

C & O Canal Association

# ALONG THE TOWPATH

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

VOLUME XXIX

SEPTEMBER 1997

NUMBER 3

## THE HERITAGE ISSUE

### HERITAGE HIKE AND MONOCACY AQUEDUCT JAMBOREE!

*Saturday, October 25, 1997*

**COME ONE! ! COME ALL!! THE MORE, THE MERRIER!!**

*Put It On Your Calendar!*

**Send in your banquet reservation NOW - See insert!**

#### EVENTS OF THE DAY

- View the classic Point of Rocks Railroad Station and hear John Kvach talk about the railroad and Canal!
- Set your stride to the strains of Elisha Julien's bagpipe and the cadence of her special escorts!
- Walk in the glow of Fall colors along the Towpath as you head down to the Monocacy!
- At the Monocacy, join in famed Ranger-Historian John Frye's: *Visite Guidée de l' Aqueduc Numéro Deux*<sup>1</sup>!
- Lunch at Faris' bag *Blue and White Pavilion*!(bring your brown bag--soft drinks provided)
- Say hello to Lil', the Mule, back in harness after the floods! Lil says "don't forget snacks!"<sup>2</sup>
- Listen, meanwhile, to Ranger Monte Crooks' tin whistle, Mark Myers' harmonica, and to Kate Evans' Canal songs!
- Meet and greet the Ladies of Rileys Lock in period costume!
- View Canal Artist Tom Kozar's famed aqueduct and canal prints!
- See the ASCE's Capital Section Exhibit on monitoring the Aqueduct!
- Visit the Parks and History and other exhibit tables!
- See Dave Humphrey's superb Canal and Aqueduct films at Happy Hour!
- At the banquet, hear Bernie Dennis tell us about ASCE's state-of-the-art Aqueduct monitoring system!
- And there will be more! Don't miss this great day on the Canal!
- Bus service will be available for those who want to hike one way.
- Meet at the Point of Rocks Station at 9:15 AM.

The evening banquet will be held at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 10033 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. A registration form is included in this issue of *ALONG THE TOWPATH*.

#### 1998 Nominating Committee Appointed

Don Juran, Chairman

Members:

Chris Cerniglia John Fondersmith Donna Boies Hal Larsen

See Article Page 24

<sup>1</sup> In the Canallers' lexicon the Monocacy Aqueduct was known as Aqueduct No. 2. Number 1 was the Seneca Aqueduct.

<sup>2</sup> NPS Muleteer will judge the suitability of any gift offerings.

The timetable is:

9:15 a.m.	Assemble at Point of Rocks Station
9:30	Interpretive talk
10:00	Hikers leave for Monocacy Aqueduct.
Noon	Hikers arrive Monocacy Aqueduct.
2:30	Hikers and first bus leave Aqueduct for Point of Rocks.
3:30	Second bus trip leaves Aqueduct.
4 - 6	Happy Hour at St. Francis Episcopal Church.
6:00	Buffet dinner
7:15	Banquet Speech

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### FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Heritage** - *Something passed down from preceding generations; legacy; tradition.* From George Washington to Justice William O. Douglas to recently departed friends like Orrin Long, we have been bequeathed so much. A Canal, an Association, a hike. We sometimes get so lost in our day to day activities that we tend to forget what we are and why we're here. **We were born out of the effort to save the legacy of the canal. We exist to carry on Justice Douglas's tradition of protecting that Canal.** The hikes, trips and dinners that we enjoy are important for keeping us together and focused, but they are only tools for maintaining the heritage for those who follow.

In one respect, there is no such thing as altruism. We do things that make us feel good, and if doing good makes us feel good, we are being selfish. Yet selfishness can be selfless. We give of ourselves both for the pleasure we get and for what we can give to others; in our case, the legacy and tradition of the Canal and the Association. It may well be that the "selfish selflessness" is the "magic" the canal has given us.

That so many people of such varied backgrounds and personalities can work together so harmoniously may not be unique but it explains why we respond so well to adversity, change and challenge. At one time or another all of us have had to suppress our personal feelings for the good of the Canal and we are stronger for it, as individuals and as the Association.

We all know that following every uplifting sermon (see above paragraphs) comes the collection plate. In this case consider the following: Membership renewals are lagging. We gained many new members last year following the publicity garnered from the floods. If you know of anyone whose membership has lapsed because of lack of floods, please try to get them back into the fold. John Lindt could

always use a few more hands on work weekends and Rita Bauman would love to see more of your faces at the summer festivals. Hal Larsen's crew is doing a wonderful job on getting our archives organized but I'm sure he'd welcome you as well. All are great ways to get more personally involved with the Canal and the Association.

Ellen Holway is desperately searching for someone to coordinate the mapping project and we'd love to have a serious philatelist to spearhead an effort for a 50th anniversary commemorative stamp of the 1954 Douglas/Washington Post Hike. If none of the above interest you but you have an idea that could help, we'll do our best to convert that idea into action. Just give me or any of the above a call and we'll find a place for you. Help us maintain our heritage.

- - Gary M. Petrichick

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*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 the above address.

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 Casanovas. COCA also maintains a telephone for information and inquiries. Please direct calls to (301) 983-0825.

#### C & O CANAL ASSOCIATION 1997-1998 Association Officers

<u>President:</u>	petrichicj@aol.com Gary M. Petrichick 716-268-5187	36 Willets Ave. Belmont, NY 14 813
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<u>Treasurer</u>	David M. Johnson 301-530-7473	9211 Wadsworth Dr. Bethesda, MD 20817
<u>Information Officer</u>	Kate Mulligan 202-484-3590	1301 Delaware Ave., SW Washington, DC 20024

Board of Directors: (Terms expire in 2000) Christine Cerniglia, Carl Linden [clinden@gwis2.circ.gwu.edu](mailto:clinden@gwis2.circ.gwu.edu), Mary A. Moen, James Preston, Ken Rollins (Terms expire in 1999) Charles Ayres, Harold Larsen, Nancy Long, Robert Perry, Patricia White (Terms expire in 1998) William J. Evans, Karen M. Gray/KMGrayPhD@compuserve.com, Fred I. Mopsik/mopsikj@pop.erols.com, Ralph Donnelly, Peggy Weber.

<u>Committees</u>	(Contact at the COCA telephone number or write to COCA)
Archives	Hal Larsen
Canal Restoration/Monocacy Aqueduct	Carl Linden
Environmental	Ralph Donnelly/Fred Mopsik
Level Walkers	Keith Kridenoff
Membership	Rita Bauman
Programs	Sonny DeForge/Ken Rollins
VIPs	John Lindt

#### Editorial Staff

Editor: Robert C. Perry

#### Associate Editors

Carl A. Linden  
Ken Rollins

## DIRECTORY C & O CANAL NHP TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND PERSONNEL

#### C & O CANAL NHP HQTRS

Box 4, Sharpsburg, MD 21782	301-739-4200
Superintendent	Douglas Faris
Assistant Superintendent	Kevin Brandt
Chief Ranger	Keith Whisenant
Admin Officer	Ken Brodie
Asst Ch. Ranger & Chief, Visitor Protection Branch	Kevin Fitzgerald
Chief, Natural Resource Mgmt Branch	Patrick Toops
Chief, Cultural Resource Mgmt Branch	Doug Stover
Chief, Interpretation Branch	Gordon Gay
Chief of Maintenance	Bob Hartman
Volunteer Coordinator	Nancy Brown

#### PALISADES DISTRICT

11710 MacArthur Blvd, Potomac, MD 20854	
301-413-0024	
District Ranger	Tom Nash
Supv Ranger - Fee Collection	Terry Barbot
District Interpreter	Vacant

#### GEORGETOWN VISITORS CENTER

1055 Thomas Jefferson Street, Washington, D.C.	202-653-5844
Park Ranger - Subdistrict Interpretation	Kathy Kupper

#### GREAT FALLS TAVERN VISITORS CENTER

Great Falls Tavern Information	301-299-3613
District Interpreter	Faye Walmsley

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

#### WESTERN MARYLAND DISTRICT

301-739-4200 x237	
District Ranger	Mark Spier
Western Subdistrict	Rick Erisman
	Matt Stoffolano
	John Bailey
	George DeLancey
	Luis Krug
	Bill Orlando
	Martin Gallery
	301-678-5463

#### WILLIAMSPORT VISITORS CENTER

205 West Potomac Street, Williamsport, MD 21795	301-582-0813
Park Ranger	Donna Swauger

#### HANCOCK VISITORS CENTER

301-678-5463	
326 East Main Street Hancock, Maryland 21750	
Park Ranger	Sherilyn Seyler

#### CUMBERLAND VISITORS CENTER

301-722-8226	
Western Maryland Station, Cumberland, Maryland 21502	
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	202-653-5844
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

Keith D. Kridenoff  
1997 2nd VP & Level Walker Chair

Mother Nature has been overly cooperative weather wise this summer. It has been perfect for level walking and the response has been great. We have filled several vacancies and undermanned sections. There are still areas to be filled and the rewards are good. Level walking is an excellent opportunity to put back something in exchange for all the enjoyment we have received from the Canal. You can become an expert on your area and astound your friends with your new-found knowledge. It's a great chance to get away from the concrete and asphalt. How much would you pay? Don't answer yet.....for a limited time we are giving away a free Ginsu knife and a Ronco Vegematic. OK. I was kidding about that, but there are good sections available and it is a fun and rewarding way to enjoy *our* Canal. Plus, with three different ways to contact me, it couldn't be easier. Also for those of you with Internet capability, you can send your report via e-mail. I can copy any MS file (MSWord, MSWorks, etc.) Or text file. Hopefully, within the next month I'll be able to input WordPerfect files. If you are interested, please contact me at any of the following:

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

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## WELCOME NEW LEVEL WALKERS!

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18 - John & Patty Hawley  
19 - Jeff Arey  
21 - John Barnett  
23 - Moire Queen  
30 - Donald Bodmer  
39 - Paul Kimble  
69 - Martin Heavner

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

### 1 - 0 to 2.3

Tidelock to Incline Plane

Rachel Stewart (6/29)

Retainer wall at towpath walk over still collapsed. Level was very clean considering the amount of traffic on the Towpath.

### 3 - 5 to 7.5

Lock 5 to Cabin John

James Wilson (7/1-3)

Towpath in good shape with some resurfacing needed to be done at Lock 6. Canal prism empty from Lock 5 to Lock 8, but full below the feeder.

### 4 - 7.5 to 9.4

Cabin John to Lock 14

Carolyn Reeder (5/17)

A large hole has developed in access path below underpass. Lock 9 drop gate is still down. Several fallen trees on

berm side are lying in the prism.

### 6 - 12.3 to 14.3

Cropley to Lock 20 Great Falls

Helen Johnston & friends (3/3)

Although little repair work has been done in Widewater area the Towpath is passable. Canal is several small ponds connected by a stream of water. Several Blue Herons have been spotted watching over the pools with evidence of recent beaver activity.

### 8 - 16.6 to 19.6

Swains Lock 21 to Pennyfields Lock 22

Maggie & Paul Davis (5/15,6/30,7/21)

Large log protruding onto towpath at 19.4 needs to be removed. Level marked every tenth of a mile with stakes (reason unknown). Towpath very clean (5/15). Grass along level has not been mowed since walk of 5/15. Towpath surface in good condition (6/30). Trash can and picnic table have not returned since flood. Unusual amount of tree limbs in Canal probably from recent windstorms (7/21).

