



C & O Canal Association

ALONG THE TOWPATH

**concerned with the conservation of the natural and
historical environment of the C&O Canal and the Potomac River Basin**

VOLUME XXII

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NUMBER 5

HOBBS NAMED C & O CANAL NHP SUPERINTENDENT

Effective December 17, Thomas O. Hobbs, a 27-year career veteran of the National Park Service, becomes superintendent of the C & O Canal National Historical Park.

The appointment was announced by National Capital Regional Director Robert G. Stanton, who said, "Tom brings to this region years of experience in park rangering in some of the greatest western parks such as Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming and Bryce Canyon National Park in Utah." Until Hobbs comes to the C & O Canal, he is superintendent of Isle Royale National Park in Michigan, where he has been since 1985. Isle Royale is an 800-square-mile island wilderness park in northwest Lake Superior. The park has 165 miles of trails, 35 campgrounds, lodges, marinas, and stores managed as park concessions.

From 1930 until 1985, Hobbs served as chief ranger in charge of resource management and visitor protection at Yellowstone. He was responsible for the park's vast fish and wildlife populations, its geothermal features, and its search and rescue operations.

Hobbs was superintendent of Bryce Canyon from 1976 until 1980 during the early threat to the park's scenic vistas from nearby coal development. He began his NPS career in 1962 as a park ranger at Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado, and has served as chief of park operations at Acadia National Park in Maine and chief of area services at Kennebec Mountain National Battlefield Park in Georgia.

Hobbs is a native of Fairmont, West Virginia, and a 1960 graduate of Fairmont State College with a BA degree in biological sciences. His wife, Alice, is a native of Tunnelton, West Virginia. The Hobbs have four sons.

ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD MARCH 3 IN SHEPHERDSTOWN

The annual meeting of the C & O Canal Association will be held on Saturday, March 3, at the new Fire Department building in Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

The meeting's agenda will include reports from officers and committee chairs, and the election of officers and members to the board of directors. A "Meet the Candidates" coffee hour will precede the meeting. (See pages 6-10.) The day's schedule follows:

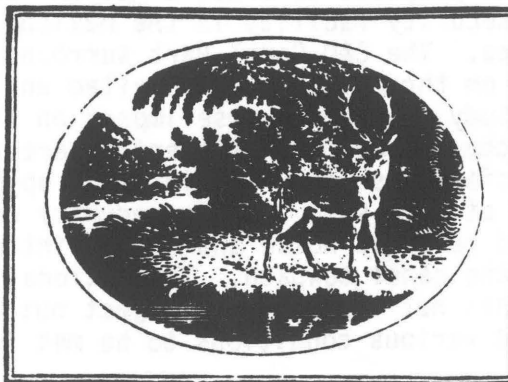
1:00 p.m. -- "Meet the Candidates" coffee hour
2:00 p.m. -- Annual Meeting begins
5:00 p.m. -- Happy Hour
6:00 p.m. -- Dinner

The Happy Hour and dinner will be at the Fire Department. Reservations for dinner are required; the cost per reservation is \$14.00. (See reservation form on last page.)

Shepherdstown's new Fire Department is on the south side of West German Street (Route 45), about one mile west of its intersection with Duke Street (Route 480).

At 10:00 the morning of the annual meeting day, the Level Walker Program is sponsoring a hike along the towpath at a point near the meeting site. (See Calendar of Coming Events.)

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by

Hal Larsen

What have we been doing this year? We seem to have focused mostly on the Cumberland area: the canal parkway and the proposed federal prison on the Mexico Farms site. In addition, we established an Allegany Regional Coordinating Committee to involve Association members in that region more closely in the organization.

With respect to the parkway, we helped defeat a plan last year to build a highway on the C&O Canal below Cumberland. The present proposal, to put the road on CSX property immediately adjacent to the canal park, is also unacceptable because it is too close. We think a road right on the berm side would cause visual and noise intrusions detrimental to the recreational and historical characteristics of the park. As a corollary to this parkway, the Maryland State Highway Administration would rebuild the Wiley Ford Bridge, which crosses the canal at grade level, exactly as it is today. This plan is also unacceptable; we think the bridge should be raised to allow passage under it for towpath users and for boats on a future rewatered canal section.

The highway administration has posed various arguments for rebuilding this crossing exactly as it is--cost factors, flood-control problems, and the desire to act quickly because the present structure is deteriorating. The Association has considered these reasons but we think the long-term considerations should outweigh short-term expediency and economic restraint. We further hold the flood control problem to be surmountable.

With respect to the prison, the Federal Government proposes to erect a medium- and minimum-security facility in the Mexico Farms area. The C&O Canal Park surrounds the site on three sides. A detailed environmental study sees no adverse impact on the park or the surrounding residential areas. The Association's Board of Directors opposed a prison at this site, citing security concerns and possible noise and visual intrusion on the canal towpath. The National Park Service has not opposed the project but has presented various conditions to be met in develop-

ing this facility. The Bureau of Prisons, the agency responsible for building the complex, is presumably taking the NPS concerns into account. The Association is now looking once again at this question. The site is said to include Indian archaeological sites and wetlands, suggesting the need for legal protection. Conceivably the prison boundaries could be redrawn to exclude significant findings. The Bureau of Prisons is now conducting archaeological studies to determine if there are important remains to be preserved.

These matters related to Cumberland have been time-consuming for Association management, especially for John Chandler's Permanent Environmental Committee, which is responsible for studying such problems and making recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Board decided to organize a Cumberland-area committee as a way to provide information to members and others in the region. Another goal was to give our members in the region a more direct role in determining policy recommendations on matters directly related to their communities. Beyond this we are interested in increasing membership in the upstream areas. More people are likely to join if they expect greater participation, above all in matters related to their communities. Thus we hope to accomplish two things: get more members from this area and benefit from their knowledge and experience.

The Allegany Regional Coordinating Committee advises the Board of Directors on matters relating to the region. This function includes recommendations to the Board for actions or policy statements. Additionally, the Committee is the Association's voice in the region, relaying the Board's policies to regional citizens and officials through meetings and the media.

We are thus preoccupied with important matters in Cumberland. In the future, our attention may focus on some other canal community. In that event, we may take the regional committee approach again, particularly if it is a success in Cumberland.



THE ASSOCIATION WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS



Robert D Aysse, New Kensington, PA
Kenneth Bagby, Occoquan, VA
William C Baker, III, Sharpsburg, MD
Duard & Elizabeth Barnes, Washington, DC
Stephen Barnes, Brogue, PA
Robert H Barth, Branchville, NJ
Vernon L Beale, Frostburg, MD
Donald Besom, Bethesda, MD
Eric H Biddle, Jr, Arlington, VA
John Martin Bishop, Arlington, VA
Jerry Bloom, Phoenix, AZ
Fred P Blumenthal, Arlington, VA
Dr Rita Brinker, DC, Cumberland, MD
Christopher & Jean Browne, Arlington, VA
Bob & Carol Chambers, Rockville, MD
Dr/Mrs Joseph L Colbourn, Frederick, MD
Paul E Cooney, Rockville, MD
James W Corbitt, Sr, Catlett, VA
R Justin DeForge, Bethesda, MD
Bela J Demeter, Takoma Park, MD
Emma Rose Dieter, Washington, DC
Alverta R Dillon, Accident, MD
Betty & Clyde Dismukes, Chevy Chase, MD
Irvin & Sharon Eby, Sharpsburg, MD
T W Eckard, Sr, Westminster, MD
Yusef El-Amin, Falls Church, VA
Leonard Fehlauer, Hagerstown, MD
Torrey Froscher, Arlington, VA
Beatrice Gerry, Bethesda, MD
William & Mona Giles, Cumberland, MD
Edward T Giza, Silver Spring, MD
Donald S Goldbloom, Cumberland, MD
Maston L Gray, Arlington, VA
Mr/Mrs Terry Green, Washington, DC
James R Higgins, Jr, Washington, DC

George E Hill, Washington, DC
Linda J House, Somerville, NJ
Kenneth G Huber, Silver Spring, MD
William P Iames, MD, Cumberland, MD
Mary D Janney, Washington, DC
Robert O Jones, Chevy Chase, MD
Norma Lee Keller, Cumberland, MD
Donald Kinloch, Gaithersburg, MD
JoAnn & David Lawrence, West Lawn, PA
Betsy Little, Bethesda, MD
Mr/Mrs John W MacDonell, Lima, OH
LaVerne J Magarian, McLean, VA
Carole Ulyett Marks, Bethesda, MD
Kay E McClaine, Potomac, MD
Mr/Mrs Kenneth H McLaughlin, Bethesda, MD
Louis Mould, MD, Cumberland, MD
John P Murray, Hancock, MD
Linda A Nield, Cumberland, MD
Douglas A Norr, Darnestown, MD
Theda A Parrish, Falls Church, VA
Charles M Pritchard, Wyndmoor PA
Reinaldo Rios, Germantown, MD
Helene K Schilling, Cumberland, MD
C Anthony Schlotter, Buena Vista, VA
John S R Schoenfeld, Bethesda, MD
Ken Shaffert, Chevy Chase, MD
Douglas W Sharp, Kings Mountain, NC
Michelle K Smith, Bethesda, MD
John Spiegel, Silver Spring, MD
Dick Stanton, Hagerstown, MD
Robert William Stockslager, Martinsburg, WV
Rhonda Strickland, Shepherdstown, WV
Christopher Tarpley, University Park, MD
Gerald M Wade, Derwood, MD
Arlie & Guy Williams, Cumberland, MD
Dennis A Wyckoff, Martinsburg, WV

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Mark the evening of Sunday, January 20, 1990 on your calendar as one to remember -- how the C & O Canal Association came to be and how we played a leading role in the creation of a national park.

