

ROEBLING CHAPTER

Society for Industrial Archeology

March 2013 – Vol. 22 No.1

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2013

This year the RCSIA will be trying something new. We are planning a larger and more diversified tour schedule than we have had in the past and will be publishing a list of tours in advance so members can pick the ones that sound interesting and save the dates. We will be having more tours in New Jersey and the Hudson Valley while maintaining our base here in the metropolitan area. To accomplish this, the RCSIA will be partnering with Industrial Heritage Walks, a program of the Morris County Park Commission, and with the Passaic County Morris Canal Greenway Project, a program of the Passaic County Department of Planning and Economic Development.

You will find a quick reference list of the tours that we have planned so far on page 3 of this newsletter and descriptions of the tours on pages 4 and 5. You will also be able to access this information at any time under the Events tab on the Chapter web site.

There will be two major themes in the first half of the year: canals and iron mine railroads. On the Mt. Hope tour we will



Miner David Jones and his son John at the Richard Mine ca 1900. One of the mines we will visit on this year's Mt. Hope tour.

Annual Meeting

The Rogers Storage Building

This year's Annual Meeting started off with a Paterson walking tour led by RCSIA member Gianfranco Archimede. Despite a dusting of snow, 25 members and friends braved the cold weather to tour Paterson's water power system and see a section of the Morris Canal that will soon become the Barnes Street Canal Park.

After a break for lunch, members gathered for the meeting. Unfortunately there was some last-minute confusion when we

Continued on page 2



walk the Mt. Hope Mineral Railroad, investigate several iron mines, and end with special tour of the iron master's house. We are also going back to Greystone Park, formerly New Jersey's Asylum for the Insane at Morristown. A short visit here last year was so popular that we are going to do a more in-depth tour. We have obtained special permission to visit the Greystone Gas Works, which is the only surviving illuminating gas plant that we know of. Later in the year we will have more tours closer to Manhattan for the New York members and we are exploring some ideas for trips up the Hudson. Please see the list of possible future tours on page 5.

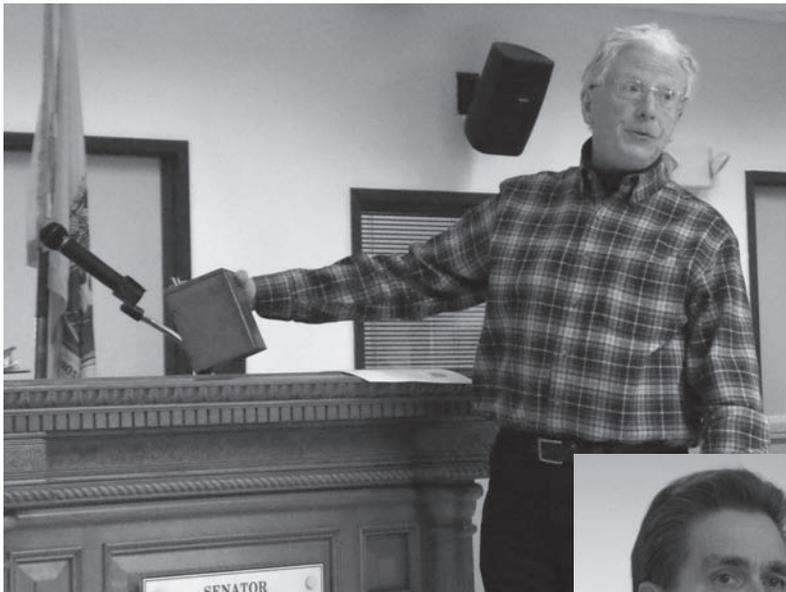
We are also planning a full day trip to the Anthracite Museum in Scranton, PA that will include the museum, Lackawanna Coal Mine and Eckely Miners Village. This will be a great trip with lots of special attention from the museum staff.