### 11 - 25 to 27.2

Tenfoot Island to Sycamore Landing

Sharon Freedman (6/7)

Towpath was rough at mile 25.5. Vegetation along canal is now fuller and more lush than before flood.

### 13 - 30.8 to 33

Edwards Ferry to Milepost 33

Pert Grose (7/12)

Large amount of immature walnuts was on the ground. Met a park ranger leading a group of clean-up volunteers.

### 15 - 35.5 to 39.4

Whites Ferry to Lock 26

Herbert Madison & Richard Tibbets (6/26)

Towpath in good shape with entire level recently mowed. (included large list of birds and wildflowers noted).

### 19 - 48.2 to 51.5

Point of Rocks to Catoctin Creek Aqueduct

John & Susan Anderson (5/4)

Most trash was concentrated at Point of Rocks. Towpath in good condition but soft after all the recent rain.

### 20 - 51.5 to 55

Catoctin Creek Aqueduct to Lock 30 Brunswick

Mario & Anne Abbate (4/24)

Towpath is the best condition yet with all the ruts and pot holes filled. Remains of old trailer camp are cleaned out with area reseeded. NPS has been hard-at-work in this area.

## On the Level - continued

21 - 55 to 58

Lock 30 to Lock 31

John Barnett (6/23,4)

Most of towpath had been mowed and well maintained. Flock of 10 geese on towpath near Weaverton held their ground as I walked by.

25 - 65.1 to 67

Dargan Quarry to Lock 37

Don Juran (5/26)

Level in superb shape with no sign of erosion from last years flooding. Almost no trash along entire section.

26 - 67 to 69.4

Lock 37 to Antietam Creek Aqueduct

Rick Clement (6/22)

The additional trashcans seem to have had quite an effect on reducing the amount of trash and beer bottles in this area. Collected three bags of trash.

28 - 72.8 to 74

Lock 38 to Lock 39

John C. Frye (5/14)

Towpath is still rough and has not been resurfaced since flooding. Some areas bikes will need to be walked. Repair on Towpath and prism at winch house from last years flooding.

32 - 86.1 to 84.4

Dam 4 to Marsh Run Culvert

Edith Wilkerson (5/12)

Tall grass appears to have been planted as edging in several areas. Perhaps to contain erosion.

33 - 84.4 to 88.1

Dam 4 to McMaho's Mill

Paul & Rita Marth (3/15)

Collected five bags of trash but could not walk entire level due to high water.

34 - 88.1 to 90

McMaho's Mill to Opequon Jet.

Tom & Linda Perry (5/2,7/16)

Several random mile markers have been painted red. Not sure if this is "official" or not. Recent work in grading, seeding, and clean-up has made a big difference (5/2). Towpath at lower end of level has been worked on and is in excellent condition. Still confused by painted mile markers.

36 - 93 to 94.4

Lock 43 to Falling Water

Harry & Phyllis Davis (5/20)

Towpath in good condition with pot holes only at 94.3. At the lower end of the fishing club property are several large items to pick up, i.e. 20ft. Drainage pipe, 10ft. Antenna pipe, and large plastic chair.

39 - 102.3 to 105

High Rock Quarry to Nettle RR Piers

Paul Kimble (7/5)

Towpath in very good condition with a large tree limb partially covering towpath at mile 102.5.

40 - 104.9 to 106.8

Nettle RR Piers to Dam 5

Bill Hibbard (4/3,7/12)

Very little trash collected but parking lots were overflowed with vehicles. Several spring flowers in bloom (4/3). This was an NPS work day with debris cleared and foliage trimmed at fishing areas. Still collected five bags of trash.

41 - 106.8 to 108.6

Dam 5 to Four Locks

B.K. Lunde (7/12)

North wall of inlet lock shows some sign of erosion. Lock also has water in it indicating wall is leaking. There was also a Sierra Club walk thru this day.

45 - 114.5 to 116

Ernstville to Licking Creek

Joe Kochenderfer (5/17)

No vehicles or hikers spotted. Grass in Licking Creek HBO needs trimming but otherwise in good shape.

50 - 130 to 134

Lock 53 to Dam 6

Gren Whitman & Janice Plotczyk (6/8,7/20)

Stones loosened at western end of Lock 53 with upper courses sagging out. Towpath was very clean (6/8). Another stone seems to have been removed from the wall next to the intake lock. Traffic barrel was lying in Lock 55 (7/20).

51 - 134.1 to 136.6

Dam 6 to Sideling Hill Creek

John Popenoe (5/5)

Fallen tree across towpath at mile 136. Many small branches were cleared from

the Towpath from recent storm.

52 - 136.56 to 140.9

Sideling Hill Aqueduct to Fifteen Mile Creek

Craig Zane & Ginny Garretson (7/9)

Park Service was dumping and spreading gravel near mile 138.5 to repair towpath surface. There was also a work crew repairing the pump at Indigo Neck HBO. There was surprisingly little trash to be picked up along this section.

53 - 141 to 146

Little Orleans to Lock 57

Towpath surface eroded badly from more rain. Small area of towpath near mile 144 collapsed and marked off with tape.

58 - 154.5 to 156.2

Lock 63 1/3 to Paw Paw

Alan & Kit Franklin (4/19)

Level was very clean for a popular section. The tunnel is in good shape with some repainting needed to be done. Below the North Portal, a few landslides need to be cleared.

63 - 167 to 169

Lock 71 to Culvert 223

Jim Preston (4/26,5/4)

Several beaver cut trees still standing all along level. At Lock 71 there are several unknown survey markers. Most trash collected was fisherman waste.

65 - 173.4 to 175.5

Spring Gap to Lock 74

Jeanine & Dward Moore (7/12)

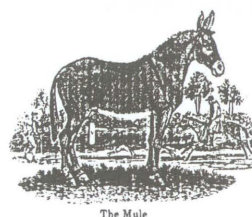
Towpath in good condition with signs of recent mowing on both sides.

68 & 69 - 180.7 to 184.5

Evitts Creek to Terminus

Wayne Hargy (5/4)

Detour at Wiley Ford while bridge construction takes place. Groundhog spotted at mile 184.



## MONOCACY AQUEDUCT UPDATE

- **C&O NHP AND ASCE CAPITOL SECTION AGREE ON MONITORING SYSTEM**

The Canal Park and the Capitol Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers have reached agreement on the installation of a state-of-the-art monitoring system for the Monocacy Aqueduct. A variety of measuring devices will provide data on the condition of the Aqueduct useful in the project to stabilize and repair the structure. The monitoring plan was outlined in last June's issue of *Along the Towpath*, page 9. The Capitol Section will provide both the volunteer engineers and the principal equipment necessary to install the system on the Aqueduct in cooperation with the park staff. The system will be inconspicuous. Bernie Dennis of the Capitol Section has been working closely with Bob Kapsch, a fellow engineer and special assistant to the NPS Director, and Superintendent Doug Faris in fleshing out the agreement and the scope of work. Bernie expects to make rapid progress in installing the system this Fall. The project is an innovative one which will advance our knowledge of the Aqueduct's structural condition and what needs to be done. Here we have a fine example of public-private enhancement and preservation of our parks. The ASCE's Capitol Section is our Association's key partner in the effort to *UPHOLD THE MONOCACY AQUEDUCT*.

- **DIVERS COMPLETE UNDERWATER EXAMINATION OF THE AQUEDUCT**

Bureau of Reclamation of divers completed their underwater examination of the Aqueduct's piers in June. Chief diver and engineer Brent Carter of the Bureau gave a news conference on June 16th at the Aqueduct and reported on the divers findings. They found significant scouring (undercutting) of the piers where they rest on the river's bedrock. The scouring cuts as much as two feet deep into the four piers that were accessible to examination. Underwater photography shows the scouring as well as the fact that all grouting between the structural stones of the piers has washed away. The deterioration uncovered highlights the need for stabilization and repair work. Brent Carter, however, was impressed at how well the structure has held up for the last 164 years, but stressed that it needed attention so it can continue to hold its own against the elements for another extended span of time. He said it was a "fantastic structure and needs tender, loving care." He added that the public needs to become aware of the existence and great worth of this fine historic structure and the need for its preservation. Bob Kapsch, who was on hand, said he anticipated a half million expenditure for basic stabilization with a view toward removing the external steel harness obscuring the structure's graceful lines and proportions. However, estimates of comprehensive rehabilitation await the completion of the overall engineering study which should be complete by year's end.

- **SUPPLY OF KOZAR AQUEDUCT PRINTS DWINDLING - A \$50 DONATION GETS YOU ONE!**

Donors of fifty dollars or more to the Monocacy Aqueduct Fund are entitled to receive a Kozar print while the supply lasts. The print shows the Aqueduct in its glory days. Each is numbered as part of a limited edition. The supply dwindles, so get yours now! Tom Kozar will be on hand to exhibit his Canal drawings during the Heritage Hike festivities. Tom expects to have a new print of the Aqueduct in a striking aerial perspective by the time of the hike.

## C&O NHP NEWS

The following digest has been condensed from National Park Service reports and news releases:

### 1996 FLOODS RECOVERY UPDATE

#### **Flood Recovery Plan Released**

On June 26, Park Superintendent Douglas Faris announced the release of the park's flood recovery plan. This plan, developed during the preceding six months, addresses high priority flood

repairs resulting from two major floods in 1996. The January and September 1996 floods caused \$55 million in damage to park resources. The flood recovery plan addresses the immediate needs that will be undertaken during the next two years, and identifies additional high priority needs that are currently unfunded.

Emergency repairs have been completed and the park has been reopened for public use. Park staff have resumed normal operations, facilities and programs are again open to the public,

## **PARK NOTES - continued**

and the towpath is generally in good condition. All but four miles of the towpath (mile 84.5 to mile 88.5) can be hiked and biked by visitors. The interpretive boat rides are available in Georgetown and at Great Falls, and two major segments of the canal downstream of Violettes Lock have been rewatered. Parking facilities, picnic areas, boat access ramps, hiker-biker campsites, and drive-in campsites have been repaired and are available for visitor use. All park facilities are used extensively, and proposed repairs to be completed over the next eighteen months should enhance access and visitor opportunities.

Following the September 1996 flood, the park began an intensive evaluation of damage with the assistance of the engineering consulting firm of Dewberry & Davis of Fairfax, VA. The condition of 1,800 structures was assessed, and a cumulative damage assessment from the two floods was prepared. Also, the park initiated a study to research and collate the known flood-hydrology data on the last six major floods on the Potomac River and selected tributaries in the vicinity of the C&O Canal. Another study was undertaken to evaluate information from the 1830s through 1924 when the canal ceased operations. The study revealed that 1996 was not the only time that two major floods had occurred in one year. Floods are a very dominant aspect of the dynamic Potomac River, and two or more floods occurred three times within a year prior to 1996. Also, since the 1830s, the canal has had twenty-five separate flood events. The plan proposes to maintain watered sections of the canal, and attempt to repair flood damaged areas with the newest sustainable methods available. No major modifications to the park master plan are recommended. Additional hydrological data and funding will be needed to complete all proposed repairs. Hydrological modeling is underway for segments of the canal from Georgetown upstream to Violettes Lock, the lock 33 area at the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah near Harpers Ferry, and for the Candoc area in south Cumberland.

Some repairs are complete, others underway, and many other projects will be undertaken this fall by day labor crews and through contracts. Many project designs are underway, and several major projects will be guided by results from ongoing hydrological studies.

