Join Conductor Michael Ditkoff as he conducts the October 25 Heritage Hike from Point of Rocks to Monocacy Aqueduct, a round trip of about 12 miles. Food stores in Point of Rocks sell food and drink so you can stock up before beginning the hike. Bus service will be available for those who want to hike one way. Meet at the Point of Rocks Station at 9:15 AM. At 9:30, he will present an interesting program on the canal and Baltimore and Ohio Railroad:

See where the railroad engraved on the station’s exterior the high water marks—from two previous floods.

Hear the story about the railroad and canal company locked in litigation over who was going to build westward

See railroad signals in operation. (This is a refresher for those who attended the signal discussion at Weverton on the last Heritage Hike.)

Learn why “Rocks” has two railroad mileposts.

Learn about Old Main Line and Metropolitan Subdivisions railroad operations.

A rail/trail guide, covering significant railroad and canal mileposts along the hike, will be given to participants. The guide covers Monocacy Aqueduct to Brunswick even though this hike is only half the distance. The other section will eventually be covered in the “Continuing Canal Hike” series.

Activities at the Aqueduct are not confirmed at press time and will be printed in the September issue.
HERITAGE HIKE - continued

The evening banquet will be held at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 110033 River Road, Potomac, MD. The church is near the intersection of River and Falls Roads, across from the shopping center on River Road. Happy Hour will be from 4 - 6 followed by buffet dinner at 6. The banquet speaker, Conductor Ditkoff, will continue the history of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad after its merger with the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad in 1963. The first 140 years were covered at last year's Heritage Hike banquet. A registration form will be included in the next issue of ALONG THE TOWPATH.

The tentative timetable is:

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<tr>
<th>a.m.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:15</td>
<td>Assemble at Point of Rocks Station</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>Interpretive talk about the station, canal, and railroad operations</td>
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<td>10:10</td>
<td>Hikers and first bus trip leave for Monocacy Aqueduct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Second bus trip leaves Point of Rocks for Monocacy Aqueduct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Hikers arrive Monocacy Aqueduct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>Hikers and first bus leave Aqueduct for Point of Rocks</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00</td>
<td>Second bus trip leaves Aqueduct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30</td>
<td>Hikers arrive Point of Rocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-6</td>
<td>Happy Hour at St. Francis Episcopal Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>Buffet dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:15</td>
<td>Banquet Speech on &quot;The Baltimore &amp; Ohio Railroad - the next 35 years&quot;</td>
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ALL ABOARD -- Michael Ditkoff

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<tr>
<td>Mark Your Calendar Now</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997 Heritage Hike, Saturday, October 25,</td>
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From the headline of this issue, one understands that we attempt to highlight COCA activities in this issue. From the recent Justice Douglas Hike, canoe trips, the fall bike trip and fall Heritage Hike, to mention a few, COCA offers many ways to enjoy our Canal. Read what President Gary has to say about it.....

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Back in 1989 this Yankee was looking for a flatter area than northern Pennsylvania and the Finger Lakes region of New York for bicycle touring. By chance, I discovered the C&O Canal with its level towpath and frequent campsites. The rest, as they say, is history. I can't count the days I've spent bicycling, hiking, canoeing and camping between Cumberland and Georgetown, but they have been some of the best days of my life. I've always been interested in nature, history and man's engineering marvels and I've since filled my mind with the Canal's richness of each, but it was recreation that drew me to the Canal.

Exploring the communities along the way was another aspect of finding the Canal. Towns, mostly unknown to me but some of which I'd driven through with barely a passing glance, were now oases on a long trek, eagerly anticipated as I pedaled or plodded along. One-time strangers became warm friends, with scarcely a town where I can't make a phone call for help if needed, and if I've planned my trip wisely, there'll be a festival to add to my enjoyment.

I've climbed into my tent on nights so sweltering that I could barely sleep and I've awakened to scrape frost before I could pack my tent. I've seen the coming of spring, the fullness of summer, the splendor of fall and the desolation of winter. I've pedaled through driving rain and mud, and I've hiked on snow and ice. I've even been in the Paw Paw Tunnel in fog so dense you couldn't see the end from a hundred feet inside. Each change in weather and season presents a new canal and you owe it to yourself to see them all.

The moral of the story is, of course, that no matter what else the Canal offers, and it offers so much, it gives us wide-ranging recreational opportunities. Walk an easy mile, pedal a brisk sixty or paddle what you will. Wile away an hour or backpack for a week. Lose yourself in the array of natural wonders or in reveries of Civil War battles. Enjoy solitude or the camaraderie of many. Best, do them all.

If you need incentive, join us on any of the many Association outings; hikes, bike or canoe trips and weekend festivals. We can always use company at our booth and you'll find that each experience opens you to more. See you along the towpath!

-- Gary M. Petrichick

---

Gary and Superintendent Faris at Olmsted Island Bridge opening.
Photo Hal Larsen

Along the Towpath
THE 43RD ANNUAL DOUGLAS HIKE

The 43rd annual Justice William O. Douglas Reunion Hike took place on April 19. The March route extended from Cohill Station at mile 130.72 to Hancock. About 100 hikers were out on a fine spring day. Walking conditions were near perfect, and nearly everyone completed the journey in record time. As the only reported casualty, Chris Hahn’s huge dog Bear, well named for his enormous size and uncanny resemblance to his woodland namesake, just couldn’t make it. This cumbersome beast, overcome by fatigue, flopped down in the shade and refused to budge any further. Sonny DeForge, moved to compassion by this ferocious-looking creature’s piteous cries, conveyed the animal to his air-conditioned car to complete the journey in comfort. Since Bear must weigh several hundred pounds, it remains a mystery how this conveyance was carried out. Further details will be reported in ALONG THE TOWPATH as additional information becomes available.

