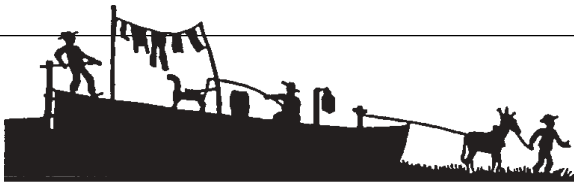
After dinner, Jan Wolters, President of the Friend’s Board of Directors, will highlight the year’s accomplishments, and Treasurer Pete Sperry will report on our organization’s financial condition. This year’s volunteers will be honored, and the election of members of the Board of Directors will be held.

Following the Friends’ business, Susan Taylor will narrate a slide show featuring highlights from the World Canals Conference that was held in Bethlehem, PA in September. Delegates from Finland, England, Ireland, Italy, France, Canada, and across America toured the Delaware, Lehigh, Morris, and Delaware and Raritan Canals. They were also treated to other regional sites, such as Bethlehem Steel, Michener Museum, and the Crayola Crayon Factory. Intriguing information was presented, alliances formed, and a lot of fun was had by all.

Please bring your favorite 6-serving covered dish to share. Plates, utensils, and beverages will be provided.



Susan Taylor, FODC Executive Director, and John Smith, DCNR Engineer, won the 2006 Dink Award at the World Canals Conference. It’s an honor that not everyone would want. Hear the inside scoop at the Annual Meeting.



FRIENDS OF THE DELAWARE CANAL

Join CANAL WALK 2006

The floods are a hindrance, but our Canal Walks won't come to a halt.

This year, we'll hike 36.3 miles of the 60-mile-long towpath in four segments (one more mile than last year!). Most of the trail that we will cover is unharmed and in good condition, but we will encounter areas that were scoured by the floods. These surfaces are uneven, so please wear footwear that will take you over rocks and swales. Along the way, you'll learn about the Canal's past, present, and future and enjoy the camaraderie of a new adventure with your friends.

DATE	SECTION OF THE DELAWARE CANAL WALK	MILES
October 7	<p>The Delaware Canal State Park Office, 11 Lodi Hill Road, Upper Black Eddy to the Kinsman Company, 4961 River Road, Point Pleasant.</p> <p>Our journey will start at Lock 19 and its Locktender's House, now State Park Headquarters, but once home to a family of 17. Trekking southward, we'll hear about the evolution of the State Park's newest acquisition – the Giving Pond, a water-filled quarry. A special tour of Uhlerstown, the “best preserved canal hamlet in America”, is a step back in time. Perhaps, we'll see the horses arrive for the afternoon polo game at Tinicum Park. In Smithtown we'll learn about its connections to plows and the infamous Walking Purchase. Then on to the village of Point Pleasant, home of the Tohickon Aqueduct.</p> <p><i>Lunch Stop:</i> Smithtown</p>	9
October 14	<p>The Virginia Forrest Recreation Area north of Centre Bridge to Odette's Restaurant in New Hope.</p> <p>Beginning at a site named in honor of a strong-minded woman, not state trees, we'll view Hendricks Island, a PA State Parks Natural Area that has quite a long and interesting history. As we walk along, River vistas and the homes of Centre Bridge will be on display. At Phillips Mill, stories of the days of the New Hope School artists will be shared. Watch out for mules on the towpath as we head toward town! The quirky tapestry that is New Hope will delight us, and then Lock 11 and the Locktender's House await. Our walk will end at a site packed with canal features. The most important is the outlet where canal boats once crossed the river to the D & R Canal. Today the outlet functions as an inlet supplying river water to the southern end of the Canal.</p> <p><i>Lunch Stop:</i> Since this hike is short, and there are so many lunch options in the vicinity, lunch will be on your own at the end of the walk.</p>	5
October 21	<p>Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve in New Hope to the Black Rock Road Picnic Area in Yardley.</p> <p>The Preserve nurtures an abundance of native plants, and we'll spy some of them as we make our way past the Neely Grist Mill and the famous Thompson-Neely House. New, surprising facts about the two buildings will be revealed. We will reach the Canal towpath by crossing one of the six remaining authentic camelback bridges. The David Library of the American Revolution, which houses the best collection of Revolutionary War history outside of England, is the next site of interest, followed by the village of Taylorsville and the spot where Washington crossed the Delaware River. In Yardley, we'll take a short side trip into town to see the scenic lake and have an afternoon treat at Cramer's Bakery. The towpath will lead us to Lock 5 and Black Rock Road.</p> <p><i>Lunch Stop:</i> Washington Crossing Historic Park at Route 532.</p>	10
October 28	<p>Black Rock Road Picnic Area in Yardley to Riverfront Park in Bristol Borough.</p> <p>Greeting us will be with the flora and fauna of the Canal's widest and longest widewaters. Will a great blue heron lead us south? In Morrisville, Trenton's eclectic skyline will come into view, and we'll hear about the town's founder and his aspirations, successes, and failures. We'll trek through industrialized Bucks County and learn how the coming of U.S. Steel changed the landscape. The beautiful Lagoon Park will welcome us to Bristol Borough, and interpretive signs will help us visualize the three Bristol locks and the famous “bump bridge.” After our imaginations transform a parking lot into the basin where canal boats gathered waiting to be towed to Philadelphia, we will celebrate our journey's end at the “ring” by the River. <i>Lunch Stop:</i> Falls Township Community Park at Millcreek Road.</p>	12.3