Continued on page 4

FOR THE LATEST ON UPCOMING EVENTS

WATCH THE ROEBLING CHAPTER WEB SITE FOR DETAILS – roebblingsia.org

RCSIA ANNUAL MEETING – 2013



Top left, new RCSIA President Joe Macasek shows off a Watchman's Magneto Station at the annual meeting show and tell. Top right: RCSIA member Gianfranco Archimede, lead a walking tour that included the frozen Great Falls at Paterson. Bottom center: Outgoing RCSIA President Jim Mackin gives a wrap up of last years tours and events.

Continued from page 1

WATTS CAMPBELL STEAM ENGINE COMPANY UNDER ATTACK

The Watts-Campbell Steam Engine Company site, in Newark, New Jersey, is coming under threat of demolition. Watts-Campbell, the oldest surviving steam engine factory in the United States, is a treasure trove of giant machine tools dating to the 1870s survive in operating condition. The site was foreclosed upon in February of 2013 and is now owned by the City of Newark.

MTU student Paul Pickard is in the process of forming a non-profit organization to help preserve the site and its collection of machine tools, drawings, patterns. Paul hopes to present the city with some workable alternatives to demolition.

Many chapter member have visited this site and recognize its value. If you would like to join the effort the preserve Watts-Campbell contact Paul Pickard at pjpickard@gmail.com. ■

learned that the newly completed Rogers Building would not be available and that we would meet in the former Rogers Erecting Shop instead. We apologize to members who were inconvenienced.

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Mackin who gave a recap of last years activities, followed by a financial report given by Treasurer Kevin Pegram, and a membership report given by Secretary Aron Eisenpress. Tom Flag, head of the nominating committee, then presented a new slate of officers for 2013, and called for an election. Members voted unanimously to accept the new slate of officers:

President	Joe Macasek
Vice President	Sandy Needham
Treasurer	Kevin Pegram
Secretary	Aron Eisenpress

We want to thank Jim Mackin for his years of service as president. Jim has agreed to remain on the board and will continue to offer his enthusiasm and support. Our new president will be Joe Macasek and the new Vice President will be Sandy Needham.

After the meeting members got to tour the Rogers Building, site for this year's Great Falls Symposium. The building's interior has been turned into a state-of-the-art conference facility while leaving exposed many of its rustic details. ■

UPCOMING EVENTS

Continued from page 1

To organize so many tours we will be using both our e-mail service and our web site. A week before each tour all the members on our e-mail list will receive a reminder with a map and directions. If you plan to attend, a quick return e-mail puts you on the list.

If you are not already on the Chapter's e-mail list it's simple and easy to sign up. Go to the web site, roeblingsai.org, and enter your e-mail address in the box below Sign up for our E-mail Newsletter in the left-hand navigation bar. Or you can just send an e-mail to afecu@eisenpress.com.

If you don't have an e-mail address and want information about a particular tour please send a note to: **RCSIA, 19 Budd Street, Morristown, NJ 07960** and we will send you the information. However, if you really want to be in the loop e-mail will be the way to go. See the article on "Going Digital" in this issue for more reasons to get online.

We hope you will find something of interest on this year's schedule and be able to join us on some of the tours. ■

GOING DIGITAL

In the past we have talked about replacing our traditional hard-copy newsletter with an e-mailed electronic version. There are several reasons why this is a good idea. The hard copy newsletter is expensive. Its printing and postage costs are the single largest item in the Society's budget. For this expenditure we get to communicate with the membership only four times a year. We would like to share more news and information, offer more tours, and do it in a more timely matter. Unfortunately, we still have some member that don't have e-mail and so we are going to change slowly.

This year we will continue to send all members a hard-copy newsletter while we increase our e-mail communications and expand our web site. This will take a while to accomplish. In the mean time we ask all members without e-mail to let us know who you are. A short note addressed to the address on the back of the Newsletter will help us plan how to best to keep you involved with chapter activities. ■

TOUR SCHEDULE – 2013

This is a quick reference lists of tour for the first half of this year. A short description of each tour can be found on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter. Members will receive an e-mail reminder with a map and directions a week before each tour. If you would like to attend, a short return e-mail to will put you on her list. If you don't have e-mail, please send a note to:

Joe Macasek, 19 Budd St., Morristown NJ.

