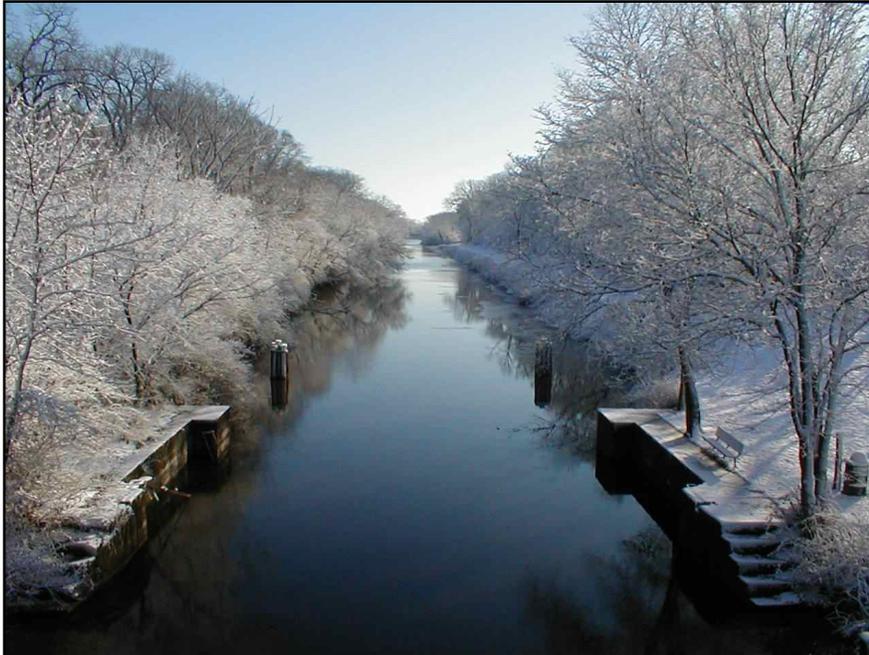




e-NEWSLETTER

Holiday Season Edition



Renaissance Continues

The year 2011 has been good for the Renaissance Project. The Steering Committee set \$80,000 as its goal for the initial phase. With an important Tourism grant still pending, \$65,000 has been raised, and that will fund the

feasibility study, which is an IDNR requirement.

The Steering Committee will soon give the go-ahead for Johnson/Lasky Architects of Chicago to proceed with that project. The study will begin no later than the Spring of 2012.

Important Dates

- **Jan. 6,7,8.** Bald Eagle Days. The Friends will have a booth and volunteers present. QCCA Expo Center, 2621 4th Ave., Rock Island, IL.
- **Jan. 26.** Friends Board of Directors. 6 p.m., Visitor Center. All members are welcome.
- **Mar. 23.** Friends Dinner Theatre featuring excellent food, live acoustic music and live theater presentation of *The Locktender*, a play about the canal's history. Best Western Hotel, Annawan, IL

To all our Friends, we thank you for your support and wish you the very best holiday season.

ANNUAL MEETING ON A NICE DAY WITH LOTS OF FUN AND FOOD

What did we enjoy more--the fried fresh fish, the delicious deserts, or merely being in the company of good Friends on a beautiful October day along the banks of the Hennepin? We had it all at our Annual Membership Meeting on Oct. 2. **Ed Herrmann** was awarded the 2010-2011 Friend of the Year and was also tied for



having walked the most miles of the canal during the same period. He tied with **Kim Jalley** and **Wayne Leader** (absent from photo) who walked every trek conducted during the year. In other business, **Cathy Foes**, **Duke Mueller** and **Ed Herrmann** were elected onto the Board of Directors, each for a three year term.

SOMETHING SPECIAL



Dexter Brigham, The Lock Tender

March 23, 2012 is the date for a very special evening out. Plan to enjoy an event featuring a gourmet dinner, live acoustic music and a performance of *The Lock Tender* by the Richmond Hill Players of Geneseo.

Chief planner, Cathy Foes, is working out details, but the essentials are arranged. The chef, the musicians, the actors and venue are all in place.

The short four-act play, *The Lock Tender* by Dexter Brigham was first performed at the Friends' celebration of the Canal's centennial in October of 2007. Since then, we have been repeatedly asked for an encore. Proceeds for this festive occasion will go to the Renaissance Hennepin Canal project. Watch for announcements in the newsletter and other outlets, especially the website, www.friends-hennein-canal.org.

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR

- Officers for the 2011-2012 year are:
- President: Gary Wagle
- Vice-President: Duke Mueller
- Treasurer: Ed Herrmann
- Secretary: Bruce Perry

•Communication Director: Cathy Foes
information, please go to the Friends website, friends-hennepin-canal.org.

Other members of the Board of Directors: Patrick Herrmann, Pat Stier, Ray Sandrolini, Craig Weber.

Officers are chosen by the Board of Directors at its first meeting of the year.

FIRST LADY

Edith Wahlstrom was the first person to sign on as a member of the Friends of the Hennepin Canal. That was in the Fall of 1998 and she has been a loyal member since. Edith retired from riding her horses along the eastern banks of the canal and Bureau Creek shortly before her 90th birthday. We recently visited her and talked about the canal, her riding, and some of the many people she knows whose lives are connected to the canal. It is an honor to have such a charming, kind person as our First Lady. Friends may contact Edith at the Colonial Hall Care Center, 123 South Pleasant Street, Princeton 61356.

TAKE A HIKE

Superintendent Dave Hahne has prepared the list of canal hikes for the year. Lock 11, near Tiskilwa, is the gathering point for the January 15 hike. This area of the canal is one of our favorites because of its convergence with the bluffs of Bureau Creek. Lock 11 is just a few miles from where the canal joins the Illinois River. When you go to Lock 11 for the walk on Jan. 15, be assured that Friend Ed Herrmann and an IDNR staff person will be there as your guides. For more



Enjoy the Canal in Winter

