

Friends of Waterloo Village

Membership News

www.friendsofwaterloovillage.com
973-668-3457

Volume II Issue I

Newsletter Date — January 2015

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Friends Of Waterloo Village - 2014 in review

The year we started off having to reschedule our annual membership meeting from January due to inclement weather. Once that was past us we stayed on schedule and held our fourth annual Harvest Moon Festival in October. Once again the festival was sold out and a tremendous success. More on the festival inside on page 2.

Our membership is less than expected. Annual membership fees remained fixed at \$25.00 per family. We would like to double our membership this year, so please call 973-668-3457 or visit our web site to join or renew.

The board continued to work closely with NJ Division of State Parks and Forestry. The Waterloo Village strategic plan was created with input from all of

the stakeholders. State Parks, the Canal Society of NJ, the Waterloo United Methodist Church and the Friends of Waterloo Village all contributed in the development of both short-term and long-term plans for the stabilization of the buildings and structures and the promotion of the village as a eco-tourism destination.

2014 saw the signing of a lease with Jeffery A. Miller Catering (JAM at Waterloo) with the division of parks. JAM at Waterloo is leasing the Meeting House, the Pavilion, the gazebo, the surrounding grounds, and parking areas. JAM at Waterloo has use of the public restrooms as well. The FOWV has been and will continue to work with JAM at Waterloo for our events.



NJ Division of Parks and Forestry

Andrea Proctor, the Resource Interpretive Specialist for Waterloo Village historic site, has taken her responsibility to improve the visitor experience to a new level. Andrea has instituted and managed the following programs during 2014: Weekends at Waterloo; school programs; Shadows of the Past; Trick-or-Treat at Waterloo; Feast on

History; and 1st Day Hike. Each of these programs by itself is an exciting, educational, and fun experience; collectively, the programs offer a diverse and in-depth look at our Waterloo Village gem.

Andrea reviews and helps facilitate Special Use Permit requests from event planners, coordi-

nates meetings, activities and site usage for the partner organizations involved with Waterloo, and examines the educational content that is delivered by park staff and volunteers.

Andrea can be reached by email at waterlooris@gmail.com or 973-347-1835.



The NJ Highlands Coalition hosted the Highlands Festival for the second time at Waterloo Village in September. The festival hosted an abundance of diverse vendors, activities, and entertainment for all who attended. From crafts and foods to music and hiking, the festival brought a new light to Waterloo village as not only a historic site, but a place where the community can come together and celebrate culture.

Shadows of the Past

Waterloo's annual Shadows of the Past tour was offered again this year. For two nights, October 15th and 23rd, courageous souls dared to walk the site at night guided only by lantern light. With a focus on the lesser known Waterloo stories, the program did not disappoint. Shadows of the Past is quickly becoming a popular staple in Waterloo's yearly events.

Harvest Moon Festival

The Friends of Waterloo Village hosted our 4th annual Harvest Moon Festival on October 9, 2014. The event sold out and was attended by 325 guests. Fourteen local vendors participated and provided food and libations. Special thanks go to Bell's Mansion, Salt Gastro Pub, The Prickly Pear, Fanucci's, dre's, The Black Forest Inn, Shakey Jakes, Pavinci, Bea McNally's, Cliffs, The Grove, KaliKakes, JAM at Waterloo, Lavanta and Best Cellars. In addition to the food vendors,

62 individuals and businesses donated items for the silent auction. The evening was a huge success and generated in excess of \$22,000 in donations to our treasury. These funds will add to our ability to make significant contributions to the stabilization and restoration of the deteriorating buildings and structures in the village. We are currently in the planning stage for the 2015 Harvest Moon Festival and are seeking members to join the Harvest Moon committee to help with



the preparation and staffing of that event. If you are interested in helping staff this event, call 973-668-3457.

Morris Canal Mule Bridge repair

We are on our way to facilitating a major repair to the Mule Bridge. The FOWV and the Canal Society have each dedicated \$5,000 toward the repair of this structure. Once complete, the Mule Bridge will allow direct access to Water-

loo Village from the Morris Canal Greenway, located across the Musconetcong River in Mount Olive Township. We are working with the State Park Service and the Sussex County historian, Wayne McCabe, to make this happen during 2015.



The Mule Barn Roof repair

The FOWV has designated \$26,000 toward the replacement of the Mule Barn roof. The State Park Service is funding the remainder of the cost for the roof as well as the refurbishment of the interior. Work is currently underway and should be com-

pleted early in 2015.

The Carriage Barn will become the primary meeting space for future events for all of the partners at Waterloo and will be the enclosed space for the participants in the School Program.



