

## Please Join Us

What is the enchantment of a Ferris Wheel? Do we anticipate lift-off, defying gravity in a smooth ascent? The view? The thrill of the ride itself?

Amusement wheels of simple design dated back to 1620 in Europe. Their popularity spread across countries and continents, delighting crowds at 19th century American agricultural fairs.

But in America, the age of technology and invention proved an invincible force. By 1849, the New York State Fair unveiled a 50' wheel of oak and iron... and the sky was literally the limit!



**Dorothy Bedford,**  
Board President,  
Schuylkill River Heritage Center

will present:

## A Brief History of the Ferris Wheel... and How It Sparked America's Imagination

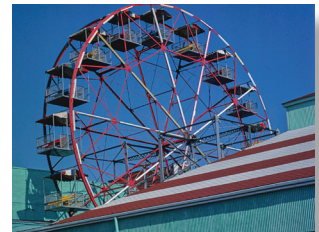


Mr Ferris's wheel at the Columbian Exposition, 1893. Image credit: University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign) Archives

**Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 PM**

at The Foundry, 2 Main St., Phoenixville.  
Admission is free for SRHC members.  
\$5.00 for non-members.

Space is limited, registration encouraged at  
<https://givebutter.com/srhc-speaker-series-upjdpu>



The Asbury Park Wheel, 1978. Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, photograph by John Margolies



The Dutch title translates as "Summer Fun in St Petersburg". Artist: Created in 1804 by Jacob Ernst Marcus, after Herman Fock.