

# The Newsletter

of the National Society for the  
Preservation of Covered Bridges, Inc.

Winter 2022/2023

## Sanborn or Centre Bridge



VT/45-03-05, Lyndonville, Vermont

Photo by Bill Caswell, September 24, 2022. See article on the back cover.

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The **NSPCB Newsletter** is published quarterly to keep the membership informed of current bridge news and upcoming events.

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#### Membership Dues and Address Changes

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#### Topics Back Issues

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#### Next Newsletter Deadline

The next *Newsletter* is scheduled to be mailed in early **March**, therefore, anyone wishing to submit articles should send them by **February 15, 2023**. Articles and photos can be emailed to [nspcb@yahoo.com](mailto:nspcb@yahoo.com) or mailed to Bill Caswell at the address above.

We appreciate any information sent in even if we cannot ultimately use it in the *Newsletter*.

#### NSPCB Website

[www.coveredbridgesociety.org](http://www.coveredbridgesociety.org)

## Welcome New Members

Monica Barksdale, Penacook, New Hampshire  
Margaret Bickford, Rumney, New Hampshire  
Columbia-Montour Visitor's Bureau, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania  
Clint Frackman, Williamsport, Pennsylvania  
Brian Gregory, Baltimore, Maryland  
Kevin Groom, Corvallis, Oregon  
Alyssa Keeling, Grantham, New Hampshire  
Charles Krajewski, North Sutton, New Hampshire  
Kevin Lair, Winterset, Iowa  
Lynne Lemay, Dunbarton, New Hampshire  
Karin Mack, Ashland, Oregon  
John Newcomb, Rochester, New York  
Sean Ogonowski, Port Jefferson Station, New York  
Alexander Poder, Hopkinton, New Hampshire  
Dale & David Rozek, Enterprise, Florida  
Michael & Diana Taylor, Monson, Massachusetts  
Kimberly Theriault, Barrington, New Hampshire  
Dave Tolle Family, Sweet Home, Oregon

## Welcome New Life Members

#210 – James Goller, West Seneca, New York

## 2023 NSPCB Meetings & Events

All meetings begin at **1:00 PM** unless otherwise noted. If you plan to attend a meeting, please check the NSPCB website ([www.coveredbridgesociety.org](http://www.coveredbridgesociety.org)) or contact Bill Caswell at [nspcb@yahoo.com](mailto:nspcb@yahoo.com) a couple days before the event to inquire if it has been necessary to make any last minute adjustments to the published schedule.

**Sunday, March 26** – Horace Chase Masonic Lodge, Boscawen, New Hampshire. (In-person & virtual).

**Sunday, April 23** – Custom House Maritime Museum, 25 Water Street, Newburyport, Massachusetts.

**Sunday, June 25** – Contoocook Covered Bridge, Contoocook, New Hampshire. Bring your own chairs.

## In Memorium

### Marian Schliestett

Marian Schliestett, age 93, of Duluth, Georgia passed away on October 2. She was an active member of the Baptist church and served in leadership roles that grew the senior adult ministry. Born on a cotton farm in Georgia, she moved to Atlanta for business school where she began a 40-year career in accounting. Marian enjoyed traveling the world, collecting covered bridges, and working in her garden. Marian is survived by her daughter, Lori Campbell of Duluth; her son and daughter-in-law, Van and Evie Schliestett of Suwanee; and two granddaughters. She joined the NSPCB in 2017.



Marian hoped her collection of covered bridge items could be kept intact and sold to one person. The collection includes:

- Many framed pictures
- Replicas of covered bridges as shelves to hang on the wall
- Six pillows with covered bridges on them including one from a park in New Hampshire
- Two Christmas covered bridge ornaments including one from Vermont on holders
- Three framed covered bridge puzzles
- Large framed picture of various American covered bridges
- Thomas Kinkadee wall hanging of Thomaston Brook in Vermont including overhead light
- One framed needlepoint
- Teapots including Goddard Bridge in Fleming County, Kentucky
- Paintings by various artists
- Friendly Village dishes, covered casserole, medium platter, eleven plates, two cereal bowls, eight glasses and four mugs
- Tiles from bridges all over the country including Madison County, Iowa; Ohio; Elizabethton, Tennessee and others

For more information, please contact Marian's daughter, Lori Campbell at 770-495-7790.

## Warner Fall Foliage Festival

After two cancelled festivals, the Warner Fall Foliage Festival in Warner, New Hampshire was back for Columbus Day weekend this year. Thank you to all who volunteered their time to help out at the Society's booth. Thanks to Bill & Jenn Caswell for coordinating NSPCB's participation in the event and staffing the tent for both days, to Bob & Betty Pauwels for arriving early Saturday morning to help setup and spending the morning chatting with visitors, to Meg & Arnold Gräton, Conrad & Penny Young and Kim Chandler for helping out during Saturday afternoon and Scott & Sue Wagner for their time on



Sunday afternoon plus helping us pack up at the end of the day and return everything to the archives room. Your help was greatly appreciated. Thanks also to the friends and members who stopped by to visit during the weekend.



There didn't seem to be as many people as in past years. The weather was cold (40's and 50's) so sweatshirts and fleeces were popular, but overall, sales were lower than in previous years. We welcomed five new members during the weekend. Next year's festival will be held on October 7 & 8, 2023. Plan to join us if you are in the area. Photos by Bill Caswell and Kim Chandler.

## President's Message

I hope that this message finds you healthy and well. It has been quite a year for finding new ways to help promote the society.

The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the opening of the New England College Bridge in Henniker, New Hampshire was a wonderful event where people could socialize and get more familiar with the bridge and those who helped build it. It would be great to have more opportunities like that in the future.

The 24-page *Introductory Guide to Covered Bridges* is a great tool for people new to learning about covered bridges. It is sent to new members when they join and journalists contacting us for interviews. We welcome feedback on the booklet so future copies can be even better and more informative.

We welcome other ideas for new ways to promote our mission. We would also be interested in setting up our table at more events. Feel free to offer suggestions where we might have a good response especially an event related to history of an area or in a town with covered bridges.

The calendar committee produced another wonderful product for 2023. Thank you to all who contributed photos and those who serve on the committee. It is challenging for them to choose so few of the many wonderful photos submitted each year while also keeping the goal of representing as wide a geographical area as possible. This year, for the first time, they were also able to have each of the twelve months represented by a different photographer. Consider contributing entries for the 2024 calendar especially if you have not sent in any before. The deadline is February 28<sup>th</sup>. Complete details are within this Newsletter.



*DAR Ceremony, Corbin Bridge, Newport, NH.  
Photo by Steven Keene*

It was an honor to accept an award on behalf of the Society from the Daughters of the American Revolution for promoting American history on October 1<sup>st</sup>. More details on that are contained within this Newsletter.

If all goes well, Jenn & I will be back in Georgia in early December to tie up some loose ends for next September's Georgia-Alabama tour. The dates have not yet been confirmed as we want to make sure that they do not conflict with events from the other societies. It will most likely be in September and the full trip will be 3½ days. We realize that some may not be able to commit to that much time. You are certainly welcome to join us for whatever portion works for you. If we are able to get everything lined up for this year, full details will be in the Spring Newsletter.

At the annual dinner, all the current year's officers were confirmed for another year. On behalf of all the officers, thank you for your confidence in our ability to lead the organization and manage the business side of the Society. Much goes on in the background in addition to what is seen at meetings and events. The officers are also responsible for making sure publications are prepared and mailed on time, managing inventory of items for sale, keeping good financial records and preparing tax documents, managing insurance policies, scheduling and confirming meeting locations, responding to mail and many other tasks.

Jenn and I were quite surprised when Gloria Smedley ended her treasurer's report by joining with Sue Wagner to present us with gifts in appreciation for the work we do for the Society. We were honored that so many people contributed and are truly grateful. We believe in the Society's goals and volunteer our time to help attain those goals. However, that would not be possible without all your support along the way. Everyone who can attend meetings, join our tours, serve on committees, help out at events and offer suggestions on how we can improve the organization encourages us to continue doing the work we do. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.



### President’s Message (continued)

Scott Wagner has been doing a fantastic job preparing *Topics* during the past few years since Joseph Conwill passed away unexpectedly and we appreciate his willingness to devote his time to creating interesting and informative issues each quarter. The next issue will come 80 years after Rick Allen started his “experiment” to share his research and bridge news with his “covered bridge friends” in April 1943. After 80 years, conceiving new ideas for articles is difficult. If there is a topic you would like covered or can help prepare an article, please contact Scott at coveredbridgetopics@gmail.com.

As I write this just before Thanksgiving, I am thinking of all the things that I am thankful for, especially those of you who volunteer your time to our organization and the other covered bridge societies. I know that many of you, like Jenn and I, need to fit that extra commitment in while still working a full-time job. We have certainly been blessed with some wonderful people eager to help. As a nationwide organization, it is challenging to keep on top of all the local issues which might be going on. We need help from people throughout the country. Also, if you live in an area with a state or regional covered bridge society, please consider helping them as well.

However you choose to celebrate the upcoming holidays, Jenn & I wish you and your family good health and happiness. We look forward to seeing you at future meetings and events.

