

The Newsletter

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

Winter 2025/2026

Hyde Hall Bridge Celebration



Glimmerglass State Park, near Cooperstown, New York

NY/32-39-01, Photo by Bill Caswell

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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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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, 2026**. Articles and photos can be emailed to 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

Welcome New Members

CJ McGowan, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania
Valerio Poggiali & Natalie Strohm, Ithaca, New York
Doug Schoppert, Cooperstown, New York
Henry Whicher, Stratham, New Hampshire

Welcome New Life Member

#233 – Everett Skinner, Ellington, Connecticut

2026 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) or contact Bill Caswell at 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. Meetings will be available by Zoom when possible.

Sunday, March 22 – Horace Chase Masonic Lodge, Boscawen, New Hampshire. (In-person & virtual).

Sunday, April 26 – 350 Revere Beach Blvd., Revere, Massachusetts.

Sunday, June 28 – Contoocook Covered Bridge, Contoocook, New Hampshire. Bring your own chairs.

Sunday, July 26 – Tilton Mansion, Tilton, New Hampshire. (In-person & virtual).

Sunday, August 23 – Annual picnic. **Location TBD**. The cookout is at noon and the meeting at 1 pm.

Sunday, September 27 – Scott Bridge, Townshend, Vermont. Bring your own chairs for 1 pm meeting. You are welcome to bring a picnic lunch and join us earlier.

October 10-11 – Warner Fall Foliage Festival, Warner, New Hampshire.

Sunday, October 25 – NSPCB Annual Meeting and Dinner, Brigham Hill Barn, North Grafton, Massachusetts. Meal at noon, meeting starting at 1:00 PM.

In Memoriam

Terry E. Miller

Life Member Terry Miller, of Kent, Ohio, passed away unexpectedly on October 1st at age 80. Terry had a lifelong interest in covered bridges which he wrote about in the Spring 2024 issue of *Covered Bridge Topics*. As a child, his father took him to visit and photograph bridges around Ohio. Terry quickly became an expert on covered bridge histories and construction techniques. In addition to joining the NSPCB as a child, he was one of the founding members (as well as the youngest) of the Southern Ohio Covered Bridge Association (now the Ohio Historical Bridge Association) in 1960, later serving as a president and vice president. His research resulted in numerous articles, presentations and books about covered bridges.



After retirement, he and his wife, Sara, traveled with other covered bridge researchers on extensive tours of China, Europe, and North America visiting hundreds of bridges. His collaboration with Ron Knapp produced two beautifully illustrated and highly informative books: *China's Covered Bridges: Architecture Over Water* and *America's Covered Bridges: Practical Crossings – Nostalgic Icons*. His last major publication, again partnering with Ron Knapp, was a 500-page history of prominent 19th century bridge builder Theodore Burr.

While we are most familiar with Terry's covered bridge work, he made a career studying the traditional music and cultures of southeast Asia. Terry was drafted into the US Army in 1968 and was sent to Long Bin Base in Vietnam in 1969. While there, he discovered and became fascinated with Southeast Asian music. After completing his Master's Degree at Indiana University, he returned to Southeast Asia for fieldwork for his doctoral degree, living in Maha Sarakam, Thailand with his family from 1972-74. In 1975 he began his academic career at Kent State University, where he helped build the world music program and worked as a professor of Ethnomusicology from 1975 to 2005.

His research in traditional music and cultures, and his mentorship of generations of students, leaves a deep legacy in the music field. His memorial service included a eulogy from a former student discussing how Terry's research of the traditional music of the Lao people of northeast Thailand helped introduce that culture to not only the Thai people, but many in the west who were enlightened about that country's culture from this American professor.

Terry had two daughters, Sonia and Esther, with his first wife. He married Sara Stone in 1985, and they shared 40 happy years together. At his memorial service, his daughters described holiday gatherings at their home during their childhood which included students from many different countries speaking a variety of languages and sharing food from their own cultures.

The impact of Terry's scholarship in southeast Asian music and covered bridge history, the knowledge he produced, his contributions to those fields, and the integrity with which he worked, will continue to be felt for many years.

Edward Cooper

Life Member Edward T. Cooper of Syracuse, New York, passed away on August 23rd at the age of 95. He was born in Toronto, Ontario, and moved to the United States in 1957. He received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and a Master's degree in Engineering Administration from Syracuse University.

Mr. Cooper retired after 28 years with Bristol Meyers Squibb in 1997 where he had been Director of Plant Engineering and Facilities. He had held previous Engineering positions with Allied Chemical Corp. and Philco Corporation in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Bausch and Lomb, Rochester, New York. He had also worked in the steel, railroad and gold mining industries in Canada.



Predeceased by wife Gladys of 60 years in 2019, he is survived by a son, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was a life member of the NSPCB, New York State Covered Bridge Society and Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society of Pennsylvania.

President's Message

As I write this shortly before Thanksgiving, I am thinking of all the things I am thankful for, especially those of you who volunteer your time to contribute to our organization and the various other covered bridge societies as officers and serve on committees. I know that many of you are like Jenn and I and need to fit that extra commitment in around time with family and full-time employment. We have certainly been blessed with some wonderful people eager to help. If you live in an area with a state or regional covered bridge society, please consider helping them as well.

This quarter we are again mourning the loss of one of the giants in the covered bridge preservation community and a personal friend of ours, Terry Miller. Jenn & I were fortunate to be able to attend his memorial service in his hometown of Kent, Ohio. Many of you are likely familiar with Terry's research and contributions to our knowledge of covered bridges. His most recent, and most extensive, works were collaborations with Ron Knapp. As noted in his obituary, Terry's covered bridge interest began in childhood. According to our membership records, he joined at age 10 in 1955, a year after the NSPCB was incorporated. That was 70 years ago! He was a member for longer than anyone else in the Society's history.



*Hyde Hall Celebration
October 11, 2025
Photo by Bob Watts*

We welcome Alan Hartmann and Steve Miyamoto who will be serving as directors for the coming year. Alan has been generously donating his time and experience towards development of the Society's covered bridge website and phone app. Steve served as vice president for the Vermont Covered Bridge Society for many years and also has experience with website design and management. Their talents and experience will be particularly helpful as we embark on an effort to modernize our web presence and combine the Society's two websites (coveredbridgesociety.org and abhdemo.com) into a single new entity.

For those who have not yet heard the news, we extend our congratulations to our treasurer, Gloria Smedley, on becoming the President of the Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society of Pennsylvania.

The Hyde Hall event was a huge success. The number of people in attendance far exceeded our expectations, which I am sure was at least partially due to the ideal weather for the day. Although we, the New York State Covered Bridge Society and Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Resource Center had been involved with planning the event from the start, we were excited that the other statewide covered bridge preservation groups – Indiana Covered Bridge Society, Ohio Historic Bridge Association, Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society of Pennsylvania and Vermont Covered Bridge Society – all joined in and had tables set up near the bridge. Jenn prepared a raffle basket which was won by a young couple, Valerio Poggiali & Natalie Strohm, who had recently become interested in visiting covered bridges. Thank you to Barbara Gregory for volunteering her creative talents and transforming my research into a wonderful souvenir booklet available for sale on the website.



