



PRALLSVILLE MILLS

Delaware River Mill Society

Press Release

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**Prallsville Mills Speakers Series:
Delaware & Raritan Canal
Tuesday 5/21/19 7PM**

Did you know that for more than 170 years, the Delaware and Raritan Canal has meandered across the narrow waist of New Jersey? Did you know that the D&R was one of our nation's most successful towpath canals, carrying more tonnage in 1866 than

the more famous Erie Canal? Did you know that Johnson & Johnson, Roebling, and Fleischmann's Distillery all had their start along the D&R? And did you know that the canal provides the people of central New Jersey with both a water supply and a premier recreational facility?

Canal author and historian Linda J. Barth will introduce you to the people, the bridges, the locks, and the aqueducts that made the canal work. This waterway, now the centerpiece of a popular state park, transported men and supplies between New York and Philadelphia during three wars. Inventor John Holland used the canal to deliver his Holland VI submarine to Washington for its Navy trials, and luxury yachts, like J.P. Morgan's Tarantula, cruised the waterway. Come learn more about this gem of central New Jersey.

Linda Barth has been a fan of New Jersey for a long time. As a fourth-grade teacher, she tried to focus students' attention on the positive aspects of our state: its diverse geography, history, agriculture, industry, and famous firsts and inventions. A lifelong resident of the Garden State, Linda has written two books on the D&R Canal for Arcadia Publishing and two children's



picture books: *Bridgetender's Boy*, published by the National Canal Museum in 2005, and *Hidden New Jersey*, from Charlesbridge Publishing in 2012. *A History of Inventing in New Jersey: From Thomas Edison to the Ice Cream Cone*, published by the History Press, was released in 2013. With her husband she has published *The Millstone Valley Through Time* and *Somerville Through Time*. She has also contributed to the *Encyclopedia of New Jersey*. She has just completed *New Jersey Originals*, volume two of New Jersey firsts and inventions.

The Prallsville Mills complex in Stockton, NJ, is considered a significant example of early American industrial architecture that was included on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. Today, the Mill proudly features cultural and historic events for the entire community. You can find the Mills online at www.prallsvillemills.org.