

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 XXXIII

MARCH 1998

NUMBER 2

Douglas Reunion Hike

The Annual Reunion Hike offers opportunities to take a new look at familiar territory.

At Riley's Lockhouse, Mike High, author of *C&O Canal Companion*, will tell us about the history of the area. Seneca was once a thriving canal community. Take a moment to examine the ruins of the Seneca Stonecutting Mill, which produced the sandstone for such famous landmarks as the Smithsonian Castle. A troop of Girls Scouts dressed in period costume will help recreate the spirit of canal days. A bagpiper will bring back more recent memories, when William O. Douglas walked the towpath.

Some of the canal's most beautiful scenery lies along the towpath from Riley's to Great Falls Tavern. Take a short detour to explore the Diersen Waterfowl Sanctuary at mile 20. After the hike of about 8 miles, there will be time to explore what's been going on at Great Falls. Visit newly opened Olmstead Island and take a look at the storm damage at Widewater. Happy hour and dinner at Potomac Presbyterian in Potomac follow. Here's the schedule.

10:00 a.m. Meet at Parking Lot of Great Falls Visitors Center (Parking free) First shuttle bus leaves for Riley's Lockhouse. Bring a bag lunch.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ■ 10:45 a.m. Mike High speaks about area | ■ Reservations required for dinner. Hike is free, with \$1.00 charge for shuttle bus. |
| ■ 11:00 a.m. Hike begins | ■ Use form provided or call Sonny De Forge at 301-530-8830 for information. |
| ■ 4:30 p.m. Happy hour at Potomac Presbyterian Church 10301 River Road, Potomac. | ■ First bus will leave at 9:45, 2nd bus will leave at 10:30 |
| ■ 5:30 p.m. Dinner and program at Potomac Presbyterian Church | ■ Meet at Great Falls Visitor Center Parking lot. |

1999 THROUGH HIKE PREPARATIONS BEGIN



The Hikers on the last day of the first hike that made history. Spring 1954

Since our inception, the Association has celebrated the anniversary of Justice Douglas' 1954 trek to save the Canal. Beginning on the twentieth anniversary in 1974 and every five years since, we have hiked the entire canal. Early preparations are now being made for the 1999 hike. Following is an excerpt from the March 1993 ALONG THE TOWPATH. Only the dates have been changed to protect the innocent:

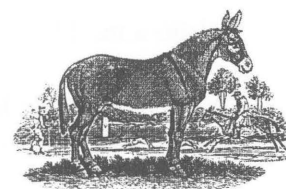
"The 1999 full-canal hike will be held during the second half of April. It is expected to take fourteen days, with an average daily distance between twelve and fifteen miles. We will camp each night, with the exception of the mid-hike weekend. All

meals will be provided, either in camp or catered in local communities along the way. Heavy duffel will be transported between campsites, so backpacking of tents and sleeping bags will not be required."

"Members may sign on for the full hike or for just the first or second week (with preference to two-week hikers). Participation will be limited to the capacity of the campsites. Although formal registration will not begin until fall, priority will be given to those who participate in the planning process from the beginning. Committees to work on various aspects of the hike will be formed this summer, and all hikers will be expected to share in this

planning."

"Therefore, members who want to take part in the full-distance hike scheduled for April 1999 are requested to send their names and addresses to the Association, (P.O. Box 366, Glen Echo, Maryland 20812). They will be placed on the preliminary list in the order they are received. All members who are on the list will be invited to the planning meetings that will be scheduled to begin this summer."



The Mule

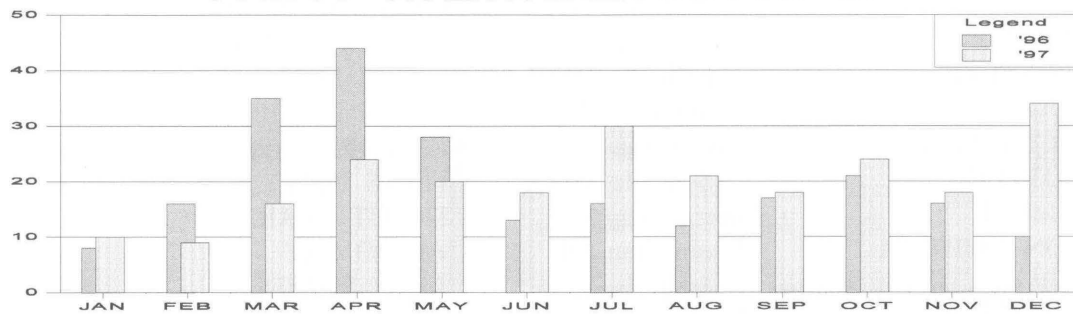
C & O CANAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING
MAR. 7, 1998
REPORT OF MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

The table reflects Association membership at the end of each of the last 5 years:

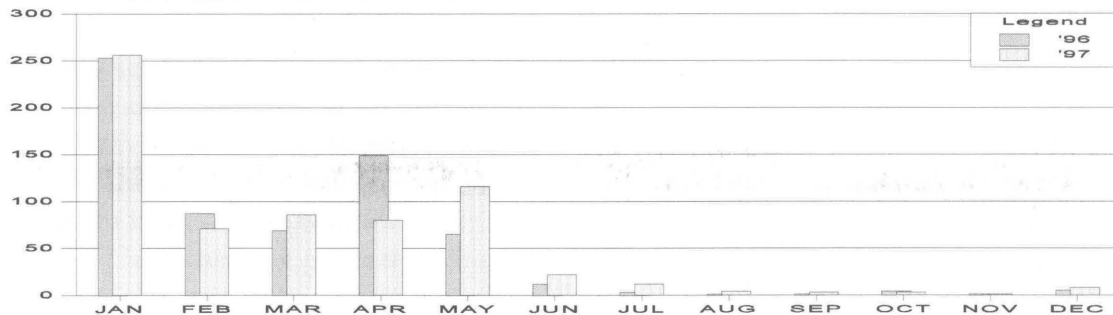
Type	12/4/93	12/4/94	12/1/95	12/1/96	12/4/97
Member	462	418	413	444	437
Family	278	290	285	311	325
Patron	159	157	132	191	201
Totals	899	865	830	946	963

As of the end of the year, we seem to have recovered membership in comparison with previous years. In the charts below I have shown the number of new memberships and then the membership renewals for each month. During each month of the second half of '97, we had more new memberships than in the comparable month of '96. We also experienced a nice surge in new memberships during Dec. '97. Membership renewals were 650 for '96 and 662 for '97, with the difference being when members responded to their personal renewal letters mailed out in early April.

