



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 XXVI

MARCH 1994

NUMBER 1

PRESERVING THE SPIRIT OF THE C&O CANAL ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Association, Incorporated was held on March 5, 1994, at the Williamsport, Maryland Volunteer Fire Hall. (Story and annual reports appear on subsequent pages of this issue.) In accordance with the Association By-Laws, Dave Johnson, following nine years of dedicated service on the Board of Directors of the Association and having also served in the offices of President and Treasurer, passed the gavel to Carl Linden. Carl's President's Message follows....

It is a refuge, a place of retreat, a long stretch of quiet and peace at the Capitol's back door—a wilderness area where man can be alone with his thoughts, a sanctuary where he can, commune with God and with nature, a place not yet marred by the roar of wheels and the sound of horns.

Here William O. Douglas said it all about the Potomac River and the C & O Canal. In these few words are expressed our Association's reason for being and our common bond as members. Here is what we together enjoy and love, what we each have learned, what we gladly communicate and share with others, and what we are all prepared to support and defend.

As your new President I, like the rest of us, am looking forward with anticipation to our big and defining event of the year. Our Association's 40th Anniversary Canal Hike from Cumberland to Washington from Sunday, April 17th to April 30th celebrates Justice Douglas's original walk for the canal park in 1954.

As though following Moses to the promised land our members walked a stretch of the canal with the Justice every year for seventeen successive years until we had walked a National Park into existence. No one had ever done this before. Indeed, the whole affair was something rather spontaneous and marvelous. The 1954 hike began as a dare - Douglas's bidding the Post editors to walk with him and see the folly of their advocacy of a project for paving over

the canal with a highway. High spirits, a sense of adventure, comradeship, good humor, and even a sort of poetry animated the hikers. Banter among them eased the prospect of aching muscles and sore feet. Merlo Pusey, one of the Post editors, took issue with Aubrey Graves's characterization of the upcoming hike as a "bunion ballet." He offered what, he deemed, were better alternative descriptions. Any one of the following, in his view, were more apt and sonorous:

a callous caracole
a blister bolero
a plodder's promenade
a straggler's strut
a Rambler's rigadoon
or, even ...
a drag-foot fandango

Now I have thought of one. How about a pedestrian polka? (Better stop before this gets out of hand!)

On this 40th year reunion, we the inheritors, of course, eschew any hubristic rivalling of the "immortal nine's" nine-day trek. We will decorously undertake a more deferential, perhaps more prudential perambulation. (Stop! I say!) Not that a 21-mile-a-day pace is beyond us, (heaven forbid!), but we will not even contemplate the inadvertent violation of the park's NO SMOKING regulation in the event our feet were to start smoking!

Foolery aside, we have also walked every year since the founding of the canal park to celebrate the original feat (Oops!) that brought the park into being and in walking the

Carl Linden - President's Message, continued

towpath from end to end every fifth year. We, thus, have rededicated and do now rededicate ourselves to the canal park's prosperous continuance.

I was most honored to be elected as your new President at the Annual Meeting on March 5th. I will be glad if I can come anywhere close to the record of devoted and able service to the Association that our outgoing President, Dave Johnson, accomplished over the past several years. The plaque with the bronzed "Golden Muleshoe" mounted upon it (Helen Shaw's inspiration) which we presented to Dave at the meeting expresses our gratitude to him for a job well done. There was a touch of turnabout in the award. Dave is the one who first introduced the muleshoe (though, just plain, everyday, iron ones) as an award for members' service to the Association and the canal. We would have given Dave one of pure gold but Bill Evans, our vigilant treasurer, warns against falling into bankruptcy. Also, honored with the presentation of a Justice William O. Douglas Certificate of Appreciation was Hal Larsen for many years of service and for establishing the archives.

At all events the tasks facing the Association are perennial, I will not go through all the issues we face here and the long laundry list of things that need doing. From 1954 to 1971 the Association's focus was on promoting the idea of a canal park and lobbying for the legislation that brought it into being in 1971. Since then we have combined the business of protecting and enhancing the park with our true pleasure of using it. In the meantime, the Association has grown strong with an increasing and talented body of members. We now have a fine cadre of very active members, but any one who wants to lend a hand in our committees, Level Walkers, volunteer work, or in the many-sided activities of the Association is welcome with open arms. By the way, interested members are welcome to attend our regular Board meetings. In sum, there is more than enough to do for all. I look forward to working with the Board, the Officers, the Committees and our members at large in advancing our common purpose.

I am excited at the thought of joining our hikers on the big hike next month. Arrangements for the hike are in very good shape thanks to the hard work of William Bauman, Bill Evans, Dave Johnson, Hal Larsen, Ken Rollins, Helen Shaw, and many others. We do hope all who are unable to join the full hike will join us for day hikes and come to the concluding banquet. I also issue a special invitation in advance to all through-hike participants, both past and present, for a cookout on the deck at my place in Brookmont above Locks 5 and 6 on Friday, the 29th of April from 5:00 P.M. on. Hikers will have arrived at Great Falls that day for the final leg of the hike on the next day. **Bon Voyage!**

- - Carl Linden

.....

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Dave Johnson's Farewell Report,

ANNUAL MEETING, 5 MARCH 1994

It is the custom for the president to open the annual general membership meeting with a report of the events of the preceding year. Since this will be my last opportunity to do this, I will also try to look ahead a little, and see what is in store for the coming year.

As I reported to you last year, 1992 was exceptional for the Park and for the Association. We co-sponsored a major international conference, hosted visitors from Britain, and experienced unprecedented membership growth. Nineteen ninety three, in contrast, could not match those events, but nevertheless, we carried on our traditional activities and made progress in several areas. Our officers and committee chairs will report on these in detail.

Nineteen ninety four is a major milestone in the history of the Association, because it marks the fortieth anniversary of the event that led to the founding of our society, the original Justice Douglas-Washington Post hike down the C & O Canal. On the final night on the trail, camping at the Izaak Walton League property near Poolesville, Douglas and the others organized a committee to summarize their conclusions and recommendations. The following month, Justice Douglas wrote to Interior Secretary McKay, outlining the ideas that the committee proposed for the preservation of the canal as a recreational and historical entity within the national park system. The following spring, they held a reunion, which was to become an annual event, and the next year, they formally organized as the C & O Canal Association.

This April, the Association will commemorate the 1954 hike, when approximately fifty of you will walk down the towpath from Cumberland to Georgetown. This will be the fifth time we have held the full-canal hike to re-enact the historic Douglas trek.

All participants in the hike were asked to help in the planning process, and fifteen subcommittees were appointed to work on the details. A steering committee was set up to manage the overall planning, with Hal Larsen in charge of administration, Donna Boies overseeing the meals group, and Ken Rollins heading the logistics functions. Carl Linden will assume overall chairmanship following today's meeting.

The annual International Conferences on Historic Canals, which began in 1988, have become one of my favorite canal events. We co-hosted the 1992 conference at Harpers Ferry, and I was delighted that so many of our members attended the 1993 conference last fall in Nova Scotia. I believe that more than a dozen C & O Canal Association members were present. We are now looking forward to the 1994 conference, which will be held September 20 - 23 at Peterborough,

Dave Johnson - President's Farewell Report, continued

Ontario, sponsored by Parks Canada and the Trent-Severn Waterway. I encourage you to go. Watch for details in the newsletter.

Our membership achieved a significant increase in 1992 because of favorable publicity about the Association in *The Washington Post*. We could not match that growth rate in 1993, and our membership leveled off at approximately the same year-end total of something over nine hundred (equal to about 1,250 people when adjusted for families). In other words, new memberships in 1993 merely offset attrition. Many of those new members from 1992 are now due for renewal for the first time. This is where we are most vulnerable to attrition - non-renewal by one- and two-year members. If we don't retain a significant percentage of them and make up the losses, our membership will slip. The resulting loss in dues income, in turn, will strain our financial position.

Our current strong financial position is due to two factors. First, membership growth has increased our income each year. Secondly, all of our program leaders have managed their budgets and controlled their expenses with admirable frugality. Our Treasurer, Bill Evans, has kept the Board of Directors informed of our status throughout the year, and allowed the board to make responsible and meaningful budget and spending decisions, based on sound fiscal information. Credit also goes to the members who served on the Budget Committee: Sharon Freedman and Lou Odom, and our Internal Audit Committee: John Chandler and Ken Rollins.

As Bill will shortly report to you, however, our income did not cover our expenses in 1993, and we ended with a net loss of \$773, a variance of about 4.25%. The budget for 1994 also projects a shortfall. The Treasurer's report will provide you with the details, but the main points I want to stress are these:

a) The Association is NOT insolvent, and this is not a crisis. We have a substantial net worth, accumulated over many years, and one or two deficit years does not put our balance sheet in the red. However, we must not continue to draw down on this reserve indefinitely. Our goal should be a balanced budget each year.

b) The Association has not increased its dues rates since 1986. During this time, our annual general and administrative budget has grown significantly, from less than \$5K to over \$13K. Until now, our revenue has kept pace, due to our membership growth. If membership has reached a plateau, however, or begins to decline, we will have to consider revising the dues structure to maintain a balanced budget.

c) Some of our expense categories stay relatively level,

regardless of the number of members. Other functions, such as the newsletter, where the cost is driven by the number of copies printed and mailed, increase or decrease in direct proportion to membership.

d) In 1993, our expenses increased significantly in several specific areas, and these higher costs are expected to continue for several more years. We have acquired ADP equipment for the Membership, Newsletter, and Archives functions, and this investment must be expensed. The Archives Committee, now settling into its quarters at Ferry Hill, will shortly begin the tasks of sorting, cataloging, and preserving our collections of canal memorabilia and Association records, and this requires increased expenditure for supplies, furniture, and materials.

e) Postage is a major element of cost, and the Postal Service is proposing another 10% increase in 1995. We save a great deal of money by mailing our newsletters and bulletins at bulk rates, but the quality of service for that class of mail has caused us much trouble. Switching the newsletter to first class mail, to improve delivery time, would cost an additional \$2,500 per year. First class postage for the bulletin could add another \$700.

f) Therefore, I have recommended that the new officers and board undertake an early review of anticipated expenses for future years and propose a dues structure, based on projected membership levels, that will support the long range budget. An ad hoc committee last year did some preliminary studies on this, and it should now be undertaken by an expanded budget committee.