For a copy of the Flood Recovery Plan, please write to C&O Canal National Historical Park, "Flood Recovery Plan", P.O. Box 4, Sharpsburg MD 21782.

### **The Anglers Inn Break**

During the January 1996 flood, the waters topped the towpath and severely eroded the earthen dam section of the towpath in the Anglers Inn area. The breach will be replaced with new compacted fill material under a construction contract scheduled for fall 1997. Additionally, the canal prism below Old Anglers crossing will have some desilting downstream from the vehicular crossing. It is the park's intention to have water flowing freely to within two to four feet of freeboard capacity from Lock 5 up to the Widewater section during the spring of 1998.

Prior to the floods of 1996, the water levels from Lock 5 to Lock 14 were being maintained in a range from 50 percent capacity to within 2-feet of freeboard level. Day labor crews will be repairing many items in this stretch to allow water to freely pass through the canal.

In a letter to members of the C&O Canal Association Board of Directors, Superintendent Faris referred to a July Washington Post article regarding the flood recovery plan, priorities, and "the desire of groups and individuals in the Brookmont and Glen Echo communities to ensure that more of the available funds are allocated to repairs from Lock 5 upstream to Anglers Inn." He stated, "Let me assure you that we are committed to repairing this segment of the canal, and we plan to have water in this area sometime in the Spring of 1998."

He added, "Our flood recovery consultant team is making good progress on our highest priority projects and our park staff crews are busy making repairs throughout the park. Everyone is working at top speed and urgency to get work projects accomplished. I am very pleased with the repair actions to date and the public is enjoying the park from Cumberland to Georgetown."

### **Funding for Repairs**

The park assembled \$22.6 million in funds and in-kind donations for flood recovery needs through appropriations from Congress (\$20.2M), donations (\$1.1M), grants (\$1.1M), and donated services and supplies (\$250K). The plan allocates funds to major flood recovery needs including project management and compliance, engineering and science studies, day labor projects, contracts, and support of volunteer programs. Fortunately, much of the available funds were not spent when the September 1996 flood occurred. The park has spent or proposes spending \$5.5 million in fiscal year 1996, \$9.5 million in 1997, \$6.8 million in 1998, and \$432K in 1999 on flood repairs. While it is very unlikely that the park will be able to obtain funds to repair all of the flood damage, park staff have identified a crucial need for \$12.6 million to complete unfunded high priority projects.

Approximately 54 percent of the total flood recovery funds will be allocated to repairs for the lower 22-mile section.

Approximately 12 percent of flood recovery program funds will be allocated towards engineering studies, assessments, and design work. This work, being prepared by numerous consultants, will assist the park in developing sustainable flood repairs.

The amount of construction funds allocated, by jurisdiction, is as follows:

<u>Mile</u>	<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Pct of the Park</u>	<u>Total(\$M)</u>
0 to 4.85	Dist of Columbia	2.63	3,295
4.85 - 42.2	Montgomery County	20.24	8,304
42.2 - 59.6	Frederick County	9.43	1,063
59.6 - 136.56	Washington County	41.71	3,489
136.56 to 184.5	Allegany County	25.98	1,337

## **OTHER PARK NEWS**

### **Use and Occupancy Retentions**

When the C & O Canal National Historical Park was established in January 1971, the National Park Service began a major land acquisition program within the park that continued for twenty years. The park boundary contained many seasonal residences and a few permanent residences. As the park acquired land and developed properties, many landowners were provided an opportunity to retain a right of use and occupancy on their property for a specified time frame. More than 200 properties were acquired with reserved rights of use and occupancy. As the retentions have expired, the park staff has removed the structures and restored the landscape to natural conditions.

As of March 1997, 81 active retention tracts remained within the C&O Canal NHP. The last of these will expire in the year 2001. The majority of these sites lie within the 50-year flood plain and sustained major damage from waterborne debris and high water velocities during the 1996 floods. Several retention owners have donated their remaining rights.

The park's management goals for acquiring developed properties was to return the cultural and natural landscape to conditions more representative of those that existed during the operational period of the canal, lessen the potential for flood damage, remove non-historic structures, and to have a much less developed riparian area between the canal and the Potomac River.

Eighteen of twenty retention sites which expired in 1993, 1994, and 1995 are being removed in 1997. Staff at the C&O Canal have completed work orders and clearances for compliance as a prerequisite for this work. It is expected that removal of all expired retentions will be completed by summer of 1997.

Work orders have been completed for 27 sites which expired in past years but were never restored to natural conditions. These sites have concrete slabs and other features which need to be removed.

Staff at the C&O Canal have also conducted an analysis of retention sites as candidates for native tree planting. Those sites which qualify will be planted with native species to help restore the natural characteristics of those sites. This work commenced in the spring of 1997.

### **House Bill 104**

Representative Roscoe Bartlett, from Maryland's 6th district, has introduced House Bill 104 in the 105th Congress, to authorize private ownership and use of National Park System lands. This bill, if passed by Congress, would authorize the National Park Service to dispose of property or interests within National Park System units, or lease lands, or extend existing leases within park units. Revenues generated from such sales or leases would be available to the park units involved for management needs. The

bill also would provide the National Park Service with authority to acquire less than fee title interest to properties.

The National Park Service essentially already has the authorities listed in House Bill 104. While the C&O Canal NHP is not specifically listed in H.B. 104, several news media events point to the intent to encourage the NPS to lease or sell retention properties to previous owners, current retention holders, or private owners. The major floods and resulting damage have reaffirmed the wisdom of the park's current management approach of not extending use opportunities, and removing retention structures when they expire. Also, Governor Glendening's 1997 Flood Task Force Report included the recommendation for removal of 288 private residential structures from the 100-year flood plain of the Potomac River.

The C& O Canal NHP has not identified any valid management purpose for modifying its current policy toward retentions, and is actively removing expired retention structures from park lands. The park staff is proceeding with removal of flood-damaged structures on expired or donated retention properties.

### **Historic Leasing**

The National Park Service currently has many authorities for use in managing park lands including the Historic Leasing Program which provides authority to lease historic structures within the park that are not crucial to the park's educational programs, but are important to be maintained as part of the historic scene for which the park was established. This act provides opportunity for the private sector to become involved in assisting the park with maintenance of historic structures.

The park has identified 17 structures in its cultural resources management plan that will be offered for leasing through the Historic Leasing Program. Potential lessees can invest their time and money in these structures and obtain a long-term lease for periods of 30 years or longer. The park will begin offering properties for lease during 1997. Revenues generated from historic leases can be used for preservation maintenance within the park.

### **Exhibit at Oldtown Lockhouse**

In July, the Superintendent announced the opening of a pictorial exhibit in Lockhouse 70 at Oldtown. The lockhouse is located on the canal off Maryland Route 51, between Cumberland and PawPaw. The exhibit highlights Native American occupation of the Oldtown area, Thomas Cresap, who was one of the first white settlers in the area and his son, Michael, who built a house in Oldtown about 1764 which still stands, Civil War action, Lockhouse 70, locktenders lives on the canal and nearby sites and structures.

The lockhouse now standing at Oldtown was built in 1906 following the destruction of the original lockhouse by fire that year. Also destroyed by the fire was a high wooden covered

## PARK NOTES - continued

bridge, built in 1850, which crossed the lock. Both the original and current lockhouse structures were built of wood, the most readily available and least expensive building material. Adjacent to the original lockhouse stood a store. In 1859, the C & O Canal Company Board allowed John Wilson to build a feed store across from Lock 70. Many boatmen took advantage of the feed and grocery stores located right on the canal.

### Fall Canalboat Schedule

Beginning on September 10th, the mule-drawn canalboats *Georgetown* and *Canal Clipper* will operate on the fall schedule. The boat season will close on October 19th. During this period, both boats will offer public rides on Saturdays and Sundays at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. The *Georgetown* will also operate at 2:00 p.m. Wednesdays through Fridays, while the *Clipper* will depart at 3:00 p.m. on those days. There will be no trips on Mondays and Tuesdays.

The *Georgetown* leaves from the basin between locks 3 and 4, at 1057 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W. The phone number is (202) 653-5190. The *Canal Clipper* operates from the Great Falls Tavern, 11710 MacArthur Boulevard, in Potomac, MD. The number there is (301) 299-3613 for more information.

## †††ACROSS THE BERM†††

### ORRIN LONG (1919-1997)

Orrin Long, an Association member for many years, died on August 15 after a seemingly interminable illness. He served as an officer in the U.S. Navy during World War II and worked for the Central Intelligence Agency until he retired in 1977. His wife, Virginia, died on June 18, 1995.

Orrin belonged to the Association for at least 30 years, and he served on the Board of Directors from 1988 to 1994. He also chaired the Environmental Committee during a time when the Association was seized with major environmental problems from 1990 to 1994, including the litigation over the Wiley Ford Bridge controversy. In addition, he headed the Nominations Committee in 1991. He was also a level walker for a time on Section 43, McCoy's Ferry to Fort Frederick.

In the last ten years or so, Orrin was plagued by illness, but he kept up with the Association's interests as much as he could. He rallied for a while, long enough to be active in work related to the Board, committees and other areas where he was always a willing collaborator. He loved to hike, a frequent participant in our outings until his illness slowed him down. His last venture onto the towpath a few years ago was a snail-like march for about six miles near Whites Ferry. Even in his last months, when he was in the Fairfax Hospital's Intermediate Care Unit, he had an avid interest in whatever was going on in the Association. With all his other special preoccupations, he had a particular place in his heart and on his agenda for the C&O Canal. This

devotion never left him to the very end. His many generous contributions to the Association's work reflected his dedication to this organization and to the historical and natural preservation goals that motivate its members.

Orrin's years with the Association span the time from its early incarnation when it militantly defended its ancient turf to the present when its members again battle the enemies. Today the fight is less against bureaucratic encroachments and more against the elements, including the never-ending quest for funding for restoration. Orrin demonstrated through the years that he strongly felt the need to protect the C&O Canal park. This determination was illustrated many times, especially when he chaired the Environmental Committee, spending many hours in site visits and in preparing comprehensive reports for the Board. He assumed responsibility, which endeared him to his colleagues in the Association's management; he needed no close supervision to ensure that things got done. His word was enough.

Most endearing, however, was probably his quick smile and ready wit, features that defined him to his last days. He served the Association well and with grace and good cheer, and he will be remembered for it.

- - Hal Larsen

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## ROBERT STANTON OF TEXAS TO HEAD THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Robert G. Stanton was sworn in as the Director of the National Park Service (NPS) today. He was nominated by President Clinton on June 10. His nomination was unanimously approved by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on July 23 and was confirmed by the full Senate on July 31.

*Bob is an experienced Park Service professional with the background and the commitment to protect and preserve our American heritage for present and future generations to enjoy, Babbitt said. I look forward to working with him as we face the tough challenges and make the tough decisions, as we lead the National Park Service into the 21st century.*

As Director, Stanton will have policy and administrative responsibility for the 375 units in the National Park System. The 83 million acre National Park System is managed by 20,000 permanent and seasonal employees, visited by 265 million visitors each year and operated on an annual budget of about \$1.6 billion.

"I am excited about this new challenge," said Stanton. "I look forward with great expectation and enthusiasm to protecting our national treasures for people to share and enjoy. I will work hard to ensure that America's National Park System continues to be the envy of the world.

