



THE MULE

SPRING 2017



www.eriecanalcamillus.com

Camillus Erie Canal Park - Founded 1972

45 th BIRTHDAY BASH, MARCH 11, 2017

Our birthday bash preparations began on Friday afternoon. **Judy and Sean Porter, Tina and Hope Lont, Barbara Brady, Nadine Watson, Ron and Judy Cottet, Don Mosher, Tom and Doreen Barba** descended on the Senior Center to decorate for the festive occasion. **Judy Porter** designed the new Camillus Erie Canal Park pins as favors. She arranged the centerpieces composed of a museum piece with flanking lighted candleholders. These beautiful wooden candleholders were a product of **Dick Grobsmith's**.

Corinne Kinane and Larry Young took reservations for party goers who enjoyed the marvelous spaghetti dinner prepared by Joe Menzel and a group of cooks and servers. We polished off colorful cakes decorated with a scene of Sims Store, the Aqueduct and the Ontario. The fabulous "Tuesday Night Jammers", **Jim Thrall, Martin Lovell and Bob Chapman**, entertained us.

Eric Bacon Director of Parks and Recreation introduced our guests.

Senator John De.Francisco congratulated our volunteers and presented the canal with a Proclamation from the New York State Assembly. Following the Senator, **Derek Shepard**, of the Onondaga County Legislature read a declaration recognizing the 45th Anniversary. Councilor **Mike LaFlair**, representing the Town of Camillus, presented a decree from the town. **Eric Bacon** presented the **Beebe's** with a plaque revealing a composite of canal pictures. Concluding this section of the program was a congratulatory message from Congressman **Katko** who had read a Declaration about the Camillus Erie Canal Park on the floor of the House of Representatives. This was truly special and rarely done!

The following were honored for their Life Time Achievement. We thank them for their talents at the canal, but also, their service to the community for a long period of time They were: **Ruby and Ray Adams, Lois Cogovan, Fran and Ann Ezzo, Paul Hurst, Jan kral, Terry Ordinetz, Marie Miczan, and Jim Thrall**. National Grid was recognized for their service to the Business Community. Accepting for **Diane Benedetto**, were **Joe and Mary Flynn**

Freddie Cossick, who introduced two amendments to our BY- LAWS, conducted the business meeting. One allows the society to expand the number of board members; the other, permitted us to separate the office of secretary/ treasurer. They were approved.

The nominees for the Class of 2017 Board of Directors were approved. They are **Lonnie Warner, Dick Grobsmith, Tom Barba, Don Mosher and Richard Seubert**.

We appreciate the service of **Lois Cogovan, Gary Tyler, and Ed Morgan** who are retiring from the BOARD. In marking the special anniversary of the park, members of the Board of Directors and those on the Executive Committee were presented with an exquisite hand made plate designed by **Mark Presner** who is a professional potter associated with the Genesee Country Village and Museum and son-in-law of **Barbara Brady**.

Special thanks were given to **Dick Scheutow and Byran Honald** for clearing the canal banks. We appreciate the work of **Gary Tyler and Tom Kehoskie** in making memorial benches and dragging the trail. **Judy Porter** was recognized for designing the decorations for the party. **Dick Grobsmith** was applauded for his designing the candleholders.

VOLUNTEER DINNER CONTINUED

The Newbie Award was presented to **Richard Seubert** for his outstanding contributions to the boating program. Just before he came to us, Richard had crewed a sailing vessel in the Antarctica waters.

Photos of the Memorial Plaques were given to the families of volunteers whose loved ones have recently passed away. Those who were remembered are **Maria Anderson, Jean Carrington, Joyce Eschenfelder, Hldie Leubner, and Sandy McCarty.**

Dave entertained us with early pictures of the canal, 2016 events and zany slides. Aqueduct plaques were given to **Bob Ballard, Remo Bianco, Marcia Bower Marilyn Farrell, Corrine Kinane and Larry Young, Vicky Quigley, Don Mosher and Jim Murphy.**

At the conclusion of the evening **Janet Connors and Paul Bertan** were proclaimed **VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR.** Paul was an original member of our committee and has been with the canal for 45 years. Janet, an extraordinary retired 4th grade teacher, is our school tour chair. She arranges visits of over 2000 school children. **CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL!**

FROM THE TOP- STEAM ENGINE AREA

Predicated on the approval of the DEC, we have an opportunity to build a second building to the west of the existing Steam Engine. Once it is approved, we could go ahead to find funding sources. Due to the mild winter, we have spent 6 weeks clearing and removing all of the rotten wood. We plan to remove the unusable steel next week and bring it to the scrap yard. With the assistance of Parks and Recreation, we plan to remove the collection of steam engines parts to the rear lot. Once the area has been completely cleared, the DEC will inspect the area and determine whether a building will be allowed to be in close proximity to the wetlands. Dave

