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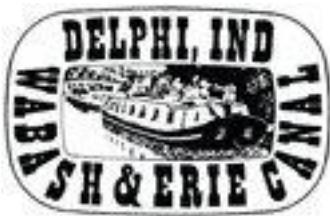
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APRIL 2015 / NEWS FROM THE WABASH & ERIE CANAL • DELPHI, INDIANA



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2015 Annual Meeting

The public is invited to come to hear archaeologist Christopher Moore talk about his interesting findings on Tuesday, April 21 at the Canal Interpretive Center in Canal Park, 1030 West Washington Street in Delphi, about

WINTER IS OVER!

THE OPENING OF CANAL TRAFFIC
COMES MAY 16th on
HISTORIC TRANSPORTATION DAY

JOIN US ON EARTH DAY

Earth Day Call-out for Spring Clean-up April 18

Earth Day activities provide the opportunity to work with other volunteers to tend to our parks and trails after a cold winter. This year the Canal Association is joining with a new organization in the community, Heartland Heritage Inc. on April 18 to concentrate some of the work along the Monon Rail Trail. Many other work sites will be in Canal Park. Rain date is April 25.

Volunteers of all ages, individuals and groups are asked to meet at 8:30 a.m. Saturday April 18 at Canal Park on North Washington Street in Delphi where instructions will be given. Teams will go with a leader whether to work on the Monon Rail Trail, or at Canal Park cutting planking for re-decking the Red Bridge. Others may work on landscaping at the Gray Bridge Crossing in Canal Park where the City's Gateway Trail joins the Gray Bridge entrance at Canal Park. Be prepared to do cleaning, pruning, raking, sawing and planting work. Dress ready for outdoor work. Mark your tools before you come. Lunch for the volunteer crews will be served by Delphi Psi Iota Xi chapter.

10 blocks from the courthouse. The evening will open with a short business meeting at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served following the program. There is no admission charge but, as always, donations are appreciated.

PARK VISITOR



On a different note a busload of Parks and Recreation Conference visitors came to the Canal Park **from their general session at Turkey Run State Park**

They were very interested in the museum and its interactive exhibits. This fellow found a rest stop in the replica canal boat cabin bunks inside the Interpretive Center. So you see this space is not just for kids.

The M-W-F Crew is Keeping Busy



It's back to work OUTDOORS again for the Canal's Monday-Wednesday-Friday volunteers. The work currently

is centered on the old railroad depot that we brought from Leiters Ford near Rochester in Fulton County. The front looks new because of the need for many replacement 1 X 12 pine boards required to cover about 40% of the outside lost/damaged when the building was cut down to "panels" that were moved intact. It was decided that the most visible area ought to be the place to put the new boards.

New Possibilities?



Of all things the land and buildings of our neighbor next door, Chromcraft Revington Furniture Co.

is

vacant

. They have over the years

donated

land to the Canal Park to expand and now they are gone. We hope to possibly secure more land and perhaps space from their excess property. Anyone who has connections with potential buyers of space

might find a nice write-off
to give us some of it
if it could be arranged.

Freedom Bridge Update



Next is coming the dedication of Freedom Bridge just east of Delphi. Delphi Mayor has called dignitaries and INDOT officials to an April 25th ceremony

at 2 pm

open to all the public. This bridge will reconnect the Canal's famed Monon Trail

**that had been severed by
the highway**

. Work on trail development will be part of a public callout for Earth Day Workday April 18th along with cooperation of a newer non-profit Heartland Heritage Inc

Board ReOrg



Brice Crowel works up under the eaves
with the original corbel supports
as he completes the replacement of siding on the building's

north
exposure.



Inside the depot are several rooms. This is the freight room where normally the public would not access.

**Paneling was placed by the MWF crew using
salvaged
broad
inch thick
boards
. Yet to be repaired is
a**



When Canal Board members and Committee Chairmen come to the table it fills this room.

The Wabash & Erie Canal Inc. as a non-profit has reorganized its

Board to more efficient standards and now includes three Vice Presidents that assist the many committees

VOLUNTEER AT CANAL PARK!



Volunteers make our popular canal boat rides possible. Here Dan McCain crew member and Mary Crary narrator are in costume as the boat approaches the dock. Other volunteers that run the boat (it takes two) are coordinated by Capt. Steve Gray. He is asking for more help for next year's tours. If you are interested in becoming crew for this venture contact him at steve1948@aol.com or [765-427-2912](tel:765-427-2912).

BECOME A MEMBER

In original sliding panel door (back center).

There were two such freight doors in the building.



Another inside room is the Ticket and Manager's room. This is smaller but important space and not accessed by the public.

It's taking shape but pretty rough yet. The depot will feature furniture and appointments relevant to the railroad era

If anyone has railroad station seats, and passenger or ticket area memorabilia and willing to donate, please let us know.



Mike and Pam Luenz are Life Members and they also like to come to Canal Park and help us with "acting out" the Canal era. Mike likes to tell stories or converse with the crowd and Pam is often found in the One Room Log Schoolhouse as the Schoolmarm.

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!**](#)

Did you know...



Did you know you could hold your wedding, party, meeting or conference at the Canal?



Brice Crowel and David Smith work on replacing boards as paneling to finish the interior of the Depot.

Note the floor planks Brice is kneeling on. We salvaged an abundance of 2 1/2 inch thick pine planks from the decking of the bridge we moved three years ago from Putnam County. We have a storehouse of materials from wood to stone to metal, etc. that have been donated in past years and we use as needed for projects.

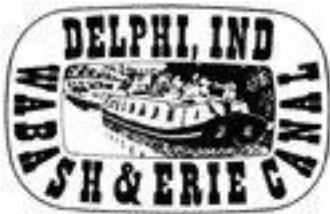


Part of the wall paneling that separates the Agent's

We offer a variety of options for each different type of event. We also have free wi-fi and can accommodate up to 300 guests!

[Save your date today!](#)

Help us pass the good news!



office and the Freight Room is shown here. Vern Cripe and Tom Peters (on ladder) work in this area.

THE BAGGAGE CART IS FINISHED!



One more Depot Railroad Baggage Cart is finished . This one had "old rusty iron gear" brought to us by Shirley and Bill Willard from Rochester. When they come back to pick it up it will be released to them as the " trade deal " we struck a year ago. We have completed a second cart and per agreement we will be giving this one back.



The other completed cart featuring premium oak donated by Cole Hardwoods from Logansport will be kept in Canal Park in the Depot as our "keeper" model of a Railway Express Cart.

NEW DONATION



We have work to do !! This aging bench has planks that have reached the age of deterioration. More new oak planks will be cut on April 18th by volunteer Rollin Graybill and his Woodmizer Portable

Sawmill. The Woodmizer Company has donated a full box of new band blades for Rollin's sawmill. Two big logs were donated too. This is a big help to our program.

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