

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

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JUSTICE DOUGLAS REUNION HIKE HELD ON APRIL 21

The rain was pervasive through the day, but this did little to dampen the enthusiasm of the more than 100 hikers who participated in the 10.4 mile trek from Noland's Ferry to Brunswick on the Justice Douglas Reunion Hike on April 21. In addition to commemorating the historic walk led by Justice William O. Douglas in 1954, largely credited with leading to the decision by Congress to establish the C&O Canal National Historical Park, the Association members and guests on April 21 celebrated one day in advance Earth Day's 20th anniversary.

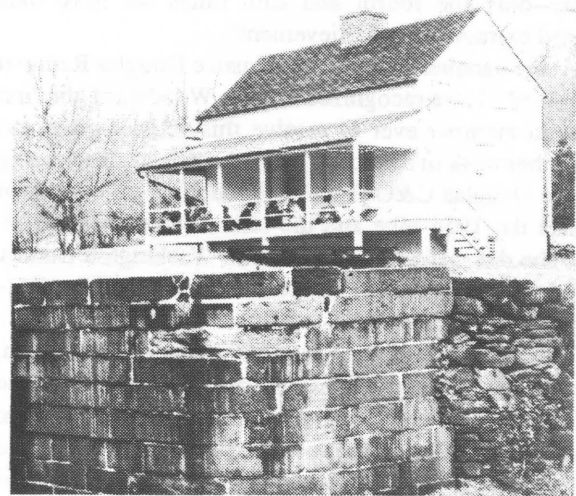
The hike began at Noland's Ferry with a brief ribbon-cutting ceremony in the rain. C&O Association president Hal Larsen introduced Congresswoman Beverly Byron, from Maryland's Sixth District, who made a few remarks and then cut the ribbon to start the hikers on their walk. Congresswoman Byron also accompanied the group to Brunswick.



Congresswoman Beverly Byron

After a lunchstop at Lock 29, the hikers proceeded to their destination in Brunswick, where the town and railroad museums were both open for viewing

After a cocktail hour, the hikers enjoyed a banquet in the evening catered by the Berlin Cafe and held at the Brunswick Fire Department. Speakers for the occasion were Brunswick's Mayor Susan Fauntleroy and park superintendent Tom Hobbs, both of who impressed on their listeners how important the occasion was as a reminder to continue efforts to preserve the canal.



Lunch stop at Lock 29

Hal Larsen, in his capacity as president, presented the Justice William O. Douglas award to two recipients: Emmie Woodward for her distinguished work in collating, inventorying and preparing for storage the Justice Douglas C&O Canal Collection. These materials include personal correspondence relating to the park, newspaper and magazine articles, and artifacts, such as personal items used by Justice Douglas while hiking on the towpath.

Linda Toms received the Douglas award for her exceptional service as Palisades District Manager. Ms. Toms was recently transferred to Denali National Park in Alaska as Assistant Superintendent.



**Jean Brown, Dot Geary, and Helen Glazer
on the reunion hike**

she investigated and processed actions against persons who had illegally cut trees on park property. In addition, she managed her dwindling resources, both financial and human, to make her crowded park available for its proper purposes and to protect users during the heavy visitation periods. The district's present relatively pristine condition after its devastating floods is attributable to this dedicated ranger. Thanks to Linda, many people have enjoyed the district's recreational, historical and natural resources.

When estimable people like Emmie and Linda arise in our midst, we are proud and happy to count them as Association members. We thus welcome the chance to present the Douglas Award, which in its 15 years has now been given only five times. We know we'll hear from these two again; such people go on doing great things.

--Hal Larsen

President's Column:

For the first time, the C&O Canal Association has given the Justice William O. Douglas Award twice at a single ceremony--only the fourth and fifth times we have thus recognized extraordinary achievement.

At the banquet following the Justice Douglas Reunion Hike on April 21, we recognized Emmie Woodward, the first Association member ever to receive this seldom-presented award, for her work in collecting, inventorying and packaging the Justice Douglas C&O Canal Collection. This collection documents the 1954 hike and the birth of the Association. Because she did this work so well, The Washington County Free Library in Hagerstown was pleased to accept the collection for permanent retention.

We chose this library as a home for the collection, because extensive historical material, much of it relating to the C&O Canal, was already available in the library's Western Maryland Room. The Douglas collection will be stored in a controlled environment and be made available to scholars and researchers who must use the materials on the premises. In the collation process, Emmie copied everything, and the copies will be used for study purposes; originals will be stored in special preservation covers and not be available to users.

The librarians at Hagerstown were impressed by the professional quality of the work in which Emmie had the assistance of Marshall and Marilyn Grotenhuis and Park Service curator Lee Struble. Thus we now have secure storage and public availability for this valuable collection. Ranger John Frye will manage the facility for the library.

The second award on the same occasion went to Linda Toms, the Palisades District Manager, who has left to be Assistant Superintendent at the Denali National Park in Alaska. This vast park, which includes Mount McKinley, the highest elevation in North America, will represent a radical change for Linda from the bustle of Great Falls Park to the quiet mountain vastness and formidable midland snows of Alaska. At Palisades, Linda was an effective shield between her territory and people who would offend it; she distinguished herself when

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News Item

Permanent Publications Committee Chairman A. Vernon Davis, a veteran newspaperman in Hagerstown, died of a sudden heart attack on April 1. He had completed almost one full year as the Publications Committee Chairman and was in his second year on the Association's Board of Directors.

Except for World War II service in Italy, Davis spent his wroking life as a newspaper columnist and editor in Hagerstown, his hometown. Formerly the editor of the Hagerstown Morning Herald, he more recently published the Maryland Cracker Barrel magazine. He was also a teacher at the Hagerstown Junior College.

Davis was hard at work in preparing for publication a restaurant and accommodations guide for C&O Canal users. His untimely death will necessarily delay this project. He will be sorely missed as a cheerful, competent and willing colleague in the Association.

--Hal Larsen

From the Editor:

During a cold winter hike along the towpath, my wife and I had just left McMahon's Mill when we came across an unusual sight--a black snake frozen into a permanent coil by the side of the trail. He was probably a victim of the severe winter cold of December. Perhaps he had stayed were he was just a bit too long and suddenly found himself overtaken by events. Lingerin in the fall sun, he became another trail marker.

The image of that snake frozen in place stayed with me, as I thought of this newsletter and all that goes into putting it together. There were times when I wondered whether what so many people put so much energy into was reaching its audience or whether it was clinging to a pattern that was no longer of interest to its readers.

Putting together my first newsletter was challenging and interesting and just a bit disappointing. The challenge was to develop a system for publishing that would give us the best product the available equipment could produce within the time I had available with the material sent me. You be the judge.

We are living in a communication age that is also a period of information glut. We are all overwhelmed with materials that arrive in our mailboxes to be dealt with--read, responded to or just thrown out. It is my hope that we can have an association newsletter that makes you want to read it and respond and not just throw it out. I don't want it to be another frozen black snake that did not adjust to present interests.