A banquet followed at the Hancock American Legion, which the lodge’s ladies and gentlemen served with their usual elegance. After the meal, Carl Linden made a few remarks about the efforts to secure funding to restore the Monocacy Aqueduct. Ralph Donnelly followed up with an interesting talk concerning Hancock and its history, offering a splendid presentation on this place that he knows well owing to his long residence there. This small river town played an important role as a way station on the Canal and trading center for its rural hinterland. Today Hancock is perhaps best known for Weaver’s Restaurant, but also for its motel accommodations. Some Association members spent the night there. Ever eager to learn more about local customs and mores, a few hardy souls selected a well-worn hostelry locally known as a good place for a short stay (for whatever reason), and thus they became acquainted with the exciting local life at this level. Other less adventurous members took themselves to the Econolodge, which is to Hancock what the Ritz is to Paris. Their stay there was less exciting but perhaps more restful.

Sonny DeForge was as usual masterful in organizing this event. Everything fell into place—bus transportation, the hike itself, and the happy hour and meal afterward with the interesting talks. Sonny does this so well that we will surely ask him for repeat performances.

-- Hal Larsen

Along the Towpath
THROUGH BIKE TRIP SET FOR OCTOBER

So you wanted to, but didn't get to participate in last year's aborted bike trip from Cumberland to Georgetown! Well, here is the trip you have been waiting for all along, and it calls for doing only 30 miles a day (average), with a capable and genial guide, beautiful October weather, and the companionship of other members of our Association.

Here's the plan: we will again take advantage of the Columbus Day weekend to enable those who are still gainfully employed to participate for all or part of the time without missing a lot of work. That means gathering in Cumberland by mid-morning on Saturday, October 11 and winding up in Georgetown on Thursday, October 16. You will need to arrange your own transportation, and people in the same area could find creative ways of so doing. We will stay at Hiker/Bikers along the way and do some cooking, so camp gear needs to be included. If you want to stay at motels or Bed and Breakfasts, you should plan to make reservations in advance. (See the Food and Lodging Guide.)

Mark this down now, and call me if you have questions. More information about this trip will appear in the next Issue of Along the Towpath.

- - Tom Perry (301) 223-7010.

FIRST HIKE OF THE CONTINUING HIKE SERIES

A group of ten people gathered in the parking lot at the Dargan Bend Recreation Area (mile 64.9) on Sunday, March 2 under threatening skies for the first of a series of short walks that will allow people, over time, to walk the entire length of the Canal in easy segments. Covering segments of the Towpath that are rarely, if ever, included in the April Douglas Reunion Hike and October Fall Heritage Hike, the length of these hikes will depend on the desires and walking ability of those who show up to make them. In its informality and flexible character, this walk was perhaps typical of what can be expected from future "Continuing Hike Series" walks.

During the walk downstream the group identified structures in Tom Hahn's TOWPATH GUIDE with comments on birds, plants and geology being provided by some of the knowledgeable walkers. At lock 34 (mile 61.6) part of the group chose to return to the starting point. (The ability of walkers to walk only as a long as they wish or have time for is one of the advantages of these round-trip walks.) During the return walk this group took a side trip from the towpath near lock 36, making their way up a steep, narrow valley to find an historic quarry associated with the Antietam iron furnace a few miles away.

Continuing to Harpers Ferry (mile 60.7), the remainder stopped in the town for lunch and a visit to the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park book store before walking back along the towpath to their vehicles at Dargan Bend. Aside from a couple of periods of light showers, the weather held and neither umbrellas nor ponchos were needed.

- - Karen Gray

CONTINUING HIKE SERIES

These small circuit hikes are designed to explore the Canal. In conjunction with the Reunion and Heritage hikes we expect to complete the entire 184.5 miles of the Canal over 3 to 5 years. Come join us.

Because the 1997 Heritage hike will be between Point of Rocks and the Monacacy Aqueduct we have changed the location for the September Hike.

Sunday September 7, 10:00 AM: Violettes Lock toward Great Falls. We may reach Swains Lock. This section is filled with many birds and animals and contains some impressive cliffs. Parts of the Towpath were severely damaged by flood waters in 1996. To reach Violettes Lock from Potomac, MD, follow River Road west about 6 to 8 miles to a left on Violettes Lock Road.

Saturday December 6, 10:00 AM: Frostbite Hike from Violettes Lock to the Cutting Mill above Seneca. The Smithsonian Castle came through the Cutting Mill in pieces.

1998 hikes are in the planning stages. We will do the five miles between Point of Rocks and Brunswick completing a 25 mile section between Monacacy and Harpers Ferry. A Spring Flower hike is probable. Additional hikes are planned between Little Orleans and the Paw-Paw Tunnel.

Contest. We need a better name for this series of hikes. Please submit suggestions to Pat White. Later this year the committee (Rachel Stewart, Mike Ditkoff, Karen Gray, and Pat White) will pick a name from those submitted. Prize to be announced.

We are also interested in ideas for keeping track of mileage completed toward the entire 184.5 miles.

We are actively seeking additional hike leaders. Please volunteer if you are knowledgeable about a section of the canal or are simply willing to lead a walk.

Ride sharing: If you need a ride or are willing to drive someone else, call Pat White at least a week before the hike. Leave name, phone number, location, and if you want a ride or are willing to drive someone else. She will attempt to match drivers and riders but neither the C&O Canal Association nor Pat accept any responsibility or risk.

-- Pat White (301-977-5628)
Spring is almost here and now is a great time to get out and see how the canal has survived this (fortunately) mild winter. If anyone needs any more reporting sheets I have revised them and can mail or send them via e-mail. If Mother Nature cooperates we will have a more successful year than 1996. Thanks to the Internet we have signed on several new level walkers. Modern technology is wonderful. Also if you have the opportunity, please visit our Website (http://www.cyberrealm.net/canal); I think you will find it interesting and very professionally done. The increased activity and interest in the level walker program (as attested by the new level walkers below) is a great sign. Let’s keep up the good work and make this our best year yet. As always if you are interested in becoming a level walker, please contact me at the many venues of communication below and I will be happy to accommodate you!

