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November 2010 / NEWS FROM THE WABASH & ERIE CANAL • DELPHI, INDIANA

UPCOMING EVENTS



20th Annual Old Fashioned Christmas at The Canal

Sat, Dec 11, 10am-4pm

Sun, Dec 12, 1pm-4pm

Christmas fun for the whole family! Enjoy music, food and more while browsing through the wares of crafters and artisans throughout Pioneer Village and the Canal Center. Santa will visit each afternoon to delight children of all ages.

Find hand-made items like pottery, decorated gourds, soaps, stained glass, jewelry, candies, note cards, baskets, leather crafts, Alpaca products, wooden toys and other wood crafts.

We Are Thankful!

Looking back on this past year, it's wonderful to see the progress that we've made at Canal Park. Our second boat season was a success, we completed extensive projects like the Bank Barn, Lime Kiln, boathouse murals...and more!

We'd like to express our deepest gratitude to our hardworking volunteers and faithful donors, all of whom made this possible.

Many sponsorship opportunities are available to help us complete the [Total Canal Experience](#), and there is still time to make 2010 contributions. See a list of [Interactive Exhibits](#) and [Interpretive Panels](#)>

An Exciting Interactive Project Begins!

Coming to Canal Park Annex next year will be a completed "platform scale" and authentic covering structure, adjacent to the Canal Boat Warehouse. It will replicate what would have been used for measuring weight in the 1850s...like limestone products produced nearby at the lime kiln (just



Tour the elegantly furnished 1844 Reed Case House, the log school house, and other buildings in Pioneer Village.

Enjoy a winter walk on the trails, and then warm up with hot apple dumplings and coffee in the Canal Center.

Take some with you to bake fresh at home! Frozen dumplings will be available for \$2.50 each.

Homemade cookies will also be for sale. Pick up extra of each to have on hand for holiday company!

Music schedule:

Saturday

10 am - Gary Stanley,

Trombone Trio

11 am-noon - Rich and Holley

1-2 pm - Michelle Bess and

the Christian Church Choir

2-3 pm - Wabash String Band

Sunday

1:30-3:30 pm - Don Roberson

3:30-4 pm - Rich and Holley

**HELP US CREATE
THE TOTAL
CANAL
EXPERIENCE!**



Bring history alive by sponsoring an exhibit or interpretive panel.

completed), livestock, and other goods. They could all be scaled as they were coming or going on the canal.

This post/beam structure will be built by the M-W-F volunteer crew in the next six months as a "lean-to" shed on the new warehouse building to illustrate a means of measuring shipping weight. Visiting school classes who visit this site can have the whole class weighed together to show how cargo was measured.



The scale was on the Michigantown farm of Ernest Avery in Clinton County. Avery offered this historic platform and the building. When volunteers looked closely at the shed it was not feasible to move, but the scale was intact and could be restored.



All the wooden platform and metal parts were brought back to Canal Park, allowing us to duplicate the entire platform frame and decking with new timbers and planks. All metal parts appear to have been fashioned by a blacksmith in the 1800s and are still in good condition.

[Find out more>](#)

BECOME A MEMBER

Your financial partnership restores and preserves a rare, important piece of early American history and provides hands-on learning opportunities for people of all ages.

[Find out more>](#)

VOLUNTEER



Bob Tyner volunteered to spruce up the popular full size replica playground boat. Unlike The Delphi, which cruises the waterway with passengers, this model stays outside all year in front of the Canal Center.

We have volunteer opportunities to suit your skills and time!

[Find out more>](#)



The next process in the restoration of the scale house was to acquire White Oak for the posts, beams, siding and flooring. This huge tree measuring 42 inches at the cut end provided lumber. It came from the same forest that supplied the Harley Lime Kilns with wood for fuel back in the 1880s. That kiln site is the same land where the scale house will be built.



Sawyer Rollin Graybill worked with the Canal volunteers to make the dimension lumber needed for the post beam building and scale platform. White Oak is one of the best long lasting sources of hardwood for structures like the scale house.



Al Auffart, the volunteer “taskmaster,” inventories the old scale timbers that will be replaced. Note some of the metal materials in the foreground. They were fashioned from iron by a blacksmith.



In the first step of restoration, the M-W-F crew begins replicating the platform scale frame in Canal Park's barn. While it is not so cool in the fall, this phase will be completed at this barn. Later in the winter, the posts and beams will be fitted with mortise and tenon joints inside Ed Gruber's barn west of Delphi. The volunteers love working there where warmth is supplied by a pot-belly stove.

The Canal Association is looking for a sponsor/donor for this exciting interactive trailside exhibit.

If you would like to work with this crew on projects or donate money or materials call Dan McCain at 765-412-4308 mccain@carlnet.org.

This structure was also on the Avery farmstead, where it was used as a little barn.



The little barn had already been sold off to the Michigantown Library, but Mr. Avery helped negotiate a friendly arrangement with the Clinton County Library Board to give this structure to the Canal Association. It was moved and made into the semblance of a "bank barn" (walkout lower level) along the canal's towpath where bicycles, paddleboats, and kayaks are for rent to the public.



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