NEW MEMBERSHIPS



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS



In summary, our membership looks strong at the end of '97.

William D. Bauman

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS (SINCE 11/13/97)

ADAMS NEIL	Alexandria VA	KILBY EMILY R	Dickerson MD
ALBRECHT TOM & BARBARA	Knoxville MD	KING DOUG & CATHY	Olney MD
ALKIRE WILLIAM	Ashburn VA	KOGOD MARK	Bethesda MD
ALLEN BRIAN	Columbia MD	KULP H. WILLIAM	Silver Spring MD
ALLEN RICHARD A	Chevy Chase MD	KUSHNIR ANDREI	Bethesda MD
ARMSTRONG THOMAS K	Marshall VA	LASSOE WARD V	Washington DC
BAKER WILTON & DIANNE	Bethesda MD	LEHMANN WOLFGANG J	Rockville MD
BALDWIN PAMELA	Owings Mills MD	LEWIS ANNE C	Glen Echo MD
BARLOW THERESA G	Bethesda MD	LEWIS GEORGE & PAM	Jefferson MD
BINNS BRETT & CELINA	Ashburn VA	LIEBOW NORMAN	Potomac MD
BISER DAVID	Hagerstown MD	LISTER RICK	Wheaton MD
BLOEDORN CHARLENE	Bethesda MD	LIVINGSTON GEORGE E	Fairfax Station VA
BLOOM PETER & GRETCHEN	Bethesda MD	MALECH DAN	Bethesda MD
BOWMAN NELSON	Frederick MD	MC INTOSH SUSAN & BEN	Hagerstown MD
BRAMBLE HARRIET O	Bethesda MD	MCRAVIN-JACKSON MARGARET	Baltimore MD
BRANDRISS PETER	Washington DC	MITCHELL PENELOPE	Bethesda MD
BURG JOAN	Alexandria VA	NALLS VIRGINIA	Frederick MD
BURTON WILLIAM L	Warrenton VA	OSBORN THOMAS M	Olney MD
CAMPBELL MURDOCH	Cabin John MD	SAUER CARRIE	Washington DC
CARLSON JOHN W	Bethesda MD	SHANNON MARTHA	Bethesda MD
CARR BARBARA L	Mc Lean VA	SHERIDAN BARBARA	La Plata MD
CARTER BRUCE	Gaithersburg MD	SIMPSON MRS CHARLES J	Bethesda MD
CHAMEIDES STEVE	Bethesda MD	SMITH MICHELLE	Baltimore MD
CLAPP DOUG	Alexandria VA	SMITH LESLIE K	Bethesda MD
COCHRAN CLAYTON E	Kensington MD	TAYLOR BECKY	Frederick MD
CULP RICHARD W	Bethesda MD	TEETS PETER B	Potomac MD
CURTISS JAMES L	Silver Spring MD	TROUT CRAIG H	Lovettsville VA
DARLINGTON REBECCA	Washington DC	VALCO RAY	Latrobe PA
DARMORY PAUL	Bethesda MD	ZACH DAVID	Sterling VA
DELANY KEVIN & JOAN	Washington DC		
DELLEFIELD DAVID W	Alexandria VA		
DETJEN JIM	Laurel MD		
DEWITT KATHERINE	Reston VA		
DIPIPPA MARGARET H	Ellicott City MD		
FOSDICK WILLIAM T	Lexington KY		
FOUCHE MELANIE	Hagerstown MD		
GREEN MARK	Arlington VA		
GRZESZKIEWICZ JOHN	Brookeville MD		
HARTMAN NANCY	Bethesda MD		
HATHAWAY CECELIA	Rockville MD		
HOBGOOD JAMES	Springfield VA		
HOGLUND STEVEN	Washington DC		
HORLEY RALPH P	Sharpsburg MD		
HOWARD JACQUELYN	Occoquan VA		
HUGHES JIM	Mc Lean VA		
HUMPHREY ADRIENNE R	Montgomery Village MD		
JENSEN FRED	Potomac MD		
JESSOP DARREN	Hagerstown MD		
JOHNSON BART	Gambrills MD		

We welcome you all and hope you will take an active part in the affairs of the Association. For those of you indicating an interest in the Level Walker Program or in the Volunteers In the Park Program; you must take the initiative and contact the respective leader.

On the Level

I would like to thank all the level walkers who participated during 1997 for making this another great year for the program. And to everyone who did not get to walk their levels have, by our by-laws, been placed on the inactive list. But with the first report turned in during 1998, I will be happy to disappointed to not see their report in the last newsletter. Due to the confusion of transferring everything from our old editor to the new one, "On the Level" was inadvertently left out of the newsletter. Once again, my apologies, but rest assured that reports turned in were filed and handled in the usual manner. I'm also currently working on enlisting boy and girl scout troops in maintaining levels of their own. The only stipulation is that at least one person involved be a member of the association. If you know of anyone interested, please let me know.

Keith D. Kridenoff
2nd VP & Level Walker Chair

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

The following are reports received by the February 5th deadline. The next deadline will be May 5th

2-2.3 to 5

Inclined Plane to Lock 5

Larry Anderson (12/19)

Canal in good shape except for large debris under Chain Bridge. Vegetation well trimmed throughout.

3-5 to 7.5

Lock 5 to Cabin John

James Wilson (12/24)

Towpath now in very good shape except for a few muddy spots caused by recent precipitation. Causeway at Cabin John Creek still there.

AUTHORSHIP

The Heritage Hike write-up was attributed to Carl Linden, but he did not write it. He did transcribe it to a disk from manuscript and sent it to the Editor who logically gave him credit. It is not that Ken Rollins' pride of authorship is wounded - it is just that the glowing tribute to Sonny and Carl in the last paragraph just above the credit (p. 13) looks as if Carl is heaping praise upon himself! Those who recently saw Carl's right hand in a cast are assured that it didn't get that way from patting himself on the back.



Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Association, Inc. Consolidated Financial Statements, Calendar Year 1997

Summary of Income & Expenses

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Administrative Functions:		
Income		
Membership dues	17,400	16,915.00
Historic Preservation Grant	- 0 -	1,000.00
Interest & Miscellaneous	<u>478.00</u>	<u>382.00</u>
Subtotal administrative income Expenses	17,878.00	18,297.00
Newsletter & Bulletin (1)	5,381.00	8,952.00
Officers' Expenses	709.00	1,051.00
Membership Coordinator & Committee	2,986.00	1,606.00
Monocacy Fund Committee	1,125.00	3,189.00
Depreciation & maintenance	2,378.00	2,386.00
Other Expenses	<u>1,037.00</u>	<u>714.00</u>
Subtotal Administrative Expenses	<u>13,616.00</u>	<u>17,898.00</u>
Net Administrative Operating Results	4,262.00	399.00
Sales:		
Income	2,868.00	4,771.00
Expense (cost of goods sold, Postage) (2)	<u>2,282.00</u>	<u>4,428.00</u>
Net sales income	586.00	343.00
Special Events (annual meeting, hikes):		
Income	4,435.00	5,804.00
Expenses (dinners, buses, etc.)	<u>4,362.00</u>	<u>5,255.00</u>
Net special events income	73.00	549.00
C&O Canal film production:		
Income	2,500.00	- 0 -
Loss on disposal of assets:		
Transfer of archives equipment to GWU	- 0 -	(596.00)
Totals:		
Income	27,681.00	28,872.00
Expense	<u>20,260.00</u>	<u>28,177.00</u>
Net operating results	7,421.00	695.00

(1) 1997 included only three newsletters and no bulletins; 1996 included four regular and one special newsletter, plus two bulletin mailings.

(2) Sales expense includes profit on shirts which was transferred to the Monocacy Aqueduct Fund: '97 \$1,772.00

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS:	<u>12-31-97</u>	<u>12-31-96</u>
Checking Account	22,034.00	14,026.00
Other current assets	3,696.00	4,185.00
Money market fund (Davies Fund)	12,736.00	11,415.00
Inventories - sales items	1,034.00	1,895.00
Fixed assets:		
Property and equipment	11,375.00	11,202.00
less accumulated depreciation	<u>-9,061.00</u>	<u>-6,837.00</u>
Net fixed assets	<u>2,314.00</u>	<u>4,365.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	41,814.00	35,886.00
LIABILITIES & EQUITY:		
Current liabilities	211.00	2,990.00
Reserve, Davies Fund	12,736.00	11,450.00
Accumulated operating results	<u>28,867.00</u>	<u>21,446.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	41,814.00	35,886.00

DAVIES FUND

Balance, 1 January 1997	11,450.00
1997 Contributions received	685.00
1997 Dividends received	<u>601.00</u>
Balance, 31 December 1997	12,736.00

CANAL & MONOCACY FUNDS - NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION (NPF)

	<u>C&O CANAL FUND</u>	<u>MONOCACY AQUEDUCT FUND</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Balance, 1 January 1997	19,686.00	18,164.00	37,850.00
1997 Contributors recieved	4,247.00	21,090.00	25,337.00
Profit from sale of T-shirts	- 0 -	562.00	562.00
Earnings credited from NPF	5,679.00	5,807.00	11,486.00
Expended to Nat'l Park Service	<u>-1,800.00</u>	<u>- 0 -</u>	<u>-1,800.00</u>
Balance, NPF, 31 Dec 1997	27,812.00 (3)	45,623.00	73,435.00

(3) C&O Canal Fund includes \$18,186.00 designated for flood repair.

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day Hikes

The first annual New Year's Hikes The first annual News Year's hikes were an unqualified success. On New Year's Eve eight hardy souls -- Anita and Richard Stoll, Mike and Molly Shuchat, Kate Mulligan, Laura Gillian, Sanda Ciutacu, Pat White -- and one brave dog -- Chelsie Stoll -- braved bitter cold and at least six inches of snow to hike from the Cushwa Basin to milepost 102 and back. The Canal with snow was a wondrous place. Fortunately cross country skiers had broken trail for us.

That evening we enjoyed fine dining at the Venice Inn in Hagerstown where we were joined by Gladys Horton, Rachel Stewart, and Rachel's father Henry Lefebure. After dinner most of us promptly fell asleep at the Days Inn in Williamsport.

On January 1 Jim Preston joined our intrepid band and brought a banner to proclaim the Association.. Heading south from the Cushwa Basin we found no human tracks once we passed the I81 bridge but plenty of animal tracks. We went slightly south of culvert #127 before returning to Williamsport and lunch at the American Legion.

Many thanks to Richard Stoll for arranging accommodations at the Days Inn and to Kate Mulligan for arranging dinner.

-- Pat White

Continuing Hike Series...

Highlights of last year are hard to choose. We had six hikes in 1997, and all were unique. In March we checked out abandoned colonial iron mines and Harpers Ferry. In June we toured the PawPaw Tunnel and saw huge polliwogs. September found us enjoying a beautiful, early fall day near Violettes Lock and watching a heron. In November a brave band climbed Tunnel Hill to locate the transit stones used by the original PawPaw Tunnel surveyors. One of the two shafts was also found. In December we toured the stone cutting mill at Seneca with Ken Rollins. New Year's Eve found us enjoying the snow (see separate article) at Williamsport.

Regardless of when or where we were, we had fun. The groups have been small, six to twelve people, and ideal for learning more about the Canal and each other.

-- Pat White

Continuing hike activities for 1998.

Saturday, April 4, 1998 --Spring Flower Hike led by Joan Fisher and Kathy Bilton. Meet at Ferry Hill (Park Headquarters on MD Route 34 just before the bridge



into Shepardstown WV) at 2:00 PM.

Sunday, May 3, 1998 -- Lock 61 to Sorrel Ridge Hiker Biker and PawPaw Tunnel. Meet at Bill's in Little Orleans at 10:30 AM. Exit 68 from I68.

Saturday, June 6, 1998 -- Spring Gap, 10:30 AM. MD Route 51 about 9 miles south of Cumberland.

Saturday, August 1, 1998 -- Fletchers Boathouse to Georgetown.

Sunday, September 6, 1998 -- Back to the PawPaw/Green Ridge State Forest area.

Saturday, October 3, 1998 -- tentatively Killansburg Cave.

Sunday, November 1, 1998 -- Location to be announced.

Saturday, December 5, 1998 -- Frostbite Hike. Location to be announced.