1725 Red Oak Road
Baltimore MD 21234-3707
(410) 661-6130
kela@bellatlantic.net

**WELCOME NEW LEVEL WALKERS!**

1 - Rachel Stewart
2 - Laura Gilliam
9 - Mike Schuchat
   Carter Skinner
11 - Kumar Vaswani
17 - Cheryl Hoover
18 - John & Patty Hawley
26 - Bob & Joan Fisher
35 - Dave & Audrey Engstrom
36 - Mr. & Mrs. Harry Davis
42 - Katrina Hedlesky
45 - Blair & Nancy Bower
   Joe Kochenderfer
49 - Bill & Sue McAllister
52 - Craig Zane & Ginny Garretson
53 - Steven Hill
56 - Pat White
58 - Alan & Kit Franklin
64 - Mary Ann Moen
63,64,65,66 & 67 Jim Preston

And Thanks to the following for taking on an extra level!

10 - John & Valerie Wheeler
24 - Karen Gray
48 - Bill Hibbard

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

3 - 5 to 7.5
Lock 5 to Cabin John Creek
James Wilson (4/25/26/27)
Towpath very clean with lock 6 break repaired. Wildflowers along level still in profusion.

5 - 9.4 to 12.3
Lock 14 to Cropley
Sam Moore (1/23)
Towpath was remarkably clean and prism was still dewatered with nothing unusual to report.

6 - 12.3 to 14.3
Cropley to Lock 20 Great Falls
Harry Bridges (3/11,4/8)

7 - 14.3 to 16.6
Lock 20 Great Falls to Lock 21 Swains
Mark Page (3/9)
Very little trash to be picked up with signs of heavy equipment use on towpath. Water level was down to a trickle.

8 - 16.6 to 19.6
Lock 21 Swains to Lock 22 Pennyfields
Maggie & Paul Davis (2/19,3/18)
Filled one bag of trash in each parking lot at either end of level. Road from Pennyfield parking lot to canal still soggy but much work has been done since last visit. Canal prism has been thoroughly cleaned and towpath resurfaced along entire level. Kudos to the park service. (2/19) Work crews working on towpath with heavy equipment. Tree down at mile 19.1 on towpath side of canal. (3/18)

*Along the Towpath*
On The Level - continued

9 - 19.6 to 22.8
Lock 22 Pennyfields to Seneca Aqueduct
Michael Schuchat (3/8) Jeff Brown (5/2)
Two steel drums just west of Blockhouse Point. Water level in canal very low but Potomac running high and swift. Three large blocks from top of retaining wall near Blockhouse point have fallen but it looks like repairs are under way. (3/8) Towpath extensively repaired and stone wall at mile 20.2 lost stones from top. They have been removed from the towpath for later repair. (5/2)

12 - 27.2 to 30.8
Sycamore Landing to Edwards Ferry
Stephen Pollock (1121)
Ferry was closed due to ice on the river. Tree across towpath 1.65 miles upstream of Sycamore Landing. Towpath was muddy in some places and frozen in others but otherwise in good shape.

13 - 30.8 to 33
Edwards Ferry to Milepost 33
Bert Grose (1/25)
Three walkers who followed me along my walk picked up the trash I had thrown up from the bank for nearly two miles.

14 - 33 to 35.5
Harrison Island to Whites Ferry
Herbert Madison (2/20)
In addition to 4 bags of trash I also removed a stepladder, tire and a plastic bucket. Erosion of towpath at mile 38.1 still evident. Marble Quarry HBO had been cleaned up nicely.

19 - 48.2 to 51.5
Point of Rocks to Catoctin Creek Aqueduct
Jack & Pat Cook (4/10)
Large amount of trash picked up between mile 51 and 51.5. Two trees tipped over at 51.3 and 51.4 need filling in. Lockhouse sign missing.

20 - 51.5 to 55
Catoctin Creek Aqueduct to Lock 30 Brunswick
Mario & Anne Abbate (4/24)
Large mudholes near mile 53 have been filled in. Old trailers being removed by NPS at mile 53.85. (finally!) Much beaver activity at Little Catoctin Creek.

22 - 58 to 60.7
Lock 31 Weverton to Lock 33 Harpers Ferry
Joe Ruth (1/23)
Towpath restored after last years flooding. A little rough below Lock 33 but still passable.

24 - 62.3 to 65.1
Dam 3 to Dargan Quarry
Ron Howard (4/8) Karen M. Gray (2/2, 3/2, 4/5)
Very little trash in canal prism, most was flood debris between towpath and river. Also found several pieces of sheet metal to be later picked up by NPS personnel. (4/8) Very little garbage on this well used level. Towpath in good condition with signs of recent repairs.

28 - 72.8 to 74
Lock 38 to Lock 39
Sonny DeForge (2/5)
A few rough patches in towpath but otherwise in good shape. Most trash was high in branches of trees from flooding.

31 - 79.4 to 81.6
Lock 40 to Marsh Run Culvert
Debbie & Paul Kistler (Thursday)
No tables or outhouse at Horseshoe Bend HBO. Much flood debris all along level with ugly railing in prism below Mondell.. Still very little wildlife here as opposed to other years. Could be from development on W. Virginia side.

32 - 81.62 to 84.4
Marsh Run Culvert to Dam 4
Bill Wentzel (3/27)
Towpath at Dam 4 still detoured. Big Woods HBO in pristine condition and ready for season. Spring ground cover is coming to life. Spent most of time on level clearing branch debris.

37 - 99.44 to 99.3
Falling Waters to Lock 44
Ellen Holway & company (4/19)
Collected 8 bags of trash. Hole in prism over lowest culvert. Very detailed list of flora & fauna included.

38 - 99.3 to 102.3
Lock 44 to High Rock Quarry
Dave Brown (4/27)
Towpath was in very good condition with signs of resurfacing. Repairs to lock 44 seem to be moving along with about 20 percent complete. Two houses damaged by 1996 floods have been razed and removed.

40 - 104.9 to 106.8
Nestle RR Piers to Dam 5
Bill Hibbard (4/3)
Usual collection of plastic and beer bottles mostly near fishing areas. Many spring wildflowers in full bloom.

41 - 106.8 to 108.6
Dam 5 to Four Locks
B. K. Lunde (3/8)
Outhouse was present at Dam 5 but not at Four Locks. The towpath itself was in good shape with some fallen stone at Dam 5 inlet lock.