Gather at the Glen Echo Town Hall at 7:30 p.m. to see a film of the 1954 William O. Douglas-Washington Post hike that started the whole thing, followed by a film produced by the Open University of London and the BBC as a documentary on the creation of the C & O Canal National Historical Park. Some of the "old timers" will be around to explain and answer your questions.

The Glen Echo Town Hall is located on Harvard Avenue in Glen Echo, marked by a sign clearly visible on the west side of MacArthur Boulevard approximately two miles from the District of Columbia-Maryland line.

(On October 5, 1989, the following letter was sent to Mr. Hal Kassoff, Maryland State Highway Administrator, by Robert Stanton, Regional Director, National Capital Region, National Park Service, concerning the proposed Cumberland airport access road.)

Dear Mr. Kassoff:

This is to establish our views on the recent proposals for the Cumberland airport access study as they may affect the C & O Canal National Historical Park. We appreciate the time which you have personally taken to appear on two occasions to discuss the project with the C & O Canal National Historical Park Commission. We have carefully reviewed the input from all concerned at those meetings as well as the official advice from the Commission.

First, we want to assure all concerned that our long-term goal is to enhance the park visitor facilities and restore as much of the canal in the Cumberland area as is economically feasible. Any opportunity we can find to further that end is welcome. As you know, there are many complex issues which need to be resolved in order to develop a meaningful historic scene here at the canal terminus, and we look forward to a joint effort toward that goal.

In that context, we are prepared to participate in the study which you have described. However, we are aware that there are many other organizations and agencies which must play a role here, and feel that little would be served by proceeding with the study until the following prerequisite actions are completed. Many of these actions are simply confirmations of commitments which you have described in the Commission meetings. Others are actions that we feel are necessary to ensure a meaningful commitment to the historic integrity and attractiveness of Cumberland for tourism.

A commitment from the CSX Corporation stating that they will:

1. Actively participate in the study and are willing to abandon their two western-most tracks along the canal and make the necessary lands available for road purposes;
2. Agree that this action will not affect the land exchange under negotiation with the National Park Service;
3. Consider modification of abandonment of the existing spur line from the Western Maryland station to the mainline at the Potomac Edison substation so as to permit rewatering of the canal in this section.

A commitment from the appropriate level of the State of Maryland that the necessary resources will be available to the appropriate departments in order to produce the following studies:

1. Feasibility and cost estimates for rewatering the last 4,900 feet of the canal to the terminus;
2. An urban revitalization development plan for the private and public lands bounded by the Potomac River and Wills Creek on the west, Industrial Boulevard and Mechanic Street on the east, the Potomac Edison substation on the south and the Washington Street Bridge over Wills Creek to the north.

A commitment from the State Highway Administration that will:

1. Suspend the preparation of the contract to replace the Wiley Ford Bridge until a replacement of the so-called "Arch Bridge" over the C & O Canal can be incorporated into the contract. The new bridge would be raised 9 feet above the historic water level on the canal. This would allow boat traffic to occur on the canal and eliminate the safety problem of canal towpath users crossing this highway at grade.
2. Agree with our ownership of the 7.7 acres of land upon which a portion of alternative four of your current study traverses. We have enclosed a map containing a deed description as well as correspondence with the railroad for your use.
3. Agree that the Cumberland airport access study will be accomplished as a 4(f) study.
4. Incorporate into the 4(f) study equal analysis of alternatives two, three and four so as not to produce unbalanced comparisons.
5. Incorporate the alternative presented to the C & O Canal Commission on September 9 by the C & O Canal Association into the study.
6. Ensure that alternative 4, the so-called "canal parkway," will not permit truck use unless an emergency situation such as flood precludes the use of Virginia Avenue.

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7. Ensure that the canal parkway alternative will be designed to park road standards with a speed limit of 35 miles per hour.
8. Agree that, if necessary, the canal parkway could be constructed to serve as a flood control dike if the existing Corps of Engineers dike is lowered.
9. Prepare a full landscape plan of the canal parkway with special emphasis on parkway standards, stone retaining walls, screen planting, careful grading and recognition of vistas of the historic city of Cumberland as well as the canal.
10. Agree to acquire a 200- to 300-foot-wide right-of-way for the parkway from its connection with the railroad to River Avenue.

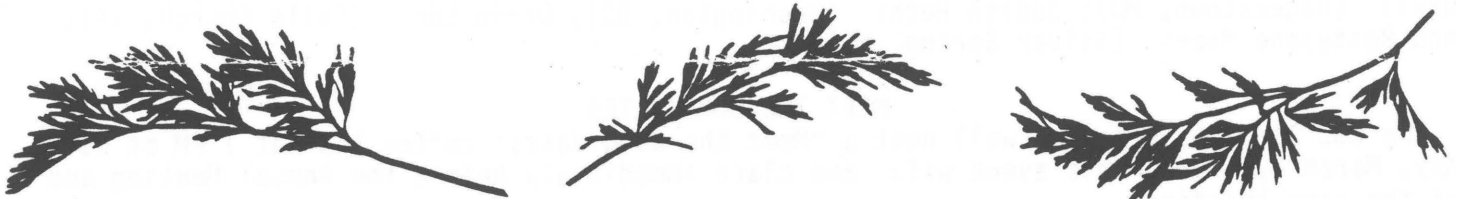
A commitment from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers stating that they will:

1. Actively participate in the study;
2. Consider new construction, realignment, lowering or other modifications to the flood control berm in order to permit reconstruction and rewatering of the last 4,900 feet of the canal, which lies 8 to 13 feet below the top of the berm.

If we can have assurances that the above commitments are in place, we are prepared to participate in the study. If a roadway were built without the other efforts, it would be the final blow to the integrity of the historic canal in Cumberland which has been grossly impaired.

We look forward to your response. If you feel a meeting would be helpful, please call me or Mr. John Parsons, our Associate Regional Director for Land Use Coordination, at 426-7750.

Sincerely,
Robert Stanton
Regional Director
National Capital Region



(On October 19, 1989, the following letter was sent to Maryland Governor William Donald Schaefer by Harold A. Larsen, President of the C & O Canal Association, concerning the reconstruction of the Wiley Ford Bridge and the proposed "canal parkway.")

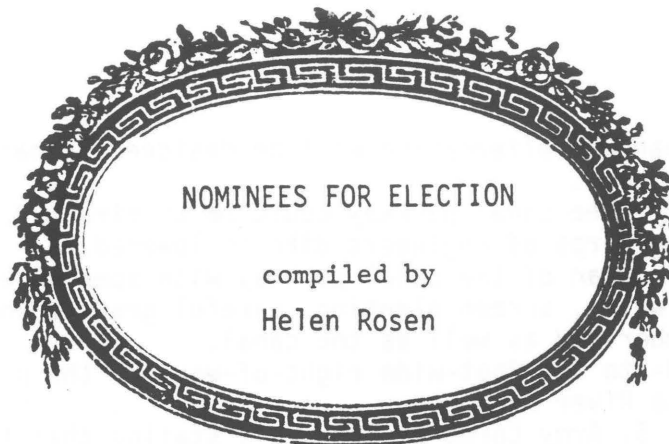
Dear Governor Schaefer:

At its meeting on September 24 in Williamsport, Maryland, the Association's Board of Directors discussed the proposed new bridge at Wileys Ford near Cumberland on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park. The present plan for the new bridge does not provide adequate clearance over the canal. Thus under this plan it would not be possible to develop the canal as a waterway for boats for tourists and the pedestrian-towpath crossing at grade would be a hazard.

In addition, the Board finds that the expanded study now addressing Cumberland's transportation problems does not sufficiently address regional aspects and therefore believes West Virginia should be brought in as a partner.

The Board passed two motions: (1) to oppose the letting of a contract for a new Wiley Ford Bridge until the plans provide for at least a nine-foot clearance over the towpath of the C & O Canal, and (2) to recommend and request that the study of alternatives to the Canal Parkway be expanded by bringing the West Virginia Department of Highways into the study along with the National Park Service to make a broad regional study for the solution of the Allegany-Mineral County transportation problems.

Sincerely,
Harold A. Larsen
President
C & O Canal Association



CURRENT OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Following are the officers currently serving the Association: Harold Larsen (McLean, VA) President; William E. Davies (Falls Church, VA), First Vice-President; Karen M. Gray (Washington, DC), Second Vice-President and Level Walker Chair; Alan E. Hedin (Silver Spring, MD) Secretary; David M. Johnson (Bethesda, MD), Treasurer; Sandra Hemingway (Alexandria, VA) Information Officer.

Directors whose terms expire in 1990 are: Mimi Eller (Arlington, VA); Susan Henley (Haymarket, VA); Kenneth Rollins (Ruther Glen, VA); Helen Rosen (Bethesda, MD); and Edith Wilkerson (Arlington, VA).

Directors whose terms expire in 1991 are: Donna L. Boies (Washington, DC); Ralph Donnelly (Hancock, MD); Charles Otstot (Arlington, VA); Thomas L. Perry (Williamsport, MD); and Lyman Stucker (Alexandria, VA).