Thursday, December 31, 1998 and Friday, January 1, 1999 -- New Year's Hikes. Greet the New Year in style on the canal. Watch for information on location and accommodations.

*For more information call
Pat White 301-977-5628*



100 Kilometers in One Day: 25th Annual Towpath Extravaganza

May 2 is the date of the 25th annual towpath hike to Harpers Ferry --100 kilometers (62+ miles) in one day. The hike starts at 3 am at the Thompson Boat House. Usually 80 to 100 participants start the hike with the most finishing sometime between 7 pm and midnight. Food and rest areas are provided along the Towpath. Breakfast at Riley's Lock, Lunch at White's Ferry, with additional snacks, drinks, and assistance provided at Monocacy Point of Rocks and Brunswick.

Training hikes for the 100-k walk are scheduled for each Saturday in March and April. Additional information and registration materials are available by contacting Roger Clark (703) 329 7002 or Mike McLain (202) 829 7749. Also, C&O Canal Association members are welcome to participate as volunteers at food stops along the canal.

History buffs among Association members may recall the first of the marathon hikes. On February 3 1963, Attorney General Robert Kennedy walked 50 miles in one day, starting on the towpath at Great Falls at 4:30 am. For foot gear he wore an old pair of "preppy" cordovans - not today sneakers. In case of emergency he had a jeep load of helpers right behind him in the towpath. The local papers and the wire services carried the story, and the C&O Canal Towpath was discovered by the media in this country and in Europe. That's when I first heard of the towpath- as a school boy back in Wisconsin reading Time magazine's account of Bobby Kennedy's towpath trek.

A craze for 50- mile hikes ensued among Kennedy's "New Frontiers-men" that included Congressional pages, secretaries, marines, and even midels. The French press reported that President DeGaulle

(remember him?) Had begun to take long walks. JFK's overweight press secretary, Pierre Salinger challenged the sedentary White House press corps to follow him on a 50-mile hike. Salinger changed his mind, however, after hobbling away from an 8-mile training hike around Burke Lake. The French conga industry sent a gift to Salinger - a "retired walker's survival kit" - after he decided not to make the 50 - mile towpath hike.

President Kennedy issued a "Fitness Challenge" to the nation. He also proposed to the Marine Corps Commandant David Shoup that 50-mile hikes be required of marine trainees. The Washington Post carried photos of 6 attractive Congressional secretaries hiking the towpath beyond Great Falls. Then 11 Senate page boys set off in 11 degree weather, followed in time by students, housewives. In due course, much of the country was on the move.

Robert Kennedy's towpath hike thirty- five years ago launched the fitness movement that has become a permanent part of the American lifestyle. His hike also drew media attention to the towpath and may have helped build political support in congress for establishing the C&O Canal as a National Park. The Kennedy hike also introduced me, then a young person in Wisconsin, to the Canal and to long-distance hiking. Each year for thirteen years, I've walked the towpath as part of the Sierra Club's annual 100-k, one-day hike to Harper's Ferry.

C&O Canal Association members are welcomed to join in this towpath tradition - now in its twenty-fifth year on May 2.

-Paul Kovenock

"AS I ENTER INTO THIS OFFICE"...

It has been a long time now since that day in 1970 when an elderly friend took me for a walking tour of a canal towpath that comes through Williamsport. When he told me that he was a level walker my ignorance made the assumption he was too old and weak any longer to ascend hills! But that day he planted in my life a seed that was to germinate and grow through these three ensuing decades, and I have come a long way into knowledge of, commitment to, and enjoyment of, the C&O Canal National Historical Park. It is a high honor to be chosen to serve a president of the Association whose mandate we receive from the vision and legacy of Justice Douglas and those who walked with him.

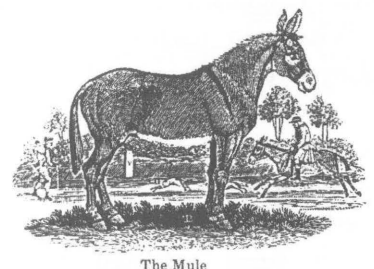
As I enter into this office I would like to share with you my passion and commitment. The first thing that comes to mind is that I stand in awe of the knowledge and dedication which is spread among the members of our Association. A friend of mine expressed it aptly when he was explaining his hesitancy to join our membership. He said: "I see dedication there which I am not sure I can match." (Happily, we overcame his objections!) As president I want to encourage the recognition and utilization of the varied gifts distributed among us, building upon what we have accomplished already. As happens among people of passion, we will not always agree in every particular instance but we should make it our intention to affirm each person and to be open to different points of view.

There is also a concern which is on my heart and mind which I know many of you have also, and it concerns our desire to pass on to the coming generations our love for and commitment to this Park. I hark back continually to my introduction to it through the invitation which Conrad Berger extended to me in 1970, and I take it upon myself to get scouts, church camp youth, and young adults out onto the towpath so that the seed can

be planted in their lives as it was in mine. I think this is an urgent task for the Association in order to build up a loyal constituency. We all hear the voices of those who, in response to the devastation wrought by the periodic flooding, cry: "shut it down; let it return to nature!" The effective answer to such hostility and indifference, it seems to me, won't be provided by rational arguments, however necessary, but by a broad base of citizenry who know the history, make use of the resource, and and give time and money to preserve, protect and promote this "big ditch" we have come to love. So we need to cultivate the generations coming behind us.

Well, I've already said more than I intended. Let me close with telling you how exciting it is to stand where I do. I have entered into my pension (I don't use the "r" word) which has freed up some time for the task. I rejoice with you in the success of our recent volunteer cleanup effort and in the progress of the Monocacy project. I can hardly wait for next year's Through Hike experience. Let's move forward together, and I'll look to see you out on the towpath. I think Conrad would be proud of me.

-- Tom Perry



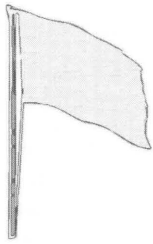
The Mule

MISSING IN ACTION

One of our Flags!

Our first 12" x 18" field banner was contributed by Ken Rollins and Carl Linden (rather than bothering the Board) to try out against a presumed need. It not only filled a real need, but became so popular that we obviously could use more than one. A second one was contributed by Ken Rollins. Somehow, the original one in its various peregrinations has fallen through the cracks.

