

CANAL SOCIETY OF INDIANA

EST. 1982

YEAR END REPORT FOR 2023 - 2024



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE / OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Bob Schmidt	Ft. Wayne, IN	(260) 432-0279
VICE-PRESIDENT	Mike Morthorst	Cincinnati, OH	
SECRETARY	Sue Simerman	Ossian, IN	
TREASURER	Margaret Griffin	Ft. Wayne, IN	
FINANCIAL SEC.	Jo Ligget	Terre Haute, IN	
"THE TUMBLE"	Carolyn Schmidt	Ft. Wayne, IN	
COORDINATOR			
WEB MASTER	Preston Richardt	Buckskin, IN	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Term Expires 2024

Tom Castaldi	Ft. Wayne, IN
Jeff Koehler	Center Point, IN
Sam Ligget	Terre Haute, IN
Mike Morthorst	Cincinnati, OH
Bob Schmidt	Ft. Wayne, IN
Steve Williams	Roanoke, IN

Term Expires 2025

Jerett Godeke	Van Wert, OH
Margaret Griffin	Ft. Wayne, IN
David Kurvach	Newburgh, IN
Dan McCain	Delphi, IN
Ron Morris	Centerville, IN
Carolyn Schmidt	Ft. Wayne, IN

Term Expires 2026

John Hillman	West Harrison, IN
Jo Ligget	Terre Haute, IN
Phyllis Mattheis	Cambridge City, IN
Preston Richardt	Buckskin, IN
Sue Simerman	Ossian, IN
Candy Yurcak	Metamora, IN

PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

Kreig Adams	Peru, IN
Paul Baudendistel	Metamora, IN
Frances French	Lafayette, IN
Ralph Gray	Indianapolis, IN
Craig Leonard	Bluffton, IN
Mike McCormick	Terre Haute, IN
Brian Stirm	Delphi, IN

*Directors are elected for 3 year terms. One third of the directors are directors are up for reelection every year. Officers are elected by the directors.

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2022–2023 President’s Review

In 2023, our historical organization has continued to move forward into our 41st year with canal activities throughout Indiana. Our membership remains at about 100+ despite the loss of long-time members. We have recruited new members through special events, speakers at meetings, and booths set up at festivals by Troy Jones. Several hundred children were reached through grade school pioneer programs in Huntington and Terre Haute by the Griffins and Liggets. Our outreach program is continually evolving with the changes in our economy and social environment.

In the early years of the Canal Society and through the Gronauer Lock Era, semi-annual tours were very popular, but as our membership ages and the economic and social climate changes, we adjusted our programs:

1. The impact of the internet and the costs associated with the printed media caused us to switch to a bi-monthly, entirely electronic, news and journal, “The Tumble,” in 2017. This was well ahead of the decline in printed newspapers that we see today. We notify our members when the current issue is online. This has proved successful for most members and there are no paper issues to file. All past issues of “The Tumble” are available on our website. We are in the process of putting all prior publications (Indiana Waterways, Indiana Canals, and The Hoosier Packet) from 1982 to 2017 on the website. There is a wealth of information in these past publications that most of our members have never seen. Our webmaster, Preston Richardt, has worked diligently to make our website more user friendly.

2. Attendance for canal site tours has steadily declined, due to aging and the costs associated with transportation – fuel, bus travel and hotel stays. To still provide an educational experience for our members we are conducting yearly symposiums. On March 25, 2023, we had 59 people in attendance at the Fort Wayne downtown Public Library. Craig Berndt and I presented Power Point programs on canals and interurban railroads. We are planning for a similar symposium in Connersville on Saturday April 13, 2024.

A traditional Fall Tour was headquartered at Crawfordsville on September 15-16, 2023. On Friday, 20 members toured the Old Round Jail, the Lew Wallace Study Museum and the old Yount’s woolen mill property. The mill tour was led by Dr. Ron Morris, who has written a book on this Civil War Era clothing mill. On Saturday, Troy Jones, CSI member from Clinton, conducted a car caravan tour from the Montezuma Basin to Lodi and then on to Covington. At Covington, Henry Schmitt opened the County Courthouse for us to see Terry Bodine’s new lock model and the murals. Across the street we saw Terry’s model of the Cade’s Mill Covered Bridge. Henry then led part of the group to the original bridge over Coal Creek while the other half of our members took an adventurous miniature train ride on the Bodine’s track through the woods. Lowell Griffin created a wooden ornament of the Lew Wallace Study for each member/family that attended the Friday tour. In 2024 our Fall Tour will be in Paulding, Ohio on Saturday August 17, 2024.

