



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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The Douglas Hike - A Journey of Recollection Into Springtime - 1954 to 1994

THE PRESIDENTS COLUMN

It was a journey of recollection, even a pilgrimage of sorts, with stopovers at many of the campsites and sportsmen's clubs, where Douglas and his party spent nights on the way from Cumberland to Washington. It was a time of reaffirming old and the making of new friendships. The two-week trek was also a labor of love with blisters among its visible tokens. It was a time of solitude and conversation along the towpath, of festivity at evening meals and around the campfire.

Cathy Douglas Stone travelled all the way down from New Hampshire to give us an inspiring sendoff. Before cutting the ribbon, she shared with us the following thought: "The idea that one citizen could say, 'I don't want a road, I want the canal,' is a wonderful statement of democracy. This is a celebration of people taking care of the Earth."

Once again we Douglas hikers walked into Springtime. Lining both sides of the towpath, teeming crowds of Virginia Bluebells welcomed us. Flora did not surpass fauna. By Elaine Viner's count, on one day's walk, we passed no fewer than four-hundred-and-forty-six turtles basking on trunks and branches of fallen trees. These canal denizens had found their refuge in a prism re-watered by the runoff from the Spring downpour. The Potomac was also brim full and running fast. The valleys and hillsides along its shores were lush with sprouting greens and dashes of the Red Bud's magenta. With the rites of Spring all round, the man-made monuments of our nation's venture westward passed us in review. The admirable lift locks came in file one by one, and the grand Paw Paw Tunnel, and the noble aqueducts crowned by the majestic Monocacy: Marvels of the ingenuity and enterprise of our forebears of the last century.

We hikers enjoyed two weeks of near-perfect weather. The Spring rains simply ceased. As if to remind us not to slight

Her favor, Mother Nature, late one day, singled out one of us for a drenching in a thunderous cloudburst. The chosen one was Sue Ann Sullivan of Williamsport fame, arrayed in purple was she. Desperate, another hiker lept into a hiker-biker privy, another under a bridge. The rest of us were already esconced in the welcoming shelter of the Kanawha Club, the day's destination.

In any case, the spirit of our hiking troop was never dampened. A few examples will serve. Badly blistered feet did not deter Peggy Weber. Scarcely able to walk one day, Peggy hopped on a bike to maintain momentum, but a bit unpracticed, she tipped over, dislocating her shoulder. Pride of the Girl Scouts, Midge was at the scene immobilizing Peggy's arm with triangular bandages. Ranger Martin Gallery whisked the patient to the Berkeley Springs Hospital, where doctors and nurses promptly reset her arm with aplomb. Then, with Arm in sling and a resolute demeanor, Peggy returned to the towpath the next day renewed and in good repair. Pat Barnett, three-time through hiker, was our veteran of the sure and steady pace. Vowing: "If I have to, I will crawl across the finish." She would have, too, if she had had to, but she didn't. Got it?

With esprit went rivalite. Our premier walkers Walt Lipsky and Paul W. "Bigfoot" Tourigny led the way every day. But then came the last. Our unsuspecting stalwarts pulled off the towpath for a little lunch. Seizing the moment, Don Juran, the Sly, slipped by the recumbent diners chuckling all the way to Milepost Zero. It was the old towpath catch'em-napping-at-the-tiller trick.

Nay, neither spoil sport was to be found nor a griper heard in our company which, come to think of it, bore some resemblance to a first-class travelling circus. At evening stops, songsters, musicians, tall-tale-tellers, comedians, poets, and canal-lore raconteurs came out to entertain, to regale, and



- - Photograph courtesy Connie Toops

Front Row (l-r): Sue Ann Sullivan, Peggy Weber, Nick Weber, Joy Bloom, Gary Petrichick, Charlie Ayres, Julie Mopsik, Elaine & John Viner, Sonny DeForge.

Second row: Pat White, Nancy Long, Joe Robbins, Unidentified, Mike Schuchat, Vivian Pittman, Fred Mopsik, June & Gene Bergman, Helen Shaw, Agnes Castleman.

Third Row: Midge Heimer, Donald Juran, Pat Barnett, Richard Stoll, Arthur Stier, Jack Stickles, Jim Preston.

Back Row: Ken Lacey, Ed Miller, Paul Tourigny, Inge Silton, Mike Lewis, Walt Lipski, (visitor), Jane Larsen, Charles & Estelle Laughlin, Mohamed Salama, Lou Odom, Donald Shaw, Carl Linden, Ken Lapeyre, Connie Toops.

THE PRESIDENTS COLUMN - continued

to edify all present. Each morning tents down, each eve tents up! All tasks were done with no-nonsense dispatch. Ringmaster Ken Rollins, Roust-about Sonny DeForge, Chief Forager Midge Heimer, and Chuckwagoner Donna Boies, and I were amazed at how easily the whole shebang got going down the canal on its own steam. Here, indeed, was the Douglas spirit at work, the old William O., "Let's Go!"

Neither do we forget and highly did we appreciate the help we got from Tom Hobbs's rangers and maintenance staff. They were there when a helping hand was needed and were always a step ahead with fresh-cut firewood, extra tables, and privies.

Going down the canal we saw plenty of evidence of the heroic efforts of Tom Hobbs and his staff to keep the park in the best possible shape, in spite of insufficient resources. The canal loses a tried-and-true friend as Tom now retires to

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN - continued

Maine. We canallers will miss him.

However, it comes as no surprise that the struggle to preserve and protect the canal goes on. There remain as always serious challenges. Our walk confirmed this fact. There is much more to do. New resources and persistent effort are necessary.

Early on Justice Douglas enunciated the guiding principle for all that is done in the canal park, namely, the continuity of the towpath. Of late rumor has it that the notion is being bruited about in high places, that jurisdiction over the park should perhaps be divided. If ever there was a bad idea on its face, this is it! Only a unified command can meet the challenges to the continuity and unity of the canal park.

Guided by the continuity principle, the park superintendent rightly places the Monocacy Aqueduct at the top of the list of major restorative work to be done. The loss of any aqueduct constitutes a breach of park continuity; the loss of the Monocacy, would be the most serious. The Monocacy after two decades is still held together by an erector set of external rods designed only as a stopgap prior to major restoration. Destruction through erosion and flood of this irreplaceable structure, officially counted in Maryland as one of its "seven wonders," would be something like the Statue of Liberty losing Her uplifted arm and torch.

We noted that the near flood levels of the Potomac this past winter and spring had further deteriorated the section of the towpath clinging precariously to the cliffs along the slackwater above Dam 4. Erosion, debris, and overgrowth makes it quite hazardous going for a mile or more. Ultimately, major work to restore the towpath in this section is required. Meanwhile, clearing debris and overgrowth from what there is left of a path will help some. Here Association volunteers could lend a hand.

Also, it was disturbing for us to see for ourselves, the spreading recreational honky tonk in the stretch at and below Potomac Fish and Game. Here, as in Brunswick, the towpath has been turned into an automobile service road for local use. A road is **not** a towpath and a towpath is **not** a road.

Preserving the continuity of the canal park is the precept embedded in the legislation, which was enacted more than two decades ago. It remains our perennial task to see that it is applied and re-applied in the park to the utmost degree. At all events, the Douglas canal hike was, is, and will ever remain: *A movable feast* in celebration of the Potomac River and its C & O Canal. May the C & O Canal National Historical Park ever guard its one-hundred-eighty-five-miles of natural beauty and historic glory.

- - Carl Linden

REFLECTIONS--THE 1994 DOUGLAS REUNION HIKE

There was not a bud in sight on the trees of LaVale, Maryland, as C & O Canal Association members gathered on a cool, windy day in mid-April. Fourteen days later, two and a half-dozen through hikers and many more who had joined for a day or more, arrived at tide-lock in the full bloom of late spring in Washington, D.C. Following are some random rambling thoughts of one footsore participant on the one hundred eighty-four and a half mile trek.

Cathy Douglas Stone's opening remarks at the Western Maryland Station sendoff were inspirational, giving us a sense of the history that this adventure represented.



Cathy Douglas Stone cuts the ribbon to officially start the hike.

- - Photo courtesy Connie Toops

Three banquets provided the opportunity to meet with others and to hear from Mayors Athey of Cumberland and Slayman of Williamsport; Don Sakura from the Department of Interior; Maryland State Senator Don Munson; Gilbert Gude who gave a wonderful presentation on the small towns along the canal; Commission Chair Sheila Wiedenfeld; Park Superintendent Tom Hobbs; Congresswoman Connie Morella and, Mrs. Langdon, who presented the Association with a handmade quilt and regaled us with stories of her childhood on a canal boat.

The already taxed park staff provided all of the Hiker/Biker areas that we used with extra tables, "telephone booths," and a good supply of firewood. Thanks for a job above and beyond! Thanks, too, for the wonderful support provided by Midge Heimer, Donna Boies, Pat White and Ann Abbate with food and refreshments, and by Sonny DeForge and Ken Rollins, moving gear and equipment.

