



North East Penn Section  
c/o Mr. Robert L. Naugle, Jr., Pennoni  
672 North River Street, Suite 313  
Plains, PA 18705

## **November 2024 Meeting**

### **Roebling's Delaware Aqueduct / Roebling Bridge**

### **The Oldest Existing Wire Suspension Bridge in America**

### **Lackawaxen, PA / Minisink Ford, NY**

- Date & Time:** Thursday, November 14, 2024  
5:30pm – 6:30pm - Social Hour  
6:30pm – 7:30pm - Dinner  
7:30pm – 8:30pm - Program
- Speaker:** Bill Merchant, Historian / Deputy Director for Collections / Curator  
Delaware & Hudson (D&H) Canal Historical Society
- Place:** Colarusso's La Palazzo - 4500 Birney Avenue, Moosic, PA 18507
- Price:** \$40 per Person (Price Includes Tax and Tip)  
\$20 per Person (Government / State Employees)  
Engineering Students always welcome and may attend free of charge.
- Reservations:** Register Online at <http://www.nepenn.ashe.pro/registration.php>  
Deadline to Register is Thursday November 7, 2024  
Note: If registering multiple attendees, please include their names in the Notes/Remarks section of sign-up
- Meeting Sponsor:** Register Online at <http://www.nepenn.ashe.pro/registration.php>  
Meeting sponsors will be announced and recognized at the meeting.  
Sponsorship cost is \$100.

For questions regarding online registration or for students, please contact:

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Corey Lewis	570-904-6182	<a href="mailto:clewis@labellapc.com">clewis@labellapc.com</a>

Please note: This presentation will qualify for 1 PDH upon completion of the presentation review form. The PDH certificates will be available on our website after the meeting.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**PennDOT District 4-0 – State of the District Meeting – January 16, 2025**  
***nepenn.ashe.pro***

## **Overview**

*Roebling's Delaware Aqueduct, or simply the Roebling Bridge, was completed in 1848 and spans 535 feet over the Delaware River. It was built to connect two parts of the Delaware and Hudson Canal. As part of the canal, the aqueduct was filled with water and carried canal boats over the river.*

*It was designed by John A. Roebling, an innovator of suspension bridges, who is most well-known today for designing the Brooklyn Bridge. Roebling's Delaware Aqueduct is one of four he built over the Delaware River for the D&H Canal, but it's the only one that's still standing.*

*After the canal closed in 1898, the aqueduct was drained and converted into a vehicular bridge. Eventually, the canal sides and towpaths (walkways for those pulling barges) were removed. It operated as a toll bridge for wagons and, later, motor vehicles until 1979.*

*Portions of the D&H Canal, including the Delaware Aqueduct, were designated a National Historic Landmark in 1968. The Delaware Aqueduct was also designated by the American Society of Civil Engineers as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark in 1972.*

*The National Park Service bought the bridge in 1980. The agency rebuilt the bridge's superstructure from Roebling's original plans and specification in 1986, and in 1995, the wooden icebreakers, towpaths and aqueduct walls were reconstructed, restoring the bridge's original appearance as an aqueduct. The bridge is now part of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.*