This leads to my disappointment. I was under the impression that Along the Towpath was a vehicle of communication for all members, that everyone had an interest in it and sent in so much material that only a selection could be printed. Such does not seem to be the case. As I look over the last

issue--my first as editor--I am a bit disturbed that it looks heavy almost bureaucratic. Certainly there are lively articles by Dick Stanton and Victor Conrad and others, but we need more general participation in our organization's publication.

What is needed is that you, the reader, think about what you would like to see in your newsletter--what kind of material would make you rush to open it up and begin to read--and what you can do about getting such material to the editor. Don't forget this is your newsletter.

For my part, I would like more photos of Association activities, of flora and fauna from the area, of scenes along the Canal, of people walking their levels or taking part in scheduled events, of historical sites on the Canal, of things you would be interested in seeing in your newsletter. I won't always use every photo, but I would like to build up a photo archive that I can draw from in the future.

My plea is that you help the editorial staff make this newsletter something you find useful and enjoy. Your contributions for the September issue--be they photos, articles, letters to the editor--should be sent by August 15. Let me hear from you.

THE JUSTICE DOUGLAS C&O CANAL COLLECTION

When William Orville Douglas died in 1980, at the age of 82, five cardboard boxes filled with C&O Canal memorabilia which he had gathered together over 25 years were given to the C&O Canal Association. The papers needed to be organized, indexed, preserved, and made available to the public. In 1988, I headed up a small committee to take it on. Many thanks go to Marshall and Marilyn Grotenhuis for their hours of work, and also thanks to George Kline, Ralph Donnelly, Bill Davies and Lee Struble. Now, finally, the work is done.

Regarding those five boxes... One of them was filled with correspondence which I had expected would be dull legalese. It turned out it was full of love-letters from all kinds of people in love with rivers and mountains, nature, history, posterity and especially the C&O Canal and Justice Douglas. They are some of the best reading I've done in years. One of the nicest examples of this correspondence is the following exchange:

Vinalhaven, Maine
January 27, 1954

Justice William O. Douglas
The Supreme Court of the United States

My dear Mr. Justice Douglas:

It is with considerable awe that I address you, but the enclosed item which I read in The Christian Science Monitor just now emboldens me. The other enclosure

explains that a lone "homesteader" on a rocky island off the Main coast may have something in common with a Supreme Court Justice (and admired writer-traveler): namely, delight in the walk along the old Chesapeake and Ohio Canal towpath, with all its historic sentiment and natural beauty. The verses record one of my many happy associations with Washington environs treasured from the days when my husband and I went there soon after our marriage. (He was a research chemist who passed on with incredible suddenness soon after he attained his Ph.D., took out the first patent for "casein wool," and we had such high hopes and plans.)

Even between these few lines, I have found myself gazing absently out into a snowstorm but seeing again the lovely signs of Spring in the serenity of glad companionship. I don't mean that I am musing so much on the "lacrimae rerum" as on the strangeness of things when, to my own astonishment, I find myself presuming on this slender bond of common interest to write to you so informally! Hope I'm not too presumptuous.

Most Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Alice L. Gould

The enclosure was this poem she wrote, published in The Christian Science Monitor:

TOWPATH

We walked beside the old canal, not asking when or whether
The path would lead us anywhere in that bright April weather,
Enough that we were out of doors, and walking there together.

Early American canal in early Spring, the scene:
The tender leafage all along was yet a dappled screen;
We caught the laggard sycamores without a snatch of green.

But oh, the banks..the banks were blue with clustered violets!
(Away with anxious questionings and worrisome regrets:
These toil not, neither do they spin..lest any heart forgets).

Well might such woodsy waterways in Arcady exist;
Well might the fauns play reedy pipes, and naiads hold their tryst
Where lovely redbuds blur into a pink ethereal mist.

Past ancient locks long idle now, and gates released from duty,
We ambled where wild cherry shone, and titmouse notes were fluty.

Unused canal? Ah, who shall gauge the usefulness of beauty!

And when the sun was westering, we came to Cabin John;
Too soon the timeless afternoon turned finite and was gone;
But in our hearts the little path still leads us on and on.

--Alice Lawry Gould

Douglas' reply:

February 1, 1954

Dear Mrs. Gould:

Thank you for your gracious letter of January 27th commenting on the proposed highway along the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. I am very happy to know of your appreciation of this beautiful sanctuary and read the poem you enclosed with great interest.

Our proposed trek gets under way about mid-March. Perhaps you would care to join us for at least part of the trip.

Yours faithfully,

To which Mrs. Gould replied:

February 9, 1954

My dear Mr. Justice Douglas:

You really can't know what a lift your cordial letter gives me, transporting me in fancy from a rather stormy and isolated winter to Spring along the old canal in such distinguished company! While I can join your trek only in fancy, I assure you I shall always cherish this small association in your most kind invitation to come along! Thank you.

Now I shall watch with added interest for any news of your pilgrimage I can find. May you save the sanctuary!

No wonder you find "friendly people" in "far off places" when you take such friendliness with you.

Sincerely yours,
Alice L. Gould

Another box held newspaper clippings spanning many years, but mostly chronicling the events of 1954 and the original Hike. They give you a lot of vicarious fun, but make you green with envy to have missed those nine days in company with such an accomplished group of outdoorsmen. What credentials they each had! Accompanying these clippings were a great number of snapshots.

Other boxes held the many articles Justice Douglas

wrote about the Canal, including his hand-written first drafts. He wrote simply, directly and eloquently. His words, in this collection alone, give you the true measure of the man.

Also included in the memorabilia were books and periodicals that had to do with the C&O Canal and, perhaps most interesting, the many articles written about Justice Douglas. They include biographical information and some beautifully written accounts of his lifelong accomplishments in the steady fight for individual freedom and against government interference. A 1978 editorial from The Philadelphia Enquirer quoted Eric Sevareid, who had been in the wilds with Douglas, as saying

“William Douglas believes in two things: human freedom and mountains. He believes, like the Greeks, that man is the measure of all things. He didn't climb the mountain because it was there. He climbed it because he was there. . . . Today the mountain is the better for his having been there. It is just as true of the figurative mountains which Justice Douglas ascended. The towering, perishable monuments on which all the basic decencies of American society are founded. At the heart of them all there is only one true, lasting source of strength and endurance: Character. With character, William O. Douglas was blessed. With it, he and his works go on blessing us all.”

Today, all of us who love the C&O Canal and its towpath are among those blessed by his works. A few hours spent going through the Justice Douglas C&O Canal Collection will be very rewarding to you. The Collection is in the Western Maryland Room of the Hagerstown (Washington County) Public Library. The room has limited hours at present: Monday-Thursday-Friday evenings from 4 to 9 and Tuesday morning from 9 to noon. Anyone interested in looking over the collection should call John Frye ahead of time to make an appointment. His number at the library is (301)739-3250; at home (301)432-8878.

--Report from Emmie Woodward

REMINISCENCES OF THE C&O CANAL

My first view of the C&O Canal was a great disappointment. In 1912, at age five, my family walked with me to Big Pool, five miles from where I was born along the Indian Springs-Blairs Valley Road, to buy my annual pair of shoes. There I saw my first steam locomotive and a long wooden boat being pulled by mules along a body of water about 200 yards wide beyond the railroad tracks. I was told the boat was a canal barge, so naturally thought the water was the canal. When I moved to Williamsport five years later, I walked down to see the canal again. Imagine my surprise when it turned out to be

a water-filled ditch about 60 feet wide!