These gathering activities and group to be attracted to who knows the original flag, or Sonny know. **REWARD** - a Tom Kozar print of the Monocacy Aqueduct.



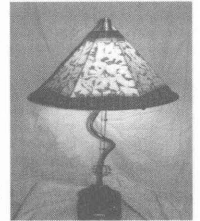
flags identify our points for various distinguish us as a observers who may join us. Anyone whereabouts of the please let Carl, Ken,

NINETEEN NINETY EIGHT - A YEAR OF ANNIVERSARIES

THE DECEMBER ISSUE of *Along the Towpath* carried the headline that this year is the one hundred seventieth anniversary of the C & O Canal and that the C & O Canal Association dedicates itself to seeing that the Canal prospers for another one hundred and seventy years. Nineteen ninety eight also marks another important anniversary--the One Hundredth Birthday of Justice William O. Douglas! Without the Justice the C & O Canal would now just be another highway instead of a the unique national historical park we now enjoy. Cathy Douglas Stone says that plans are in the works to celebrate the occasion with ceremonies on the Canal in Georgetown sometime in October. The most likely location is next to the Foundry where the commemorative bust of Douglas stands in a small park next to Lock No. 3 and the Park Service Visitors' Center. Keep this in mind and we will keep you posted.

ART EXHIBIT IN BROOKMONT

On Sunday, April 26, 1998, from 2 to 8 p.m. (reception from 6 to 8 p.m.) the Brookmont Arts Alliance will hold a group exhibit of original art, sculpture, and crafts in the Social Hall, Brookmont Church, 4000 Virginia Place, Bethesda. Artists featured will include Trey Furlow, Andrei Kushnir, Ann Mitchell, Grace Peterson, and Emily Townsend. This is a great opportunity to find attractive and unique artwork for your home, or a gift for someone special. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the C & O Canal Fund in the National Park Foundation.



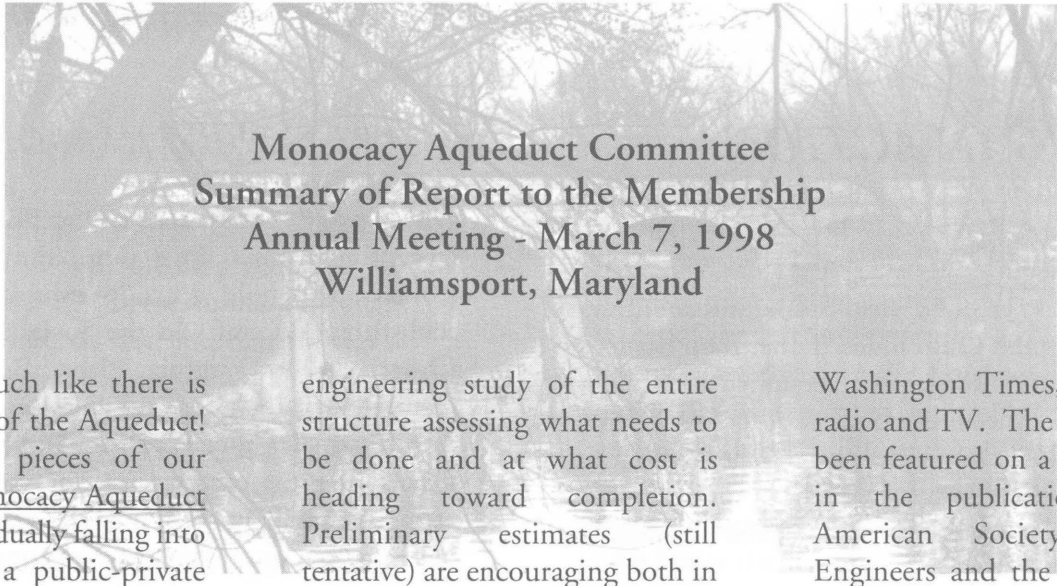
As noted in the above announcement Andrei Kushnir will be among the artists displaying his recent work. Association members are familiar with Andrei's superb oil paintings of classic C & O Canal scenes.



His work was on exhibit at the Association's Canal art show at the D & D Art Gallery in Georgetown in May and June 1996. See the September 1996 issue of *Along the Towpath* - "The Art Issue." Proceeds from that show's silent auction (several thousand dollars were raised) went to flood recovery on the Canal.



Delilah Hawa, our Towpath editor, and her friend, Dara Friel, organized the affair donating their talents and their gallery's exhibition to the show. Also featured at the show were Jack Durham's paintings--see article on Jack Durham on pp of this issue. We urge Association members to attend the April 26 show in Brookmont. Support the Canal and our local artists as well.



Monocacy Aqueduct Committee Summary of Report to the Membership Annual Meeting - March 7, 1998 Williamsport, Maryland

It looks very much like there is light at the end of the Aqueduct! The parts and pieces of our Uphold the Monocacy Aqueduct campaign are gradually falling into place. This is a public-private cooperative effort with the C & O Association, the Capital Section of the American Association of Civil Engineers, and the National Park Service working in tandem in the cause of seeing that the Aqueduct is stabilized and restored. The Aqueduct is an irreplaceable historic monument of the American venture westward, the canal era, and early American civil engineering. It is a "no lose" structure for the C & O Canal National Historical Park as well serving today as a key bridge in an uninterrupted 185 miles of canal and towpath. To lose it would break the physical continuity of our Canal Park. Without essential repairs it will be lost, with that work done, it will endure as it has endured for the past one hundred and sixty five years.

The shimmers of light for the Aqueduct over the past year are as follows:


The Park Service has completed the underwater study of the Aqueduct's piers and cleared away the debris pressing against the structure from the '96 floods. The

engineering study of the entire structure assessing what needs to be done and at what cost is heading toward completion. Preliminary estimates (still tentative) are encouraging both in terms of what can be done to secure the structure for the long haul and in terms of repair costs. Potential costs for full restoration now appear to be very much within the ballpark of manageable costs. Past estimates of restoration ranging anywhere from four to thirty million dollars happily have been too high. The lower estimates will make the funding goals less difficult to attain. Once restoration is begun--now not a question of whether but when--Doug Faris, Canal Park Superintendent, envisions the process itself serving the purpose of public education on the canal as well as stimulating public interest in this remarkable national historical park.