If you haven't already, don't miss your opportunity to pick up a 2026 calendar. They also make great Christmas gifts for friends and family. Thank you to all who submitted photos this year and especially to the committee who always has a challenging time determining the best candidates each year. Now is your opportunity to submit photos for consideration in the 2027 calendar. Details are in a separate article.

Remember, it is up to every one of us to help preserve our historic covered bridges. If you see something that isn't right, say something. Whether it is a bridge in need of repair, excessive graffiti or an oversized vehicle using the bridge, let the proper authorities know about it. Local/County/State government officials need to know that we care about these structures and want them to be around for future generations to enjoy and learn from.

Bill Caswell

Thank you to our Volunteers

As an all-volunteer group, we appreciate everyone who sets aside time in their busy lives to help keep this organization going. We couldn't do it without you. In addition to the officers and directors who are listed in a separate article, we extend our gratitude to the following members working on special projects.

There will be new opportunities coming this year and we look forward to having others involved. If one of the projects mentioned here interests you, please contact Bill Caswell for more information.

Calendar Committee

The Calendar Committee reviews all the photos submitted each year. They not only recommend their favorites but also need to keep in mind our goal of being as geographically diverse as possible with the images we have available plus attempting to represent as many different photographers as possible. Most of the process is done by email although there may be a Zoom meeting if the need arises.

Carol Colaianni not only participates in the decision process, but also prepares the selected photos for printing and designs the cover each year. In addition to Carol, the 2026 committee included Jenn Caswell, Kathy Lesich & Tom Law, Andy Rebman, Carmela Sciandra and Scott & Sue Wagner.

If you are interested in being part of the 2027 Calendar Committee, let Bill know. The deadline for submitting photos is February 28th and the selection process begins shortly after that.

Website Redesign

In the coming year, we will be working on modernizing and reorganizing the Society's website. We have solicited proposals from two web design firms. The Executive Board will be reviewing those proposals during the winter. Once the work gets underway, there will likely be a series of Zoom meetings to discuss design alternatives. If you are interested in helping with the design and development process, contact Bill.

Educating the Next Generation

It's never too early to teach people about the importance of their local history. Children should be made aware of the special places in their community and learn why we consider them worth preserving. Jeanne Beuadry, Education Chairman for the Vermont Covered Bridge Society, developed a program aimed at students in grades 4 & 5 which includes basic covered bridge information, instructions on how students can build their own popsicle stick covered bridge, final project examples, and when possible, a field trip to a local covered bridge with activities at the bridge. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have this program expanded to communities in other states, especially areas where the students would have an opportunity to visit a covered bridge and learn about its history? If you are interested in pursuing this type of project, let Bill know or email Jeanne at vcbs.education@vermontbridges.org

Online Archives

While our primary mission is advocating for the proper preservation of our historic covered bridges, our photograph and document collections also help preserve the history of those structures. The late Joseph Conwill spent years scanning the major collections of slides, negatives and photographs in the Society's archives.

Since Joseph's passing, Michael Delage has been scanning the remaining slides in the archives. Glenn Hayes has recently started organizing the thousands of digital images from various individual collections to create a comprehensive digital archive using a consistent file naming convention. This is a significant step towards preparing the digital collection for online access. In the future we may be looking for a grant to help fund the process of adding metadata necessary to make the collection searchable and cover costs associated with sharing it online.

We are still a long way from being ready for these next steps, but are mentioning it to locate others who may have experience in this area or interest in being part of the process.

Destruction d'un pont d'exception à Potton (Destruction of an exceptional bridge in Potton)

That was a headline in the October 15th edition of *Le Devoir*, a Montreal newspaper. The story was subsequently picked up by other media outlets as we learned of plans to demolish the 1896 Pont de la Frontière, also known as the Province Hill Bridge (*World Guide* #QC/61-11-03), about a half mile north of the US border and southeast of Mansonville, Québec. The Ministry of Transport (MTQ) issued a request for bids to find a firm to demolish the bridge citing safety concerns. They indicated that the abutments are in very poor condition and the covered bridge could slide towards the existing bridge, thus damaging it. Plans were to remove it before the end of the year. Last winter, (*Winter 2024/2025 Newsletter*, page 30) we reported that the bridge had been classified as a heritage structure by Québec's Ministry of Culture and Communications. Unfortunately, that did not appear sufficient to save it.



The structure is one of the province's oldest covered bridges and the last remaining example of a Town truss variation once common in this portion of the Eastern Townships in Québec and northern Orleans County, Vermont. The truss timbers are connected by a single treenail where other Town trusses are typically secured by two or more treenails or bolts at each crossing. Joseph Conwill discussed this variety on page 16 of the Fall 2000 *Covered Bridge Topics*. The buttresses extending outward from the sides provide lateral support and are also not very common. The last American example of this style was the River Road Bridge at North Troy, Vermont, until that span burned on February 6, 2021. The builder of these structures is not yet known but the similarity of the spans on both sides of the border leads one to believe that they were products of a single builder or bridge-building family.



The span is in poor condition and there are differences of opinion about who is responsible for its care. In the mid-1960s, when it was no longer adequate for motor vehicle traffic, the MTQ moved it onto private property to make room for a new bridge. Public access has been prohibited since June 2014 due to its severely deteriorated condition.

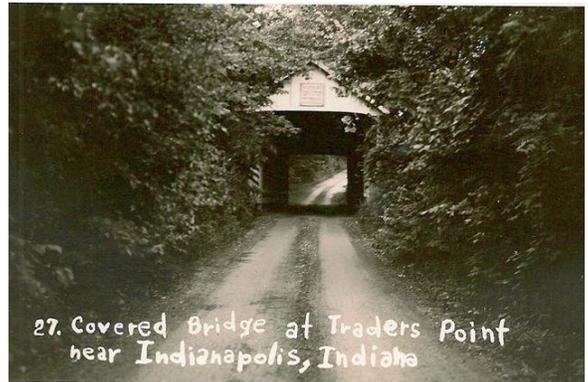
Bruno Côté, Potton's mayor at the time, stated that since MTQ moved it, they are responsible for its care noting that the municipality is not able to take on that responsibility. The property owners are concerned that the 1896 structure will eventually collapse and they will be responsible for the clean-up. A repair estimate prepared "a few years ago" was \$300,000 and there was a recommendation to move the bridge from its location over Mud Stream to Mansonville over rivière Missisquoi-Nord to connect André-Gagnon Park to Boright Road, about 4 miles north of its present location.

The Potton Heritage Association has been promoting the relocation plans for years. Now, with the imminent threat of its demolition, local residents rallied and its future is more promising. On November 11th, *Le Reflet du Lac* reported that the new mayor, Louis Veillon, MTQ and the contractor selected for the demolition are working on a solution to relocate the structure. MTQ will arrange for the bridge to be moved to a temporary location where the Municipality will assume responsibility for it. During his recent election campaign, Veillon supported the efforts to relocate the bridge to the park. *Photos by Gérald Arbour and Bill & Jenn Caswell.*



Planned Relocation of the Traders Point Bridge Marion County, Indiana – IN/14-49-07

The Traders Point Bridge was originally built over Fishback Creek on 86th Street in Indianapolis, about 0.6 miles from its present location in 1880 by Josiah Durfee, a contractor from Noblesville, Indiana. It was condemned in 1959 and purchased by DeWitt Brown who had it moved to his property in 1960 when the new bridge across the creek was to be built. This post card showing the bridge at its original location is part of Todd Clark’s collection.



