

The Bridger



The Vermont Covered Bridge Society Newsletter - Fall 2006

VCBS Annual Fall Meeting

by Johnny Esau,
Events Committee Chair

The 7th annual Autumn meeting of the VCBS will be held at the Montshire Museum in Norwich, Vermont on September 30, 2006 beginning at 10 a.m. After a short meeting we will have the opportunity to see the Smithsonian Institute's traveling Covered Bridge Exhibit. If you'd like more information you can visit www.sites.si.edu.

We received a discount from the Montshire Museum of Science for our entrance fee. The cost of admission is \$6.00 and that will also allow us to see the Covered Bridge exhibit as well as the rest of the museum.

We will be serving coffee, tea and snacks during the meeting. You will either have to bring your own lunch or go out to eat in Hanover or Norwich.

The Montshire is located off exit 13 (watch for the Montshire interstate sign), I-91 in Norwich, VT, five miles north of White River Junction, VT, directly across the Connecticut River from Hanover, NH, home of Dartmouth College



Autumn mtg (continued on page 2)

Covered Bridge Community News Notes

Covered Bridge on Road to New Life

July 13, 2006, Union County, Ohio - The Upper Darby, or Pottersburg covered bridge was moved off the Big Darby Creek to make way for a modern bridge. See the article by Holly Zachariah, of the THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH by going to the link below: <http://www.dispatch.com/emailme/emailme.php?story=dispatch/2006/07/13/20060713-D1-03.html>

According to the World Guide to Covered Bridges, 1989 edition, The 94-foot Upper Darby bridge, WGN 35-80-01, was built in 1868 using the Partridge truss. [Thanks to Charles Dinsmore for forwarding the article - Ed.]

Bridgeton Bridge Arsonist Charged

by Cathy Harkrider

August 6 - Parke County, Indiana - The Parke County Tourist Information Center reports that Jesse Lee Payne, who burnt the Bridgeton Bridge, Jeffries Ford Bridge and attempted to burn the Mansfield Bridge could be facing an indefinite commitment to a state mental hospital, according to reports to Parke Circuit Court Judge Sam Swaim. A new "Comprehension to Stand Trial" report received on July 27 from Dr. Robert Sena at Logansport State Hospital, states that Jesse Payne could remain in a state facility indefinitely. The reports states "to a reasonable degree of medical certainty. Jesse Lee Payne remains unable to assist counsel in his defense and attend the legal proceedings." Payne has been charged with arson of the Bridgeton Covered Bridge, attempted arson of the Mansfield bridge and arson of the Jeffries Ford Bridge. Payne faces 6 to 20 years on each count and possibility of another 10 to 30 years for habitual offender. Ref www.parkecounty.com

Goddard Covered Bridge, Flemingsburg, KY Restored

by David C. Fischetti, PE,
DCF Engineering, Inc

August 24, 2006 - Below is a link to an article from the Maysville Online newspaper regarding the recently restored Goddard Covered Bridge in Flemingsburg, KY. The Goddard Covered Bridge, (WGN 17-35-06), the last remaining Town lattice covered bridge in Kentucky, was rehabilitated by Intech Construction of Lexington, KY based on designs for temporary shoring, bracing, and repairs produced by DCF Engineering, Inc. of Cary, NC

David C. Fischetti, PE of DCF Engineering and bridgewright, Arnold M. Graton of Ashland, NH provided consultation services in a Design-Build contract with Intech Construction under the auspices of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Steve Donovan of the Buffalo Trace Covered Bridge Society and Patrick Kennedy of Kentucky Heritage were among the advocates instrumental to the success of the project.

The Dry Stone Conservancy, of Lexington, KY coordinated reconstruction of the stone abutment. http://www.maysville-online.com/articles/2006/08/16/local_news/3862bridge.tx

[Thanks to Dick Roy for forwarding this article - Ed.]



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[Thanks to Charles Dinsmore for forwarding the article - Ed.]

Josiah Hess Bridge Abutments Damaged

Friday, June 30, 2006 - I have been in correspondence with Chris Young, a Columbia County (PA) Commissioner and President of the Columbia County Covered Bridges Association in regards to the flood damage in their area. On wednesday as you are already aware the West Paden Tin Bridge was washed away. Now, the Josiah Hess Bridge, PA-19-10, is in danger of collapse.

At first appeared that it was OK but as the water began to recede it became evident that the floodwaters had eroded the foundation and abutment and a noticeable sag developed at one end of the bridge. Please check out the website: www.bentonnews.net for photos of the damage. They are trying to get a crane in to support the bridge with a steel beam to avert its collapse. Let's keep our fingers crossed that they are successful. Hope to see some of you this weekend at our meeting & picnic in Lancaster.
Sincerely, Tom Walczak

[Thanks to Jim Crouse for forwarding this article - Ed.]

