

PENNSYLVANIA CANAL SOCIETY 2014 FALL FIELD TRIP

OCTOBER 17, 18, 19, 2014

THE EASTERN SECTION OF THE MORRIS CANAL

Join the PCS on an exciting, luxury coach tour of the Morris Canal, from Jersey City to Lake Hopatcong, with Waterloo Village thrown in on your own.

Not since 1998, when Linda and Bob Barth led two busloads of canal enthusiasts along this route, has there been such a tour. We will see a spectacular view of New York City, Ellis Island, and the Statue of Liberty from the shores of the Morris Canal's Little Basin, where canal boats entered the Hudson River.

Then we'll follow the canal route to Newark and ride the city subway, built in the bed of the Morris Canal in the 1930s. Discover WPA murals on the subway station walls.

On to the Clifton's Morris Canal Park and Nature Reserve and the Great Falls of the Passaic in Paterson – our newest national historical park. We will follow the power canals to the Rogers Locomotive Works, home of the Paterson Museum; here we will have our catered lunch and enjoy Paterson's industrial history.

Next we will see several new parks along the Morris Canal Greenway in Woodland Park and Little Falls followed by the iron town of Boonton. We will stop at Griffith Park on the banks of the Rockaway River to see the pier that supported the mule bridge across the river and the top of the guard lock that protected the canal.

On to Denville, Rockaway, Dover, and Wharton (Port Oram), an iron town on the canal, where we will stroll along a watered stretch of the canal, past interpretive signs to the newly restored Lock 2 East. If we are lucky, we will see the new wooden gates installed in the restored stone walls.

Next comes Ledgewood and Planes 2 and 3 East. We have scheduled a walk up the plane and a view into the turbine chamber. Then into the town of Ledgewood and a visit to the Saltbox House of Silas Riggs (an ancestor of Linda's), the King Store, which was closed and not disturbed for 50 years, and the newly restored King House Museum, completing a picturesque vignette.

On Saturday evening, Philip Jaeger will entertain us with his presentation, "The Morris Canal – Yesterday and Today." This excellent program is a newly updated version of his side-by-side slide show given to the PCS over twenty years ago. Phil's historic pictures of the canal along with modern views illustrate the changes that have taken place since the canal closed to transportation in 1924.

Our Friday night presentation by Waterloo's Resource Interpretive Specialist Andrea Proctor, the early-bird special at Waterloo Village, and Sunday's visit to the Lake Hopatcong Historical Museum will bring lasting memories of this mountain-climbing canal.

Don't miss the boat! Sign up today!

NOTE: Members who have received the field trip invitation by email are asked to acknowledge receipt of that message by sending a brief email to Bob and Linda Barth at barths@att.net. If we do not receive your acknowledgement, you will automatically receive a printed copy. Please help us keep mailing costs to a minimum during these trying economic times. Thanks so much.