Happenings at Waterloo—Canal Heritage Days

Starting on June 27th and ending on October 25th, the Canal Society of New Jersey will hold its bi-monthly Canal Heritage Days. During these special days the doors to many of Waterloo's buildings are opened to the public with members of CSNJ, and Waterloo staff present to guide and answer ques-

tions. The Lenape Village was operated by State Park staff on these fun-filled days. This addition was exciting for everyone who came out for the already successful Canal Heritage Days. Come learn about the Morris Canal in Waterloo Village.



Happenings at Waterloo—Byram Day

For the second consecutive year Byram Day festivities took place at Waterloo Village. Attendance at the event was remarkable! With all of our parking lots full it seemed that everyone wanted to celebrate Byram. Seventy-two vendors set up throughout

the park. Vendors included food, face painting, a car show, a 5K and 10K race, and live entertainment in two separate locations throughout the day. Byram Day will be a highly anticipated event in 2015.



Waterloo Improvements

The Seymour Smith House is the new home of the Historic Site office and will soon receive a new coat of paint as well.

The Seymour Smith Carriage House, formerly known as the Apothecary, is currently being painted.

Happenings at Waterloo—Weekends at Waterloo

This year, Waterloo was pleased to offer a variety of Saturday programs aimed at exploring not only Waterloo's history, but our rich and plentiful natural resources. From vernal pool observations to identifying medicinal plants, our Saturday pro-

grams were a great opportunity for individuals to discover Waterloo in all seasons. Our most popular and reoccurring excursions were kayak tours. Kayakers were guided along Waterloo's picturesque lake and given a chance to appreciate the nature

and history that surrounds Waterloo Lake. This year is bound to bring more eager kayakers to the site, and some new programs as well.

Happenings at Waterloo—School Programs

Parks and Forestry at Waterloo draws ever increasing numbers of school programs. With its very successful tours of the Waterloo Canal Town and Lenape Village, both teachers and students proclaim "Best School Trip Ever." This year's engaging staff and "hands on" activities brought history to life and enabled students to make a lasting connection with history.

Schools from all over the state created a bond with Waterloo's history, as read in the many "Thank You" letters received at the office. Although the school tours have halted for the winter, the new season will open in just a few weeks! School trips are already booking for spring. We are anxiously awaiting another stellar season here at Waterloo Village!



Feast on History

On November 23rd, Waterloo Village teamed up again with JAM at Waterloo and served up a scrumptious helping of history. Attendees to the Feast of History program were invited to taste the delicious dishes made by our caterer and take in the smells of Native American open hearth cooking. The weather was gorgeous, and the food was steaming hot, as hundreds of visitors joined in to enjoy this unique experience. We can't wait to start preparing next year's program!

Happenings at Waterloo—Trick or Treat at Waterloo Village

Waterloo's second annual Trick-or-Treat took place on Sunday, October 26th.

Park employees, JAM at Waterloo, and countless volunteers came together to create a fun, friendly, and somewhat spooky environment.

With approximately 2,000 individuals in attendance, the trick or treat program practically

tripled in size! Throughout the village costumed kids and adults were treated to candy and other fun events, with the addition of this year's story telling in the Spooky Forrest.

The trick-or-treat at Waterloo is always a blast for everyone involved! Although it is months away, we're already brainstorming for 2015.





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JAM at Waterloo –A division of Jeffery A. Miller Catering

Jeffrey A. Miller Catering is honored to be the exclusive caterer to Waterloo Village. The Meeting House has had beautiful make over and we have added a fire pit and wood burning oven where we will bake our own bread. We will be focusing on Farm to Table menus and will be planting our first crops in the spring of 2015.

We have the resources and experience to make your wedding day a memorable one. Our

knowledgeable management team will work tirelessly to attend to every aspect of your special event, from the early menu planning stages through to the last dance of everything. Whether you know just what you want or would like our guidance and suggestions, we will sit down with you to create a custom menu, schedule of events, and a complete party environment to make your vision a reality. With the JAM team in place as your event professionals, we are committed to making sure that you can relax and enjoy your once-in-a-lifetime celebration.



Robyn Bell

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Become a Member !!!!

Membership has its rewards.

Family membership is still available for a mere \$25.00 per year. You will receive a discount card that can be used at local merchants for goods and services as well as preferred pricing at all Friends of Waterloo functions. Membership is for the calendar year and can be renewed/purchased on our web site, through the mail or by contacting a board member.

Please provide your name, address, email address, and telephone number when responding on the web page or over the telephone.

Your membership and willingness to help us are crucial to the future success of the FOWV.

Check out the websites at www.friendsofwaterloovillage.com, www.CanalSocietyNJ.org, and www.waterloochurch.com.

We're on Facebook too! Friends of Waterloo Village: we have a site, and a group page! We welcome you to post pictures, or just chat with other Friends of Waterloo Village.

Our annual membership meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2015 in the Carriage Barn from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