Before retiring in January 1997, Stanton served eight years as NPS' Regional Director of the National Capital Region in

## ROBERT STANTON TO HEAD THE NPS - continued

Washington, DC. He was responsible for 40 park units which attracted more than 38 million visitors annually to such popular sites as the White House, Washington Monument, Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, Manassas National Battlefield Park and Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.

Stanton began his federal career as a seasonal park ranger at Grand Teton National Park in 1966, as a personnel management and public information specialist, in the Washington, DC, office. In 1969, he moved to National Capital Parks-Central, Washington, DC, as a management assistant, and in 1970, became Superintendent of National Parks-East, Washington, DC, and Maryland. A year later he was appointed Superintendent of Virgin Islands National Park, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, and in 1974, he became Deputy Regional Director of the Southeast Region in Atlanta, Georgia.

In 1976, Stanton returned to Washington, DC, as Assistant Director, Park Operations, and in 1978, he went on to become Deputy Regional Director for the National Capital Region, a position in which he held for eight years. In 1987, he returned to headquarters (Main Interior) as Associate Director for Operations. In 1988, he became Regional Director of the National Capital Region until his retirement in 1997.

As the recipient of numerous honors and awards, he received in 1994 the National Council of Negro Women's highest award, the Distinguished Service Award; earned in 1993 the Presidential Distinguished Senior Executive Rank Award; and in 1987 the Interior Department's highest award, the Distinguished Service Award. In 1993, he was elected as a Fellow in the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration.

Stanton, a native of Fort Worth, Texas, earned a bachelor's degree in 1963, from Huston-Tillotson College, Austin, Texas. He did graduate work at Boston University, Massachusetts, George Washington University, Washington, DC, and has completed numerous courses, seminars, and workshops in management and executive leadership.

Mr. Stanton and his wife Janet Moffatte of South Carolina, reside in Fairfax, VA. They have a grown son and daughter.

Stanton is the 15th person to serve as Director of the National Park Service since the agency was established in August 1916. He is the first African American in the history of the 80 year-old agency to hold that position.

-- DOI Press Release

## 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*.

Patricia Ann WHITE	M
Penelope H. DOOLITTLE	C
Richard K. SLATEN & Katherine LATIMER	C
Richard A. BUTLER	CM
Marie Lousie DUNCAN	M
Paul KOVENOCK	M
LIONS CLUB OF LAYTONSVILLE	M
Jeanette PENNER	C
Howard ROSEN	D
R. Justin DEFORGE	M
Janice PLOTCHYK & Grenville WHITMAN	C
Frances B. COURTER	M
<b>In memory of Glenn Heimer</b>	
Carl A. LINDEN	M
<b>Forwarded by Tom Kozar</b>	
Norm GUNDERSON	M
<b>Designated donation to United Way campaign</b>	
Linda L. RICHMOND	M
<b>In memory of Bob Greenberg</b>	
Zoe Hannah BRADLEY	C
CAPITOL WOODWIND QUARTET	C
Harold A. LARSEN	C
Milton V. FREEMAN	C
Mr. & Mrs. William J. CLEM	CM
Leo B. ORBACH	C
Eve RAPKE	C
James and Doris SCHULMAN	C
Judy A. REARDON	M
Mark and Ruth WOOLSEY	C
Frances A. WRIGHT	C
Anastasia T. DUNAU	C
Ana Graciela LAVADENZ	C
Cheryl MORDEN	C
SYMMETRON, INC.	C
J. Paul Shelton, Chairman & CEO	
Mark W. PODVIA	M
Rosemary HARTLEY	M
David E. LEPKOWSKI	M

## LOST OR WANDERED

A serving spoon apparently took off (maybe with a dish, by the light of the moon?) following the pot-luck picnic at Great Falls Tavern on Sunday, July 13. It is a German potato server, stainless steel, with a round bowl that has a notch on each side near the base. Its owners--Jane and Hal Larsen (703) 356-1809 miss it very much and will ask no questions if it will just come home.

## GILBERT GUDE IS BACK ON THE TOWPATH

This story was first published in *Montgomery Magazine*, a publication of the *Gazette* newspapers.

Gilbert Gude was in a familiar role when he led a photographer and reporter on a tour of the Monocacy Aqueduct. The former four-term Maryland congressman (R-8th) led the battle for the creation of the C&O Canal National Historical Park, and now he's fighting to save one of the park's most historic structures.

The aqueduct, located near Dickerson, Md., is a beautiful sandstone structure built during the early 19th century to carry canal boats across the Monocacy River. It survived repeated efforts by Confederate soldiers to blow it up, but since then floating logs and debris in flood waters have repeatedly battered its columns. After Hurricane Agnes in 1972, National Park Service staff encased the aqueduct in a steel harness to prevent further damage and are now considering options for its restoration.

Gude quickly ticked off the reasons why the aqueduct should be saved. "First, is its historic importance. The aqueduct is part of the fabric of a trail that originated with George Washington's vision to open up the west by building a canal along the Potomac River. If we replace the aqueduct with a makeshift bridge, we lose all that history." He adds, "In itself, the aqueduct is a monument to the early bridge builders. It's beautifully engineered, using classical motifs of the time."

The former politician knows what it takes to pry funds from a deficit-conscious Congress and a financially strapped park service. "We need to be advocates for the aqueduct. The C&O Canal Association has done a good bit to keep the attention of park service staff focused on restoration, but we need to make the aqueduct more visible to the general public. Its out-of-the way location has meant that it has never had the support it deserves." More than 25 years earlier, Gude led a delegation to the same spot. Then, he was trying to persuade public officials that the area around the C&O Canal should become a national park. He had been elected to Congress in 1967 after serving terms in the Maryland House of Delegates and State Senate and finally had a chance to work at the national level to protect the canal area from development.

Gude's interest in establishing the canal park grew out of his earlier work. "Suburbia was on its way," he says. "The Parks and Planning Commission was very active. I was interested in stream valley parks, so my attention naturally turned to the Potomac River." From that subject, it was only a short jump to a concern with the C&O Canal. "I always knew a park would be a good thing," says Gude.

The park, however, was by no means, a sure thing. "Sometimes, the park history has seemed like the *Perils of*

*Pauline*," says Gude. Today, the battle is to maintain the park and canal structures in the face of frequent flooding. That current struggle was preceded by decades of organizing and advocacy to protect the historical character of the area.

One of the most publicized of the early adventures occurred in 1954. An editorial in the *Washington Post* supported a plan to build a scenic parkway along the abandoned bed of the canal. William O. Douglas, then a 55-year-old Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, challenged the *Post's* editorial writers to walk with him the full length of the canal to discover what would be missed by someone traveling in an automobile.

The challenge was accepted and 37 newspaper reporters, conservationists and a few kibitzers set out on a 185-mile walk from Cumberland, Md., to Georgetown. Nine eventually completed the trip. By the end of the journey, the *Post's* editors favored some sort of compromise between the two views concerning the parkway and had learned some valuable trail lessons. They wrote, "Out here, the first signs of spring seem far more important than the antics of self-inflated wild men or what Congress does with the tax bill."

Despite that testimonial, the battle for park designation continued for nearly 20 years. Gude says, "You have to remember the times. The automobile was revered. Frank Lloyd Wright even created an architectural design for buildings and roadways for Sugarloaf Mountain that promoted the use of cars. The interstate highway system was coming into being, and the German autobahns were much admired."

On his last day in office, President Eisenhower designated the park area a National Monument, offering it some protection, but he also offended the chair of a key Congressional committee by a failure to consult about the designation. Gude and congressional colleagues smoothed over the ruffled feathers and kept up the pressure until the C&O Canal National Historical Park was finally created in 1971.

Gude and Senator Charles Mathias nominated Connie Morella to serve on the newly formed C&O Canal Advisory Commission. Representative Morella, who now occupies Gude's former congressional seat, still takes great pride in that appointment. "It was so nice to be recommended by those two people who had such concern for the environment."

"Gilbert's contribution to the quality of life in the region has been enormous," Morella says. "He's really bound to nature in the way that Shakespeare used the term. The river, the canal and the wetlands; he's concerned about them all. He's our Theodore Roosevelt, not in the Rough Rider sense, but in his advocacy for the natural

## GUDE IS BACK ON THE TOWPATH - continued

environment. He's a gentle version of Roosevelt."

In 1975, Gude made an unconventional decision about how to spend the August congressional recess. Instead of making the rounds of political barbecues, he traveled the 400-mile length of the Potomac River from its origins in the West Virginia mountains. He says, "I was always taking reporters to see different areas of the Potomac River. One of them said, 'You ought to travel the whole length.' I thought it was the dumbest idea I'd ever heard, but the thought kept growing in my mind."



Congressman Gilbert Gude

The result of that trip was Gude's first book, *Where the Potomac Begins: A History of the North Branch Valley*, which was published in 1984. In the introduction, he wrote, "Learning about the Upper Potomac has been, for me, a search for congruence among politics, history, science, literature and poetry." They're big subjects, but the book manages to combine elements of all of them in a readable account.

Gude wrote, "Like any congressman, I'd been a careful observer and interpreter of my constituencies, so I was comfortable studying the small valley and talking with its inhabitants." He includes reminiscences of mining people and descriptions of the impact of mining on the terrain. He concludes, "At its beginning and at its end, the Potomac is drawn together by a common history of environmental abuse."

Five years later, Gude published *Small Town Destiny: The Story of Five Small Towns along the Potomac Valley*. The book opens with a loving remembrance of his childhood in Rockville, then the quintessential small town. He describes

the "unleashing of the wrecking ball and bulldozer" on downtown Rockville in 1965 and the subsequent loss of small town community and social life. The book was an effort "to demonstrate American small town social and cultural reactions and resiliences to the influences of today's world."

After Gude left Congress, he spent the years from 1977 to 1986 as director of the Congressional Research Service. Today, his resume opens with the all-purpose words: writer, lecturer, consultant. He keeps busy. In addition to working on the Monocacy Aqueduct project, he's on the boards of the Montgomery County Historical Society, the Maryland Historical Trust and The Accokeek Foundation and is past president of the Maryland Humanities Council.

One activity seems to lead to another. For example, Gude helped found the Potomac River Basin Consortium to bring academics together to look at research concerning the Potomac River. "A member of the group said, 'You ought to teach a class about this,'" he says. Gude proposed the idea to the Georgetown School of Continuing Education, which has offered *Potomac River Overview* for the last six years.

The class offers Gude a chance to share his most persistent interests with a wide variety of people. In a series of three field trips, the group travels to the spot where the Potomac River begins, walks through the Paw Paw tunnel on the canal, and explores some of the small towns along the Potomac. Ecology, natural and social history and contemporary issues of small-town life are all incorporated in his view of the Potomac River.

Gude also remains fascinated with what's happening closer to his Bethesda home. "Suburbanization has come to Montgomery County," he says. "What has happened here has happened to America."

The Monocacy Aqueduct is more than 500 feet long, with seven 54-foot arches. It is made of white and pink quartz sandstone, which was hauled from the base of Sugarloaf Mountain. The most majestic of the canal's 11 aqueducts, it was called one of Maryland's seven wonders and depicted on silver platters used in state banquets.

In 1995, the National Trust for Historic Preservation labeled the aqueduct "threatened." The C&O Canal Advisory Commission and the National Park Service asked the C&O Canal Association to undertake a fundraising drive for restoration. The American Society of Civil Engineers joined the effort in May, because of the historic significance of the aqueduct as a 19th-century engineering feat. The local chapter received a grant from the national organization to monitor and evaluate the condition of the aqueduct. The Montgomery County Historic Preservation Committee

## GUDE IS BACK ON THE TOWPATH - continued

supported the production of a brochure. Douglas Faris, superintendent of the C&O Canal National Historical Park, plans to award a contract for a study of the cost of restoration.