The photo below was included in a notebook compiled by Oscar Lane in the NSPCB Archives, showing the bridge shortly after it was relocated.



We previously noted that the privately-owned span has been in need of repair for many years. The present owner is not able to maintain it and donated it to Indy Parks and Recreation hoping to have it relocated to a place where it can be preserved. Eagle Creek Nature Conservancy and Preservation, Inc. is leading the effort to have the bridge repaired and relocated to replace a small bridge on a hiking trail which crosses Lily Lake in Eagle Creek Park in the northwest corner of Indianapolis.

In 2022, Indiana Landmarks hired Kurdziel Barker Engineering to conduct a cost study to rehabilitate and move the bridge. The firm estimated it would cost \$1.3 million to take apart the bridge, move it and put it back together in Eagle Creek Park. It would cost another almost \$500,000 for maintenance like a new roof and sidings. Design costs would add another \$170,000. The Lilly Foundation has already pledged \$1 million towards the nearly \$2 million project. The winter scene at the bridge’s present location was taken by Greg McDuffee.



Andy Rebman, president of the Indiana Covered Bridge Society visited the proposed location on November 8th and shared these photos of the site and sign promoting the project. He noted that the trail was quite busy during his time there and the bridge would be highly visible and well used. Stones from an abutment of a historical metal bridge that was removed in Indianapolis have been moved to the site and will be used to construct the new abutments for the Traders Point Bridge.



The NSPCB sent a letter expressing our desire to see the bridge preserved and our support for the project. We look forward to being involved and helping in any way we can.

It takes perseverance to save a covered bridge

By Scott Bomboy

[This article about the South Perkasio Bridge (PA/38-09-05) in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, was published by the Bucks County Herald on October 16, 2025 and reprinted with permission from the author.]

Last week, the historic South Perkasio Covered Bridge reached two important milestones in its four-year journey to return to service in Lenape Park.

First, on October 9, Perkasio Borough announced Eastern Highway Specialists of Wilmington, Delaware, will rehabilitate the timber structure. Its prior projects include the Knox Covered Bridge in Valley Forge Park. T. Schiefer Contractors, of Doylestown, will build new abutments. Second, Perkasio Borough learned the two firms' bids met FEMA's funding policies, meaning the costs are considered appropriate for compensation.



For those of us involved in rehabbing the bridge, which is owned by Perkasio, there are a few life lessons to share about the value of perseverance.

The South Perkasio Covered Bridge means a lot to our community. Perkasio residents saved the bridge in 1958 from county demolition. In early 2021 the borough and the Perkasio Historical Society raised \$220,000 to fix part of it after 2,000 people signed a petition. But in September 2021, Hurricane Ida severely damaged the entire bridge. Since then, it has resided in Lenape Park as a monument awaiting repairs.

Borough officials made the decision to pursue FEMA funding for repairs. The alternative was to use borough funds. We knew it would cost a lot to fix the bridge and take a long time, and the covered bridge project met FEMA's compensation requirements. We knew New York's Blenheim Covered Bridge, featured on "Nova," was funded by FEMA, and took eight years and \$6.7 million to complete. Bogert's Covered Bridge in Allentown, a similar project, was budgeted at \$2 million using state funds.

So, calls went out for help. The offices of State Sen. Steve Santersiero, state Rep. Craig Staats, and Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick arranged meetings critical to the project. Bucks County commissioner Robert Harvie included the bridge in the Bucks County FEMA declaration area.

Our work with FEMA started in January 2022, and taught us the federal regulatory process requires tons of homework. FEMA has strict guidelines to prevent fraud, which required us to study federal policy manuals. Our Perkasio team had weekly FEMA and PEMA [Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency] calls for 15 months to determine FEMA's scope of cost.



Perkasio received a preliminary award of \$427,554.56 to repair the bridge in August 2023. We knew that amount needed to be at least \$1 million based on market research. We also knew the award amount would increase if we found damage missed or hidden during FEMA's engineering inspection, or if construction prices were higher after a fair-bidding process. But it was up to us to identify such findings.

We hired Wood Research & Development of Jefferson, Oregon, to engineer the bridge's rehabilitation. It found significant hidden damage caused by Ida. Then, FEMA allowed us to move the covered bridge 50 feet away from the creek, after Perkasio's engineers discovered floodway permitting problems.

The funds to be obligated by FEMA to Perkasio now total \$1.7 million. Some may argue such costs for "a covered bridge to nowhere" are excessive. Elected officials have an obligation to pursue damage claims for public property, no matter how long it takes, especially for the borough's historical monument. The alternative would be using local taxpayer funds. Today, the project is moving forward with no direct cost to Perkasio taxpayers. Pending final federal review signoffs, construction is expected to start in early Spring.

Our takeaway after more than 100 meetings, countless emails and calls over four years is that persistence means never losing faith. Quitting is not an option. That is a lesson worth learning for anyone who chooses to serve.

Perkasie Borough Councilman Scott Bomboy is the chair of Perkasie Borough Council’s Historical Committee. A timeline on the Perkasie Covered Bridge project can be found at

perkasieborough.org/information/projects/south-perkasie-covered-bridge-rehabilitation/

Historic Covered Bridges Dedicated After Major Restoration.

Submitted by Lori Ulrich

FLEMINGSBURG, KY — A large crowd gathered Friday afternoon [October 3rd] to celebrate the restoration of three of Fleming County’s most treasured landmarks: the Grange City, Ringos Mill and Goddard Covered Bridges.

The dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremonies marked the completion of a nearly \$2.6 million investment by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to preserve the historic wooden spans that have connected generations of Kentuckians.

The event began at the Grange City Bridge and continued to the Ringos Mill and Goddard Bridges, where officials, community members, and preservation partners came together to honor the craftsmanship and history behind each structure.

A highlight of the day was the unveiling of a memorial plaque honoring the late Arnold Grāton, a master bridgewright and preservationist whose expertise guided the restoration of all three bridges. Grāton’s legacy continues through Arnold Grāton



Grange City Bridge



Ringos Mill Bridge

Associates, whose skilled team carried out the recent restoration work with the same care and precision that have defined their projects across the country.

Accepting the plaque on Grāton’s behalf were his wife, Meg Dansereau, and son, Tim Dansereau who represented the family and company during the ceremony.

“These bridges represent the heart of rural Kentucky,” said Jim Gray, Kentucky Secretary of Transportation. “Thanks to careful restoration, they will continue to remind us of our history, our craftsmanship, and our sense of community.”

Each bridge was carefully rehabilitated to restore its original beauty while strengthening its structure to meet modern standards. Crews replaced deteriorated timbers, reinforced supports, and preserved historic details that make each bridge unique.

The restoration project was a collaboration between the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Arnold Grāton and Associates, and local officials, reflecting the state’s ongoing commitment to preserving Kentucky’s historic and cultural landmarks.

Following the ceremony, guests were invited to walk through the bridges and take in the craftsmanship up close – a reminder that the past, when cared for, continues to connect us all.



Goddard Bridge

Photos courtesy Crystal Ruark.