ORIENTATION DAY, SATURDAY APRIL 8, BEGINNING AT 9:30 SIMS STORE

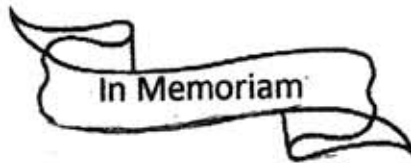
Mike Sims will share images of the Syracuse Airport at Amboy and Dan Ward will tell us about Port Byron Visitors Center. AFTERNOON TRIP TO GERE LOCK and BOAT HANDLING

CLEAN SWEEP AND GENERAL CLEAN UP, SATURDAYS APRIL 22 and 29th 9:30 to Noon. GRAB A SHOVEL, RAKE, DUST CLOTH, CLEAN A BOAT

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Please join us as we celebrate the 200th birthday of the Erie Canal and honor those who have served our country. Gather at Sims Store at 8:00 A.M. we'll be taking our decorated wagon up the west hill to join the largest Memorial Day Parade in Onondaga County. Wear your canal duds. Men wear jeans and colorful shirts. Women may borrow things from the store. Those who are unable to walk distances wave to bystanders from the wagon. After the ceremonies we will gather at the pavilion for a good old fashion picnic. Bring a dish to pass (homemade or store). We'll provide the hot dogs, homburgs, soda and paper goods.

TUESDAYS ON THE TOWPATH- A Program developed by the Old Erie Canal Working Group for cyclists to enjoy The Canalway Trail and canal history through a series of short trips on Tuesdays during the summer months The Camillus Canal Society will be hosting *Tuesdays on the Towpath, June 13* beginning at 6PM. It's about a 10-mile ride. Join us as we bike heading west from Sims Store, 5750 Devote Road to Memphis at Carpenter's Brook. Along the way we'll learn about Dill's Landing, the peppermint and Portland factories. After the ride we'll gather at Crabby Kirk's in the Village of Camillus.



In Memory of MIDNIGHT, GREETER, AMBASSADOR, ENTERTAINER

Jo Vanderpool's thoughts. " He always had a special greeting for everyone who came to the Erie Canal. Midnight will be greatly missed, but we're the lucky ones to have him in our memories." We especially want to thank Lorraine Pigula and Mickey, Pat, Richard and Oliver Allen, Tony Lasinsky, Fred Cossick and Jo and Scot Vanderpool for their special care of a long time friend. May he rest in peace!

IN MEMORY OF NOREEN BELFIE, DINNER CRUISE, SEWER, SERVER, DOCENT

Noreen Belfie came first to help with the Dinner Cruises dating back to 1990. She and others would clean the Otisco from top to bottom. As years passed, she was involved with every social function, ready to serve and help. Noreen was a fine seamstress and was responsible for the coverings on our snack bar chairs. Lately, she has been a greeter and docent in the Sims Store Museum. She was a great Ambassador sharing her enthusiasm for all visitors.

IN MEMORY OF TERRY ORDINETZ, EDITOR OF THE MULE, EXTRAORDINAIRE

We are deeply saddened by the untimely death of Terry. Although he had many challenges, he used his gifts to the maximum. He disseminated information for several organizations including weekly church bulletins and being the editor of the "MULE" We appreciated his creative and organization abilities. He was always able to make little changes as needed and added clip art for highlights. The MULE always had a fresh look. Although he was not visible, he had a great impact upon our organization. God Speed, Terry!



Orientation Day • Sims Store • April 8
Opening Day, May 7
Memorial Day Parade and Picnic • Monday, May 29
Annual Chicken BBQ • Pavilion • July 22
Towpath Day • August 12

The Mule is the Quarterly Newsletter of Camillus Erie Canal Park and the Camillus Canal Society
Town of Camillus, 4600 W. Genesee St., Camillus, NY 13031

Town of Camillus Erie Canal Park
109 East Way
Camillus, NY 13031

<i>Camillus Canal Society, Inc.</i>	
New Membership or Renewal Application	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I Want to Be a Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Please Renew My Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Adult - \$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen (Age 60 and Over) - \$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family - \$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting - \$40.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining - \$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor - \$100.00
Make check payable to Camillus Canal Society, Inc.	
Name:	
Address:	
City, State Zip:	
Phone:	Cell Phone:
<input type="checkbox"/> Please Contact Me About Volunteering	
Mail To: Gail Banks, 217 Everingham Rd., Syracuse, NY 13205.	
New Memberships Received after June 1 Will Pay Half Price for That Year.	
The Half Price Feature Does Not Apply to Renewals.	
Donations are gladly accepted. You can donate in person or by sending your check to Gail.	