Directors whose terms expire in 1992 are: Victor P. Conrad (Hagerstown, MD); A. Vernon Davis (Hagerstown, MD); Judith Hecht (Washington, DC); Orrin Long (Falls Church, VA); and Bettyjane Myers (Silver Spring, MD).

MEET THE CANDIDATES

The C&O Canal Association will host a "Meet the Candidates" coffee hour at 1 PM on Saturday, March 3, 1990. This event will take place immediately before the Annual Meeting and at the same location.

Know your fellow members who are candidates. Come talk with them. In addition to the candidate slate presented by the Nominations Committee, candidates may be nominated from the floor by members at the Annual Meeting.

Members will have an opportunity during the Annual Meeting at 2 PM to vote for the six officer positions: President, 1st Vice President, 2d Vice President and Level Walker Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Information Officer. Officers serve for one year, starting March 1990 and ending at the Annual Meeting in 1991.

In addition, members will have an opportunity to vote for NOT MORE THAN FIVE members of the Board of Directors. Director terms are for three years, starting March 1990 and ending at the Annual Meeting in 1993.

PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP (1990) IS A REQUIREMENT FOR VOTING.

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

Following is a list of the candidates submitted by the Nominations Committee and a background statement prepared by the candidate.

FOR PRESIDENT: HAROLD LARSEN (McLEAN, VA)

I am a candidate for re-election as president because I would like to continue to further programs put into place during my tenure. Specifically, I want to extend the effort to increase the Association's membership and in particular to attract young people to the organization. In addition, I am interested in furthering our advocacy role. We have already had considerable impact through our representations on various environmental issues, and I would like to increase the Association's activity in this respect. I would also endeavor to make more programs available to the membership and to broaden our volunteer commitment. In addition to thus continuing work already underway I would like to establish educational programs in the communities in order to promote interest in the C&O Canal and the Association.

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FOR 1ST VICE PRESIDENT: WILLIAM E. (BILL) DAVIES (FALLS CHURCH, VA)

I was on the first Douglas hike, was one of the founders of the Association, and have been a Board member or officer since then. My interest in the Potomac River and the canal developed from my work in the Potomac area with the U. S. Geological Survey.

My goals for the Association are to cooperate more closely with the National Park Service in establishing adequate interpretive capabilities through the use of volunteers and to obtain legislation that will protect the Park from road building and real estate development. I want to make the Association more effective in carrying out the resolutions passed on behalf of its members by the Board. The establishment of regional sections of the Association as well as defining the duties of the officers would greatly strengthen the Association. I want to see the Association develop a strong outreach program to schools and other institutions; develop a lecture series on canal subjects; and effect a program for publication of papers on Canal history, folklore and related subjects. Above all, I want to reestablish that spirit of activism within our membership that formerly was so successful in warding off threats to the Canal Park and winning respect for the ideas and actions of the Association.

FOR 2D VICE PRESIDENT AND LEVEL WALKER CHAIR: KAREN M. GRAY (WASHINGTON, DC)

I have enjoyed the past year as Second Vice President and Level Walker Chair and would like to serve another year. Having come to understand even more clearly how important the efforts of the Level Walkers are, I believe that the major need of the Program at this time is to achieve the goal of having each level walked and reported on regularly. While all levels have had at least one person assigned to them during most of the past year, many walkers have not been able to walk and report on their level, or could do so only once. I believe that the commitment of these "occasional walkers" should be valued and encouraged but I also believe that it is important to determine which levels are in need of additional or more frequent walkers--and to find such persons for them. This would be a priority of my next term should I be re-elected. I would also continue to plan Level Walker hikes at different locations alternating among the three districts at 6 to 8 week intervals and to fulfill all other duties of the position as I have attempted to during the past year.

FOR SECRETARY: HELEN L. SHAW (BETHESDA, MD)

Long time Washington resident, strongly interested in protecting and preserving the C&O Canal National Historical Park. As a participant in the 1989 hike from Cumberland, Maryland to Washington, I was most impressed in the efforts needed to maintain this park in order that we all will be able to enjoy hiking, canoeing and biking in this unique setting. Formerly with the Department of Justice as a senior attorney and Director, Federal Legal Council. Active with the Federal Bar Association, deputy chairman of the Career Service Section and a member of the Professional Ethics Committee which is presently updating the FBA Canons of Ethics.

FOR TREASURER: DAVID M. JOHNSON (BETHESDA, MD)

Member of the Board of Directors since 1985; Budget Committee 1984, 1988; Internal Audit Committee 1987, 1988; Chairman of Environmental Committee 1986-88; Treasurer 1989. Level Walker, active in NPS volunteer projects. I have over thirty years of experience in financial management. During my first year as Treasurer, I installed a new accounting system and revamped the budget process. I will continue to work to ensure the fiscal integrity of the Association and to maintain its financial records in accordance with sound accounting principles.

FOR INFORMATION OFFICER: SANDRA (SANDY) HEMINGWAY (ALEXANDRIA, VA)

I have served as the Information Officer for one year and served on the Association Board of Directors for one year prior to that time. My position as Washington Bureau Chief for a series of trade publications on the transportation and tourism industry and past experience as a reporter on a daily newspaper provides me with considerable background for the job as Information Officer. If elected to a second term, I hope to increase the Association's visibility in environmental issues and other aspects of the Association work (such as the archives committee). I also hope to work with the newly-formed Allegany Regional Coordinating Committee to increase hike and other Association activity-related publicity in western Maryland.

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FOLLOWING ARE THE CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN FIVE.

MELVIN W. COLLINS, Cumberland, MD

I am a native of Cumberland and one of the original advocates for preserving and restoring the C&O Canal. I was a founding member of the Preservation Society of Allegany County, Inc., working toward that goal, was President and currently am Treasurer and Secretary. Active in many other organizations pertaining to preservation of historic sites.

Firmly believe that the C&O Canal Historical Park should not be infringed upon in any manner.

Have traveled extensively throughout the U.S. and overseas pursuing a particular interest in canals and what others have done to preserve them.

I am a level walker with the C&O Canal Assn.

I am vice chairman of the Maryland Historical Trust Allegany Committee. I belong to the American Canal Society, Preservation Maryland, Rails to Trails Conservancy, and Society of Industrial Archeology, to name a few of my interests.

I have been employed by Delta Air Lines in the Washington area for the past 33 years.

I publish a monthly newsletter for the Preservation Society and for the National RR Historical Society Western Maryland Chapter. Also publish tourist folders for the society to give to Maryland State Tourist Centers.

I shall be pleased to serve on the Board if chosen.

THOMAS FREDERICK CONLON, Cumberland, MD

While serving in the Maryland House of Delegates in 1959-62, I was alerted to pending legislation affecting the Park and the issues stirred my interest in the C&O Canal Association.

In 1966 was elected Mayor of Cumberland and served during these eight years when Park bills were moving and passed. This gave opportunities to work with the Park Service while plans for the park were in formation. I was the Allegany County representative to the Maryland Historical Trust for several years and became aware of the possibility of an interpretive center at the site of the Cumberland Terminus. Made many of the Spring hikes and most of all enjoyed the 74 Anniversary walk to Washington.

The passing years have fixed my belief that this must be a truly historical and truly National park, as opposed to a strip of fragile land, praised as a "great recreational asset", while at the same time being considered for "development" into something else!

We in the Western end have a problem of a small membership from among those local people who have grown to love the Park, yet do not perceive our Association as its greatest defender. Whether as a Director or as a member of the membership committee, it is my aim to change that perception.

WILLIAM J. EVANS, Baltimore, MD

A resident of Baltimore, MD, he has been a member of the C&O Canal Association for about 8 years. He is a graduate (AB) of the Johns Hopkins University and has a JD degree from the University of Maryland School of Law. He is a partner of the regional law firm of Miles & Stockbridge. Currently, he is Chairman of the Maryland State Ethics Commission and is serving as Treasurer of the Miles White Beneficial Society, an educational trust. He is one of two revisory authors of the 1970, 1981, and 1990 editions of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised. His interest in the C&O Canal arose out of his enjoyment of bicycling and has evolved into a strong sense of commitment to its preservation and integrity.

RITA HIRRLINGER, Burke, VA

In approximately eight years as a member, I have hiked the entire Canal in sections and also participated for 100 miles of the Thru Hike of 1984. I have worked on committees for the Heritage and Spring hikes and the Annual Meeting. I have also served on the Board of Directors. In order to be an acknowledged friend of the Canal, continuation of the program to recruit active and involved members is crucial for our Association. Also while many people know the section between Georgetown and Great Falls, the other sections of the Canal are not as well known, and I would like to work towards emphasizing the upper portions. Recently I was authorized to work on an exhibit on the C&O Canal and our Association for the 1991 Appalachian Trail Conference.

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CARRIE JOHNSON, Arlington, VA

My friendship with the C&O Canal began in 1965 when I joined the staff of then-Rep. Charles McC. Mathias (R-Md.) and began working to advance the legislation creating the National Historical Park. An association member since the mid-60s, I have kept on enjoying and writing about the Canal while at The Washington Post in the 1970s and as a free-lance writer/historian since 1980. From 1982 through 1987 I was privileged to chair the Park's advisory commission. That highly educational experience showed me how much the Canal and National Park Service need watchful, articulate, savvy friends to combat constant threats ranging from budget cuts to encroaching development and unwise use. If elected to the Board, I will work to expand the Association's role (1) as a visible, influential advocate for the canal, (2) as a collaborator with NPS in interpretive programs, and (3) as chief campaigner for a sensible long-range plan for restoration of major canal structures.