This tour led to more discoveries of canal sites through further research and field investigation by a group of CSI members. Their findings will be published in “The Tumble” in 2024.

3. Our Signage program continues to be popular. Dr. Morris arranged for 14 signs to be installed in Fayette County and held a special dedication program on September 8, 2023 that was attended by several local politicians. Troy Jones installed 3 signs in Parke Co. and 2 more in Daviess County. Shirley Lamb had the Whitewater Canal Trails install 3 additional signs in Franklin County. Terry Bodine created a wooden canal boat cutout to place on top of the sign at Covington and Ed Powers made another similar cutout to be placed on a sign at Redding Road in Fort Wayne. Other signs were erected by Lowell Griffin and Bob Schmidt. Signs are underway for placement in Hagerstown and Huntington. We need our members to suggest and pursue additional sign placement for 2024.

4. To spread some of our administrative work and to reduce postage costs, we have moved our PO Box from Fort Wayne to Terre Haute. Sam and Jo Ligget have agreed to access the PO Box occasionally and deposit any receipts into a new Old National Bank checking account. They will send details of this deposit and details of new members via E-mail to CSI headquarters in Fort Wayne.

I think that this past year we have had more CSI members working together on projects than ever before. CSI Headquarters has also received more phone calls about signage, research and discoveries than before. Thanks to all of you, CSI has had another very successful year.

Bob Schmidt, CSI President

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MAJOR CSI EVENTS & ACTIONS

Assisted students, authors and genealogists in canal research

Board Meeting: October 8, 2022 held in Centerville

On-Line: Canal Society of Indiana Website: indcanal.org

Canal Society of Indiana Facebook Page

Subscribed to Ancestry.com

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Tom Castaldi	Ft. Wayne, IN	Phyllis Mattheis	Cambridge City, IN
Jerett Godeke	Van Wert, OH	Ron Morris	Centerville, IN
Margaret Griffin	Ft. Wayne, IN	Mike Morthorst	Cincinnati, OH
<i>(Treasurer)</i>		<i>(Vice President)</i>	
John Hillman	West Harrison, IN	Preston Richardt	Buckskin, IN
		<i>(Web Master)</i>	
Jo Ligget	Terre Haute, IN	Bob Schmidt	Ft. Wayne, IN
<i>(Financial Secretary)</i>		<i>(President)</i>	
Sam Ligget	Terre Haute, IN	Carolyn Schmidt	Ft. Wayne, IN
		<i>(The Tumble)</i>	
Jeff Koehler	Center Point, IN	Sue Simerman	Ossian, IN
		<i>(Secretary)</i>	
David Kurvach	Newburgh, IN	Steve Williams	Roanoke, IN
Dan McCain	Delphi, IN	Candy Yurcak	Metamora, IN

COUNTY HISTORIANS

These individuals receive and answer numerous phone, e-mail and posted messages from persons seeking information that may involve canal business or those who built Indiana's canals

Allen Co. – Tom Castaldi

Clay Co. – Jeff Koehler

Vanderburgh Co. – Stan Schmitt

Carroll Co. – Mark Smith

Miami Co. – Kreig Adkins

IN MEMORIAM

Let us not forget those we have lost.

Andrews, Bonnie	May 14, 2023	Hall, Webster	July 20, 2023
Elliot, Randall	May 16, 2023	Mattheis, Gerald	January 15, 2023
Getty, Mary Ann	October 17, 2022	Kudner, Richard "Dick"	February 13, 2023
Getty, Gerald E.	November 1, 2022	Smith, Ellsworth	August 10, 2023

