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October 2013

**The Life, Death and Rebirth of the Schuylkill River:
A History of the Region's Water Resources**

Thursday, October 17, 2013
at the Woman's Club of Bala Cynwyd
382 Bala Avenue
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
at 7:00pm

Suggested Donation \$7.00
Light refreshments offered

In environmental education programs today, history is often ignored – to the detriment of the program. In this presentation, the history of (drinking) water and wastewater in Philadelphia and the region will be outlined, with a specific focus on the environmental issues that informed, or were ignored by, the decision-makers who built the region's water infrastructure. A particular emphasis will be placed on the role of the Fairmount Water Works system in the 19th century, as Philadelphia made a valiant – albeit futile – attempt to implement land management practices to protect its drinking water quality.



A PowerPoint Presentation by Mr. Edward Grusheski
Consultant, Fairmount Waterworks and Philadelphia Water Department

Born in Boston, MA, Ed was educated at The Boston Latin School, Georgetown University in Washington, DC, and The University of Pennsylvania. He is retired from the Philadelphia Water Department where he was brought on board to develop a public education center at the historic Fairmount Water Works. At the Water Department he held the positions of Interpretive Center Director for eleven years and, more recently, General Manager of Public Affairs for 10 years.

Ed serves on several Boards including that of The Energy Coordinating Agency, the Fund For the Water Works, and Old St. Joseph's Historic Preservation Corporation. He is president of the Oliver Evans Chapter of the Society for Industrial Archeology, a Trustee of the Abraham Lincoln Foundation at the Union League, and a shareholder of the Philadelphia Athenaeum.

His interests include museum education - the use of objects, locations and experiences to engage the public in historic and environmental issues – music, and travel.

Building Photographs- Preserving Today for Tomorrow's History

The October photo from [our Buildings web](#) will relate to Mr. Grusheski's talk. Do you recognize this sculpture from 1825?



[Here are photos](#) that will explain it.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE LOWER MERION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Lower Merion Historical Society is an organization dedicated to *Preserving Our Past For The Future*. This is accomplished by stewardship of local history, education of the community, preservation of historic resources and outreach to promote awareness of the cultural heritage of the Township of Lower Merion and the Borough of Narberth.