September Meeting

The September meeting was held at the Baltimore Bridge in Springfield, Vermont on September 28th with 14 members in attendance. The meeting was primarily devoted to a presentation by Adam Miller and John Nininger who presented a slide show detailing their trip to China in July. The trip was arranged to become better acquainted with China's woven arch design bridges as they prepare to construct one using this design in Tucker Mountain Town Forest in Newbury, Vermont. Adam is a carpenter and timber framer who also serves as the editor of *Timber Framing*, the technical journal of the Timber Framers Guild. He is also a NSPCB member.



Thank you to the Springfield Chamber of Commerce for opening the adjacent Eureka Schoolhouse during our visit to the area and to Vermont's Division for Historic Preservation for welcoming us to the site and arranging for a port-a-pot to be available during the meeting. *Photos by Bob Watts and Bill & Jenn Caswell.*



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.



Annual Meeting

The annual meeting was held on Sunday, October 26th at the Brigham Hill Community Barn in North Grafton, Massachusetts with attendees from seven states. After a wonderful lunch served by Jenn Caswell and Kendra Brunt, Ron Knapp offered his very interesting presentation about Timothy Palmer. The presentation was based on "Early Timber Arch Bridges: Theodore Burr's Antecedents and Competitors" an article published in the June 2025 issue of *Timber Framing Journal*.

The business meeting followed the presentation. Nominating Committee members Bob Watts (chair) and Sue Wagner announced their recommendations for the officer and director positions. There were no other nominations from the audience so all were elected.



2025-2026 Officers & Appointments

The 2025/2026 officers were elected at the annual meeting. They are:

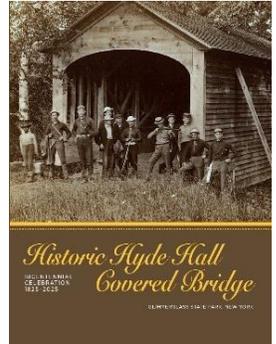
- President: Bill Caswell
- Vice Presidents: Scott Wagner & Bob Watts
- Treasurer: Gloria Smedley
- Financial Secretary: Gloria Smedley
- Recording Secretary: Sue Wagner
- Corresponding Secretary: Bob Watts
- Directors: Steve Miyamoto (exp. 2026), Carmela Sciandra (exp. 2027), Alan Hartmann (exp. 2028)

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), Tina Olson, Sue Wagner
- Eastman Fund Custodians: Gloria Smedley, Bill Caswell, Bob Watts

Hyde Hall Bridge 200th Anniversary Celebration

October 11th was a picture-perfect autumn day for the celebration of the Hyde Hall covered bridge's 200th anniversary in Glimmerglass State Park north of Cooperstown, New York. The park staff estimated that over 2,000 people attended the event, far more than anticipated. It was the first time in about 20 years that the NSPCB and five statewide covered bridge societies – Indiana Covered Bridge Society, New York State Covered Bridge Society, Ohio Historic Bridge Association, Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society of Pennsylvania and Vermont Covered Bridge Society – plus the Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Resource Center were all together at an event. Each of those groups along with eight local organizations set up displays



under the large tent near the bridge. The NSPCB table was staffed by Jenn Caswell and Kendra Brunt. The souvenir booklet prepared for the event was popular along with special edition post cards with a cancellation commemorating the day. Souvenir booklets are still available for anyone interested in obtaining one.



Indiana Covered Bridge Society, New York State Covered Bridge Society, Ohio Historic Bridge Assoc.



Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Soc. of PA, VT Covered Bridge Soc., Theodore Burr CB Resource Ctr.

The bridge was in need of repair when it, along with the estate, was transferred to state ownership in the mid-1960s. The state considered the bridge too valuable to lose and undertook the necessary repairs. They have continued maintaining it with the assistance of covered bridge societies.

In the morning, the festivities were primarily in the beach pavilion area with presentations by Ron Knapp, Jan Lewandoski and Andy Rebman. Bog Hollow provided music for visitors along with a food truck, classic cars and horse-drawn wagon rides provided by HBH Clydesdales.



At 1:00, the focus shifted to the bridge which was adorned with patriotic bunting, pumpkins and mums. The 53-foot-long span was constructed on the driveway leading up to the estate of George Clarke. The limited amount of traffic passing through the span likely contributed to its longevity.

The Cooperstown High School Chorus opened the ceremony with the national anthem. Master of ceremonies John Kucko, a digital journalist and former television anchor, read a proclamation from Governor Kathy Hochul which noted, in part, that the bridge was “a testament to outstanding engineering and devoted preservation efforts.” She continued by saying “On behalf of all New Yorkers, I appreciate everyone’s commitment to the preservation of covered bridges.” John then introduced a series of speakers which included New York State Senator Peter Oberacker, Cooperstown Mayor Eileen Tillapaugh, Michael Roets, Regional Supervisor, NY State Parks & Recreation, Gib Vincent, Chair, Hyde Hall Board of Trustees and Bill Caswell.



Supervisor, NY State Parks & Recreation, Gib Vincent, Chair, Hyde Hall Board of Trustees and Bill Caswell.



During his remarks, Senator Oberacker presented an award to Glimmerglass State Park and Hyde Hall in recognition of their work maintaining the bridge and hosting the commemorative event. The award was accepted by Shawn Woods, Glimmerglass Park Manager. After Bill’s comments, Michael Holt shared his covered bridge song and the high school band returned for a closing tune.



Left to right: John Kucko, Senator Oberacker, Mayor Tillapaugh, Gib Vincent, Michael Holt

After the ceremony at the bridge, the festivities moved to the Woodshed near the Hyde Hall Mansion where Gib Vincent offered some background on the estate and the covered bridge followed by Mike Musante’s description of his 1:12 scale model of the bridge which he presented to Hyde Hall. Mike Holt followed the presentations with additional musical selections.

When the activities were over and the crowds dispersed, those of us in the bridge preservation community gathered for some social time with refreshments and a cake prepared for the occasion.



The event was the product of a year-long effort by an organizing committee chaired by Wayne Marshfield, president of the New York Covered Bridge Society (NYSCBS) and whose members included: Bill Caswell; Trish Kane, President, Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Resource Center (TBCBRC); Randy Lamb, gift shop manager of Hyde Hall; Jonathan Maney, Executive Director & CEO of Hyde Hall; Michael Roets, Historic Site Regional Supervisor of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation; Noel Rubinton, Secretary, TBCBRC; Linda Schott, Trustee & Storekeeper of the NYSCBS; Larry Smith, Tours & Collection Manager of Hyde Hall; Shawn Wood, Park Manager of Glimmerglass State Park; and David Wray, Trustee, NYSCBS.

We are grateful to The Tianaderrah Foundation for their very generous donation which provided most of the funding for the event. Thanks also to Glimmerglass State Park for arranging the vendor tent and providing shuttle service to transport people between the pavilion and bridge area.

Additional photos from the event are included on the back cover. Photos by Bob Watts, Shawn Woods, Tammy Kane, Amy Cohen, Bill & Jenn Caswell.

Year in Review

Thank you to all who are able to attend our meetings and events and especially those who volunteer to serve as officers or on committees. Here are a few memories from 2025.