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NEW MEMBERS

* Denotes memberships by Troy Jones at festivals

Denotes memberships from symposium

Arthur, Becky*	Newberry, IN	Krick, Melinda #	Paulding, OH	Seibert, Gary*	Ft. Branch, IN
Barnett, Steve*	only E-mail	McDermott, Angel*	Newberry, IN	Slover, James*	Clinton, IN
Berrisford, David*	Montezuma, IN	Meinert, Dennis & Kari #	Ft. Wayne, IN	Smith, Melissa	Ft. Wayne, IN
Carlile, Gary*	Lafayette, IN	Mooch, Muciarelli Laren*	Clinton, IN	Squires, Beth #	Ft. Wayne, IN
Dehler, Tamszion	Terre Haute, IN	Nice, Jane #	Paulding, OH	Swartz, Samuel*	Newberry, IN
Dippel, Matt	Huntington, IN	O'Neil, Angie #	Ft. Wayne, IN	Vorhees, Russ & Sandy #	Ft. Wayne, IN
Fitzgerald, Catherine	Huntington, IN	Rhodes, Nick*	Wabash, IN	York, James*	Newberry, IN
Frey, Tom	Covington, IN	Ricketts, Beth #	Ft. Wayne, IN	Yurcak, Ron & Candy	Metamora, IN
Jones, Mike*	Greencastle, IN	Sadler, Ted #	Ft. Wayne, IN	Zimmerman, Virginia #	Roanoke, IN
Keith, Alan*	Plainville, IN	Schmitt, Henry #	Covington, IN		

SPEAKERS BUREAU

<u>Date</u>	<u># of People</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Presenter/s</u>
1-17-2023	20	Sullivan Co. Historical Society	Jeff Koehler
2-11-2023	54	Terre Haute History Center	Jeff Koehler
2-22-2023	50+	Westminster Village OLLLI at I.S.U.	Sam Ligget
3-1-2023	?	Westminster Village OLLLI at I.S.U.	Jeff Koehler
3-14-2023	12	Huntington Co. Sigma Eta Fine Arts Sorority	Margaret Griffin
10-04-2023	21	Huntington Co. Genealogy Society	Bob Schmidt

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CSI

Memorials to Jerry & Mary Ann Getty:	Bob & Carolyn Schmidt, Steve & Sue Simerman
Memorials to Jerry Mattheis:	Carl & Barbara Bauer, Terry & Ann Bodine, Tom & Linda Castaldi, Sue Jesse, Ron Morris, Bob & Carolyn Schmidt, Steve & Sue Simerman
Memorials to Ellsworth Smith:	Bob & Carolyn Schmidt, Steve & Sue Simerman

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2023 CSI DIRECTORS YEARLY REPORTS

Every year each director is asked several canal related questions and their canal related projects over the past year. These are their reports back to the Canal Society of Indiana.

Director **Name of Canal** **Area Represented**

Tom Castaldi ***Wabash & Erie Canal*** ***Ft. Wayne***

- Continue to monitor potential positioning of CSI-sponsored canal markers including a new marker at Redding and Aboite Roads; and new or repair damaged Lock 24 marker along Logansport's Erie Avenue.
- Chair the Wabash Erie Canal Interpretative Center's Archives and Acquisitions Committee in Delphi to review potential donation's qualifications required for accessioning.
- Meetings with Ed Geswein owner of the historic Tippecanoe County site of Longlois Reserve to identify Wabash & Erie Canal remnants adjacent to Wabash River and Wild Cat Creek. Ed's vision is to establish a trail system with historical markers and other hiker accommodations.
- "On the Heritage Trail" WBOI-FM public radio for Northeastern Indiana continues to be available as podcasts. QR Codes are available at relevant Trail Markers in the Fort Wayne downtown area which opens the trail hiker's iPhone to hear re-broadcasts of the radio's recording of the specific marker's storyline.
- Donated a collection of Wabash & Erie Canal Notebooks I, II and III for resale in the gift shops of Forks of Wabash Park, Wabash County Historical Society, Miami County Historical Society, Cass County Historical Society and Wabash Erie Interpretative Center in Delphi.
- Quoted by author Ryan Schnurr in his book, In the Watershed A Journey Down the Maumee River to in his explanation for St. Joseph River Dam which was originally created as a water system for the Canal and later offered to sell water to the city.
- Sent extant photograph of St. Joseph River Dam when it was in operation to provide additional context to mural of same which hangs in the Wabash & Erie Canal Interpretative Center.
- Assisted the late Randy Elliott with information for Kerr Lock historical marker in Lagro, Indiana utilizing text and Terry Lacy illustrations.
- Continue to serve the position of Allen County Historian and offer replies to questions which include canals, rivers, wetlands, rails and roadways and find it interesting how transportation forms so much of our lives to present day to day activities.

John Hillman ***Whitewater Canal*** ***West Harrison***

- President of the Whitewater Valley Railroad
- Provided meeting space at Whitewater Valley Railyard for CSI Signage Program
- Installed canal signage along railroad

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Jerett Godeke Wabash & Erie Canal Paulding, OH

What is happening to canals in my area?