42 - 108.6 to 110.4
Lock 47 to Culvert 142
John Ziegler (4/5)
Joined nine other volunteers to clean up McCoys Ferry and ready it for summer use. Towpath in good shape as well as campsites. Only exception was Four Locks picnic area which was still
ON THE LEVEL - continued
covered with silt. Parking area at McCoys Ferry between canal
and railroad still a magnet for trash.

43 - 110.4 to 112.4
McCoys Ferry to Fort Frederick
Karen M. Gray (4/20)
Towpath was mostly clean with just occasional cans and bottles
in brush. Several campers were at boat ramp with one improvised
(?) campsite. Two culverts above mile 111 continue to
deteriorate with depressions getting larger each time. Signs of
beaver activity in a recently cleared area. This along with signs
of turtles and ducks is the most animal life in this area in a long
time.

44 - 112.4 to 114.5
Fort Frederick to Emmitsville
Marlin Heintzelman (2/19) Jane & Hal Larsen (4/20)
Towpath in good shape with signs of recent trimming and cutting
all along. (2/19) Heaviest human usage ever seen but very little
trash. Towpath in excellent condition with recent signs of beaver
cuttings. (4/20)

48 - 124.1 to 127.4
Hancock to Roundtop Cement Mill
Bill Hibbard (4/15)
Collected four bags of trash and three buckets. Towpath in very
good condition along this level.

The Association welcomes the following new members
(Since 2/1/97):

APPLYN, MIKE & CATHY
BARBELLA, NICHOLAS
BARTESI, GUY
BERNARD, PATRICK
BODMER, DONALD
BONK, RICHARD D
BRASHEARS, LORI
BRICKEL, STEPHEN
BURY, CURTISS M
COFFELT, MARCIA
DE GURSE, JOHN L
DOUGLASS, JAMES
DUDGEON, RUTH A
ELSEY, SALLY & GEORGE
ENTERLINE, PAUL D
FENTON, GLORIA & JOHN
FIELD, JON & LINDA
GOLD, HARVEY & ROBERTA
GOLD, GERARD G
HARSHMAN, SR., M/M ROBERT L
HATCHETT, STEVEN L.
HAVRE DE GRACE, SUSQUEHANNA MUSEUM

Arlington VA
Vienna VA
Reston VA
Bowie MD
Sharpsburg MD
Erin NY
New Market MD
Arlington VA
Shepherdstown WV
Lovettsville VA
Shepherdstown WV
Arlington VA
Washington DC
Washington DC
Georgetown DE
Bowie MD
Falls Church VA
Bethesda MD
Hagerstown MD
Bel Air MD
Havre De Grace MD

JAMES WOOD HIGH SCHOOL
HOLCOMBE, WILLIAM O
HOOVER, CHERYL
JESSER, IV, FREDERICK A
KATZ, ROSAMOND
KOZAR, TOM
KROLL, ROBERT & EDITH
QUINN, WILLIAM T
REYNOLDS JR, WALLACE
RODGERS, NELSON
ROTELLI, THOMAS
ROWE, BILL & PAT
RUFFIN, ALLEN F
SCHOENADEL, WILLIAM J
SCHLING-STURM, JUDITH
SHERIDAN, BARBARA
SLAYMAN, WILLIAM O
SLICK, FRED
SPINNLER, MIKE
STAEVER, IRENE R
STEINER, STEPHEN P
STEMBEL, OREN
STILLMAN, HORACE
STRIETER, GAIL M
SULLIVAN, DICK
SULLIVAN, WILLIAM L
TANNO, DARRELL
TRUDEL, ARTHUR & ANNE
TRUNGALE, JR., JOSEPH F
VAN DYKE, BARBARA
VARLEY FAMILY, THE JOHN W
WAGNER, JUDY
WAGNER JR, RICHARD L
WAITE, EDWIN & ELAINE
WAKSBERG, MARK
WALSER, ROB & ALLISON
WANG JR, DR RON
WARSHAUER, ANN L
WEAVER, JAMES R
WEINSTEIN, KENNETH & LIBBY
WEISEMANN, JANE
WESTON, MARGARET A
WILLIAMS, MARY ELLEN
WILSON, FRANK W.
WINICK, M/M ALEXANDER
WOO, HONG
WOOD, LINDA
WYETH, GEORGE
YU, LEEPO C
ZETTLER, JEAN

Winchester VA
Annandale VA
Frederick MD
Shepherdstown WV
Washington DC
Gaithersburg MD
Silver Spring MD
Washington DC
Kearneysville WV
Butler PA
Woodbridge VA
Annandale VA
Middletown MD
Little Orleans MD
Baltimore MD
La Plata MD
Baltimore MD
Keedysville MD
Hagerstown MD
Bethesda MD
Baltimore MD
Silver Spring MD
Sharpsburg MD
Clarksville MD
Annandale VA
Baltimore MD
Bethesda MD
Potomac MD
Washington DC
Glenn Dale MD
Vienna VA
Falls Church VA
Arlington VA
Gaithersburg MD
Frederick MD
Bethesda MD
Falls Church VA
Springfield VA
Potomac MD
Brunswick MD
Bethesda MD
North Potomac MD
Beallsville MD
Bethesda MD
Adelphia MD
Reston VA
Chevy Chase MD
Bethesda MD
Falls Church VA

Along the Towpath

The Mule
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

With appreciation, the C&O Canal Association acknowledges the following persons who have contributed to the C&O Canal Fund (C), the Monocacy Aqueduct Fund (M), or the Davies Fund (D) since the last edition of Along the Towpath.