NANCY LONG, Glen Echo, MD

Probably the greatest threat to the integrity of the C&O Canal National Historical Park is from adverse development proposals, within and outside park boundaries. The park is in constant need of protection, and the C&O Canal Association is in the best position to help the National Park Service provide that protection in the public interest. As a member of the Board, I would want to be involved in the Association's efforts to control adverse development, and to work in any other way to help the park.

Volunteer activities include:

C&O Canal Association - Editor, Along the Towpath, January 1986-December 1989; past president and Board member; hike chairman 1978; member since 1969. Hiked the full length of the Canal with the Association in 1974 and 1979.

C&O Canal NHP Commission - First chairman (5 years); member at large (next 4 years); currently represent Montgomery County. As Commission chairman, was a member of then-Congressman Gilbert Gude's 1975 Potomac River Trip, beginning at the Potomac's Fairfax Stone origin in West Virginia and ending at the Chesapeake Bay.

Town of Glen Echo - Elected Councilwoman since 1969. Chairman of committee that raised \$80,000 in one month to save the Glen Echo Park Carousel.

Potomac Valley League of Montgomery County - Currently member, Council of Presidents; past president. PVL, an umbrella organization comprised of 24 member associations in the Pali-sades area, is concerned with planning, zoning and environmental issues.

Employment: Assistant Director for Fellowship Policy, National Academy of Sciences.

Education: BA Spanish Literature, George Washington University

KENNETH ROLLINS, Ruther Glen, VA

I have been an Association member since 1957, and have served as president, vice president, treasurer, and Board member. My canal-oriented interests are preservation and restoration, history and engineering, nature, and recreation (in that order). I have participated in Association activities as a level walker, park volunteer, projects and semi-annual hikes and canoe trips. I think the Association should continue to cooperate with the Park Service through volunteer programs (without compromising our independent voice). I am currently Chairman of the Program Committee, coordinating association events.

RICHARD L. STANTON, Hagerstown, MD

Washington native, grew up Georgetown, Foggy-Bottom. George Washington, American Universities. WWII 2nd Lt. Infantry - Overseas 3 years. U. S. Govt 39 years, last assignment Superintendent, C&O Canal NHP. 8 years.

National Park Service: Chief, Land acquisition, East of Mississippi, Supervised C&O land acquisition 14 years; Associate Director, National Capital Region 6 years; Regional Director - Mid-Atlantic (Phila); Regional Director - North Atlantic (Boston); Chairman, DC Memorial Advisory Commission; Member National Capital Planning Commission 6 yrs; Chairman, Appalachian National Scenic Trail Council 2 years; Committee Manager, C&O Canal National Historical Park Comm. - 14 yrs. Assisted in park General Plan with John Parsons. Numerous Reunion Hikes with Justice Douglas & other founding fathers. Recipient Oct 21, 1989 JUSTICE WILLIAM O DOUGLAS AWARD (Canal Assn); Secty Udall's Potomac National River Study team. Member, C&O Canal Assn. Potomac Fish and Game Club, Western Md. Sportsman's Club, Canoe

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Cruisers Assn. (Founding Father), Monocacy Canoe Club, Mason Dixon Canoe Crs - Thoreau Society, American Legion.

Received numerous awards for environmental accomplishments, DAR History award for research on G. Washington's Potawmack Company.

JOHN SEABURY THOMSON, Chevy Chase, MD

C&O Canal Connections: I've been a long-time member of the C&O Canal Association and have used and enjoyed the canal and towpath for the past 30 years. I bring to the Association the perspectives of the Montoomery Sycamore Island Club (founded in 1885) and the Canoe Cruisers Association of Greater Washington (founded in 1956). Thus, though I walk on the towpath almost every week and have hiked fair distances on it, I largely view it from the water--the canal and the river.

Canal Activities: For the past 15 years I've been instructing beginner canoeists Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 at Fletchers Boathouse and Swain's Lock from May through September--free. The Fletchers and Swains provide the equipment, the Park Service its blessings and we (from the CCA) the instructions. I've also taken part in clean-up activities.

Goals: To maintain and restore the Canal to its natural historical state and to keep it quietly accessible to all of us C&O Canal and Potomac River lovers.

RAYMOND RILEY

Association members will be saddened to learn of the death at age 92 of Raymond Riley on September 7, 1989. He was the son of John Riley, tender of Lock 24 (Riley's Lock, mile 22.82). Raymond, who was born in the Lockhouse, captained a canal barge in his early years. After the canal shut down in 1924, he held various jobs--was a streetcar conductor, did carpentry and built boats.

Raymond Riley endeared himself in recent years to the Girl Scouts who presented historical perspectives at Riley's Lockhouse each weekend during the spring, summer and fall, telling them about his life on the Canal and enhancing their presentation to the public.

Mr. Riley was often seen pulling a small cart with bags he filled with cans collected along the canal for recycling. After his recovery from a broken hip in 1987 he resumed collecting cans and visiting with the Scouts. He will be sorely missed by his friends--the Girl Scouts, the fishermen who frequented the Seneca area and the many hikers and bikers whom he met and conversed with.

(On October 23, 1989, the following letter was sent to Mrs. Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld, Chair of the C & O Canal National Historical Park Commission, by Harold A. Larsen, President of the C & O Canal Association, concerning the Wiley Ford Bridge and the proposed "canal parkway.")

Dear Mrs. Weidenfeld:

At its meeting on September 24, 1989, in Williamsport, the Association's Board of Directors passed a motion concerning the recent action taken by the Commission in regard to the Wiley Ford Bridge and the Canal Parkway in Cumberland.

The Association believes the Commission failed properly to execute its duty to protect the C & O Canal National Historical Park from undesirable intrusion by its action on the proposed road along the canal, Cumberland to South Cumberland, and the Wiley Ford Bridge, at its meeting on September 9, 1989. The Association believes the study endorsed by the Commission does not adequately assure the State Highway Administration's intention completely to examine all parkway alternatives, including the Wiley Ford Bridge, in a meaningful manner.

Accordingly, the Board passed a motion stating that the Association does not concur in the decision of the Commission, does not support the Commission in this action, and calls for a reconsideration of the question at the next meeting of the Commission.

Sincerely,
Harold A. Larsen
President
C & O Canal Association

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

In mid-October, expectant barge riders lined up in Georgetown and at Great Falls for the last chance of the season to float gently along the C&O Canal, pulled by patient mules and entertained by gifted barge crew members. Now the barges are moored for the winter, the mules are out to pasture, and the barge crews have scattered. Life along the canal proceeds a bit more quietly.

But not for long. October's bright blue weather called out the weekend hordes...hordes great enough that Park police closed the road to Great Falls Tavern by afternoon. Everywhere the available parking space disappeared. Cars crowded the roadside near Angler's Inn, parked illegally.

By noon, bicyclists sped along the towpath--seldom hesitating as they passed pedestrians--seldom giving warning as they came up from behind. Families out for a stroll with their small children became an endangered species. A bird-watcher with binoculars fixed on a soaring hawk risked finding himself dunked in the canal.

Replacement of the bridges to the falls by this time next year is fairly certain--thus adding a further attraction to an area already choked with visitors, especially on pleasant weekends. Public demand led to replacement of the bridges against the better judgment of Park officials. The question remains--how to cope? Will the river again make the final decision a few years hence--removing the bridges in one quick, raging torrent?

Helicopter use for airlifting bridge parts to the islands has been proposed, thus relieving the towpath of many heavy loads. But how will the pair of eagles nesting on nearby Conn Island react to such an airlift? Apparently undisturbed by the Park Service helicopter, will they be as tolerant of nearby flights for bridge construction?

With the closing of one year's barge operation, plans for next year will soon be underway. Again the dredging of the canal and dumping of sludge are likely to be repeated. Once more heavy equipment is likely to gouge nearby trees, surround their trunks with sludge, and bury any wildflowers still growing by the towpath or in the nearby woodland.

Again next year's mowing schedules will once more be planned to keep canal banks and open areas manicured, leaving a green desert where wildflowers used to have a chance to bloom, go to seed, and bloom again the next year. In some places the mower blade may once more cut so close that all growth is removed, leaving the bare canal bank to crumble.

As wildflowers disappear, bees, butterflies, spiders, and yes--snakes--also disappear. However, a persistent snake can find its way even across a paved highway! Moreover, the dozen or so kinds of harmless snakes that frequent the park could become part of the park's natural wonders.

Upstream, plans continue for rewatering parts of the canal. This could be advantageous to the park if it attracted some of the hundreds of visitors who now flock to the Palisades area. But one wonders what precautions are being taken to identify and protect the natural flora and fauna in the sections to be rewatered. Will these natural flora and fauna have a chance to survive the process of canal restoration, operation and maintenance, or will their loss simply be considered an acceptable sacrifice justified by canal restoration? Outside threats--proposals for the western bypass, prison construction on the Park's boundary, boat docks along the river--continue to require constant vigilance if the integrity and sometimes the very existence of the park are to be protected. But threats from within need also to be watched and dealt with appropriately.