I am very pleased that our Davies Legal Fund has continued to grow. For the benefit of new members, let me explain that several years ago, the Association was a party to litigation with the State of Maryland concerning the Wiley Ford Bridge in South Cumberland. We were constrained from fully pursuing the matter because we lacked the resources to carry on an extended legal battle. At that time, Bill Davies proposed that we build a reserve fund of \$10K, to be available to support future legal fights to defend the canal against potential encroachments. The fund is being raised mainly through contributions from members. We have been fortunate, since the original litigation was settled, that there have been no additional occasions for which we have had to draw on the fund, and it has continued to grow. In 1993, 140 members contributed a total of \$2,091 to the fund, bringing the balance to over 65% of the goal set in Bill Davies' original resolution. Since the beginning of 1994, nearly seventy additional donations, totalling over \$900, have been received from members. Your generous support to build this fund for the future protection of the canal is greatly appreciated.

Our most important asset is our membership, and we owe Rita and William Bauman a lot of credit for maintaining our records and working to attract new people to the Association.

Dave Johnson - President's Farewell Report, continued

Rita chairs the Membership Committee, which staffs our booth at the local fairs and festivals in the Potomac Valley and organizes special events designed particularly to interest new members in the canal, the park, and the Association's activities. William is our membership coordinator, and runs our new ADP system for keeping track of names, addresses, renewals, etc., and for producing the mailing labels for the newsletter and bulletin. In addition, he prepares all of your membership cards, and sends name badges and other material to new members.

Our Programs Committee, chaired by Ken Rollins, plans our major events, and coordinates the activities organized by other committees. The major events in 1993 included the Douglas Hike and dinner at Cumberland in April, the Heritage Hike and dinner at Downsview in October, and overnight canoe and bicycle trips during the summer and fall. Much of the work in planning and organizing these events was done by Ken, Charlie Ayres, Sonny DeForge, Carl Linden, and others who served on their committees, without whose help these events would not have taken place.

Our Level Walker program had another successful year under the leadership of our new chairman, Keith Kridenoff. The Level Walker program is open to all members, and is one of the best ways to have an active role. If you are not a level walker, and would like a level, see Keith and ask for an assignment. If you are currently assigned to a level, be sure to walk it regularly and submit your reports. The monthly level walker hikes that Keith organizes are another informal activity that more members should take part in.

John Lindt is the new chairman for our monthly Volunteers-in-the-Park projects in the Palisades District. Our other regular volunteer program is assisting with crowd control for the Sunday canal concerts in Georgetown in the summer. Jane Larsen is our coordinator for these events. We need more volunteers for these programs. If you live in the metropolitan area, come out for our monthly Saturday morning work projects. If you live along another section of the park, volunteer there. I would like to see us develop V-I-P groups in the upstream areas as well as Palisades.

This year our Archives Committee, headed by Hal Larsen, finally moved into its new permanent home at park headquarters at Ferry Hill. We have begun furnishing the space and installing equipment, and look forward to beginning to assemble the scattered collections and records and putting them into workable shape. We are very grateful to Superintendent Hobbs and the Park Service for making the space at Ferry Hill available to us.

Bob Perry is completing his second year as editor of our quarterly newsletter, *Along the Towpath*. He has done a fine job of making it an attractive and readable publication, and has produced a mixture of material on the canal of interest to

a broad audience. I have noted many compliments about his work from people in other canal societies as well as our own, and it is very gratifying to know that it is so recognized by the wider canal community. My wish is that more members of the Association would contribute material for publication. Original research on canal history or an article about an unusual experience along the canal would always be welcome to broaden the base of our newsletter.

The Publications Committee, chaired by Information Officer Helen Shaw, recently completed publication of our Food and Lodging Guide. Karen Gray served as editor, and many other members contributed to the final result. The original idea and draft came from Louise Taylor, before she moved to Colorado several years ago. Many of you have already received your copy, and all whose dues are paid by mid-April will get one. However, a guide of this type quickly becomes outdated, and it will have to be revised periodically if it is to be successful. This is another area where all members can be helpful, by suggesting additional entries and corrections to current listings, to be included in subsequent editions.

Orrin Long has given faithful and honorable service to the Association for many years, in many capacities, most recently as a board member and chairman of the Environmental Committee. Because of health problems, he has submitted his resignation from these positions, effective with this meeting. He will be missed from these jobs, and we look forward to his return to more active participation in the near future.

I also want to acknowledge the hard work put in by our outgoing Secretary, Norma Hendrickson, who kept and distributed the minutes of the board meetings. My thanks go to all of the members of your Board of Directors. In most organizations like ours, the directors meet once or twice a year. Our board meets six times a year (and most members have a surprisingly good attendance record) to discuss and plan the Association's business. Board members serve on committees and undertake special assignments which often go unreported to you, but which are essential to making the Association operate. I particularly want to thank Linda Perry, who is retiring from the board, for her active participation, and for her hospitality when the board met in Williamsport each fall. I want to congratulate in advance the incoming officers and new board members. It is their willingness to serve that allows the Association to continue to function.

Finally, I want to thank my good friend Hal Larsen. Hal and I joined the board together nine years ago, and we have reached the limitation on terms prescribed in the by-laws. Hal served as president of the Association for five years and has been your first vice-president since then. Many of the things that I have tried to do as president are merely continuations of programs and policies initiated during his

Dave Johnson - President's Farewell Report, continued

time in office. Because the by-laws do not assign any specific duties to the first vice-president, I asked Hal to undertake chairmanship of the Archives Committee, which, as noted above, has been a difficult job in getting to where we are now. I trust that he will continue in this position as its real work begins. Hal also shared, with John Frye, Gordon Gay and me, in the planning and organization of the 1992 International Conference on Historic Canals, and he currently chairs the administrative committee for the 1994 full- canal hike, in which he oversees the work of the budget, publicity, guests, registration, and activities subcommittees. He accepted all of these assignments willingly and eagerly, and has been a strong leader and conscientious guide.

Our Association has endured for four decades with one basic objective: to preserve the C & O Canal as a place for quiet enjoyment, whether your primary interest is in cultural history, nature, or outdoor recreation. During the first half of its life, the Association led the effort to achieve that goal and to create a national park. As we approach the fortieth anniversary of Justice Douglas's historic hike, our park is faced with many new challenges. Just a year ago, we had great hopes that the new administration in Washington was going to pour additional resources into the National Park Service. Today, NPS, like all other agencies, is faced with additional massive budget and personnel cuts. Superintendent Hobbs has assembled an outstanding staff to manage the park, but he lacks the rangers and maintenance personnel, and the funds, to do all of the things that should be accomplished to preserve the historic canal and enhance the park's programs and facilities. In looking to the future, therefore, the Association and its members must be prepared to expand their role, and to assist the Service in every way that is appropriate.

- - Dave Johnson

.....

ANNUAL MEETING NOTES.....

The 1994 Annual Meeting was held on March 5, at the Williamsport Volunteer Fire Company Hall, with over 100 members and guests in attendance. Around fifty early arrivals accompanied NPS Ranger and Association Board Member John Frye on an interpretive hike around the Cushwa Basin and later to Lock 44.

An informal coffee hour to meet the candidates occurred at 1:00 p.m. President Dave Johnson then called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m., noting that he would be president for the next 90 minutes. Following reports from officers, committee chairs, program coordinators, Superintendent Hobbs, the 1994 Full-Canal Hike Report, the Association elected by acclamation, President Carl A. Linden, First Vice President Thomas L. Perry, Second Vice President Keith D.

Kridenoff, Secretary Jane T. Larsen, Treasurer William J. Evans, and Information Officer Helen L. Shaw. Elected to three year terms: William D. Bauman, John C. Frye (re-elected), Norma K. Hendrickson, Ellen N. Holway, Lyman M. Stucker (re-elected). Gary Petrichick was elected to fill a one-year unexpired term of Orrin Long.

Of special note is the departure of the President Dave Johnson and First Vice President Hal Larsen from the Board of Directors due to term limitations imposed by the By-Laws. Many thanks to President Dave and First Vice President Hal for their years of committed service. Thanks also to outgoing Board members Ralph H. Donnelly and Linda Perry as well as Environmental Committee Chairman Orrin Long.

Presentations were made as follows, President Carl Linden presented Past President Dave Johnson with a *golden* horse shoe and Past First Vice President Hal Larsen with a Justice William O. Douglas Certificate of Appreciation.

Following the Installation of Officers and Board Members, there being no new business, a social hour sponsored by the Association was enjoyed by all. Thanks to our hosts John Fondersmith, John Chandler, Sonny DeForge, and Jim Millar.

Following a dinner of roast beef, chicken, and all the trimmings we listened as NPS Ranger Walter McMann, our keynote speaker for the evening, informed us through lecture and slides of the Proposed Western Extension of the C & O Canal.

'Til we meet again....

.....

ORAL HISTORY WORKSHOP

Arlington County, Virginia will offer an all-day oral history workshop on Friday, April 22, 1994. Members interested in participating in the Association's Oral History Project are encouraged to attend. The workshop will be held at 1015 N. Quincy. It will start at 9 a.m. and last until 4 p.m. A box lunch will be available at a cost of \$8.00.

As we would like to register as a group, please call Hal Larsen, (703) 356-1809, Helen Shaw, (301)365-1933, or Rita Bauman, (703) 888-1425. This Association project is a major undertaking--we need volunteers. Please sign up.

- - Rita Bauman

.....