*Bill Caswell*

### 2022-2023 Officers & Appointments

The 2022/2023 officers were elected at the annual meeting. They are:

- President: ..... Bill Caswell
- Vice Presidents: ..... Scott Wagner & Bob Watts
- Treasurer: ..... Gloria Smedley
- Financial Secretary: ..... Gloria Smedley
- Recording Secretary: ..... Joye Olson
- Corresponding Secretary: ..... Bob Watts
- Directors: ..... Arnold Gräton (exp. 2023), Carmela Sciandra (exp. 2024), Karl Olson (exp. 2025)

#### Appointments

- Editor of Topics: ..... Scott Wagner
- Newsletter Editor: ..... Bill Caswell
- Official Historians/Archivists: ..... Scott Wagner & Bill Caswell
- World Guide Numbers & Updates: .... Dan Brock, Bill Caswell
- Sales and Mailing Chair: ..... Bill & Jenn Caswell
- Membership Chair: ..... Jenn Caswell
- Official Photographers: ..... Bob Watts, Scott Wagner
- Web Masters: ..... Alan Hartmann & Bill Caswell
- Nominating Committee: ..... Bob Watts (chair), Betty Pauwels, Tina Olson, Sue Wagner
- Eastman Fund Custodians: ..... Gloria Smedley, Bill Caswell, Bob Watts
- Timber Framing Advisors: ..... Arnold Gräton, Will Truax

### NSPCB Facebook Page

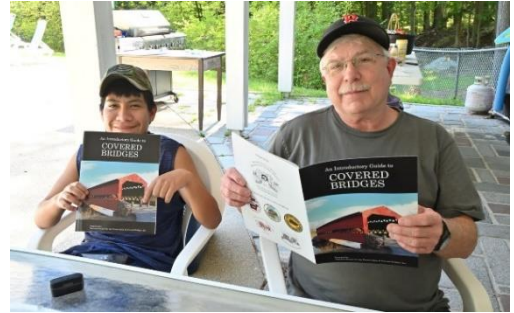
To help spread the word about our mission, the National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges, Inc. has a Facebook page. The page is used for sharing current bridge related news and Society meeting information. If you use Facebook, visit us at <http://www.facebook.com/nspcb>. “Like” our page and share it with your friends.



## August Meeting



We had a beautiful day for the August picnic meeting in Concord, New Hampshire with 24 in attendance. Jenn Caswell staffed the grill and others brought dishes to share.



Attendees had their first opportunity to see the 2023 calendars and *Introductory Guides to Covered Bridges*.



Photos by Bob Watts.



## Thoughts for 2023

At the annual meeting, the 2023 meeting schedule was discussed and a suggestion was made of having a one or two day bridge tour similar to what we did in Vermont in September. If anyone would like to organize an event like this, please contact Bill Caswell. It would likely be planned around the normal time of our July meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month.

There were suggestions for starting a program of introducing covered bridges to grade school students. This has come up many times in the past, but so far no one has volunteered to organize it. It was noted that the Ashtabula County Covered Bridge Festival group as a Junior Bridger program which has been successful and we will be contacting them for more information.

We are occasionally asked for suggested routes to visit bridges. There are some posted on our website, but I am sure that many of you may have established your own routes to visit sites near where you live. We would enjoy hearing about those, so we have more options to offer others.

Those who have been members for more than 20 years may remember the tack up cards that were stapled to the insides of bridges all over the country for decades until about 2000. You can still see some as you travel around. One was seen at the Randall Bridge in Lyndonville, Vermont which may be an example of the latest series from the 1990s. We were also contacted by Candia Woods Golf Links in New Hampshire for updated information for the one on their bridge which is at least 40 years old, being produced between 1977 and 1981. The Vermont Covered Bridge Society recently did this for covered bridges in that state with QR codes to access more information about the bridges.

These suggestions and others will be discussed by the officers at their Board meeting in February. Everyone is welcome to offer input and/or volunteer to work on our projects. We realize that geographic location may limit your ability to participate in some projects, but now that many of us are much more familiar with virtual meetings than we were a couple years ago, much can be done regardless of where you are physically located.

Feel free to suggest other projects that you would like to work on during the coming year. We had some wonderful ones this year like the introductory guide and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the New England College Bridge. You can send suggestions to Bill Caswell at [nspcb@yahoo.com](mailto:nspcb@yahoo.com).

## Upcoming Covered Bridge Meetings & Events

For more information on these events from other bridge societies, visit their websites.

- Covered Bridges Conservation Association of New Brunswick, Canada (CBCANB)  
 ..... [www.facebook.com/groups/CoveredBridgesConservationAssociationNB/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/CoveredBridgesConservationAssociationNB/)
- Indiana Covered Bridge Society (ICBS) ..... [www.indianacoveredbridges.org/](http://www.indianacoveredbridges.org/)
- New York State Covered Bridge Society (NYSCBS) ..... [www.nycoveredbridges.org/](http://www.nycoveredbridges.org/)
- Ohio Historic Bridge Association (OHBA)..... [oldohiobridges.com/new/](http://oldohiobridges.com/new/)
- The Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society of Pennsylvania (TBCBSP) ..... [www.tbcbspa.com/](http://www.tbcbspa.com/)
- Vermont Covered Bridge Society (VCBS) ..... [www.vermontbridges.org/](http://www.vermontbridges.org/)

Events could be cancelled or rescheduled on short notice. If you plan to attend, please confirm that the event is actually taking place with the group hosting it.

<b><u>December</u></b>	<b>Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup></b> – 11:30 AM to 3:30 PM, TBCBSP Christmas Dinner at Yoder's Restaurant, 14 South Tower Road, New Holland, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.
<b><u>January</u></b>	
<b><u>February</u></b>	<b>Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup></b> – ICBS Winter Gathering, details TBA.
<b><u>March</u></b>	<b>Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup></b> – 2:00 PM, TBCBSP Monthly Meeting at St. Paul Episcopal Church, 340 Locust St., Columbia, Pennsylvania.  <b>Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup></b> – 1:30 PM, OHBA Meeting, Ohio History Connection Auditorium, 800 E. 17 <sup>th</sup> Ave., Exit 111 off of Route 71.
<b><u>April</u></b>	<b>Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup></b> – 2:00 PM, TBCBSP Monthly Meeting at St. Paul Episcopal Church, 340 Locust St., Columbia, Pennsylvania.  <b>Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup></b> – NYSCBS Annual Dinner at Spaghetti Warehouse, 689 N. Clinton St., Syracuse, New York. Doors open at 11:00 AM, Lunch at noon.  <b>22 &amp; 23</b> – ICBS Spring Tour in Jennings and Ripley Counties.
<b><u>May</u></b>	<b>Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup></b> – OHBA Spring Tour, Location TBD.

## History Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution

October 1<sup>st</sup> was a beautiful autumn afternoon at the Corbin Bridge (NH/29-10-05#2) in Newport, New Hampshire, where the Reprisal Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented two awards.

One was the Excellence in Historic Preservation Medal presented to Arnold Grāton for his more than 60 years of repairing, restoring and building covered bridges plus the many other types of projects that Arnold M. Grāton Associates has undertaken. The award was presented by the chapter’s historian Kim Chandler.



The National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges



was presented with the DAR’s History Award Medal for its 70+ years of promoting the preservation of American history. The award was accepted by president Bill Caswell and vice-presidents Scott Wagner and Bob Watts. That award was presented by the chapter’s vice regent Laura McCrillis Kessler.

About 40 people attended the ceremony which was hosted by the Newport Historical Society. A reception followed at the residence of Arthur Walsh.

## Help Save the Sanborn Bridge

The Sanborn Covered Bridge Revitalization project needs your support! The project has a goal of raising \$100,000 in private donations by the end of 2022 for repairs to this historic covered bridge in Lyndonville, Vermont. The funds raised will be part of the required match for a \$350,000 grant that the project has been awarded. The project is partnering with Catamount Arts, a local non-profit, to collect donations. Please consider donating to the project; all donations are tax-deductible.

If you wish to donate by credit card payment, please visit <https://tickets.catamountarts.org/donations> and select the Sanborn Covered Bridge Project button.

If you wish to donate by check, and for large donations, please write Sanborn on the memo line of your check and send it to:



**Catamount Film and Arts**  
**PO Box 324**  
**St. Johnsbury, VT 05819**

Thank you for your support! Your donation will help ensure that the Sanborn Covered Bridge is preserved for future generations and becomes the focal point of a newly created public outdoor space where neighbors and visitors can interact with a cherished historical landmark, explore Lyndon’s public art scene, gain access to outdoor recreation trails, and be welcomed to the Town of Lyndon and greater Northeast Kingdom.

## 2024 NSPCB Calendar Photos

Images are being accepted for the 2024 calendar until February 28, 2023. As you travel around this fall and winter, watch for opportunities for calendar photos and pick out your best ones from throughout the year. Each individual can submit up to ten recent photos to be considered for the calendar.

Photos taken during the past year are preferred. As in the past, the committee will be looking for images from a variety of states and seasons, so the calendar presents structures throughout the United States and Canada. Bridges which have not yet been featured on one of our calendars will be given preference over those which have been included in previous years. Images which include area surrounding the bridge are preferred over tightly cropped photos. This allows space to insert archival photos or just to appreciate the setting of the structure.