Please join us!

Mar 23 – Hibernia: Morris County's Best-Preserved Mining Town

Sponsored by: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE TOURS, Morris County Park Commission

Apr 6 – Wharton & Northern Railroad

Sponsored by: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE TOURS, Morris County Park Commission

Apr 14 – Paterson Canal Walking Tour

Morris Canal Greenway in Passaic County:

Sponsored by: Passaic County Department of Planning and Economic Development

Apr 21 – Split Rock Furnace

Sponsored by: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE TOURS, Morris County Park Commission

May 4 – Hacklebarney Mines & Mill

Sponsored by: Morris County Park Commission

May 18 – Graystone

Sponsored by: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE TOURS, Morris County Park Commission

May 19 – Woodland Park to Little Falls Canal Walking Tour

Morris Canal Greenway in Passaic County:

Sponsored by: Passaic County Department of Planning and Economic Development

May 25 – Anthracite Museum Tour

Sponsored by: ROEBLING CHAPTER SIA

Jun 8 – Mt. Hope Mine & Mineral Railroad

Sponsored by: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE TOURS, Morris County Park Commission

Jun 9 – Turkey Mountain Limestone Quarries

Sponsored by: Morris County Park Commission

Jun 22 – Ledgewood: Morris Canal Inclined Plans

Sponsored by: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE TOURS, Morris County Park Commission

Sep 7 – Wayne, Pompton Feeder Canal Walking Tour

Morris Canal Greenway in Passaic County:

Sponsored by: Passaic County Department of Planning and Economic Development

Ont 6 – Pompton Lakes Canal Walking Tour

Morris Canal Greenway in Passaic County:

Sponsored by: Passaic County Department of Planning and Economic Development

UPCOMING TOURS – 2013

Hibernia: Morris County's Best Preserved Mining Town

Saturday, March 23 – Led by Joe Macasek and Bierce Riley. At Hibernia, iron mining began long before the Revolutionary War and lasted well into the 20th century. On this walk we will see the mine workings, investigate the remains of the Hibernia Mine and Hibernia Underground Railroads, look for the location of the Hibernia Furnace and visit a street of 150-year-old miners' houses. This moderate 3-hour hike will involve some off-trail exploration.

Wharton & Northern Railroad

Saturday, April 6 – Led by Joe Macasek and Bierce Riley. The Wharton & Northern began in 1872 as a spur connecting the Green Pond Mines with the NYS&W. In 1885 a group of investors formed the Morris County Railroad and extended the line south to connect with the Central Railroad of New Jersey at Port Oram. In the late 1880s, Philadelphia industrialist Joseph Wharton began expanding his interests in New Jersey with the purchase of mines at Hibernia. To get the ore to his furnace at Port Oram, he built a spur from Oreland to connect with the MCCR. Eventually he acquired ownership of the entire railroad and changed its name to the Wharton & Northern. On this walk we will start at Hugh Force Park in Wharton and walk several miles of the W&N right of way. Although the rails are still in place, the route is overgrown and there will be plenty of off-trail exploration.

Paterson Canal Walking Tour

Sunday, April 14 – Led by Joe Macasek. This tour will start at Lambert Castle and then follow the alternate Greenway route over Garret Mountain and down into Paterson to the site of the new Barnes Street Canal Park. We will continue through the Paterson mill district to the site of Great Falls National Historical Park. The hike will take approximately four hours (about two miles) of moderate hiking on trails with some steep inclines and easy walking on sidewalks. Parking is available at Lambert Castle and at the Great Falls National Historical Park. Bring water and lunch. No facilities are available.



Morris Canal pay boat Florence.

Split Rock Iron Furnace

Saturday, April 21 – Led by Joe Macasek and Bierce Riley. This walk is a rare opportunity to visit Morris County's only standing iron furnace and to explore the remnants of village that supported its operation. The tour will include new research that has expanded the story of the site. The visit will include a look at the impressive stone furnace stack, the forge site and an examination of the archeological remains of this once-thriving community. This is an archeology hike with a moderate amount of off-trail walking, sometimes over uneven terrain. Come equipped with sturdy shoes and a lot of imagination!