CHESAPEAKE & OHIO CANAL ASSOCIATION, INC.
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 1993

	12-31-93	12-31-92
BALANCE SHEET		
ASSETS:		
Cash and receivables	\$ 16,090	\$ 14,307
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	2,755	1,068
Inventories (T-shirts, books, etc.)	2,433	1,330
Net property & equip (cost less deprec)	<u>4,533</u>	<u>3,638</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	25,811	20,343
LIABILITIES:		
Davies Legal Fund	\$ 6,523	\$ 3,932
Revenue for subsequent periods	4,822	705
Accounts payable	<u>38</u>	<u>505</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	11,383	5,142
ACCUMULATED OPERATING RESULTS:	<u>14,428</u>	<u>15,201</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	25,811	20,343

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE

INCOME:		
Dues	\$ 10,055	\$ 11,075
Interest and miscellaneous	494	819
Special events (annual meeting, hikes)	3,622	4,350
International Conference on Historic Canals	-0-	9,564
Sales (T-shirts, totes, books, etc.)	<u>4,039</u>	<u>1,308</u>
TOTAL INCOME	18,210	27,116
EXPENSE:		
Newsletter and Bulletin	\$ 6,217	\$ 6,771
Administration (officers' accounts)	1,135	812
Membership Coordinator, Committee	1,446	1,113
Archives Committee	913	0-
Other committees and miscellaneous expenses	129	105
Dues and Contributions	150	350
Grant to National Park Service	1,900	1,955
Depreciation	902	63
Transfer to Davies Legal Fund	500	500
Special Events (annual meeting, hikes)	3,628	3,811
International Conference on Historic Canals	-0-	9,041
Cost of Goods Sold	<u>2,063</u>	<u>806</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	18,983	25,327
NET GAIN (LOSS)	\$ (773)	\$ 1,789

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Since our last Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors has authorized upgrading this computer system software from WordPerfect 5.2 to WordPerfect 6.0. This gives us the ability to maintain *A Guide to Food and Lodging Along the C & O Canal*, which was originally prepared by Mr. Fred Mopsik under the direction of the Publications Committee.

The following table reflects Association membership as of March 2, 1994 sorted by Membership Type (since last year we have combined Exchange with Complimentary, and deleted ICHC [International Conference on Historic Canals]):

Type	Current	Not Renewed	Totals
Member	278	188	466
Family	189	104	293
Patron	116	53	169
Life	4	0	4
Complimentary	42	0	42
Commission	5	0	5
Totals '94	634	345	979
Totals '93	741	283	1024

The next table shows the same data sorted by State. Again this year, over half our membership comes from Maryland.

State	Current	Not Renewed	Total '94	Total '93
DC	76	46	122	126
MD	370	187	557	566
PA	20	11	31	38
VA	98	71	169	175
WV	20	9	29	27
Other	50	21	71	92
Total	634	345	979	1024

We have had a decrease in membership over this same time in '93. Part of that decline may be attributed to the non-renewal of ICHC members. Last year we experienced a growth due to an article in the *Washington Post*, apparently some of those members have not renewed.

Some non-renewals may be attributed to activities which do not appeal to the interests of the membership. Many members filled out the questionnaire when they renewed for '94. We have sorted through the returned questionnaires with regard to member interests and created the following table:

		Social Activity	Day-Hikes	Bicycling	Canoeing	Heritage Hike	Camping	Equestrian
		89	236	145	80	101	45	10
Canal Preservation	282	69	152	94	55	79	28	8
Birdwatching	120	29	79	45	36	40	16	4
History	282	62	161	113	61	74	35	7
Wildflowers	127	38	86	48	36	49	16	5
Photography	86	26	50	46	28	29	18	1
Railroading	59	16	39	36	18	17	9	3
Geology	70	20	48	30	22	28	9	3

For example, reading the table vertically, we have 145 members interested in bicycling. When Sonny and Lynn De Forge plan the rides this year, they can **take** into consideration that 113 members also have an interest in the history of the canal, or 45 are also interested in birdwatching. This information can influence the time of year a particular bicycle trip would be planned or the segment of the canal the ride would cover. Or, reading the table horizontally, we have 282 members with an interest in the history of the canal. Of those 282, 161 are also interested in day hikes (i.e. less than 10 miles) while 74 are also interested in Heritage Hikes (i.e. hikes in the 10- to 13-mile range). This information can influence the topic for a day hike, maybe even to having a speaker on the hike. You can see the benefits for planning other Association activities. (By the way, our Programs Chairman, Ken Rollins, needs more folks like the De Forges to take charge of certain activities. Ken takes personal interest in planning the Canoeing trips.)

Our members do visit the canal independently of Association functions, based on surveying the questionnaires:

Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Yearly	Assoc Functions
87	123	138	32	29

Some of those visits are **undoubtedly Level Walker** visits and some members report using the towpath for their routine exercise regimen.

We found out about the Association by visiting Visitor Centers at:

Great Falls	Cumberland	Hancock
63	20	14

or, we found out about the Association from:

Friends	Newspaper	Radio/TV	Magazine	Other
136	77	7	9	101

"Other" was typically cited with reference to festivals or meeting members along the canal who happened to have an application form with them.

Last, we surveyed the returned questionnaires and our ages group as follows:

< 21	21 to 35	36 to 45	46 to 55	56 to 65	66 to 75	> 76
0	23	68	96	109	103	31

This year the Association's computer is also being used to help with the Registration function for the 1994 Justice Douglas Through Hike. We have 41 registered through hikers, plus 6 for the first week only and 4 for the second week only. Twenty-eight have signed up for the bus from Great Falls to Cumberland. Forty-seven members have already signed up for the Cumberland Banquet, with 43 staying the night at the motel. Fifty-six members have already signed up for the Williamsport Banquet, with 48 staying the night at the motel. Fifty-seven members have signed up for the Final Banquet. We also have 5 members who will be shuttling nightly to local motels; this will be a real test of our *A Guide to Food and Lodging Along the C & O Canal* when those 5 members use it nightly. We are expecting more banquet and motel registrations as a result of the *Day Hiker Registration* form to be distributed in March. Some hikers may want to join the group for a day or two; Mrs. Boies can provide breakfast, lunch and/or dinner to those members who register and thus let her plan ahead.

- - William D. Bauman

• • • • •

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

This report highlights some of the activities of the Environmental Committee during the past year. Details regarding these activities and related issues are documented more fully in other Association records (minutes of Board meetings, the newsletter, and correspondence). The status of certain organizational initiatives is outlined near the end of the report.

Ironically--as has been the usual case for several decades--the Committee and the Board continued to address the impact of highway proposals on the ambience and integrity of the Canal Park. The most significant--and complex--of these proposals concerns Canal Parkway Development in Cumberland (Study and Draft Environmental Impact Statement, issued December 13, 1993). This study provided important new information that was not available in 1991. At that time, the Association expressed opposition to a Parkway Alternative (No. 4) that would have permitted construction of the highway on top of the Canal trace--with the towpath becoming a sidewalk. In the meantime, Alternative 4 has been re-worked and completely revised.

The Board's position on the basis of information and planning data available in 1991 was to favor one of the Alternatives (No. 2) and indicate that the route and alignment of Alternative No. 3 was "acceptable." A copy of the Board's comments on the Study and Draft Impact Statement was submitted in January 1994 to the Maryland State Highway Administration for inclusion in the public hearing records.

Another major highway project which is expected to move rapidly to the fore in the coming year is the so-called "Western By-Pass." The Virginia Department of Transportation has recently completed a "decision" document that offers --but does not select or recommend--several possible Potomac River crossing areas. New impetus for a "Western By-Pass" will be generated by the Disney project near Haymarket, Virginia.

Maryland is no longer interested in development of an "Eastern By-Pass." Rather the state intends to "enhance" and "improve" the "301 Corridor."

Other lesser highway projects were monitored or subjected to initial review by the Committee: the construction on the George Washington Parkway near Cabin John and a joint D.C. Department of Public Works--Federal Highway Administration effort to plan road changes at the Canal Road entrance to Georgetown University. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement on this project is scheduled for distribution in April, 1994.

Aside from highway projects and the potential of their intrusion on the Park, the Committee reviewed and assessed as a matter of high priority and importance--the pilot program developed by the Park staff to test and evaluate the effectiveness of an herbicide (glyphosate, commercial name: Roundup). Use of this herbicide is to control vegetation that is over-running or undermining many historic structures in the Park, including locks, culverts, waste weirs, and lock house foundations. This vegetation is slowly but surely either destroying the structures or increasing their vulnerability to weather forces.

Various manual and mechanical methods have been used over the years to retard or eradicate the transgressing vegetation--but with

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE - continued

only limited and temporary effect. Park management has decided that while present control efforts should not be abandoned--the battle with nature for this vegetative control is being lost. In their view, a determination should now be made as to whether chemical treatment offers an acceptable and effective means of forestalling further structural decay.

The pilot program, initiated this past summer, calls for some degree of treatment of 24 sites in the Canal Park over a two-year period. Ten categories or types of historical structures together with their immediately surrounding vegetation management areas are represented at these sites. All aspects of this test program (treatment methods, personnel training, weather conditions, etc.) will be monitored continuously by the Committee to develop an independent basis for judging the efficacy of this chemical treatment.

No significant progress can be reported on the Chairman's initiatives to establish an "environmental alert network" up and down the Canal and its environs. Ditto, insofar as any increase in our liaison relationships with other natural resource conservation organizations. Action on these matters has been "one step forward, two steps back." Nevertheless, they remain as Committee objectives.

As a matter of general interest and satisfaction to the membership of the Association, the Committee's exploration and fact-finding in support of the "network" scheme noted above, we have learned there is a sizeable pool in our ranks of "experts"--with extensive experience in environmental affairs. An immediate task for the Committee in the coming year is to obtain commitments from these members to apply their talents to specific projects.

- - Orrin Long

NOTES ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION'S 1994 PROGRAMS

VIP stands for Volunteers in the Park. For many years the Association has made its appreciation for the Park evident by various work projects in support of the Park Service. We have cleared vegetation from the Canal, cleared trails (and closed some unwanted ones), cleaned structures, and provided documents for concerts and boat rides. Work projects really last from 9:00 a.m. to noon, often followed by a picnic lunch or other social circumstance. Here is a great opportunity to meet other members and make a real contribution to our beloved Park. The first Saturday of each month is the regular time (except August) but locations are dependent on needs and are difficult to schedule very long in advance; watch newsletter and bulletins, but the VIP coordinators can always advise where to meet. Call John Lindt (301) 469-6381 or Ranger Terry Barbot (301) 299-3613.

The Association Board meeting dates have been listed in the calendar to remind members that they are welcome and encouraged to attend. This is your Association.

One of our bicycle coordinators, George Comclair, has moved to Oregon, leaving Sonny DeForge without a partner. Anyone who would like to serve as a point of information exchange and to help arrange logistic support is welcome. The overnight and full distance events have become very popular, and they go very well if someone provides transportation for gear or if shuttles can be arranged. Suggestions for trips are also welcome - call Sonny at (301) 530-8830.

For several recent years, the Park Service has sponsored a series of bike trips covering the entire Canal by one-day (Saturday) round trips, from May into September. Information about this program may be obtained from Park Headquarters (301) 739-4200.