Images should be submitted to Bill Caswell in a digital format at a high enough resolution so it still looks good at 8½” x 11”. They can be emailed to [nspcb@yahoo.com](mailto:nspcb@yahoo.com), transferred through a file sharing service such as Dropbox or mailed on a flash drive, CD or other media. Bill’s mailing address is on page 2.

## Use *Smile.Amazon.com* when you Shop Online

Support  
 National Society For The  
 Preservation Of Covered  
 Bridges.

When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com),  
 Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

Do you shop at Amazon? Have you heard of Amazon Smile? It is a program where Amazon contributes 0.5% of your purchases to a non-profit organization. There is no cost to you. In September, we received a donation of **\$42.16**. Every little bit helps. Having more people participate will increase the funds we have available to contribute towards fire retardant and other worthwhile preservation projects. Thank you to all who have contributed.

For more details, go to [tinyurl.com/nspcb-amazon](https://tinyurl.com/nspcb-amazon). If that doesn’t work, try the original link – [smile.amazon.com/ch/04-6060691](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-6060691)



## Shimane Bridge, Linn County, Oregon (OR/37-22-03#2)



*Alan Viewig, September 11, 2022*



*Alan Viewig, September 25, 2022*



*Jerry Russell, October 1, 2022*



*Jerry Russell, October 15, 2022*



*Jerry Russell, November 3, 2022*

We have been following this project all year and now that it is nearing completion we decided to offer this summary along with the latest news. Our thanks to Jerry Russell, former president of the Covered Bridge Society of Oregon, and member Alan Viewig for sending regular progress updates and photos.

The bridge's current name came from the Shimane family who moved to the area around 1900 from Nebraska and owned a farm near the bridge. The first bridge built at this location is believed to have been constructed as early as 1861, while the first documented covered bridge was built in 1891 for a cost of \$1,150. In 1904, the county rebuilt the bridge, only to have it washed out in November 1921. Its replacement lasted until 1927, when high water damaged the piers and the span was replaced.

Trees were blown against the fourth covered bridge at this site during the Columbus Day Storm of 1962. The resulting damage forced the county to restrict the bridge to a 2-ton load limit with single lane traffic. The bridge was torn down in December 1965 and the new one built during the winter. On May 20, 1966, the current 130-foot-long Howe truss Shimane Bridge was dedicated being the fifth covered bridge to occupy this site.

In January, the current repair project was awarded to Marcum & Sons, LLC of Redmond, Oregon, based on their bid of \$2,993,068.34. Around 90% of the restoration project's costs was funded by grant money from the Oregon Department of Transportation.

The bridge was moved off of its abutments on June 2<sup>nd</sup> so it's piers and approaches could be reconstructed. By June 13<sup>th</sup>, removal of the abutments and approaches was nearly complete.

While the bridge was on dry land, its lower chords were replaced. Due to the difficulty of obtaining new Douglas fir timbers of sufficient size for the job, they were replaced by glulam beams. The upper chords and diagonal timbers also needed some repair due to decay. The entire truss was tuned to a desired camber and chemically fumigated to minimize future insect damage.

On August 22<sup>nd</sup>, the bridge was lifted onto its new abutments. On September 11<sup>th</sup>, Alan Viewig, visited the site and sent photos of it placed back over the river. He returned on September 25<sup>th</sup> to find that siding had been added and they were starting on the roof trusses. Jerry Russell visited on October 1<sup>st</sup> and shared photos of additional progress.

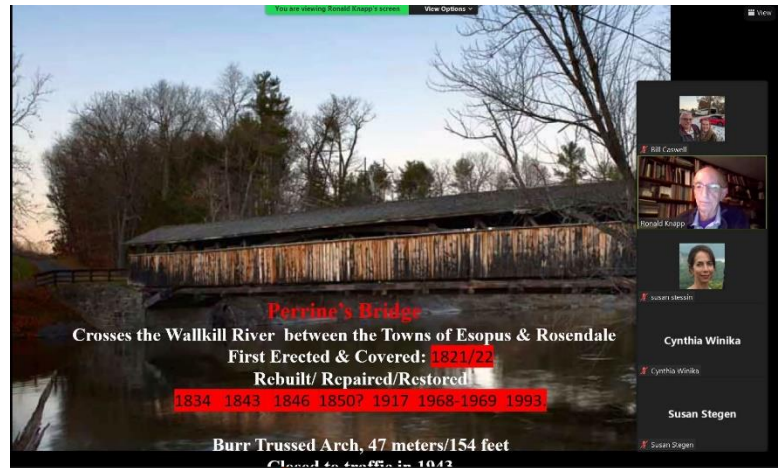
Due to slow supply chain issues and difficulties finding enough skilled laborers, the completion date was moved to late November. The last bunch of cedar shingles should arrive by November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Kevin Groom of the Linn County Road Department has been documenting the process as well and has some YouTube videos available of progress along the way. You can find them at <https://www.youtube.com/@kmgcmk2>.

## News of Members

### Ron Knapp

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, Ron Knapp offered a presentation titled "PERRINE'S BRIDGE: Celebrating 200 Years Across the Wallkill River" for the New Paltz Historical Society in New York. Ron's research has discovered that a bridge was constructed at that location in 1821 and covered in 1822, 200 years ago. Other dated documents reveal subsequent repairs and rebuilding that were necessary as the wooden structure aged. Although the exact details and extent of repairs in following years is not yet known, the bridge was rebuilt or repaired in some form in 1834 and 1846 with other repairs in intervening years. On May 13, 1846 the State of New York authorized a replacement bridge at the Wallkill River crossing "between the house of John R. Wood and Refton [sic] Mills." Like most other 19<sup>th</sup> century covered bridge projects, it is not known how much of the old bridge may have been recycled and re-used during this reconstruction. The bridge was extensively repaired and reconstructed in 1968.



### Tim Andrews

On September 30<sup>th</sup>, KVMR-FM, a public radio station in Nevada City, California, interviewed life member Tim Andrews who led the timber framing crew who restored the 1862 covered bridge in Bridgeport, California, World Guide number CA/05-29-01. The 6½ minute interview coincided with Tim's return to the bridge a year after completion of the work to inspect the structure. Over time, the wood used for the repairs dries and shrinks causing changes in the forces within the structure. The bridge will be inspected annually for the next few years to see if any adjustments need to be made to the steel rods to compensate for the wood shrinkage.

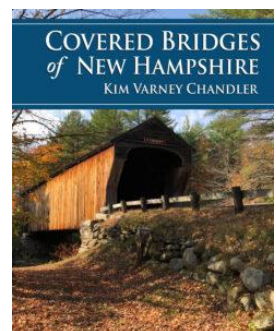


Although most of the original iron rods needed to be replaced, Tim noted that some of the best ones were reused and placed so that visitors to the bridge can see the makers marks on them. Those iron rods were primarily forged in England with some from the Netherlands. During the project, they identified 17 different makers of the iron rods. At the time the bridge was constructed, American iron was needed for Civil War efforts.

This photo of the timber framing crew near the end of the restoration project was taken by John Field on August 17, 2021.

### Covered Bridges of New Hampshire

Covered Bridges of New Hampshire, authored by life member Kim Varney Chandler, is now available. This is probably the most comprehensive book available on the state's covered bridges and highly recommended. More details can be found on the book's website at <https://coveredbridgesnh.com/>. Copies can be ordered on the website.



## Updates to the 2021 World Guide to Covered Bridges

For a complete list of changes, please visit the website at [www.coveredbridgesociety.org](http://www.coveredbridgesociety.org) and click on the World Guide link.

Page 8, DeKalb County, Georgia

GA/10-44-01 in Stone Mountain Park has been officially renamed the **Washington W. King or College Avenue Bridge**.

Page 59, Ulster County, New York, update the number for Perrine’s Bridge to **NY/32-56-01#2**. Ron Knapp’s research has discovered that a bridge was built at this location in 1821 and covered in 1822.

Page 172, Saint John County, New Brunswick, add the new Vaughan Creek #1 Bridge

NB/55-11-05#2 St. Martins Vaughan Creek #1 Vaughan Creek 1 78’ 2022 Multiple Kingpost

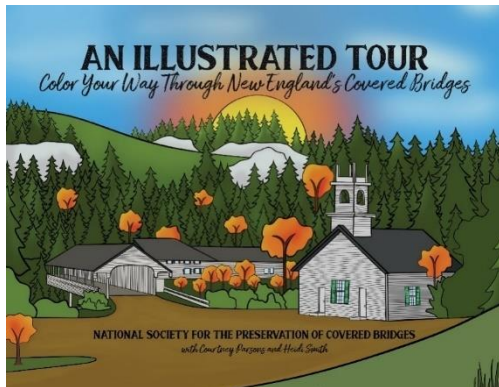
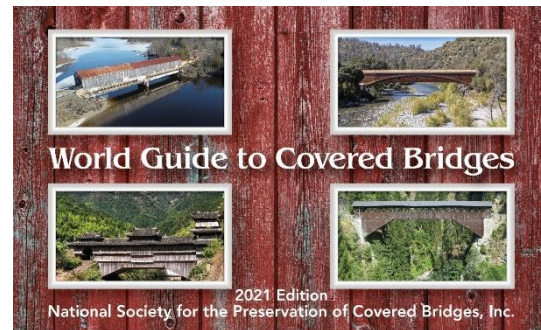
1.5 miles (2.4 km) west of NB111 on Main Village Rd., then 0.1 miles (0.2 km) right on Shore Rd. N45° 21.666’ W065° 31.886’

## Books available from the Society

These books can be purchased through the NSPCB website ([coveredbridgesociety.org](http://coveredbridgesociety.org)) or by sending a check or money order made out to **NSPCB** to Jenn Caswell, 535 2nd NH Tpke, Hillsboro, NH 03244.