All walks start at 9 AM sharp. Bring a light lunch, except for October 14th.
Return to the starting point is accomplished by carpooling.

**For more information—
Call (215) 862-2021 or email:
fodc@erols.com**

The Walks are free, but donations to the Friends will be gratefully accepted.

Next Up – Thompson Neely Camelback Bridge

The floods and a new trail project have brought another authentic camelback bridge to the top of the Friends' restoration list. The April and June floods affected the bridge that connects the Canal towpath with the Thompson Neely House property in the northern section of Washington Crossing Historic Park. The structure was lifted by the floodwaters and is now askew. The trusses are tilted and the lower sway braces are gone. Since the components of a camelback bridge work together to provide the bridge's strength and stability, structural repairs must be undertaken soon or the alignment problems will worsen and the bridge will have to be closed.



The "New Paths to Travel" trail leads to the tilted Thompson Neely Camelback Bridge.

Beyond the wisdom of tackling the job before things get worse and the repairs become more expensive, the Friends want to work on the bridge now because it is a part of a new trail that will soon be pieced together. The Friends of the Delaware Canal, Washington Crossing Historic Park, Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve, Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, Delaware River Greenway Partnership, and the Bucks County Conference and Visitors Bureau have been planning a trail and signage system, "New Paths to Travel."

The sites along the trail are:

- Bowman's Tower
- Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve
- Neely Grist Mill
- Thompson Neely House
- Delaware Canal
- Delaware River

New pathways and interpretive signs with maps will entice visitors to discover different places. For example, if a visitor comes to the Thompson Neely House, he/she will encounter a two-panel sign. One panel will tell the story of the House. The other will

invite visitors to use the "New Paths to Travel" trail, illustrate the other trail sites with photos and captions, and provide a "You are Here" trail map. The goal is to make a visit to the area more than a one-stop trip.

The Thompson Neely Camelback Bridge connects the eastern sites (River, Canal, and the Soldier's Graves section of Washington Crossing Historic Park) with the sites to the west (Thompson Neely House, Grist Mill, Wildflower Preserve, and Tower). Thus, it is vital that the bridge be in good shape to accommodate increased use.

The Friends will fund the restoration of the Thompson Neely Camelback Bridge with two \$25,000 legislative initiative grants provided by Senator Joe Conti. The contractor who is repairing the nearby Bowman's Hill waste gates will replace the lower sway bars in the very near future. The other structural work will be undertaken late in the year as weather permits.

The construction of the "New Paths to Travel" trail will get underway this fall. Signs will be placed in the spring, and a grand dedication is planned for June.

**Visit the Friends' website
www.fodc.org to see the new
map that illustrates which
sections of the Canal are open
and closed.**



Slowly but Surely

These days it's hard to adhere to the saying "Patience is a virtue." Two years have passed since the first flood, and even though we understand that two more floods have made the situation worse, we're ready to see real progress in bringing the Canal back to working order.

Here's the news:

Outside contractors have been hired to handle "emergencies" that endanger properties that adjoin the Canal. Towpath bank blowouts near Trail's End Lane and the Matlock property, both in Upper Black Eddy, have been repaired. The large blowout, south of Easton near Stemmie's, is next on the schedule. This blowout is particularly problematic because it extends six feet below the bottom of the Canal and access to the site is limited.

Another outside contractor, who employs Amish men from Lancaster County, is working on the stone walls of the Bowman's Hill waste gate structure. Initially, the Park thought that the gates were just jammed with debris, but it was discovered that the wooden gates and the stone walls and concrete that hold the gates in place were significantly damaged. A reduced level of water will be run in the southern 25 miles of the Canal while the contractor repairs the walls and the Park staff rebuilds the wooden waste gates. The project is expected to be completed by mid-November.

