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December 2013 / NEWS FROM THE WABASH & ERIE CANAL • DELPHI, INDIANA



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## UPCOMING EVENTS



### **Old Fashioned Christmas At The Canal Saturday & Sunday, December 14 & 15**

Bring the whole family to enjoy some Christmas cheer at Canal Park! Artisans and crafters will sell their wares, and we'll have warm apple dumplings, music and lots to see!

[More info>](#)

### **IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Old-Fashioned Christmas is coming up!
- \* Work continues on Burrows Log Home
- \* Apple Dumpling are almost gone!

## **Crew Keeps Busy On Burrows Log Home**



Six months ago our M-W-F volunteers began with this old wood-sided log house, located around Burrows near the Carroll/Cass County line. First, we took the siding off and saved it for the little Mill building, as we needed a covering that looked old. Then we gutted the interior, took the building apart log by log and hauled it to Canal Park.

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## DON'T MISS THE APPLE DUMPLINGS!



Now available for sale in the Canal Center are individual frozen apple dumplings. Nearly two thousand were made by a crew of over a dozen volunteers. We'll serve these dumplings warm at the Old Fashioned Christmas in Canal Park on December 14-15...but you can get yours now!

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## HELP US CREATE THE TOTAL CANAL EXPERIENCE!



*Standing outside the Case House is Canal Board member Annadell Lamb. She is a docent in this 1844 home made useable for the public by the Canal's volunteers. The home's original owner was Reed Case the Canal Construction Superintendent when the waterway was constructed through here. Later he became a prominent businessman and held interests in other forms of surface transportation such as plank roads and railroads.*



The Canal Board picked a site and decided we needed a Loom House near the restored Fouts House in the Village. The M-W-F crew began resetting the logs and flooring that had been salvaged from the Burrows House. Many good wood materials were saved for this reuse, and the guys love building things like this.



Times like this it really helps to have a volunteer with machinery that can lift these big timbers. Brice Crowel's son Jeff offered his tractor for his dad to operate. We have special talents for just about any challenging operation it seems.



[Find out more>](#)

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## **BECOME A MEMBER**



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.

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## **VOLUNTEER**



*Some of our regular volunteers recently made repairs to our Guard Lock gates at the back of Canal Park.*

**Come join us! We have many volunteer opportunities to suit your skills and time!**



As logs allow, we find locations for windows and doors. A modern chain saw now makes this cutting easier but we all try to imagine how the old-timers would have done it. The setting for this building is near the parking lot and will be the home of several looms that the Canal has.



When replacing logs, we used a mixture of original and some from those giant timbers we received from New Haven Area Heritage Association. The huge timbers were from a buried canal lock (1838) that was unearthed a dozen years ago up near Fort Wayne and never used. We secured two semi trailers full of timbers and have been the only ones to successfully use them. Canal timbers were cut down to match the size of the Burrows logs with a portable sawmill and even more lumber was made. Note Brice fastening the window framing with 2 X 8 planks that had also been cut from the old lock timbers.

[Find out more>](#)

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Just as we were working on the Loom House one day an even newer plan came to our attention. Peter Cooper an historic crafter in Canal Park came to us with drawings of a "post and beam" small building that he wants to build in Pioneer Village. We looked at his plans and gave him a nod to find materials and proceed with his plans to pre-fab the mortise and tenon joints this winter in his home shop. We need sponsors for either of these two new buildings, contact Dan McCain at (765) 412-4308.



Passenger season is over and the Canal Boat is being lifted above the water in its berth inside the Warehouse. Volunteers prepare the craft for winter by removing the water ballast and cleaning both the interior and exterior. This year our ridership was greater than any year before. Boat Coordinator Steve Gray is looking for more volunteers next year in anticipation of an even bigger season, so if you're interested, call the Center and find out more info.



Power washing takes off grime from the black coated aluminum hull. The brightly colored upper part that is above the waterline is made of wood. The boat will stay in its protected canal level building but up on its lift until late April next year.

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