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April 2013 | News from the Wabash & Erie Canal | Delphi, Indiana

Upcoming Events



Mark your calendar for our 2013 events! *More info will follow closer to each event.*

April 16, 7pm

Annual Meeting

Hear from Heartland Heritage Inc. about upcoming plans and also hear discuss what's next for Canal Park.

[More info>>](#)

April 20, 9am

Project WEED (Wabash & Erie Earth Day)

Help us spruce up the trails and other areas. Families, individuals,

Spring Finally Arrives!

New Improvements Crop Up Around Canal Park



We anxiously await the completion of two special canal boat models for our Lock Exhibit in the Canal Museum. This creation is being crafted for us by Blue Rhino Studios in Minnesota. Creating these models is possible because of a recent grant from the Carroll County Community Foundation. The model mimics the design of our real boat, the *Delphi*, which plies the waters of our canal on warm season weekends. Boat season starts on May 18th with a "beginning of the season" festival. Watch for details coming soon on the web and in the next issue.

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- > Boat Season Around The Corner
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Archive Volunteers Add Value



David Kelly (right) is explaining the filing of archive materials to Bill Wepler another volunteer. Bill recently retired from the Indiana State Museum and brings with him knowledge and experience from his career. This is another case where volunteers provide such a valuable asset to our Canal Center. Another volunteer is Rosalie Wilson (not pictured.) Both she and David are busy in our Archive Room at least one day a week processing accessioned materials.

groups and troops
welcome!

[More info>>](#)

May 18
**Heritage Transportation
Festival (& Opening
Weekend, 2013 Boat
Season)**

July 6-7
Canal Days Festival

October 19
**Harvest (Season End)
Festival**

December 14-15
**Old Fashioned
Christmas**

Rentals from Noble Bikes at the Canal



Didn't bring your bike?
You can still explore
Canal Park and many of
our trails. Noble Bikes at
the Canal offers many
types of bikes for rent, as
well as paddleboat and
kayak rentals.

Now open weekends and
by appointment!

[Find out more>](#)

Become A Member



One project yet to be completed...

Although this scene near the arched bridge in the background looks wild and natural it threatens canal boat operations this summer. This section is downstream and beyond the area traveled by the boat. Debris and accumulation of silt and vegetation impede the flow on its way to outlet into the Wabash River. Plans to temporarily alleviate the restricted flow will have to be done with hand labor.



When the dreary days of March left too many mornings for the M-W-F volunteers to work indoors we started the little Mill building, just inside the Mule Barn. This future exhibit is a replica of the nearby Adams Mill. Finally, a day with still some melting snow allowed the building to be brought outside where cedar shake roofing could be installed.



Roy Patrick begins constructing the water wheel for the Mill exhibit. The spokes, made of seasoned oak, are being fastened to the central hub that was also crafted by Roy. In his career he was a welder/blacksmith but has now been

History Comes Alive



Numerous characters were portrayed in the Canal Center by 6th graders from Delphi when they had their Wax Museum program in mid-March. Here young Indian Princess and Sacajawea were in full costume. Others included characters like Elvis Presley and Orville Wright. Parents, grandparents and guests filled the conference area to hear bits of history from these students acting out their character.

The hands-on exhibits at Canal Park and our wonderful Interpretive Museum make this a perfect destination for school and scout field trips! Contact the Canal Center to set up a tour...and spread the word!



Old



Your financial partnership restores and preserves a rare, important piece of early American history and provides hands-on learning opportunities for people of all ages.

[Join today!](#)

Sponsor An Exhibit



Share history by sponsoring one of our many hands-on interpretive exhibits.

[Find out more>](#)

with the M-W-F crew for over 15 years. Recently Roy was honored in Lafayette with a coveted Bison Award for volunteerism.



Brice Crowel (with drill) and Al Auffart are building the Mill wheel's catchment cavities. The Mill exhibit will be placed in Red Bridge Settlement and will have a water source to actually turn the wheel.

Dock Removed

M-W-F crew members recently tore down the oldest dock next to the Bicycle Shop in Canal Park. It was built in the early 1990s before the canal was dredged but is no longer used. In order to make way for the Gray Bridge abutments we needed to remove this, as well as a couple trees along the bank. Surprisingly, much of the treated lumber was salvageable so it will be used on some other project later.

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