February
The Executive Board approved fire retardant donations for the Grange City (left) and Ringos Mills (right) Bridges in Fleming County, Kentucky. \$5,063



March

Presentation from Mohamad Hussein, "Bridges as Civil Engineering Heritage and Cultural Icons in Numismatics and Philately." The group approved a \$17,500 donation towards a new roof for the Kirker Bridge in Adams County, Ohio.



April

In-person & Zoom meeting at the Museum of Old Newbury with a presentation by Bob Watts about the eclectic history of transportation and infrastructure in the Newburyport area.



June

Annual Pizza Party at New Hampshire's Contoocook Bridge. Val Stegemoen prepared a display of treenails from the NSPCB archives. Group voted for a \$2,500 donation to the Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Resource Center towards development of their website



Year in Review (continued)



July

On July 27th, Jim Orfitelli from The Barn Yard hosted the meeting and discussed the 2021 construction of the covered bridge at their location in Enfield, Connecticut.



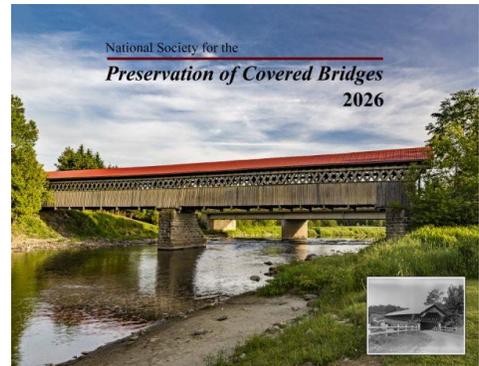
August

Tri-State Safari to visit bridges in Cheshire County, New Hampshire, Windham County, Vermont and Franklin County, Massachusetts with the New York State Covered Bridge Society on August 9th and 10th. There were 39 people from eight states attending all or part of the event.



August

The annual picnic took place in Concord, New Hampshire on August 24th. Jenn Caswell staffed the grill for the group to prepare the burgers and hot dogs. Others brought side dishes and desserts. The 2026 calendars made their debut at the meeting. Joye Olson has hosted the picnic meetings for the past few years. She has moved out of the community so we will be looking for a new venue for future picnics.



September

Details of the September meeting at the Baltimore Bridge in Springfield, Vermont are in a separate article.

October

The year concluded with our annual meeting and election of officers for the coming year. It was a wonderful year and we are looking forward to seeing what 2026 has to offer.

Updates to the *World Guide to Covered Bridges*

For a complete list of changes, please visit the website at www.coveredbridgesociety.org and click on the *World Guide* link.

Page 10, Troup County, Georgia, add King Bridge

GA/10-141-12 LaGrange Cary Branch King 1 58' 2022 Town

I-85 exit 13 to GA219 north towards LaGrange for 2.7 miles, then 0.2 miles left on W. Mulberry St to Mulberry Street Cemetery at 101 W Mulberry St. Walk 300' to the bridge. N33° 01.743', W085° 02.020'

Page 104, Chester County, Pennsylvania, add Rudolph & Arthur Bridge

PA/38-15-01#2 Elk-New London Big Elk Creek Rudolph and Arthur 1 99' 2025 Burr

1.5 miles west of jct PA472 on PA841, then 0.1 miles left (ahead) on CR3005 and 0.4 miles left on Rudolph's Camp Rd. (T307). N39° 44.752' W075° 52.936'

Page 173, Remove NB/55-14-12, Poirier or Cocagne River #3 Bridge, the bridge was removed in October 2025.

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/

Indiana Covered Bridge Society (ICBS) www.indianacoveredbridges.org/

New York State Covered Bridge Society (NYSCBS) www.nycoveredbridges.org/

Ohio Historic Bridge Association (OHBA)..... oldohiobridges.com/new/

The Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society of Pennsylvania (TBCBSP) www.tbcbspa.com/

Vermont Covered Bridge Society (VCBS) 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.

<u>December</u>	Sunday, 7th – 11:30 AM to 3:30 PM, TBCBSP Christmas Dinner at Yoder’s Restaurant, 14 South Tower Road, New Holland, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.
<u>January</u>	
<u>February</u>	
<u>March</u>	Sunday, 1st – 2:00 PM, TBCBSP Monthly Meeting at St. Paul Episcopal Church, 340 Locust St., Columbia, Pennsylvania. Sunday, 15th – 1:30 PM, OHBA Meeting, Ohio History Connection Auditorium, 800 E. 17 th Ave., Exit 111 off of Route 71.
<u>April</u>	Sunday, 12th – 2:00 PM, TBCBSP Monthly Meeting at St. Paul Episcopal Church, 340 Locust St., Columbia, Pennsylvania. Sunday, 19th – NYSCBS Dinner at Spaghetti Warehouse, 689 N. Clinton St., Syracuse, New York. Doors open at 11:00 AM, Lunch at noon.
<u>May</u>	Saturday, 16th – OHBA Spring Tour, TBA.

2027 NSPCB Calendar Photos

Images are being accepted for the 2027 calendar until February 28, 2026. 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. The committee looks for images from a variety of states and seasons, so the calendar presents structures throughout the United States and Canada. Each year we receive many photos from the northeastern states, but few from the south, Midwest and west coast.

Bridges which have not yet been featured on one of our calendars may have preference over those included in previous years. Images with 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, 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.



Covered Bridge Guide Phone App

Our Covered Bridge Guide phone app is now publicly available in the Apple App Store for iPhones and iPads and Google's Play Store for Android devices.

Search for *Covered Bridge Guide*. If you find it useful, please leave a review.

Covered Bridge News

Illinois

Little Mary's River Bridge, Randolph County – IL/13-79-01

Last quarter, we reported that the Samron Midwest Contracting from Murphysboro, Illinois, was repairing the bridge after a storm tore its roof off on July 1, 2023. In addition to replacing the roof, they added fire suppression and video monitoring systems. Metal tie-down straps were installed to secure the roof timbers to the main trusses, improving resistance to future storms. All work was conducted in accordance with guidelines from the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office. On September 22nd, the bridge re-opened to pedestrian traffic marking the completion of the \$312,000 project. The bridge remained active for traffic through 1930. In 1936, it was transferred from the county to the state to preserve it and develop a picnic area around it. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on December 31, 1974. *Drone photo courtesy Samron Midwest Contracting, Side photo courtesy Illinois DOT. WSIL-TV, September 21, 2025.*



Indiana

Nevins Bridge, Parke County – IN/14-61-05

The single-span Burr truss bridge over Little Raccoon Creek is closed due to structural issues. An arch on the southwest corner of the bridge has failed, necessitating immediate repairs. Repairs will be completed as soon as possible. The supervisor of Parke County’s Highway Department noted that they are hoping to have it back open sometime this winter since the water is low and they can work in the creek. The bridge was built in 1920 and added to the National Register of Historic Places on December 22, 1978. *WTHI-TV, October 21, 2025. Photos by Bill & Jenn Caswell.*



Portland Mills or Dooley Station Bridge, Parke County – IN/14-61-21

Gary Krick sent this photo of the bridge taken on October 14th. Andy Rebman, president of the Indiana Covered Bridge Society contacted the supervisor of Parke County’s Highway Department and learned that extensive termite damage was discovered on the lower chords around all of the arch terminals and on the arches themselves. The bridge was supposedly treated for termites, but apparently not. The county estimates that repairs will cost \$800,000 to \$1 million. They are hoping to secure funds and start work later this winter with completion anticipated in the Fall of 2026. The single-span Burr truss bridge was built in 1856 and moved to its present location over Little Raccoon Creek in 1961. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on December 22, 1978.



