

New Eddies in the Current

The Newsletter of the Delphos Canal Commission

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16th Annual Christmas Tree Festival



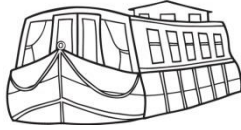
The Canal Commission's 16th Annual Christmas Tree Festival was again a huge success. Hundreds were drawn to downtown Delphos during the month long Festival to visit the Museum and view nearly 100 beautifully decorated Christmas trees. New to this year's Festival was a display of Nativity Scenes. More than two dozen Nativities were on display, many contributed by local citizens. Many of the Nativities were between 50 and 100 years old. The biggest crowd was during the Kiwanis Club's Hometown Christmas celebration. Despite wet, cold weather, dozens of children and their parents crowded the Museum to view the decorations, enjoy cookies and warm cider and take their turn at the always popular player piano.

Marguerite Dedication



After nearly three decades in storage, the Marguerite finally came home to a new exhibit at

the Museum. Taking months to construct, the exhibit showcases the more than 150 year old hull of the Marguerite, story boards chronicling the history of the Miami and Erie Canal and various canal related objects. The exhibit is topped off by a stunning mural of Lock 24. An official dedication of the exhibit was held on Sunday, October 12 with Delphos Canal Commission founder Fr. Chris Vasko doing the honors by sprinkling the old gal with official canal water. As far as we know, the Marguerite is the only original canal boat on exhibit in the United States. Come on down and pay her a visit soon.



Boatman's Breakaway

The Annual Boatman's Breakaway dinner is scheduled for Sunday, March 15 at the K of C Hall in Delphos. The Breakaway features a delicious buffet dinner with a short program to follow. Tickets can be purchased from any Canal Commission trustee or by mailing the attached form with your payment.

Canal Days 2015

The Canal Museum was a hub of activity during last September's Canal Days Festival. We enjoyed visits from hundreds of guests from Delphos and all over Ohio. We also gave demonstrations on many tasks from "yesteryear. But the most popular event at the Museum was our Old Time Photo Booth. Visitors could dress up in vintage clothes and have their pictures taken in any number of interesting poses with equally vintage props. The photos were developed overnight and picked up the next day. Visitors to the photo booth ranged from 60+ to six months old. Needless to say, the photo booth was a big hit especially with these precocious, young ladies.



From the Reading Room

One of the most overlooked areas in the museum is the Reading Room which is located at the rear of the main floor. There is a wealth of information to be found there. In this and the next several issues of the newsletter we will highlight some of these treasures.

Among the many binders are five dealing with Delphos history. One of these, *Memorable Days of Delphos* contains newspaper articles as well as various first person accounts of life in Delphos through the ages. Ruth Scherger Weisgerber was born in 1904 into the Scherger monument family and relates many interesting memories of Christmas, birthdays, going to school, etc. Garland Hicks, who lived in Delphos from 1914 to 1923 gives an account of Delphos "as a boy saw it" from age 7 to 16. Selma Liff Lesser tells what it was like "Growing up Jewish in Delphos" during the 1920's and 1930's. In addition, there are first person interviews of people such as Alex Teman and Lester Strayer which were done by Bob Holdgreve in the late 1970's and early 1980's.

These are just a few of the articles in the *Memorable Days of Delphos* binder. Other Delphos history binders are: *Delphos*, *Stories of Delphos*, *Delphos Days*, and *John Wahmhoff's 1916 History of Delphos*.

When you have a little spare time, visit the museum and browse some of these binders.

Delphos Canal Commission Membership Form for 2015

Student or Senior \$10____ Individual \$20____ Family \$30____ Supporting \$50____

Partner \$125____ Patron \$250____ Best Friend \$1,000 (lifetime membership)____

Corporate: Non-profit \$75____ For Profit (249 or fewer employees) \$250____
For Profit (250+ employees) \$500____

I am interested in making an endowment gift. Please contact me. ____

The Delphos Canal Commission is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.

I am interested in volunteering for the following tasks. Please contact me.

Please circle the activity you are interested in.

Newsletter Special Events Trustee Carpentry Work
Cleaning Working with Trustees during open hours

Name_____

Address_____

Email_____

Phone #_____

Boatman's Breakaway Reservation Form

I would like to reserve _____ tickets for the Boatman's Breakaway. My payment of \$25 per ticket is enclosed. My tickets will be held at the door.

Name_____

Phone #_____

Email address: _____

The membership form and Boatmans Breakaway ticket form can be mailed to
Delphos Canal Commission

PO Box 256

Delphos OH 45833

Every member counts. Thank you for your support!

Delphos Canal Commission

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Delphos OH 45833

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New Delphos Canal Commission Shirts Available



New shirts are available at the Museum! Children and adult sizes in a variety of colors. They start at only \$10!

Visit our Museum store for other neat, history-related gifts including playing cards, books, hats, etc... Proceeds from your purchases support your Museum.



NEW!! Marguerite Wooden Figurines \$15