I soon found out that the little canal was much used by the kids of Williamsport. We “skinny dipped” in it at a point about 100 yards upstream from the aqueduct. New kids, including me, were initiated to the canal by being picked up head and foot by two older boys and thrown out into the middle of the canal, to see if we could swim. I made it back to the bank and became fond of the canal.

There was no power dam in the river then. It was shallow and swift in spots. We could walk across at a ford where the dam now stands. Most evenings, four or more river skiffs were anchored at the junction of the Conococheague Creek and the river, dipping for suckers and carp with a baited dipnet suspended from a slanted pole in the bow of the skiff. Often we kids were taken for rides up the river to Duck Island in skiffs poled by an adult standing up with a long pole in the stern.

We soon came to recognize the canal boat captains who would allow us to step on their loaded barges at the aqueduct and ride down to the lock. Often we would swim back up the canal. Should we happen to get on the wrong barge, we were promptly driven off by the captain swinging his mule whip. We never rode the “Lightboats” back up, because they were too high to step down from to the aqueduct, and it was too dangerous to buck the wake of the boat by diving off into the canal.

In winter, all but about one foot of water was drained from the canal. If draining was delayed too long, the canal froze over, and when drained both sides and the bottom of the prism were lined with sheets of ice. We slid down the sides on skates and on sleds. Sometimes we skated up to Pinesburg and back after school, often “double-skating” with girls, covering the round trip in about one hour.

Sometimes we spotted little goggle eyes or sunfish frozen in the ice in the canal bed. We would cut out the block of ice they were in and take them home. When the ice melted in the bucket of water we placed them in, they amazed me by reviving and swimming naturally.

In those days there was a wide turning basin just downstream from the aqueduct, so barges could turn around after discharging their coal and return to Cumberland. I often watched the captains hustling the mules back aboard at the basin, sometimes to the tune of snapping whips and profane commands, when the mules objected to boarding.

About the last week in March each year, several of my classmates would drop out of school to drive the mules on the towpath. We seldom saw them again until late October. Of course, it became my ambition to become a mule driver also; but my family quickly vetoed the idea.

I remember when a lightboat heading for Cumberland knocked the upstream side out of the aqueduct and plunged down into the Conococheague Creek, about 1922. I had moved to Hagerstown by then. When I heard of the accident, I immediately hopped on the trolley to Williamsport and went down to watch the whole level drain down into Conococheague Creek, it looked like Niagara Falls in miniature. The barge was partially out of water, with one end near the bank, so it became

a favorite play and fishing spot for the kids. It was finally swept away during the next big flood.

That summer the canal was not operating, and the mules were put out on farms to be cared for. I was living on a large farm near Four Locks that summer, and the farmer took fifty mules to board. It was my task every Sunday to ride my horse a mile out to the fifty acre pasture and woodland where we kept the mules, to carry salt to them. They would cluster around the salt piles I dropped down for them, kicking and biting if they happened to get in each other's way. I learned a great deal about mules that summer.

So, after the initial disappointment I have mentioned, I came to love the old canal, and still do!

--Vic Conrad

Reviews:

Delaware and Lehigh Canals by Ann Bartholomew and Lance E. Metz, Center for Canal History and Technology, Easton, PA, 160 pp., \$28 Review by Dave Johnson

Chunkers, an electric mule on a monorail, section boats, gravity railroads and inclined planes are only a few of the interesting things found in this important addition to the literature on American canals. The history of water transportation in the Lehigh and Delaware Valleys had many parallels to the Potomac. When commercial traffic ended in 1931, the Lehigh-Delaware system had outlasted even the C&O Canal and was the last surviving towpath canal operation in the United States.*

This book contains concise, well-written histories of the Delaware Canal and the Lehigh Navigation, but its great value is in the 330 historic photographs from the collection of the Canal Museum at Easton. These carefully selected pictures, many published for the first time, are arranged geographically from Bristol to Coalport, and span the decades from the 1860's to the end of operations in the 1930's. The captions are detailed and informative, and together they capture the lifestyles of the boatmen and women; the changing geography from the tidewater near Philadelphia, up the pastoral Delaware, through the mills and factories of Easton, Allentown, and Bethlehem to the anthracite fields in the mountains of Carbon County; and the industrial growth of the Lehigh Valley.

The Delaware Canal has been a Pennsylvania state park since 1940, and segments of the Lehigh Navigation have been saved by communities along its route. Last year, Congress created the Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal National Heritage Corridor. This will allow the National Park Service to work with state, local and private agencies to preserve and interpret these canals.

*Sections of the Lehigh Canal continued to be used locally until 1942. If you ask Lance Metz, he will explain how the

towpath era in America ended, not with a whimper but . . . but that is another story.

Review of article in City Paper by Sandy Hemingway

An article in the May 4 edition of the Washington, D.C. City Paper investigated both the wear and tear on the C&O Canal and towpath and the debate within the Association on how much historical preservation efforts should impinge on the wild flowers and wildlife of the 184.5 mile park.

In an article entitled "Canal Retentiveness: The C&O Is Drowning in Its Own Muck, Angering Historic Preservationists and Conservationists Alike" reporter Charles Pekow reviewed the history of the Canal and efforts over the years to counter the damage done by time and floods.

According to the article, "Portions of the canal routinely cave in. Last fall, the towpath collapsed below Old Anglers Inn just south of Great Falls. Repairs took until March. While the maintenance crew refurbished that site, a stone wall in Georgetown caved in and the crew moved downstream to fix it. Before they could finish the job, another wall tumbled at Swains Lock north of Great Falls."

In addition, "dozens of the historic structures on park property lie abandoned, in various states of ruin," said the article.

Pekow outlined efforts by the National Park Service to restore the walls, including, in one case, importing stone masons from Italy. "Finding qualified masons is difficult, as few of today's masons are trained to work with early 19th century stone."

Much of the three-page article was devoted to the conflict that often occurs when National Park Service restoration efforts (such as mowing near the towpath or dredging to make way for the canal boats) destroy or damage some of the natural features of the canal park.

"The preservationists cross swords with the conservationists whenever NPS desilts the canal," wrote the author. On the one hand, park service officials are quoted as saying that alternatives to dumping silt next to the towpath are not feasible -- in one case hauling the load away by tanker would have cost "more than \$200,000" -- and on the other hand, conservationists are quoted who are not only disturbed by the loss of a prize wild flower bed but concerned that the silt could contain noxious chemicals.

The article delves into the shortage of federal funding for maintenance and repair of the canal, and the work of volunteers, including those with the Association, which "do[es] much to help preserve the canal, [by] pulling weeds out of stonework to prevent walls from collapsing, picking up trash, and cleaning the canal after storms," helping to paint and repair barges and giving historic and walking tours.