Melcher Bridge, Parke County – IN/14-61-26

In the Fall 2024 *Newsletter*, we reported that the abutments of this bridge had deteriorated to the point

where they need to be replaced. The project was stalled so the bridge unfortunately remained uncovered through the winter. In the summer, we reported that repairs were back on track. The left photo was taken by Gary Krick on October 13th showing the bridge after it was placed on its new abutments and before the siding was added. Daniel Kurdziel of



Kurdziel Barker Engineering sent the right photo of the completed bridge in early November. The single-span Burr truss bridge over Leatherwood Creek was built by J. J. Daniels in 1896.

Indiana (continued)

S Hill Bridge, Vermillion County – IN/14-83-02x

When this was written, the S Hill Covered Bridge was in storage at the Skinner Farm Village and Museum near Perrysville. Originally built in 1879 by Joseph J. Daniels, it received its name because of the reverse curve in the road at the south approach of its original location. In 1994 it was disassembled and stored at the Geneva Hills Golf Course, northwest of Clinton, Vermillion County, with the intention of being reconstructed on the golf course. The golf course owner died and the structure was given back to the county, for "reconstruction in Vermillion County only." The bridge components were moved to a park at St. Bernice where they sat exposed to the weather for several years. Next, they were moved to a barn at the Skinner Farm Village and Museum near Perrysville with the intent of being reconstructed on the museum grounds. Norman Skinner collected over 30 Vermillion County buildings which would have otherwise been torn down and relocated them to his village. Mr. Skinner passed away on December 22, 2021 and by the time you read this, the family will have sold the bridge timbers. *Jesse Lunger Photo, NSPCB Archives.*



Maryland

Loys Station Bridge, Frederick County – MD/20-10-03#2

The bridge's height restrictor was badly damaged by an oversize vehicle during the night of September 26/27. The vehicle, which has not been identified, also caused some damage to the bridge. The span was expected to be closed for about three weeks however; repairs were accomplished in under a week. The Frederick County Division of Public Works issued a press release on October 3rd stating that the repairs were complete and the road is now open to traffic. The two-span structure over Owens Creek was built in 1994 to replace an historic covered bridge. *DC News Now, September 27, 2025. Photo by Bill & Jenn Caswell.*



Missouri

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

We had previously reported that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) relocated the 151-foot-long Howe truss bridge to a new home at Pershing State Park three miles from its original location. At the



Pershing State Park's virtual 2025 public meeting on July 21st, park superintendent Ryan Persinger noted that the bridge was still closed while its approaches are being constructed. A Facebook post on September 13th showed that no progress had been made towards completion of the



approaches. The bridge was built in 1868 and added to the National Register of Historic Places on May 19, 1970. *Photos courtesy Missouri State Parks.*

New Hampshire

Saco River Bridge, Carroll County – NH/29-02-03#3

The two-span 1890 covered bridge over the Saco River will remain closed for a few months following a motor vehicle accident on October 22nd which caused significant damage. A 21-year-old woman crashed her 2010 Dodge Charger into the upstream side of the structure. Excessive speed and a wet roadway are believed to have contributed to the incident. Although the bridge is closed to traffic, the southern sidewalk will remain open to pedestrians. The most significant damage was one of the vertical timbers sheared off about two feet above the floor and damage to diagonal timbers connected to it.



A segment of the wooden guardrail was also damaged. Nearby residents say they regularly see vehicles speeding through the Paddleford truss bridge and frequently see vehicles exceeding the 3,000 pound limit. *Conway Daily Sun, October 23, 2025. Photos by NHDOT and Bill & Jenn Caswell.*



Ashuelot or Upper Village Bridge, Cheshire County – NH/29-03-02

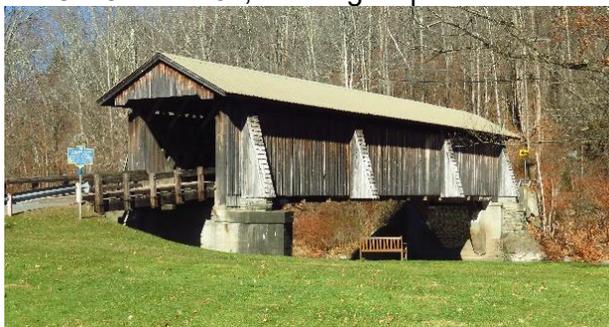
On September 6th, Winchester’s RED Committee hosted their 10th annual dinner on the 1864 Town truss bridge over the Ashuelot River with about 60 guests in attendance. Tickets for the event were sold out in a little over an hour. Dinner and desserts were provided by local businesses and residents. About \$6,000 was raised at the event which will be donated to local non-profits such as the Winchester Historical Society. The bridge was added to the National Register of Historic Places on February 20, 1981.



New York

Van Tran Flat or Livingston Manor Bridge, Sullivan County – NY/32-53-03

On October 8th, the single-span Town truss span over Willowemoc Creek was closed for repairs to its wooden approach span. If the repairs go as planned, the work on the 1860 structure will take about a month. *Mid Hudson News, October 12, 2025. Photos by Bill & Jenn Caswell.*



Ohio

Governor Kirker Bridge, Adams County – OH/35-01-10

On September 5th, the Adams County Travel and Visitors Bureau announced that the bridge's new roof was complete, fulfilling the first step toward a restoration/repair of the historic bridge. The next step is shoring up the foundation plus additional improvements. Fundraising will continue and additional work will be scheduled when funds become available. The single-span multiple kingpost bridge over the East Fork of Eagle Creek was built in 1890, bypassed in 1973 and added to the National Register of Historic Places on October 29, 1975.

A special fund has been set up by the Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau in cooperation with Adams County Economic & Community Development and the Adams County Commissioners. The Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau is a 501(c)3 non-profit and donations are tax deductible.

Donation checks should be made out to The Kirker Covered Bridge Fund and sent to them at P.O. Box 577, West Union, OH 45693



Bickham Bridge, Logan County – OH/35-46-03

On September 16th, the Logan County Highway Department sent out a press release announcing that the bridge will be closed during daytime hours of September 19th for repairs to damage caused by an over height truck in April. The single-span Howe truss bridge was built over South Fork Great Miami River in 1877. *Photo by Greg McDuffee.*



Pennsylvania

Rudolph and Arthur Bridge, Chester County – PA/38-15-01

Construction of the replacement for the 1880 covered bridge which was swept away by floodwaters on September 1, 2021, is now complete. As noted in previous issues, Lancaster County Timber Frames designed and constructed the trusses at their facility to ensure that everything fit properly before moving the materials to the job site. A ribbon-cutting ceremony took place on October 15th. *Photos by Gloria Smedley and George Rothlingshofer.*



Pennsylvania (continued)

South Perkasio Bridge, Bucks County – PA/38-09-05

On October 9th, the Borough of Perkasio sent out a press release announcing that contracts were awarded to Eastern Highway Specialists Inc. of Wilmington, Delaware, for the timber structure and T. Schiefer Contractors, Inc. for the abutments. The Borough applied for a project change with FEMA to



move the covered bridge about 50 feet from its current location so it is no longer within the FEMA regulatory floodway. The span will also be elevated by several feet and secured by tie-down fixtures.