### World Guide to Covered Bridges

Copies of the new *World Guide to Covered Bridges* can be obtained for \$19 per copy for media mail shipping or \$23 each for priority mail shipping to US addresses. Due to the high international shipping rates, a copy mailed to Canada will cost \$37 total. For rates to other countries, please contact us first.



### Covered Bridge Coloring Book

*Color Your Way Through New England's Covered Bridges* is now available. Each of the twenty New England covered bridges featured has a photo of the bridge, some historical notes about it and, on the facing page, an outline to be colored. The book also includes some introductory material about covered bridges in general and a page about the NSPCB. \$19.95.

### Automatic Renewals Now Available

Thanks to a suggestion from a member, we are now able to offer automatic renewals for members who choose to pay their annual dues online. This is a convenient option for those who would like one less thing to remember to do each year.

Join or Renew Online with PayPal	
US Membership with Automatic Annual Renewals	<a href="#">PayPal Subscribe</a>
	<a href="#">PayPal CREDIT Subscribe</a>
	<a href="#">Debit or Credit Card</a> <small>Powered by PayPal</small>
Single Year Membership <small>For gift memberships, add the recipients name and address in the Comments box.</small>	Membership Individual/Family US \$21.00 USD Comments <input type="text"/> <a href="#">Add to Cart</a> <a href="#">View Cart</a>

## Our Recent Trip to Québec

by Bill Caswell

After the Lyndonville event in September, Jenn and I continued north to enjoy the fall foliage and visit a few bridges we haven't seen in a while and some in Québec that we have never been to before.

On the first day, we explored the area east of Lake Memphremagog starting with Pont Narrows (QC/61-69-03) at Fitch Bay. In 1970, the demolition of the bridge was the subject of local debate. Ultimately, a decision was made to construct a new bridge and renovate the covered bridge. The covered bridge was closed to traffic in 1977. It sits at the end of a now dead-end road and looks like it could use some attention.

Pont Drouin (QC/61-18-01) was constructed in 1886 with a multiple kingpost truss. It is one of five such structures in a province dominated by bridges supported by a local variation of the Town truss. All five of them stand within the Eastern Townships.

Pont d'Eustis (QC/61-18-02#2) one of the other multiple kingpost bridges, was built in 2011 to replace an earlier covered bridge on the site. The bridge contains a small amount of timber from its predecessor. When approaching from the south, you find the bridge sitting in a low spot with rolling hills in the background.

Pont de Milby (QC/61-67-03) was built in 1873 by brothers Robert and John Hood at a cost of \$ 1,350. It replaced an earlier bridge that was lost during the major flooding in 1869. The bridge was closed after an accident in September 2019. It was repaired and re-opened in the Spring of 2020.

After an overnight stay in Sherbrooke, Monday's forecast didn't sound promising - showers all day with thunderstorms in the afternoon. Like the four previous stops, the day started with a bridge we last visited in 2013. Pont McVetty-McKenzie (QC/61-18-08) was built in 1893 for \$4,314. J. & J.A. McKenzie did the masonry work and William McVetty led the crew building the bridge. In 1950, the shingle roof was blown off and was replaced by a corrugated steel one. The bridge was closed to traffic in 1979. It was known as the Fisher Hill Bridge for a time and, in 1991, officially renamed the McVetty-McKerry Bridge to honor its builders. It was later discovered that "McKerry" was in error and the name was really "McKenzie" so it was renamed in 2011. There is a small park at the site with picnic tables and an outhouse with a covered bridge design.

At this point we veered off our 2013 route to explore new territory. This was our first visit to Pont Napoléon-Grondin (QC/61-06-06). The bridge was damaged by a strong storm in 1992. Initially, there were plans to restore it, but a few days later the bridge mysteriously burned. Pierre Mathieu moved the remains to private land and reconstructed a shortened version of it. He died in May 2015 and the sagging structure doesn't look like it has seen much maintenance since then.



*Pont Napoléon-Grondin,  
Saint-Éphrem-de-Beauce*



*Pont Rouge, Sainte-Agathe-de-Lotbinière*



*Pont Lambert, Sainte-Sophie-d'Halifax*



*Pont de Milby, Milby*

Knowing that the covered bridge (QC/61-06-01) in Notre-Dame-des-Pins was in the midst of a \$3.6 million rehabilitation project, we wanted to check it out. At 495', it is Quebec's longest and one of two named after Joseph-Édouard Perrault (1874–1948) who served in the Québec cabinet as Minister of Colonization, Mines and Fisheries from 1919 to 1929, as Minister of Highways from 1929 to 1936, Minister of Colonization from 1935 to 1936 and Solicitor General in 1936. Work is expected to be completed near the end of the year.

Pont Bolduc (QC/61-06-02) is named after its two builders, Lucien Bolduc and his father. We visited here once before, in 2001. Since then, it was moved to new abutments and a new bridge built in its place. Repairs were made and a small park built at the site with many informational panels about the history of the area. The next two stops were also on our 2001 trip.

Pont Saint-André is a single-span bridge with the typical Québec variation of the Town truss built in 1927. There is a nice picnic area next to the bridge and it is outfitted with headache bars to help protect it from oversize vehicles.

If you visit Pont Rouge (QC/61-44-01) near Sainte-Agathe and it is safe to do so, be sure to find a way down to the river. The center of the bridge rests on a large rock outcrop. The 120' long Town truss structure was built in 1928.

The next two bridges were completely new to us. Pont Lambert (QC/61-44-08) was originally called the Poirier bridge when it was built on Poirier family land. It was moved to its present location in 1925. It deteriorated to the point where it needed to be rebuilt in 1948. The floor of the single-span Town truss bridge is covered with a metal mesh.

The second of the two Pont Perrault's (QC/61-04-06) was built in Warwick in 1929. It was closed to traffic in 1957 and sold to Louis Desrochers for \$1.00 the following year. The bridge was restored in 2011 by Construction Giron at a cost of \$ 390,000. The site is landscaped with picnic tables and includes an interpretation panel inside the covered bridge.

Our third day included five more bridges seen during our 2013 trip, coincidentally also on September 27<sup>th</sup>, exactly 9 years before. Pont John-Cook (QC/61-18-04) in Cookshire was built in 1868 and named for Captain John Cook (1770-1819), one of the first settlers in the area, who owned a plot of 1,200 acres. The bridge has been closed to all access since our previous visit.

Pont McDermott (QC/61-18-06), another multiple kingpost bridge, was constructed in 1886. It is in a nice setting with some wonderful pictures possible from the downstream side. "Headache bars" and railings narrowing the roadway width limit vehicle size within the bridge.

After crossing into New Hampshire, we stopped at the three covered bridges in Pittsburg. It doesn't look like the Happy Corner (NH/29-04-01) and River Road Bridges (NH/29-04-02) have changed much over the years. However, the Clarksville or Pittsburg Bridge (NH/29-04-03) is in need of some attention. We have written to officials in both towns a couple of times about the situation with no response.



*Pont McVetty-McKenzie, Lingwick*



*Pont Perrault, Warwick*



*Pont Perrault, Notre-Dame-des-Pins*



*Pont Bolduc, near Sainte-Clotilde-de-*

# Season's Greetings From the NSPCB



*Creamery Bridge, Brattleboro, Vermont  
VT/45-13-01, Todd Clark Collection*



*Elizabethton Bridge, Elizabethton, Tennessee,  
TN/42-10-01, Robert Benfield Photo*



*Jackson or Honeymoon Bridge, Jackson, New  
Hampshire, NH/29-02-01, Bob Watts Photo*



*High Bridge, Waitsfield, Vermont  
VT/45-12-96, Todd Clark Collection*



*Bridgeton Bridge, Bridgeton, Indiana  
IN/14-61-04, Jenn Caswell Photo*



*Poole Forge Bridge, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania,  
PA/38-36-01, Michael Chorazy Photo*

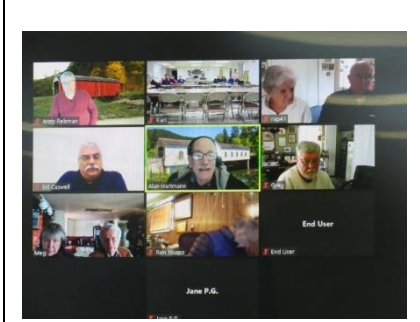


*Office Bridge, Westfir, Oregon  
OR/37-20-39, Bill Caswell Photo*



*Blair Bridge, Campton, New Hampshire  
NH/29-05-09, Betty Pauwels Photo*

### Year in Review



March Meeting, Boscawen, NH



April Meeting, Revere Beach, MA



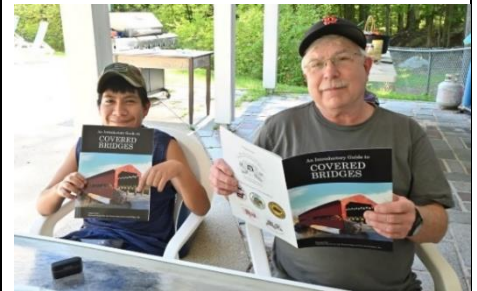
New England College Bridge Celebration, Henniker, NH, May 21



June Meeting, Contoocook, NH



July Meeting, Haverhill, MA



Introductory Guide to Covered Bridges Released, August



August Picnic, Concord, NH



September Meeting, East Haven, VT



Coloring Book Released, October 1

Photos by Bob Watts.