Association Board Meeting Held on April 1

An Association Board Meeting was held on April 1 at Glen Echo Town Hall. Several items of business were discussed and the following motions were passed:

1. That a letter be sent to Park Superintendent Tom Hobbs thanking him for the offer to the Association to use the Pennyfield House as a headquarters/office and perhaps as a museum, if private funds can be raised to restore the building.
2. That the Board continue its study of the various kinds of insurance that the Association should consider having to protect it from mismanagement, misuse of funds, libel, personal injury, property damage, among others.
3. That, with the concurrence of Cathleen Douglas Stone - the widow of Justice William O. Douglas - the President may sign the agreement turning the Douglas collection over to the Washington County Library and that the Association prepare a Justice Douglas Award for Emmie Woodward for her work in inventorying the collection. [See elsewhere in this issue for additional information on the award and on the collection itself, including an article by Emmie Woodward based on the Douglas collection.]

Executive Committee Meets April 25

The Executive Committee of the C&O Canal Association met on April 25 to discuss the proposed Adopt-a-Park agreement between the Conococheague Sportsman Club and the Park Service. Under this agreement, the Club would clear and maintain a 300 foot section of the canal prism on Level 37 between mile 71 and 72. After considerable discussion, the Committee approved a motion to recommend that the Park Service allow the Conococheague Sportsman Club clear and maintain the prism of the canal in front of their property except for specified trees to be designated by the Park Service and that the results of their efforts be reviewed after one year to determine what future position the Association should take on similar projects.

President's Report Presented at March 3, 1990 Meeting at Shepardstown

During the past year we have seen great progress in various areas. Of special note is the large increase in membership, thanks to the imagination and energy of Gil Hill's Permanent Membership Committee. The C&O Canal Association had a presence at various festivals along the Potomac during the summer and fall. We distributed brochures, and generated press coverage of Association activities. I think we established programs on a scale broad enough to keep our new members interested. This achievement has been accom-

plished through the teamwork of the various program managers: Gil Hill working together with Ken Rollins, who chairs the Programs Committee; Sandy Hemingway, the Information Officer; Ellen Holway, the Membership Coordinator; and Joan Paull, the Volunteer Coordinator. We're happy with the result. Gil plans to participate in upstream events again this year and will be looking for volunteers.

Ken Rollins' Permanent Programs Committee performed splendidly as an events organizer, laying on hiking, canoeing and biking excursions, barge trips for new members, and, most important, the two-week Justice Douglas Reunion Hike in April. The latter was a major logistical undertaking, which Ken personally managed. Others contributing to the hike's success were Midge Heimer, Beejay Myers, Edith Wilkerson, Donna Boies and Jim Bryant, and, certainly, our Park Service friends, especially Chris Jones, Linda Toms and Edie Roudebush, who hiked with us, and the many park rangers and maintenance people who helped along the way. Without the support of Dick Stanton and his troops, this hike would not have been a success. But it went off without a glitch, principally because Ken was in charge, showing us again how well he can orchestrate a complex operation.

In addition, we continued with the Volunteers in the Park program as well as other volunteer activities, all under Joan Paull's able management. We pulled weeds, we planted trees and hacked down trees, we camouflaged trails, we controlled crowds, we scrubbed picnic tables, and we assembled picnic tables. And I'm told, we dug foxholes and swung from trees, all part of Joan's combat preparedness program.

An important success during the year was Karen Gray's overhaul of the level-walker program. She provided full coverage for the levels, established a logical reporting mechanism to keep tabs on walkers and accomplishments, and organized outings to maintain interest in this activity in this activity. We are grateful to Karen for taking things in hand and building a very effective program.

We have been very fortunate in having John Chandler as chair of the Permanent Environmental Committee. During the year, the Association has weighed in on several matters relating to possible encroachment on the park, notably the Cumberland Canal Parkway and the Wiley Ford Bridge. Because he is an articulate voice for the Association, John has become a respected negotiator with government, legislative and Park Service officials in a variety of matters, from the western bypass plans to the proposed federal prison near Cumberland. This committee's work is the Association's most important substantive function, thanks to John Chandler.

Others have made substantial contributions: Emmie Woodward has collated the Douglas Archives and prepared them for permanent storage and availability to scholars, a difficult and exacting task. Dave Scally has taken over the Permanent Archives Committee and is now looking for ways to preserve and store other archival matters in our possession. Behind everything we do is our Treasurer, Dave Johnson, from whose long experience as a finance officer we now benefit. Thanks to his financial-management methods, we are operat-

ing within our means and are making decisions regarding future budgets.

Another important function is our newsletter, which thanks to Nancy Long ranks among the best. She has recently resigned from this assignment, and we are very sorry to lose her. Don Besom now sits in the editor's chair, full of energy and ideas. You will all want to meet him.

Many others contributed to the Associations's work, too many to mention here. Among them are those who operate behind the scenes and therefore get fewer strokes than those whose accomplishments are more obvious. Notably, Butch Henley deserves our gratitude for keeping the Association's personnel records in a computer base and supplying program managers with membership lists and address labels. The Association would be out perhaps \$1,000 to duplicate this work. You may not know how tremendously important her contribution is, so I want to take this occasion to say thanks to her.

Things are going very well in all our programs. Although we had problems getting new activities properly launched, now all is well, and I believe we can look ahead with confidence. We can expect to continue to expand membership, to extend our role in canal-related events, and to promote conservation and historic preservation as a common concern to all in the region. I congratulate everyone in the Association who contributed to 1989's remarkable progress.

Harold A. Larsen

--President



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING HELD IN SHEPARDSTOWN

On a beautiful sunlit afternoon in Shepardstown, West Virginia, March 3, members of the C&O Canal Association trooped inside the brand-new fire station and holed up for a half-dozen hours engaged in the serious business of conducting the Annual Membership Meeting.

After watching part of a movie on the 1954 Justice William O. Douglas hike, members streamed out -- armed with C&O Canal Association tote bags and T-shirts, stomachs filled with the plentiful home-cooked food of the fire station axillary -- having elected officers and discussed everything from membership surveys to new threats to our beleaguered canal.

Gill Hill, Chair of the Permanent Membership Committee, took time out from his brisk business selling Association totes, badges and T-shirts to tell how his committee

enticed 699 people to join or rejoin the Association as of March 1. He also discussed the new membership survey which showed that 42% of the respondents live within five miles of the Canal, 33% visit the Canal every week, and 44% learned of the Association from a friend.

Program Chair Ken Rollins, prior to tackling the evening's entertainment, held out hope for summer fun for anyone who signed up for the variety of canoe, biking and camping trips offered on the Association schedule. Canoeing trips last year were a hit; biking and camping trips were not. Later in the evening, Ken showed his true talent as he attempted to keep the film of the 1954 William O. Douglas hike rolling. Alas, the 20-year old splices didn't hold, and the audience missed some of the footage, mostly the grand barge ride into Georgetown, according to Ken. Ken promises that the movie and soundtrack will reappear someday.

Environmental Chair John Chandler presented a bonechilling account of problems facing the Canal, particularly in the Cumberland area, where proposals are circulating for a parkway, prison, the Wiley Ford bridge reconstruction that does not take into account towpath users, and the paper recycling plant. John will do his best to protect the Canal in Cumberland as a member of the technical committee of the Canal Parkway study.