The bridge was damaged by the remnants of Hurricane Ida in September 2021 during historic flooding in the park. The approximately \$1.7 million cost is covered by funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), a grant from the Pennsylvania State Historic Office and donations. There will not be any direct costs to Perkasio tax payers. The single-span Town truss bridge originally crossed Pleasant Spring Creek on South Main Street in Perkasio before being relocated to the park in 1958. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on December 1, 1980. *Photos courtesy of Scott Bomboy and Bill & Jenn Caswell.*

Pine Grove Bridge, Chester County – PA/38-15-22#3 & PA/38-36-41#3

In the Summer *Newsletter*, we reported that the bridge was badly damaged by an oversize vehicle on March 27th. The two-span Burr truss bridge spanning Octoraro Creek was built in 1884. The driver from Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, was cited for three vehicle code violations – restrictions on use of highways and bridges, obedience to traffic control devices, and duty to give information and render aid. Temporary repairs were made and the bridge was re-opened on April 9th. Permanent repairs began on October 20th and were completed on November 18th. *Lancaster Online, November 18, 2025. Photo by Sara Beth Kohut.*



Kintersburg Bridge, Indiana County – PA/38-32-05

County Commissioners have approved a bid to rehabilitate this single-span Howe truss bridge built over Crooked Creek in 1877 and named in honor of John Kinter, a revolutionary war veteran. The bridge will be disassembled, undergo repairs offsite and be reassembled. It has suffered failures of several truss members and the work needs to be done in a historically sensitive manner. The \$807,314 project is being done by Horizon Construction Group and Lancaster County Timber Frames, with Gibson Thomas Engineering serving as the project engineer. The project is expected to be completed in 2026. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on August 3, 1979. *WCCS-Radio, November 15, 2025. Photo by Greg McDuffee.*



Pennsylvania (continued)

Leaman Place or Eshleman's Mill Bridge, Lancaster County – PA/38-36-20#2

The single-span Burr truss bridge over Pequea Creek was closed after tractor-trailer struck the bridge around noon on October 24th. County workers were examining the damage that afternoon. Pennsylvania State Police have charged a Michigan truck driver with ignoring height limit signs and causing damage to the historic covered bridge. No other details are available at this time. The 1893 bridge was added to the National Register of Historic Places on December 11, 1980. *Lancaster Online, October 24, 2025. Photo by Sara Beth Kohut.*



Neff's Mill or Bowman's Bridge, Lancaster County – PA/38-36-22#3



A Penske box truck caused extensive damage to roof beams of the single span Burr truss bridge over Pequea Creek after driving through it on May 29th. The roof of the truck was torn off during the incident. The bridge is clearly posted and the driver was issued a citation. On August 27th, the county posted a public notice for the repairs, and the \$138,000 project was awarded to Lancaster County Timber Frames. The work is expected to be completed in mid-December. The bridge will remain closed until repairs can be made. *WGAL-TV, November 10, 2025. Lancaster County Website. Photo by Gloria Smedley.*

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



On September 4th, a Restoration Kickoff Ceremony to celebrate the start of the rehabilitation project by H & P Construction. Construction was scheduled to start on September 15, 2025 to correct the sag in the structure, replace some deteriorated truss members, replace the decking, add a new slate roof and siding, construct new abutments, add steel beams for support and apply fire retardant. The anticipated completion date is August 26, 2026. The \$2.57 million project is funded through a combination of state, local, and community grants as well as funding from the Trexler Trust, Friends of the Parks, The Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society of Pennsylvania and the National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges. "Bogert's Covered Bridge is an icon, but one that our city had neglected for far too long," said Mayor Matt Tuerk. The Burr truss bridge over Little Lehigh Creek was built in 1841. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on December 1, 1980. *The Valley Ledger, September 5, 2025. Photo by Bill & Jenn Caswell.*

Old Keefer's Mill Bridge, Montour County – PA/38-47-03



The bridge was closed on May 29th after failing an inspection. On October 14th, the County Commissioners accepted a bid of \$156,000 for the repairs. The single-span Burr truss bridge was constructed over Chillisquaque Creek in 1853 and added to the National Register of Historic Places on November 29, 1979. *WKOK, August 27, 2025, Press Enterprise, October 15, 2025. Photos by Margie Gacki.*



Vermont

Silk or Locust Grove Bridge, Bennington County – VT/45-02-04

On October 2nd, a box truck hit this bridge over the Walloomsac River. The truck was about two feet taller than the span’s 10’-6” opening. The truck backed out, the driver removed some of the timbers from the truck and drove away. Fortunately, another driver took a video of the incident and shared it with Bennington police.



and shared it with Bennington police. Police called the company owning the truck who instructed the driver to return to the scene. Vermont Barns of Dover, Vermont is expected to make the repairs estimated to cost about \$10,000. The company’s insurance will be responsible for all costs. The Town truss bridge was built around 1840 and added to the National Register of Historic Places on June 28, 1973. *Manchester Journal, October 13, 2025.*

Police called the company owning the truck who instructed the driver to return to the scene. Vermont Barns of Dover, Vermont is expected to make the repairs estimated to cost about \$10,000. The company’s insurance will be responsible for all costs. The Town truss bridge was built around 1840 and added to the National Register of Historic Places on June 28, 1973. *Manchester Journal, October 13, 2025.*

Red or Sterling Brook or Chaffee Bridge, Lamoille County – VT/45-08-11

Morristown authorities are looking for public assistance after an unknown vehicle hit the bridge on or around October 27th. This photo supplied by police shows the damage on the north side of the bridge. The single span bridge over Sterling Brook has a unique truss design. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on October 16, 1974. *ABC22/FOX44, November 4, 2025.*



West Virginia

Simpson Creek Bridge, Harrison County – WV/48-17-12



Bridgeport city officials are exploring funding options to renovate the bridge which is featured on the city’s seal. In addition to structural issues, the site is overgrown with brush and large sycamore trees casting shade on the span may have contributed to mold growth. Originally built over Simpson Creek in 1881, floodwaters carried the single-span multiple kingpost bridge downstream in July 1899. It was repositioned about ½ mile from its original location. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on June 4, 1981. *Exponent Telegram, September 9, 2025. Photo by Bill & Jenn Caswell.*

Canada – New Brunswick

Poirier or Cocagne River #3 Bridge, Westmorland County – NB/55-14-12

Area residents were surprised when the bridge was unexpectedly closed in early July leaving the community with a 20-km (12-mile) detour to cross the river. The single-span Howe truss bridge was built over the Cocagne River in 1942. In the previous *Newsletter*, we mentioned the concern that the bridge may be slated for demolition. On October 24th, Patrick Toth, interim president of the Covered Bridges Conservation Association of New Brunswick, shared this photo confirming that the concern was now fact. Pat indicated that the province intends to have a Bailey bridge in place before winter.



Ontario

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

On November 5th, the Region of Waterloo shared an update on the \$9.7 million construction contract to rehabilitate the bridge which began in August. “The in-water work on the bridge is now finished. Rocks were placed around the base of the bridge pier and abutments to protect them from scour, which happens when fast-moving or high water washes away sand, gravel, or soil around the bridge foundations. This rock protection helps prevent erosion and keeps the bridge stable. The masonry at the base of the pier was also repaired below the waterline.” The interior photo provided by Tony Dowling shows that the covering of the steel truss has been completely removed. The project includes removal of the steel truss.