The towpath honors Justice Douglas in name. With the present emphasis in Park usage, what honor is paid to his love of natural places and their flora and fauna--the love and dedication that led to his long-ago walk down the towpath, a walk shared for all or in part of the distance by Olaus Murie, Irston Barnes, Grant Conway and others having a similar devotion to wild places? Their walk in the end contributed hugely to our present national ownership of the land--but are we the stewards of the land they would like to have us be?

--Helen L. Johnston



FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 24 BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING.....

The September 24 meeting of the Board of Directors was held at Thomas Perry's house in Williamsport. Board members present: Donna Boies, Victor Conrad, Bill Davies, Vernon Davis, Ralph Donnelly, Mimi Eller, Karen Gray, Judith Hecht, Alan Hedin, Dave Johnson, Hal Larsen, Orrin Long, Bettyjane Myers, Thomas Perry, Ken Rollins, Helen Rosen, and Edith Wilkerson. Board members absent: Sandra Hemingway, Susan Henley, Charles Otstot, and Lyman Stucker. The following motions were made at this meeting:

1. Mexico Farms Prison Site -- Motion: The C & O Canal Association reaffirms its position opposing the prison site at Mexico Farms pending the timely receipt of a final environmental impact statement. Passed unanimously. (See site map on page 12.)
2. Budget Increases -- Motion: That the Newsletter budget be increased by \$200 to \$4100, and that the Membership Coordinator's budget be increased by \$60 to \$400.
3. Payment to Louise Taylor -- Motion: The Board approves a \$400 payment to Louise Taylor for her manuscript. Passed with four members opposed.
4. William O. Douglas Award -- That the Association present the William O. Douglas Award to retired C & O Canal NHP Superintendent Richard L. Stanton and suggest that the presentation be made at our Heritage Hike on October 21, 1989. Passed unanimously.
5. Wiley Ford Bridge Reconstruction -- The C & O Canal Association opposes the letting of a contract for a new Wiley Ford Bridge until plans provide for at least a 9 foot clearance over the towpath of the C & O Canal; that a letter be directed to the Governor and Secretary of Transportation of Maryland that the agreement between the City of Cumberland and the National Park Service of 1971 should be upheld with the new construction of this bridge. Passed unanimously.
6. C & O Canal Parkway, Cumberland -- The C & O Canal Association recommends and requests that the study of alternatives to the Canal Parkway be expanded by bringing the West Virginia Highway Department into the study along with the National Park Service to make a broad regional study for the solution of the Allegany-Mineral County transportation problems. Letters should be sent to the Governor and Secretary of Transportation of Maryland. Passed unanimously.
7. C & O Canal Commission -- Whereas the Advisory Commission of the C & O Canal National Historical Park failed to properly execute its duty to protect the Canal Park from undesirable intrusion by its action taken on the proposed road along the Canal, Cumberland to south Cumberland, and the Wiley Ford Bridge, at its meeting of 9 September 1989; whereas the C & O Canal Association believes that the study that the Commission has endorsed will not provide adequate assurance that all parkway alternatives can be completely examined in a meaningful manner, including the Wiley Ford Bridge; resolved, the C & O Canal Association does not concur in the decision of the Advisory Commission, does not support the Commission in this action, and calls for a reconsideration of the question at the next meeting of the Commission. All Advisory Commissioners to be notified by letter of this resolution. Passed unanimously.
8. CSX Trackage in Cumberland -- Whereas the CSX trackage in the Cumberland area now trespasses on the property of the C & O Canal National Historical Park; whereas the trade-off of land elsewhere owned by CSX to remove trespass has been proposed; whereas such a trade-off would be a significant precedent in regard to encroachment on Canal park land; resolved, the C & O Canal Association does not concur in trade-off of Canal park land and urges the National Park Service to take steps to prevent adverse possession of such land. Notify the Superintendent of the C & O Canal NHP of this resolution. Passed unanimously.
9. Proposed Recycling Plant, Green Spring, West Virginia -- Whereas a recycling plant and alcohol refinery are proposed at or near Green Spring, West Virginia; whereas the proposed site of this development is in the flood plain of the Potomac River, an area that should preclude any such development; whereas terrace land, nearby the proposed site, is free from flood damage; whereas leakage from or destruction of such a plant during floods could result in immense damage to the Potomac River and the quality of the C & O Canal park; resolved, that the C & O Canal Association is opposed to the proposed recycling and alcohol refinery to be developed on the flood plain at or near Green Spring, West Virginia, and believes that suitable sites for such a development exist outside the flood plain. To be notified are Ted W. Coffey, Green Spring Coalition Concerning the Recycling Plant, Green Spring, West Virginia, and the Hampshire County Commissioners. Passed unanimously.

(continued on page 13)

(continued from page 12)

10. Trails Master Plan, Loudoun County, Virginia -- Whereas the United Trails Ride, Inc., in cooperation with the National Park Service, the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority and other organizations, is preparing a Greenway and Trails Master Plan for Loudoun County, Virginia, which will include connections with the C & O Canal National Historical Park; whereas such a plan would enhance the value of the C & O Canal National Historical Park; resolved that the C & O Canal Association endorses such action and offers its aid in preparation of such a plan. Letter to be sent to United Trails Ride, Inc. Passed unanimously.
11. Proposed National River Status for Potomac -- Whereas there are prospects of a bill being introduced in Congress to give National River Status to the Potomac River; resolved, that the C & O Canal Association supports the concept of a national river status for the Potomac River and would support a bill for such a purpose when introduced in Congress. Passed unanimously.
12. Amendments to C & O Canal NHP Enabling Act -- Whereas the present enabling act of the C & O Canal National Historical Park restricts the purchase of land adjoining the Canal park in the 10 miles downstream of Cumberland and further restricts the purchase of land on the "berm" side of the Canal; whereas these restrictions now are inadequate and are a problem in protecting parkland from various types of development that are not complementary to park use; resolved, that the C & O Canal Association calls upon the members of Congress from states in the Potomac Basin to introduce and sponsor amendments to the C & O Canal National Historical Park enabling act to: 1) Remove the restrictions on the National Park Service in obtaining land for park use in the Lock 75-Cumberland area, and 2) Allow the National Park Service to obtain land by donation, easement, and purchase on the berm side of the Canal in critical areas to serve as protective buffer zones. Letter to Congresswoman Byron and Maryland delegation and other Congressmen of West Virginia and Virginia. Passed unanimously.
13. Association Docent Program -- Resolved, that the C & O Canal Association in cooperation with the C & O Canal National Historical Park establish a volunteer docent program to aid in providing interpretive services along the Canal. Letter to C & O Canal NHP. Passed unanimously.
14. Appreciation to Hosts -- Resolved that the Board record a vote of appreciation to its hosts, Linda and Tom Perry, on September 24, 1989. Passed unanimously.
15. Youth Hostel -- President Hal Larsen received a letter from the American Youth Hostels requesting support before the Shepherdstown Council for acquisition and refurbishment of an historical building near the Canal. Motion: That the Association express our interest in seeing the hostel established. Passed unanimously.
16. Maryland Conservation Council Membership -- That the Association renew its membership in the Maryland Conservation Council for fiscal year July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990 at a cost of \$35.00. Passed unanimously.

ASSOCIATION RECEIVES VIDEO PROGRAM ON C & O CANAL

A valuable new addition to the Association's collection of material on the C & O Canal is a 50-minute video program produced by Montgomery College. The copy of the tape was given to the Association by Dr. David Gardner, professor of geology at the college and a long-time member of the Association.