Heavy Rains Threaten CB's

Jack's Mountain CB Closed PA-01-08

Tuesday, June 27, 2006 - Hello from Adams County! Jack's Mountain Bridge, Fairfield, Pa is closed due to flooding. I have not been able to get out my street (Carroll's Tract Road)

which intersects with Route 116 to check on the bridge. The water is still rising - luckily I am on the higher side of the road and most of the flooding is just across from me. Haven't heard about Sach's or other 2 Adams Co. bridges. - Pam

Southern NY Flooded

Wednesday, June 28, 2006 - As you are probably aware, much of central and southern New York State is flooded and in a state of emergency. I just received a call from Dave Peterson who is the Manager of Glimmerglass State Park where the Hyde Hall Covered Bridge is located. The situation is not good. The park is completely flooded and, of course, closed. Shadow Brook has now reached the bottom of the bridge and if the rain doesn't subside, will soon spill over onto the deck of the bridge. Although that is not good, bridges have been known to survive a little water and the Hyde Hall Covered Bridge has survived for 181 years so I am trying to remain optimistic. Dave's main concern is what debris may come down stream and hit the bridge, possibly taking it off its abutments. If this should happen, we will more than likely lose this bridge. Please keep your fingers crossed and say a special prayer for all our bridges here in New York. As of this moment, the Hamden Covered Bridge is ok, but I don't know about the others in Delaware County. I am also very worried about the Ashoken Turnwood and Grants Mills bridges. I'll keep you posted as I learn more. - Trish Kane

West Paden Twin Bridge Lost

PA-19-12

Wednesday, June 28, 2006 - I received a forwarded email message this evening from Tom Kipphorn, member of the TBCBSP, with the terrible news of the loss today of the West Paden Twin Bridge, PA-19-12, in Columbia County, PA. Yes, it was just a little over a month ago (May 25, 2006) that many of us gathered there to celebrate the refurbishment of the Twin Bridges & Park. Little did we know that day that it would be short lived. The West Paden Bridge was the Burr truss bridge and the longer of the two twin bridges and the one directly over the channel of Huntington Creek.

As most of you are aware, Pennsylvania and many states in the Northeast and Middle Atlantic region are suffering devastating flooding at the present time. It seems that two nearby cottages in the vicinity of the West Paden Bridge were swept away by the flood

waters and lodged against the bridge causing it to be destroyed as well. Please check out the website www.bentonnews.net/home.htm for a photo of the destruction.

I have not heard of any other covered bridge losses at the present time but I fear more bad news as many of the streams and rivers have not crested yet. Let's keep our fingers crossed. If you hear of any reports, I'd appreciate to hear from you. And as always, please feel free to pass this info on to those who I may not have email addresses for. - Tom Walczak

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Autumn mtg (continued from page 1)

Driving Directions to the Montshire Museum of Science

From Brattleboro:

Take I- 91 north to Exit 13. At the end of the ramp bear right, turn right again onto Montshire Rd.

From St. Johnsbury and points north:

Take I-91 south to Exit 13. At the end of the ramp take a left turn and go under the overpass. Watch for signs. Take a right just passed the traffic light.

From Rutland:

Take Route 4 East through Mendon, Killington, West Bridgewater, Bridgewater Corners, Bridgewater, West Woodstock, Woodstock, Quechee and White River Jct. Follow signs for Route 5 north. Turn left onto Route 5 north [go about 5 miles]. Go through Wilder and in Norwich at the traffic light turn right and go under I-91. At the next Traffic light look for signs for Montshire Museum. Turn right just passed the traffic light.

From Burlington:

Take I-89 south to White River Jct. Then take I-91 North [about 5 miles] to Exit 13. At the end of the ramp bear right, then turn right towards the museum.

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From East Middlebury:

Take Route 125 East to Hancock [about 16 miles].

Turn Right onto Route 100 South and go about 14 miles to Stockbridge. Go another mile to the Junction of Route 107 [Turn Left and head towards Gaysville and Bethel. Turn right under the Railroad overpass and continue on Route 107. In about 2 miles you'll come to I-89.

At this point you could either take I-89 south to White River Jct. Then take I-91 North [about 5 miles] to Exit 13 OR pass under I-89 to the Junction of Route 14 - Turn Right onto Rt. 14 South. You'll pass through South Royalton, Sharon, West Hartford, Hartford and into White River Jct. Turn left onto Route 5 North and go about 5 miles through Wilder and at the traffic light next to I-91 turn right and go under the overpass. Look for signs for the Montshire Museum. The Turn for the Museum is right next to Exit 13. Turn Right onto the museum road.

