

VOLUNTEER UPDATE – FEB 9, 2009



Rising out of the banks of the original "turning basin" north of the Stone Arch Bridge this large building will house the new replica canal boat. The canal is currently drained to allow construction.



What looks like a porch is actually the "Dock" attached to the warehouse. The three doorways will have full mural paintings that illustrate loading of a canal boat indoors as one might have experienced in 1850.



This "slip" (dry today because the canal is drained) inside the warehouse will safely store the new boat. It will allow raising the boat above the water level in winter to protect the hull from ice damage.



Angle iron braces are being placed on the second Guard Lock gate by the M-W-F Volunteers



Volunteers Roy Patrick from Lafayette and Ron Dust, our volunteer "Engineer" that comes from Chicago, review the placement and operation of the pivot wicket that controls water flow through the gate.

Ahoy mate!

Carroll County COMET 2/4/09



Children could not wait for summer to play on the canal boat replica at the Wabash & Erie Canal Park on N. Washington St. in Delphi. The boat was initially built roughly a year ago and was used throughout the summer. It was burned and destroyed by an arson fire the end of August, rendering it useless. Volunteers began as soon as the arson investigation concluded to rebuild the structure, which was basically completed within five weeks. Neighborhood children (l-r) Bray and Caydence McClain, who reside in North Delphi near Canal Park, were found playing on the boat in the snow with their father Brody last Friday. Photo provided

Convicted boat-burner to appeal

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

Larry Farmer, 62, of Delphi, was convicted Dec. 10 of arson for burning a replica canal boat at the Wabash & Erie Canal Association Park in August. On Dec. 18, he was adjudicated a habitual criminal in a court order filed by Carroll Circuit Court Judge Donald Currie. Friday

afternoon Farmer was sentenced to execute 20 years in prison.

The convicted felon refused to speak at the sentencing hearing except to tell the judge he would appeal the conviction. He said he had no income but he owned a house with his wife. He also said he owned three vehicles which



Farmer

could be sold. Currie immediately assigned Lafayette attorney Steven Knecht as public defender to represent Farmer. He said the appointment was subject to reimbursement to the county. Currie noted in open court the local media reported Farmer was provided a public defender for the

criminal proceedings, which was not correct.

Farmer was ordered to pay the Canal Association \$5,519.27 in restitution. He will pay \$300 per month while serving five years on probation after being released from prison.

Boats reminds us that kids love our playground (stationary) boat year 'round. On January 30th the arsonist that set fire to the boat last August was sentenced to 20 years. It was reported in the COMET Journal & Courier and USA Today on Wednesday, February 4th.