### October Meeting

This year, the annual meeting returned to O'Connor's Restaurant in Worcester, Massachusetts. Twenty-three members and guests were able to join us for the buffet lunch.

After lunch we were treated to a presentation on the former covered bridges of Parke County, Indiana by Indiana Covered Bridge Society president Andy Rebman.

During the business meeting, suggestions were offered for projects to work on during the coming year. Those are discussed in a separate article. The meeting ended with the election of officers for the coming year.

After the meeting, the group moved outside to enjoy a comfortably warm late fall afternoon.

Photo by Bob Watts.



## Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Resource Center – Update

It has been a remarkably busy and productive year for the Resource Center, and we are making great strides on important future plans, including the early planning for our first ever website.

We are making significant progress on our key goal of increasing access to our collection to people around the country and world, particularly those who may not be able to visit Oxford in person. The meaningful support of so many covered bridge societies for our efforts is making a crucial difference,

I'd like to begin by introducing my friend and colleague, Noel Rubinton, to the Covered Bridge Community. Although he is not new to covered bridges, he had been absent from the covered bridge scene for a number of years but is now back in the fold again. Many of you had the pleasure of meeting him at the Covered Bridge Leader's Summit back in June. Noel has an incredible background in writing and working with non-profit groups and has already been a tremendous asset to me and the Center. We are so lucky to have him on board. Please join me in welcoming Noel back into our covered bridge community.

Here are the highlights of some of our recent endeavors:

During the spring, we worked with the iSchool (the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University) and the students and faculty there helped us develop strategy for the future. They did a terrific report for us, agreeing that there is a bright future for us to attract more visitors in person and online.

On August 18th, we had six Colgate University students visit the Center as part of our new partnership with Colgate's community service program. With their assistance, we were able to accomplish a lot of sorting and organizing in a short period of time.

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, we once again had two student volunteers from Colgate University as part of their 9/11 Service Day program. The students finished the inventory of bridge models previously started and took photographs of the models. We now have a complete inventory, with descriptions and photos of all the wonderful covered bridge models at the Center. We hope to use these digital photographs in a future website and perhaps mount an exhibition of the models.

We will soon be launching a partnership with NY Heritage, which is an organization of more than 300 libraries, museums and other organizations in New York state. This partnership will allow us to post on the thriving NY Heritage website the scans of many of our most interesting postcards, photographs, and slides for the public to see. This will help give much needed access to the Resource Center to researchers and others, and also give us important visibility and publicity.

Our student intern, Tyler Hagen, returned for the summer and assisted us with many necessary projects, such as making labels for photographs, doing inventories of maps, assisting with set up for the Covered Bridge Summit, and other duties.

On June 10-12, the Resource Center once again hosted a Covered Bridge Leaders' Summit, bringing together in Oxford about 20 top covered bridge leaders from around the country. This was the second summit, the first was held in 2015.

Attendees traveled from seven states, including Indiana, Maryland, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Guest speakers were Oxford Mayor Terry Stark; Zachary Finn of the William G. Pomeroy Foundation; Claire Lovell of the South Central Regional Library Council (NY Heritage); Janna Rudler of the Preservation League of NY and Sarah Keen, the Archivist for Colgate University. Several covered bridge leaders also spoke at the event about their innovative programs.

Beyond raising a wide variety of new ideas and giving many of us the chance to be together in person for the first time since the pandemic, there was another incredibly positive development that started for the Resource Center: since the summer, various covered bridge societies have made total donations of \$2,780 to date that will cover future wages of a student intern for the Resource Center. We are tremendously grateful for this amazingly generous investment in our future.

As always, if you have a collection you would like to donate to the center, or have suggestions for us, please contact me at bobtrish68@twc.com or by phone, 607-674-9656. All of your involvement is greatly appreciated.

Happy holidays to you and your families, Trish and Noel



## Covered Bridge News Georgia

### Concord Road Bridge, Cobb County – #10-33-02

Even with motion-activated warning signs on both sides of the Concord Road Bridge (also known as the Ruff Mill Bridge or Nickajack Creek Bridge), oversized vehicles continue to hit the protective barriers installed at the bridge. The most recent incident occurred on Halloween morning when a van from a local cookie company attempted to cross. Most of the vehicle cleared the headache bar, but the refrigeration unit on top was too high. The road was closed for about three hours while Cobb County road crews reset the beam. Although the most recent *World Guide to Covered Bridges*, and earlier editions, list the two-span structure over Nickajack Creek as being built in 1872, recent research indicates that the present bridge was built in 1891 to replace an earlier one at the location. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on November 24, 1980. News and image courtesy Cobb County Government Facebook page.



### Washington W. King Bridge, Stone Mountain Park, DeKalb County – GA/10-44-01

At a ceremony on September 16<sup>th</sup>, the covered bridge at Stone Mountain Park was officially rededicated as the Washington W. King or College Avenue Bridge. The name change was approved by the Board more than a year ago and finally formally adopted. The bridge was originally built by Washington W. King, son of noted bridge builder Horace King, to carry College Avenue in Athens over the Oconee River. After being damaged by floodwaters, it was relocated to the park in 1965. “In this park that was built on the concept of bigotry and racism,” DeKalb County CEO Michael Thurmond said, “this bridge opens a whole new opportunity and panorama for us and the state to bridge the divides that have separated us. And to evolve into better people.” Two great-great-great-grandnieces of Washington W. King, Kathleen King and Rebecca King Rosenberg, attended the ceremony. *Atlanta Journal-Constitution, September 16, 2022. Photo by Bill & Jenn Caswell.*



## Indiana

### Cades Mill Bridge, Fountain County – IN/14-23-02

The oldest covered bridge in Indiana still in its original location still needs your help. The Fountain County Art Council Historic Committee continues their efforts to raise funds for repairs to the structure. So far, they have not been able to obtain the support of the county commissioners. The single-span Howe truss bridge was built in 1854 and added to the National Register of Historic Places on May 24, 2021 and is on Indiana Landmarks’ list of 10 Most Endangered landmarks in the state. An estimated \$800,000 is needed to properly restore the bridge. On November 18<sup>th</sup>, we received an update from the Historic Committee. They have a contract with VS Engineering for an assessment of the structure and to prepare applications for permits. They also have hired CLR Construction to do additional stabilization work during the winter. *Photo by Greg McDuffee.*



Donation checks should be made out to Western Indiana Community Foundation and sent to them at P.O. Box 75, Covington, IN 47932

On November 18<sup>th</sup>, we received an update from the Historic Committee. They have a contract with VS Engineering for an assessment of the structure and to prepare applications for permits. They also have hired CLR Construction to do additional stabilization work during the winter. *Photo by Greg McDuffee.*

**Indiana (continued)**

**Spencerville Bridge, DeKalb County – IN/14-17-01**

We have learned that a 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is being planned for this bridge in 2023. We will share more details when they become available. The 160-foot-long bridge was built over the St. Joseph River in 1873. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on April 2, 1981 and bypassed in 2003. *Journal Gazette, September 22, 2022. Photo by Bill & Jenn Caswell.*



**Longwood Bridge, Connersville, Fayette County – IN/14-21-01**

The single span Burr truss was built by the Kennedy family in 1884. The present project is primarily repairing or replacing components constructed when the bridge was relocated in 1984. The bottom chord added at that time was not as substantial as the one originally constructed by the Kennedy’s a hundred years earlier and is being replaced. End posts and arch ends will also be replaced. While the structure is raised for those repairs, the abutments will be replaced. They were also not suitable for the structure and are failing as a result. Once lowered onto the new abutment, the exterior siding will be replaced. The portal trim was thought to have been a 1984 alteration, but appears similar to what is seen in historic photos of the bridge which is unlike other remaining Kennedy structures. Finally, a donation of fire retardant has been requested. The work is being done by Mike Wengler of Timber Frame Reclaim of Oxford, Ohio and Will Truax from New Hampshire and they hope to be finished by Christmas. *Photos and information courtesy of Will Truax.*



