

THE C & O CANAL NEWSLETTER

Number 4

April 1, 1962

PURPOSE: This newsletter reports periodically on progress by the Potomac Council, American Youth Hostels, in developing a hostel chain along the C & O Canal. The newsletter is sent to persons and groups known to be interested in the establishment of a hostel chain and in the preservation of the C & O Canal for its recreational and historic values. The newsletter is also being sent to the C & O Canal Level-Walkers. Their knowledge of particular sections will be helpful in future Hostel programs. The editor invites comments, contributions, and suggestions that will further these aims.

John E. Connor, Editor

Dear Friends,

Status of C & O Canal Bill. The Senate-passed bill to authorize a C & O Canal National Historical Park is presently in the House of Representatives' National Park Sub-Committee. The difficulty now is gaining enough votes to get it passed. Following is a list of members of the National Park Sub-Committee:

J. T. Rutherford (D) Tex.
(Chairman)

L. W. O'Brien (D) N.Y.

G. Pfost (D) Idaho

W. S. Baring (D) Nev.

R. J. Rivers (D) Alaska

H. T. Johnson (D) Calif.

H. L. Carey (D) N. Y.

J. P. Saylor (R) Pa.

J. E. Wharton (R) N.Y.

J. E. Chenoweth (R) Colo.

G. Cunningham (R) Nebr.

J. Kyl (R) Iowa

E. R. Durno (R) Oreg.

A. Fernos Isern (R) P. R.

Justice Douglas Eighth Annual Reunion Hike. This now famous event, open to public participation will be held on Saturday, May 5. The hike will be from Point of Rocks to Harpers Ferry. It will start on the towpath beneath the Potomac River bridge in Point of Rocks at 8 a.m. The group will hike to Sandy Hook for lunch, and pause to dedicate the Kiwanis Youth Hostel, new unit in the projected chain of hostels along the Canal. The group will depart from the towpath for a detour over Maryland Heights and the spectacular descent into Harpers Ferry. The full hike will be 16 miles, with several shorter versions available.

Proposed River Bend Dam. The AYH is particularly interested in the Corps of Engineers' proposed project to construct a high dam across the Potomac River above Great Falls. This dam, if built, would obliterate 40 miles of canal and towpath. Although it is felt that the dam will never be built, the AYH and other persons interested in the C & O Canal Bill are joining forces in an effort to curtail this project. Our efforts are expended to maintain the C & O Canal as a complete unbroken monument of the past.

Maps of the Canal. A set of maps drawn by Bill Clague completed to Harpers Ferry is now available. A cover has been prepared to make a "package" of 14 maps for 75 cents. The set of maps may be ordered from: Potomac Area Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc., 1776 Massachusetts Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Bill Clague would like to hear from canal folks and map users on what information they would like to see on maps in addition to the information that has been given on the sections already published. Bill has done an excellent job on these maps and he wants to continue to make them as useful as possible to all users.

/Continued/

Did you know....?

....that the editor is leading a group of hikers on the Canal from Paw Paw to Green Ridge Station on Sunday, April 15. This is the second in a series of towpath continuation hikes in which all hikers are welcome to join the group any time that day. A postcard to the editor (address below) will get you some detailed information as to how this 10-mile scenic trek will be conducted.

....that Bill Nelson (AYH Headquarters, New York) and Orville Crowder recently made another visiting trip to most of the prospective hostel locations along the Canal, talking with many friends who are helping in the search for suitable locations.

....that groups of people have made trips to the Potomac Valley in order to enjoy the C & O Canal. Several letters have come across the editor's desk showing the interest taken in the Canal and the projected hostel program. Now that spring is here let us all get outdoors and enjoy the beauty and recreation offered by the C & O Canal.

Yours truly,

C & O Canal Committee
Potomac Area Council
American Youth Hostels

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Published as needed

by

C & O CANAL COMMITTEE
POTOMAC AREA COUNCIL
AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS

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