The Uphold the Monocacy Aqueduct Committee of the C&O Canal Association meets regularly. New members are welcome. Call (301) 983-0825 for information and brochure or to request a speaker about the aqueduct.

- - Kate Mulligan

## FROM THE PAST

President Andrew Jackson  
Washington, D.C.

The canal system of this country is being threatened by the spread of a new form of transportation known as railroads. The federal government must preserve the canals for the following reasons:

One: If the canal boats are supplanted by the railroads serious unemployment will result. Captains, cooks, drivers, hostlers, repairmen, and lock tenders will be left without a means of livelihood, not to mention the numerous farmers employed at growing hay for horses.

Two: Boat builders would suffer and tow-line, whip and harness makers would be left destitute.

Three: Canal boats are essential to the defense of the U.S. In the event of the expected trouble with England, the Erie Canal would be the only means by which we could ever move the supplies so vital to waging war.

For the above-mention reasons the government should create an Interstate Commerce Commission to protect the American people from the evils of railroads and preserve the canals for posterity.

As you may well know, Mr. President, railroad carriages are pulled at the enormous speed of 15 miles per hour by engines which, in addition to endangering life and limb of passengers, roar and snort their way through the country-side, setting fires to crops and scaring women and children.

The Almighty certainly never intended that people should travel at such breakneck speed.

Your obedient servant

Martin Van Buren, Governor  
State of new York  
January 31st, 1829

- - Article contributed by Pat and Nancy Stakem

## NATURE NOTES

A bald eagle sailed low over the river's edge. Moments later, we watched a ruby-throated hummingbird diving into trumpet-creeper blossoms. These were the highlights of a "Sights and Sounds of the Season" walk on the river path in early August.

On another day, heavy clouds threatened rain and the river was running high. We took note of wildflowers along the boardwalks and finally clustered at the Olmstead Island Overlook to watch a half-dozen great blue herons fishing in the turbulent river. 8 little green heron seemed to be trying to outdo the larger birds, Spray washed over the rocks where they perched in mid-river but the birds never retreated.

All through this summer an indigo bunting has been singing in a small woodland midway along the board walk. Only occasionally does he show himself, usually perched at the highest point visible from the board walk.

A wood thrush chorus entertained us as we circled encircled the Gold Mine Tract in late July. Again, in early August, the thrushes sang in the woods along the trail to the Ford Gold Mine, A very noisy pileated woodpecker drummed somewhere on a dead tree trunk but was never seen.

Flower check-lists based on past years' observations have proved of little use this year. The woodland as well as the Towpath and Canal bank seem to have been scoured by last year's floods, Crane fly and putty root--two small summer orchids--failed to show this summer, although we still hunt for them at their usual locations.

No iron weed grows at the Towpath's edge, No St. John's wort, no St. Andrew's cross and no seedbox can be found in the usual places. The yellow pond lily has disappeared and its pool is a dried-up, lifeless place. Butterfly weed and mallows failed to show themselves. Button bush bloomed and attracted butterflies near the first of the wooden walkways en route to the falls overlook. Culver's root also appeared at several locations along the boardwalk.

Meadow rue bloomed on the Canal bank near the Tavern for awhile, but was later mowed. Bouncing Bet has bloomed in profusion all summer on the river side of the plastic netting stretched along the Towpath above Catfish Hole. Jewel weed is just starting to bloom in early August where it grows beyond the reach of a mower's blade along the Canal bank.

An unwanted newcomer in many places--notably in the Widewater area--is the alien wormwood. Not an ungraceful plant with its lacy leaves, it is still unwanted because of its habit of taking over and displacing native plants. The dead stalks of garlic mustard, another unwanted alien, continue to crowd the sunny edges of woodland.

An 8-mile, unwatered section of the lower Canal drew critical attention in a front-page story in the Washington Post on July 14. A recent visit to the area indicates that it is fast becoming a

## **NATURE NOTES - continued**

fascinating wetland, Cardinal flower, arrowhead and Joe Pye Weed were blooming on the Canal bank or in the prism on the first Sunday in August. Many less spectacular flowers were in bloom or seeding. Great blue herons stalked the shallow water in places, and we watched as they caught small fish or frogs. Dragon flies and butterflies flitted busily over the damp earth.

The Towpath in the area is in good shape although it probably becomes muddy when it rains. At least 50 bicyclists passed going in one direction or the other (most of them exceeding the speed limit), but only a couple of them paused to watch a great blue heron.

The river has dried up entirely in places near the Towpath in this area, leaving the exposed roots of trees as the obvious anchors holding together small islands that probably served as buffers to diminish the force of last year's floods. One can only wonder whether these small island barriers will continue to hold back the river and prevent future destructive floods from creating even greater damage to the Towpath and Canal.

- - Helen L. Johnston

## **SUMMARY OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**

**February 2, 1997  
Williamsport, MD**

### **Directors present:**

William Bauman, John Frye, Karen Gray, Norma Hendrickson, Ellen Holway, Dave Johnson, Hal Larsen, Nancy Long, Fred Mopsik, Kate Mulligan, Robert Perry, Thomas Perry, Gary Petrichick, Rachel L. Stewart, Patricia White

### **Directors absent:**

Charles Ayres, Ralph Donnelly, William Evans, Keith Kridenoff, Lyman Stucker, Peggy Weber

### **Others present:**

Clyde Bell, Sonny DeForge, Carl Linden, John Lindt

The Park Report by Clyde Bell was his last report, as he has left the Canal Park to work at Gettysburg National Battlefield Park. We wish him well.

## **Committee Reports**

Archives Committee reported that the work at Gelman Library is ongoing; the Board approved a budget allocation of \$100.00 for conversion of films to video. The President requested that the committee chair send him not only annual reports but also copies of correspondence received and correspondence sent.

Monocacy Aqueduct Committee reported that the committee is ready to approach major contributors to the Canal's Flood Recovery, that Supt. Faris has sent a letter to the Committee regarding the dollar costs of the Aqueduct studies and actual

repair work. Regarding the proposed fund-raising video, the chairman proposes to ask Dave Humphrey for assistance. Jim Gilford and Gilbert Gude both have slide shows regarding the Canal and the Aqueduct. The Superintendent wants directional signs on the highway and local roads to the Aqueduct.

Environmental Committee reported that the congressional representative for Western Maryland has introduced a bill approving limited sale of NPS lands to local residents. John Frye was directed by the Board to inform the Congressman that this Association opposes any legislation that is contrary to the purposes of the Canal Park, with copies going the U.S. Senators and to the White House.

Membership Chair's motion for a reduction in the price of the Association t-shirts to \$4.75 was approved. [They presently sell for \$8.00, are over 6 years old, and approximately 66 are left.]

Newsletter Editor reported that he is changing printers to use good-quality recycled paper, decrease delivery time by 1 day, and cut costs by \$600 to \$1200, and that the mailing labels are now bar-coded, which reduces the bulk-mail rate. The association's Home Page can include a store order form as well as membership form.

Canal-in-Sections Ad Hoc Committee reported that the committee proposes 4 hikes in addition to the Spring Douglas Hike and the Fall Heritage Hike, and that once the level walker program has been strengthened, additional hikes led by level walkers will be planned for 1998.

**April 6, 1996  
Glen Echo, MD**

### **Directors present:**

Charles Ayres, Christine Cerniglia, Karen Gray, Dave Johnson, Keith Kridenoff, Hal Larsen, Carl Linden, Nancy Long, Mary Ann Moen, Fred Mopsik, Kate Mulligan, Robert Perry, Tom Perry, Gary Petrichick, Jim Preston, Ken Rollins, Rachel Stewart, Patricia White

### **Directors absent:**

Ralph Donnelly, William Evans, Peggy Weber

### **Others present:**

Douglas Faris, John Lindt, Linda Ferry, Congressman and Mrs. Roscoe Bartlett

Park Report. Superintendent Doug Faris reported as follows: The Park held an April 4 event at Great Falls wherein the major contributors to the flood recovery effort were acknowledged and the Olmstead Island bridges were reopened. The Canal has been rewatered there; canal boats will be operating there and at Georgetown, with the latter being curtailed because of a significant wall collapse and construction at the Whitehurst Freeway crossing. The "Flood Recovery Plan" has been completed: \$12 million remains for the next 2 years' repairs; a report by Dewberry & Davis indicates that an additional \$67

## **SUMMARY - continued**

million will be needed, with \$10 million for highest priority repairs.

Faris has contracted with the Corps of Engineers (\$55,000) for removal of debris and the Bureau of Reclamation (\$48,000) to check the underwater footings of the Monocacy Aqueduct, and has a \$120,000 contract for an engineering study. There is now an Engineer on staff, Dan Copenhaver, and an architect, Floyd Sanders, who will be trained in historic preservation and technology.

Faris answered extensive questions regarding H.R. 104, Congressman Bartlett's bill. When the NPS bought retention sites with the idea that the Park would return the Canal to natural and historic condition, all extraneous structures were to be removed. "Retention" = owner allowed to keep use of property. All retentions expire in or before 2001. Initially 200. Last year 18 expired, this year 15. Want to get non-historic structures out of the park. 7 retention holders donated the remainder to the park. Now 81 remain. 17 structures are historic but difficult to manage. Park has authority to lease long-term (30-99 years). Bartlett wanted to allow retention holders to reacquire title as well as use. NPS determined that Supt. cannot grant special use permits. Has prepared summary of retention program, 4-5 pages long. How determine price? % of appraised value based on remainder of retention. Faris sees no benefit to Park in bill; 75% of authority already exists. Bill would reinforce feeling that the Park must be forced to change, to sell land back.

The Commission's position is in opposition, having sent letters to Congressman Bartlett and to Sec. of Interior Babbitt. (Several positions on commission expire in July, and 2 people have resigned).

## **Committee Reports.**

Canal Restoration and Monocacy Aqueduct Fundraising Committee Chair and Doug Faris met with Lee Kahn, a volunteer with Congresswoman Morella's staff, discussing the establishment of a Canal endowment, a private, non-government effort; discussions are continuing. The Heritage Hike in October will be as follows: start at Point of Rocks and end at Monocacy Aqueduct. The Park Service will provide a tent at the Aqueduct.

Level Walkers, Keith Kridenoff, Chair, circulated a report on unassigned levels, unreported levels, and levels newly assigned. Three Board members signed up for levels.

Newsletter editor reported that the newsletter is now on the Internet.

Public Information Officer reported that Kevin McManus of the Washington Post intends to travel the towpath this summer and will include a side-bar about the Level Walker Program. Patagonia sports store in Georgetown sponsored a canal clean-up on April 12 and asked for members to man an information table. The American Canals Society asked for an article on our Canal floods for its newsletter; Hal Larsen will write it.

Canal-in-Sections Committee, Patricia White, Chair, noted that the Committee needs a more attractive name. The hike originally scheduled for September has been switched with the Heritage Hike. The schedule will be: June 8, circuit hike at Paw Paw Tunnel; Sept. 7, circuit hike at Reilly's Lock; The October 25th Heritage Hike, Point of Rocks to Monocacy Aqueduct; Dec. 6, circuit hike, Violet's Lock to Stonecutting Mill at Seneca.