Public awareness of the Aqueduct and the restoration work it requires will help in obtaining the resources needed to do the job. Publicity on the structure's historical significance and its present plight has been growing. It has been receiving attention in the regional press (eg. in Frederick and Montgomery County newspapers), in the Post and

Washington Times, and on local radio and TV. The Aqueduct has been featured on a national level in the publications of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Chronicle of Higher Education. A display on the Aqueduct has been making the rounds at county fairs, conventions, canal festivals, etc.. Our Heritage Hike last October which included a jamboree at the Aqueduct and Bernie Dennis' talk and slide show on the ASCE's aqueduct monitoring project is a good example of the kind of activities that help spread the word.

The Association has submitted a nomination of the Monocacy Aqueduct for the list of the eleven "most endangered historic places" that the National Trust for Historic Preservation announces each year in June. A strong letter of support from Maryland Senators Sarbanes and Mikulski and Virginia Senators Warner and Robb, as well as Congressman Bartlett and Congresswoman Morella has already been sent to the Trust along with similar expressions of support from the ASCE and the Chair of the Canal Advisory Commission. More such letters are expected to be filed in support of the nomination. If the Aqueduct is selected, it will open



more doors and provide a means of giving the structure considerable national as well as local attention.

Applications for grants from various foundations concerned with historic preservation have been submitted and more grant proposals are being prepared.

Association members have been remarkably generous in making contributions to the Monocacy Aqueduct Fund. Moreover, the fund has received significant grants from several local foundations. For example, one recent grant of \$10,000 was recently received though the donor wishes to remain anonymous. A \$2,000 grant also was received from the Charles Delmar Foundation as well as another generous grant for the same amount from our own Hal Larsen. Our treasurer, Dave Johnson, in his annual report in this issue (see p.) lists the steadily growing total now in the Monocacy Aqueduct Fund which the National Park Foundation manages for the Association. We hope our membership's example will catch on.

Dave Humphrey and his Advanced Video Artistry Company is working on a video film on the Aqueduct suitable for use in fund-raising, at NPS visitors centers, and school rooms. The Montgomery County Historical Preservation Commission has once more awarded the Association a grant to help with

the production of the film. Previously, the Commission helped the Association with the cost of producing our brochure on the Monocacy Aqueduct. The aqueduct video is scheduled to be completed before the end of this year.

Our partner in the effort to restore the Aqueduct, the Capital Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers is currently installing a state-of-the-art monitoring system on the Aqueduct. The monitoring system will provide for the first time an on-going profile of the stresses and strains the Aqueduct undergoes over time and will provide engineers the knowledge needed to maintain the integrity of the structure for the long run. This is an entirely pro bono effort of the civil engineers who simply want to see this fine historic engineering structure preserved.

Contributors to the Monocacy Aqueduct Fund continue to be awarded Tom Kozar's classic print of the Aqueduct as it appeared in its glory days. Tom's splendid drawing provides us with the measure of what the Aqueduct restored to its original condition will look like. Pressing ahead with our campaign for the Aqueduct and the encouraging preliminary results of the aqueduct engineering study now in process allow us to hope that we will see the Aqueduct restored to its prime condition in the not-so-distant future.

--Carl Linden

NATURE NOTES

Summary of experience during 1997 of the "Sights and Sounds of the Seasons" walks led by three Park Service volunteers: Betty Henson, Betty Bushell, and Helen Johnston (all members of the C & O Canal Association):

Forty eight walks were scheduled during 1997; none were cancelled. A total of six hundred and twenty six Park visitors participated in the walks. Of these, one hundred thirty six were new (some from other States); four hundred ninety were "repeaters."

A total of four hundred and twenty four hours were spent including three hundred and fifteen hours for the walks themselves and one hundred and nine hours preparing slides for the slide presentation at each series of four walks during a month, scouting before a walk (necessitated by flood damage), and preparation of reports.

Flood damage in the Great Falls area made it necessary to change location to the Carderock area several times. On one such walk we were joined by a young Irish couple who had heard about the walk by "grapevine." On a visit to another Washington park a participant in a "Sights and Sounds" walk told them about the walk and the change in location. During the following month the couple planned to be married on an island off the coast of Ireland. The island was the girl's family home.

A writer and photographer from the Gazette newspapers interviewed the three walk leaders before the walk on February 1, 1997. No newspaper report followed the interview.

Later, on February 26th, Kevin McManus, staff writer for the Weekender section of the Washington Post, joined us for a three-hour walk on the "Spring Trail" across Bear Island to the river. He planned to hike the entire towpath, but death from leukemia came before he had time to carry out his plan. There was an upsurge in walk participation immediately after Kevin's article appeared.

The bridges and walkway to the falls overlook reopened in April, having been closed after the September 1996 flood destruction. Several "Sights and Sounds" walks included the walk to the overlook, checking on the survival of notable plants, some of them found only on route to the overlook. Apparently indigo buntings that found their home on one of the islands were undisturbed by violent weather. They continued to sing in tree-tops at the same location where they had been found in other years.

Kate Mulligan, a writer for the Washington Times and a member of the Canal Association, accompanied us on a regularly scheduled walk along the river. Kate and the photographer who accompanied her put together an article in the September 16, 1997 issue of the Washington Times. The article covered the entire towpath and the activities of the C & O Canal Association as well as the "Sights and Sounds" walk.

Betty Bushell and Helen Johnston

Note: "Sights and Sounds of the Seasons" walks are scheduled by the Park Service on the first and last Wednesday and Saturday, every month of the year. They start at 10:00 a.m. with a brief slide show at the Great Falls Tavern.

ERRATA
(3-Ms)

EVERYONE IS FAMILIAR with the 3 - M logo, but its got nothing on us. As the poet wrote of fog coming in on little cat's feet, so do publication errors. The December newsletter had a little difficulty with the identity of some of the Heritage Hike participants. Those in the know will have immediately noted on one of the pages that the photo of a famed canal personality is misnamed with the name of another familiar canal personality. To clear all this up, we put our readers to the test with the photographic quiz below:



A

B

C

Draw a line between the name and the appropriate letter:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Mark Meyers | A |
| Monte Crooks | B |
| 'Lil,' NPS No.10 | C |
| None of the above. | D |

If you get all three right, you really know who's who.
If only two right, you may need glasses.
If one, it probably means you know a mule when you see one.
If none, even glasses won't do you much good.
(see bottom right hand corner on page 19 for answers)

CANAL CHARACTERS

MORE ABOUT JACK DURHAM¹

Previous writings about Jack Durham have described his omnipresence in the creation of the C & O Canal National Historical Park, but it is almost impossible to over-do the acclaim he deserved. I have characterized my viewpoint as: "If William O. Douglas was the 'Father' of the Park, then Jack Durham was its 'Patron Saint.'" I often think of his role as that of the conductor of a symphony orchestra - he knew the score and made the music come out just right.