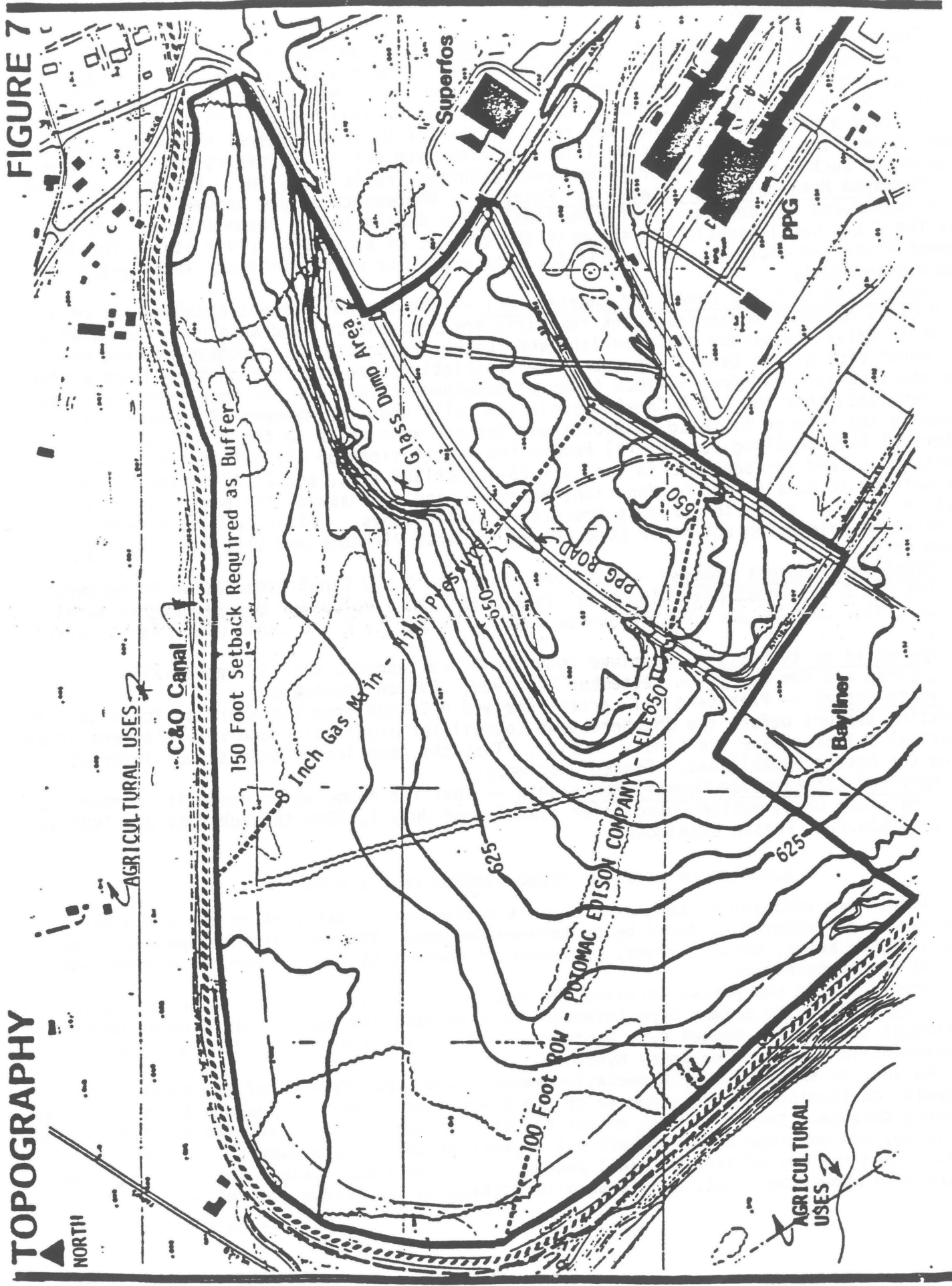
The program is in two parts, covering the years of construction and life on the Canal. It features appearances by former Superintendent Dick Stanton and park curator Lee Struble, a walk through the Paw Paw Tunnel with Professor Gardner, and a guided tour of Riley's Lockhouse with Association Board member Bejay Myers.

Dr. Gardner is known to many Association members and other friends of the Canal through his popular continuing education course on the C & O Canal, which he teaches twice a year at Montgomery College. The non-credit course consists of four evening lectures and two weekend field trips, and comprehensively covers all aspects of the Canal's history, construction, operation, and the way of life of Canal people. It is an ideal vehicle for members who want to learn more about the Canal, and is usually offered in the spring and fall.

-- Dave Johnson

FIGURE 7

TOPOGRAPHY



PROPOSED CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
NEAR CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND

Fact Sheet

Sponsor: U. S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons

Nature of Facility: Medium security Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) housing 750-850 inmates; and a satellite minimum security Federal Prison Camp (FPC) housing 150-250 inmates

Location: A 175-acre tract in the Mexico Farms area southeast of Cumberland. Tract is owned by Allegany County and is not being used at present.

Proximity to C and O Canal: Tract is bounded on three sides by C and O Canal Park (see map).

Buffer Zone: The Bureau of Prisons (FBOP) would provide a 150-foot buffer zone outside the fenced perimeter of the FCI, plus a 200-foot open area from the fence to the nearest structure. Thus there would be a 350-foot distance from the Park boundary to the nearest building. The outer buffer zone would be planted in trees and shrubs to limit visual impact on the Park.

Security: FCI would have two 12-foot chain-link fences topped with barbed wire, plus coils of barbed wire between the fences. Also, there would be regular motorized patrols around the perimeter, overhead lighting around the fencing, an electronic alarm system, and several inmate counts each day. The FPC would apparently not be fenced; security arrangements are not clear.

Environmental Impact: A draft Environmental Impact Statement has been prepared by Louis Berger and Associates, under contract with FBOP. Items of special interest to the Canal Park are possible erosion, wetlands, wildlife, visual intrusions, archaeology, noise, and relocation of utility rights-of-way.

Target Date for Completion: 1991

Other Considerations: Effect on North Branch interpretive zone. Four other sites in Allegany County have been under consideration; this one is preferred. Would inmates be permitted on work details outside the perimeter? Would the facility be subject to overcrowding, as many are at present?

9/20/89

(This Fact Sheet was appended to the minutes of the Association's Board of Directors' meeting of September 24, 1989.)



**MEXICO FARMS RESIDENTS
OPPOSE LOCATION OF PRISON**

At a recent meeting of the Allegany County Board of Commissioners, residents of Mexico Farms and other local citizens voiced their opposition to the location of a medium/minimum security federal prison in the Mexico Farms area.

The November 18 issue of the Cumberland Times-News reported that a group known as "OOPS" (Opponents of Prison Siting in Allegany County) "blasted" the County Commissioners for their support of the prison site. A formal agreement has not yet been signed.

ON THE LEVEL...notes and news on the Level Walker Program

by Karen Gray, Level Walker Chair

HIKES SPONSORED BY THE LEVEL WALKER PROGRAM -- EVERYONE IS WELCOME:

We'll walk 2-3 miles before turning back. Hikes are usually two to three hours long. Call me if you need more directions (202/333-6947).

Saturday, January 20 at 10:30 a.m. Level #47, Hancock--upstream.

Meet at the C&O Canal Visitors Center in Hancock, Maryland. After the hike we'll get together for lunch at Weaver's Restaurant.

Saturday, March 3 at 10 a.m. prior to the Annual Meeting

We'll walk along the canal at the point nearest to the Annual Meeting site. Call me for precise meeting place.

WINTER AND EARLY SPRING WALKS ON YOUR LEVEL ARE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT as they are the best for finding litter and observing structures and the condition of the prism and berm that can't be seen the rest of the year when grass and leaves hide them. The winter aspect of your level not only has its own special beauty but will give you an understanding of it quite different from that gained during the other seasons dominated by growth.

THERE WILL BE A LEVEL WALKER PROGRAM TABLE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

Drop by to say hello, pick up report forms, and take a look at:

1. Complete 1989 Level Walker reports.
2. Photographs sent to me during the year.
3. Lists of levels and the walkers assigned to them.
4. Information about the Level Walker Program.

LEVEL WALKER REPORTS:

NOTE: There is room here for only a line or two from the often lengthy and interesting reports I receive. I'll send copies of a complete report or specific reports to anyone asking for such and providing the name and address to which they should be mailed.

The schedule for reports appearing in this column and the deadline by which they must be received are:

<u>Walks made during:</u>	<u>Deadline for report:</u>	<u>Issue:</u>
November - January	February 5	Spring (March)
February - April	May 5	Summer (June)
May - July	August 5	Fall (September)
August - October	November 5	Winter (December)

#1 MILE 0-2.3

TIDAL LOCK TO OLD BOAT INCLINE

Leslie Sobin (8/12, 10/7) Collected two bags of mostly beer cans. Ducks persist along this busy level where he usually reports 30 plus walkers/joggers, 15 plus cyclists, dogs, canoeists and fishermen.

#2 MILE 2.3-5

OLD BOAT INCLINE TO LOCK 5

Beth Dougherty (9/3) found little litter but counted 120 people, half on bikes, and 5 canoes. She reports a crane who frequents this stretch in the early morning. Some erosion of the towpath upstream from Fletcher's.

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#3 MILE 5-7.5

LOCK 5 TO CABIN JOHN CREEK CULVERT

Howard Rosen (9/23) reports a considerable amount of silt in the canal north of the Sycamore Island bridge. Big litter problem at the Sycamore Island parking area on this level.

James & Joan Wilson (10/26, 27 & 28) collected three bags of garbage and also noted silt and smell of empty canal due to open sluice gate in lock 6. Reported rangers had to shoot a deer with a broken leg at the river.

#4 MILE 7.5-9.4

CABIN JOHN CULVERT TO LOCK 14

Florence Lederman (8/6, 9/4,, 9/9, 10/15, 10/21) usually collects a bag of litter. Reported 180 cyclists on 9/4. Waterfowl and turtle common.

Howard Rosen (9/24) noted the heavy foliage on the banks and in the prism of the canal but towpath in excellent condition.

#6 MILE 12.3-14.3

CROPLEY TO GREAT FALLS/LOCK 20

Helen Johnson submitted one 3 page report for her frequent walks filled with information and including a full page of flora and fauna. She notes a decrease in litter in recent years but they still collect bags. This level is popular for nature walks with local groups and bald eagles are sometimes seen. She reports repairs along the level but erosion along the canal bank where all growth removed.

#7 MILE 14.3-16.6

GREAT FALLS/LOCK 20 TO SWAINS/LOCK 21

Arthur and Anne Korff (10/9) found the towpath south of Swain's rocky and uneven. They encountered 75 people, ducks, fuzzy caterpillars; and found only two pieces of litter.

#9 MILE 19.6-22.8

PENNYFIELD LOCK TO SENECA AQUEDUCT

Jeff Brown (10/29) collected four bags of litter with towpath prone to wet and muddy spots mile 20-21.5 but basically in good condition.

