



# THE MULE

WINTER 2020

[www.eriecanalcamillus.com](http://www.eriecanalcamillus.com)



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Camillus Erie Canal Park - Founded 1972

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## Please welcome our new Executive Director(s)!

*Liz Beebe will shortly retire as executive director. Although we all are sad to see her go, she has put in unimaginable and vast amounts of time and earned her retirement. Let's all congratulate her on her retirement and thank her for all she has done to make the park what it is today.*



"The years have flown by, 49 to be exact. A small army of volunteers turned an abandoned overgrown portion of the historic enlarged Erie Canal into a viable 400 acre canal park. Dams were constructed. Buildings, bridges and docks appeared. Trails were established. Sims' Store Museum was built. The 1842 Nine Mile Creek Aqueduct was restored. Our park has served as an example for many groups interested in preserving the canal.

Now it's time for me to retire.

Two exceptional people will be taking my place. **Carol Knowles** will become our Executive Director and **Kandi Ladd** will be our Assistant Director. Let us tell you more about them.

**Carol Knowles** grew up in the South Side of Syracuse. She has spent her life serving others as a volunteer. Her first volunteer experience occurred in college when she organized Big Brother and Big Sister activities for the college volunteer center. **Carol** taught special education students for 35 years. After retiring she has been biking, skiing, card making, sewing, and spending time with her 2 children. She is actively involved in Onondaga Ski Club and Finger Lakes Ski Club. **Carol** enjoys volunteering as a docent at the Sims Store and giving school tours.

**Kandi Ladd** attended Onondaga Central Schools where she received many awards for academic and sports achievements. Well versed in office management, she formed her own company O.rtho K.oncepts. She received a number of outstanding World Sales Awards. One of her principle accounts was the Buffalo Bills Professional Football Team. **Kandi** enjoys water sports and is an avid fan of Syracuse Men's and Women's Basketball, Syracuse football and the Syracuse Crunch. **Kandi** has been serving as an intern assisting both the Executive Director and Director of the Camillus Erie Canal Park.

Both **Carol** and **Kandi** are eagerly looking forward to joining the 160 canal volunteers in carrying out our mission to educate, preserve and serve as a unique recreational area to the surrounding community.

Aloha, Liz

## Snippets and Tales Winter Series

sponsored by the Camillus Canal Society

Programs are scheduled from 2-4 p.m. in the Camillus Town Hall 4600 W. Genesee St. at the Male Avenue entrance, Lower Level. Refreshments and good conversation always follow each talk. Admission is free.

### January 19, 2020 ~ Story of a Tinsmith

**Dennis Heaphy** is a 4<sup>th</sup> generation tinsmith and historical reenactor. We are amazed with his accomplishments as an actor and tinsmith who repaired the Statue of Liberty. **Dennis** joins us on Towpath Day portraying a boat builder and a canal worker. [www.ellisland.reenactment.com](http://www.ellisland.reenactment.com)

### Sunday, February 16, 2020 ~ Beekeeping

by **Brooks Mullahy** who enjoys working with many hives. As she speaks you will grow to love the bees. **Brooks** brings her traveling hive for a demonstration and will also provide many different samples of honey to try. [www.sunswickfarm.com](http://www.sunswickfarm.com)

### Sunday, March 22, 2020 ~ The 149th NY Volunteers

by **Sue Greenhagen**. This is the story of a Civil War Regiment, recruited almost entirely within Onondaga County. Find out who they were, what they did and what became of them after the war. **Sue** is well known for her presentations. She is an historian and a genealogical researcher, often leading guided tours in Oakwood Cemetery. [www.peoplemorrisville.edu](http://www.peoplemorrisville.edu)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

(More information to come)

March 14, 2020

Volunteer Dinner

April 4, 2020

Orientation Day

April 18 & 25, 2020

Clean up Day

May 3, 2020

Opening Day

May 25, 2020

Memorial Day parade and picnic

July 18, 2020

Annual Picnic

August 8, 2020

Towpath Day





**Our Holiday Party** was enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to everyone who helped out and attended. Thanks to everyone who helped out!

The air was filled with the holiday spirit. The wreaths were hung by **Pat** and **Richard**. **Barbara** and **Nadine** decorated Sims "with care." The Wednesday crew put up the tree and the **Logan** family decorated, creating "a beautiful sight." The wassail bowl was filled with **Donna's** delicious punch. Happy volunteers exchanged stories and shared each other's super delicious snacks.

**Michelle** and **Emily** helped to arrange the food. **Larry** and **Dennis** assisted folks in the parking lot. **Jean** and **Toni** showed off our newest gift shop items, a menagerie of stuffed animals including mules. **Natalie** and **Shannon**, dressed as elves, brought flowers to Santa's helpers.

While **Scot** led us through all the wonderful traditional holiday songs, to our surprise **Toby** sat quietly on my lap. Perhaps, he thought, "So this is what the holidays are all about, Peace on earth and good will to all." -submitted by **Liz**

## The Canalway Trail

The entire canalway trail is scheduled to be completed in 2020 across NYS from Albany to Buffalo, and from NYC to the Canadian Border. You can see construction happening in Camillus where the trail picks up near Reed Webster Park. The trail goes past Gere Lock, through the fairgrounds, connect with the Onondaga Lake trail, the Creekwalk, and eventually meander to Erie Blvd where the trail is expected to run down the median. Watch for its completion.

This idea has been a long time coming. "As commercial traffic on the canal diminished, the state was promoting other uses for the canal. In 1992, the state legislature created the NY State Canal Corporation to take care of the canal. In 1996, the Canal Corporation approved a \$32 million plan to improve the canal for recreation. They planned to fix harbors and locks along the canal so that people with private boats could use them easily and safely. They also wanted to improve the almost 300 miles of hiking and biking trails that line the canal." (*excerpt from Primary Sources in American History, The Erie Canal, by Janey Levy, Rosen Publishing Group Inc. 2003, p.52*)

Check out the online resources for the trail. "The interactive Erie Canalway Trail map is a powerful tool for planning a trip, tracking your progress while on the trail, or helping you to navigate to trail destinations. From Buffalo to Albany, all trail segments and on-road connections are displayed in bright colors corresponding to trail surface." <https://www.ptny.org/cycle-the-erie-canal/trail-map>

Clicking on the Map Display button launches a key that identifies the different map features including:

- ◆ Trail surfaces
- ◆ Connections to other trails or alternate routes
- ◆ Attractions
- ◆ Bike shops
- ◆ Visitor information
- ◆ Parking
- ◆ Accessible trailheads
- ◆ Service areas
- ◆ Canal locks



Town of Camillus Erie Canal Park  
109 East Way  
Camillus, NY 13031

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<b>Camillus Canal Society, Inc.</b>	
New Membership or Renewal Application	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I Want to Be a Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Please Renew My Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Adult - \$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen (Age 60 and Over) - \$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family - \$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting - \$40.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining - \$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor - \$100.00
Make check payable to Camillus Canal Society, Inc.	
Name:	
Address:	
City, State Zip:	
Phone:	Cell Phone:
<input type="checkbox"/> Please Contact Me About Volunteering	E-mail Address:
Mail To: Tom Barba, 146 Terrace Way, Camillus, NY 13031	
New Memberships Received after June 1 Will Pay Half Price for That Year. The Half Price Feature Does Not Apply to Renewals.	