There were thirty-two tents, no two alike. June Bergman and Walt Lipski on the guitars and Don Juran's booming baritone, leading the evening songfests. Stirring poetry with sprinkles on the tarp. Many trains each night, compliments of the site-

selection committee. Elaine Viner's 446 turtles on the first Monday (some must have raced on ahead to be counted twice), Charlie Ayers photographing each mile post, Agnes Castleman and Vivian Pittman driving home to Cumberland each night the first week and to a motel each night the second, Peggy Weber's bike spill and dislocated shoulder, Estelle Laughlin setting off the alarm at the Hancock laundromat, Fred and Judie Mopsik's high-tech gear, Ed Miller's cuipaga (pronounced cha-pa-ga), Tom Perry's lederhosen, Sue Ann Sullivan's purple shorts and sneakers with the orange socks, the race for the yellow jersey (first in for the day) between Paul "Bigfoot" Tourigny, Don Juran, Walt Lipski and Jack Stickles.

Connie "I am NOT a park employee" Toops's photo stops enabled many of us to learn a bit more nature lore--rare white trout lily, red bud, shadbush, cut leaf toothwort, sessile trillium, fiddlehead fern, squirrel corn, star of Bethlehem, wild columbine, pileated woodpecker and the song of the tufted titmouse.

Ken Rollins's surprise when the "reporter" he was twitting turned out to be Carl Linden's daughter-in-law's sister Mary Ann Moen from Cumberland who read about the hike by chance, visited us at Town Creek and later joined us from Little Orleans to Cacapon Junction.

The realization at Weaver's in Hancock that we weren't going to lose any weight this trip.

Gene (happy birthday) Bergman's proudly flying American flag attracted reporters like honey draws flies. We were covered by papers from Washington, Baltimore, Martinsburg, Frederick and Hagerstown, by TV, and by *Mid-Atlantic Country Magazine*.

The long range weather reports: two good days followed by one questionable and then almost certain rain. Luckily, this was repeated daily so we never did get to that rain. Except for the four souls on the towpath when the brief but violent storm hit on the second Wednesday, we hiked fourteen days with no rain!

Ranges: Miles - 9 to 16, Temperature - 25 to 90, Age - 43 to 79.

Most of the through hikers hailed from Maryland, with two each from Idaho (the Bergmans), North Carolina (Ken Lapeyre and Mike Lewis), and Virginia (Ken Rollins and Lou Odom), and one each from Florida (Bigfoot), Connecticut (Art Stier), New Jersey (Walt), New York (myself), and West Virginia (Connie). Even one Californian, Dick Bannister, joined us for a few days.

We included a number of two and three timers, most notably Pat Barnett, our senior member, completing her third through hike at what had to be the most sensible pace of the entire group.

Many of us saw the winter wall at the Paw Paw Tunnel for the first time, and a few chose to hike over the top. For the most part the towpath was in excellent condition, but the deplorable state and the proliferation of poison ivy through the Dam 4 slackwater was the low point of the hike for many.

Many thanks to the American Legion Post 202, the Western Maryland Sportsmans Club, the Conococheague Gun Club, the Frederick County Fish and Game Association, and the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter of the Izaak Walton League, for their warm hospitality, use of their marvelous facilities and wonderful meals. A ceremony at the Harpers Ferry AYH dedicated the hostel to the memory of Justice Douglas.

It was amazing how more than fifty very diverse individuals, many who had never met before, could coexist so well for so long. It is a tribute to Justice Douglas and his legacy, for in the end it was the canal which brought and kept us together.

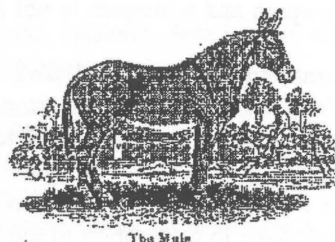


Walt Lipsky (L) and Paul "Bigfoot" Tourigny at milepost 0.

-- Photo courtesy Walt Lipsky

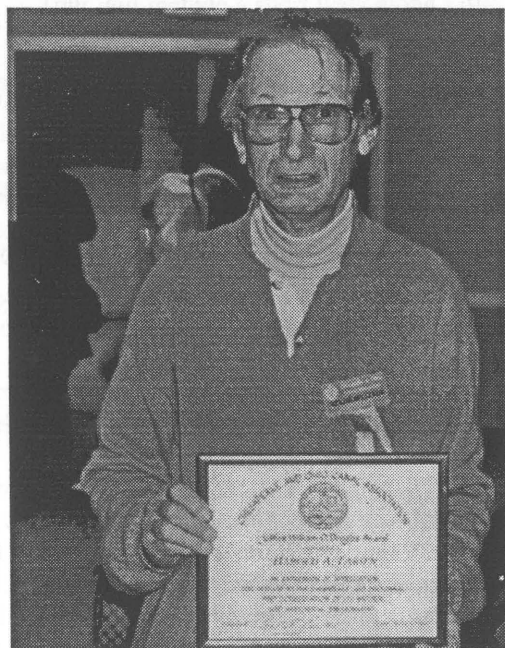
One step at a time, We Have Met The Canal and It Is Us!
(Apologies to the late Walt Kelly.)

-- Gary M. Petrichick





Past President Dave Johnson received the **Golden Mule Shoe Award** at the 1994 Annual Meeting



Past First Vice President Hal Larsen received the **Justice William O. Douglas Award** at the 1994 Annual Meeting

Photographs courtesy Ralph Donnelly.

THE ASSOCIATION WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

JAMES M. ADLER	RESTON VA
JESS & NATALIE ATKINSON	ANNAPOLIS MD
ARTHUR & SANDRA BECKER	BETHESDA MD
KARL BERGSTRESSER	CENTREVILLE VA
MR & MRS MARK L. BROWN, SR.	OLNEY MD
SUSAN & CHIP CAMERON	POTOMAC MD
AGNES CASTLEMAN	CUMBERLAND MD
EUNYONG CHUNG	ARLINGTON VA
MS. GENE COOPER	SILVER SPRING MD
LYDIA CROOKS	ARNOLD MD
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WILLIAM DEVONMILLE	BLOOMFIELD NJ
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MARCIA & GARY GROSSMAN	BETHESDA MD
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KAY KAUTZ	ROCKVILLE MD
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GERI & MIKE LANIER	SPRINGFIELD VA
JEFF & JUDY LOONEY	PRINCETON NJ
MARY PIM MARGULIES	BETHESDA MD
BRUCE MORSE	ANNAPOLIS MD
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JOE WRIGHT	WASHINGTON DC



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

C&O CANAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
P.O. Box 4
SHARPSBURG, MD 21782

PRESS RELEASE

The history of the C & O Canal during the Civil War (1861-65) will be featured in a series of walks and talks along the historic waterway on a weekly basis beginning Sunday, June 12.

The events will be held every Sunday afternoon, with the exception of July 3 and September 18, beginning at 2 p.m. Various locations along the entire canal from Cumberland, Md. to Georgetown, D.C. will be covered in the series. Park Rangers will outline Civil War action at each point and discuss historical facts relating to both the history of the canal and the war.

The canal was constructed along the north bank of the Potomac River from Georgetown to Cumberland beginning in 1828. Twenty-two years later, October 1850, construction was completed to Cumberland and full operation began. Thus upon the outbreak of the Civil War, the canal was just through 11 years of operation, much on a limited basis.

The Civil War period was extremely hard on the canal operation due to its location on the border between the two warring nations. It was subjected to much damage from both sides during the four-year war period. Confederate raids were many across the Potomac River from Virginia and much damage was done during the three invasions of Maryland by the Confederate Army.

War damage to the canal and flooding nearly closed the waterway for good in 1861 when just \$70,566 in tolls were collected, the lowest since the canal had opened to Cumberland in 1850. However, with protection from the Federal Army, tolls increased to \$346,165 by 1865, the last year of the war.

The dates and location of the walks: June 12, Cumberland; June 19, Oldtown; June 26, Paw Paw; July 10, Hancock; July 17, Fort Frederick; July 24, Dam 5; July 31, Williamsport; Aug. 7, Ferry Hill; Aug. 14, Packhorse Ford; Aug. 21, Harpers Ferry; Aug. 28, Weverton; Sept. 4, Point of Rocks; Sept. 11, Monocacy Aqueduct; Sept. 25, Whites Ferry; Oct. 2, Edwards Ferry; Oct. 9, Seneca; Oct. 16, Great Falls; and Oct. 23, Georgetown.

Additional information and a full schedule of the Civil War series may be secured by writing P.O. Box 4, Sharpsburg, Md. 21782, or by calling 301/739-4200, 739-6179, and 299-3613.

John C. Frye 4/20/94

TELEPHONE 301-739-4200



FAX 301-739-5275

C & O CANAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK CIVIL WAR SERIES (1994)

Note: All events will begin at 2 p.m. All events will be led by a National Park Service Ranger. There are no fees except for parking at Harpers Ferry and Great Falls. Participants should be prepared for short walks at all sites and longer walks where noted. Length of programs will vary from one to two hours. Civil war and Canal history will be explained at all sites.

SUNDAY, JUNE 12: THE CAPTURE OF GENERALS CROOK AND KELLY BY McNEILL'S PARTISAN RANGERS.

