

# ROEBLING CHAPTER

## Society for Industrial Archeology

September 2015 – Vol. 24 No.1

# ROEBLING CHAPTER CORN ROAST

## Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 PM

*CROTON-ON HUDSON, NEW YORK*

Members are invited to gather at Gerry Weinstein's Engineerium in Croton-On-Hudson for the chapter's annual Corn Roast. The RCSIA Corn Roast is a tradition that dates back to years past when members gathered at Charlie Emmerich's farm in Ironia, NJ. Our host will supply the corn and members are encouraged to bring their favorite foods to fill out the potluck feast. Meat for the grill, dishes prepared at home, salads, drinks and deserts are all welcome. The result is always a delight.

A grill will be available for cooking and a hotplate and microwave will be available for reheating.

A map with additional information and directions will be going out to all members via e-mail and written directions will be posted on the RCSIA web site. SIA signs will be posted along the road to help you spot the driveway. If you plan to come by train please let us know in advance. We will



*The Engineerium, carefully designed to resemble a historic engine house, sits on a rocky hillside with a view of the Hudson River.*

*A newly retired Gerry Weinstein stands at the controls of one of his restored steam engines.*



need a volunteer to pick up members from the nearby Croton-Harmon station.

**Please let Gerry know by phone or e-mail what you plan to bring.**

**917-578-0602 or [gerpra@aol.com](mailto:gerpra@aol.com)**

For details on the day of the event you can call the Engineerium phone number: **914-271-4929.**

## Great Falls Symposium – October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The Roebling Chapter of the Society for Industrial Archeology presents the 35th-annual Great Falls Symposium on Industrial Archaeology topics of the NY-NJ Area on Saturday, October 24th, 10am-5pm, at the Rogers Locomotive Works Storage Building, located behind 32 Spruce Street in Paterson, NJ. Please join us for the paper presentations, lunch, book and postcard vendors,

and presentation of the Roebling Award.

This will be our third year at the Rogers Storage Building, held in the impressive second story open space where a LEED-certified historic rehabilitation project was completed. The venue includes two large wall-mounted screens, a ceiling-mounted projector and sound / public address system. This year ad-  
*Continued on page 2*

FOR THE LATEST ON UPCOMING EVENTS

WATCH THE ROEBLING CHAPTER WEB SITE FOR DETAILS – [www.roeblingsia.org](http://www.roeblingsia.org)

## Great Falls Symposium – October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015

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ditional efforts are being made to shade the screens from overhead light so the presentations will appear brighter.

Please join us on October 24th for another round of excellent presentations on diverse topics from our area and internationally. This year's seven presentations include Sandy Needham's ongoing historic travelogue of another industrial world heritage site in Lille, France (where the TICCIH conference was held), and another Paterson architectural survey by Patrick Harshbarger of its first worker's housing neighborhood near the S.U.M. milling district, appropriately dubbed "Little Dublin." Bierce Reilly will present the story of Donald Roebling's Alligator, Development of the Landing Vehicle, Paterson artist Joseph Sabatino will explain his site specific art installations within industrial spaces, and Bode Morin will join us from PA to present the history and demise of the 1939 Huber Coal Breaker. An update on progress at the Great Falls National Historical Park from Superintendent Darren Boch will also be presented. Tom Flagg will explore the industrial landscape of the NY and NJ ocean ports,

and Tom Baily will compare several of his recent adaptive reuse projects of industrial complexes. Excerpts from a rare 1970s film (on 16mm) produced by the SIA called "Working Places: What Can You Do With Paterson's Old Industrial Buildings?" will be shown after lunch. Several of our usual vendors will offer books, post cards, journals and other collectables for sale. Finally, after the symposium you are invited to join us for a walking tour of Paterson's oldest neighborhood, the Dublin Historic District, where Irish workers settled in proximity to the S.U.M. milling district.

Please see the attached flyer for all pertinent information about the symposium, registration, and directions to Paterson. Feel free to email any questions to Gianfranco Archimede, [garchime@yahoo.com](mailto:garchime@yahoo.com)

Looking forward to seeing you in Paterson on October 24th!

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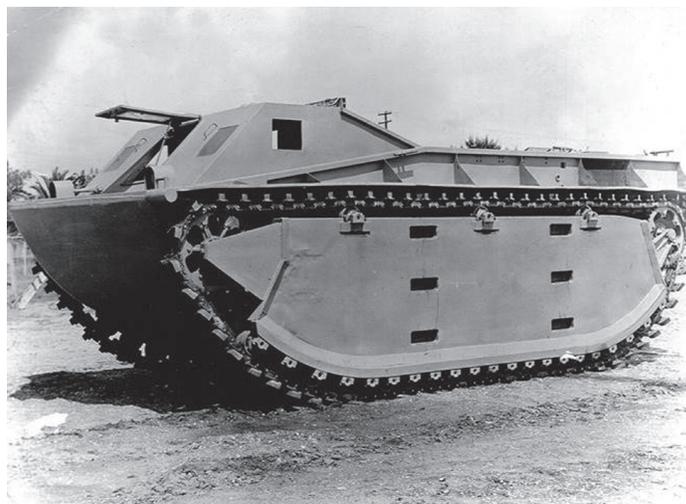
The Roebling Chapter of the Society for Industrial Archeology (RCSIA) has produced an annual Symposium on industrial archaeology topics within the NY-NJ metropolitan region since 1981. While the Sym-