The Association provides a booth at the several festivals in the canal towns during the summer months. Our presence tells people who we are and what we do, and is a source of new members. It also provides an opportunity to participate in the festivals, to meet interesting people, and to share the experience with other members. Rita Bauman (703) 888-1425 is coordinator for these events and would appreciate your help.

"Level Walker" hikes are added to the program from time to time through bulletins and the newsletter. These are usually four- to six- mile round trips, although longer (2-level) trips could be scheduled if participants are willing to shuttle (and why not?). Level Walkers are encouraged to "host" walks along their levels. New Level Walkers may be concerned that they are not familiar enough with their territory to be interpreters, but you don't need to be an expert - there are guidebooks, and the idea is just to get out, learn, and share. Keep in touch with the coordinator, Keith Kridenoff (410) 661-8285, and watch the bulletins and newsletter.

- - Ken Rollins

• • • • •

PROFILES: WHO TO EXPECT ON THE GREAT HIKE

As we approach the Association's greatest event in 1994, the 40th-anniversary Justice Douglas Reunion Hike, my thoughts go back five years to when we attracted walkers ranging from hardy souls in their seventies to a bright teenager whose only difficulty was getting up in the morning. A varied population representing many professions were among our company, as will be the case this year. As the roster already shows, many familiar persons will bring to the event their individuality and personality, promising diverse hiking companions along the towpath.

The biggest hiker will undoubtedly be Maine's Paul "Big Foot" Tourigny, a formidable athlete who is well named. He seeks out daunting hikes around the world and considers the march from Cumberland to Washington a worthy undertaking. During the '89 event he served as the company's first sergeant, marching up and down among the tents bellowing "rise and shine" in the early morning to roust sleepy hikers from their sleeping bags for breakfast.

A new Association member is Leo Parde, who, like Big Foot, must always be on guard for low ceilings or doorways when he enters a room. An ex-marine and now the security chief at a deluxe Washington hotel, he first attracted my attention when he hiked the towpath from Washington to Cumberland in seven days. He regretted only not having time to smell the flowers. In the meantime, Leo got in shape for the through-hike by scaling Annapurna in Nepal in December. Despite the bitter cold and deep snows, he used a two-week "vacation" to hike with a Sherpa companion to the 14,000-foot level. The air is very thin up there, but unpolluted. Now Leo looks forward to a comparatively leisurely walk along the towpath, with time to smell the flowers.

Chapel Hill's Lee Lovell, a former government official who served in Washington and Europe, may well be the oldest hiker on the through-hike. This octogenarian was once a familiar figure on the towpath, and he keeps coming back when the challenge is sufficient, e.g., a bracing two-week forced march on Washington.

Gene Bergman, who comes from Nampa, Idaho, was more at home in the New Guinea jungles where in earlier times he was skilled at dropping paratroopers from a C-47. He takes a quantum leap from this python-infested habitat to the peaceful C&O Canal. A patriot to the end, he flies the Stars and Stripes as he hikes, a colorful beacon on the gray-green Potomac shoreline. Gene and his wife, June, are traveling the longest distance to participate in the through-hike.

From Williamsport, we have the Rev. Tom Perry, a sturdy hiker and athlete who has no difficulty keeping pace with the young and impatient. Typically he is decked out in *Lederhosen* and with a feather in his flared hat. With his bemedaled staff, he suggests the Volksmarcher. In reality he is an accomplished organist whose music is spiritual and

stirring as the occasion demands. Not content to use whatever parlor organs might be available, he built his own, a massive pipe collection to fill half the space in his two-story living room. When the Association's board meets at his house in Williamsport, the fierce contention around the table is tempered by the beautiful sounds emanating from the organ. Nothing brings civility to a meeting more readily than Tom at the keyboard.

Much can be said about so many others, but let me mention just one more. No hike would be complete without Ken Rollins. Always debonair in his outdoor garb, with a broad-brimmed hat, tasseled jacket or a bejeweled western shirt and with his trim mustache, he is always a welcome companion when the going gets tough. An experienced outdoorsman, Ken is very innovative, always ready with a solution to any problem. His outlook on life may be disarming; a low-key, relaxed person, he doesn't fret too much about plans and schedules. "Oh, it'll work out," he always says, and, in fact, it always does. But this laid-back approach is sometimes small comfort to beady-eyed managers who perhaps worry too much.

For two weeks, some 50 people will camp and eat together, and share their lives as they walk along. As we have seen before, life-long friendships emerge from this experience. Even more, romance frequently blossoms on the C&O Canal. Individuals who might be recalled as blurs in a hiking multitude on a day hike become cherished friends on the through-hike, each with his own history and personality. Names and addresses are exchanged, with vows to meet again. Hikers promise each other never to forget, and believe me, they don't.

- - Hal Larsen

The Association regrets that two members will not be able to attend the through-hike as planned. Lee Lovell of Chapel Hill, NC (would have been our senior hiker), and Tom Perry of Williamsport, MD, have had to cancel.

• • • • •

1954 HIKE RECOLLECTIONS OF ROBERT ESTABROOK

In preparation for a program on the original Douglas Hike to be sponsored by the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club on April 14th, Paula Strain, of PATC wrote to Robert Estabrook, one of the members of that historic hike. She asked him to share some of his recollections and the following are excerpts from his letter to her. ...As I recall many persons from surrounding towns did join the hike for short segments or even all-day stints. They were encouraged to do so by Justice Douglas and the environmental organizations. Quite a few joined at Great Falls for the last leg. My 'foot trouble' was actually an irritated Achilles tendon. I hiked some every day.

RECOLLECTIONS- continued

We were indeed the guests of several local fish and game clubs, and the dinners they served ranged from full meals to sandwiches and potato chips (at the poshest). I don't have any clear recollection about breakfast, but my impression is that it was supplied by the mess truck that accompanied us. I am unsure of the origin, but Jack Durham arranged it and we had an elderly male cook. Funny, but I just don't recall the lunches. I have to guess that the mess truck supplied sandwiches and coffee. We often slept in the fish and game clubs, sometimes on cots, sometimes on the floor in our sleeping bags. On one memorable night, though, we slept on the ground (no air mattresses then!) in a Maryland state park and the temperature dropped into the 20s. It was a pretty cold experience and we were glad to see daybreak.

In addition to the recollections in the above letter, Mr. Estabrook shared other memories of the hike, some of which were part of a recent article in the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy newsletter. Ultimately a crew of 29 started the hike, including eminent naturalists and conservationists. Twelve people completed all 184 miles. The remaining hikers, including me, had to ride part of the way because of swollen tendons and other ills...I frankly had no idea as we trudged along the path of what would eventually come about - although I rejoiced in the later result. I alternately reveled in the spring beauty, climbed over the many obstacles or nursed my Achilles' tendon. What amazed most of us was the pace Justice Douglas set and maintained despite his overcoming the effects of polio as a boy. We joked about it being six miles an hour, although it was more likely about four. We even adapted a tune from **SHOW BOAT** about "Just our Bill" ending with "We love him, because he's jet propelled." Perhaps one secret of his stamina was his ability to sleep soundly. We discovered a contributing factor at one of the fish and game clubs that offered use of its dormitory after a days trek. One of the hikers produced a bottle of bourbon and asked me to pour the justice a drink. Douglas held out a tumbler and said: "I'll tell you when!" "When" turned out to be an entire tumblerful, which the justice proceeded to down in short order. Soon afterward he retired in a sleeping bag, snores emanating as if he had sawed several cords of wood.

- - Printed by permission of Paula Strain and Karen Ryan, Editor, *Trailblazer*

• • • • •

ITINERARY FOR 1994 FULL-CANAL HIKE

APRIL 16 - APRIL 30, 1994

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| April 16: | Assemble at Continental Motor Inn, Cumberland, Banquet at 6:30 pm |
| 17: | 184.5-175.4 (9.1 mi.) Cumberland to North Branch, breakfast at hotel, bag lunch (hotel), dinner in camp |

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| April 18: | 175.4-162 (13.4 mi) North Branch to Cardinal Club, breakfast and dinner in camp |
| 19: | 162-149.4 (12.6 mi) Cardinal Club to Stickpile Hill, breakfast and dinner in camp |
| 20: | 149.4-134.6 (14.8 mi) Stickpile Hill to Woodmont Club, breakfast in camp, dinner catered |
| 21: | 134.6-124.1 (10.5 mi) Woodmont Club to Hancock, breakfast catered, dinner catered |
| 22: | 124.1-112.4 (11.7 mi) Hancock to Fort Frederick State Park, breakfast catered, dinner in camp |
| 23: | 112.4-99.6 (12.8 mi) Williamsport, Sportsmen's Club, breakfast at Days Inn, dinner catered |
| 24: | 99.6-84.4 (15.2 mi) Williamsport to Western Maryland Sportsmen's Club, breakfast at Days Inn, dinner catered |
| 25: | 84.4-71.2 (13.2) Western Maryland Sportsmen's Club to Conococheague Club, breakfast and dinner catered |
| 26: | 71.2-59.6 (11.6 mi) Conococheague Club to Sandy Hook, breakfast catered, dinner in camp |
| 27: | 59.6-47.1 (12.5 mi) Sandy Hook to Calico Rocks HBO, breakfast and dinner in camp |
| 28: | 47.1-27.2 (19.9 mi) Calico Rocks HBO to Izaak Walton League, breakfast in camp, dinner catered |
| 29: | 27.2-14.3 (12.9 mi) Izaak Walton League to Great Falls, breakfast in camp, dinner on own |
| 30: | 14.3-00.0 (14.3 mi) Great Falls to Georgetown, breakfast on own, luncheon own, banquet at Pier 7 Restaurant |

All lunches are provided in camp except as otherwise stated.

• • • • •

PLEASE NOTE: DAY HIKERS ARE WELCOME ANYWHERE ALONG THE HIKE. ON APRIL 30TH, DAY HIKERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN THROUGH-HIKERS FOR THE LAST LEG OF THE HIKE. A BUS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN GEORGETOWN TO RETURN HIKERS TO GREAT FALLS.

REPORT FROM THE ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

A computer, a laser printer, a copier and a light-box for slide viewing have dramatically enhanced the prospects of the C&O Canal archives project. This equipment, which will have been installed at the Ferry Hills facility by the time you read this, will enable us to begin collating and storing our archival materials.