## **Other Business.**

Karen Gray reported that the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program has asked the Board to provide our food and lodging guide to them for inclusion in a similar guide for the region. After extensive discussion, Karen was asked to invite Donald Griggs to address the next Board meeting.

Roscoe Bartlett, Congressional representative for Western Maryland, spoke to the Board regarding HR 104, for over an hour. His staff person for the bill is Jeff Jones (202-225-2721); Mr. Jones will send Gary Petrichick a copy of the suggested change that the National Park Service provides. Ellen Holway wishes that another Association member act as the de facto chair of the Clague mapping project, which has been on hold during 1996 because of the floods. Dave Humphries' video will require a minimum of \$50,000; to date he has a major commitment of only \$2,500.00; he would like to have editorial input from the Association regarding content as well as potential corporate donors. Nancy Long circulated a notice of Doug Faris' projected meeting with the Glen Echo town residents on April 8.

**June 1, 1997  
Williamsport, MD**

## **Directors present:**

Charles Ayres, Christine Cerniglia, William Evans, Dave Johnson, Keith Kridenoff, Hal Larsen, Nancy Long, Mary Ann Moen, Robert Perry, Tom Perry, Gary Petrichick, Ken Rollins, Rachel Stewart, Patricia White

## **Directors absent:**

Ralph Donnelly, Karen Gray, Carl Linden, Fred Mopsik, Kate Mulligan, Jim Preston, Peggy Weber

Others: William Bauman, John Lindt, Linda Perry

Park Report. Don Briggs, who is with "Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance" of the National Park Service, plans a guide to facilities in the area, or a guide to such guides, and has developed a draft scoping of projects. He sought the Association's input. It was noted also the "Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail" (from 1983) has not had much attention but educational, recreational and historical organizations that refer to PHNCT use the C & O Canal as the spine. This will be FY 1998 project.

## **Committee Reports.**

Archives Committee reported that all identified records collections identified are being moved into the Gelman Collection.

Environmental Committee -- There was discussion of a proposal

## **SUMMARY - continued**

to build a temporary ice rink over the Canal in the Foundry area of Georgetown for ice shows, to be called "Victorian Village". According to the Park Service, the possibility is being explored. The rink will be available for public use when not needed for shows; admission will be charged. Also, the Intercounty Connector Road between 1-270 and 1-95 is still a live concern.

Level Walkers Chairman Keith Kridenoff reported that every level has been assigned.

## **Other Business.**

Nancy Long reported that reaturation of the Canal between Lock 5 and Old Anglers Inn was the subject of a recent Washington Post article, which seemed to talk of a 3-4 year restoration period. It caused much unrest among Montgomery County neighbors of the Canal.

**August 3, 1997**

**Glen Echo, MD**

## **Directors present:**

Christine Cerniglia, Karen Gray, Dave Johnson, Hal Larsen, Nancy Long, Mary Ann Moen, Fred Mopsik, Kate Mulligan, Tom Perry, Gary Petrichick, Jim Preston, Ken Rollins, Rachel Stewart, Patricia White

## **Directors absent:**

Charles Ayres, Ralph Donnelly, Keith Kridenoff, Carl Linden, Robert Perry, Peggy Weber

**Others:** William Bauman, Doug Faris, Sonny DeForge, Don Juran, and Melissa Andrews (PLUS several members of the C & O Canal Preservation Coalition)

**Park Report.** Superintendent Faris reported, among other things, as follows: The canal boats are operating at Georgetown and Great Falls; the entire towpath is open except for a 4 mile stretch at Big Slackwater; all hiker-biker campsites are open. Copies of the Flood Plan had been mailed to officers and directors of the Canal Association, among others, and the Superintendent has met with civic associations and other groups who are particularly concerned about the area between Widewater and Lock 5, which has traditionally been watered but is not presently. He answered questions on the following subjects: The volunteer work projects, the Victorian Village ice-rink proposal, the towpath area at Widewater, rebuilding of lockgates for locks 15, 16, 70 and 75, the proposed site of a Monopole just outside the Great Falls entrance to the Park, the Big Slackwater detour, private boat ramps in the Big Slackwater area, and work ongoing in the Brunswick and the Cumberland areas.

## **Committee Reports.**

Monocacy Aqueduct Fundraising Committee reported that letters have been sent to 16 individuals asking them to serve as honorary members of the Committee. The committee is preparing applications for several foundation grants. Frederick County is evidencing more interest in the Aqueduct than previously.

Environmental Committee reported on the "Monopole" (a form of cellular communications antenna) to be erected on the VFW grounds adjacent to the Great Falls entrance to the Park. Not much activity is apparent on the Bartlett Bill; there have been no hearings, there are no co-sponsors, and it is in the wrong committee. Tom Perry requested information on the Retentions in Washington County, especially Williamsport. The Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources, owner of the Woodmont Gun Club, has signed an annual 6-month hunting-season lease of that facility to a new chapter of the Isaac Walton League.

Membership chair reported on need for staffing for upcoming festivals and noted that the Montgomery County Historical Society wants a permanent Canal exhibit at a new museum planned for a bank barn in the Germantown area as well as an exhibit at the Beall-Dawson House in Feb-Mar. 1999, planning for which should be in place by summer of 1998.

Program Committee reported on the July canoe trip, which included 2 new participants, thanks to efforts by the IO, and on the proposed Paw Paw Bends canoe trip, the October bicycle trip, and the Heritage Hike and Dinner. This led to a question of decision-making responsibility for hikes and dinners. After extensive discussion, the Board noted that traditionally the Program Committee Chair determines, in consultation with the President, matters such as hike location, dinner location, and the like, but that the Board has historically decided on the speaker. Regarding this year's Heritage Hike Dinner, it was moved as follows: "Because information that has been gathered to date on the Monocacy Aqueduct is essential to the membership, and because it is critical that this information be presented at the Dinner, therefore, the Board regretfully changes the subject to be presented at the Dinner from Railroad history to the Monocacy Aqueduct." The motion was seconded, debated, and voted upon; it passed. The President was instructed to take steps to effect that change.

## **Other Business:**

C&O Canal Preservation Coalition President, Melissa Andrews, spoke to the Directors regarding the coalition's concern that Canal area known as Sycamore/Carderock (from Lock 5 to Old Angler's) will not be rewatered. That concern is based upon an April meeting of coalition members with Doug Faris and upon funding numbers published in the Flood Plan, and was the subject of a Washington Post front-page piece in early summer. The coalition comprises 12 neighborhoods and over 2,000 households. They fear that this section will be left behind because there is no funding for de-silting, lockgate reconstruction, and prism repair.

A Nominating Committee for officers and directors to be elected at the 1998 annual meeting was appointed: Don Juran, chair, Hal Larsen and Chris Cerniglia.

The President will appoint a committee to review Bylaws in light of procedural motions made since the 1989 revision. Past

## SUMMARY - continued

presidents and certain members of long standing will be invited to join. Their purpose will be to determine whether or not to amend the Bylaws. Amendment of the Bylaws requires 30-days notice to the membership, and the amendments are voted at either a general or a special meeting of the membership.

Karen Gray has maintained and updated the "Food & Lodging Guide" data base. She is updating that information to include "biker-friendliness", which she defines as willingness to pick up and deliver bikers, providing a secure place for bikes, and greeting bikers in a hospitable manner.

The supply of Membership brochures may run out before next summer. The current design will be maintained, but Fred Mopsik was directed to add space for new member's phone numbers and e-mail address and to correct spelling mistake.

Pat White reported on the Continuing Hike series: The June hike, thru the PawPaw Tunnel and back over the top, resulted in 2 new members. A hike is planned for September 7 at Violet's Lock. The December hike will return to PawPaw to look for additional Surveyor's Stones.

- - Rachel L. Stewart

## THE MULES SPEAK OF THEIR ASSOCIATES

Transcribed for Gary<sup>1</sup> from "Lil"-Rhoda" and Ancestors

Who left the barn door open  
Who let them get away  
Who took our job - copped our name  
We tell you who - we bray

We never towed a barge in England  
Portugal or Spain  
The only kings we ever saw  
Were on cards at a poker game  
A prince we have never met  
A princess nor a queen  
And only viewed them from a stall  
That faced the silver screen

This all now has turned about  
We have met the purple blue  
They are the Gol-dangest bunch  
That reside outside a zoo  
Their leader drives a thousand miles  
To set a spell, or so  
Then while he's here - whats he do  
To satisfy his stay  
He and his fellow zoo-mates  
Go working all the day

They toil along that path-way  
T'was made for mules you know  
And the canal -'ores of the C. and O.  
We moved the barges - made them go  
Float and twist - sometimes squirm

Between the locks - along the berm  
We followed the river, out every tred  
Our being here - saved the water shed

This path and canal would have ceased to be  
With only still paintings to show  
If weren't for those selfless folks  
The volunteers of the C. and O.  
They care for it's every step  
And protect it's right-to-be  
To safely pass it onward  
For all posterity

So listen up - hear us out  
Extend the vigil - expand the shout  
To our Canal Associates  
And what they're about

The Canal Association  
Long may their proud flag wave  
To watch near the shore line Potomac  
Whose waters rush to the Bay  
The door is open to join the dedicated  
To heed when the call gives need  
To protect the grace - this most favored place  
Then long may we 'Mules' to say

We've never been beyond the Candoc<sup>2</sup>  
Barely to D.C.  
Yet with the caretakers of this public land  
We walk with true royalty.

- - J. Preston Aug. '97

- 
1. Gary Petrichick, President of the C & O Canal Association
  2. Acronym. See comment about mile 181.83 in Towpath Guide
- 

## e-mail

Over the last few months, new and renewing members have indicated their e-mail address as listed below. There are probably many more. The questions I have are: 1) Should we include a space for your e-mail address on the Membership Renewal forms? and 2) Should we publish or distribute e-mail addresses in some form? Please reply only by e-mail. - -W. Bauman

FRANK BARNHART	FWBowl@compuserve.com
WILLIAM BAUMAN	103437,2666@compuserve.com
KATHY BILTON	fred.net/kathy/canal.html
DONALD BODMER	don911@intrepid.net
CURTISS M. BURY	cmbury@intrepid.net
PAUL G. ENTERLINE	enterline@ce.net
WILLIAM ALLEN FOUT	BillFout@juno.com
KAREN M. GRAY	KMGrayPhD@compuserve.com
C. L. HIRRLINGER	chirrl01@shepherd.wvnet.edu
DON JURAN	donjuran@crosslink.net
ROBERT & EDITH KROLL	rkroll@erols.com
FRED & JUDIE MOPSIK	mopsikj@erols.com
KATE MULLIGAN	kmulligan@dn.net
ROBERT C. & JANE D. PERRY	cocassn@erols.com
MOIRE M. QUEEN	queenmo@ogc.si.edu

## OCTOBER THROUGH BIKE TRIP

The Canal Association Through Bike Trip will take advantage of the Columbus Day weekend, so that participants will need to lose one day less of work, or be able to complete the first leg of the trip even if they must return to work on Tuesday. We will gather at the Station plaza in Cumberland on Saturday, October 11, by 3:30 A.M., each rider being responsible for his/her own transportation. We expect to arrive in Georgetown on the afternoon of October 16. (A complete itinerary will be sent to each participant upon receipt of your reservation.)