*The Huber Coal Breaker, seen here shortly before demolition, took run-of-mine coal, washed it and cleaned it to remove impurities. The coal was then crushed and screened to specific sizes for sale to customers.*

posium was traditionally held at Drew University in Madison, NJ for years, the establishment of the Great Falls National Historic Park in Paterson, NJ in 2009 presented an exciting opportunity to reinvigorate the Symposium's connection to one of its founders, industrial archaeologist Edward S. Rutsch. When the construction of Interstate Highway Route 80 through southern Paterson, NJ in the late 1960s threatened to demolish a forlorn but nationally-significant historic industrial district, "Big Ed's" archaeological work in Paterson was a high-profile part of a larger local movement for the preservation of the Great Falls Historic District, which was elevated to the status of a national historic landmark district in 1976, and culminated with the establishment of the Great Falls National Historical Park in 2009 by Congress.

With this historic development, in 2010 the RCSIA board was enthusiastic to reestablish the Paterson connection to the annual Symposium with the particular attraction of highlighting the new national park's ongoing development. The past five Great Falls Symposia provided presentations of recent developments and archaeological research within Paterson and the Great Falls Historic District, as well as many other diverse contemporary topics of the region. For further information about the history of the symposium and of the Roebing Chapter, Society for Industrial Archeology, please visit <http://roebingsia.org/symposia.html>. ■



*Donald Roebing's Alligator, developed as a military landing vehicle, Tracked (LVT)*

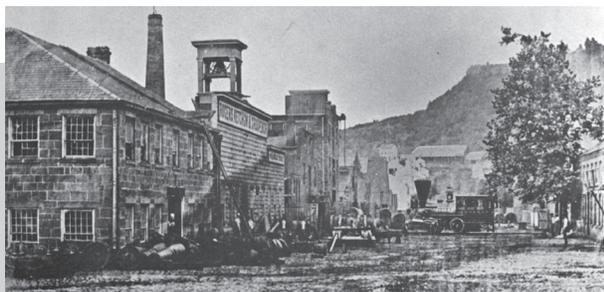


*ABOVE TOP: Paterson artist Joseph Sabatino's 2011 site-specific art installation at the Rogers Pattern Shop, 50 Spruce Street, next door to the Rogers Storage Building.*

*ABOVE BOTTOM: Joseph at work on one of his recent art installations. The artist will present his process, approach and message in working with industrial spaces in Paterson at this year's symposium.*



*Tanker Navix Erica taking on cargo that a New York Harbor pier.*



## UPCOMING TOURS

FALL SCHEDULE – 2015

September 12

### – Lake Hopatcong Morris Canal Feeder

To water its canal, the Morris Canal and Banking Company dammed Great Pond to create a canal reservoir, now known as Lake Hopatcong. Located at the summit level of the canal, the waters of the lake once passed down the canal to Newark on the east and to Phillipsburg on the west. On this walk we will explore the location of the historic dam and feeder lock, examine an Inclined Plane Turbine and walk along the feeder that once fed water from the lake to the main line of the canal. We will also visit the lock tender's house, now the Lake Hopatcong Historical Societies Museum with its wonderful collection of local history exhibits.

October 10

### – Waterloo Valley Trial

*Sponsored by Industrial Heritage Tours*

The Morris Canal follows the Musconetcong River South from Waterloo on its way to Phillipsburg on the Delaware River. The Waterloo Valley Trail follows the route of the Morris Canal for almost six miles through the sites of small industrial villages and along the shore of Saxton Lake. Recently this scenic trail has been extended through an area that was formerly inaccessible. On this tour we will walk a portion of the trail in search of canal and industrial remains.

October 31

### – Edison Mines

*Sponsored by Industrial Heritage Tours*

In the late 1890's Thomas Edison invested millions in a scheme to mine and concentrate low grade iron ore in the hills of northern New Jersey. This was a massive undertaking involving the development of new way to mine, transport and process thousands of tons of ore. Although his effort failed, the site contains the remains of every phase of his gigantic effort. The buildings are long gone but the site is extensive and visitors will get a chance to experience every aspect of this unique undertaking.