We want to establish a fixed workday, tentatively every Tuesday, to make it easier for volunteers to fit this activity into their lives. We are also considering times for weekenders. We will first copy all the documentary material, then establish a computerized records system, and put the original documents in special protective files, which will be available to Association members, scholars and students. A computerized inventory will record documents with keyword citations designed to enable users to recover data on many specific subjects.

In addition to working with documents, we will preserve, record and file many photographs and color slides. Most of these items have inadequate labels, and the volunteer archivists will try to identify places and people and provide dates--a major task.

We decided to assign each volunteer a specific collection: papers, photographs, slides, or in some cases a combination of these materials. Thus, each archivist will have continuity in his task and be able to develop expertise in a specific area. Such concentration by individuals will serve the Association better than would a fragmented exposure to various assets by volunteers working together on collections.

As soon as we have finished the logistical preparation and decided on work schedules, we will notify those who have expressed interest in archival work. Meanwhile, please call Hal Larsen (703/356-1809) if you have questions or wish to volunteer.

- - Hal Larsen

• • • • •

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NEWS RELEASE

Clyde Bell, a native of Saratoga Springs, New York, has been appointed District Interpreter of the Palisades District of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park. He is a graduate of Eisenhower College, Seneca Falls, New York. His National Park Service career began in 1971 at Saratoga National Historical Park. He was a long-term seasonal interpreter at Saratoga until 1980. Mr. Bell spent two winter seasons of 1980/1981 at Desoto National Memorial in Bradenton, Florida. In the summer of 1981 he received his first permanent appointment with the Corps of Engineers at Hartwell Lake, Georgia where his duties included law enforcement, interpretation and talks at campfire programs. In 1982 Mr. Bell came back to the National Park Service at Colonial National Historical Park at Jamestown and Yorktown,

Virginia. His work there included historical interpretation and developing educational programs.

In 1986, Mr. Bell transferred back to Saratoga N.H.P. as a supervisory park ranger where his duties included supervising all living history programs at the Revolutionary War Battlefield, overseeing educational programs, daily operation of visitor services and the volunteer program. In 1991, Mr. Bell was promoted to Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services at Saratoga. In his new position Mr. Bell will be managing the living history canal boat operations at Great Falls and Georgetown as well as the many other programs offered in the Palisades District of the park.

Mr. Bell enjoys reading military history and Shakespeare as well as bicycling and weight lifting.

- - Gordon Gay 301-739-4200

• • • • •

CANAL BOAT MEMORIES

Many of you will recall the article we printed in September 1992, by Association member Lillian Crampton Langdon, who was born on Boat #79 at Georgetown during a blizzard in 1912. Mrs. Langdon, who lives in Waldorf, Maryland, has sent us some more of her memories of the canal when she was a child, and particularly of her grandmother.

"My grandfather, Isaiah Crampton, was known as the gambler who always lost. Isaiah married Annie Helen Ecton. They had five sons and one daughter. Isaiah, his sons, brothers, and their sons boated. Some had two boats.

"Grandma's parents were of German origin. They attended the Dunkard Church in Antietam, where she was born. She raised two orphan nephews, also.

"She was a tireless worker, and could shuck corn at the same time she steered the boat through the locks. Spare time was used for canning, baking, etc.

"Her favorite pastime was quilting, made from scraps, from discarded work clothes, sugar and flour sacks. Feed sacks were cut into strips, dyed and woven into rugs. Dyes were made from walnut hulls, onion skins, beets and berries.

"Quilting is my hobby. I have made one from scraps and in memory of Annie Ecton Crampton, and would like to donate it to the C & O Canal Association.

"I have many fond memories and was on the last trip when the canal closed."

Sincerely,

Lillian C. Langdon

- - contributed by Dave Johnson

ATTENTION: STAMP COLLECTORS

The Hagerstown Stamp Club is producing a series of cachets commemorating the C & O Canal. The cachets are a part of the club's semi-annual stamp shows.

To date, two cachets are available. The first, dated August 14, 1993, shows the famous picture of the Capitol Limited passing a canalboat near Sandy Hook. The second, issued February 19, 1994, features a map of the route of the canal from Georgetown to Cumberland. Future cachets will feature engineering and life on the canal.

Each cachet is \$2.00 plus a self-addressed, stamped envelope. (The February 19 map cachet is also available hand colored for \$10.00 each plus SASE. This is a limited edition and may not be available as long as the black and white version.)

Requests for the cachets should be sent directly to HAGERSTOWN STAMP CLUB, P. O. Box 2265, Hagerstown, Maryland 21741-2265. (Please **DO NOT** send your orders to the C & O Canal Association.)

- - Dave Johnson

• • • • •

JOINT MEETING OF THE C & O CANAL ASSOCIATION - VIRGINIA CANALS & NAVIGATIONS SOCIETY AT HARPERS FERRY ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

The Virginia Canals & Navigations Society will hold its 1994 annual meeting and tour during the weekend of May 27 - 29 at Harpers Ferry. The Society has invited the C & O Canal Association to make this a joint event, and Association members are encouraged to participate. The focus of the weekend will be the Shenandoah River and the canals and locks that made it navigable.

The main program on Saturday, May 28, will be in Harpers Ferry NHP, and will include a narrated walking tour of Virginius Island, focusing on the Shenandoah Canal and the use of the canal and the falls by mills and industry. We will also have a guided tour of the Masonic Hall, the vaulted roof of which is made of parts of Shenandoah Navigation gondolas.

In the afternoon, we will cross the river to the C & O Canal, to re-measure the width of the Shenandoah River lock that caused Gen. McClellan so much trouble in 1862. Participants may then hike up the towpath to Dam #3 to look for the hauling wall of the old Shenandoah Falls Canal, or return to Harpers Ferry to tour the remainder of the town on their own.

Saturday evening will feature the annual VC&NS banquet and

business meeting, following which Tony Greiner will speak on "Navigation and Commerce on the Shenandoah River of Virginia."

Sunday morning, May 29, participants will carpool to the Millville Hydro Plant for a tour of an operating small hydroelectric facility built on a Shenandoah Navigation canal lock and dam. The tour will be courtesy of Potomac Edison. This will be followed by a visit to the Little's Falls Canal and lock beside the picturesque ruins of Newcomer's Mill. This is the only lock still standing on the Shenandoah Navigation. The site was rediscovered and cleared by VC&NS. It is located in a Potomac Edison riverside park.

In the afternoon, participants may take a guided raft tour of the Falls of the Shenandoah, from Millville to the Potomac. This is the most popular and scenic part of the river. It will follow the channel made for Shenandoah River gondolas almost two centuries ago, including Bulls Falls Sluice, the most famous sluice and wall on the river

For those who wish to stay over to Monday (Memorial Day), members of our Association will lead a carpool tour of C & O Canal sites upstream from Harpers Ferry.

The starting point for each day's tour and the Saturday evening banquet will be at the Cliffside Inn on route 340, about 1.4 miles west of the Shenandoah River bridge, and just past the entrance to the new parking lots for Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.

For those arriving on Friday, an exhibit room will be open from 4:30 to 9:00 pm; the VC&NS board meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m.

A registration form for the weekend is enclosed with this newsletter. It should be returned directly to Virginia Canals & Navigations Society, (**NOT** to the C & O Canal Association,) by May 8th. If you have questions, please contact Wyn Price at (804) 786-8533 (work), or (804) 358-3067 (home).

The Society has reserved a block of rooms at the Cliffside Inn for the weekend. The rates are \$54 per night (single) and \$60 (double), plus 9% tax. Make room reservations directly with the Inn by calling toll-free 1-800-782-9437 not later than April 27th, and tell them you will be attending the Virginia Canals & Navigations Society meeting.

- - contributed by Dave Johnson

• • • • •

On The Level

By Keith D. Kridenoff
1993 Level Walker Chairman

1993 was a pretty successful year for the Level Walker program. We had at least one report turned in for all but 8 of the 69 levels. Most of the levels sent multiple reports. We had 200+ reports turned in for the year and all of the active level walkers are to be congratulated on their hard work. If you have a level that you didn't walk in 1993, our by-laws require that you be placed on the inactive list. Your name will be returned to active status upon receipt of your first report in '94. Enclosed in this article is a list of active walkers. If you are interested in becoming a level walker, please take note of levels without a name or one with only one walker. Of course if there is another area of interest, I will try to accommodate you. If interested, please contact me at:

(410) 661-8285
1725 Red Oak Road
Baltimore, MD 21234

Welcome New Level Walkers

Donald Violette	Level 9
Joy Bloom & Joe Robbin	Level 20
Rita Bauman	Level 39
Olivia Casasnovas	Level 5

Following are reports received by the February 5th deadline. The next deadline for the 1st quarter is May 5th.

Level 1 - Tidelock to Old Boat Incline
Mile 0 to 3
Carl Linden

Cyclists are predominantly using Crescent Trail from Fletcher's to Georgetown relieving traffic on towpath. Work has begun on Arizona RR bridge overhaul for Crescent Trail.

Level 3 - Lock 5 to Cabin John Creek
Mile 5 to 7.5

James & Joan Wilson (12/1-3)
Lack of vegetation exposes trash hidden over summer but high water in river out most fisherman debris. Lock 7 parking lot still closed. (over 1 year later)

Level 4 - Cabin John Creek to Lock 14
Mile 7.5 to 9.4

Carolyn Reeder(10/24) Charles Bookman(1/9)
Several cuts eroding into towpath all along level. Water fountain has been installed at Lock 10(a welcome sight). Padlocks missing from lockhouse at lock 11. Lift lock 9 sign missing.

Level 6 - Cropley to Great Falls
Mile 12.3 to 14.3

Helen Johnston (summer & fall)
Cans & other debris in canal prism area cleaned up by NPS this fall. Trash increasing along Goldmine Tract in contrast to towpath. Opening of the Olmstead Island bridges has increased visitation but things have remained orderly. Detour signs at the stoplock have not dissuaded hikers away from break at Widewater.

Level 8 - Swains Lock to Pennyfield Lock
Mile 16.6 to 19.6

Paul Davis(11/26,12/18)
Erosion on riverside of towpath at mile 18. Water level lowered about one foot.(12/18) Many signs of landscaping by NPS.

Level 9 - Lock 22 to Lock 24
Mile 19.6 to 22.8

John Fragale(11/26)
Towpath heavily rutted between Lock 22 & 23. Much evidence of old & new beaver activity.