From Bennington:

Take Route 7 North to Manchester [Exit 4]. At the end of the ramp bear right up the hill onto Rt. 11 East. Continue on Rt. 11 [about 30+/- miles through Peru, Londonderry, Chester and finally into Springfield. Continue on Rt.11 about 4 miles until you come to I-91. Head north on I-91 for about 35 miles through White River Jct. and on to Exit 13. Look for signs for the Montshire Museum. The turn for the Museum is right next to Exit 13. Turn Right onto the museum road.

Places to Eat

Norwich,VT
Jasper Murdoch's Ale House
225 Main St., 802-649-1143

Norwich Inn,
225 Main St. 802-649-1143

Hanover, NH
Murphy's on the Green,
11 S. Main St. 603-643-4075

Old Pete's Tavern,
39 S. Main St. 603-643-2345

Ramunto's Brick & Brew
68 S. Main St. 603-643-9500

Everything But Anchovies,
5 Allen St., Hanover, NH, 603-643-6135

Molly's Restaurant,
43 S. Main St.
Lebanon, NH, 603-643-2570

Jesse's Steaks, Seafood & Tavern,
Rt. 120 Lebanon 603-643-4111

Lui Lui's,
Powerhouse Mall, W. Lebanon

Places to Stay

Hanover, NH
The Chieftain Motor Inn,
84 Lyme Rd.
Hanover, NH, 503-643-2550

The Trumbull House Bed & Breakfast,
40 Etna Rd. Hanover, NH, 603-643-2370

White River Jct., VT
Best Western Inn,
306 N. Hartland Rd. 802-295-3015

Holiday Inn & Express,
121 Ballardville Dr.
802-299-2700

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Trish Kane, Membership Coordinator

Summer is almost over and I'm not sure just where it went. It seems like summer arrives and before you know it, it's gone. But none-the-less, I hope you had an opportunity to visit some of our bridges. If not, don't let the autumn season pass you by without taking time to visit them. It is such a spectacular time to photograph them.

The Vermont Covered Bridge Society welcomes new members Bruce and Pat McDonald from Barre, VT, Paul & Deborah Lindberg, Enfield, NH, and Jack Tecce, Derry, NH. Welcome to the Vermont Covered Bridge Society.

Although we may not want to think about it, this is just a reminder that the holidays will soon be upon us. For our members who like to shop early, don't forget a gift certificate for a membership to the Vermont Covered Bridge Society is a gift that keeps on giving throughout the entire year.

2007 Early Renewal Contest

We will once again be offering our Early Renewal Contest. This contest has been a huge success and helps the Society so much! Paying your membership fees *before the December 31 deadline* not only qualifies you for a chance to win a nice gift, but saves the society additional postage expense having to send reminders that your dues are due. Here are the prizes for this year's contest: One year free membership to the VCBS; a lovely covered bridge welcome sign or a gift bag filled with covered bridge items.

Eligibility for this year's contest you must:

- 1) **Pay your membership dues before December 31, 2006. That's the key!* (Please note that if your 2007 membership has been paid in advance of this date, or if you are a life member, your name will automatically be entered into the drawing.)
- 2) Complete the membership form in this issue of the newsletter and return it with your check made payable to the VCBS *no later than December 31st*. The mailing address is: VCBS, PO Box 97, Jeffersonville, VT 05464-0097.

Your name will then be entered in the drawing for one of three lovely prizes mentioned above. Keep in mind that *only* memberships paid by December 31st are eligible for this contest. Don't wait until you get so busy with the holidays that you forget to send in your membership dues as you will miss out on some nice gifts. Do it today while you are thinking about it. Winners will be announced in the winter issue of our newsletter.

**To save you time, you might like to consider paying your membership fee for two years, instead of one. Or, think about changing your membership or joining one of our Giving Societies mentioned on the form. Your support is so important to our preservation work and what a nice gift to the VCBS too.*

Happy autumn everyone!

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries:**September**

4 Don & Pauline Prideaux
 4 Johnny Esau
 5 Robert Salvi
 9 Tom Walczak
 10 Rudy & Marjorie Bettis
 10 Rudy Bettis
 10 Gordon & Priscilla O'Reilly
 15 Lou & Mary Zabbia
 17 Doris Taylor
 17 Euclid & Priscilla Farnham
 21 Wilfred Thompson
 29 June Evans

October

6 Dick Wilson
 7 Conrad & Dorothy Nagengast
 9 Erwin & Virginia Eckson
 11 Trish Kane
 13 Mary Phillips Hyde
 18 Leo Fleury
 20 Phil Pierce
 21 John & Joanne Billie
 22 Ellen Everitz
 28 Joyce Soroka