Alan J. & Jeanne WALLS CMD
John B. & Ruth P. DOAK C
John FONDERSMITH CM
Mildred B. HEIMER CMD
Elizabeth D. HILLENBRAND CM
Chesley D. LOONEY C
James and Mary Ann MOEN M
Elizabeth SCOTT M
Judith R. DINSMORE & Alvin D. HOWELL M
Eduardo M. CUNNINGHAM CMD
Geraldine H. DAVIES CMD
Shirley K. HAIGH CMD
Carolyn W. JOHNSON M
David N. WHITCOMBE M
Phyllis ELLIOTT D
Thomas B. HALL M
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Mr. & Mrs. Edward J. MANUEL CM
Mr. & Mrs. Paul C. MARTH M
Leslie A. MEIL C

Along the Towpath
CONTRIBUTORS - continued

Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. NICOLSON  M
Shirley A. PAULL  M
Robert Joel REYNOLDS  M
Lois Joel SCHIFFER  C
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas W. SHARP  M
Jean Anderson WEBB  CM
Charles W. & Kathleen ALMAND  M
Ken ROLLINS  M
Sandra S. CAMPBELL  M
Mark D. & Doniphann P. HOWLAND  C
Tom PECK  C
J. Richard & Martha PINE  C
Ronald W. WILSON  M

PROJECT AT MONOCACY AQUEDUCT BEGINS

Engineers and divers have begun work at the Monocacy Aqueduct with the ultimate aim of determining its exact structural condition above and below water. Once completed the work will provide the basis for making reliable estimates of the cost of essential repairs of the Aqueduct. Canal Park Superintendent Doug Faris commissioned the project and Bob Kapsch, civil engineer and special assistant to the NPS Director, oversees operations. Bob is advised by a committee of Park Service specialists and members of the American Society of Civil Engineers who have volunteered their services for the project.

Bob Kapsch says the project entails: removal of the mass of debris that piled up against the upstream side of the Aqueduct during last year's floods and freshets, underwater examination of the Aqueducts piers, evaluation of the condition of the Aqueduct throughout its structure, and prospective installation of a system for ongoing monitoring of the Aqueduct's structure.

In May the Army Corps of Engineers cleared the debris from the Aqueduct. The Corps used a floating crane to remove an entangled mass of logs, trees and limbs, old tires, etc. which came down the Monocacy in the flood and lodged against the Aqueduct. The debris impeded access to the structure's piers on its upstream side. On June 9th Bureau of Reclamation divers returned to the Aqueduct to complete the underwater examination of the Aqueduct's piers which they initiated before last year's floods. They first flush away the silt clinging to the piers to get an unobstructed view of their condition. Each pier is closely examined for voids and any other signs of deterioration. This task takes about a week to complete. Next, engineers will investigate and evaluate the overall condition of the Aqueduct. Finally, the installation of a monitoring system on the Aqueduct is now under consideration. Under the plan a variety of unobtrusive measuring devices, sensors, and gauges provide comprehensive data on the structure's condition on an on-going basis. While data will be obtainable on site, capability for electronic transmission of all data to computers at remote locations is also contemplated.

BERNIE DENNIS HEADS UP ASCE'S AQUEDUCT MONITORING PROGRAM

The aqueduct monitoring program is being developed by the National Capital Section of the ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers) at the initiative of Bernie Dennis. Bernie is well known to Association members. He is recent President of the ASCE National Capital Section and is a member of its History & Heritage Committee. Among those working on the program with Bernie are Curtis Barrett, the Section's current President, and Neal FitzSimon, Bruce Mattheiss, and Steve Pennington of the Monocacy Subcommittee of the History & Heritage Committee.

The comprehensiveness of the monitoring plan is made apparent by a mere listing of its elements. It includes the following:

1. Environmental Data
   a. air temperature
   b. structure surface temperature
   c. rainfall/snowfall
   d. river stage elevations
   e. cross section of subsurface geology

2. Site Condition Data
   a. basic structure geometry
   b. approach topography
   c. river channel cross sections

3. Structure Condition Data

4. Structure Performance Data
   a. strain measurements on steel frame ("harness")
   b. horizontal and vertical alignment data
   c. extensometer across prism and arch spans
   d. crack and joint movement data
   e. pressure cells for hydraulic pressure
   f. tilt sensors to detect overturning

The complete monitoring plan including accompanying engineering drawings is being submitted to the NPS for its approval and go ahead. The ASCE's national organization earlier this year awarded the National Capital Section a $3,100 grant for developing the monitoring plan.

The ASCE's National Capital Section is the C&O Canal Association's key partner in the Uphold the Monocacy Aqueduct drive. Not only has the Section contributed to the
PROJECT AT MONOCACY BEGINS - continued

Monocacy Fund but its members are providing first class expertise and active pro-bono support to the Aqueduct effort. As noted above ASCE engineers are members of Bob Kapsch's NPS advisory committee on the Aqueduct. Among them is Mike Howlett of the Virginia Canals and Navigations Society, an old friend of our Association. The ASCE National Capital Section also draws upon expertise in other ASCE chapters. For example, Dr. Thomas Boothby of Penn State University, a leading American expert on stone arch bridges, is taking a strong interest in the Aqueduct and also is assisting in developing the plan for the monitoring system.

We in the Association applaud Bernie Dennis and his ASCE colleagues for their innovative and foresightful activity in support of the Aqueduct's cause. With such friends and allies on our side the battle for the Aqueduct will be won!

- - Carl Linden

MONOCACY AQUEDUCT PRINTS FREE TO MONOCACY FUND DONORS

Association member and Artist Tom Kozar has donated a splendid pen and ink drawing of the Monocacy Aqueduct (See front page of this issue.) to the Association to assist the Uphold the Monocacy Aqueduct fund drive. Recently serving as Artist in Residence at the C&O Canal, Tom has generously given the Association two hundred of his limited edition of three hundred prints of the drawing. Contributors of $50 or more to the Monocacy Aqueduct Fund will receive one of these numbered prints. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ONE OF THESE FINE AQUEDUCT PRINTS, YOU SHOULD MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION SOON BEFORE THE SUPPLY IS EXHAUSTED. This is an opportunity that you should not miss!

Tom is well known for his high skill in artful draftsmanship in rendering realistic pen and ink drawings with a sharp eye for revealing detail. Tom is attentive to historical accuracy and this classic scene shows the Aqueduct in its pristine majesty. All seven of its arches are captured in their full harmony of line, curve, and proportion. For a moment an unknowing viewer might think it is Washington's Memorial Bridge revealing its splendor.