- Wabash & Erie Canal
 - Not much has changed on my section of the Wabash & Erie Canal in Paulding County and eastern Allen County. However, there was a scare that the last section of this canal in Paulding County that keeps water year-round was going to be filled in. The 'good' news is all indications point to somebody allegedly having illegally dumped construction waste in the old canal, and there is no long-term threat to this extent portion of the canal. The bad news is that the damage was done, and a part of the remaining canal has been partially filled with construction waste. It is my understanding that the EPA and other authorities were contacted by other individuals regarding this matter. I don't know if anything has or will come of this. [See attached photos]
- Miami & Erie Canal
 - No change that I am aware of. I was informed that there is a long term (fanciful) goal to possibly revitalize a short section of the Miami & Erie Canal and use it for a canal experience akin to the one run by the Toledo Metroparks or in Delphi, IN. This is merely a dream though, and there are no serious plans to do so any time in the near future.

Are there any canal programs or tours in which you have participated?

- I have not participated in any programs or tours since my election as a director. However, I am committed to doing my part in planning and preparing for the CSI's proposed tour of Paulding County in 2024.

Have you made any speeches about canals or canal related people or events?

- On February 11, 2023, just before becoming a director, I spoke at Loyola University – Chicago's HGSA Conference about the Paulding County Reservoir War. The faculty member chairing the panel seemed to like my presentation, noting that it was a breath of fresh air in canal literature to focus on how the canal's demise adversely affected a community, rather than just focus on the economics of the canal and why it failed.
- Having just released my book on the Paulding County Reservoir War, I will have given a lecture on it and the book writing process at the John Paulding Historical Society's annual meeting on September 26, 2023.

Are there any canal books you've read recently?

- Aside from the usual culprits regarding Indiana and Ohio canals for the research that went into writing my Reservoir War book, I was fascinated to read about the Johnstown Flood and the Allegheny Portage Railroad. Both of which were part of Pennsylvania's canal history. Here's a short list:
 - *Ruthless Tide* by Al Roker
 - *Johnstown Flood* by David McCullough
 - *The Allegheny Old Portage Railroad* by Mahlon J. Baumgardner and Floyd G. Hoenstine
 - *Over the Alleghenies* by Robert J. Kapsch

Are there any articles you have written about canals?

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- I have not written any articles about canals, yet. I do have plans to write a couple 'supplements' to my Reservoir War book discussing the leisure aspect of Six Mile Reservoir and the canal in Paulding County, Ohio, personal sketches of the people involved, and possibly a brief overview of Indiana's own reservoir conflicts in the 1850s and 1860s.
- I may also write a brief article for the Wabash Railroad Historical Society regarding the canal matters in Paulding County and how the Wabash Railroad played a role in the Reservoir War.

Have you done any interviews for television, radio, newspapers or magazines about canals?

- No, though this may change in the coming months after my book's release.

Are there any canals you have visited?

- I guess the remnants of the Allegheny Portage Railroad and the Johnstown Flood museums are about as close as I have got to visiting any canals this year. I highly recommend those museums if you're visiting the Alleghenies, though I would skip the documentary screenings at the two Johnstown Flood museums; they were parochial at best and distasteful at worst. The documentary screened at the Allegheny Portage Railroad museum was pretty good, and worth watching in my opinion, even if it does gloss over some somewhat necessary information.

Is there any canal signage you have researched or helped put up?

- Not yet. We're working on something special in Paulding County regarding canal-related signage.

Margaret Griffin Wabash & Erie Canal Huntington

- I wrote two articles for *The Tumble* newsletter.
- I gave school tour presentations in Spring and Fall in the Canal Room at Forks of the Wabash.
- I baked cookies for and attended the Spring CSI symposium in Fort Wayne.
- I shared the prologue of my book about the Wabash and Erie Canal with many friends.
- I shared the prologue of my book at the February meeting of the Sigma Eta Fine Arts Sorority.
- My husband Lowell made 40th anniversary ornaments for the CSI board meeting.
- He designed Lou Wallace ornaments for the fall tour in Crawfordsville.
- He was a tour guide at Forks of the Wabash in Spring and Fall and added extra info in the Canal Room.
- He attended the Spring CSI symposium in Fort Wayne.