One of the last successful offensive military operations outside the Confederacy took place here February 21, 1865. Meet at the Western Maryland Station Visitors Center, Canal Street in downtown Cumberland, Md.

SUNDAY JUNE 19: ACTION AT OLDTOWN. Retreating Confederates attacked Federal troops posted on a hill above the canal here on August 2, 1864 forcing Col. Isreal Stough and his 153rd Ohio National Guard across the Potomac River to Green Spring Depot where they were captured. Meet at Lock 70 parking area in the center of Oldtown, Md. The tour will include a walk across the river-level bridge to West Virginia. Oldtown is located on Maryland Route 51 between Cumberland and Paw Paw, W.Va.

SUNDAY JUNE 26: ACTION AT PAW PAW TUNNEL. Ninety-three men of the 54th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment were captured by Colonel Imboden's Confederates here, October 4, 1862. Bring a flashlight for a walk through the 3,118' long tunnel and tunnel cut to the series of tunnel locks. Round trip walking distance: three miles.

SUNDAY JULY 10: JACKSON SHELLS HANCOCK. At the conclusion of his infamous winter campaign of 1861-62, Confederate General T.-J. "Stonewall" Jackson shelled the Town of Hancock, January 5, 1862. Meet at the Hancock Visitors Center, 441 E. Main Street, Hancock, Md.

SUNDAY JULY 17: FORT FREDERICK-MCCOYS FERRY. The Colonial Fort Frederick was constructed in 1756 for protection from the French and Indians. During the Civil War, it was garrisoned by Federal troops to protect the canal and B & O Railroad. Tour will include a two-mile walk along the towpath to the historic Civil War crossing of the Potomac River, McCoys Ferry. Meet in Fort Frederick State Park adjacent to the canal in the parking area at the lower end of Big Pool.

SUNDAY JULY 24; JACKSON DESTROYS DAM NO. 5. At the beginning of his 1861-62 winter campaign, General Jackson made an effort to destroy Canal Dam No. 5. Confederate troops also shelled the lockhouse and bullet damage is still visible on this historic structure. Tour will include a short walk along Little Slackwater to the Two Locks area. Meet at Dam No. 5 parking area. Use Dam 5 or Ashton Road off Maryland 56 or 68.

SUNDAY JULY 31: WILLIAMSPORT-FALLING WATERS. The Confederate Army was trapped here by high water from July 5 through July 14, following the great Battle of Gettysburg in 1863. There was much damage to the canal, aqueduct, lock and lockhouse here during the war. Meet in the Cushwa Basin for a short walk to Lock 44. Cushwa Basin is located adjacent to U.S. Route 11 in downtown Williamsport, Md. Following the walk, an auto tour will be led to the site of the Confederate retreat-crossing after Gettysburg at Falling Waters.

SUNDAY AUGUST 7: FERRY HILL-HOME OF HENRY KYD DOUGLAS. Visit Ferry Hill Place (now C & O Canal Park Headquarters), the boyhood home of Confederate Army Officer Henry Kyd Douglas. Take a short walk to the site of the bridge destroyed by Douglas while a member of the Second Virginia Infantry. Douglas survived the Civil War and returned to Hagerstown to practice law. He died in 1903. Drive into Shepherdstown to Elmwood Cemetery to visit his grave. Ferry Hill is located off Maryland Route 34 across the Potomac River from Shepherdstown, W.Va.

SUNDAY AUGUST 14: PACKHORSE FORD-BATTLE OF SHEPHERDSTOWN. Following the Battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862, General Robert E. Lee's Confederate Army retreated to Virginia using this Potomac River Ford. A rear guard battle was fought here on both sides of the river September 19, resulting in nearly 400 federal casualties. Meet at Antietam Creek Information Station for a 1.5-mile walk along the towpath to Packhorse Ford and the site of the Battle of Shepherdstown. The Information Station is located on Canal Road off Harpers Ferry Road, three miles south of Sharpsburg, Md.

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SUNDAY AUGUST 21: CAPTURE AND SIEGE OF HARPERS FERRY. General Stonewall Jackson captured 12,500 Federals here, September 15, 1862. Meet on Bolivar Heights for an overview of the surrounding, siege and capture of this large garrison. Later, visit the lower town of Harpers Ferry for a short walk across the bridge to the Maryland side of the Potomac and view the remains of the Shenandoah River Lock that cost Federal General George B. McClellan his command. Bolivar Heights is located opposite Harpers Ferry NHP Visitor Center off U.S. 'Route 340.

SUNDAY AUGUST 28: GHOST TOWN OF WEVERTON. This area served as a major hospital site after the 1862 Antietam Campaign. The Federal Army camped in this area for a month following the Battle, of Antietam. This was a vital point of the canal and the B & O Railroad. Take a two mile walk along the towpath to Sandy Hook where the main railroad yard was located and many Federal soldiers arrived and departed during the war. Meet at Weverton Lock No. 31. Use Keep Tryst Road off U.S. Route 340.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4: POINT OF ROCKS. Visit the narrows at Point of Rocks, where the canal and railroad had a court battle for the right-of-way. This was the site of many Confederate raids against both the canal and the railroad. Take a half-mile walk along the towpath to the lock and lockhouse that was the site of a raid by Confederate John Mosby. Meet at the Point of Rocks Railroad Station parking area off Route 28.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11: WALKER DESTROYS MONOCACY AQUEDUCT. Walk across the 500-foot Monocacy Aqueduct that was to be demolished by Confederate General Walker's troops as part of Robert E. Lee's order No. 191. Take a short walk to Monocacy Culvert and Lock 27 that were destroyed by General D.H. Hill. Meet at the Monocacy Aqueduct parking area at the end of Mouth of Monocacy Road off Maryland Route 28.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25: ACTION AT WHITES FERRY. Contrary to popular belief, Conrads Ferry (now Whites) is not the same as Whites Ford on the Potomac. Meet at Whites Ferry to learn about both and ride the JUBAL EARLY ferry across the river to the Confederate state of Virginia. Confederate officer E.V. White bought and operated this ferry after the Civil War, giving it its present name. Meet at Whites Ferry parking area at the end of Whites Ferry Road off Maryland Route 28.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 2: EDWARDS FERRY AND THE BATTLE OF BALL'S BLUFF. Visit Edwards Ferry and learn about the small but important Battle of Ball's Bluff, fought October 21, 1861. When one of President Lincoln's personal friends was killed while serving as a Federal officer, it changed the thoughts of the men in power in Washington as to the direction of the war. Take Whites.; Ferry Road out of Poolesville, Md. Turn left on Edwards Ferry Road and follow to the end.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 9: ROWSERS FORD. Meet at Seneca, site of the well known Seneca Stone Cutting Mill and Seneca Quarry. Walk downstream along the towpath for a half-mile to Violet's Lock and the location of canal Dam No. 2. The shallow area at the dam is known as Rowers Ford and was used by Confederate armies and raiding parties as a crossing point during the Civil War. Use Riley's Lock Road off River Road and follow to end.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 16: BATTLE OF GREAT FALLS. Visit Great Falls on the Potomac, the site of an all day battle early in the Civil War. View this spectacular area from high above the river and canal perhaps the very site from which Federal soldiers surveyed the activity below in 1861. Learn why this area at Great Falls was considered strategic in the Civil War and was guarded during World Wars I and II as well. Meet at the Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 23: THE ALEXANDRIA AQUEDUCT: A CIVIL WAR BRIDGE. Visit the site of the Alexandria Aqueduct. This structure, which crossed the Potomac River to connect with the Alexandria Canal. was drained and used as a bridge during the Civil War. Historic photographs will be available to illustrate the Civil War scene. Meet at Georgetown Ranger Station for a one-mile walk to the aqueduct site. Ranger Station 3 is located at 1051 Thomas Jefferson Street, Washington, D.C.

ADDITIONAL INFO BY PHONE- 301/739-4200; 739-6179; 299-3613; 722-8226.

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historic Park Bicycle Ride Series 1994

Join National Park Service Rangers for a series of bicycle rides along the C&O Canal. All rides will be on Saturday, during the spring and summer of 1994, and will not exceed 40 miles each. Every ride will cover one part of the entire 184 miles of the C&O Canal from Georgetown to Cumberland. Riders are encouraged to ride the entire canal, but those that cannot do so are invited to join rides at any time their individual schedules permit. Each Saturday ride will be a roundtrip, so no shuttle service will be necessary. Additional information is available from Ranger Fred Viers or Ranger John Frye; telephone (301)739-6179 or Park Headquarters at (301)739-4200.

April 16 Ride #1: Meet at Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center, and ride from Great Falls (Mile 14) to Georgetown (Mile 0). Points of interest include Widewater, Cabin John Bridge, Glen Echo, Abner Cloud House, Georgetown, and Tide Lock. Parking fee of \$4.00 per vehicle at the Great Falls area. Round-Trip riding distance 28 miles.

April 30 Ride #2: Meet at Edwards Ferry. Use Westerly Road or Whites Ferry Road out of Poolsville, MD to Edwards Ferry and ride from Edwards Ferry (Mile 31) to Great Falls (Mile 14). Points of interest include Goose Creek River Locks, Seneca Aqueduct, Violetts Lock, Swains Lock, and Great Falls. Round-Trip riding distance 34 miles.