Level 11 - Tenfoot Island to Sycamore Island
Mile 25 to 27.2

Sharon Freedman(12/24)
Stones missing from culvert due to washout. Trash barrels missing from Sycamore Landing.

Level 12 - Sycamore Landing to Edwards Ferry
Mile 27.2 to 30.8

Stephen Pollack (11/7,11/30)
Beaver lodge near power line crossing (33.5) Major washout of towpath at mile 28.3. Minor washout at mile 29.33.

Level 13 - Edwards Ferry to Milepost 33
Mile 30.8 to 33
Bert Grose(11/11) Dave Gwatkin(12/25) Don Groelsema(9/11,1/1)
More trash on river side of canal than earlier in year. Evidence of much beaver activity along level. Breakdown of retaining wall at west end, north side of Lock 25.

Level 15 - Whites Ferry to Woods Lock 26
Mile 35.5 to 39.4
Betty Bushell w/Herbert Madison & Pat Schindler (11/11)
Towpath in poor condition due to use of heavy vehicles. Lock 26 area neatly mowed and clean. Appears to be repair of stone work on upper courses of lock. Mile post 38 needs to be reset.

Level 16 - Lock 26 to Monocacy Aqueduct
Mile 39.4 to 42.2
Steve Dean (11/15,1/22)
Brush along canal between PEPCO plant and Lock 27 cleared. Broken culvert previously report has been repaired. Snowmobile tracks up and down level but no damage seen.

Level 19 - Point of Rocks to Catoctin Aqueduct
Mile 48.2 to 51.5
Jack Cook (1/23)
Lockhouse 29 needs shutter and porch repairs. Also needs painting. Footbridge over Catoctin Creek is closed for repair.

Level 25 Dargan Quarry to Lock 37
Mile 65.1 to 67
Norman & Cheryl Thomas (5/31,10/10)
Trash collected mostly from "garbage dump" at Dargan Bend parking lot. Large walnut crop.(10/10)

Level 26 - Lock 37 to Antietam Creek Aqueduct
Mile 67 to 69.4
Richard Metcalfe & Brenneke families(11/21)
Lots of Halloween candy wrappers and beer cans in parking lot at mile 67.2. More abandoned tires appeared near mile 68.

Level 27 - Antietam Aqueduct to Lock 38
Mile 69.4 to 72.8
Harry Robinson(11/24) Ken Rollins (10/13)
General condition of towpath very clean. Large plant growth under downstream river side capstone should be removed to prevent damage.

Level 29 - Lock 39 to Snyders Landing
Mile 74 to 76.7
Marshall Grotenhuis(11/16)
Several muddy ruts could use some gravel. Heard several turkeys near HBO.

Level 31 - Lock 40 to Marsh Run Culvert
Mile 79.4 to 81.6
Deborah & Barry Kistler (10/29)
Overall condition of level good. Collected mostly food, drink and fishing trash.

Level 33 - Dam 4 to Charles Mill
Mile 84.4 to 88.1
Paul & Rita Marth(12/12) Nick & Peggy Weber(12/19)
Amount of trash more excessive than usual. Much of towpath appears to have been underwater recently. Bank of river near mile 86 seems to have eroded more. Graffiti on freshly painted winch house at Dam 4.

Level 34 - McMahons Mill to Opequon Junction
Mile 88.1 to 91
Tom & Linda Perry(11/20)
One shack still by towpath near mile 88.5 Less evidence of fires built along canal.

Level 40 - Old Nettle Bridge to Dam 5
Mile 104.9 to 106.8
Sheri Burdick(12/19)
Large assortment of trash in canal. Particularly messy between Dam 5 and Boat ramp.

Level 42 - Lock 47 to Culvert 142
Mile 108.6 to 110.4
John Ziegler(10/29)
Several mudholes have been filled with gravel fill with more needed to be done. Many piles of gravel along towpath.

Level 44 - Fort Frederick to Ernstville
Mile 112.4 to 114.5
Hal & Jane Larsen(11/14)
Beaver activity at mile 113.5. Thanks to resurfacing, towpath drains very well. Hazardous tree roots are now covered.

Level 50 - Lock 53 to Dam 6
Mile 130 to 134
Gren Whitman & Janice Plotczyk(11/26)
Level mostly clean. Pulled one discarded cooler from canal.

Level 51 - Dam 6 to Sideling Hill Aqueduct
Mile 134.1 to 136.6
David Gardner (11/11) John Popenoe(11/12)
Towpath immaculate but for a little trash at HBO and Sideling Hill Aqueduct. NPS has just completed stump removal and grading at 134.25. Stucco house at Lock 56 is unoccupied again.

Level 53 - Fifteen Mile Creek to Lock 59
Mile 140.9 to 146.6
John Wheeler(11/11)
Towpath was very clean.

Level 62 - Lock 68 to Lock 71
Mile 164 to 167
Tom Dulz(numerous visits thru 93)
Enclosed several pictures of highwater at Oldtown and newspaper clipping of spring floods.

Level 65 - Spring Gap to Lock 74
Mile 173.4 to 175.5
Jeanine & Dward Moore(11/25)
NPS has done much clearing of small trees on canal side of towpath. Lock 73 sign still missing.

**Level assignments as of February
15th, 1994:**

01 0 to 2.3

Tidal Lock to Old Boat Incline
Carl Linden

02 2.3 to 5

Old Boat Incline to Lock 5
James & Gera Millar

03 5 to 7.5

Lock 5 to Cabin John Culvert
James & Joan Wilson
Dot Johnson
John Butler

04 7.5 to 9.4

Cabin John Culvert to Lock 14
Carolyn Reeder
Charles Bookman

05 9.4 to 12.3

Lock 14 to Cropley
Jim & Gera Millar

06 12.3 to 14.3

Cropley to Great Falls Lock 20
Helen Johnston

07 14.3 to 16.6

Great Falls to Swains Lock 21
Gene Dunbar
Jack Francis

08 16.6 to 19.6

Swains Lock 21 to Pennyfield Lock 22
Paul Davis
Edwin Martin

09 19.6 to 22.8

Pennyfield Lock 22 to Seneca
Aqueduct
Jeffrey Brown
Janet Lanman
Linda & Gary Berg-Cross
John Fragale

10 22.8 to 25

Seneca Aqueduct to Tenfoot Island
Michael Werth
Les Meil
Harry Bridges

11 25 to 27.2

Tenfoot Island to Sycamore Landing
Sharon Freedman

12 27.2 to 30.8

Sycamore Landing to Edwards
Ferry
Stephen Pollack
Charles Otstot
Teresa Cummings & David Hoerauf

13 30.8 to 33

Edwards Ferry to Milepost 33
Bert Grose
Don Groelsema
Davidson Gwatkin

14 33 to 35.5

Mile 33 to Whites Ferry
Herbert Madison
Pat Schindler
Pat Pickering
Jake Kalin

15 35.5 to 39.4

Whites Ferry to Woods Lock 26
Herbert Madison
Betty Bushell

16 39.4 to 42.2

Woods Lock 26 to Monocacy
Aqueduct
Steve Dean
C.H. & Chris Breedlove

17 42.2 to 44.6

Monocacy Aqueduct to Nolands
Ferry
Robert Adler
Terry & Bob Ledley
Mary Gravalos

18 44.6 to 48.2

Nolands Ferry to Point of Rocks
Marlow Madeoy
Paul Redmer
Mary Olczak & G.S. troop 2461
Norma Hendrickson

19 48.2 to 51.5

Point of Rocks to Catoctin Aqueduct
Lyman Stucker
Laurence Thayer
John & Sue Anderson
Jack Cook

20 51.5 to 55

Catoctin Aqueduct to Brunswick
Mario & Anne Abbate
Sylvia & Charles Diss

21 55 to 58

Brunswick to Weverton Lock 31
Susan Fauntleroy
David Johnson

22 58 to 60.7

Weverton Lock 31 to Harpers Ferry
OPEN
23 60.7 to 62.3
Harpers Ferry Lock 33 to Dam 3
Bob & Eileen Rabson
Mike Reges & Kathy Wotring
Susan Hook
Carol Tischhauser

24 62.3 to 65.1

Dam 3 to Dargan Quarry
Mike Vidmar

25 65.1 to 67

Dargan Quarry to Lock 37
Ruth & Ken Dickie
Norman & Cheryl Thomas

26 67 to 69.4

Lock 37 to Antietam Aqueduct
Robert & Martha Stevenson
Rick Clement
Richard Metcalfe & Brenneke
families

27 69.4 to 72.8

Antietam Aqueduct to
Shepherdstown
Harry Robinson
Ken Rollins

28 72.8 to 74

Shepherdstown Lock 38 to Lock 39
John Frye

29 74 to 76.7

Lock 39 to Snyders Landing
Marshall Grotenhuis
Harvey & Judy Lutz

30 76.7 to 79.4

Snyders Landing to Lock 40
Paul Redmer
Donna Columbel

31 79.4 to 81.6

Lock 40 to Marsh Run Culvert
Paul Redmer
Deborah & Barry Kistler

32 81.6 to 84.4
Marsh Run Culvert to Dam 4
Bejay Myers
Bill Wentzel
Edith Wilkerson

33 84.4 to 88.1
Dam 4 to McMahons Mill
Nick & Peggy Weber
Paul & Rita Marth

34 88.1 to 91
McMahons Mill to Opequon Jct
Tom & Linda Perry

35 91 to 93
Opequon Jct to Lock 43
Ruth & Tack Swan
Bryon Scott Line

36 93 to 94.4
Lock 43 to Falling Waters
Bryon Scott Line

37 94.4 to 99.3
Falling Waters to Williamsport Lock
44 - Ellen Holway

38 99.3 to 102.3
Williamsport to High Rock Quarry
Kevin Holloway/Vanessa Cieslak

39 102 to 105
High Rock Quarry to Old Bridge
Piers - OPEN

40 105 to 106.8
Old Bridge piers to Dam 5
Sheri Burdick

41 106.8 to 108.6
Dam 5 to Four Locks Lock 47
Paul Rosa
B & J Guyer
Ginny Small

42 108.64 to 110.4
Four Locks to McCoys Ferry
John Ziegler
Tim Kernan

43 110.4 to 112.4
McCoys Ferry to Fort Frederick
Sonny Deforge
Karen Gray

44 112.4 to 114.5
Fort Frederick to Ernstville
Jane & Hal Larsen
Marlin Heintzelman

