

~ SCHUYLKILL NAVIGATION BICENTENNIAL ~

CANAL~RAIL EXCURSION

Saturday April 5, 2025

The Friends of the Schuylkill Navigation and the American Canal Society invite you to join us on an ALL-DAY EXPLORATION of the Upper Division of the Schuylkill Navigation slackwater-canal system in Berks and Schuylkill Counties. We will ride on the Reading & Northern Railroad from Reading Outer Station to Port Carbon and back. (Note: Passengers may board at Port Clinton instead, but will miss the Berks County sites.)

We will be using two 1950s vintage Budd cars (Rail Diesel Cars) of the Reading Blue Mountain & Northern Railroad (RBMN). We'll travel the route of the top 38 miles of the 108-mile slackwater-canal system built 1816-1828 by the Schuylkill Navigation Company. Our train will stop for hikes to Leesport Lock House, the newly cleared Lock 27 in Port Clinton, the Crosscut Canal Lock 23 at Auburn Bridge, the Auburn Tunnel, and Firth Dock just below the Head of Navigation at Port Carbon. Schuylkill Navigation historians will narrate on the northbound trip and guide the walks.

The train will depart READING OUTER STATION promptly at 9:30 AM. Estimated arrival time back is between 5 and 5:30 PM. (Port Clinton riders boarding time TBA, around 11:30. Check update link below in late March.)

We'll explore in rain, snow, or shine. Hiking shoes and tick prevention tactics advised. Train has steep steps.

FARE IS \$85. Optional: add \$15 for hoagie lunch on board. Seating is limited to 125 passengers. Updates and background info to be posted at: <https://waterhistoryphl.org/snc200-canal-rail-excursion/>

General Questions: sandysorlien@gmail.com ~ Payment Concerns: americancanals@gmail.com

Reading Outer Station, 3501 Pottsville Pike (Rte. 61), Reading PA 19605

Port Clinton Station, 1 Railroad Blvd, Port Clinton PA 19549

Free parking at the stations.

All sales are final. You may transfer your ticket to another canal fan, just email us the new name.

Railroad reserves the right to substitute motive power and equipment without notice, should any mechanical issues arise.

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Cell phone (optional) _____

Number of tickets @85. _____ Limit two tickets, age 12 or over. Fare includes illustrated route guide.

Number of lunches @15. each. Fresh local hoagies, **enter number:** Turkey ____ Italian ____ Cheese ____

Number of riders boarding at Reading Outer Station _____ or Port Clinton _____

All tickets will be held for pickup at trainside. No credit cards, please make check payable to
"American Canal Society" and mail with completed form to:

ACS Excursion, PO Box 302, Port Byron, NY 13140.

PayPal accepted to americancanals@gmail.com but please also mail or email your form.