Earlier today, I received this note from Marc Storm, Canal Maintenance Supervisor.

Kelly Brothers superintendent is wanting me to send out some messages. His crew is getting distracted with the boater traffic yelling at them. They all keep asking about open and close times and we have it posted on the wood railings for them to read. He also stated, he wants to keep Saturdays open as much as possible. If his crew keeps constantly answering to all the boats less work in getting done during the week. Keep in mind he could just park the barge in the middle of the lock and there would be no use during the week. I think there was mention of a weekly letter that goes to the neighborhood, maybe this will help in all the yelling for open and close times. The set work timeframe is 7am to 5pm with open time at Noon to 1pm. Please let me know, how we can get the message out to the residents of BSI.

I know I have suggested that it might be best to just stop and ask the guys working on the lock about their plans for the day, but apparently it is getting out of hand. I'm asking for you to limit such activity and try not to disrupt workflow.

If we are not careful, Kelly Brothers has the right during normal working hours to close the lock all together, such as parking their work barge in the lock. —So again, I'm asking for all to be aware of their work times and do your best to avoid this. If you take the opportunity to talk to the workers, please ensure that this does not take away from their work at hand.

Thanks for your understanding and commitment to keeping the workflow moving in the right direction.

Rick Daugherty, Vice Chair, BSI Canal Committee.