You may well wonder what you need to take along and what is provided. A sturdy bicycle with tires for rough terrain is strongly recommended, with a spare tube and a helmet for your head. Park Service regulations specify that a bike is to have a bell to tinkle when approaching hikers. This is not a race but your legs should be broken in so that 30 miles a day will not break you down. En route to our destination we will spend nights at hiker/biker stops. Each of these furnishes a potty, a pump, a fire place, a table and space for your tent. If you would want more luxurious accommodations it will be up to you to contact motels or B&Bs along the way. (See Food and Lodging Guide.)

As this small army moves on its belly, it is envisioned that we would take one hearty meal a day in a restaurant or sub shop along the way, and that snack bars, fruit, trail mix and the like sustain us on the move. If you have dietary requirements please let me know. I will purchase these items ahead of time, but the money for meals will need to be in your pocket. We will not be able to have a sag wagon following us, but Sonny DeForge tells me that again he is willing to be of assistance if asked. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Please let me know early, because there will be a cut-off after 15 people have signed on. I need you name, address, check for \$15 which will be used to purchase food shared along the way.

Even now the mild days of October and its cool nights are beckoning us. Please consider sharing in this event.

-- Tom Perry (301) 223-7010

## CANOE THE MONOCACY RIVER

Canoe the Monocacy on Saturday, October 25th. This gentle river is a very good one for beginners. We will start near Lilypons and canoe to the confluence of the Potomac - a distance of 6.2 miles. *Team Link* of Frederick, Maryland, our guides, will provide the canoes, paddles, life jackets and insurance. Cost is \$40 per canoe. Each canoe holds two adults and one *small* child. Canoeists should bring a lunch. Reservations must be made by Oct 1st. Reserve a canoe via e-mail at 103437.2666@compuserve.com, or call Rita Bauman at (540) 888-1425 after 6 P.M. If the water in the Monocacy is too low, the trip will go on the Potomac from Point of Rocks to the Monocacy

-- Rita Bauman

## 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.

**Sunday November 23, 11:00 AM, Paw Paw Tunnel:** Search for transit stones and shafts on Tunnel Hill. Meet in the parking lot off MD 51. From the Washington area take I 270 to Frederick, MD; I 70 to Hancock, MD; US 522 south to Berkeley Springs, WV; WV 9 to Paw Paw, WV; cross the Potomac to MD 51, take first right past the railroad bridge into the Paw Paw Tunnel parking lot. From Cumberland MD, take MD 51 south, pass Oldtown, make a left into the parking lot.

**Saturday December 6, 10:00 AM:** Frostbite Hike from Violettes Lock to the Cutting Mill above Seneca. To reach Violettes Lock from Potomac, MD, follow River Road west about 6 to 8 miles to a left on Violettes Lock Road.

**Future Hikes:** Watch this space in the next issue for a possible end of year hike. 1998 hikes are in the planning stages. We will do the five miles between Point of Rocks and Brunswick completing the 25 mile section between the Monacacy and Harpers Ferry. Additional hikes are planned between Little Orleans and the Paw Paw Tunnel. A Spring Flower hike might start from Dargens Bend.

**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 with neither the C&O Canal Association nor Pat accepting any responsibility or risk.

-- Pat White (301) 977-5628

## SECOND HIKE OF THE CONTINUING HIKE SERIES

Six people gathered at the Paw Paw Tunnel South Portal (mile 155.8) on Sunday, June 8, under beautiful blue skies for the second hike in this series. Ranger Paul Appel gave an excellent interpretative introduction to the tunnel and then accompanied the group through it to point out items of interest: recent patches and historical patches to the brick lining, the location of the shafts, weep holes, original oak railings and replacement pine railings, rope burns, and a hole through all seven layers of brick.

After a leisurely lunch at the Sorrel Ridge Hiker-Biker (mile 154.14) the group decided to return past the odd numbered locks (63 1/3 and 64 2/3) and take the trail over the mountain. The trail upward seemed endless, but at the top the group was rewarded by locating one of the original transit stones. According to Ranger Appel, four other transit stones and the heads of the shafts can be located with a little cross-country hiking. The group decided to seek the other transit stones the Sunday before Thanksgiving when the leaves and poison ivy are gone.

The trail back to the towpath on the south face of the mountain had several panoramic views of Paw Paw, WV and the Potomac River valley. Back at towpath level the group checked out the Canal Superintendent's house before returning to the parking lot. Part of the group then drove back over the mountain and checked out two more Potomac overlooks before ending up at Bill's in Little Orleans.

- - Pat White

### ERIE CANAL CRUISE

Some of our members have enjoyed a three day Erie Canal cruise on the Emta II, a 40 passenger cruise ship operated by Mid-Lakes Navigation Co. Ltd. of Skaneateles, NY, and on their recommendation I contacted the company.

1998 trips still open are the weekends of July 24 and August 14. If we can guarantee 20 passengers we qualify for their group rates. The three day cruise from Syracuse NY to the Hudson River includes 3 meals per day, 2 nights lodging (off ship), some sightseeing, motor coach return to Syracuse and all taxes, tolls and gratuities. Double occupancy is \$444 per person and single occupancy is \$499.

While there is the option of a similar trip from Syracuse to Buffalo, the scenery on the eastern half is much more spectacular, traversing the historic Mohawk Valley, descending the greatest lock in the system (41 feet), and dropping 420 feet from Rome to Troy.



The Emta II on the Erie Canal

Mid-Lakes will hold the two weekends for us until late fall. If you are interested, **contact me as soon as possible with the dates you prefer.** First come, first served, so I will note the date of your call or postmark.

- - Gary Petrichick

### FREDERICK COUNTY FAIR

The Association will participate in the Frederick County Fair for the first time. We will share the County's booth on Sunday, Sept. 14th and Saturday, Sept. 20th. The hours are 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. which can be divided into two four-hour segments. Duties consist of handing out brochures and answering questions. Two fair passes are available. Volunteers are needed. If you can help, please contact Rita after 6 P.M. at 540 888 1425 or e-mail at 103437.2666@compuserve.com

- - Rita Bauman

### MYSTERY

Here's one for Civil War buffs. If you haven't seen it yet, check out the Civil War Times Illustrated Photographic History of the Civil War, a two volume set containing over two thousand previously unpublished Civil War photos. No history of the "recent unpleasantness" is complete without mention of the C&O Canal and this is no exception. While most of the canal photo locations are easily identified, the shot on page 30 of the first volume should present a challenge to most. If you have an idea or better yet, can positively identify the scene, give me a call or drop me a line. With luck, we'll have the answer in the next issue.

- - Gary Petrichick  
petrichick@aol.com, or see address in the directory

## 1997 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>
Monthly	Wed, Sat	<b>Sights and Sounds of the Seasons</b> 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.
Sep 20	Sat	Frederick County Fair. Contact Rita Bauman after 6 p.m. (540) 888-1425.
Sep 20-21	Sat-Sun	Annual overnight Paw Paw bends canoe trip. Contact Carl Linden (301) 229-2398 or Ken Rollins (804) 448-2934.
Sep 20-21	Sat-Sun	Sharpsburg Heritage Festival
Sep 27-28	Sat-Sun	Cumberland Canal <b>CANCELLED</b> Boat Festival. Contact John Millar (301) 729-3136.
Sep 28	Sun	Board Meeting, Tom and Linda Perry's, 116 Conococheague St., Williamsport, 1 p.m.
Oct 4	Sat	VIP Workday. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Choose from the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fletchers Boathouse MP 3.1</li> <li>• Taylor's Landing MP 80.4</li> <li>• Hancock MP 124</li> </ul>
Oct 4-5	Sat-Sun	Brunswick Railroad Days
Oct 11-16	Sat-Thr	Through-bike trip -- Cumberland to Georgetown led by Tom Perry. Details later.
Oct 25	Sat	Annual Heritage Hike. Point of Rocks to Monocacy Aqueduct. See details page 1.
Oct 25	Sat	Canoe the Monocacy River. See article page 19 for details.
Nov 1	Sat	VIP Workday. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Choose from the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great Falls MP 14.3</li> <li>• Lock MP 15.4</li> <li>• Taylor's Landing MP 80.9</li> <li>• Hancock MP 124</li> </ul>
Dec 6	Sat	Continuing Hike Series: 10:00 AM--Annual <b>FROSTBITE HIKE</b> from Violets Lock to the Cutting Mill above Seneca. Contact Ken Rollins (804) 448-2934 or Sonny DeForge (301) 530-8830.
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.
<b>1998</b>		
Mar 8	Sat	<b>C&amp;O Canal Association Annual Meeting</b> , Williamsport VFD Hall.

## 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 NPS Volunteer Office (301) 714-2233 and speak with Ranger Nancy Brown, or call John Lindt at (301) 469-6381, for details. 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. Work periods are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

-- John Lindt

### FROM THE VOLUNTEER OFFICE

Even with the heat of the summer, 175 volunteers came out to the park and gave a total of 844 hours of work on 16 different projects! Much of the work focused on pruning back the vegetation along the towpath. A tedious task, but extremely necessary. And because of all of the vegetation, we were unable to finish up at Taylors Landing, milepost 80.9, located outside of Sharpsburg, MD. October and November will be our big push again at Taylors Landing. Spread the word.

A big thank you to the dedicated volunteers and members of the C&O Canal Association who worked at Great Falls cleaning out the culvert at Cool Spring Branch. This was back-breaking work! At the close of the project, my position title was changed from Volunteer Coordinator to "Slave Driver".

Many of the boy scout troops gave their time this summer to volunteering while hiking or biking the towpath. The girl scouts who offer tours at Rileys Lockhouse, spent an afternoon scraping and painting the fence near the lockhouse. Mar-Lu-Ridge Camp cleaned up the Point of Rocks area along the towpath.

With cooler weather on the horizon, I expect we will have an eventful fall. Please call the Volunteer Office, 301-714-2233, to sign up for fall volunteer projects. And mark your calendar for the annual Volunteer Recognition Picnic on October 4th at Carderock, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm (RSVP by October 1, 1997 to the Volunteer Office).

-- Nancy Brown

10/4                    Fletchers boathouse (mp 3.1)  
Rehab. the trail leading from the towpath to the Capitol Crescent Trail at Arizona Bridge.

10/4                    Taylors Landing (mp 80.9)  
Clean up trash from area - receives a lot of waste from high water levels due to the natural bend of the River.

*Along the Towpath*

10/4                    Hancock (mp 124)  
Prune back vegetation, remove trash and debris, from along the towpath.

### COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY    OCTOBER 26

10/26                  Lock 6 (mp 5.4)  
Remove silt buildup from the culvert and stream bed, located downstream of Little Falls Pumping Station.

10/26                  Lock 8 (mp 8.3)  
Prune back the vegetation from along the towpath, working towards Lock 5.

11/1                    Great Falls (mp 14.3)  
Rake leaves from around the Great Falls Tavern area. Clean Tavern gutters. Move downstream to Lockhouse 10 to clean gutters and rake leaves.

11/1                    Lock 6 (mp 5.4)  
Rake leaves from the Lockhouse 6 area. Clean gutters. Remove debris from upstream side of lockgates. Move to Lockhouse 7 to clean gutters and rake leaves.

11/1                    Taylors Landing (mp 80.9)  
Clean up trash from area - receives a lot of waste from high water levels due to the natural bend of the Potomac River.

11/1                    Hancock (mp 124)  
Prune back vegetation, remove trash and debris, from along the towpath.