My viewpoint is obviously shared by others who knew Jack even better than I. My Christmas greeting from Paul Hauck included the following note:

"I wrote the enclosed piece a couple of years ago for Jack Durham's funeral. After the services I mislaid my copy and just the other day came upon it in the jumble of my filing system. Upon rereading it, it occurred to me that it might have some historical value, and knowing your interest in early Association history, thought I'd enclose it for whatever utility it might have in your view."

Here is what Paul sent:

It was in 1954 that I met Jack Durham for the first time. Fittingly, we met alongside the C & O Canal at Williamsport, Maryland.

I say "fittingly" because the C & O Canal was to absorb much of Jack's energy for quite a few years. More importantly, Jack was to become a key figure in the long drawn out struggle to preserve the canal and all its scenic and historic treasures.

On that day in 1954, I had taken a bus from Washington, D.C. to Williamsport to join the Douglas - Washington Post hike along the length of the canal from Cumberland to Georgetown. In response to an editorial in the Washington Post endorsing a plan to build a scenic highway over the canal property, Justice Douglas had invited the editorial writer, Merlo Pusey, and his editor, Bob Estabrook, to hike with him the 185-mile length of the towpath so they could experience for themselves the solitude, the natural wonders, and the historic structures that would be lost if a road were built.

Now the hike was in progress and Jack had driven out to take me back to the fishing camp south of Williamsport where the hikers were spending the night. I remember -- it seems like yesterday -- that before we left town Jack stopped at Wolf's-on-the-Square (Williamsport's answer to K-Mart) to buy out Hooper Wolf's entire stock of Dr. Sholl's moleskin pads. Jack knew they would bring welcome relief back at the camp where the hikers would be trying to patch up their blistered feet for another day on the towpath. Jack was ever thoughtful of others. That's the way he was.

When we arrived at camp, Jack made certain that I was introduced to everyone in the party from Justice Douglas to Charlie Thomas, the assistant cook. I was the new kid on the block and Jack wanted to make sure that I would feel welcome. That's the way he was.

Jack's role in making the hike a success was crucial. Indeed, I have often speculated that without Jack's organizing efforts and public relations skills the entire hike might not have advanced beyond the letters-to-the-editor stage. It was Jack who arranged for the transportation and logistical support, scouted out fishing camps and hunting lodges to provide welcome shelters along the route, arranged for meals, saw to it that we had the cooperation of the Park Police, and took care of a myriad of other details. Jack also made certain that the hike produced the press coverage that was essential if we were to begin the process of turning enthusiasm for a highway to public support for a canal park. The results of his PR were outstanding. Time Magazine sent one of its stellar reporters to walk with us. A photographer from Life Magazine recorded the entire 8-day journey. (Remember Life Magazine in those days occupied a position in the media hierarchy somewhat analogous to today's CNN, Peter Arnett and all.) In no mean feat, Jack even managed to have the hike covered fully in the Washington Star, the Post's arch rival.

The winter after the hike I wrote to Jack to suggest that we have a reunion around the first anniversary

¹. See Along the Towpath for June 1991.

of the hike. A few days later Jack called to say that Grant Conway and Connie Southworth had made similar suggestions and, therefore, he was constituting the three of us, plus himself, as the reunion committee. (I was young then -- it was before I learned to be more cautious about offering suggestions.) Planning that first C & O Canal reunion was a lot of work, but it was one of the most glorious periods of my life. The four of us spent every weekend for months scouting out potential reunion sites and contacting individuals and groups along the canal for support. Jack was a wonderful companion. Whether it was exploring the intricacies of canal lock mechanisms, extolling the virtues of a genuine Beefeater martini, or discussing the literary works of Joseph Wood Krutch, Jack was the perfect companion, raconteur, and friend.

I had the pleasure of working with Jack on many reunions after that first one. Each year Jack's role was pivotal. It was Jack who saw to it that each reunion was more than a social event. Each had a theme and a focus seeking maximum exposure for our cause -- creation of a C & O Canal National Historical Park. As an example, Jack was determined that the Congressman in whose district we were hiking would be part of each year's reunion party. As a matter of record, every one of those Congressmen ended up endorsing the C & O Canal Park and working to bring it to fruition; everyone except one, and I'm happy to recall that one served but a single term.

Jack was not one of the immortal nine -- those nine hiking purists on the 1954 hike who insisted on walking every step of the way

from Cumberland to Georgetown and didn't, like the rest of us, sneak an occasional ride in the baggage truck or the Park Police jeep. No, Jack was not one of the immortal nine. He was in a class by himself. He was the essential one.

Several years ago Jack sent me a collection of poems he had written. I felt privileged to receive it, and I treasure it more as time goes by. The collection reveals Jack's lively mind pursuing a wide range of interests. There are poems about weather, about family; some are deeply philosophical. Many reflect Jack's abiding interest in nature -- there is even an ode to a ground mole! A few of Jack's poems were written in memory of mutual friends. One Jack wrote, apparently some time ago, was dedicated to another early friend of the C & O Canal, Howard Zahniser. I want to quote its last few lines because I think they might well be written of Jack himself. Of Howard,

Jack wrote:

"...Sweet friend, rest quietly,

Sleep gently, dream tenderly

Of all the living and nonliving
things

You helped us love and cherish
upon this our lonely earth."

Now Jack, sweet friend, may you
too rest quietly, sleep
gently, dream tenderly.

Paul Hauck

For those who have not had the
opportunity to know him, Paul

Hauck participated in the original hike as his write-up indicates. He duly became President of the Canal Association in the early sixties as was the custom in those days to honor those who took part in the 1954 hike. He regretted that he could not do the whole thing at that time, but he took advantage of his retirement (to Florida) to join us in the 1979 hike. It was a pleasure to watch him walk every step of the way from Cumberland to Washington with a smile on his face.