Hacklebarney Mines & Cooper Mill

Saturday, May 4 – Led by Joe Macasek. This walk will start at the Cooper Mill visitors center then continue along the Hacklebarney Branch of the Central Railroad of New Jersey down into the Black River gorge to see the mines and forge sites of the Hacklebarney Mining District. The walk will include guide tour of the fully restored Cooper Gristmill. This moderate three hour hike will involve some off-trail exploration.

Graystone Park

Saturday, May 18 – Led by Joe Macasek and Bierce Riley. When Greystone Park was opened in 1876 it was officially known as the New Jersey Asylum for the Insane at Morristown. The complex was built using principles developed by Philadelphia psychiatrist Thomas Kirkbride as a new and better way to provide health care for the mental ill. The 712-acre property was designed to be self sufficient, with its own farmland, water supply, illuminating gas plant, and railroad spur. Although the hospital is now closed, having been replaced by a more modern facility, most of the land is now being redeveloped as the Central Park of Morris County. On this walk we will explore the once-stately grounds to find the remains of the some of the systems that made the hospital work. We have special permission to visit the ruins of the gas plant that once provided coal gas for lighting, ironing, and cooking. Although the remaining hospital buildings still retain much of the architectural grandeur they are unsafe and off-limits. We will get a chance to view them from the outside.

Little Falls to Woodland Park Canal Walking Tour

Sunday, May 19 – Led by Joe Macasek. When engineers planned the right-of-way of the Morris Canal they needed to find a route around the edge of the valley of the Passaic River as it wound its way between two parallel basalt ridges, called the First and Second Watchung Mountains. The route they chose, called the 17-Mile Level, took the canal all the way across Passaic County without the need for a lock or inclined plane. On this walk we will explore 17-Mile Level along newly completed section of the Canal Greenway start-

ing at Little Falls Morris Canal Park and ending at the Woodland Park Municipal Building. This will be a mostly easy four mile walk on sidewalks and trails. Parking is available in the Little Falls Municipal Lot. Bring water and lunch. Facilities are available at the conclusion of the hike in Woodland Park.

Anthracite Museum Tour

Saturday, May 25 – Led by Joe Macasek and Bierce Riley. Pennsylvania's Anthracite Coal and New Jersey's Magnetite Iron Ore played a key roll in this county's development as industrial power. To bring the coal and ore from mines to markets canals and then railroads were built across New Jersey to New York Harbor. Access to coal and transportation helped turn villages in the New Jersey Highlands into industrial towns and town along coast into industrial cities. On this tour we will go back to the source and look at where the coal was mined and visit a town where mines lived and worked. This full day, drive it yourself, trip to the Anthracite Museum in Scranton PA, that will include a tour of the Lackawanna Coal Mine and Eckely Miners Village. This will be a great trip with lots of special attention from the museum staff. There will be group admission charges for the museum and mine tour. **Please send us an e-mail to reserve a place on this tour: macgraphics1@verizon.net.**

Mt. Hope Mines & Mineral Railroad

Saturday, June 8 – Led by Joe and Bierce Riley. The Mt. Hope Tract contains some of the richest veins of iron ore and most productive mines in New Jersey. In 1866 a railroad was chartered to bring ore from these mines to the Morris Canal and later to a connection with the Morris & Essex Railroad at Wharton. The mines and the railroad continued to operate well into the 20th century. This walk will starts at Mt Hope, then follows the route of the Mt. Hope Mineral Railroad into the Mt. Hope Historical Park to explore remains of the Richard, Allen and Teabo Mines. We will end with a visit to the Ford Faesch iron master's house for a behind the scenes guide tour of restoration work in progress. This moderate hike will involve some off-trail exploration.