The Aqueduct print is eminently suitable for matting and framing as is. However, if you would like, Tom Kozar can color, matt and frame the drawing for you. Tom nicely blends tinting, matting and framing and has a variety of combinations from which you can choose. Such work is done at extra cost, of course, but Tom does it exquisitely. A visit to Tom's studio outside of Gaithersburg is, indeed, worth the trip. In addition to classic Canal scenes Tom has done a variety of classic drawings of historical sites and familiar landmarks of the Washington region. Tom's art is versatile including painting, graphic design, photography, and sculpture as well as drawing. For example, he has received commissions to do bronzes of Harry Truman and John Kennedy for the Truman and Kennedy Libraries respectively. His address is Thomas C. Kozar, 22214 Creekview Drive, Gaithersburg, Maryland, 20882. His phone is (301) 921-6345 and Fax is (301) 869-6813.

The Association owes Tom Kozar a debt of gratitude for his artistic inspiration and his unexpected and generous gift. Many thanks, Tom!

MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD FOR NELSON GRIFFITH

On Sat, May 10, we held a ceremony in memory of NPS employee Nelson "Griff" Griffith at Lock 5 at 11:00 a.m. (See last issue.). His immediate family and other friends and relatives from Luray came up for the ceremony. Park staff were, also, present. The Superintendent lead the ceremony. A dogwood tree was planted in his honor and a plaque was placed at the base of the tree.

Following the event, the Friends of the Great Falls Tavern dedicated two urns (located outside the front entrance of the Tavern) in Griff's memory. The Friends provided a nice luncheon for the family, friends and relatives in the Tavern.

Readings at Lock 5 were offered by Mr. Fletcher (from Fletchers Boathouse), Donna Donaldson (she used to work on the canal and is now the Chief of Interpretation at National Capitol Parks Central), Carl Linden, and a member of the clergy from Mrs. Griffith's church. I don't recall her name, but she read for the family. It was all very touching! On a personal note, Griff was a special man. When you talked to him, his crystal blue eyes would sparkle and a warm grin would spread across his face. He was genuine. I was fortunate to get to know him and work closely with him during the Volunteer Flood Recovery Projects. I miss him terribly. Thanks for including him in your newsletter!

- - Nancy Brown, NPS

Memorial Plaque in Honor of Griff. Photo —Hal Larsen

Along the Towpath
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
e-mail: cocassn@erols.com

Membership in the C & O Canal Association is open to all persons with an interest in the C & O Canal, the C & O Canal Historic Park, and the Potomac River Basin. Annual membership dues are $15 individual, $20 family, and $25 patron, and are assessed on a calendar-year basis. Dues should be mailed to the C & O Canal Association at the above address. A newsletter subscription is included with membership. The Association is a non-profit organization as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and all contributions are tax deductible.

The C&O Canal Association maintains a home page on the WWW at http://www.cyberrealm.net/canal. The COCA Webmaster is Olivia Casasanovis. COCA also maintains a telephone for information and inquiries. Please direct calls to (301) 983-0825.

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Committees (Contact at the COCA telephone number or write to COCA)

Archives
Hal Larsen

Environmental
Carl Linden

Level Walkers
Ralph Donnelly/Fred Mopsik

Membership
Keith Kridenoff

Programs
Rita Bauman

VIPs
Sonny DeForge/Ken Rollins

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Along the Towpath

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Wed, Sat</td>
<td><em>Sights and Sounds of the Seasons</em> nature walks are scheduled four times monthly on the first and last Wednesday and Saturday. Meet in Great Falls Tavern at 10 a.m. to begin with a brief slide show. Hikes are led by Park Service Volunteers Betty Bushell, Betty Henson, and Helen Johnston.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 21</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Canoe from Violets 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 13</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Potluck dinner with Friends of the Tavern and the C&amp;O Canal Association (6:00 p.m.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 26</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Canoe the River from Brunswick to Monocacy landing. Contact Carl Linden (301) 229-2398 or Ken Rollins (804) 448-2934.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 3</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Board Meeting, Glen Echo Town Hall, 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 16-23</td>
<td>Sat-Sat</td>
<td>Montgomery County Fair--the Montgomery County Historical Society, C&amp;O Canal Association, and other preservation groups share a booth. Contact COCA Coordinator--Nancy Long, (301) 320-2330, for information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 6</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>VIP Workday. Details later.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 7</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Happy Birthday Montgomery County - Co-hosted by Montgomery County Historical Society. Contact Ellen Holway (301) 738-7894.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 7</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Continuing Hike Series: 10:00 AM: Violets Lock toward Great Falls.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 13</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Canal Commission Meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 13-14</td>
<td>Sat-Sun</td>
<td>Hancock Canal - Canal Apple Days. Contact John Popenoe (301) 678-6379.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 20-21</td>
<td>Sat-Sun</td>
<td>Annual overnight Paw Paw bends canoe trip. Contact Carl Linden (301) 229-2398 or Ken Rollins (804) 448-2934.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 20-21</td>
<td>Sat-Sun</td>
<td>Sharpsburg Heritage Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 27-28</td>
<td>Sat-Sun</td>
<td>Cumberland Canal Boat Festival. Contact John Millar (301) 729-3136.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 28</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Board Meeting, Tom and Linda Perry's, 116 Conococheague St., Williamsport, 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 4</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>VIP Workday. Details later.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 4-5</td>
<td>Sat-Sun</td>
<td>Brunswick Railroad Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 11-16</td>
<td>Sat-Thr</td>
<td>Through-bike trip -- Cumberland to Georgetown led by Tom Perry. Details later.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 1</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>VIP Workday. Details later.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>VIP Workday. Details later.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Continuing Hike Series: 10:00 AM-- Annual <em>FROSTBITE HIKE</em> from Violets Lock to the Cutting Mill above Seneca. Contact Ken Rollins (804) 448-2934 or Sonny DeForge (301) 530-8830.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CALENDAR OF EVENTS - continued

Dec 7 Sun Board Meeting, Glen Echo Town Hall, 1:00 P.M.

Dec 13 Sat Canal Commission Meeting.

Dec 14 Sun Holiday Sing-Along at the Great Falls Tavern, 1:00 p.m. Bring a snack to share.

1998

Mar 8 Sat C&O Canal Association Annual Meeting.

