

NEWS

From the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 27, 2019

‘Dinner on the Canal’ returns with *Stars & Stripes* on July 6th

EASTON – The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor will kick off its 2019 “Dinner on the Canal” series on Saturday, July 6, with the season opener “Stars & Stripes” aboard the mule-drawn Josiah White II canal boat in Easton’s Hugh Moore Park. Imagine leisurely cruising the Lehigh Canal amidst an authentically dressed crew with live music, delectable dinners, and storytelling about the families who lived and worked on the canal boats.

The “Stars & Stripes” dinner cruise is the first of eight scheduled cruises. Each two and one-half hour cruise has a different historically inspired theme and includes dinner and live entertainment. Attendees will experience how Lehigh Canal boats were lowered and raised in a working lift lock as they traveled from one section of the canal to another carrying goods to market. The cruises are BYOB wine and beer, except for the whiskey tasting event.

Here is the full “Dinner on the Canal” schedule:

- **Saturday, July 6:** “Stars & Stripes” featuring The Swing Time Dolls
- **Saturday, July 13:** “Canal Stories and Songs” featuring Roy Justice
- **Saturday, July 27:** “Island Park Amusements” featuring The Little Brass Band
- **Saturday, August 10:** “Molly Polly Chunker Revisited” featuring harpist Andrea Wittchen
- **Saturday, Aug. 24:** Whiskey Tasting with Red Stag Pub
- **Saturday, Sept. 7:** “Black History on the Canal” featuring Patrick and Carol Poladian
- **Saturday, Sept. 14:** “Pirates of the Canal” featuring the Jolly Tars
- **Saturday, Sept. 22:** “Olde-Tyme Country” featuring Coal County Express

The “Stars & Stripes” dinner cruise celebrates our nation’s 243rd birthday with The Swing Time Dolls and a patriotic canal boat theme. Hear rousing songs from this all-female vocal group

specializing in the hits of the 1940's and beyond, while enjoying a 4th of July-style picnic catered by Culinary Experts.

During "Canal Stories and Songs," spend an evening traveling back in time to the 19th-century when Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company canal boats traveled the Lehigh and Delaware canals from Bristol to White Haven. Musical historian Roy Justice will share the history, character, and lifestyle of the people who built the canal, tended the locks, and captained the boats through his unique blend of stories and songs. Culinary Experts will be providing a scrumptious summer dinner.

"Island Park Amusements" will take us back to the early 1900s when Island Park in the Lehigh River was a beautiful getaway for Easton families. For ten cents, you could get a trolley ride to the island for rides, entertainment and food. Local historian Bob Pasquini will regale guests with stories of Island Park's history. The Little Brass Band will take us back to the heyday of Island Park when The Easton Band played regular concerts and the music of famed composer John Phillip Sousa filled the air. A delightful dinner inspired by fair food of the past will be provided by Culinary Experts.

All three of the cruises in July leave the dock at 5:30pm and return at 8:00pm. The cost of each dinner cruise is \$55 per person, except the Whiskey Tasting is \$75 per person. Each cruise is limited to 60 people and will be held rain or shine (except thunderstorms). Passengers will be provided with directions to the boat and a detailed cruise agenda upon registration.

Tickets for "Dinner on the Canal" cruises can be purchased online at canals.org.

For questions and more information, contact Loretta Susen at loretta@delawareandlehigh.org or 610-923-3548, ext. 221.

ABOUT THE DELAWARE & LEHIGH NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR

The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that preserves the historic pathway that carried coal and iron from Wilkes-Barre to Bristol Borough. Today, the D&L Trail connects people to nature and the environment, industrial heritage, health and wellness and economic development.

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