Jeff Koehler Wabash & Erie Canal Clay County

- Clay County Historian
- Walked proposed hiking trail to Riley with Sam Ligget
- Presented talks about canals in my area

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David Kurvach Wabash & Erie Canal Warrick County

- Attended CSI "Sites, Signs & Surprises"
- Worked with Troy Jones and Preston Richardt in finding locks and canal culverts

Sam Ligget Wabash & Erie Canal Terre Haute (Vigo Co.)

- I presented a PowerPoint talk at Westminster Village for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute on February 22, 2023. It was titled *The Wabash and Erie Canal in Vigo County*. There were over 60 present.
- I wrote 2 articles for *The Tumble*. One was about the Elks Property in Terre Haute and the other was about "Hogapolis" (Terre Haute). Both were related to the canal through Terre Haute.
- I attended a canal talk presented by Jeff Koehler at the Wabash Valley History Center. It was titled *The Stories and History of the Vigo County Wabash and Erie Canal*.
- Jeff Koehler, my grandson Parker Ligget, and I walked the railroad tracks from Riley, Indiana to Idle Creek subdivision south of Terre Haute. This is to become a new biking and hiking trail for the Vigo County Parks Department. We walked 2.2 miles mostly along what was once the Crosscut Canal bed.
- The Vigo County Parks Department holds a 4-day event for all Vigo County School Corporation 4th graders with different schools attending each day. This is held in September at Fowler Park, which houses the timbers from Culvert 151. Adam Grossman, County Park Director, asked me if the Canal Society of Indiana could provide people to be presenters on the Wabash & Erie Canal topic. I have accepted this task and hope to include other CSI members to help. This commitment is for 3 years.
- My wife Jo and I made the arrangements for the 2023 Canal Society of Indiana board meeting in Terre Haute that had to be rescheduled.
- Attended CSI tour "Sites, Signs & Surprises"

Dan McCain Wabash & Erie Canal Delphi (Carroll Co.)

- Check out Delphi's website for activities and newsletter

Phyllis Mattheis Whitewater Canal Cambridge City (Wayne Co.)

- 2023 began with the loss of my husband, partner and best friend, Jerry, on January 15. Thank you to CSI members who made memorial gifts to the Canal Society. Three signs are on order to place in the Hagerstown area soon in Jerry's memory. He would be pleased. His memorial service was delayed until June 19, so that family could be present.
- Using two pages from the 1874 Atlas of Wayne County, in February I pieced together an 11x17 map of Hagerstown, showing how the feeder canal runs from West River to Nettle Creek to feed the Hagerstown Canal of 8 miles to Cambridge City. Copies of this map were placed in the Hagerstown library and city building. I also attended the Whitewater Canal Byway meeting with its secretary, Cathy Vandivier of Milton.

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- Thanks to nearby CSI member Ron Morris of Centerville for taking me along to the March Symposium in Ft. Wayne in February. In June I approached the Hagerstown Town Board about installing the three signs and received permission from the Whitewater Canal Byway and INDOT to place two 18x24 inch brown and white vertical signs on the same posts with the Byway's two colorful vertical signs on SR 38 at the bridge over the feeder canal. Wayne County gave permission to mount a horizontal 2x4' sign on the metal bridge railings over the feeder canal (still carrying water) that passes under Teetor Road.
- Thanks to Bob and Carolyn Schmidt, we have a new CSI sign as one drives south from US 40 on SR 1 and approaches Milton. The sign points to Lawrenceburg and Cambridge City. The dedication of the 14 new signs in Connersville brought together members of both canal groups and the Whitewater Valley Railroad, as well as a state senator and a state representative for a lively discussion, followed by a tour of the historical museum in Connersville.

Ron Morris Whitewater Canal Connersville (Fayette Co.)

- Initiated signage along Whitewater Canal in the Connersville area
- 14 CSI signs were erected
- Set up and was Master of Ceremonies for signage dedication at Whitewater Valley Railroad yard at Connersville
- Worked at getting a speaker to present canal programs to grade 4 children
- Wrote articles for "The Tumble"

Mike Morthorst Whitewater Canal Cincinnati, OH

- President Canal Society of Ohio and newsletter editor
- Secretary American Canal Society
- Attended CSI Symposium in Ft. Wayne
- Attended CSI "Sites, Signs & Surprises" tour

Preston Richardt Wabash & Erie Canal Southern Indiana (Gibson Co.)