*Most of these tours involve walking over uneven terrain and off-trail exploration. Please wear sturdy shoes, and bring a snack and something to drink.*

For Information & reservations, please e-mail: [macgraphics1@verizon.net](mailto:macgraphics1@verizon.net) or call 973-292-2755

## 2015

## ROEBLING AWARD

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The 13th annual John Augustus Roebling Award for Contributions to Industrial Archeology will be presented at the 2015 Great Falls Symposium, scheduled for Saturday, October 24th. The Committee seeks your nominations. Past winners have included Conrad Milster, Bill McKelvey, Tom Flagg, Friends of the High Line, The Water Works Conservancy, Gerry Weinstein, Walkway over the Hudson, the Roebling Museum, Clifford Zink, David Sharps, and Scenic Hudson.

The award recognizes an individual, group or organization that has made an outstanding contribution to the documentation or preservation of the industrial heritage of the New York – New Jersey area. The honoree will receive a \$250 cash award and a certificate acknowledging the nature of the contribution to industrial archeology. Nominees must have displayed an extraordinary effort to save, preserve, or interpret a site of industrial or engineering interest, or created unique or outstanding documentation through archaeological research, photography, written history, or other means that provide a record of such a site. Nominees are not required to be Roebling Chapter members. The Award is not given posthumously.

Please send nominations by October 7, 2015 to all Award Committee members: Bierce Riley, Chairman, phone: 973-455-0491, e-mail: [Bierce.Riley@gmail.com](mailto:Bierce.Riley@gmail.com), Clifford Zink at [cwzink@gmail.com](mailto:cwzink@gmail.com) and Jim Mackin at [jim.janet.mackin@gmail.com](mailto:jim.janet.mackin@gmail.com). ■



*This June RCSIA members enjoyed a rare opportunity to visit the United States Army's Picatinny Arsenal.*



PRESENTS THE 35<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL

# ***GREAT FALLS SYMPOSIUM***

**on the Industrial Archeology of  
the New York – New Jersey Region**

**Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 10am-5pm**

**At the Rogers Locomotive Works Storage Building  
32 Spruce St. in Paterson, in the Great Falls National Historical Park**

The Symposium is hosted in the rehabilitated Rogers Locomotive Works Storage Building (1880s), a LEED-certified, adaptive-reuse project completed in 2012. The Storage Building is just down the street from the Paterson Great Falls itself, and is adjacent to the Great Falls National Historical Park, established in 2009. For further information about the history of the Symposium and of the Roebling Chapter, Society for Industrial Archeology, please visit

<http://roeblingsia.org/symposia.html>. **Final program to be posted on that site about Sep. 19<sup>th</sup>.**

**Please join us for the paper sessions, lunch, presentation of the  
Roebling Award, historic book and postcard vendors  
Followed by a walking tour of the surrounding Great Falls Park area.**

**Doors open 9:00** for check-in & coffee; **Presentations begin at 10:00**

**\$20 per person** (includes lunch) if sent before Oct. 5; or \$30 at the door

\* Students with valid ID may register for \$7 at door, but does not include lunch \*

**TO REGISTER**, mail your name(s) plus fee (check payable to “Roebling Chapter, SIA”) to:

**RCSIA Symposium, c/o Kevin Pegram, 59 Continental Avenue, Forest Hills, NY 11375-5213**

**DIRECTIONS** on back of this flyer or visit <http://roeblingsia.org/symposia.html>

**PLENTY OF FREE PARKING** at the Paterson Museum, 2 Market St., Paterson, NJ

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*The Roebling Chapter of the Society for Industrial Archeology is a non-profit corporation promoting the study of the physical survivals of the technological and industrial past in our region. We encourage and sponsor recording field investigation, research, and the dissemination of information on all aspects of industrial archeology, history, preservation and adaptive reuse of industrial sites. Please visit <http://roeblingsia.org> for more information.*

## Did You Get Mail?

Have you been receiving e-mails from the Roebling Chapter? If not you are missing out on tours and activities. Its important that you go to the RCSIA web site and sign up for e-mails, or let us know that you do not have e-mail access!

### Roebling Chapter SIA Officers

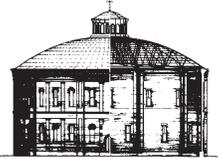
President	Joe Macasek
Vice President	Sandy Needham
Treasurer	Kevin Pegram
Secretary	Aron Eisenpress
Newsletter Editor	Bierce Riley

You can contact the Roebling Chapter by E-mail at:  
[macgraphics1@verizon.net](mailto:macgraphics1@verizon.net)

Membership is \$20.00 per year, payable to RCSIA, c/o Aron Eisenpress, 235 West End Avenue, Apt. 14-C, New York, NY 10023. A downloadable chapter membership form and general information about the SIA are available at [www.roeblingsia.org](http://www.roeblingsia.org).

Design: Joe Macasek, MacGraphics

AN OFFICIAL CHAPTER OF THE  
SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL  
ARCHEOLOGY



**ROEBLING CHAPTER NEWSLETTER** is published four times per year by the Roebling Chapter, Society for Industrial Archeology, c/o Joe Macasek, 19 Budd Street, Morristown, NJ 07960, e-mail: [macgraphics1@verizon.net](mailto:macgraphics1@verizon.net).