

The Green Way

KINGSTON GREENWAYS ASSOCIATION

A NEW JERSEY NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

www.kingstongreenways.org

Fall 2017 No. 30

We are delighted to announce that three new trustees were elected to our board at the annual meeting in May! We are grateful to Ksenia Bobylak, Meredith Cook, and Caroline Hayes for answering the call. We welcome them, and know that their ideas, talents, and perspectives will help energize our efforts in the coming year.

We also honored outgoing trustee David Southgate, after almost twenty years of dedicated and energetic service. Mapmaker and brochure creator, trail engineer and trailblazer, boardwalk builder, steward, researcher, grant writer, letter crafter, cleanup leader, proponent of the Heathcote Park Extension purchase, and a liaison with South Brunswick Township, D&R Canal State Park, and Middlesex County Department of Parks and Recreation, David has performed a dizzying array of functions with vigor, dependability, imagination, and distinction. We are deeply grateful for all he has done for KGA, and for his friendship.

PUBLIC QUESTION 2: Revenue from Environmental Damage Lawsuits Dedicated to Environmental Projects Amendment (2017)

Whether by mail or in person, we urge you to vote “YES” on Public Question 2 on the ballot in the November 7, 2017 election.

Interpretive Statement: This amendment would dedicate moneys collected by the State relating to natural resource damages through settlements or awards for legal claims based on environmental contamination. These moneys would be dedicated to repair, replace, or restore damaged natural resources, or to preserve the State’s natural resources. The moneys would be spent in an area as close as possible to the geographical area in which the damage occurred. The moneys could also be used to pay for the State’s legal or other costs in pursuing the claims. Currently, these moneys may be used for any State purpose.

From Ballotpedia (<https://ballotpedia.org/>): The amendment was proposed in response to disagreements between Governor Christie and the Democratic-controlled New Jersey Legislature on how to spend revenue from large pollution settlements involving pollution in the Passaic River and Exxon Mobil. Gov. Christie's budgets planned to spend about \$103 million of the \$580 million received from the multiple cases on environmental restoration. While the case involving Exxon Mobil is being appealed, the cases involving the Passaic River brought in \$355 million, of which \$288 million was used to balance the state budget.

You are invited to join us at these coming events:

FALL FOLIAGE WALK

Sunday, October 22, 2017, 2 PM

Kingston Historical Society is co-sponsoring this year's walk, led by railroad historian John Kilbride. We will start at the Mapleton Preserve/D&R Canal State Park headquarters building (145 Mapleton Road, Kingston), and head out along the former Camden & Amboy Railroad right-of-way toward Railroad Avenue. We'll continue across Ridge Road as far as the turn to the Cook bridge, then back again, retracing our steps, and roughly following the former Kingston Branch/Rocky Hill Railroad right-of-way to end at the Kingston Lock-tender's House.

The Lock-tender's House will be open to participants for a half hour at the end of the walk, where there will be a small exhibit on the "Railroads of Kingston," as well as Paul Kayne's study models of Kingston lock and the "A" frame bridge (once at Kingston).



Photo: John Kilbride stands near a border post (background, left) marking the Camden & Amboy right-of-way alongside the Rail Trail in Kingston.

Now retired from a 34-year (Amtrak) railroad career, John is the moderator of the *Camden & Amboy Railroad Historians* and *Railroads of Trenton* (FaceBook) groups, studying the C&A since moving to New Jersey in 1979. Raised on Long Island, the LIRR was an early interest; college and USAF assignments led to wider railroad interests. Historical research and writing remain his strong interests on a variety of railroad topics, including a just-published article on a unique passenger train for a national publication; several of his photos appeared in a Midwest railroad-themed book. Presently, he has started research on a book focusing on the electrification of the Long Island Railroad, and another on NJ's "Joint Companies."

He's involved with the "Save The (Princeton) Dinky" group and advising local historians on specific historical aspects of both the C&A and the Pennsylvania Railroad in New Jersey.

A frequent speaker in the Tri-State area, he is able to provide programs on a variety of railroad topics, from the C&A up to more contemporary themes. He seeks to travel by train whenever possible!

The event is free and all are welcome, but RSVPs are appreciated to ensure a sufficient number of handouts. Please email Tari (use "RR Walk" as the subject) if you will be joining us: tari@kingstongreenways.org

FRIENDS OF PRINCETON NURSERY LANDS THANKSGIVING DAY WALK

Thursday, November 23, 2017, 10 AM

This popular annual event will begin in the Mapleton Preserve, entrance at 145 Mapleton Road. This year, the fields of the Princeton Nursery Lands will be the focus of exploration. Come search for signs of local wildlife and enjoy the abundance and subtle beauty of late fall. Open to all, but preregistration IS requested. Call Karen at 609-683-0483 to reserve a spot.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Sunday, December 17, 2017

The Kingston segment of this year's Audubon Christmas Bird Count begins at 7:30 AM and goes until noon. After a break for lunch at Palace of Asia, we will continue with the count in the afternoon. You can join us for morning, afternoon, or both. Experienced birders and novices are equally welcome to participate.

If you are interested, give Karen Linder a call (609-683-0483) or an email (karen.e.linder@gmail.com) for more information and to register.

RECENT EVENTS

KGA ANNUAL MEETING AND PROGRAM--"SPRING ACTIVITIES OF THE LENNI LENAPE AND THEIR VILLAGES IN KINGSTON"

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Jim Wade, former archivist and researcher with the N.J. State Museum, discussed the significance and importance of the Indian way of life during the spring season, when these people welcomed the return of their food supply--from the waters, from the soil, and from the skies.



Participants were able to handle and examine many artifacts from Jim Wade's collection -- spearpoints, grinding stones, axe heads, celts, and a hoe blade.

For those who missed the talk, notes on the presentation are available here:

[Jim Wade Talk](#)

EARTH DAY CLEANUPS

Saturday, April 22 and Sunday, April 23, 2017

Two crews tidied up Kingston on Earth Day weekend on both the Franklin and South Brunswick sides. A 6-person team concentrated on Laurel Avenue and the environs of Rockingham, while 27 volunteers cleaned up along Railroad and Greenwood Avenues, Ridge Road, and Division Street. We are grateful to these good folks for making the environment safer and more beautiful for all!

Rockingham Crew



South Brunswick Crew