May 14 Ride #3: Meet at the Lander Lock 29 area. Use Lander road Off RT 340 or RT 464 and ride from Lander Lock (Mile 51) to Edwards Ferry (Mile 31). Points of interest include Point of Rocks, Monocacy Aqueduct, Whites Ferry, and Broad Run Aqueduct. Round Trip riding distance 40 miles.

May 28 Ride #4: Meet at Mountain Lock parking area on Limekiln Road off Harpers Ferry Road, five miles South of Sharpsburg, MD. Ride from Mountain Lock (Mile 67) to Lander Lock (Mile 51). Points of interest include Iron Ore Banks, Harpers Ferry, Dam #3, Weverton, Brunswick, and Catoctin Aqueduct. Round-Trip riding distance 32 miles.

June 11 Ride #5: Meet at the Big Slackwater parking area, 1 mile west of Dam #4. Use MD RT 632 to Dam #4 Road, out of Downsville, MD. Ride from Big Slackwater (Mile 85) to Mountain Lock (Mile 67). Points of interest include Dam #4, Dam #4 Cave (Bring a Flashlight) Ferry Hill Plantation, and Antietam Creek Aqueduct. Round-Trip riding distance 36 miles.

June 25 Ride #6: Meet at Cushwa Basin in Williamsport. Ride from Williamsport (Mile 100) to McMahons Mill (Mile 88). Points of interest include Cushwa Basin, Lock 44, Falling Waters, Dellinger Cave, Howell Caves, and McMahons Mill. Round-Trip riding distance 24 miles.

July 9 Ride #7: Meet at the end of Ernstville Road, off RT 56. Ride from Big Pool (Mile 114) to Williamsport (Mile 100). Points of interest include Fort Frederick, McCoys Ferry, Four Locks, Dam #5, and Conococheague Aqueduct. Round-Trip riding distance 28 miles.

July 23 Ride #8: Meet at Pearre. Use Woodmont Road off I-68. Ride from Lock 54 (Mile 134) to Big Pool (Mile 114). Points of interest include Roundtop Cement Mill, Hancock, Tonoloway Aqueduct, Licking Creek Aqueduct, and Big Pool. Round-Trip riding distance 40 miles.

August 6 Ride #9: Meet at Bonds Landing. Use Kasecamp Road off Mertens Avenue. Ride from Lock 60 (Mile 150) to Lock 54 (Mile 134). Points of interest include Fifteen mile Creek Aqueduct, Little Orleans, Sideling Hill Aqueduct, and Dam #6. Round-Trip riding distance 32 miles.

August 20 Ride #10: Meet at C&O Canal in Oldtown, MD. Ride from Oldtown (Mile 167) to Lock 60 (Mile 150). Points of interest include Twiggs Lock, Town Creek Aqueduct, Paw Paw Tunnel (Bring a Flashlight), and Lock 60. Round-Trip riding distance 24 miles.

September 3 Ride #11: Meet at the Western MD Station in downtown Cumberland. Ride from Cumberland (Mile 184.5) to Oldtown (Mile 167). Points of interest include Evitts Creek Aqueduct, North Branch, and Oldtown. Round-Trip riding distance 35 miles.

THINGS TO REMEMBER FOR ALL RIDES

- ** All rides are on Saturday and start at 10:00 a.m.
- ** All riders are responsible for their own lunch and drinks.
- ** All rides are roundtrip in length. Ranger will follow the riders on the return trip and be the last off the canal.
- ** Bring a jacket or rain gear if cool or wet weather is forecast.
- ** Tool and tire repair gear is suggested.
- ** Sun glasses, sun block, and head cover are also requested.

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historic Park Bicycle Ride Camping Trip *** August 11 - 14 (Thursday - Sunday)**

Join National Park Service Rangers for a bicycle ride camping trip along the entire C&O Canal, from Cumberland to Washington D. C. The trip will begin early Thursday August 11, at the Western Maryland Station in Cumberland Md. The trip will end on Sunday August 14 in Washington D. C. (Georgetown). Lunch and drink for each days ride needs to be transported by each rider along with tools and tire repair gear. Participants will ride approximately 45 miles each day and camp at Hiker-Biker Campsites. Camping gear will be transported to each site by truck each day.

Participants are responsible for their own camping gear and meals. Participants need to make drop-off plans at Cumberland and pick-up plans at Thompsons Boathouse in Georgetown.

The trip will be limited to 25 participants. **Reservations are required and a pre-trip planning meeting will be held** for all participants on Sunday August 7 at 1:00 p.m. at the Antietam Creek Campground Information Station.

Contact Ranger Fred Viers for more information and to make reservations at (301)739-6179 or leave a message at Park Headquarters at (301)739-4200.

ANOTHER TRANSITION

Lew Schollenberger

This little sketch could well be a part of a series called *Canal Characters* about those whose love for the Canal brought them into that remarkable group who hiked with Justice Douglas in 1954 and the 17 years it took to walk a National Park into existence. Others who walked with Douglas in those years could contribute much to such a series, perhaps with a different viewpoint, but rich with the color of that brotherhood.

Lewis W. Schollenberger took to the heavenly towpath on March 15th at Heightstown, N.J. Lew was prominent in the films of the 1954 hike as a half-head taller than everyone else, usually wearing a navy watch-cap and walking somewhere near the Justice. Lew was one of the original incorporators of the C & O Canal Association, along with Justice Douglas and Smith Brookhart. He was one of the early presidents.

I met Schollenberger on my first venture with the Association; in fact, Lew was one of the first two members I met. The fifth reunion took place at the newly opened Lillie and Aaron Straus Boy Scout Camp at Sideling Hill, and I had been directed there by Grant Conway. Cars--not permitted in the camp--were to be parked at the bottom of the hill. I complied, and hiked up the hill to observe the glorious confusion typical of the *campouts* preceding the hikes that was standard procedure in the early reunion years. Since I didn't know anyone and didn't quite understand all that was going on, I retreated down the hill to start my dinner and prepare my *camp wagon* for the night.

No sooner had I gotten started than two people who had come down to the car next door came looking over my shoulder, inquiring into my activity. When I explained that I was getting my dinner they said, "Put that away - there's plenty of food up at the lodge." I said I hadn't made a reservation and they promptly said, "That's beside the point--come on up!" I added that I intended to sleep in my vehicle which was not supposed to be in camp. They said, "Oh, that doesn't matter, drive your car up the hill--besides, we need a lift back up there."

It turned out that these two gentlemen were Lewis Schollenberger and Aubrey Graves. Someone had run out of whiskey and they trudged down the hill for replenishment. They welcomed this newcomer without hesitation--something special with the Association which I hope will never die. I drove up, parked next to the flag pole, and when I waked next morning to Gene Castleberry's reveille **ON BAGPIPES**, the first thing I saw was Aubrey Graves grinning at me through the rear deck window.

My fondest memory of Schollenberger relates to unveiling of the plaque at 31st Street in Georgetown. When the Park bill was finally passed in January 1971, we wanted to honor Justice Douglas. Proposals ran from striking a medal to presenting him a model canal boat. It occurred to me that we

could reverse that: Instead of giving something of the Canal to the Justice, why not give something of Douglas to the Canal? The *Letter of Challenge* to *The Washington Post* held the answer. I had the privilege and honor to select passages which would constitute an invitation from Douglas to future generations to "come--walk with me."

The chosen words came from different parts of the letter, but they fell together with an astonishing context of their own. When I related the proposed words to Bill Davies and Jack Durham, they said, "Don't touch a word; have it cast!" All this had to be done between January and May or June so the dedication could take place as the Court recessed and before the Justice took off for his Washington state vacation.

The plaque (with considerable help from Carrie Johnson) was in place in time, the ceremony was all set, and I was presiding. Before the assembled members, Justice Douglas, Cathy, guests, and the press, I explained the rationale of the plaque. When the moment came, I pulled the fastened cord--all the clothes pins, rubber bands, and other gimmicks worked fine. The golden velvet cover fell away to reveal the plaque. I started to *read* (recite) the words; having chosen them and worked with them for months, of course I knew them by heart. After the first few words my mind went blank - I leaned over, looked to my right to read from the plaque, but I couldn't see it. At that precise moment a stage whisper came up from somewhere in front of me, it triggered my mind and I recited the rest from memory.

As we mingled at the reception afterwards, I apologized to some who had stood in front of me for the awkward moment and the prompting. They all said, "We didn't hear anything." The sotto-voce had come from Lew Schollenberger, who was at the time Program Director for CBS, and who had immediately recognized the problem, handled it so professionally that nobody else knew. Thanks again, Lew.

Lew was faithful to many reunions until business, and especially his charitable interests, took him into other areas.

Lew was a native of Kansas City, Missouri, and a veteran of Atlantic naval service in World War II. Best described as a TV correspondent, he held several important positions in that capacity including coordinator of the Kennedy - Nixon debate during the 1960 campaign. He later became executive director of Radio Liberty and V.P. and manager of the Washington Office of the Advertising Council, Inc., from which he retired in 1980.