The work is expected to be completed in December 2026. The bridge will be closed for the duration of the project. The 1881 structure is the only remaining historic covered bridge in Ontario, serving as a tourist attraction and an important transportation link for local residents, including the Mennonite population. Although the bridge will be strengthened, the current three-ton load limit will be maintained to deter heavy vehicles from crossing the bridge. Overhead height restriction bars will be installed on the north and south approaches. *Bridge photo by Gloria Smedley. Pier photos courtesy Region of Waterloo.*



Québec

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

Pont Alphonse-Normandin, Abitibi-Témiscamingue Region – QC/61-01-05

We previously reported that work on the structure began in the summer of 2023 and has been complete



for a year now, but the roadway approach work has not yet been completed. After a lengthy delay, contractor Audet & Knight resumed work on July 14th. The project was planned to be completed in November, but photos posted on the



Blogue sur les ponts couverts website in October show that the roadway work is still not complete. The bridge was raised 1.3 meters (4¼ feet) to reduce concerns from flooding of the Davy River. The 1950 single-span Québec-style Town lattice truss bridge. *Left photo by Pascal Conner, right photo by Brigitte Mazoué.*

Québec (continued)

Pont des Souvenirs, Eeyou Istchee Baie-James – QC/61-02-33

In October, Richard Pélissier visited the bridge over Rivière Turgeon and shared these photos noting



its unfortunate condition. The sheet metal roof has holes or is missing in some areas. The siding of the 1954 span is deteriorated and some of the decking is rotted. The two-span structure is supported by a variation of the Town lattice truss common in Québec.



Although it has been closed since August 2010, ATVs continue to bypass the barriers and cross the bridge.

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

To celebrate its 100th anniversary, the municipality of Notre-Dame-des-Pins has a number of activities planned for the year. On December 13th, visitors can head to the covered bridge, where a traditional Christmas market will be held. More than 25 exhibitors will be set up in and around the bridge. The four-span structure over Rivière Chaudière was built in 1928. *EnBeuce, September 12, 2025. Photo by Gérald Arbour.*



Pont John-Cook, Cantons de l'Est – QC/61-18-04

In the Fall 2019 issue, we reported that the bridge had been barricaded and no longer open to pedestrian traffic. A post on *Blogue sur les ponts couverts* in October noted that although the bridge is still closed, some trees nearby have been removed and a trail created to improve access to the far end. Also, an informational sign has been added to the site. The single-span structure over Rivière Eaton was built in 1868 and uses a variation of the Town lattice truss common in Québec. It is named for Captain John Cook (1770-1819), one of the first settlers in the area, who owned a plot of 1,200 acres. *Left photo by Bill & Jenn Caswell, center and right photos by Robert L'Heureux.*



September 2022



October 2025

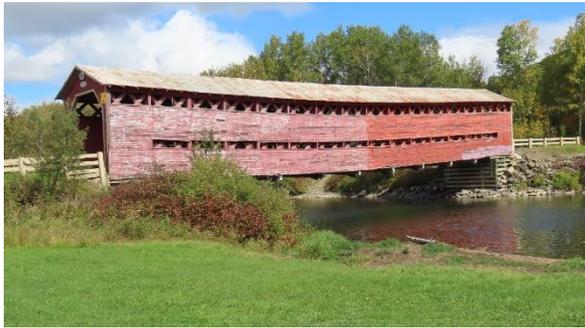


October 2025

Québec (continued)

Pont Heppell, Gaspésie Region – QC/61-43-02

Transport Canada is seeking bids for the rehabilitation of the 1909 bridge over the Matapédia River in Causapschal. The project will temporarily relocate the single-span Québec-style Town lattice truss bridge to the left bank of the river for its restoration. Once the work is complete, the bridge will be reinstalled on new, completely reconstructed concrete abutments. The work is scheduled to start on June 1, 2026 with completion expected on October 31, 2026. The span underwent \$2 million repair project in 2018 after being damaged by a freshet in the spring of 2017. *Le Soir, November 11, 2025. Left photo by Gérald Arbour, right photo by Pascal Conner.*



Pont des Draveurs, Bas-Saint-Laurent Region – QC/61-58-04

Following an inspection by the MTQ, the bridge has been closed to all traffic for an indefinite period with large concrete blocks at the entrance. The span over Petite Rivière Neigette was built around 1926. A rehabilitation project is planned, but a date has not been stated. Last July, the Rimouski City Council asked the Ministry of Culture and Communications to proceed with preparing a heritage citation in order to obtain grants to renovate it. However, since the bridge is owned by the province, not the city, the Ministry must make the heritage declaration. *Le Soir, November 11, 2025. Photo by Gérald Arbour.*



Theodore Burr and the Bridging of Early America:

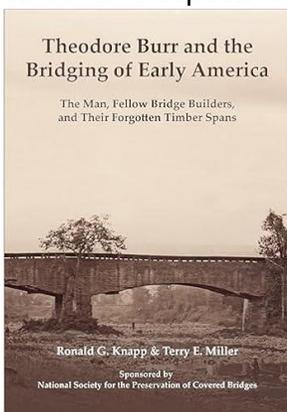
The Man, Fellow Bridge Builders, and Their Forgotten Timber Spans

Authors Ron Knapp and Terry Miller collaborated to create a 500+ page story of Burr’s bridge-building career and aspects of his personal life discovered during their three years of research. They provide a compelling narrative of a very interesting man who lived during an important period of American history.

The NSPCB is proud to sponsor this significant contribution to the history of covered bridge building in America. Proceeds from book sales are being donated to the NSPCB to be used for covered bridge preservation projects.

The book is divided into three parts.

- An introduction to Theodore Burr and family.
- Chronicles of Burr’s bridges with individual chapters dedicated to more significant ones.
- Burr’s legacy and use of the “Burr Arch-Truss” after his death.

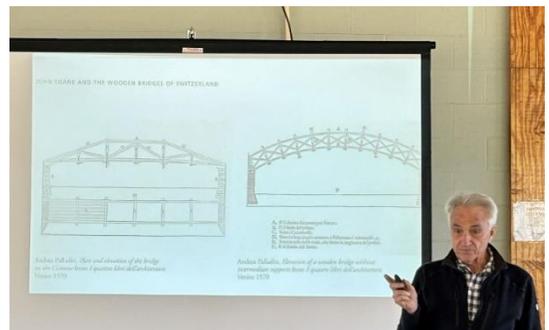


It is available from Amazon in Kindle, softcover and hardcover versions. Search for it on amazon.com or scan this QR code for additional details.

Hyde Hall Bridge Bicentennial Celebration



Ron Knapp



Jan Lewandoski



Andy Rebman

Left to right:

- Mark Maddox, Secretary, VCBS
- Matt Haldiman, 3rd Vice President, OHBA
- Scott Scribner, VP and Membership Chair, VCBS
- Bill Caswell, President, NSPCB
- Gloria Smedley, President, TCBSP
- Andy Rebman, President, ICBS
- Wayne Marshfield, President, NYSCBS