Volunteer Chair Joan Paull credited 26 able-bodied members with contributing more than 200 hours to planting trees, managing summer concerts, raking leaves and resetting stepping stones. She invited the rest of us to join her volunteers in their efforts this summer and fall.

Helen Rosen, Chair of the Nominating Committee -- which included John Fondersmith, Arthur Koriff, Mary Miltenberger and Michael Werth -- fortified candidates and members with cookies and coffee during a meet-the-candidates session and then conducted a speedy and efficient election.

Election results and a brief statement from each candidate's written remarks follow:

Harold Larsen (McLean, VA), reelected President, wants "to the effort to increase the Association's membership and in particular to attract young people to the organization" and to further the Association's "advocacy role." William Davies (Falls Church, VA), reelected First Vice President, wants "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." Karen Gray (Washington, D.C.), reelected Second Vice President/Level Walker Chair, sees a major need of the Level Walker program to "achieve the goal of having each level walked and reported on regularly." She will also continue to plan Level Walker hikes at six to eight week intervals. Helen Shaw (Bethesda, MD), elected Secretary, is "strongly interested in protecting and preserving" the park. David Johnson (Bethesda, MD), reelected Treasurer, during his first year installed a new accounting system and revamped the budget process. Will continue to work to ensure the fiscal integrity of the Association. Sandra Hemingway (Alexandria, VA), reelected Infor-

mation Officer, hopes to "increase the Association's visibility in environmental issues and other aspects of the Association work, such as the Archives Committee." Association members elected to three-year terms on the Board of Directors were: Richard Stanton (Hagerstown, MD), retired Superintendent of the C&O Canal NHP; Nancy Long (Glen Echo, MD), former editor of *Along the Towpath*; Kenneth Rollins (Ruther Glen, VA), former President, Vice President, Treasurer and Board member of the Association; Thomas Conlon (Cumberland, MD), former member of the Maryland House of Delegates; Rita Bauman (Burke, VA), former Board member who is developing an exhibit on the Association and the Canal for the 1991 Appalachian Trail Conference.

Summer Wildflowers Along the Towpath

Some people associate wildflowers only with spring. While there are many delicate and beautiful spring wildflowers that are a welcome sight after the gray of winter, there is an even greater variety of wildflowers in late summer and early fall. If you just keep your eyes open, you will see a profusion of color and shape in the wildflowers that grow along the towpath, many of which may easily be overlooked.

For example, can you recognize cardinal flower, spotted jewelweed, early goldenrod, Queen Anne's lace, teasel, nodding thistle, swamp milkweed, woodland sunflower,

COMING EVENTS

<u>Month</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>
June	9	Sat	Level Walker Hike. Call Karen Gray (202)333-6947.
	10	Sun	Historic Bridgeport walk with NPS Ranger for a short walk from the Shepherdstown Lock 38 to Lock 39. Learn the history of the area and the Canal during this 2-mile round trip. Meet at Lock 38 at 2 pm beneath the Maryland Route 34 bridge. For more information, call (301)739-4204 or (301)7396179.
	16	Sat	Canoe in Canal from Violet's Lock to Great Falls. Call Carl Linden (301)229-2398 or Ken Rollins (804)448-2934.
	17	Sun	Williamsport bike ride with a Park Ranger, starting at 2 pm. Cycle from Lock #44 to Dam #5 and enjoy the history of the Canal and the Civil War action in the area during this 14 mile ride. For more information, call (301)739-4204 or (301)739-6179.
	20	Wed	Climb aboard the MARC "Blue Ridge" train at Brunswick Station and ride the historic B&O Railroad to Harpers Ferry. Then join a Park Ranger for a 6-mile walk along the towpath back to Brunswick. Trip begins at 5:45 pm. For more information call (301)739-4204 or (301)739-6179.
	24	Sun	12 mile walk with the Center Hiking Club from Lock #38 at Shepherdstown to Feeder Dam #4. For more information, call Marlow Madeoy 353-1835 or 227-3076.
	24	Sun	Join a Park Ranger at 2 pm for a 1-mile round trip walk along the towpath from the Aqueduct to Lock #27, learning along the way the history of the Canal. For more information, call (301)739-4204 or (301)739-6179.
	30	Sat	Brunswick River Festival (Association book volunteers needed). Call Gil Hill (301)983-9284 or (301)496-1877.
August	4	Sat	14 to 16 mile hike with the Center Hiking Club along the Canal starting at Little Orleans. For more information call Marlow Madeoy 353-1835 or 227-3076.
	11	Sat	Summer flowers along the towpath. Walk with biologist Marion Blois Lobstein on this level walk which starts at Seneca Aqueduct at 10 am. For more information see notes below or call Karen Gray at 333-6947.
September	11/12	Sat/Sun	Cumberland Canal Festival. Call Gil Hill (301)983-9284.
	25/26	Sat/Sun	Williamsport C&O Canal Days. Gil Hill (301)983-9284.
	1	Sat	VIP work trip. Call Joan Paull (301)384-8584.
	8/9	Sat/Sun	Hancock Apple Festival. Call Gil Hill (301)983-9284.
	15/16	Sat/Sun	Canoe the Paw-Paw Bends. Call Carl Linden (301)229-2398 or Ken Rollins (804)448-2934.
	22	Sat	Brunswick River Festival. Call City Hall (301)694-6144 or Gil Hill (301)983-9284.

the fruits of the Jack-in-the-pulpit? If you would like to see these wildflowers in the field, come out for the level walk (Level 1 - Seneca Aqueduct - Mile 22.8) at 10:00 am on Saturday, August 11, 1990 led by Marion Blois Lobstein, Associate Professor of Biology at NVCC-Manassas and Smithsonian RAP tour leader. For those of you who are interested, Marion has recently published a checklist of summer and fall wildflowers in the area that is available through the Audubon Naturalist Society bookshop at Woodend. For more information about the hike, contact Karen Gray at 333-6947.

January 13, 1990

Dear Editor:

Upon reading the National Park Service brochure about the Paw Paw Tunnel, I noticed the Purslane Run Cemetery indicated on the map. It stated that Canal laborers had been buried there after an outbreak of cholera in the work camps, in the 1840's or 50's.

Along with the Paw Paw Tunnel, I found this cemetery to be one of the more interesting features of the Canal. However, I had great difficulty in locating it.

I cycled through the area between Oldtown and the Tunnel last August and was unable to locate it after an afternoon-long search. I then wrote twice to the NPS and was sent a detailed map of the immediate area around the cemetery. On a return trip in late October, and with little foliage on the trees, I was able to locate the cemetery. Even though it is right off the tow-path, it is very hidden. The NPS prefers it this way and does not publicize its location for fear of vandalism.

The cemetery is a rectangular plot of land fenced in and surrounded by a horse pasture. As you can see, there are a number of headstones standing, but whether these are the originals or of others, I do not know. I have enclosed the map sent to me by the NPS as well as some photographs. I thought that perhaps fellow members might be interested or might know more about the history of the area, in which case I would be interested in hearing from them.