At 77, Lew succumbed to Alzheimer's disease, having outlived his wife of 52 years and one son. Survivors include a daughter, a brother, and two grandchildren.

The spirit you displayed in those early years is with us, Lew, and lives on -- we keep up the pace!

- - Ken Rollins

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LEWIS W. SHOLLENBERGER '54 HIKER

Lewis W. Shollenberger, former CBS correspondent and producer who walked with Justice Douglas on his famous 1954 through-hike on the C&O Canal towpath, died at 77 in March at a New Jersey nursing home. He did not endure to be among the "Immortal Nine," having gone only part way on the historic trek from Cumberland to Washington. But he retained his interest in the canal and was part of the original "C&O Canal Committee" headed by Douglas, which later was renamed the C&O Canal Association. He remained active as a member into the 1960s, serving on the organization's Board of Directors. As a founding father, he helped to build the Association, with a significant role in preparing the earliest structure and bylaws.

Shollenberger is remembered by his contemporaries as a very genial hiker who regaled his companions with stories as they walked along in 1954. Adele Donnelly, who went to greet the hikers as they approached Williamsport, recalls how she rode out on a mule to meet them, encountering Douglas in the lead with Shollenberger at his side. She wondered in trepidation whether the CBS correspondent would report having met her on a mule.

Shollenberger and his enthusiastic comrades promoted the C&O Canal park, and these farsighted men undertook their triumphal protest march from Cumberland to Washington. Only a few 1954 veterans remain, elderly men now tucked away in quiet retirement, heard from no more but remembered with gratitude.

- - Hal Larsen

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"OH WIND, IF WINTER COMES CAN SPRING BE FAR BEHIND?" (Shelley, Ode to the West Wind)

On these balmy June days some people might find it hard to recall the bitterly cold winter past, with its 16 snow, ice or sleet storms. But just over three months ago, at the March 5 C&O Canal Association annual meeting in Williamsport, members shivered and stamped their feet as they stood around an unperturbed John Frye, who lectured on the loading basin and warehouse facilities at this historic site. John looked hardy and warm (does he wear layered thermals under his ranger's uniform?). Meanwhile, we ached with cold but politely listened to John, hoping he would finish quickly. But he didn't want to omit anything, certainly not the tale of the boat captain who managed to crash through the Conococheague Aqueduct to plunge, masonry wall and all, into the creek below. On this arctic day the restored Cushwa warehouse, its reconstituted harbor covered with snow and ice, became a Currier and Ives scene. We huddled close, shielding each other from the harsh wind, more

concerned with our comfort than with the fate of the hapless captain. But John talked on, explaining Williamsport's importance as a commercial center on the canal and Cushwa's warehouse as a place where coal was stored and offloaded or loaded onto the boats tied up alongside the stone quay by the building. This information was all very edifying.

The C&O Canal is a fascinating place in any season; in our best-forgotten winter past the usually all-green prospect was all white. The colorful parkas made a brilliant splash against the snowy background but didn't completely ward off the cold.

Would we like to proceed down the canal to see the rewatering? Other suffering souls and I furtively broke away, hot coffee in mind, and made for the deli. We felt a little guilty, but the prospect of bringing frozen extremities back to life outweighed all other considerations.

Nevertheless, one couldn't help appreciating the wintry beauty of Williamsport, its proud warehouse presiding over the broad basin. The view recalled another time when boats crowded together, marooned by ice, and voices rang out as canallers shouted to each other. Now all is quiet, for yesteryear's commerce will not come here again.

What was white is now verdant, the basin reflects the blue sky, and lightly clad visitors on foot and bicycle crowd the towpath. Long forgotten is that freezing day in March. But unforgettable is John Frye, who entertains us with biking trips and interpretive hikes throughout the year.

- - Hal Larsen

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ARCHIVES NEEDS A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS

We recently moved equipment (computer, printer, copier) to the archives facility at Ferry Hill and are now collating our archival collection. Mario and Anne Abbate are working on our major asset, the Durham papers. They are copying all the documents in order to have something to use in making inventories, while the originals will be stored in protective containers.

We have several other smaller collections at the site: the Rottier and Blackburn photographs and papers, a newsletter file that Mimi Eller collected, and other materials from various donors. In addition, we have Ralph Donnelly's rather large file of Association miscellany, on which he will work. We also possess substantial slide and photograph collections and other material not yet delivered to the archives facility. We expect to receive these soon.

We invite volunteers to work on these collections. We are copying the documents, preparing a computerized inventory,

ARCHIVES - continued

identifying persons and places on photographs and slides, collating these pictorial assets, and placing them in protective containers.

We have all the essential furnishings, although we still need a carpet and a better table for the copier. But these minor shortcomings are not a detriment to the work.

Anyone interested in participating in preparing the archives should call Hal Larsen at 703-356-1809.

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AMERICAN DISCOVERY TRAIL UPDATE: FEASIBILITY STUDY REPORT

The American Discovery Trail is an east-west, coast-to-coast hiking route developed by the American Hiking Society, spanning nearly five thousand miles from Delaware to California. It includes the C & O Canal Towpath from Washington to Oldtown. The National Park Service Denver Service Center is currently heading an interagency study team to determine if the trail should be designated as a National Scenic Trail. The following material is excerpted from a recent newsletter issued by the interagency study team:

Over the past couple of months the interagency feasibility study team for the American Discovery Trail (ADT) has been asking some fundamental questions on the ADT:

- What are the trail's purposes or functions?
- What makes the ADT special?
- Does the ADT meet the criteria to qualify as a national scenic trail?
- Should the ADT be included in the national trails system?

The answers to these questions will form the basis for the feasibility study and will play a major role in determining whether or not the trail is recommended for inclusion in the national trails system.

PURPOSES OF NATIONAL SCENIC TRAILS AND THE ADT

One of the first steps in planning for any trail is identifying the trail's purposes. Trail purposes help us to understand why the ADT was created, and to determine what type of trail it is, how it is used, where it should be located, and how it should be managed. The purpose statements also can be used to develop different alternatives for the trail's use and management.

Before looking at the purposes specific to the ADT, we should understand national scenic trail purposes. In general, national scenic trails have five purposes in common.

- Increase trail recreation opportunities for all people.
- Be a stimulus for increased federal, state, local, grassroots, commercial, nonprofit, and industry trail activity and partnership.
- Heighten awareness, participation, stewardship, and support for trails.
- Provide access to outstanding examples of America's natural heritage.
- Stimulate the conservation of nationally important scenic, historic, natural, and cultural areas associated with the trail corridor.

The interagency feasibility study team has identified five additional purposes that apply specifically to the ADT:

- Provide a continuous coast-to-coast route for non-motorized user (e.g., hikers, bicyclists, equestrians).
- Establish a marked route connecting representative examples of America's heritage.
- Serve as an east-to-west spine, linking many major trails and strengthening the national network of trails.
- Enable trail users to experience the spectrum of American landscapes, from urban to rural, back country to wildlands.
- Create opportunities for people to meet, communicate with, and appreciate others from around America and the world.

POSSIBLE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ADT

To evaluate the ADT as a national trail, the interagency feasibility study team needs to understand the significance of the trail in a broad context. What, if anything, makes the ADT special? How does it differ from other trails in the country? The interagency study team identified four possible significant statements for the ADT, which are listed below. It is important to remember that although the feasibility study team believes the ADT has significance, it has not yet determined that the trail qualifies as a national trail.

The feasibility study team believed the significance of the ADT is that it:

- offers the only opportunity to travel by foot from

ADT - continued

coast to coast in North America on a route designated for that purpose.

- is the first trail to provide the necessary connections establishing a national network of trails.
- is the only contemporary long-distance trail that intentionally connects major metropolitan areas, small towns, rural areas, and back country areas.
- provides trail users the opportunity to experience a greater cross-section of America's natural regions and cultural heritage that is provided by any other trail.

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR NATIONAL SCENIC TRAILS

The interagency study team will be identifying alternative concepts or options for the ADT. Some of these options will be different ways of administering a national scenic trail; others may involve a completely different trail designation. For all of these options that involve designating the ADT as a national scenic trail, the trail should meet all of the purposes described earlier for national scenic trails. In addition, the trail must satisfy the five criteria listed below; the trail would not have to meet these criteria under other trail designations.

To qualify as a national scenic trail, the ADT will need to meet all of the following criteria. These criteria are based on the definitions and requirements for national scenic trails described in the National Trails System Act, standards the National Park Service has used to evaluate other proposed national trails, and general planning principles. It should be emphasized that the criteria are of equal importance.

- **Significance** - There should be nationally important cultural, historic, natural, recreational, or scenic features along the trail.
- **Length** - The trail should be at least 100 miles in length and continuous.
- **Accessibility** - The trail should complement other trails and recreation areas, and provide access where possible to nearby urban areas.
- **Trail Use** - National scenic trails should be designed only for hiking and other compatible non-motorized uses.
- **Desirability** - There should be an anticipated need for the trail and it should be capable of attracting visitors from across the nation. It should offer a scenic and enjoyable outdoor recreational

experience. There should be extensive local and regional support for the project.