SIERRA CLUB SPONSORS HIKES ALONG THE TOWPATH

The following submissions were received from the Sierra Club of MWROP:

Saturday 12 July 1997. "An American Beauty" Tour '97 (ABT) continues with a 13 mile hike from Fort Frederick to Williamsport. Contact Robert Lovisa (301) 593-5360 (rlovisa@explorer.com) or William Fout (703) 684-5951/(BillFout@juno.com) by 5:00 pm Friday 11 July for details.

Saturday 2 August 1997. ABT continues with a 15 mile hike from Williamsport to Dam 4. Sponsored by the Sierra Club MWROP. Contact Robert Lovisa (301) 593-5360 (rlovisa@explorer.com) or William Fout (703) 684-5951/(BillFout@juno.com) by 5:00 pm Friday 1 August for details.

Saturday 23 August 1997. ABT continues with a 15 mile hike from Dam 4 to Antietam Creek. Sponsored by the Sierra Club MWROP. Contact Robert Lovisa (301) 593-5360 (rlovisa@explorer.com) or William Fout (703) 684-5951/(BillFout@juno.com) by 5:00 pm Friday 22 August for details.

Saturday 13 September 1997. ABT continues with a 15 mile hike from Antietam Creek to Brunswick. Sponsored by the Sierra Club MWROP. Contact Robert Lovisa (301) 593-5360 (rlovisa@explorer.com) or William Fout (703) 684-5951/(BillFout@juno.com) by 5:00 pm Friday 12 September for details.

C&O CANAL VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

To volunteer, please contact the NPS Volunteer Office (301-714-2233) to sign up and receive the details of the projects and directions to the project site.

7/12 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM GREAT FALLS Remove silt & debris from culvert #21. DAM #5 Remove trash & debris from towpath. MILLER SAWMILL Towpath repair.

8/2 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM GREAT FALLS Remove trash & debris from culvert #21. DAM #5 Remove trash & debris from towpath. TAYLORS LANDING Remove trash and debris from canal prism and river.

9/6 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM GREAT FALLS Remove silt & debris from culvert #21. LITTLE TONOLOWAY PICNIC AREA Remove trash and debris. Landscape area, seed, and mulch. MILLER SAWMILL Towpath repair.

Along the Towpath

Ranger Nancy Brown, or call John Lindt at (301) 469-6381. Nancy or John will register you and provide details of the project of your choice. Nancy would like to hear from you a week in advance so that the NPS staff can prepare supplies and equipment accordingly and notify you of last minute changes. These arrangements are slightly different than before in that members have a greater choice of VIP projects and the work period is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- - John Lindt

C&O CANAL VOLUNTEER IN PARKS (VIP) PROGRAM

C&O Canal Association members can join others on the first Saturday of most months for VIP WORKDAYS as listed in the Calendar of Events. Projects are scheduled along the entire length of the Canal. You may join the group most convenient to you. If you would like to participate, please contact the Volunteer Office (301) 714-2233 and speak with Ranger Nancy Brown, or call John Lindt at (301) 469-6381. Nancy or John will register you and provide details of the project of your choice. Nancy would like to hear from you a week in advance so that the NPS staff can prepare supplies and equipment accordingly and notify you of last minute changes. These arrangements are slightly different than before in that members have a greater choice of VIP projects and the work period is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

-- Nancy Brown, NPS
BOOK REVIEWS


Kate Mulligan, who is the C & O Canal Association's information officer, has written a very useful guidebook to the principal towns that one passes while traversing the Canal Park. This is important, because while many books are available that describe the canal itself, from the historic structures to the flora and fauna, there has been very little published about the communities that lie along its route, and in which the Towpath traveler will inevitably find himself. Although the stranger may regard these towns as merely a source of groceries, a bed and a meal, or a tank of gas, they are an integral part of the total canal story, and should be known as much as the aqueducts and locks in order to fully appreciate what the Canal is about.

The Canal was not built so that we could hike and camp and look at its birdies. It was built for commerce and business and western expansion. The towns that it passed were the points of origin and destination for the goods and commodities that were carried, and were in many cases the homes of the canallers. These towns predated the building of the canal and each has an interesting history of its own.

TOWNS ALONG THE TOWPATH contains chapters about all of the primary municipalities on the canal - Cumberland, Hancock, Williamsport, Shepherdstown, and Brunswick. They cover local history, points of interest, museums, festivals and accommodations. In addition to the towns mentioned above, there are sections on the Paw Paw Tunnel, Monocacy Aqueduct, Poolesville, Seneca, Great Falls and Glen Echo. Most chapters include a list of sources for further reading or for obtaining additional information.

This book, used in conjunction with a good Park guide, should be invaluable in planning a visit to the canal, whether for an extended hiking or bicycling trip, or a day or weekend motor excursion.

- - Dave Johnson

Note: Kate Mulligan's book is available to COCA members at a cost of $12.00 plus $3.00 postage (MD residents add 60 cents sales tax). See the Directory for the address.


In guidebook fashion, High's book opens with an overview of the history of the region, the river, and the canal. Only when he describes how this particular canal operated and explains the difference between prism and berm, and what stop lock, waste weir, and flume did, does it become a companion. Those pages are valuable to anyone even mildly interested in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and Towpath.

The other 180 pages are pure guidebook-one for the cyclist. A few bits of advice are tossed to the canoeist and kayaker but other users of the towpath get no attention.

"The C & O Canal Companion" has much the same page size as Hahn's "Towpath Guide to the C & O Canal" (now in its 13th edition - 1996). It has typeface a few points larger than Hahn's book so gets less text to the page. The difference between a guidebook for the hiker and for the cyclist is apparent when one compares the description of the ten miles between Catoctin Aqueduct and Lock 34 opposite Harpers Ferry. High uses 14 pages of text and reports on 23 points of interest. Hahn uses 21 pages of text to mention 60 items for which to look or stop.

Compiled more recently, "The...Companion" mentions items that escaped any revision Hahn has made since his original compilation in 1981. For instance, High includes a subdivision near milepost 178.3, Mexico Farms, and explains its name; Hahn does not. High is more informative on the industries that once stood and, occasionally still do stand, by the Canal. He may also give a few more details of Civil War history than Hahn does.