*Early October 2022*



*October 18, 2022*



*October 23, 2022*

**Jennings County Bridges**

**Scipio Bridge – IN/14-40-01 & James or Graham Creek Bridge – IN/14-40-02**



*Scipio Bridge by Greg McDuffee*

On August 24<sup>th</sup>, these two bridges were added to the National Register of Historic Places. The James Bridge, built in 1887, is a single-span Howe truss over Graham Creek. In 1886, 165 residents petitioned the county commissioners to build the bridge to get farm products to railroad connections. The Scipio Bridge, built in 1886, is a single-span Howe truss over Sand Creek. It was built to connect Scipio to North Vernon and its railroads, and to the county seat of Vernon. The bridge was part of a state route until the State Highway Commission changed the state route in 1935. *Notice from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources provided by James Crouse.*



*James Bridge by Andy Rebman*

## Indiana (continued)

### Bell’s Ford Bridge, formerly in Jackson County – IN/14-36-03x

In the Summer 2021 issue (page 16), we reported on the project planned to reconstruct the 1869 structure over Fall Creek in Fishers near Florida Road and 109<sup>th</sup> Street to connect users of the planned Geist Greenway with the Fall Creek Nature Trail. The latest report indicates that the project will be ready for a bid letting in early 2023. The structure originally spanned White River in Jackson County. It was taken apart, brought to Hamilton County, and will be reconstructed as part of a trail for pedestrians and bikers. The city of Fishers has full details about the project on their website at <https://www.playfishers.com/299/Geist-Greenway>. *Hamilton County Reporter, September 29, 2022. Rendering of proposed bridge Courtesy Hamilton County Parks and Recreation*



### Williams Bridge, Lawrence County – IN/14-47-02



On September 10<sup>th</sup>, 180 people attended the 4th annual Williams Covered Bridge Dinner. The event was sponsored by Lawrence County Tourism and the Williams Community Association. Lawrence County Tourism is working on organizing a Friends of the Williams Covered Bridge group to help with preservation efforts. They have a goal to have cameras installed to reduce the incidents of vandalism of the structure. The two-span Howe truss bridge was built by Joseph J. Daniels and the Massillon Bridge Company in 1884. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on November 9, 1981. *WB/W Radio, September 12, 2022.*

### Oakalla Bridge, Putnam County – IN/14-67-10

In late October the bridge was closed to all traffic due to “structural integrity issues.” No other details of the issues with the bridge were available at press time. The single-span Burr truss was built over Big Walnut Creek in 1898. The Putnam County Sheriff posted this photo on their Facebook page with a note stating that they do not have information about when needed repairs might occur.



## Michigan

### Langley Bridge, St. Joseph County – MI/22-75-01

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, a pickup truck towing a horse trailer struck and severely damaged the height restrictor at the north end of the bridge closing the structure for eight days. St. Joseph County Road Commission manager John Lindsey noted that there are nine height-warning signs for southbound traffic within the three miles between route M-60 and the bridge, yet some drivers still pass by all of them. The Road Commission added portable signs warning of vehicle height restrictions while the new height restrictor is being made. It should be completed and installed by the end of October. The Commission plans to file an insurance claim for the estimated \$20,000 cost of parts and labor which will likely be forwarded to the Grand Rapids-area motorist responsible for the damage. The bridge will be closed for a lengthy period in 2023 as part of a \$3 million overhaul. *WLKM-FM, September 29, 2022 and Sturgis Journal, September 30, 2022.. Photo by Jim Allen.*



## Michigan (continued)

### Kal Haven Trail or Nichols Bridge, Van Buren County – MI/22-80-c

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is planning a \$5 million improvement project for the Kal Haven Trail in the next few years, and that has caused some concerns about the fate of an iconic bridge near the South Haven trailhead. The Nichols bridge was once a railroad bridge that was abandoned in the 1970s and later incorporated into the Kal Haven Trail. In 1988, a wooden housing was constructed over the steel railroad trestle by the Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps. Material for the bridge was donated by the Robert Nichols family in memory of Donald F. Nichols. The DNR is planning to replace several of the trail’s bridges as part of its 17-mile repaving project but has not yet stated its plans for this particular structure. *WSJM, October 27, 2022. Photo provided by Robert Kisielewicz, a board member of the South Haven Visitors Bureau.*



## Missouri

### Locust Creek Bridge, Linn County – MO/25-58-01

In the Summer issue (page 17) we noted that there is interest in moving the bridge approximately three miles to sit over a small creek and beside the road it originally served, Arrow Road (Old Number 8), approximately ¼ mile west of Meadville. The Meadville Betterment Association submitted their proposal to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in June. DNR was to hold a public meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss the park’s future. The 151-foot-long Howe truss structure is the longest of Missouri’s four remaining historic covered bridges. It was built in 1868 and added to the National Register of Historic Places on May 19, 1970. *Photo by Bob Hamilton.*



## New Hampshire

### Jackson or Honeymoon Bridge, Jackson, Carroll County – NH/29-02-01

The bridge was struck again on September 25<sup>th</sup>, but this time it was not an oversize vehicle. New Hampshire State Police were looking for the driver of a white Subaru Legacy who struck a vertical post near one end of the bridge around 8 p.m. and left the scene heading southbound toward North Conway. The vehicle lost its passenger side mirror and the wheel on the same side was damaged. Damage to the bridge was minor. The single-span Paddleford truss bridge was built over the Ellis River in 1876. *WMUR-TV, September 26, 2022. Photo by Bill & Jenn Caswell.*



## New Hampshire (continued)

### Whittier or Bearcamp Bridge, Ossipee, Carroll County – NH/29-02-08

On September 15<sup>th</sup>, the bridge was moved back over the Bearcamp River after sitting on dry land since 2007. Since then, workers have removed the steel supports, leveled the structure and prepared the approaches. The work is being done by CPM Constructors of Freeport, Maine, with engineering services by Hoyle, Tanner & Associates of Manchester, New Hampshire. Once complete, it will only be open to pedestrian traffic. Town officials were concerned that if it was



opened to vehicle traffic, they may have to deal with damage from

oversize vehicles ignoring posted restrictions. The Paddleford truss structure was probably built in 1870 to replace an earlier bridge lost during the great freshet of 1869. *Conway Daily News, September 16, 2022 and Manchester Union Leader, October 6, 2022. Upper photo by Bill & Jenn Caswell, September 18, 2022. Lower photo by Scott Wagner, November 10, 2022.*



### Mechanic Street Bridge, Lancaster, Coös County – NH/29-04-06

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, the single-span 1862 Paddleford truss bridge over the Israel River was damaged by a



negligent driver of a box truck. The damage included roof braces, tie-beams in the roof support system, both portals, vertical truss posts and the Fire-Wire fire detection system. Lancaster Selectman Leon Rideout shared these photos of the damage. Shortly after the accident, Arnold M. Graton Associates performed some repairs so that the bridge could be

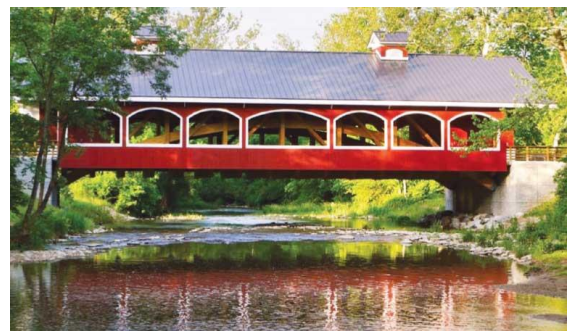


re-opened to traffic. The remaining repair work will begin about the time you receive this Newsletter.

## New Jersey

### Saddle River, Bergen County

When Saddle River Mayor Al Kurpis took on an initiative to connect some of the town’s parks, he wanted to do it with a covered bridge. The town council agreed, adding the bridge to its master plan. The council estimated it would cost approximately \$700,000 and began obtaining grants. When the project was bid last year, bids were roughly twice the original estimate. The council thought the plan was dead until local resident Francis Walsh, CEO of National Retail Systems (NRS), offered approximately \$750,000 to finish financing the \$1.5 million project. The bridge will be approximately 80 feet long, 10 feet wide and 9 feet tall. The rendering appears to show that a Burr truss structure is planned. It will be built in Texas, then shipped to New Jersey for reconstruction. The project should begin around March 1<sup>st</sup> and be completed in 2-3 months. *roi-nj.com, November 16, 2022.*



## New York

### Perrine’s Bridge, Ulster County – NY/32-56-01

During the weekend of October 8-10, the New York State Covered Bridge Society (NYSCBS) hosted a meet-and-greet at the bridge. There were displays, handouts and items for sale. The event celebrated the 200 years since the first covered bridge was constructed at this Walkkill River location. For many years there has been confusion about when the bridge was constructed. Newspapers, magazines and signs often stated conflicting dates: 1834, 1844, 1846, late 1840s, circa 1850 among others. Recent research has uncovered documents that date the original construction of Perrine’s Bridge to 1821, with its covering added a year later in 1822. Other dated documents reveal subsequent repairs and rebuilding that were necessary as the wooden structure aged. Major rebuilding/restoration took place in 1846 and 1968. The event was held in conjunction with I Love New York’s Path through History program. *Hudson Valley 1, October 3, 2022. Photo by Ron Knapp.*



## Ohio

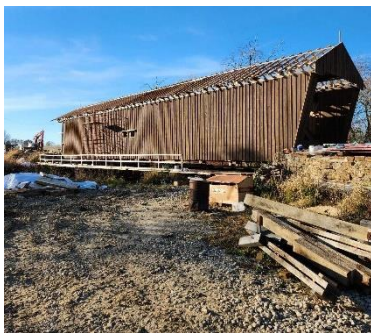
### Harpersfield Bridge, Ashtabula County – OH/35-04-19

In previous issues we have reported that Union Industrial Contractors was awarded a project to rehabilitate both the covered bridge and steel truss bridge spanning Grand River for \$6,057,260.50. Not much has happened this quarter. We have been told that the contractor has been having difficulty getting rebar so work is now delayed 3 to 4 months putting the completion date into 2024. Until they get rebar, they cannot construct the new piers. However, work is continuing on the wooden frame. *Update by Michele Lee Victor. Photo by Terry Miller.*



### Lynchburg Bridge, Clinton & Highland Counties- OH/35-14-11 & OH/35-36-06

On October 4<sup>th</sup>, The Righter Company, Inc. posted a note and photo on their website that the truss rehabilitation of the Lynchburg Bridge was recently completed. The note stated that the “Righter Company has been working closely with the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Village of Lynchburg to remove and replace damaged members, salvage existing members as much as possible, all while using authentic original construction methods.”