This is an opportunity for you to get involved in the trail feasibility study. Your views are important to us, and we urge you to take a couple of minutes and tell us what you think. You are always welcome to write the ADT Interagency Study Team, c/o National Park Service, Denver Service Center (DSC-TCE), P.O. Box 25287, Denver, Colorado 80225-0287; or FAX your ideas to us at (303) 969-2068.

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TOM HOBBS RETIRES FROM NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Thomas O. Hobbs, who has been superintendent of the C&O Canal National Historical Park since December 1989, announced his retirement effective April 30th, 1994.

Tom Hobbs has been a good friend to the Association and very supportive of all of our activities. He brought to the park a fresh perspective based on a long career in park management throughout the country. As Barry Mackintosh notes in his history of the park, Hobbs' "affable, low key manner was well received among the park staff and the park's outside constituencies. A native of West Virginia, Tom has been in the National Park Service for thirty-three years. Before coming to the C & O Canal, he was superintendent of Isle Royale National Park, Michigan. Other park assignments during his career include: Mammoth Cave, Mesa Verde, Kennesaw Mountain, and Acadia. He was superintendent of Bryce Canyon National Park from 1976 to 1980, and chief ranger at Yellowstone from 1980 to 1985.

During his nearly four and one-half years as superintendent of the C & O Canal NHP, Tom has overseen the accomplishment of many major projects. These include the restoration of the Olmsted Island bridges, the rewatering of Williamsport and Hancock, rehabilitation of Dams #4 and #5, acquisition of the Georgetown visitors center, and construction of the Capital Crescent Trail from Georgetown to Dalecarlia.

Other significant accomplishments include development of the Heritage Education Program, expansion of the interpretive program, and hosting the 1992 International Conference on Historic Canals.

During his tenure, he supervised the reorganization of the park management structure to meet the needs of the park in the 1990's. This has been a period of major personnel turnover, and Tom had assembled an outstanding group of managers to direct the park's activities.

Tom and Alice will make their retirement home on Mount Desert Island, Maine, near Acadia National Park.

On The Level

By Keith D. Kridenoff
1994 Level Walker Chairman

After another harsh winter, spring has become a welcome sight. It's also a great time to walk your level as everything comes back to life. I would like to thank everyone who responded at the annual meeting to fill in the levels not covered in '93. We now have at least one person assigned to every level but 68 and 69 and are well on our way to 100% coverage. Anyone interested in taking one of the vacant sections or any other area please contact me at:

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

Welcome New Level Walkers!

Wayne & Christine Cerniglia	8
Norman McBurney	49
Bob Schoen	22
Frank & Michael Cook	62, 63 & 64
Ernest Green	6
Paul Hermsen	22

Level Walker Hikes

Level walker hikes are informal events open to all association members, their friends and families.

July 9th Saturday 10:00 A.M.

Level 9 - Pennyfield Lock 22 to Seneca Aqueduct

We'll meet at Riley's Lock and walk downstream to Pennyfields. Bring a lunch and we'll stop at Lock 22. Weather permitting.

August 21 Sunday 10:30 A.M.

Level 19 - Point of Rocks to Catoctin Creek Aqueduct

We'll meet at Point of Rocks RR station and walk upstream to Catoctin Creek. Bring a lunch. Weather permitting.

The following reports were received by the May 5th deadline. The next deadline is August 5th.

2 - 2.5 to 5

Old Boat Incline to Lock 5

Gera Millar (3/26,4/2)

Grafitti on worksite of RR bridge is bad. (looks gang related) This appears to be one of the most heavily traveled sections of the canal.

3 - 5 to 7.5

Lock 5 to Cabin John Creek

James & Joan Wilson (3/11,12,13)

Canal and towpath clean and in good shape despite harsh winter. Fresh beaver activity 400 yards below Sycamore Island on berm side.

4 - 7.5 to 9.4

Cabin John Creek to Lock 14

Carolyn Reeder (3/6)

Access path from MacArthur Blvd continues to erode and steps are rotted. Cut in canal bank opposite cabin on island in river continues to erode badly. Lift Lock 9 sign is still missing. Erosion under beltway bridge continues to increase.

5 - 9.8 to 12.5

Lock 14 to Old Anglers Inn

Jim Millar (3/26, 4/2)

Much beaver activity along level. New dam above western parking lot.

7 - 14.3 to 16.6

Great Falls to Swains Lock 21

George & Alice Kinter (5/2)

A blanket of blue phlox in full bloom between mile 16 and Swains. Areas at Great Falls and Swains were immaculate. Park employees at Great Falls were helpful and polite.

8 - 16.6 to 19.6

Lock 21 to Lock 22

Paul Davis (2/4, 4/13) Edwin Martin (4/6-8) Christine & Wayne Cerniglia (4/6)

Towpath in good condition. (4/13) Ranger was adjusting lock gates of Lock 23. Picnic area immaculate. Several trees cut down on berm side of canal near mile 17. (4/6)

9 - 19.6 to 22.8

Lock 22 to Seneca Creek

Barbara & John Newland (4/16)

Large number of aluminum cans in Lock 24. Several oil drums along river bank. High river level brought a good flow of water into the canal at Violettes Lock 23. Park service has done an excellent job of trimming along level.

10 - 22.8 to 25

Seneca Aqueduct to Tenfoot Island

Les Meil (3/22) Harry Bridges (4/28)

Water fountain at aqueduct now working. Milepost 24 knocked over on ground. Sections of towpath muddy from poor drainage.

11 - 25 to 27.2

Tenfoot Island to Sycamore Landing

Sharon Freedman (4/20)

Park ranger was inspecting culvert on level. Canal prism filled with still and stagnant water.

12 - 27.2 to 30.8

Sycamore Landing to Edwards Ferry

Stephen Pollock (3/12) Charles Otstot (4/28)

Mile 28.3, towpath berm breached by water exiting canal to towpath. This is a recurring problem. (3/12) Repaired by 4/28.

13 - 30.8 to 33

Edwards Ferry to Milepost 33

Bert Grose (2/26) Don Groelsema (4/14)

Towpath in good condition despite rainy weather. Traces of new beaver development. Turtles beginning to appear.

16 - 39.4 to 42.2

Lock 26 to Monocacy Aqueduct

Steve Dean (3/12, 4/23)

Towpath and structures in good condition after winter. Noted beaver swimming in canal across from lodge at mile 40.

17 - 42.2 to 44.6

Monocacy Aqueduct to Noland's Ferry

Alan & Win Fox (3/13) R. E. Adler (3/19)

Large number of beer cans along level. (3/13) Lots of flotsam and jetsam on the river bank. (3/13) Towpath in good condition but Indian Flats HBO needs work.

18 - 44.6 to 48.2

Noland's Ferry to Point of Rocks

Paul Redmer (4/28)

Persistent deep water filled holes on towpath about 45.5 and between 47 and 47.65.

19 - 48.2 to 51.5

Point of Rocks to Catoctin Creek

Lyman Stucker (1/8)

Towpath in good condition. Lock 28 lockhouse has been broken into.

20 - 51 to 54

Catoctin Creek to Brunswick

Thad Hecht (3/20) Mario & Anne Abbate (3/23)

Discarded dishwasher 100 yards east of 53.7. Catoctin Creek bridge was still closed for repairs. Port-a-pot no longer under bridge at boat ramp.

21 - 55 to 58

Brunswick to Weverton

David M. Johnson (4/23)

Four of the five culverts overgrown between locks 30 and 31 have been cleared. Areas around both locks have been cleared and well maintained.

23 - 60.5 to 62

Lock 33 to Dam 3

Michael Reges & Kathy Wotring (3/19)

Most garbage seems to be tossed from road above. Towpath in remarkably good shape despite winter.

26 - 67 to 69.4

Lock 37 to Antietam Creek

Rick Clement (3/13)

Usual assortment of beer and liquor bottles and abundant styrofoam debris from flooding. Mountain Lock Rec Area and Lock 37 in need of trashcans.

28 - 72.8 to 74

Lock 38 to Lock 39

John Frye (3/20)

Ice covered towpath poor for walking. Towpath heavily used despite conditions.

31 - 79.4 to 81.6

Lock 40 to Marsh Run Culvert

Barry & Debbie Kistler (4/15)

Two sunken boats 100 yards upstream of Taylors Landing. Also a large dead tree suspended across towpath at mile 79.68. New store near towpath at mile 81, "Wheels & Reels" selling items needed by campers and hikers.

34 - 88.1 to 88.6

McMahons Mill to Opequon Jct.

Tom & Linda Perry (4/9)

Much debris and fallen tree near mile 88.3. Structure resembling outhouse remains fallen on its side near towpath.

39 - 102.26 to 104.98

High Rock Quarry to Nessle RR Bridge

Rita Bauman (3/13)

Deep snow from 101 to 102. Spotted many deer tracks and recent beaver cuttings. Jordan Junction HBO sign needs to be replaced.

42 - 108.6 to 110.4

Lock 47 to Culvert 142

John Ziegler (4/8)

Graffiti painted on both McCoys Ferry outhouses. Water seeping from canal has flooded most campsites.