Turkey Mountain Limestone Quarries

Saturday, June 9 – Led by Joe Macasek. Early farmers relied on primitive agricultural techniques that, after only a short time, left the soil depleted and unproductive. In the late 1700s, German immigrants introduced the use of lime as a fertilizer to sweeten and enrich their fields. However, the Precambrian rocks of the New Jersey Highland contain very few deposits of limestone. Fortunately for the Dutch farmers who settle the fertile river lowlands of Montville Township nearby Turkey Mountain had a large outcropping of Dolomite. On this walk we will explore the forests of Pyramid Mountain Natural Historic Area to locate quarries that date back to a time when local farmers dug what they needed and burned the limestone in small heaps by the side of the quarry holes. This moderate hike will involve some off-trail exploration.

Ledgewood's Morris Canal Inclined Planes

Saturday, June 22 – Led by Joe Macasek. The Morris Canal's Inclined Planes were an outstanding engineering achievement, capable of raising or lower boats up to 100 feet in just a few minutes. Plane 2 East at Ledgewood, is one of the best preserved plane sites, has been is cleared for visitors to explore. The tour of the plane will including a visit to the underground turbine chamber, recently completed restoration work, a walk along the canal towpath and a visit to a nearby iron mine. This moderate hike will involve some off-trail exploration.

Wayne Canal Walking Tour

Saturday, September 7 – Led by Joe Macasek. This hike will start at Riverside Park on Farmingdale Rd. at Deerfield Rd. in Wayne. On the this walk we explore the northern end of the Morris Canal's Pompton Feed in Pompton Aquatic Park and see the feeder dam, lock site and walk along the river towpath. This will be an approximately two hours tour

Continued from page 6

FUTURE TOURS

Listed below are some of the tours that are in the planning stage for the later in the year.

NEW YORK TOURS

– Long Island City Degnon Terminal

Sponsored by: ROEBLING CHAPTER SIA

– Floyd Bennett Field

Sponsored by: ROEBLING CHAPTER SIA

– Bush Terminal & Brooklyn Army Terminal

Sponsored by: ROEBLING CHAPTER SIA

– Steinway Piano Factory

Sponsored by: ROEBLING CHAPTER SIA

– 1840s Railroad Tunnel Walk

Sponsored by: ROEBLING CHAPTER SIA

NEW JERSEY TOURS

– D&R Canal

Sponsored by: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE TOURS, Morris County Park Commission

– Butler

Sponsored by: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE TOURS, Morris County Park Commission

– Red Mill – Clinton

Sponsored by: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE TOURS, Morris County Park Commission

– Waterloo: Waterloo Valley Industrial History

Sponsored by: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE TOURS, Morris County Park Commission

– Edison Mines

Sponsored by: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE TOURS, Morris County Park Commission

WHARTON & NORTHERN

Continued from page 5

with some off-trail exploration. On-street parking is available on Farmingdale Rd. Bring water and a snack. No facilities are available.

Pompton Lakes Canal Walking Tour

Saturday, October 5 – Led by Joe Macasek. This hike will start at the Mathes Avenue Woodlands on Mathes Ave. at Riverview Rd. in Pompton Lakes. On this walk we will explore what was the old village of Pompton, site the Ryerson forge, furnace and boat dock at the top canal's river towpath. We will then walk along the newly blazed Greenway trail through forest woodlands. This tour will take approximately three hours of moderate hiking with some off-trail exploration. On-street parking is available on Mathes Ave. Bring water and a snack. No facilities are available.

UPCOMING EVENTS – 2013

May 30 – June 2 2013 Annual SIA Conference
St. Paul & Minneapolis, Mn

Roebling Chapter SIA Officers

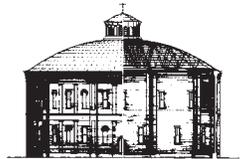
President	Joe Macasek
Vice President	Sandy Needham
Treasurer	Kevin Pegram
Secretary	Aron Eisenpress

You can contact the Roebling Chapter by E-mail at:
RCSIAprez@aol.com

Membership is \$20.00 per year, payable to RCSIA, c/o Aron Eisenpress, 235 West End Avenue, Apt. 14-C, New York, NY 10023. A downloadable chapter membership form and general information about the SIA are available at www.siahq.org.

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