We contacted Mike Killilea, president of The Righter Company, for additional details. He mentioned that there is still much more work to be done. The bridge has been placed on its bearings.<sup>1</sup> Its floor beams and decking have been installed. By November 9<sup>th</sup>, they were installing the siding and rafters. The purlins and metal roofing were next on the list. They expect the project to be completed by mid-December. He also included the photo on the left taken on November 8<sup>th</sup>. The single-span bridge over East Fork Little Miami River was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on March 16, 1976.

<sup>1</sup> A bridge bearing is a component of a bridge which typically provides a resting surface between bridge's abutments or piers and the bridge deck.

## Ohio (continued)

### Spellacy Bridge, Holmes County

In the previous issue (page 21), we mentioned that bids received in July for this project to replace a 1993 bridge that has deteriorated prematurely were too high and rejected. The project was rebid and was successful this time. Kokosing Construction was selected for the \$9.5 million project on Wally Road about six miles south of Loudonville. The decision had previously been made to replace the failing bridge with a modern covered bridge. Not only will it be in character with the intent to encourage tourism in the area, it is also proving to be a good economical choice.



County Engineer Chris Young stated that “Supply chain issues, which are haunting construction projects across the country, gave us the impetus to build the bridge out of wood. Steel is an iffy supply item, as is concrete in the volume needed, but wood is available.” Canoe traffic under the bridge will be able to continue during construction. The goal is to complete the project by mid-September 2023. *Ashland Times Gazette, September 19, 2022. Rendering provided by Smolen Engineering.*

### Knowlton or Long Bridge, Monroe County – OH/35-56-18

We last reported on the status of the project to rebuild this bridge in the Summer 2021 issue (page 18).



For those not familiar with this saga, the three-span structure over the Little Muskingum River was built in 1887. One of those spans collapsed on July 5, 2019 while the county was preparing plans to

*“Covered bridges are unique, and we need to do everything that we can to protect and preserve them. Of all the covered bridges that I’ve done in the last 30 years, this one has become the most unique.”*

*Tony Durm, Ohio DOT Engineer*

repair it. On June 17, 2020, a second span collapsed leaving one remaining intact. The county plans to harvest much of the timber for the project from county lands. The Righter Company from Columbus, Ohio is involved with the project and expects it to advertise for bids next Spring. *Photo by Terry Miller.*

### Eakin Mill or Arbaugh Bridge, Vinton County – OH/35-82-07#2

In the Summer 2021 issue (page 19), we reported that damage to the bridge from a falling tree was to be repaired later in the year.



At the time, the county engineer had informed us that only the roof was damaged, not the truss structure and funding had been secured. After receiving these photos from member Jeff Griffen showing that the bridge is still closed, we contacted County



Engineer Roy DePue for an update. He informed us that the contractor withdrew from the project due to staff shortages. The county is in the process of selecting another contractor.

## Ohio (continued)

### Mary Ruffner Bridge, Perry County – OH/35-64-84

In the Summer Newsletter (page 20) we noted that the Fairfield County Historical Parks Commission was working to relocate this bridge back to Fairfield County after being offered to them by the property owner. We learned of some changes to that plan. The county estimated that it would cost about \$400,000 to move and repair the bridge before it could be put into use at the new location. They would have had a



difficult time raising that much. Also, we have learned that the property was purchased by new owners, Tim Koenig and his wife, who are interested in repairing the bridge and keeping it as part of the property. There is a 10-degree sway that needs to be corrected, the roof needs to be repaired/replaced, and a few floor boards need to be replaced at minimum. Obtaining grants for privately owned structures is generally more difficult than restoring public ones. Mr. Koenig would



appreciate any information that you might be able to offer to help him in his quest to repair the bridge. He can be reached by email at [tim@millersportcoffee.com](mailto:tim@millersportcoffee.com). Please also inform us of any ideas for preserving this historic structure. *Right Photo Courtesy Fairfield County Parks, Left Photo Courtesy Tim Koenig.*

## Pennsylvania

### North Oriental or Curry's Corner or Beaver Bridge, Juniata & Snyder County – PA/38-34-05 & PA/38-55-05

In May 2021, this crossing over West Branch Mahantango Creek was damaged when a truck crashed into it. Accounts reported the truck went almost the whole way through the bridge and broke most of the upper beams. After a couple delays due to supply chain issues, the work began on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Repairs to the bridge include timber repairs, removal and resetting of stone masonry facing and miscellaneous construction according to PennDOT. The cost of the repairs is \$359,000. Jay Fulkroad and Sons, Inc. of McAlisterville, PA, is the contractor on this \$359,000 project. All work is weather and schedule dependent. The 65-foot-long bridge carries an average of 874 vehicles daily. The single-span bridge was built in 1908 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. *Lewiston Sentinel, October 12, 2022. Photo by Gloria Smedley.*



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### Bogert's Bridge, Allentown, Lehigh County – PA/38-39-01

Our last update on the plans to restore this bridge was in the Summer issue (page 22) where we noted that enough money has been raised to begin designing the repairs and preparing construction plans. On July 21<sup>st</sup>, the City of Allentown awarded the design portion of the contract to P. Joseph Lehman, Inc., of Duncansville, Pennsylvania. On September 29<sup>th</sup>, we received an email from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation notifying us that the project is getting underway. The NSPCB and Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society of Pennsylvania will both be consulting parties on the project. We will have opportunities to review progress during the design stage and comment on the work being planned. The Burr truss bridge over Little Lehigh Creek was built in 1841. *Photo by Bill & Jenn Caswell.*





## Pennsylvania (continued)

### Factory or Horsham Bridge, Union County – PA/38-60-04

On November 18<sup>th</sup>, we received additional information about this project from Duane Gaugler, a senior project manager with the Larson Design Group. In the Fall Newsletter (page 25) we reported that the project is to repair some bridge elements that have deteriorated over time including the replacement of the existing steel beams, replacement of deteriorated timbers and a new timber deck. The truss members needing replacement include the lower chords, portions of the upper chords, 5 diagonals and the end posts. Headache bars will be installed on each approach since the structure has been hit by oversized trucks in the past. The project was successfully bid in July and awarded to J.D. Eckman Inc. They are currently securing materials and preparing for work. The road is anticipated to be closed in April 2023 and construction will continue until May 2024. The single-span bridge over White Deer Creek was built in the 1880s. *Photo provided by Larson Design Group.*



## West Virginia

### Carrollton Bridge, Barbour County – WV/48-01-02

West Virginia Division of Highways bridge crews in Barbour County are making good progress on the restoration of the bridge badly damaged by a fire in August 2017. They hope to complete the estimated \$1 million project in the spring of 2023. Work began in July with a thorough pressure washing. Once the bridge crews could see what they were dealing with they began to replace damaged sections of the bridge's wooden superstructure. A team of half a dozen or so has been steadily at work since then, cutting and shaping new bridge beams and replacing burnt timbers. Although most of the main wooden arch can be saved, "a very good portion of the truss is going to have to be replaced," according to WVDOH District 7 Bridge Engineer Chad Boram. The bridge was built in 1856 by brothers Emmett and Daniel O'Brien and crosses the Buckhannon River near Carrollton. The Buckhannon River crossing was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1981. *Exponent Telegram, September 26, 2022. Photo by Michele Lee Victor.*



### Barrackville Bridge, Marion County – WV/48-25-02

Positive feedback from the first Barrackville Covered Bridge Festival encouraged the committee to schedule a second event on Saturday June 17, 2023. Decorating the covered bridge will take place on Saturday, Nov. 19 when the Barrackville VFD will put up the lights on the arches and the upper inside part of the bridge and Saturday, Nov. 26 when the rest of the lights will be finished. The official lighting will take place Sunday, Nov. 27 and will be in honor of Scott Tharp who recently passed. *Times West Virginian, November 3, 2022 and Barrackville Covered Bridge Preservation Society Facebook Page.*