44 - 112.4 to 114.5

Fort Frederick to Ernstville

Jane & Hal Larsen (3/6)

Deep snow & slippery conditions prevented walking entire level. Towpath was clear of debris as far as the eye could see despite heavy winds.

45 - 114.5 to 116

Ernstville to Licking Creek

James Doherty (4/14)

Very little trash to pick up. Spent most of the time removing fallen tree limbs from towpath.

47 - 120 to 124.1

Little Pool to Hancock

Jim & Sally Bryant (4/22)

This section of canal is very well maintained. Many spring flowers beginning to bloom.

49 - 127.4 to 130.7

Roundtop Cement Mill to Lock 53

Norman McBurney (3/13)

Two trees near mile 130.4 have collapsed into canal tearing out part of towpath bank. Beaver lodge near mile 129.2 with tracks nearby indicating activity.

50 - 130 to 134

Lock 53 to Dam 6

Gren Whitman & Janice Plotczyk (4/2)

Pulled one tire from canal prism. Level otherwise very clean

51 - 134.1 to 136.6

Dam 6 to Sideling Hill Creek

John Popenoe (4/28)

Small cave-in near Polly Pond boarded off. Water in canal for entire length.

53 - 140.9 to 146.6

Fifteen Mile Creek to Lock 59

Gary Petrichick (4/9)

Large amount of trash above 143.4 due to popular fishing spot. Towpath and Devils Alley HBO in good condition after winter.

65 - 173.4 to 175.5

Spring Gap to Lock 74

Mary Twigg (4/2)

Towpath, lock and lockhouse all in good condition.

66 - 175.5 to 177.7

Lock 74 to Mexico Farms

Jim Sartwell (3/26) Mary Twigg (3/29)

Most garbage was concentrated near North Branch area. Condition of towpath, though muddy, was excellent after winter.

67 - 177.7 to 180.7

Mexico Farms to Evitts Creek

Mary Twigg (4/1,2)

Many pot holes filled on towpath and now in good shape. Prison looks nearly finished.

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NATURE NOTES - PROFILE OF PARK VISITORS

One weekend after another, and to a larger extent during each week, hundreds of people flock to the nearby towpath--couples, families, and single hikers, bird-watchers, or bicyclists. They cover the age span from infants in backpacks or strollers to elderly men and women in wheelchairs (at least one self-propelled) on crutches, or walking with a cane.

License plates in the parking lots at Great Falls and elsewhere along the towpath show that some visitors come from places as far away as British Columbia, Alaska, California, and Maine. Probably every state is represented at least once during the year.

Visitors also come from foreign countries, some with British accents or speaking French, Italian, Spanish, languages of the Far East, or other languages. Many of these come only once. Others, stationed in the area by their governments,

NATURE NOTES - continued

may make repeated visits. One British citizen came to the park whenever her husband attended a meeting of the World Bank in Washington. A group of French-speaking teenagers came once, accompanied by two adults who spoke English as well as French.

During 1993, the three volunteer leaders of the Park's "Sights and Sounds of the Seasons" walks had more than 500 Park visitors participating in the 48 walks scheduled during the year. Some participants were repeaters, enjoying the comradeship of repeated visits as well as the beauties of the changing seasons along the canal and river.

Among those coming only once during 1993, were visitors from Taiwan and England. Others who joined the group on a single occasion included Friends of Great Falls Tavern (this group schedules a spring wildflower walk each year), 12 visitors from the Silver Spring Boys' and Girls' Club, 32 biology teachers representing 32 different states who came to the Park during their three-week course at the University of Maryland, and 47 participants from the Ashbury Methodist Retirement Home in Gaithersburg.

Data for this profile are from a 1993 summary report prepared by Betty Bushell, one of the three volunteer leaders for "Sights and Sounds of the Seasons" walks which are scheduled by the Park Service on the first and last Wednesday and Saturday, every month of the year. The walks start at Great Falls Tavern at 10:00 a.m.

- - Helen Johnston

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READING IN THE ROUGH

Did you ever wonder what personal items C&O Canal long-distance hikers carry in their backpacks--besides sunscreen, bug spray, flashlight, dry socks, compass, trail mix, poncho, band-aids, flask and other musts? I'm thinking here of **books**, because for the distance hiker to be without reading material is a fate worse than blisters. The walkers participating in the recent "through hike" apparently came well prepared.

Not surprisingly, canal guides were much in evidence, as were bird-, wildflower- and tree-identification texts. These were the hikers' "day" books. But what did folks read when the day's trek was done? Nosy Librarian wanted to know.

The laboratory for her unscientific survey was the April 17-30 William O. Douglas Reunion Hike, Cumberland to Georgetown, marking the 40th anniversary of Justice Douglas's 1954 "protest march" that saved the canal from the roadbuilders. Here's what some of the 50 stalwarts read by moon- or fire-light (it's only a sample; I wasn't able to poke into every backpack):

Current fiction: Pelican Brief, by John Grisham; Postcards, by Annie Proulx; Chesapeake, by James Michener; Possessing the Secret of Joy, by Alice Walker; Seven Days to Petrograd, by Vernon Tom Hyman

Older fiction: Beulah Land, by Lonnie Coleman; World of Wonders, by Robertson Davies; Under Oath, by Shelby Yastrow

Historical fiction: Germinal [19th-century French coalminers' strike], by Emile Zola; Water Gipsies [barge life on an English canal], by A. P. Herbert

Classics: Huckleberry Finn and Tom Sawyer, by Mark Twain

International relations: Head to Head: The Coming Economic Battle Among Japan, Europe and America, by Lester C. Thurow

Adventure: Miles from Nowhere: A Round-the-World Bicycle Adventure, by Barbara Savage; Steaming to Bamboola, by Christopher T. Buckley

History: The Indians of North America (author?)

Political history: The New Soviet Constitution of 1977, by Robert Sharlet

Local history: Small-Town Destiny: The Story of Five Small Towns Along the Potomac Valley, by Gilbert Gude; Dakota, a Spiritual Geography, by Kathleen Norris

Biography: Brave Companions: Portraits in History, by David G. McCullough; Nicholas and Alexandra, by Robert K. Massie; Leftover Life to Kill [about Dylan Thomas], by Caitlin Thomas

Spirituality: On the Soul, by Aristotle [bilingual Greek-English edition]; Handbook of Prayers, by James Socias

Environment: Cadillac Desert: The American West and Its Disappearing Water, by Marc Reisner

Heavier reading: An Ellery Queen mystery and a Louis L'Amour Western

Finally: How to Shit in the Woods, by Kathleen Meyer [Note to blue-pencilers: this is a serious book, its subject of vital concern to folks spending two weeks in the rough, where hiker-bikers aren't all that numerous]

So, there it is: you may have wondered what President Clinton carries in his pockets or Queen Elizabeth stuffs in her purse, but now you're enlightened about **backpack books**. (There were interesting conversations along those 185 miles!)

- Nosy Librarian

(a.k.a. Jane Larsen)

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Chief, Interpretation Branch

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Supv Ranger - Fee Collection

Supv Ranger - District Interpreter

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Steve Pittleman

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GEORGETOWN VISITORS CENTER

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

Park Ranger - Subdistrict Interpreter

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

District Interpreter

Dwight Stinson 301-739-4200 x237

Martin Gallery 301-678-5463

Monocacy Subdistrict

Conococheague Subdistrict

Four Locks

Paw Paw

Bill Orlando

John Bailey

Bob Gray

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Fred Viers

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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

SKY WATCHING

Two of the most spectacular celestial events to the naked eye are the Aurora Borealis and meteor showers. The unpredictability of the Aurora makes its observation a chance occurrence, but meteor showers perform regularly and on schedule. The following table was copied from a now forgotten college text and has served our family well for many years.

METEOR SHOWERS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Maximum</u>	<u>Duration Above 25% of Maximum</u>	<u>Approximate Limits</u>	<u>Number per Hour at Maximum</u>
Quadrantids	Jan 4	1 day	Jan 1-6	110
Lyrids	April 22	2 days	April 19-24	12
Eta Aquarids	May 5	3 days	May 1-8	20
Delta Aquarids	July 27-28	-	Jul 15-Aug 15	35
Perseids	Aug 12	5 days	Jul 25-Aug 18	68
Draconids	Oct 9	-	-	-
Orionids	Oct 21	2 days	Oct 16-26	30
Taurids	Nov 8	-	Oct 20-Nov 30	12
Leonids	Nov 17	-	Nov 15-19	10
Geminids	Dec 14	3 days	Dec 7-15	58

City lights diminish visibility considerably, making it well worth your while to seek a rural location for the more spectacular showers. The best viewing hours are after midnight so be prepared to lose some sleep. The shower's name indicates the constellation where it seems to originate, but usually the whole sky is your stage.

Those with a photographic bent may want to set up a tripod for some long time exposures. Your pictures will show a lot of curved lines representing stars as they "move" across the sky, and the brighter straight streaks will be meteors. Shooting a fairly low angle will give you a silhouette of the horizon but sacrifice some sky. Your library will have books with exposure information. Happy viewing!