- As webmaster put bimonthly "The Tumble" online adding pictures, maps, etc.
- Continued to put past CSI publications online
- Attended CSI "Sites, Signs & Surprises" tour
- Took videos with a drone on the tour to enhance the publication
- Presented short presentation of the Wabash & Erie Canal to the local 4th grade class at Barton Twp Elementary School
- Explored locks and culverts with Troy Jones and David Kurvach

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- Part of the Wildcat Creek study group along with Ed Geswein, Dan McCain, Tom Castaldi, Mike Tetrault, David McCain, and Jack Korty. Met with Ed Geswein owner of the historic Tippecanoe County site of Longlois Reserve to identify Wabash & Erie Canal remnants adjacent to Wabash River and Wild Cat Creek.
- Visited the Whitewater Canal in Metamora and Laurel Dam Sites

Bob Schmidt **Wabash & Erie Canal** **Ft. Wayne (Allen Co.)**

- Served as CSI president
- Planned CSI Board of Directors Meeting
- Kept CSI financial records, prepared financial statement and filed not-for-profit state/federal forms
- Wrote articles for "The Tumble"
- Arranged to have canal signs made, picked them up in Ohio, and delivered them to the recipients or to other board members to deliver them to recipients
- Answered canal questions and mailed material to several people
- Picked up CSI mail at Ft. Wayne's downtown post office
- Prepared slate of officers for American Canal Society board of directors as the nomination chairman
- Made reservations for symposium "Trails-Rails: Canal Connections" and was a speaker
- Attended and made reservations for CSI Fall tour "Sites, Signs & Surprises" E-mailed directions to meeting and where to park
- Worked with Ron Morris on CSI Connersville Signs Dedication and was a speaker
- Visited the Dismal Swamp Canal
- Spoke about canals to the Huntington Genealogical Society
- Attended book signing for Jerett Godeke's "The Reservoir War" in Paulding, OH

Carolyn Schmidt **Wabash & Erie Canal** **Ft. Wayne (Allen Co.)**

- Coordinator for "The Tumble" — wrote and edited articles for it
- Prepared CSI Board of Directors meeting year end report booklet and name tags for Board of Directors' Meeting, created and E-mailed reservation forms
- Answered E-mailed questions about canals
- Helped deliver CSI signs to board members or others who were placing the signs
- Sent contribution and memorial letters to those contributing to CSI
- Created registration forms, name tags, etc. for "Trails-Rails: Canal Connections" Symposium

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- Wrote tour guide for “Sites, Signs and Surprises” fall tour, created fliers and reservation forms for it, wrote thank you letters, etc.
- Prepared and handed out programs for the CSI sign dedication in Connersville
- Visited the Dismal Swamp Canal
- Attended book signing for Jerett Godeke’s “The Reservoir War” in Paulding, OH

Sue Simerman Wabash & Erie Canal Northern Indiana (Wells Co.)

- I have visited some canal sites in Ohio with my husband Steve. Delphos Ohio has had some buildings torn down in the downtown area along the Miami and Erie Canal. Wondering what they will put in the empty spots. Highly recommend the Delphos Canal Museum.
- I’m still keeping an eye on Lagro on the Wabash and Erie Canal in Huntington County. Covid put a hold on some of their plans but they are still making improvements and have several new businesses. The house on the hill was being restored by a designer from San Francisco but he must have backed out of the project. It has been completely restored and available for private parties and overnight lodging. The big change is that it has a warm green color instead of the brown that was on it pre Covid. It is “The Honeywell House.” It is on Facebook.
- Steve and I revisited Grant’s Canal close to Delta, Louisiana, near Vicksburg, Mississippi that is included in the map of Vicksburg National Military Park. The canal bed was dry due to drought conditions in 2023.
- We also drove through Delphi’s Canal Park and saw a man scraping paint off the red bridge over the Wabash & Erie Canal.
- I have served as CSI secretary and taken minutes at the “Trails-Rails: Canal Connections” symposium.

Steve Williams Wabash & Erie Canal Roanoke

- I continually look for information about canals

Candy Yurcak Whitewater Canal Metamora

- Attended CSI Signage Dedication at the Whitewater Valley Railroad yard
- Continued battling flooding of the railroad depot— speaking to officials, reporters, applying for help, insurance, etc. for the Whitewater Canal Scenic Byway
- Chaired art auction to raise funds for the canal, aqueduct, depot, boat, and other things that must be matched to meet the State of Indiana’s funding of these canal projects.
- Held annual meeting for Whitewater Canal Scenic Byway
- Sent pictures for “The Tumble”

The Canal Society of Indiana thanks all of its Directors for their service this past year.