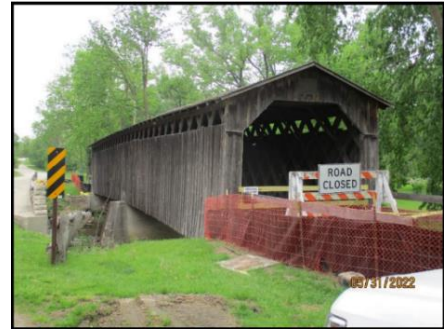


Donations to the Barrackville Covered Bridge Preservation Society can be made out to that organization and mailed to Lion's Club, P.O. Box 429, Barrackville WV 26559. For more information, visit the group's Facebook page – <https://www.facebook.com/SaveTheBarrackvilleBridgeAgain> or email them at [saveourbridge@aol.com](mailto:saveourbridge@aol.com). *Photo by Bill & Jenn Caswell.*

## Wisconsin

### Cedarburg Bridge, Ozaukee County – WI/49-46-01

In the last couple issues, we have been relaying updates on Wisconsin’s last historic covered bridge that was closed to all traffic following the discovery of a large crack on one of the bridge’s trusses. The 120-foot-long Town truss bridge over Cedar Creek was built in 1876 and retired from service in 1962. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on March 14, 1973. An inspection report was presented to the Ozaukee County Public Works Committee during the summer. This photo was part of that report. Work on the covered bridge needed to wait for a project on the adjacent roadway to be completed. On November 18<sup>th</sup>, Jon Edgren, the County Public Works Director, informed us that the Ad for Bids has been published and bids are due by December 8th.



## Canada – New Brunswick

### Smithtown or Hammond River #3 Bridge, Kings County – NB/55-06-24

Tamara Langstroth, Secretary of the Covered Bridges Conservation Association of New Brunswick, shared these photos of work being done during visits on September 24<sup>th</sup> and November 13<sup>th</sup>. She also captured a video driving through the bridge. It appears that some of the diagonal Howe truss timbers have been replaced along with its new roof and siding. The single-span Howe truss bridge was built over the Hammond River in 1914.



September 24, 2022



November 13, 2022

## Ontario

### West Montrose or Kissing Bridge, Waterloo County – ON/59-50-01

There has only been a minor update since our report in the Fall issue (page 30). The Region of Waterloo is reviewing comments received from the proposed repair plan presented in June including those provided by the NSPCB. On November 14<sup>th</sup>, the Region’s Engineer, Michelle Pinto, notified us that they are working on hiring a wood expert to add to the Project Team. They hope to have that person on board by the end of the year. For more information on this project, visit the Region’s website at <https://www.engagewr.ca/west-montrose>. Photo by Bill & Jenn Caswell.



## Québec

We are grateful to Pascal Conner whose *Blogue sur les ponts couverts* ([pontscouverts.com/blogue/](http://pontscouverts.com/blogue/)) provides most of the Québec news each quarter. Unless otherwise noted, all Québec articles were derived from that website.

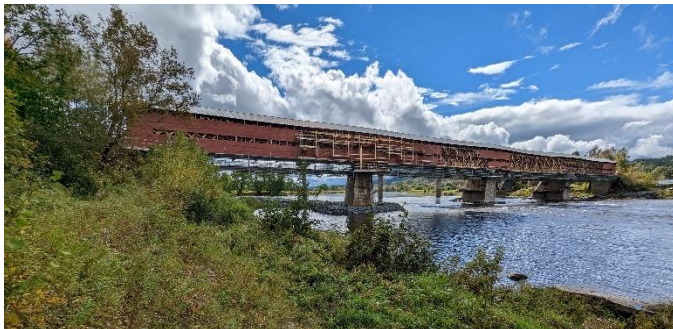
### Pont de Saint-Placide-de-Charlevoix, Charlevoix Region – QC/61-14-03



Last quarter, we reported that temporary repairs had been made to the bridge’s roof which was damaged by snow and closed in April. Emergency work was done to secure the structure and allow it to reopen to traffic on May 19, 2022. On October 11<sup>th</sup> work was to begin on a temporary roof to cover the bridge until a permanent replacement can be built in 2023. The work was expected to take about a week. The single-span Town lattice truss structure was built over Rivière Bras du Nord-Ouest in 1926 by Joseph Normandeau at a cost of \$2,076.21. *Le Charlevoisien*, September 30, 2022. Photo by Gérald Arbour.

### Pont Perrault, Chaudière, Appalaches Region – QC/61-06-01

In the Summer issue (page 25), we reported that Cité Construction TM of Thetford Mines, Québec has begun work on this \$3.6 million project. Jenn & Bill Caswell visited the site on September 26<sup>th</sup> and provided these photos noting that the work was well underway. From what they were able to see, most, if not all, of the lower chord has been replaced along with the lower portions of many Town truss members. The goal is to bring it back to full capacity. Statements from local officials had said that the restoration will be carried out in such a way as to preserve the heritage aspect of the site and respect the strict environmental standards. Once the work is complete, the bridge will re-open to pedestrian, bicycle, ATV and snowmobile traffic. Built in 1927, the Perrault Bridge over Rivière Chaudière is the longest covered bridge in Quebec at 495 feet. The project is expected to be complete around the end of the year.



### Pont de Ferme Rouge Twins, Laurentides Region – QC/61-33-02 & QC/61-33-03

On September 11<sup>th</sup>, photos were posted on the Code Rouge Antoine-Labelle Facebook page showing the result of a U-Haul truck striking a “headache bar” with a posted 2.6m (approximately 8’-6”) clearance at the smaller of the twin bridges at this location, QC/61-33-03. The page shares work of emergency personnel in the Antoine-Labelle region. The pair of two-span Town-truss bridges were constructed over Rivière du Lièvre in 1903. Grand pont de Ferme Rouge is 251’ long and Petit pont de Ferme Rouge is 162’.



## Covered Bridge Event in Lyndon, Vermont

September 24<sup>th</sup> was a perfect fall day in northern Vermont for our mini tour of Lyndonville’s five covered bridges. The day was organized by Nicole Gratton, Planner for the Town of Lyndon. About 20 people met at the Schoolhouse Bridge (VT/45-03-03) built in 1879 to start the day. The bridge was closed to traffic in 1971 when the road leading to it was realigned. The community held a work day during this past summer to scrape off peeling paint and give the bridge a new coat. The job wasn’t quite finished and another day is planned to finish the painting. Next, we travelled to the Chamberlain Bridge (VT/45-03-04) built in 1881. This one is one of two in town that are still open to traffic.



*Group at Schoolhouse Bridge*

The third stop was at the Miller's Run Bridge (VT/45-03-06#2) built in 1995 to replace a former covered bridge built in the 1870s. The bridge has been the subject of numerous strikes by oversize vehicles, usually on its southern end. The flashing warning sign has not been very effective. The approach on that side includes reversing curves down a steep hill, not an ideal location to construct a height barrier.



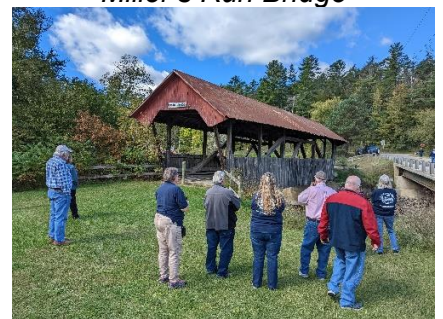
*Chamberlain Mill Bridge*

From Miller’s Run we stopped at Bandstand Park for a rest break. While at the park, some ventured across the street to White Market to see the covered bridge mural along one side of the building. At the other end is a group of historic homes once owned by wealthy railroad executives in town.



*Miller's Run Bridge*

After the park, we migrated the short distance to the Sanborn Bridge (VT/45-03-05) which was recently acquired by the Town. This was the primary reason for arranging this event. In 2014, the NSPCB hired Tim Andrews of Barns and Bridges of New England to perform emergency repairs to broken chord timbers saving the bridge from eventual collapse. Those repairs were intended to be temporary until funding was available for a full restoration.



*Randall Bridge*

When we arrived, Jan Lewandoski, the owner of Restoration and Traditional Building, a company specializing in heavy timber repair and restoration of barns, churches, and wooden bridges, with over 30 years of experience in this area, spoke to us about the needs of the bridge. In addition to work needed on the wooden structure, both abutments are failing and in need of attention. There are also plans to raise the bridge a little higher to further protect it from the spring ice floes.

In addition to the needed repairs, Nicole discussed their desire to promote the bridge as a focal point of the town and promote development of a small park at the bridge. This is the first step in an effort to promote all of the town’s covered bridges.

The final bridge on the tour was the bypassed Randall Bridge (VT/45-03-07) Bridge which is also in need of significant repairs that are intended to be addressed after the Sanborn work. We donated fire retardant for this bridge earlier in the year.



*East Haven Chapel Meeting*

We drove to East Haven for pizzas at Dirt Church Brewing. After lunch, Anna Cronin, co-owner of the brewery and chapel spoke to the group about their goals of preserving the structure and undoing alterations made in the 1970s to return it to its historic appearance. The gathering culminated with a brief NSPCB business meeting. Photos by Bob Watts and Bill & Jenn Caswell