45 114.5 to 116
Ernstville to Licking Creek Aqueduct
James Doherty

46 116 to 120
Licking Creek to MP 120
David Combs & Maria Vargas

47 120 to 124.1
MP 120 to Little Pool
Jim & Sally Bryant

48 124.1 to 127.4
Hancock to Round Top Cement Mill
Fred Seitz

49 127.4 to 130
Round Top Cement Mill to Lock 53
OPEN

50 130 to 134.1
Lock 53 to Dam 6
Gren Whitman & Janice Plotczyk

51 134.1 to 136.6
Dam 6 to Sideling Hill Creek
John Popenoe
George Perdue
David Gardner

52 136.6 to 140.9
Sideling Hill Creek to 15 Mile Creek
George Perdue
Michael & Shelley Cotter
Kent & Marcia Minichiello

53 140.9 to 146.6
15 Mile Creek to Lock 59
John Wheeler

54 146.6 to 149.7
Lock 59 to Lock 60
OPEN

55 149.7 to 151.2
Lock 60 to Culvert 208
Herb Gunther

56 151.2 to 153.1
Culvert 208 to Lock 61
Herb Gunther

57 153.1 to 154.5
Lock 61 to Lock 63 1/3
Ken & Marcie Campbell

58 154.5 to 156.2
Lock 63 1/3 to Paw Paw
Judie & Fred Mopsik

59 156.2 to 159.7
Paw Paw to Culvert/Ltle Cacapon
John Chandler

60 159.7 to 162.3
Ltle Cacapon Culvert to Town Creek
Keith D. Kridenoff

61 162.3 to 164.8
Town Creek to Lock 68
Charles & Mary Ayres

62 164.8 to 167
Lock 68 to Lock 71
Tom Dulz

63 167 to 170.8
Lock 71 to Culvert 223
OPEN

64 170.8 to 173.4
OPEN

65 173.4 to 175.5
Spring Gap to Lock 74
Dward & Jeanine Moore
Mary Twigg

66 175.5 to 177.7
North Branch to Mexico Farms
Tom Conlon
Jim Sartwell
Mary Twigg

67 177.7 to 180.7
Mexico Farms to Evitts Creek
Tom Conlon
Mary Twigg

68 180.7 to 182.6
Evitts Creek to Wiley Ford
OPEN

69 182.6 to 184.5
Wiley Ford to Cumberland
OPEN

.....

EARTH DAY CLEANUP

April 23, 1994 is Earth Day. Various groups will be involved in clean up efforts along the Potomac River Watershed. The C&O Canal NHP in Hancock is organizing a project there from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on the 23rd. Call Ranger Sherilyn Seyler (301) 678-5463 for more information.

THE ASSOCIATION WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

KENNETH ANGELL	BETHESDA, MD	JOHN & JANICE LAWSON	JEFFERSON, MD
NED ARDINGTON	WILLIAMSPORT, MD	R. THEODORE LEACH	LINTHICUM, MD
MARK BANKHEAD	MESA, AZ	J. M. LEWIS	RALEIGH, NC
FRANCES K. BASTRESS	CHEVY CHASE, MD	PAT M. LOLL	ELMER, NJ
DOROTHY & LESTER BAUSER	ROCKVILLE, MD	WILLIAM VAN SICKLE	ELMER, NJ
JOY BLOOM	LISBON, MD	RUTH & SIDNEY MACY	DERWOOD, MD
JOE ROBBINS	LISBON, MD	JOHN P. MAHONEY	WASHINGTON, DC
CAROLYN BOWERS	HAGERSTOWN, MD	SUE W. MASON	BETHESDA, MD
WILLIAM J. BOYLE	MIDLAND, TX	JULIE ANN MCKIBBINS	ANNANDALE, VA
BARBARA BRANNAN	PIKESVILLE, MD	MORELAND E. MCLARNEY	BLUEMONT, VA
WARREN ALEXANDER	PIKESVILLE, MD	MARY & GEORGE MEDICUS	STEVENSVILLE, MD
LAUREN & BETH BROWN	GREENBELT, MD	GEORGE D. MEEK	ARLINGTON, VA
CHARLES BUHS	WASHINGTON, DC	M/M PAUL R. MELLOTT	HANCOCK, MD
SHERI BURDICK	ROCKVILLE, MD	JOHN MEYER	BETHESDA, MD
TIMOTHY & VICKY CAMPBELL	MARION CTR, PA	GANTT W. MILLER, III	ST. LOUIS, MO
HILDA CARPENTER	GAITHERSBURG, MD	M/M RUDOLPH F. MUTTER	SOUTH HADLEY, MA
OLIVIA E. CASASNOVAS	WASHINGTON, DC	M/M RICHARD J. NORMAN	POTOMAC, MD
MARCO CHIRCHIRILLO	KEYSER, WV	CONSTANCE L. OCELUS	BETHESDA, MD
RICHARD CHU	MCLEAN, VA	RUTH & JOHNSON PAGE	ARLINGTON, VA
LOUIS CLOSE	HANCOCK, MD	LEO D. PARDE	WHEATON, MD
LEA MESHER	WASHINGTON, DC	ROGER & PATRICIA PLASKETT	KENSINGTON, MD
BONNIE & LOUIS COHEN	WASHINGTON, DC	JAMES R. PRESTON	MT. LAKE PARK, MD
RAYMOND T. COOK	BALTIMORE, MD	WILLIAM & GERALDINE PRICE	BALTIMORE, MD
FRANKLIN J. COOK	BALTIMORE, MD	ROBERT J. REYNOLDS	POTOMAC, MD
MIKE & MICHELLE COOK	REISTERTOWN, MD	CINDY LEWIS	POTOMAC, MD
BRENT & PATRICIA COSEY	MARION, PA	ROBERT & DENISE ROCKWELL	CUMBERLAND, MD
J. SCOTT CRAIG	ARLINGTON, VA	JANE MARUM ROUSH	FAIRFAX, VA
JAMES L. CUNNINGHAM	COLLEGE PARK, MD	HANK REDDICK	BOWIE, MD
POLLY & JOHN DE BUTTS	WASHINGTON, DC	ROBERT SCHOEN	BALTIMORE, MD
MARCIA & JEFF DYSART	BALTIMORE, MD	KATHRYN & THOMAS SCHOENE	GERMANTOWN, MD
PATRICIA A. FANKHAUSER	RESTON, VA	MAY & BERT SHEPARD	ACTON, MA
GERALD & BEDA FARRELL	VISTA, CA	SALLY SNIDOW	LEESBURG, VA
ELI & LUCY FLAM	PORT TOBACCO, MD	JAMES B. SPARKS, JR.	BETHESDA, MD
L. R. FOX	HYATTSVILLE, MD	JO ANN SPEVACEK	BURKE, VA
MORTON & ESTER K. FOXE	SILVER SPRING, MD	WALTER STACHNIK	BETHESDA, MD
KENNETH J. FRAZIER	SYKESVILLE, MD	GEORGE & MARSHA TILLSON	SHORTSVILLE, NY
JILL L. REIDER	SYKESVILLE, MD	JOHN PAUL TOLSON	WASHINGTON, DC
KATHARINE A. FREEMAN	SHEPHERDSTOWN, WV	FRED VIERS	MARTINSBURG, WV
ROBERT K. GRIFFIN	WILMINGTON, DE	JOY WALLING	MARTINSBURG, WV
THOMAS L. HAWKINS	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	DONALD C. VIOLETTE, JR.	WASHINGTON, DC
SETH & CAROLINE HEALD	ALEXANDRIA, VA	JENNIFER VONGSATHORN	BETHESDA, MD
PAUL HERMSEN	BRUNSWICK, MD	ALAN & JEANNE WALLS	FAIRFAX, VA
MIKE HIGH	ALEXANDRIA, VA	PAMELA SUE WALSH	HAGERSTOWN, MD
MELISSA M. HOWARD	BETHESDA, MD	RALPH WATKINS	SILVER SPRING, MD
ALVIN HOWELL	MORGANTOWN, WV	JACK WELCH	SALISBURY, MD
JUDITH DINSMORE	MORGANTOWN, WV	JANICE H. WILLIAMSON	WASHINGTON, DC
FRANCIS M. & TEAL HUGO	ARLINGTON, VA	DR. PAUL R. WOOLSLAYER	SOMERSET, PA
STEPHEN HUZA	COLUMBIA, MD	BILL & SCOTTY WRIGHT	GAITHERSBURG, MD
MARY L. IGLEHART	POTOMAC, MD		
ANNE H. ISBISTER	WEST HARTFIELD, CT		
KAREN HOESCH	PITTSBURGH, PA		
JOHN S. & HANNA JEFFREYS	COLUMBIA, MD		
KAM JEFFRIES	FORT ASHBY, WV		
JAMES S. JOINER	OLDTOWN, MD		
HARRY M. KEMSTEDT	SYKESVILLE, MD		
RICHARD LAMPL	ROCKVILLE, MD		

• • • • •

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. Articles for publication should be received by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Please mail articles to:

Robert C. Perry
Editor, *Along the Towpath*
12713 Knightsbridge Drive
Woodbridge, Virginia 22192

C & O CANAL ASSOCIATION

1993-1994 Association Officers

President:

Carl A. Linden 6404 Ridge Drive
 Bethesda, MD 20816 301-229-2398

First Vice President:

Thomas L. Perry 116 S. Conococheague Street
 Williamsport, MD 21795 703-356-1809

Second VP & Level Walker Chairperson:

Keith Kridenoff 1725 Red Oak Road
 Baltimore, MD 21234 410-661-8285

Secretary

Jane T. Larsen 1314 Kurtz Road
 McLean, VA 22101 703-356-1809

Treasurer

William J. Evans 3813 Juniper Rd.
 Baltimore, MD 21218 301-243-6315

Information Officer

Helen Shaw 8721 Burning Tree Rd.
 Bethesda, MD 20817 301-365-1933

Board of Directors: (Terms expire in 1997) William D. Bauman, John Frye, Norma Hendrickson, Ellen Holway, Lyman Stucker. (Terms expire in 1996) Charles Ayres, Tom Conlon, Nancy Long, Ken Rollins, Elizabeth Scott. (Terms expire in 1995) John Fondersmith, Sharon Freedman, Gary Petrichick, James Millar, Douglas Mussen.