High, Mulligan in "Towns Along the C & O Canal," and the C&O Canal Association in "Guide to Food and Lodging Along the Towpath" offer information on lodging and, occasionally, restaurants and groceries. High's places tend to be pricier than the others and also may be at a greater distance from the towpath (Leesburg, for instance).

Johns Hopkins Press editors have let a few errors escape them, the most serious being the statement (p.78) in a discussion of the Seneca Aqueduct and Lock 24 that "a half mile upstream (downstream, CL) you'll find Violette's Lock". The author omits the fact that at Dam 4 and Big Slackwater a walker can remain on the towpath, though cyclists and horseback riders may not. He describes only the detour the bicyclist must take.

"The C & O Canal Companion" is, on the whole, a worthwhile purchase for those interested in the Canal and Towpath. It is a necessary one only for the cyclist.

- - Paula M. Strain
BOOK REVIEWS - continued

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES OF THE POTOMAC


Beginning at the Fairfax Stone in the West Virginia highlands, the Potomac River flows 385 miles before it merges with the Chesapeake Bay. C & O Canal Association members are most familiar with the section of the Potomac River between Georgetown and Cumberland, a little more than half the total distance. However, our concern with the Potomac Valley should encompass the entire length of the river. Karen Zachary's Cultural Landscapes of the Potomac provides a summary overview of the entire length of the river's landscape. Zachary begins with a brief description of the natural determinants of the landscape before turning to cultural determinants, including agriculture, industry, transportation and urban development. There is a brief section on the C & O Canal. A sentence on the C & O Canal Association would have been welcome. Maps, diagrams and drawings from a variety of sources add understanding.

The 79 pages of text and illustration provide an overview that should encourage further exploration, both intellectual and on the ground (and water). A bibliography, additional sources and a selected list of organizations involved with the Potomac region are also included.

- - John Fondersmith

John represents the C & O Canal Association on the Board of the Accokeek Foundation.

CORRECTION

To Editor:

On page 13 (of the last issue), you referred to the old trolley barn at Cushwa Basin. This is not the correct term for this building. A trolley barn was or still is in some cities a building where trolleys/streetcars are kept inside for maintenance or storage. The building in question at Williamsport was a power generating station for the Hagerstown Railway, an electric trolley line built in the latter part of the 1800's to provide electrical power for its trolleys. In fact, the tracks for the line never even reached Cushwa Basin; they ended at the intersection of Potomac and Conococheague Streets. The Hagerstown Railway later merged and became part of a larger electric railway named the Hagerstown and Frederick Railroad. The line to Williamsport was abandoned in 1946-47.

For some years, the park had referred to the building as a trolley barn. However, the park's Cultural Landscape Report on Williamsport now correctly identifies the building as a power generation station and not as a trolley barn.

- - Blair Williamson, NPS

e-mail Messages of Note

1) Washington Post columnist Kevin McManus called to say that he must cancel his walking trip of the C&O Canal because of serious illness. He enjoyed talking with association members and want them to know why they have not heard from him again. He hopes to make the trip next year.

Kevin wrote a wonderful Weekend cover story about the canal and our association several years ago. We'll be thinking about him and looking forward to the return of his column. Kate Mulligan

2) Mr. John S Thomson (301) 656-3630 is the editor of the SYCAMORE ISLANDER newsletter as well as a member in good standing of COCA since at least '79 and the COCA Board of Directors. As you may know, the Canoe Cruisers Association of Greater Washington DC and the Montgomery Sycamore Island Club host introductory canoe lessons every Tuesday and Thursday evening starting May 13 and running through mid-September. I am not sure whether it is at Fletchers. Mr. Thomson has the information and a telephone number for additional information, membership and/or reservations. I think our members would be well served to hear about the lessons and perhaps increase the participation in Ken Rollins' canoe trips. William Bauman.
Take a step on the towpath on an early spring morning. Listen to a cardinal's whistle. Feel the breeze from the river. If at first it seems chilly, just wait a bit. Soon the sun will warm the breezes.

Smell the sweet, moist earth. See the pale pink of spring beauties and the umbrellas of May apples at the Towpath's edge. Find the fern fiddleheads just starting to uncoil into full-sized fronds for the summer.

Take a side trail and feel the soft earth underfoot. Watch for purple, white or yellow violets, rue anemone, cut-leaf and slender toothwort, saxifrage and—if you're lucky—the purple and white blossoms of showy orchis. Lift the hood of Jack-in-the-pulpit and find Jack, himself. Smile quietly at a patch of tiny, four-petalled bluets.

See the great blue herons that haunt the pools at Widewater and Carderock. Watch pairs of Canada Geese shepherding their downy goslings along the Potomac. See the beaver scrambling slowly up the rocks on the Canal berm. Count big and little turtles as they sun themselves on old logs stretching into the Canal. Find tiny, darting tadpoles like swimming seeds in shallow pools.

Watch winter turn to spring, and spring to summer—a sight denied to bicyclists, joggers, and earnest hikers as they hurry by.

Composite check list compiled by "Sights and Sounds of the Seasons" walkers so far this year in the area chiefly from Angler's Inn to Swain's Lock including Goldmine Tract and Bear Island:

WILDFLOWERS

Golden alexander, rue anemone, arbutus, Va. bluebell, bluet, bedstraw(s), buttercup (aborted, early), Chickweed (common, field, star), Common cinquefoil, Dandelion (Common, dwarf) Dutchman's breeches, Gill-over-the-ground, Ginger, Jack-in-the-pulpit, May apple, Miami mist, Moss phlox, Black mustard, Garlic mustard, Red dead nettle, Showy orchis, Blue phlox, Wild pink, Golden ragwort, Saxifrage, Speedwell, Spiderwort, Spring beauty, Squaw root, Star of Bethlehem, Toothwort (Cut-leaf and Slender), Sessile trillium, Violet (Blue, yellow, white), Va. waterleaf, Yellow wood sorrel. (Skunk cabbage started blooming in November; continued in spring.)

TREES AND SHRUBS:

Spice bush, dogwood, pawpaw, redbud, tulip tree, Amur honeysuckle, Viburnum (?).