- - Gary Petrichick

ARCHIVES NEEDS A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS

We recently moved equipment (computer, printer, copier) to the archives facility at Ferry Hill and are now collating our archival collection. Mario and Anne Abbate are working on our major asset, the Durham papers. They are copying all the documents in order to have something to use in making inventories, while the originals will be stored in protective containers.

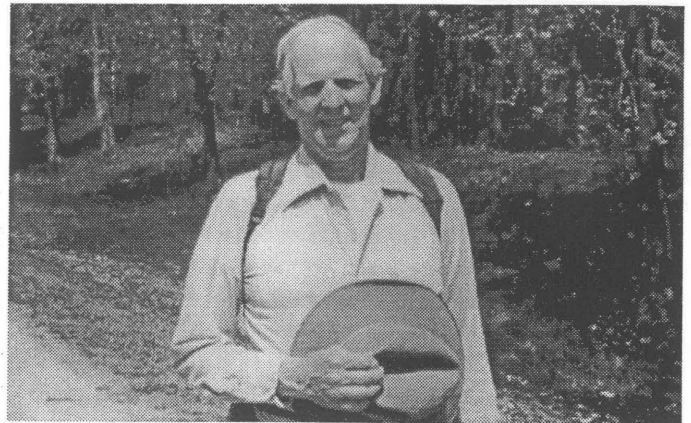
We have several other smaller collections at the site: the Rottier and Blackburn photographs and papers, a newsletter file that Mimi Eller collected, and other materials that various donors have contributed. In addition, we have Ralph Donnelly's rather large file of Association miscellany, which he will work on. We also possess substantial slide and photograph collections and other material not yet delivered to the archives facility. We expect to receive these soon.

We invite volunteers to work on these collections. We are copying the documents, preparing a computerized inventory, identifying persons and places on photographs and slides, collating these pictorial assets, and placing them in protective containers.

We have all the essential furnishings, although we still need a carpet and a better table for the copier. But these minor shortcomings are not a detriment to the work.

Anyone interested in participating in preparing the archives should call Hal Larsen at 703-356-1809.

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Carl Linden near Williamsport

- - Photo courtesy Hal Larsen

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.
Jun 26	Sun	Board Meeting, Williamsport Library, 1:00 p.m.
Jul 2	Sat	VIP Day - No activity this month.
Jul 9-10	Sat-Sun	Cumberland Canal Boat Festival.
Jul 16	Sat	Canoe the River from Brunswick to Monocacy landing. Contact Carl Linden (301) 229-2398 or Ken Rollins (804) 448-2934.
Jul 23	Sat	New Members Interpretive Hike - John Frye will lead this hike which starts and ends at Point of Rocks (Mile 48.20). Walk will be to Catoclin Creek Aqueduct (Mile 51.53). This particular stretch of Towpath has aqueducts, Locks 28 and 29, lock housed, culverts, and remains of a pivot bridge. (Pages 84-88 of the <i>Towpath Guide</i>). While this hike is for new members, all members are welcome. Meet at Point of Rocks Railroad Station. Parking is available in the station's parking lot. Starting time will be 10 a.m. and the hike will take approximately 2½ hours. Picnic afterwards for those interested. Food can be obtained locally. See pages 10 and 11 of the <i>Guide to Food and Lodging</i> .
Aug 6	Sat	VIP Day - No activity this month.
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.
Sep 3	Sat	VIP Day - 9 a.m. to Noon. Meet at Great Falls Tavern.
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 - Cancelled
Sep 25	Sun	Board Meeting, Tom and Linda Perry's, 116 Conococheague St., Williamsport, 1:00 p.m.
Oct 1	Sat	VIP Day - 9 a.m. to Noon. Place and work to be announced.
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).

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DOUGLAS HIKE REUNIONS

Paul E. Hauck, who joined Justice Douglas and his hikers at the Potomac Fish and Game Club, Falling Waters, the evening of March 13, 1954, and who completed the hike with them, sent these reminiscences of how the annual C&O Canal Association reunions came to be:

Lagniappe

Late in 1954, I wrote a letter to Jack Durham suggesting that we plan a reunion for the 1st anniversary of the hike. In response, Jack named me to a reunion committee along with Connie Southworth, Grant Conway, and Jack himself.

While I thought of a reunion primarily as a means of renewing friendships made along the towpath a year earlier, Jack saw it as an opportunity to broaden support for our objectives. (Although there was now little chance of the canal property being paved over, opposition to creating a national park was intense--and growing.)

In the end we arrived at a compromise format. We planned a purely social get-together for the original hikers on Friday night open to all comers. The committee spent about 2 months planning that first reunion, revising the plans many times and making weekly field trips to locate likely spots for the weekend

activities. (We finally chose to meet Friday night at a small cabin on the berm side of the canal just below Paw Paw tunnel. The banquet was set for the Alexander Hotel in Hagerstown.) That first reunion pattern has survived basically unchanged in the years since, although the Friday night gathering gradually became less viable as the members of the original party dwindled.

Now the 40th reunion weekend approaches. While I will not be walking the towpath this time, I certainly will be along in spirit. I wish all the participants good weather, good fellowship, and good luck. And don't forget the moleskin.

This article was received from Miss Paula Strain of Rockville. In addition, Paula included the following:

Some might be interested in knowing that there were no women on the Douglas hikes until the 2nd or 3rd reunion, when Mrs. Packard joined the walk. (Her husband was a conservation official and she herself later became a Fairfax County Supervisor.) Her presence produced an amusing incident. Since she arrived in camp late at night, most of the party were, at first, unaware of her presence. In the morning, Justice Douglas walked into the camp's ladies bathroom to shave and came running out in seconds. "My God, there's a woman in the ladies room," he gasped.

Below we have listed all those who took part in the Douglas Hike. If your name has been erroneously listed, left out, misplaced, misspelled, arbitrarily footnoted or--not footnoted, feel free to write an irate letter to the editor demanding a formal apology to be published in the next issue of Along the Towpath.
- - Carl Linden

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY DOUGLAS C & O CANAL HIKE: APRIL 17 TO 30, 1994

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ALL THE WAY¹

Charles F. Ayres
Patricia G. Barnett²
Eugene Bergman³
June Bergman
Agnes Castleman⁴
Donald R. Juran
Kenneth P. Lapeyre
Charles Laughlin
Estelle Laughlin
J. M. Lewis
Walter F. Lipski⁵

Edward K. Miller
Frederick Mopsik
Judith Mopsik
Louis A. Odom
Gary M. Petrichick

Vivian Pittman⁶
Michael A. Schuchat
Donald Shaw
Helen Shaw
Inge Silton
Jack Stickles
Arthur T. Stier
Richard D. Stoll
Connie Toops⁷
Paul W. *Bigfoot* Tourigny
Elaine Viner
John Viner
Nick Weber
Patricia Ann White

ALMOST

Peggy Weber

MOSTLY

Mario Abbate ⁸
Kenneth K. Lacey
James Preston

FIRST WEEK

Christine Cerniglia
Wilton Corkern
Donald Groelsema
Gladys Horton
Kathryn Mulligan
Alan Walls
Jean Wilson

SECOND WEEK

Richard Bannister ⁹
Maston Gray
Susan Van Buren ¹⁰

DAY HIKERS

Ronald Conelly
Norma K. R. Hendrikson ¹¹
Harold Larsen ¹²
Jane Larsen ¹³
Robert Perry ¹⁴
Jane Perry
Tom Perry ¹⁵
Linda Perry ¹⁶
Mary Riley
Elizabeth Stone
Joan Trettau
Jackie Wilson
John Ziegler
Marge Ziegler

FACILITATORS ¹⁷

Donna Boies
Sonny De Forge
Midge Heimer
Carl Linden
Ken Rollins

-
1. Very few footnotes here. Enough glory as it is.
 2. Three Timer
 3. Flag Bearer - Old Glory all the way. C&O Banner also on last day.
 4. Cumberland Non-camping Canal Commuter.
 5. A little bit of Segovia and Hank Snow?
 6. Op. cit., footnote 4.
 7. Photographer of WILD Life including the hikers.
 8. So near, yet so far... Left to go fencing in Boston next to the last day! I bet Mario has a "I'd rather be fencing" sticker on his bumper.
 9. Came all the way from California and was seduced by the canal's charm. Wished he could have gone all the way.
 10. Yes, it IS Martin's family.
 11. Member C & O Canal Feline Rescue Team.
 12. Canal Explorer, Expedition Organizer, and Archivist
 13. Librarian and the Archivist's Wife -- Birds of a Feather Flock Together.
 14. Well known Editor of a well known Canal Periodical. (Send all letters of complaint here.)
 15. Sky Pilot

16. Another Perry. She's the Co-Sky Pilot, but, no need to identify all these Perrys: They all are the Perry Perrys.

17. Whatever was said in the lead article about the hikers being self-starters, the truth is they all would have been lost without these nattering outdoor nannies tending them.

Reflections on the 1994 Justice Douglas Commemorative Hike

Photographs courtesy Hal Larsen and Carl Linden



Walter Lipski, June Bergman, Sonny DeForge, and Mario Abbate at Hancock



Ken Rollins and Nancy Long at Hancock



Happy Hikers



Gettin' ready for dinner
John Viner and Gene Bergman