Yusef El-Amin
6074 Bellview Drive, Apt. 201
Falls Church, VA 22041



Headstone in Purslane Run Cemetary

Naturalist's Corner:

Is there a better way to cap off a summer weekend than along the canal? Huge sycamore and cottonwood trees host a jumble of vines with lipstick-red trumpet flowers and burgeoning clusters of little green grapes. The fruit of the paw paw bulges. Blue Lobelia, a startling clear blue flower, stands erect on the prism wall and a red-eyed vireo, way up in the shady part of a tree, prattles an endless monologue.

It's hot - a time to consider a phalanx of turtles in the canal or a nap down by the river. You hear a kingfisher rattle his way upstream, like a jet from Dulles or National. A wood-peewee calls from an overhanging branch. Shadows elongate. A crested flycatcher starts his loud whistle in a regular cadence and you can make out his rusty colored tail and yellow stomach. A mosquito hovers. Another moves right in on target. slap....slap! SLAP SLAP....Time to get moving. Monday's coming.

- - Ann Briggs

{Editor's Note: We welcome contributions to this new columns ,especially items on specific plants, animals, birds, etc. We also welcome accompanying photos. }



May Apples seen during Douglas Renuion Hike

CAPITAL CRESCENT TRAIL RALLY

Approximately 170 people (including about a dozen members of the C&O Association) turned out under alternating sunshine and showers on Saturday, May 5 to hike the portion of the Old B&O Georgetown Branch between Bethesda and Georgetown. The purpose of the event was to publicize the Capital Crescent Trail that is being developed along the abandoned right-of-way and to demonstrate public support for it to local officials.

A highlight of the hike was the formal opening of the new deck over the ties and rails on the bridge across the C&O Canal at Arizona Avenue. This project was recently completed with funding from the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy and labor contributed by the Montgomery County Conservation Corps.

Dignitaries addressing the crowd in Bethesda and/or joining the seven mile hike to Thompson's Boathouse in-

cluded Kingdon Gould, Jr., who has been instrumental in preserving the right-of-way adjacent to the towpath and canal pending appropriations to the National Park Service for its purchase; former Congressman Gilbert Gude; Assistant Secretary of Interior Constance Harriman; NCR Associate Director John Parsons; C&O Canal NHP Superintendent Tom Hobbs and several members of the Maryland Legislature and Montgomery County Council.

The Coalition for the Capital Crescent Trail which sponsored the event is made up of three dozen conservation, recreational and civic organizations, including the C&O Canal Association. The Coalition has come together to develop the abandoned railroad as a hiking and bicycling trail which will link the C&O Canal towpath with the Rock Creek Park trail in lower Montgomery County and extend the existing hiking/cycling trail to Silver Spring.

--Dave Johnson

AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

The American Hiking Society has invited members of the C&O Canal Association to become members. The Society is the only national organization to specifically represent hikers, backpackers and to work for the protection of foot trails, said Susan Henley, Executive Director.

"We are the eyes and ears for hiking organizations and the industry," said Henley in a letter to Along the Towpath. "We maintain a presence in the nation's capital looking out for issues and developments that affect hikers and the future of the nation's trails."

Membership categories range from "student" to "life," and information can be obtained from The American Hiking Society; 1015 31st Street, N.W.; Washington, D.C. 20007.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO WORK WITH NPS ARCHIVES

Lee Struble, NPS Staff Curator is looking for volunteers to work at the C&O Canal park archives located at Ferry Hill Headquarters, on any day except Sunday. There would be something for everyone who enjoys historical preservation. Lee's priorities include: working with the archive slide collection, cleaning documents, indexing Bud Morgan's collection of canal slides which was donated to the archives, cleaning and preserving a set of coal miners tools which will go on display in Cumberland. To sign up or for more information, you can contact Lee at (301)739-4200 or write him at Box 4, Sharpsburg, MD 21782. For those interested, this is a wonderful opportunity to participate in a hands-on way in the preservation in the history of the Canal.

NEWS FROM ALONG THE TOWPATH

Cumberland

Correspondent Mel Collins wrote that spring has "been a beautiful one along the C&O Canal in the Allegany County area. It was a season of color along the towpath" with the "green and white and pinks of the spring trees and the multi-colored wild flowers along the way." "Spring activities and festivals of the Cumberland and County area have drawn many people to visit the museum and the Canal site. The design and height of the Wiley Ford Bridge is still an unsettled item for the Canal in the Cumberland area. . . . The local supporters of an elevated bridge over the canal will have filed a suit, probably, by this issue. They are disappointed that the leadership of the C&O Canal Association has not established a legal fund for the Canal." [Editor's note: See elsewhere in this issue for news of the newly established Association legal fund and how all members can participate.]

"Many coming events for the next weeks and months will be utilizing the Canal area for their events. June will feature Heritage Days in Cumberland, and visits to the Canal and the museum will be featured."

LEGAL DEFENSE FUND ESTABLISHED

As real and potential threats to the C&O Canal increase, the need for additional resources to protect it from encroachments has grown. Because the federal government is precluded by law and policy from intervening in many cases, the burden of defending the park must often fall to citizens' organizations. As the principal non-governmental defender of the canal park, the C&O Association should be the leader in these efforts. At the annual membership meeting in March, Association President Hal Larsen announced that a fund to defend the canal from threats of undesirable development has been established by the Board of Directors.

The new fund, which was proposed by V.P. Bill Davies, will be used to cover costs of legal actions that may be taken to protect the park from internal and external threats to its environment, integrity and quality and from improper restoration and other changes and to defend the Association in legal actions. An initial goal of \$10,000 has been set for the fund. Of this, \$500 was allocated from the annual operating budget, with the remainder to be raised through voluntary contributions from the membership. All gifts will be reserved solely for legal defense purposes and not used for other Association operations.

Donations to the fund are now being accepted. Members who wish to contribute to the fund are invited to send a check, payable to "C&O Canal Association," Box 366, Glen Echo, MD 20812. Contributions in any amount are welcome. Please include the stub from the last page of this newsletter with your gift to ensure that it will be credited to the fund.

THE ASSOCIATION WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Becky Burdick, Pittsburgh, PA
Bea Robinson, Arlington, VA
Sarah M. Cogen, Washington, D.C.
Dr. Bernice Sandler, Chevy Chase, MD
Jill Craig, Keedysville, MD
David R. Savage, Bethesda, MD
Eduardo Cunningham, Hyattsville, MD
Betty Schopmeyer, Kensington, MD
Donald P. Easter, Arlington, VA
Carol L. Smith, Bethesda, MD
Pamela & Stuart Flatow, Gaithersburg, MD
Greg Snyder, Rockville, MD
Mrs. D. L. Fleischmann, The Plains, VA
Edward Taylor, Jr., LaVale, MD
Joan Foster, Glen Echo, MD
Mary C. Twigg, Cumberland, MD
Dr. Christine Y. Henny, Brookmont, MD
Jim Walker, Gaithersburg, MD
Roslyn Kaiser, Washington, DC
Sherry L. Williams, Arlington, VA
Myra Karstadt, Bethesda, MD
Mr./Mrs. Charles Whelan, Potomac, MD
Ray C. Kinsey, Ligonier, PA
Scott Melton, DVM, Arlington, VA
Jean & Phil Miller & family, Columbia, MD
Rand T. Morris, Charles Town, WV
Joseph Passonneau, Washington, DC
Marion Phillips, McLean, VA
Drs. Sandra Read & Hugh Hill & family, Bethesda, MD

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

Membership renewals for 1990 have been received at a very good rate, and we thank all of you who have sent in your dues for the current year. Early renewal ensures that we can balance our operating budget for the year and support our programs. It also ensures that your subscription to the newsletter will not be interrupted and that you will be able to participate in future Association activities. Most importantly, it means that you will be supporting and sharing the Association's efforts to preserve and protect the C&O Canal.