ALL PROJECTS BEGIN AT 9:00 AM AND LAST UNTIL 1:00 PM. BRING WORK GLOVES, A LUNCH/DRINK, WEAR STURDY BOOTS, AND DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. PLEASE CALL THE VOLUNTEER OFFICE TO SIGN UP AND RECEIVE DIRECTIONS (301) 714-2233).

### NPS SEEKS VOLUNTEERS TO STAFF VISITOR CENTERS

The National Park Service is looking for retirees or others who have time to devote to staffing Visitor Centers along the C&O Canal. Each of the centers is short of ranger staff and volunteers are needed to answer questions, explain historical canal operations, and provide environmental information to visitors as well as assist with office work while rangers carry out other duties. Training will be provided to those willing to commit a number of hours each week/month. If you would like to participate, call your local Center for more information. This is a good opportunity for retirees living near the upper reaches of the Canal to become involved in Canal activities.

## NPS SEEKS VOLUNTEERS TO STAFF VISITOR CENTERS - continued

The five C&O Visitor Centers are located in:

- Georgetown (202) 651-5190;
- Great Falls, MD (301) 299-3613;
- Williamsport, MD (301) 582-0813;
- Hancock, MD (301) 678-5463;
- Cumberland, MD (301) 722-8226.

You may also contact Nancy Brown at C&OC NP HQTRS in Sharpsburg at (301) 714-2233.

-- John Lindt

## C&O NHP MUSEUM COLLECTION OPENS TO RESEARCHERS

Doug Stover, Chief of Cultural Resources Management for the C&O NHP, has completed the first Park Museum Handbook. This handbook includes the policies and procedures for managing and preservation of collections operating the Park library.

Doug Stover oversees the preservation of 108,954 museum objects, 500 library books, 300 maps, 1,800 historic photos, and 125 oral tapes in the Park collection. Researchers and C&O Canal Association members are welcome to visit the library located at Park headquarters. Please call Doug at (301) 714-2231.

The museum collection of Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical park are among the richest of canal-related objects in the nation. The collection consists of ethnology, history, archive, biology, geology, and paleontology objects.

The 4,287 Museum objects are on display at four visitor centers in the Park at Great Falls Tavern, Williamsport Visitor Center (VC), Hancock VC, and Cumberland Station VC. Additional museum objects are on display at the Abner Cloud House and Rileys Lockhouse.

The collection contains a vast majority of 70,000 archeological objects. These include important objects from prehistoric and historic sites along the Canal, to ethnology and paleontology objects from Great Falls. Among the archives and historical objects, the most important collection is associated with papers of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson relating to the Canal and the historic furniture and fine arts collection relating to the structures and families along the Canal. The collection contains a large amount of geology objects from the gold mines to the natural specimen collection.

-- Doug Stover

## FROM THE AMERICAN CANAL SOCIETY.....

The AMERICAN CANAL SOCIETY, operating under the logo *Dedicated to Historic Canal Research, Preservation, and Parks*, is celebrating its 25th birthday in 1997. The society maintains active committees that survey and index the nation's pioneer artificial transportation waterways as well as its extant system of canals and canalized rivers. The committees also provide historical, engineering, archaeological, and other information to students of the old waterways and to groups working toward preserving relics of the nation's heritage by converting existing canal lands into bikeways, hiking trails, and park lands. Many of the society's nearly 900 members work closely with local officials in converting and maintaining these canal lands. The AMERICAN CANAL SOCIETY publishes a quarterly bulletin, *American Canals*, devoted to historical and other articles concerning inland waterways, past and present, and to publicizing local canal groups and projects. The society is about to embark on an ambitious program of historical canal publications.

Founded in 1972 by three historians and preservationists from the states of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, the society has grown and prospered. A birthday party and celebration will be held in October at the annual World Canals Conference, held this year on the Blackstone Canal in New England. There a new president will be inaugurated, a birthday cake cut (and eaten), and initial plans made for the society to leap into the 21st century.



A couple of *Canallers* (Ken Rollins and Ed Miller) were seen in the Highlands of North Carolina at Grandfather Mountain on July 12, 1997.

-- Ed Miller

## C & O CANAL ASSOCIATION BRUNSWICK TO MONOCACY RIVER CANOE TRIP - JULY 26, 1997

Early on a warm July Saturday, eager canoeists began converging in front of Carl Linden's home in Brookmont. Sonny Deforge, John Dugger, Alvin Cohen, Neal Feldman, Peat O'Neil, Lisa McAllister, Ken Rollins, Guy Bartels, David Lepkowsky, Glen Goodfriend and Carl Linden -- all members and guests of the C&O Canal Association--milled about in the street. Coffee mugs in hand, the kibitzers tried to direct the more industrious paddlers angling a third canoe onto the roof of Ken's old truck. The extra canoe was for two newcomers joining the group. Peat O'Neil and Lisa McAllister had read in the local Gazette newspaper about the Association's plans for an 11-mile Potomac River canoe ride from Brunswick south to the old Monocacy Aqueduct that day. An hour or so passed while the group made introductions, and discussed put-in sites, shuttle arrangements and car-driving assignments. Then Ken's almost life-sized stuffed bear, a fondly remembered passenger on previous canoe voyages (and helpful HOV lane partner, perhaps?), was brought out of its den for a group photo session.

The plan, as some understood it, was to take the canoes to Brunswick and leave them and most of the paddlers. Then, canoe-carrying vehicles would be driven down to the day's take-out point at the Monocacy Aqueduct and pick up the few remaining paddlers who would be leaving their cars at the take-out. Everybody would crowd into one vehicle for the shuttle back to Brunswick to start the paddle. The idea was to accomplish the shuttle early in the day rather than many having to drive back to Brunswick after a day of paddling. At least that was the plan.

But here's what happened. Carl, Lisa, Peat and Glen drove to Monocacy and parked and waited, believing that the canoe-carrying vehicles would return for them as soon as their canoes were unloaded at Brunswick. Hours passed. Stories were told, personal histories revealed and nearby insects and wildflowers were examined and discussed. Suddenly, Sunny peeled into the parking lot there and asked where was everyone else? Seems Sunny and Neal had gone to Point of Rocks which they had thought was the put-in site. By this time Carl's group accepted the inevitable: the canoe-carrying vehicles wouldn't be returning for them at the take out site, so they'd better hurry and drive up to Brunswick. Fortunately, the weather and views were fine, and the company agreeable, so the morning's mishaps faded from consciousness as the group geared up to paddle down the Potomac. Sylvia and Charlie Diss had been waiting for the group at Brunswick and pretty soon six canoes eased out into the murky, shallow Potomac.

But, right away, the call went out: Where were Guy and David? They'd put in ahead of the rest and paddled off. Just as the group was getting worried, the young men's canoe emerged from an inlet. Seemed like a better idea to mix less experienced canoeists with seasoned paddlers. So, in a mid-river switch, Guy moved into Ken's canoe and David paired up with Peat, who despite years of sea-kayak touring and a some whitewater kayak experience, had never handled the stern position on a canoe.

The Potomac was steamy and still, and the summer afternoon unfolded pleasantly. A flock of Canadas and a few Great Blue Herons were disturbed and headed off, with intermittent stops, down the river. A few fish jumped, and fishermen standing mid-river recast their lines, following their rippling movements. The canoeists glided along easily, with only a few instances of whitewater requiring concentration.

With all the morning's back-and-forth hijinks, hunger pangs struck soon after launch, even though some of the group had snacked beforehand. A lunch site became the goal of the hour and soon all had gathered at a point on the Virginia side of the river. Carl's large cooler proved to be a lunchtime coffer...he generously shared Chardonnay in stem glasses...and the hard edge of the morning's confusion disappeared. The group settled into mellow story telling and yakking about other canoe trips, camping experiences and similar fun times. Sunny talked about his gardening at Landon, Glen shared stories about climate research.

Back in the river, a few canoeists stopped at Point of Rocks where David and Charlie went into the village in search of cold drinks. They took a little while, actually more than a little while. So most of the group were out of sight down the river by the time Sylvia and Charlie, and Peat and David, reentered the Potomac. The larger group puzzled and worried over the whereabouts of the stragglers. But intense paddling by the smaller group narrowed the gap, and by the time the Monocacy Aqueduct came into view around 6 p.m., the entire group was together again. Handshakes and congratulations were shared all around. Another C&O Canal Association canoe trip done.

The next C&O Canal Association outing will be an overnight canoe trip from Paw Paw Bends, Sept. 20-21, 1997.

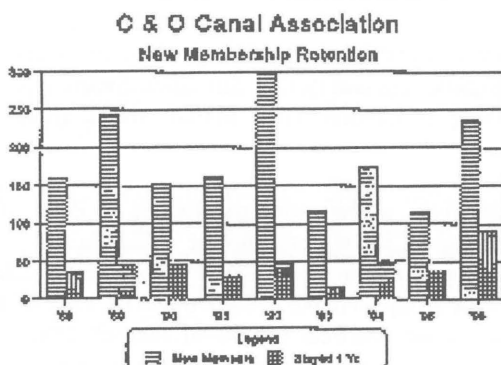
- - L. Peat O'Neil and Lisa McAllister



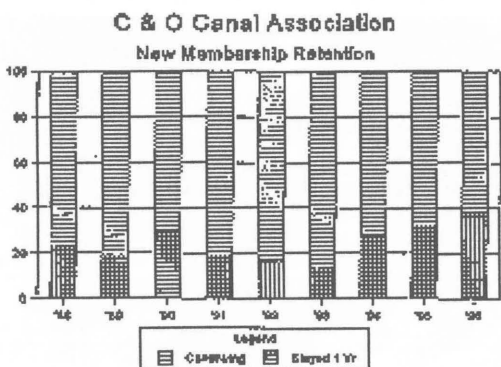
Canoeists attending this year's Monocacy Aqueduct Canoe Trip included (Back Row L-R) Ken, David, Neal, Glen, Bear, Peat, Lisa, Carl, and Front Row (L-R), Guy, Alvin, and Sonny  
Photo, Peat O'Neil

## MEMBERSHIP.....

New membership in the Association peaked in 1992 at 300. The 1996 recruitment benefited from two "hundred-year-floods" and the public response; not the way we want to gain membership. The question came up: "Are we retaining those members?" In the following graph the new membership and members who only stayed 1 year are plotted for the last 9 years. Certainly in 1996 we experienced the largest number on non-renewals in quite some time.



Now let's look at the same data presented on a percentage format, as shown in the next graph. From 1988 through 1993 we typically "lost" only 20% of the new members. But since 1993 the percentage has been climbing; up to nearly 40% in 1996. So the question is: "What can the Association do to retain new members?"



Members are requested to reflect on their first year of membership and suggest actions the Association can take to retain new members. Please call or write to our President; or e-mail Karen Gray.

## NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

The nominating committee members for the 1998 slate of officers and directors are:

Don Juran, Chairman	(301) 231-8622
Donna Boies	(202) 966-0358
Christine Cernaglia	(301) 340-6361
John Fondersmith	(202) 667-1357
and Hal Larsen	(703) 356-1809

Those to be elected at the March 7, 1998 Annual Meeting are President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Information Officer and five Directors.

Contact any of the committee members if you would like to place a name in nomination for any of the positions.

## HELP WANTED

I regret that circumstances require me to resign as the Editor of *Along the Towpath* effective with the publication of this issue. If you or anyone you know would be interested in taking over the position, please notify Gary Petrichick. See the directory for address, phone number, or e-mail address.

See you Along the Towpath,

Bob