#11 MILE 25-27.2

TEN FOOT ISLAND TO SYCAMORE LANDING

Harold Learned (10/11) met a hiker who has taken his annual two weeks of vacation for 3 years to hike the entire length of the canal. The towpath between 26.2 and 26.7 was deeply rutted and in poor shape due to heavy equipment working on it--hopefully to correct bad conditions here.

#12 MILE 27.2-30.8

SYCAMORE LANDING TO EDWARDS FERRY

Lucy Beths (10/1) found a lot of litter, visible due to cleared sides of path by bulldozer. Path deeply rutted and muddy on this rainy day.

#15 MILE 35.5-39.4

WHITE'S FERRY TO LOCK 26

Herbert Madison (10/7) collected 3 bags of litter but found the towpath in good condition, covered with new bluestone, and recently mowed with overhanging limbs cut back. Saw asters, a variety of birds, frog and woodchuck. Area has Osage orange trees, black walnuts and hickories.

#16 MILE 39-42.2

WOODS LOCK #26 TO MONOCACY AQUEDUCT

Chris & C.H. Breedlove (9/24) found 2 bags of litter, reported that the sign at Woods lock needs replacing. New bluestone on the towpath. Expressed concern over trees beginning to grow in aqueduct.

#18 MILE 44.6-48.2

NOLANDS FERRY TO POINT-OF-ROCKS

Marlow Madeoy (10/8) picked up 6 bags of trash, much in the shrubs

(continued on page 18)

(continued from page 17)

within 10 feet of the towpath. Also noted 6 containers for flange grease apparently dumped by CSX employees. Park Service has removed dead trees.

#19 MILE 48.2-51.5

POINT OF ROCKS TO CATOCTIN AQUEDUCT

Lyman Stucker (8/26) reported the towpath in good condition, recently mowed. Found little litter, Bailey Bridge still at the Catoctin crossing.

#22 MILE 58-60.7

WEVERTON TO HARPERS FERRY

Harry & Jean Raney (10/4) reported little litter, mostly paper and the towpath in good shape. Unusual fungi on a tree mile 58.7.

#28 MILE 72.8-74

SHEPHERDSTOWN/LOCK 38 TO LOCK 39

George Camplair (8/29) found towpath in good condition, recently trimmed and cleared of limbs. Serious litter problem in brush at the Lock 38 parking lot. Saw a rabbit in addition to other common wildlife.

John Frye (10/9) met 7 hikers and noted an absence of fall flowers adjacent to the towpath. Lock areas cleaned and recently mowed.

#29 MILE 74-76.7

LOCK 39 TO SNYDERS LANDING

Marshall Grotenhuis (10/10) found everything in good condition, picked up only a little litter.

#31 MILE 79.4-81.6

LOCK 40 TO MARSH RUN CULVERT

Jim Murray (10/5) met no one on his walk and found towpath in good condition. The canal prism was entirely dry.

#32 MILE 81.6-84.4

MARSH RUN TO DAM 4

Edith Wilkerson and Beejay Myers (11/2) met two bikers who had planned to do the entire length from DC to Cumberland but turned around at Hancock. Found everything in good condition.

#34 MILE 88.1-91

CHARLES MILL TO FOREMAN'S FERRY

Thomas Perry (9/1) collected most of his 2 bags of litter at the mill parking area. Reported many cobwebs in the upper area.

#35 MILE 91-93

FORMANS FERRY TO LOCK 43

Ruth and Tack Swan (9/18) found towpath in excellent condition. Saw two deer and one dead deer. Met no one on the towpath during the walk.

#40 MILE 105-106.8

OLD NESSLE BRIDGE PIERS TO DAM 5

Judy Hecht (10/14) found the towpath in good condition but more litter than in the spring. Some wildflowers, mostly asters.

#41 MILE 106.8-108.6

DAM 5 TO LOCK 47

Arthur Stier (10/8) counted 29 cyclists and reported level mowed and trimmed; many wildflowers, a box turtle, and fresh sumac growing in mowed area.

#43 MILE 110.4-112.4

MCCOY'S FERRY TO FORT FREDERICK

Karen Gray (10/22) reported continued deterioration of two culverts and increased growth in unmowed culverts. Beer bottles and cans at camp sites at McCoy's Ferry campground are the biggest litter problem. Ranger and a young man assigned to community service were working on the area.

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#44 MILE 112.4-114.5

FORT FREDERICK TO ERNSTVILLE

Jane & Harold Larsen (8/12) reported unusual new growth on berm side of Big Pool, lock at the west end obscured by new vegetation.

#46 MILE 116-120

LICKING CREEK AQUEDUCT TO LOWER END OF LITTLE POOL

Beth Dougherty (10/8) encountered significant litter and two men vandalizing railroad sign and signal lights along unused right-of-way.

#62 MILE 164.8-167

LOCK 68 TO LOCK 71/OLDTOWN

Ginny Small (8/9) reported a down-spout off at the Lock 68 Lock House. One duck observed with a fishing line caught in its foot.

#63 and #64 MILE 165-173

OLDTOWN/LOCK 71 TO SPRING GAP RECREATION AREA

Martha and Dave Foley (7/22) reported a tree blown down that left a large hole along the berm side. Signs of beaver cuttings, wild turkeys, great blue heron, kingfishers and muskrats enlivened their walk.

#66 MILE 175.5-177.7

LOCK 74/NORTH BRANCH TO CULVERT 235/MEXICO FARMS

Jim Sartwell found towpath in excellent condition. Walkers included elderly Virginia couple recalling old memories. Wildlife included a rabbit and a dead racoon.

V olunteers
I n the
P ark

Report by Joan Paull

On September 9, Joan Paull and Ranger Frank Cucurullo spent the morning in Georgetown cutting overhang and removing vegetation from the walls along the towpath and the Alexandria Aqueduct fence.

October 21 was our chance to work with Montgomery County and their Volunteer Day in the community. Since most of the "regulars" were on the Heritage Hike, only Joan Paull and Ranger Cucurullo worked at the Great Falls Tavern, raking and bagging leaves (to the tune of 14 bags) and picking up trash.

The worktrip to Riley's Lockhouse on November 4 was a big success. John Chandler, Dave and Bunny Johnson, Hal and Jane Larsen, Bejay Myers, James and Pat White, and Joan Paull along with Ranger Cucurullo removed vegetation from the Seneca Aqueduct and the lock walls, picked up trash, reset the stepping stones at the lockhouse, and worked on the wingwall.

We returned to Riley's Lockhouse on December 2 to continue working on vegetation removal and removal of Gypsy Moths. Participating in these projects were: Dave Johnson, Hal Larsen, Jim and Sally Bryant, Sylvia and Charles Diss, and Joan Paull.

Our January worktrip will be on January 6; meet at the Great Falls Tavern at 9:00 a.m. There will be no worktrips in February and March.

ASSOCIATION TO ASSIST NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY'S BENEFIT HIKE APRIL 1, 1990

The National Capital Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society is staging its second "Super Cities Walk" on Sunday, April 1, 1990, between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and will again focus on the C & O Canal.

The walk is a fundraiser in which participants generate contributions for each mile they walk. Last year's walk along the Canal between Georgetown and Great Falls attracted 3,300 participants. This year's walk will have two different possibilities: 1) to walk from the Pentagon to Georgetown, then along the Canal to Glen Echo, and 2) to walk from Avenel Golf Course to Great Falls, then along the Canal to Glen Echo. The number of participants expected this year is 5,000.

The C & O Canal Association will participate by staffing a rest stop at Great Falls Tavern (and perhaps other locations) and providing historical information about the Canal. If you would like to help staff this event, call Joan Paull at (301) 384-8584, or write to her c/o C & O Canal Association, Box 366, Glen Echo, Maryland 20812-0366. For additional information about the walk, call the MS Society at (202) 296-5363.

-- John Fondersmith

PROGRAM NOTES.....

.....from Ken Rollins

It's time to start thinking about our activities for 1990, and the Program Committee will welcome your comments. What did you like in 1989? What didn't you like? What would you like to do next year?

Some prospective events include a through-bike trip, probably in May, and a through back-packer composed of three one-week segments, probably in June. A show of interest will make these proposals come true. Other events -- hiking, biking, canoeing, and the various river/canal town festivals -- will probably follow last year's pattern.

Members should be prepared to discuss their program interests at the annual meeting, but the Program Committee will appreciate your comments as much in advance as possible. It will be especially helpful if you are willing to lead one or more events or to assist others in planning or leadership. Please convey your thoughts to Ken Rollins, Route 4, Box 107, Ruther Glen, Virginia 22546 or telephone (804) 448-2934.

WERE YOU AT THE HERITAGE HIKE?

October 21 was a cold and blustery day with only sporadic sunshine, but a good day for a brisk hike enjoyed by over 100 Association members and friends who came out for the 1989 Heritage Hike.

Although the predominant leaf color was still green -- the trees not yet in full autumn glory -- hikers still had much beauty to appreciate and were invigorated by the cool weather as they trudged through already fallen Sycamore leaves along the towpath.

Most hikers stopped for lunch at the Potomac Fish and Game Club's pavilion on the shores of the Potomac River. Near the end of the hike route -- Williamsport to Charles Mill -- the great stone palisades that rise majestically above the Potomac were particularly impressive in the late afternoon light.

Following a convivial Happy Hour, a hearty and plentiful dinner was served at McMahon's Mill Recreation Restaurant, with proprietors Mr. and Mrs. William McMahon much in evidence to ensure that all went well. President Hal Larsen presented the William O. Douglas award for outstanding achievement to former C & O Canal National Historical Park Superintendent Richard L. Stanton.