Therefore, if you have not yet paid your dues for 1990, why not fill out the form below and send it back today? We want to keep all of our members on the active rolls and hope that you will participate in our programs.

If you are not sure whether your dues are paid up, check your latest membership card. If it expired in December, 1989, your 1990 dues are now due. If it shows "December, 1990" or beyond, you are in good standing.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL CALENDAR YEAR 1990

I am enclosing dues to renew my membership in the C&O Canal Association for 1990 in the category indicated at the right:

Name: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Individual: \$10 _____

Family: \$15 _____

Patron: \$20 _____

Check here if you do not want your name included in any list that may be exchanged with another organization. _____

Please return this form with your payment to expedite your renewal and issuance of your new membership card. Please make your check payable to "C&O Canal Association" and mail it to P.O. Box 366; Glen Echo, MD 20812-0366.

LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of \$_____ for the Legal Defense Fund of the C&O Canal Association.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please make your check payable to "C&O Canal Association" and mail it to P.O. Box 366; Glen Echo, MD 20812-0366.



Hiker's on annual Douglas Renuion Hike (all renuion hike photos courtesy of Betsy Little)

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

by Karen Gray, Level Walker Chair

825 New Hampshire Ave. NW #304, Washington, DC 20036

202/333-6947

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

Bring your lunch. Each walk will go upstream about 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 miles and return. Call me if you need driving instructions (202/333-6947).

Saturday, June 23 at 11:00 a.m.

Part of Level #53, Little Orleans

Meet at the Store in Little Orleans. We'll walk half of this long level.

Saturday, August 11 at 10:00 a.m.

Level #10, Seneca Aqueduct

Meet at Seneca. We'll be accompanied by wildflower and native plant expert, Marion Lobstein who will help identify some of the plants.

Saturday, September 22 at 10:30 a.m.

Levels #41/42, Dam Five

Meet at Dam 5. We'll walk to McCoy's Ferry and back.

SUPERINTENDENT HOBBS' RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER THROUGH JANUARY LEVEL WALKER

REPORTS: The superintendent responded in a letter to several specific concerns expressed by Level Walkers in their reports: 1) There are plans to move a park gate at Weverton near lock 31. The new location will prevent unauthorized public access to an area where dumping has occurred in the past. 2) At Sandy Hook Park Service staff have enlisted the help of local residents in clean-up work. 3) Our concerns about litter from and near the Sea Catch restaurant on the canal in Georgetown would be discussed with the restaurant as their permit is renegotiated.

EXCERPTS FROM REPORTS ON FEBRUARY THROUGH APRIL WALKS:

Many reports during this period convey the beauty and pleasure of spring along the canal which makes them a joy to read. My thanks to all below.

NOTE: NEXT DEADLINE IS AUGUST 5 for reports on May through July walks.

#1 Mile 0-2.3

TIDAL LOCK TO OLD BOAT INCLINE

Leslie Sobin (2/17, 3/10 & 4/22): Ducks and dogs as usual. 4/22: 85 cyclists and 71 walkers/joggers and 8 "vagabonds".

Margot Foster (2/19): 55 cyclers, 72 walkers/joggers. She also encountered homeless people camped under Key bridge.

#3 Mile 5.0-7.5

LOCK 5 TO CABIN JOHN CREEK CULVERT

James & Joan Wilson (2/11, 3/1-3, 4/12-14): Workmen repairing canal sides at lock 5 intake. On 4/14: A lot of litter (plastic cups, wrappers, etc.) from "Canal Trek" walkers and their lemonade stand at lock 6.

Howard Rosen (3/21): The water level in the canal very variable.

#4 Mile 7.5-9.4

CABIN JOHN CREEK CULVERT TO SEVEN LOCKS/LOCK 14

Howard Rosen (3/21): Repair work being done at the beltway bridge.

#5 Miles 9.4-12.3

SEVEN LOCKS/LOCK 14 TO CROPLEY (CANAL BRIDGE)

Robert Greenberg (2/14) included with his report articles from the Bethesda Gazette and Washington Post on the more than 500 fish killed in the canal due to low water levels necessitated for repair work to a break in the canal near the Brickyard Road and MacArthur Boulevard intersection.

#6 Miles 12.3-14.3

CROPLEY (CANAL BRIDGE) TO GREAT FALLS/LOCK 20

Helen Johnston (Feb.) reported on the "Sights and Sounds" nature walks

LEVEL WALKER REPORTS CONTINUED.... (Cropley to Great Falls)
along this level that she, Betty Henson and Betty Bushell lead 4 times a month as Park volunteers. She included a long report on the flora. Helen tells us students from Montgomery County schools pick up trash here as part of the week they spend at the outdoor education center at Rockwood so that, along with their efforts, this level is very clean.

#9 Miles 19.6-22.8 PENNYFIELD/LOCK 22 TO SENECA AQUEDUCT

Jeff Brown (3/23): Major large debris in the water at lock 23 including tires and oil containers. There is a frequently-muddy area about mile 20.

William Clague (4/16): reported a large, very noisy power boat on the river and bags of trash piled at a trash can.

#10 Miles 22.8-25.0 SENECA AQUEDUCT TO MILEPOST 25/TENFOOT ISLAND

Les Meil (2/14 & 2/26): Milepost 24 leaning almost all the way over and needs to be reset; culvert #35 needs repairs (river side) as does the berm wall along the quarry. A large tree was down in the aqueduct picnic area.

Michael Werth (3/10): 1 diplomatic vehicle among the 35 at Seneca. Reported excessively noisy power boats on the river.

#11 Miles 25.0-27.2 MP 25/TENFOOT ISLAND TO SYCAMORE LANDING FOOTBRIDGE

Harold Learned (2/5 & 4/9): Towpath condition improved between 26.2 and 27.7, with less ruts. This section was almost impassible last Fall.

#12 Mile 27.2-30.8 SYCAMORE LANDING TO EDWARDS FERRY

Charles Otstot (4/24): Small drain pipes in the causeway at Sycamore Landing were clogged, prohibiting free flow of water. Trillium and blue bells seen as well as a great blue heron.

#13 Mile 30.8-33.2 EDWARDS FERRY/LOCK 25 TO HARRISON ISLAND

Bert Grose (4/21) Path muddy but many spring flowers in bloom.

D. H. Groelsema (4/27) found the level very clean. Saw two rabbits as well as goldfinches, thrush, chickadees and other birds.

#14 Mile 33.2-35.5 HARRISON ISLAND TO WHITES FERRY

Betty Henson, Betty Bushell, Pat Schindler and Herb Madison (3/21) saw wood ducks, red headed woodpecker, barred owl, bluebells, dutchman's britches and sessile trillium. Culvert #48 has sink holes.

