

# New Eddies in the Current

The Newsletter of the Delphos Canal Commission

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## WWII Veterans recognized at Museum in 2016

World War II was the focus of two events at the Museum in 2016. In July the Museum held its second Voices of History Roundtable. Three local WWII veterans, Earl Morris, Keith Bastian and Ralph Hoehn were invited to recall their experiences in the war. The discussion was held in front of an appreciative crowd of nearly fifty family, friends and guests. Following the Roundtable, our vets and guests mingled, shared more stories and enjoyed refreshments provided by the Ladies of the Canal Museum. The Roundtable was professionally recorded by Dark Horse Productions and is available for viewing on Youtube and the Canal Museum website.



In December the Museum commemorated the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. A display was created featuring the three Delphos men who experienced the Pearl Harbor attack. John Peltier was a sailor on the USS Arizona and was killed when the ship exploded and sank. He is entombed with his fellow sailors in the Arizona yet today. Walter French died on December 8 of injuries sustained in the attack and Robert Day survived the attack and served the rest of the war.

\*\*The Pearl Harbor exhibit is now located in the front window of the Museum.

## All Aboard!!

The Canal Museum's Railroad History Room got a big, moving boost this year with the addition of a brand new Lionel train display. The Black Swamp Rail Line made its official debut during the Kiwanis Hometown Christmas celebration in December much to the delight of hundreds of excited children and adults. The Line includes two rails, one for the Polar Express passenger train and one for the Wheeling and Lake Erie freight train. The display includes more than two dozen model buildings and a beautiful mural of 1940's downtown Delphos.



The cost of the display surpassed \$8,000 not including the hundreds of volunteer hours. To help defray the cost of the display we are offering sponsorship opportunities. While the Wheeling and Lake Erie Line has already been sponsored, you can still sponsor the Polar Express Line for \$300. You can also purchase shares in the Black Swamp Rail line for just \$25 for which you'll receive a custom stock certificate. To sponsor a model building is \$100 while one of the buildings in the Delphos mural is only \$50. Contact a Trustee for more information or if you'd like to become a sponsor.

## Take a Hike!



The Canal Museum hosted its New Year's Day Hike on January 1, 2017. Organized by Landeck native Sam Bonifas, a hiking and trail enthusiast, the hike started in downtown

Delphos at the Canal Museum and followed the canal towpath north to the Jennings Creek Aqueduct. On a beautiful, sunny day the hikers, from Delphos, Celina, Sidney, St. Marys, Landeck and Ohio City, set out on the three mile hike to ring in the new year and work off a little Christmas cheer. Following the hike, participants enjoyed refreshments and a chance to tour the Museum. Make plans to join us on January 1, 2018 for our next New Year's Canal hike!

## Glimpses of History

The Museum received some fantastic donations this past year but none more exciting than the one shown below. Mike Schulte's dad Elmer was a soldier in WWII along with his brother Gene. After Gene was killed when his bomber was shot down behind enemy lines, Elmer was brought back from the front lines and given duty as a guard in a POW camp. While serving at the camp, Elmer made some drawings of life in the camp. Mike donated the drawings along with several other WWII artifacts to the Museum this fall. Pictured below are just two of the five drawings. All of these fantastic glimpses into WWII will be displayed at the Museum in the coming months. Stop by to check them out!



## Canal Days 2016

The Canal Museum again entertained hundreds of visitors during the city's annual Canal Days Festival in September. We welcomed two special guests for the weekend: author Lowell Plaughter and master knot tyer Jim Wolf. Plaughter, a Lima native, wrote a canal themed book titled Where's Delphos? Wolf renewed a childhood interest in knot tying after retirement and makes amazing things just with a rope and knots. You can see one of his creations hanging on the side of the

Marguerite.





# Boatman's Breakaway

The Canal Commission's annual Boatman's Breakaway celebration is set for March 12, 2017. Doors open at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 5:30pm with a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres and snacks available. The catered dinner will be served at 6:00pm. Entertainment for the dinner will be by Lima Bean Chorus Quartet.

Tickets for the dinner are \$25 each and can be purchased at the Canal Museum or from any Museum Trustee. Come join us celebrate our Canal Heritage!



Your Canal Commission Trustees hamming it up at the Christmas Party!

## Up On The Roof



The Canal Commission has recently undertaken a much needed maintenance project. The roof of the old Commercial Bank building, the Canal Museum's first home, was in need of

significant repairs and has been replaced by a new, state of the art rubber membrane roof. The project cost is \$35,000 and while grants, donations and careful use of Museum funds have covered a good portion of the cost, there is a significant amount remaining. If you'd like to help us with our roofing project you can make a donation on your membership form. Thank you for your unending support.

# Delphos Canal Commission Membership Form for 2017

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. All contributions are 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

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## Commercial Bank Roof Project

I'd like to contribute to the Museum Roof Fund. My donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

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## 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 can be mailed to  
Delphos Canal Commission  
PO Box 256  
Delphos OH 45833

*Every member counts. Thank you for your support!*

# Delphos Canal Commission

241 N Main St  
Delphos OH 45833

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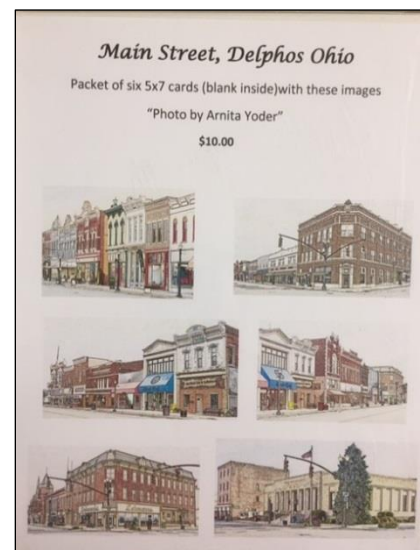
Website: [www.delphoscanalcommission.com](http://www.delphoscanalcommission.com)

Facebook page: Delphos Canal Commission

## New Delphos Canal Commission Shirts Available



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



Notecards featuring downtown Delphos!  
Only \$10 per set!!