Editorial Staff

Editor:

Robert C. Perry 302-590-5568

Production and Distribution:

PALISADES DISTRICT

11710 MacArthur Blvd, Potomac, MD 20854
 301-413-0024

District Ranger

Supv Ranger - Visitor Protection

Supv Ranger - Fee Collection

Supv Ranger - Interpretation

Tom Nash

Steve Pittleman

Terry Barbot

Clyde Bell

GEORGETOWN VISITORS CENTER

1055 Thomas Jefferson St, Washington, D.C. 202-472-4376

Park Ranger

Kathy Kupper

Great Falls Tavern Information

301-299-3613

The Palisades District begins at Milepost 0 (Tidelock) and continues to Milepost 42.19 (Monocacy River).

WESTERN MARYLAND DISTRICT

District Ranger

Supv Ranger

Dwight Stinson 301-739-4200 x237

Martin Gallery 301-678-5463

Antietam Creek Ranger Station

Canal Road, Sharpsburg, MD 21782

301-739-4200 x237

Park Ranger

Fred Viers

Hancock Visitors Center

326 East Main Street

Hancock, Maryland 21750

301-678-5463

Park Ranger

Sherilyn Seyler

Cumberland Visitors Center

Western Maryland Station

Cumberland, Maryland 21502

301-722-8226

Park Ranger

Rita Knox

The Western Maryland District begins at Milepost 42.19 (Monocacy River) and ends at the Canal Terminus, Cumberland, Milepost 184.5.

OTHER USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Georgetown Boat Operation

202-472-4376

Abner Cloud House

202-472-2679

Fletcher's Boat House (Concessionaire)

202-244-0461

Canal Clipper, Great Falls Tavern

301-299-2026

Swains Lock (Concessionaire)

301-299-9006

DIRECTORY C & O CANAL NHP TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND PERSONNEL

C & O CANAL NHP HQTRS

Box 4, Sharpsburg, MD 21782 301-739-4200

Superintendent

Thomas Hobbs

Assistant Superintendent

Terrie Savering

Chief Ranger

Keith Whisenant

Admin Officer

Christine Streng

Asst Ch. Ranger & Chief, Visitor Protection Branch

Kevin Fitzgerald

Chief, Natural Resource Mgmt Branch

Patrick Toops

Chief, Cultural Resource Mgmt Branch

Susan Winter

Chief, Interpretation Branch

Gordon Gay

Chief of Maintenance

Sam May

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>
Monthly	Wed, Sat	<i>Sights and Sounds of the Seasons</i> nature walks are scheduled four times monthly on the first and last Wednesday and Saturday. Meet in Great Falls Tavern at 10 a.m.
Apr 2	Sat	VIP Day. Meet at Riley's Lock (Seneca) 9:00 a.m.
Apr 10	Sun	Board Meeting, Glen Echo Town Hall, 1:00 p.m.
Apr 16 - 30	Sun-Sat	40th Anniversary Justice William O. Douglas Hike , Cumberland to Washington.
Apr 22	Fri	Oral History Workshop - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 1015 N. Quincy, Arlington, VA. Box lunch available at a cost of \$8.00. Contact Hal Larsen, 703-356-1809, Helen Shaw, 301-365-1933, or Rita Bauman, 703-888-1425.
Apr 23	Sat	Earth Day. Clean up in Hancock area. Contact Ranger Sherilyn Seyler, 301-678-5463.
Apr 30	Sat	Final day of the 40th Anniversary Justice Douglas Hike. This is the <i>official</i> anniversary date. Everyone is welcome to join through-hikers at Great Falls to finish at Georgetown. Buses will return hikers to Great Falls.
May 7	Sat	VIP Day. John Lindt (301) 469-6381 or Ranger Terry Barbot (301) 299-3613.
May 14	Sat	New members' reception and canal boat ride. Great Falls Tavern, 9:00 a.m. Contact Rita Bauman (703) 888-1425. The ride is free, but there is a fee (or Golden Eagle) to get in the Park. Everyone is welcome, but members joining during the last year will be seated first. Refreshments and question and answer opportunity, after the ride.
May 20-21	Sat-Sun	Overnight bike hike - Hancock to Harpers Ferry. Contact Sonny DeForge (301) 530-8830.
May 27-29	Fri-Sun	Virginia Canals and Navigations Society annual meeting at Harpers Ferry - See article on page 14 of this issue.
Jun 4	Sat	VIP Day.
Jun 11	Sat	Canoe from Violettes Lock to Great Falls. Ideal introduction to canoeing - great for old-timers, too. Contact Carl Linden (301) 229-2398 or Ken Rollins (804) 448-2934.
Jun 19	Sat	Board Meeting, Williamsport Library, 1:00 p.m.
Jul 2	Sat	VIP Day - Subject to weather.
Jul 9-10	Sat-Sun	Cumberland Canal Boat Festival. See article on page 23 of this issue.
Jul 16	Sat	Canoe the River from Brunswick to Monocacy landing. Contact Carl Linden (301) 229-2398 or Ken Rollins (804) 448-2934.
Aug 7	Sun	Board Meeting, Glen Echo Town Hall, 1:00 p.m.
Aug 27-28	Sat-Sun	Williamsport C&O Canal Days. Contact Tom Perry (301) 223-7010.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>
Sep 3	Sat	VIP Day.
Sep 10-11	Sat-Sun	Annual overnight Paw Paw bends canoe trip. Contact Carl Linden (301) 229-2398 or Ken Rollins (804) 448-2934.
Sep 17-18	Sat-Sun	Hancock Apple Festival. Contact John Popenoe (301-678-6379).
Sep 12	Sat	BIRD HIKE: Contact Pat Schindler (703-281-3399).
Sep 25	Sun	Board Meeting, Tom and Linda Perry's, 116 Conococheague St., Williamsport, 1:00 p.m.
Oct 1	Sat	VIP Day.
Oct 9-14	Sun-Fri	2nd Annual full-length bicycle trip. Contact Sonny DeForge (301-530-8830).
Oct 22	Sat	Annual Heritage Hike - Pennyfield Lock to Edwards Ferry. Details later.
Dec 4	Sun	Board Meeting, Glen Echo Town Hall, 1:00 p.m.
Dec 11	Sat	Annual "FROSTBITE" HIKE. Contact Ken Rollins (804-448-2934).

.....



Association member Edythe Perry with her four sons
(l to r) Rob (editor, *Along the Towpath*), Tom (first vice
president), Wally and John at Great Falls.
Circa 1948.

NATURE NOTES

The 1993 holiday season brought little but rain...and more rain. After that came snow and ice. Icicles and Christmas-like baubles of ice hung over the Potomac's edge from branches and out-jutting rocks. The river swelled with drenching rain and melting ice, in places overflowing its banks and midstream islands.

The towpath metamorphosed from a snow-covered delight for ski enthusiasts to a muddy morass. At other times it was a slippery ribbon of glass. For a brief time, the canal was a frozen freeway for ice-skaters from Anglers Inn to Georgetown.

On one memorable winter day, a bald eagle soared high against the blue sky over the raging river. On that same day a disgruntled robin huddled on a low branch in the woods, seeking shelter from the wind, while a flock of cedar waxwings and a small flock of bluebirds hunted last year's viburnum fruits and other woodland offerings.

The skunk cabbage bloomed on schedule just before Christmas--the first wildflower blossom of the 1994 season. With the plant's apparent knack for creating its own climate--snow melts around it--later cold snaps left it undiscouraged.

Wetlands along Berma Road became apparent as they continued with their snow cover while snow melted all around them. Small waterfalls of ice clung to rocky cliffs.

Spring came early in one recent year, signalled by the song of a phoebe near Great Falls Tavern on February 28. No such luck this year. We can only continue to listen--and hope.

Barring accidents such as last year's late cold snap that made the pair of eagles leave their nest, this year is again promising for eagle-watchers. Consistently, the white head of an adult bald eagle can be seen above the nest on Conn Island.

The recent scouring of the walls of Lock 19 removed the only purple-stemmed cliffbrake fern to be found in the local area. It had quietly flourished there for many years, a lone example of its kind. Now hunters of rare ferns will probably need to travel as far as the Harpers Ferry area to find another one of its kind.

Such lack of care even for plant rarities again raises a question regarding the possibility of cooperation between those interested in maintaining the natural diversity of plant life in the Park and those with a primary interest in the Park's man-made structures. Is cooperation possible, for example, to reduce mowing along the towpath and elsewhere in the Park to an absolute minimum this year in order to provide a greater chance for natural growth?

NOTE: *Sights and Sounds of the Seasons* nature walks start their 21st year in 1994 with the leadership of tree Park Service volunteers--Betty Bushnell, Betty Henson, and Helen Johnston--all members of the C&O Canal Association. The walks are scheduled four times monthly on the first and last Wednesday and Saturday, meeting in Great Falls Tavern at 10 a.m.

- - Helen Johnston

.....

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN CANAL ACTIVITIES AT NORTH BRANCH

C&O Canal of Cumberland, Md., Incorporated, the volunteer organization operating the C&O Canal Boat Replica at Lock 75 at North Branch under a cooperative agreement with NPS was happy to have Association members man a booth at The C&O Canal Boat Festival the last few years. Both the C&O Canal Association and the C&O Canal of Cumberland, Md., Incorporated, share the same interests of historical and natural preservation of the C&O Canal.

The Canal Boat organization would like to extend the invitation to the Association to participate even more in future festivals and other activities at the North Branch site.

Perhaps association members could help with Canal interpretation at the festivals by telling old canal tales, dressing as a canal boat captain, captain's wife, mule driver, or lock tender, and telling about canal life or developing some idea of your own. We could have 15-minute presentations on the band stand, or just hang out and talk to visitors informally.

Maybe a group of members would like to camp overnight at the Canal Boat around a bon fire with guitar playing and singing, or do a larger project like a *Canal By Lantern Light*, where tour groups walk along the canal at night and meet a lock keeper, captain and wife, or mule driver.

Perhaps a group of members would like to be a part of a project to paint the boat on a weekend--paint furnished by the Canal Boat organization.

Please address any questions to me at (301) 729-3136, or at 300 Bel Air Drive, Cumberland.

John Millar, President
C&O Canal of Cumberland,
Incorporated

.....



Douglas Reunion Hike at Great Falls; 6 May 1961.

Justice Douglas, Mrs. Udall, and SecInt Udall lead hikers past lock 20.

- - Photo by Abbie Rowe, Courtesy National Park Service