#15 Mile 35.5-39.4 WHITES FERRY TO LOCK 26 (WOODS LOCK)

Herbert Madison (4/15) encountered a bicycle built for 2. After much work on litter by the walkers on this level, they can now see the improvement. What appears to be park efforts to clear woody growth along the canal bank had left ruts from the equipment, jagged tree cuts, and large areas of wood chips. A brush fire area noted last winter is green.

#18 Mile 44.6-48.2 NOLAND FERRY TO POINT-OF-ROCKS

Marlow Madeoy, Norma Hendrickson (3/10, 3/25) Intensive cleaning done by Marlow and Norma to prepare their level for the April Douglas Hike. During several walks they picked up 28 large litter bags and a number of large objects. On 3/10 large frogs in abundance were being noisy and active in the canal pools. Expect even more frogs there in the future.

#24 Mile 62.2-64.9 DAM #3 TO CULVERT #97

Cliff Murdock (4/25) Towpath recently mowed and in good condition. Saw Canada geese and box turtles. Many tires in water in canal miles 64-65.

LEVEL WALKER REPORTS CONTINUED....

#28 Mile 72.8-74.0

SHEPHERDSTOWN/LOCK 38 TO LOCK 39

John Frye (4/2) Towpath in good condition and many spring flowers.

George Camplair (4/7 & 13) Girl Scouts working on Park buildings and grounds. Saw a Pileated woodpecker. Collected two bags of trash from under the bridge, and took pictures of gully washed out in parking lot.

#29 Mile 74.0-76.7

LOCK 39 TO SNYDERS LANDING

Marshall Grotenhuis (3/3) More garbage than usual but relatively clean.

#31 Mile 79.4-81.6

LOCK 40 TO MARSH RUN CULVERT

Jim Murray (3/14) Vandals had pulled over 2 garbage cans at Taylors Landing and trash was being cleaned up by NPS personnel.

#32 Mile 81.6-84.4

MARSH RUN CULVERT TO DAM 4

Bejay Myers and Edith Wilkerson (4/26). Identified about 15 different wildflowers. Found towpath in good condition but got 2 bags of garbage.

#34 Mile 88.1-91

MCCMAHON'S MILL TO FOREMANS FERRY

Thomas Perry (3/23) Collected 2 bags of garbage--more than usual. Reported a large broken limb hanging over the towpath near lock 41 and also noted a dead mouse and a dead beaver on the towpath. Reports a very large house being constructed near 90.9 on the West Virginia shore.

#35 Mile 91-93

FOREMANS FERRY TO LOCK 43

Tack and Ruth Swan (3/11) found the towpath in good condition with new gravel in low spots. Someone was water skiing on the river.

#38 Mile 99.3-102.3

WILLIAMSPORT/LOCK 44 TO HIGH ROCK QUARRY

Mel Kaplan (2/5) found the towpath and canal about as clean as he has ever seen them. He led 25 students and a teacher on a history hike. Expressed wish for a permanent marker on an Indian burial site.

Dan and Alma Kershner (2/11 & 4/27) saw 2 wild turkeys and reported a Rhode Island and a Missouri vehicle in the parking lot.

#39 Mile 102.3-105

HIGH ROCK QUARRY TO OLD NESSLE BRIDGE PIERS

Dolly Dieter (4/29) Large amounts of debris in low flood-prone areas. Saw grouse, wild canary, deer.

#42 Mile 108.6-110.4

FOUR LOCKS/LOCK 47 TO McCOYS FERRY

John Ziegler (3/31) met a man with 7 sons out walking. His level has deep mudholes and badly needs resurfacing.

Tim Kernan and his family (4/15) found tiny 2" turtle. Reported a number of large trees between towpath and canal cut and left in the canal.

#43 Mile 110.4-112.4

MCCOYS FERRY TO FORT FREDERICK

Karen Gray (3/4 & 4/22) Collected more litter than usual on the March walk. Found a large hole in the back of an outhouse at the McCoy's Ferry picnic ground. Saw deer, turtles, mallards and a lone Canada Goose.

#45 Mile 114.5-116

ERNESTVILLE TO LICKING CREEK AQUEDUCT

James Doherty (3/19 & 4/29) reports recent beaver cutting in the area. Removed more than 3 bags of litter. Noted broken chain on trash can lid on 3/19 was repaired by time of 4/29 walk.

#48 Mile 124.1-127.4

HANCOCK TO ROUND TOP CEMENT MILL

Continued....

LEVEL WALKER REPORTS CONTINUED.... (Hancock to Round Top Cement Mill)

Dick Will (3/4) picked up over 50 lbs. of litter from prism and river-bank. Reports new surfacing from mile 126-127. Culvert at mile 126 1/2 has two holes in it. Reports American elm trees on this level.

#49 Mile 127.3-130

ROUND TOP CEMENT MILL TO LOCK 53

Ralph Donnelly (3/18) Towpath clean and beaver working at 129.

#56 Mile 151.2-153.1

CULVERT 208 TO LOCK 61

Pat White (2/11) Found a bottle in flood debris with a note in it from 9 year old Joe Sweeney indicating that it was put in the river in Paw Paw, April 23, 1985. Beaver cuttings and lodge, mile 151. Culvert at 151.2 sagging, missing bricks.

#59 Mile 156.2-159.7

PAW PAW TO CULVERT OPPOSITE LITTLE CACAPON

John Chandler (2/10) Trees down over canal at 157. Notes canal workers cemetery needs work on barbed wire fence, tilting stones. Came across a lethargic 8" salamander.

#63 Mile 167-170.8

OLDTOWN/LOCK 71 TO KELLYS ROAD CULVERT

Dave and Martha Foley (2/19) report a large beaver lodge at 168.

#66 Mile 175.5-177.7

NORTH BRANCH/LOCK 74 TO MEXICO FARMS/CULVERT 235

Jim Sartwell (3/3) was helped in picking up litter by a cub scout leader who volunteered his troop in future. Saw a rabbit and beaver.

#68-#69 Mile 180.7-184.5

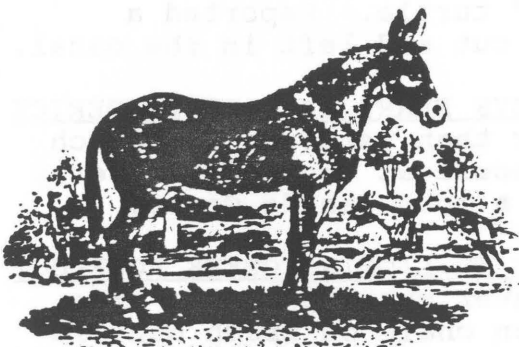
EVITTS CREEK AQUEDUCT TO CUMBERLAND

Dr. F. W. Miltenberger (2/12, 2/18 & 3/4) reports mostly railroad litter. Saw an albino muskrat. On 3/4 he encountered 6 joggers, 12 walkers, and 8 hikers on the last level in Cumberland.

C & O Canal Association
P. O. Box 366
Glen Echo, Maryland 20812-0366

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DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE EXPEDITE



1 The Mule

JOHN C FRYE
3122 KAETZEL ROAD
GAFLAND, MD 21736