The documentation of the June 2006 flood damage will not be as streamlined as we had hoped. The relatively minor new damage cannot be simply added to the April 2005 reports because FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) funding regulations require that each flood event be calculated and appropriated independently. On the bright side, all parties involved want to produce the Flood Damage Reports in the least complicated way. DCNR, FEMA, and PEMA (Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency) are scheduled to do site inspections in late September.

Roger Fickes, the Director of DCNR's Bureau of State Parks, retired in June. The new Director is John Norbeck who quickly convened a staff meeting about the Delaware Canal State Park.



The towpath bank break south of Easton is creeping into the neighbor's lawn.

The outcome was that DCNR will stay the course with its plans to repair the Canal and repair it in ways that will make it sustain flood waters better. Calculations showed that it would be at least three times more expensive to "fill in" the Canal than to bring it back to working order.

To expedite the preparation of the flood repair work specifications, Gene Comoss, Director of DCNR's Bureau of Facility Design and Construction has instructed his staff to prepare the specifications and bid packages on a unit cost basis. Rather than

having the State engineers laboriously calculate the quantities of materials, the contractor will report the actual amounts of material moved, removed, or installed. Quantities will be verified by the job inspector. The flood-damaged sections of the Canal have been divided into eight work areas. Each work area will be bid individually. In theory (and we do hope for this outcome), several contractors can be working on the Canal simultaneously.

More entities are becoming involved in identifying possible remedies to Canal-related flooding. Morrisville Borough is working with the Park in seeking a location for an overflow that would be north of the Calhoun Street Bridge. Lower Makefield Township set its municipal engineer to the task of seeking solutions. Other municipalities and PennDOT have also been working on issues.

The Delaware Canal State Park maintenance staff will continue to clean up and fix up. The number of downed trees is daunting. Several helpful property owners have been dealing with trees on their own.

And, meanwhile, the Friends continue nudging, communicating, funding, informing, assisting . . . as we look forward to the coming year when the lucky number 7 will surely kick in.

Our Business Members

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

Founder

Barley Sheaf Farm Estate & Spa, Holicong
McGrath Homes, Langhorne
Scannapieco Development Corp., New Hope
Toll Bros, Inc., Horsham

Benefactor

Capital Planning Advisory Group, Yardley
Fine, Kaplan and Black, Philadelphia
First National Bank & Trust Company of Newtown –

Increased Membership

George E. Michael & Co., New Hope
Penn Color, Inc., Doylestown
Sand Castle Winery, Erwinna

Patron

Acadia National Mortgage, LLC
Carlton Pools, Inc., Warminster
DeLuca Enterprises, Inc., Yardley – NEW Member
DiAntonio's Catering, Newtown
Earl's Prime at Peddlers' Village, Lahaska
Ever May on the Delaware, Erwinna
First National Bank & Trust Company of Newtown
Gratz Gallery & Conservation Studio, New Hope
Logan Inn, New Hope
McCaffrey's Markets, Yardley
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
Bacco Restaurant, North Wales – NEW Member
Baldi & Jenei, P.C., New Hope
Cramer Bakery, Yardley
Crossing Vineyards & Winery, Washington Crossing
Dilly's Corner, Centre Bridge
Ellenoff, Underwood & Norman, Doylestown
T. Foster & Co., Inc., Yardley
Golden Pheasant Inn, Erwinna
The Grundy Commons, Bristol
Havana Restaurant and Bar, New Hope
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
Simone Collins Landscape Architecture, Berwyn
Stephan's Bridge Street Furniture Gallery, New Hope
Tinsman Bros., Inc., Lumberville
The UPS Store, New Hope
Wildflowers, New Hope

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

Welcome, New Friends

Frank Cipullo – Bacco Restaurant
Kendall Bajek
Karin & Bob Baldwin
Eric Beckhusen
Michelle & Scott Burgess
Kathy Schroeder & James Clare
DeLuca Enterprises, Inc.
Joan Detz
Lore & Robert Eichfeld
Emily Feng
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Alex McCombe
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Michielsen
Cynthia Prince
Dorothy & John D. Smith
Peter & Lisbeth Stille



Corporate Gift-Matching

If your company has a corporate gift-matching program, please consider allowing the Friends to participate by including the required paperwork along with your contribution. It's a great way to bolster your support of our efforts to repair and improve the Canal.

Friends of the Delaware Canal, Inc.

145 S. Main St.

New Hope, PA 18938



STONE SCULPTURE

from

ZIMBABWE

Exhibit and Sale

New Hope Arts Center

2 Stockton Avenue

(at the intersection of Bridge Street and Stockton Avenue)

Show runs through October 8th

Monday through Thursday - Noon to 7 p.m.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday - 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Proceeds benefit the Friends' Canal repair and improvement efforts.

To preview the show, visit www.fodc.org

NEW
LOCATION