November

6 Kathy Knight
 13 Bruce Wagner
 15 Linda Crouse
 17 Kathleen Winn
 18 Euclid Farnham
 18 Bob and Mary Ann Waller
 22 Marikka Guay

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Dear Joe:

On July 2nd, my family and I visited the Coburn Bridge (first of many we saw on our three days in VT). We were horrified to see a huge RV pulled up to the portal of the bridge. One man was on top of the RV trying to see if they could get it onto the bridge. He was actually laying there, trying to see if his arm would fit under the portal boards. The AC on top of the RV would never had made it under

those boards! I told them they could not cross that bridge, but I think they knew that already. As I aimed my camera at them, the RV was slowly (and skillfully) backed up and turned around towards Rt 2.

There is a yellow warning sign at the entrance to Coburn Rd (as you know) to let folks know of the 9' 8" clearance ahead. People like that are just plain scary! I love Vermont and its covered bridges and it would sadden me to see one lost to such carelessness.

Miriam Wood, OHBA

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Thank-you to all volunteers to date and also to those supporting up-coming events. The Montshire meeting will be an outstanding event - commercial ads for the related covered bridge exhibit are already on television.

These events are the backbone of VCBS activities and volunteers who support them and put them together are its life-blood. All members who want to be a vital part of these activities and events are most welcome.

VCBS elections are coming up this fall. Please consider running for a VCBS office and/or appointment as a committee chair/member. Let me know of your interest and your name will be put on the ballot or appointed to whatever committee work you desire.

One further note: Thank-you to Bill McKone for the \$210 donation he earned for VCBS as a volunteer for activities in the events of another organization.

John Weaver President VCBS

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Please sign me up or renew my membership in the VCBS:

(Business or Society please provide name of contact person)

New member Renewing member
 Gift Certificate for:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

e-mail _____

Check type of membership:

(Memberships valid to end of current calendar year)

Individual-\$10 Family-\$15
 Associate/Student-\$8
 Life-single-\$100 Life-couple-\$115
 Business-\$25
 Organization/Municipality-\$25

Check type of donation:

Palladio \$2 Palmer \$5
 Hale \$10 Powers\$50
 Town \$75 Tasker \$100
 Paddleford \$200 Whipple\$250

(Dues and Donations will be used to promote preservation of Vermont's covered bridges.)

I volunteer to participate in the following preservation program(s):

Bridge-watch Area Chairperson
 Adopt-a-bridge Newsletter staff
 Bridge-a-spondent Events Committee
 Crafts Committee Membership Committee

Make all checks for dues and donations payable to the Vermont Covered Bridge Society. Mail to:

The V.C.B.S., Inc.

Attn: Treasurer

P.O Box 97

Jeffersonville, VT 05464-0097

THE NORTHEAST POW /MIA NETWORK

The goals of our organization match those of activists nationwide in our approach to the Prisoner of War /Missing in Action issue: the return of all LIVE American POW/MIAs, repatriation of the remains of those who have died, and comprehensive explanations for cases where the previous two options do not exist. Our efforts are to establish awareness in our Country that will reduce such losses to the lowest possible level during present and future operations against America's enemies.

Great attention paid to maintaining physical reminders of the issue's continued significance. Symbolism in the form of the international logo's appearance on flags, pins, decals, articles of clothing, and accessories bolsters awareness. Wearing POW/MIA bracelets honors those individuals who still wait and evokes conversations on the issue.

We are involved in acquiring and disseminating information on this issue. Presentations and discussions with community organizations, schools, veterans' organizations, and through a broad spectrum of events allow us to convey our concerns to the public. We are actively involved in the legislative process, as we attempt to provide protection for those who serve our Country, and for their families and loved ones should loss occur. We attempt to address the needs of families and returned POW/MIAs, and assist in coordinating activities with associated groups and promoting effective information flow.

We are a volunteer organization, veterans and non-veterans, using awareness, communication, education, legislation, and compassion to assuage the pain associated with one of the most devastating outcomes of service to one's Country. As we honor POW/MIAs, returned and still waiting to come home, we aggressively pursue means to return the missing and protect those serving.

Don Amorosi, NY Chair Vets Serving Vets
1-518-792-2057

Advertising rates in The Bridger

\$5.00 per column inch

\$10.00 per quarter page

\$20.00 per half page

\$40.00 per full page

Advertisers contact Joe Nelson

2 Sugar Hill Rd., Underhill, VT 05489 or

jcnelson@together.net

Newsletter deadlines

Spring Issue - February 28

Summer Issue - May 31

Fall Issue - August 31

Winter Issue - November 30

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NORTHEAST POW / MIA NETWORK

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