--Nancy Long

1989 REUNION HIKERS ENJOY OCTOBER REUNION

The 1989 Justice Douglas Through-Hike veterans gathered on Sunday, October 15, at Carl Linden's home in Brookmont for an afternoon hike followed by dinner and socializing on Carl's tiered verandas. Thirty-eight intrepid hikers showed up, including the one who traveled the longest distance for this event from Hatteras, North Carolina--Ken Lapeyre.

The genial host, Carl Linden, provided ribs, which Ken Rollins and Bill Speck prepared over charcoal fires on the upper veranda while the hikers, happily tired from a tour along the canal and river led by Ken, lolled on the lower tiers with drinks in hand to recall the April adventures.

Many hikers brought photographs and slides to exchange and to show, which helped to recall the long trek. Everyone contributed food and beverages to provide a sumptuous banquet. As the hikers munched various casserole delights, salads, cakes and pies, they fondly recalled the sturdy breakfasts prepared by Midge Heimer, Edith Wilkerson and Donna Boies on cold mornings on the misty river bank.

The blue ribbon, the official hike colors, was much in evidence to symbolize bonds among people whose shared experience has formed them into a close and friendly fraternity.

A special thanks goes to Carl Linden whose house was overrun by booted, hungry and thirsty hikers. He seemed to take it all in stride.

--Hal Larsen

ASSOCIATION REPRESENTED
AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HISTORIC CANALS

by Dave Johnson

More than eighty representatives of national, state, and local canal-related agencies and organizations met in September at Easton, Pennsylvania for the second National Conference on Historic Canals. This year's conference, hosted by the Hugh Moore Park and Canal Museum, encompassed a broad program of canal subjects, presented by a panel of fifteen outstanding speakers. The panelists included state and national park officials, university professors, and professionals in engineering evaluation and restoration projects. Topics discussed during the three-day meeting included protection of canal corridors, archaeology, structures assessment, restoration, maintenance, interpretation, and historical research.

In addition to the panel discussions, a highlight of the conference was an all-day tour of the canals in the Easton area - the Lehigh Navigation and the Delaware Canal in Pennsylvania, and the Delaware & Raritan Canal in New Jersey. (Sadly, inclement weather precluded a scheduled visit to one of the inclined planes on New Jersey's Morris Canal.)

Among those attending the conference were delegations from many state and local parks, development agencies and planning commissions, from as far as Wisconsin and Illinois. There was a group from the Shubenacadie Canal Commission in Nova Scotia. National Park system units represented were Cuyahoga Valley NRA (Ohio & Erie Canal), Upper Delaware National Scenic & Recreational River (Roebbling's Delaware & Hudson Canal aqueduct), and the three new National Heritage Corridors - Illinois & Michigan Canal, Blackstone River Valley, and Delaware & Lehigh Navigation.

The major canal societies represented included the American Canal Society, Canal Society of New Jersey, Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Association, Friends of the Delaware Canal, Pennsylvania Canal Society, Susquehanna Museum, and Virginia Canals and Navigations Society.

The conference provided an excellent opportunity for government agencies and citizens associations concerned with the preservation of historic canals throughout the country to meet and share information on issues of common interest. Several of the groups in attendance are just beginning to preserve and restore canal sites in their areas.

It was a very successful sequel to the first meeting, held in Illinois in 1988, and hopefully will firmly establish the conference as an important annual event. Many thanks and congratulations are due to Steve Humphrey, Lance Metz, and the staff of the Hugh Moore Historical Park and Museums for organizing and hosting an outstanding conference.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICES TO BE MAILED IN JANUARY

Watch your mail for a renewal notice for membership in the C & O Canal Association in January 1990. Memberships in the Association have a common expiration date of December 31 of any year. The only exception to this rule is that new members who join in the months of September, October, November or December of any year are credited with membership for the following year.



CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Wednesday, December 27 - Sights and Sounds nature walk, Great Falls, MD; call 301-443-0024 for information.
- Saturday, December 30 - Sights and Sounds nature walk, Great Falls, MD; see above.
- 1990
- Wednesday, January 3 - Sights and Sounds nature walk, Great Falls, MD; see above.
- Saturday, January 6 - Worktrip at Great Falls Tavern, 9 AM-12 Noon; see page 19.
- Saturday, January 6 - Sights and Sounds nature walk, Great Falls, MD; see above.
- Saturday, January 20 - A Night to Remember, film presentations; 7:30 PM, Glen Echo Town Hall; see page 3.
- Saturday, January 20 - Level Walker Hike, Hancock, MD; see page 16.
- Saturday, January 27 - Sights and Sounds nature walk, Great Falls, MD; see above.
- Wednesday, January 31 - Sights and Sounds nature walk, Great Falls, MD; see above.
- Saturday, February 3 - Sights and Sounds nature walk, Great Falls, MD; see above.
- Sunday, February 4 - Association Board of Directors meeting; call Hal Larsen, 703-356-1809 for details.
- Wednesday, February 7 - Sights and Sounds nature walk, Great Falls, MD; see above.
- Saturday, February 24 - Sights and Sounds nature walk, Great Falls, MD; see above.
- Wednesday, February 28 - Sights and Sounds nature walk, Great Falls, MD; see above.
- Saturday, March 3 - Level Walker hike, 10 AM, Shepherdstown area; see page 16.
- Saturday, March 3 - Association Annual Meeting, Shepherdstown, Meet the Candidates, 1 PM; Formal Meeting, 2 PM, see pages 1 and 6.
- Saturday, March 3 - Sights and Sounds nature walk, Great Falls, MD; see above.
- Saturday, April 21 - Annual Justice Douglas Hike; watch for details in March newsletter.

ALONG THE TOWPATH is published in March, June, September and December by the C&O Canal Association, P O Box 366, Glen Echo, MD 20812-0366.

Editor is Nancy Long who welcomes communications from the membership. Address her at 6001 Bryn Mawr Avenue, Glen Echo, MD 20812. Associate Editor is Ellen N. Holway.

Production and distribution assistance is provided by Susan "Butch" Henley.

1989-90 Association officers are:

President: Harold A Larsen, 1314 Kurtz Road, McLean, VA 22101 703-356-1809

First Vice President: William E Davies, 125 Greenway Blvd. West, Falls Church
VA 22046 703-532-7588

2d VP & Level Walker Chairman: Karen M Gray, 825 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, #304,
Washington, DC 20037 202-333-6947

Secretary: Alan E Hedin, 47 Shaw Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20904 301-622-3985

Treasurer: David M Johnson, 9211 Wadsworth Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817 301-530-7473

Information Officer: Sandra Hemingway, 4701 Kenmore Avenue, #1211, Alexandria,
VA 22304 703-823-1489

Board of Directors: *Terms expire in 1992:* Victor P Conrad, A Vernon Davis, Judith A Hecht, Orrin Long, Bettyjane F Myers; *Terms expire in 1991:* Donna Boies, Ralph H Donnelly, Charles M Otstot, Thomas L Perry, Lyman Stucker; *Terms expire in 1990:* Wilhelmina "Mimi" Eller, Susan "Butch" Henley, Helen Rosen, Kenneth S Rollins, Edith C. Wilkerson.

Association dues--One Calendar Year: \$10; Family, \$15; Patron, \$20.
Membership includes a subscription to ALONG THE TOWPATH.

C&O CANAL ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I am enclosing dues for membership in the C&O Canal Association for the calendar year 1990. My dues are for ☐ renewal membership ☐ new membership, and I wish to be enrolled in the membership category indicated below:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$10	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Membership includes a subscription to the quarterly <u>Along the Towpath</u>. New members are entitled to a badge.</div>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$15	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$20	

NAME _____ Telephone Number () _____
ADDRESS _____ (for membership directory)

_____ city _____ zip _____

My free C&O Canal Association badge should bear this name: _____

My second badge (if family or patron member): _____

_____ I do not wish to have my name included when the Association list is exchanged with another organization.

Please send me _____ cloth patches at \$1.50 each. TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Make check payable to the C&O Canal Association and mail to the Association at P O Box 366, Glen Echo, Maryland 20812-0366.

RESERVATION FORM FOR ANNUAL MEETING DINNER
Shepherdstown Fire Department
SHEPHERDSTOWN, WV
6 PM, March 3, 1990

Please reserve _____ dinners at a cost of \$14.00 per dinner.

Amount included _____

Checks should be made payable to the C&O Canal Association and mailed to P O Box 366, Glen Echo, MD 20812-0366. Reservations must be received by February 15, 1990. No tickets will be sent. A reservation list will be held at the door.

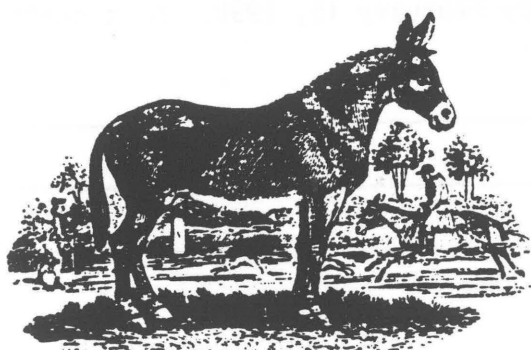
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ADDRESS _____

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I The Mule

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