

## CSNYS 2023 Spring Study Tour Program

**Sunday, April 23, 2023**

### *10:00 AM - Bike Ride*

Several have expressed interest in a morning bike ride! Depending on the weather, our plan is to meet at Schasel Park just off NY Route 31 on the east side of Port Byron at 10 AM and cycle down to the Centerport Aqueduct (and back!), about a four-mile round trip. Dan Wiles will lead the expedition and Craig William will provide introductory remarks. **You need to provide your own bicycles.** Please confirm your participation with Craig via email (1735james@fairpoint.net).

### *1:00 PM - Dedication of the Tom Grasso Memorial at the Erie House*

Please come via the NY Route 31 entrance to the Erie Canal Heritage Park's Visitors Center on the west side of Port Byron (the Thruway entrance will still be closed as the Park does not formally open until May 1). Though it is only a short walk to the Erie House, we will also have our golf cart, the *Clinton*, to bring folks back and forth. Refreshments will be served!

### *2:00 PM - Registration and Presentation at the Samuel Center*

The Center is at 38 Rochester Street in Port Byron, the former Saint John's Church, immediately east of the NY Route 31 (Rochester Street) Owasco Creek bridge. We will receive an introduction to the Society's wonderful new facility. Craig Williams will also provide an overview of the Monday tour.

### *3:00 PM - Tour of the Samuel Center Neighborhood (1819 Owasco Creek Aqueduct and the Owasco Creek Feeder)*

Literally in the backyard of the Samuel Center is one of the most striking remnants of the first Erie Canal. The Owasco Creek Aqueduct was completed in 1819 and one arch survives. We will then take a short walk across the Creek over to the 1876 Feeder. Special thanks to the Rooker family for allowing access to the Feeder site.

### *6:00 PM - Registration and Dinner at the Holiday Inn*

We will gather in the Skaneateles/Owasco Room of the Holiday Inn (75 North Street, Auburn) at 6 PM for a cash bar, with dinner being served at 6:30. Our evening speaker is William Kappel, scientist emeritus of the United States Geological Survey. He will provide an illustrated discussion of the "Ups and Downs of Cayuga Lake," based on his over thirty years of research on the hydrogeology of Upstate New York.

## **CSNYS 2023 Spring Study Tour Program**

**Monday, April 24, 2023**

***Depart the Holiday Inn in Auburn (8:30 AM!)***

### ***STOP ONE***

***Oakwood Quarry (8:50-9:30 AM)***

We will study and get a up-close view of the quarry operations and learn why DeWitt Clinton stopped here in 1810 with Clinton's footsteps being followed many years later by Tom Grasso on his many field trips to study this unique geology. A former employee of the quarry, Society volunteer Jeff Dawson will add his reminiscences of working at the quarry.

### ***STOP TWO***

***Cayuga Nation (9:40 -10:20 AM)***

The Tour will be studying the landscape of the ancestral lands of the Cayuga Nation. The Nation will welcome us at Union Springs.

### ***STOP THREE***

***Beacon Bay Marina (10:35-11:00 AM)***

Much has changed at this historic harbor on the Cayuga-Seneca Canal and we will learn why. The Mills family will explain their work in developing the site over the last several decades and let us explore their facility. Someone please ask about the history of the Bradley and Williams truck!

### ***STOP FOUR***

***Cayuga-Seneca Barge Canal Lock 1 (11:15 AM -12:00)***

There is way too much to see here. Depending on the weather, we will go over to see the taintor gates. Someone might ask what Little Falls has to do with this site?

***LUNCH (12:25-1:35 PM)***

The United Methodist Church in Port Byron is hosting us with wonderful fare!

***(over)***

***STOP FIVE***  
***Schasel Park (1:50-2:20 PM)***

Local governments are initiating a plan to rewater the Enlarged Erie channel between here and the Centerport Aqueduct for better use by canoes and kayaks. We will have commentary from one of the design engineers from Bergmann.

***STOP SIX***  
***Montezuma Heritage Park (3:15-4:00 PM)***

With special thanks to the Town of Montezuma and the Montezuma Historical Society, we make the trek to see the Richmond Aqueduct, a trek that will be made much easier with the ATVs that will be provided! Much more to see on the way!

***Returning to the Holiday Inn in Auburn (4:25 PM)***