--Ken Rollins

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS SUPPORT MONOCACY AQUEDUCT NOMINATION

Senators Barbara Mikulski and Paul Sarbanes of Maryland and Senators Charles Robb and John Warner of Virginia and Congresswoman Connie Morella of Maryland's Eighth District have submitted strong letters of support for the nomination of the Monocacy Aqueduct for the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 1998 list of eleven "Most Endangered Historic Places." President Richard Moe of The National Trust announces eleven selected sites in June. We print the texts of the letters below:

United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-2002

February 6, 1998

Mr. Richard Moe
President
National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Moe:

We are writing to express our strong support for the nomination of the Monocacy Aqueduct in the C & O Canal National Historical Park to the National Trust's 1998 list of America's "Most Endangered Historic Places."

As you may be aware, the Monocacy Aqueduct is the finest historic canal structure of its kind still standing in the United States. Completed in 1833, this seven-arched "water bridge" at the confluence of the Monocacy and Potomac Rivers, is a triumph of early American civil engineering. Its construction was the toilsome feat of several hundred manual laborers, many of them immigrants, who hauled heavy quartzite blocks they had hewn out of Sugar Loaf Mountain and formed into this graceful masonry structure. For nearly a century, the aqueduct carried heavily laden canal boats above the Monocacy River on their way between Washington, D.C. and Cumberland, Maryland. Today it serves as a key link in the physical continuity of the C & O Canal National Historical Park tying the towpath together.

Unfortunately, the Monocacy Aqueduct has suffered severe deterioration over the years from flood damage, lack of maintenance, insufficient funds for its repair, and neglect. The quartzite stones have eroded and shifted, threatening to destroy the foundation of the aqueduct. If the aqueduct is lost, not only would the C & O Canal National Historical Park be cut in two, but a very precious piece of canal history would be lost.

In our judgement, the Monocacy Aqueduct is eminently qualified for listing as a "Most Endangered Historic Place" and we hope that you will approve this designation.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Mikulski
Paul S. Sarbanes
United States Senator
United States Senator

Charles S. Robb
John W. Warner
United States Senator
United States Senator

United States
House of Representatives

March 12, 1998

Mr. Richard Moe
President
National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Moe:

I am writing to you to offer my endorsement of the Monocacy River Aqueduct in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park for nomination to the National Trust's 1998 list of America's "Most Endangered Historic Places."

The Monocacy Aqueduct is located in the 6th Congressional District of Maryland, which I represent in the United States House of Representatives. This aqueduct served as a major transportation conduit during our country's westward expansion and has become a symbol of Maryland's contribution to early American growth. As a longtime resident of nearby Frederick, I have visited this historical site numerous times and still marvel at its engineering achievements.

Over the years, the aqueduct has suffered from damaging flood waters, inadequate maintenance and insufficient funding for structural repairs. There is extensive evidence of severe deterioration in the aqueduct's foundational piers and numerous fissures which threaten the overall integrity of the structure. I strongly believe that the Monocacy Aqueduct qualifies for inclusion in the National Trust's 1998 list, not only because of its contribution to the Canal Park's physical continuity, but also its unique quality as a landmark of America's canal era.

In the interest of preserving America's heritage, I hope you will consider the Monocacy Aqueduct suitable for the designation as one of America's "Most Endangered Historic Places." Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Roscoe G. Bartlett
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

March 4, 1998

Mr. Richard Moe
President - National Trust
for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Moe:

I strongly advocate the addition of the Monocacy Aqueduct in the C & O Canal National Historical Park to the National Trust's 1998 list of America's "Most Endangered Historic Places."

The Monocacy Aqueduct is the most impressive canal structure of its kind in the United States. This seven-arched "water bridge" is evidence of the brilliance of early American civil engineering and the product of several hundred immigrant laborers who hauled massive quartzite blocks from Sugar Loaf Mountain. For a century after its completion in 1833, heavily laden canal boats used it as a key link between Washington, D.C. and Cumberland, Maryland. Today it is used as a link to the towpath of the C & O Canal National Historical Park.

Unfortunately, floods, neglect, and time have inflicted severe damage upon this national treasure. The foundation of the Monocacy is eroding and threatens collapse. With the loss of the aqueduct, goes a precious piece of canal history and a significant portion of the C & O Canal National Historical Park.

Sincerely,

Constance A. Morella
Member of Congress

Answers from page 16: (a) Monte Crooks (b) 'Lil' (c) Mark Meyers

Park Notes

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

TOWPATH CLOSED BETWEEN LANDER AND BRUNSWICK

Due to heavy rains in January, culvert 82 (mile 52.51) over Little Catoctin Creek has been further damaged. The towpath is closed to through-hikers/bikers in this area. Through-towpath users must detour at Lander, mile 50.89, and use area roads to Brunswick, mile 55.00. This section will remain closed until a temporary bypass can be constructed. A flash flood on little Catoctin Creek partially collapsed the culvert in 1987. The recent rains are responsible for the collapse of more of the culvert and damage to the final 10 to 15 feet of the culvert under the towpath. Permanent repairs to the culvert are scheduled to occur this year.

LOWERING WATER IN GEORGETOWN LEVEL

In January, the Park Service lowered the water in the canal from lock 5, above Chain Bridge, downstream through Georgetown to Rock Creek. Water was scheduled to be restored to this five-mile segment of the canal by March 6. Lowering the water in the canal was required to facilitate construction activity at the Whitehurst Freeway. Contractors working for the Washington, DC, city government are completing a major reconstruction project on the freeway. The freeway bridges over the canal are being replaced. One new bridge is complete, but completion of the second required draining the water from the canal.

The Whitehurst Freeway construction project will result in the removal of the bridge support piers that were located in the middle of the canal. This will help restore the canal's historic scene in the vicinity of the Key Bridge. The park's interpretive boat tours in Georgetown will resume in mid-April. The construction at the western end of the Whitehurst freeway is scheduled to be completed by August 1998.

1998 MULE-DRAWN CANAL BOAT RIDES

Our mules (Lil, Ida, Ellie, Rhody, Kate, and Frances) are currently wintering at Mount Vernon. The spring boat season is scheduled to begin April 11, 1998. At Great Falls Tavern, the spring boat schedule will be Wednesday through Friday at 2:30 pm, and Saturday and Sunday at 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 2:30 pm, and 4:00 pm. Additional Wednesday- Friday trips will be added in June. For fares and other information on boat rides at Great Falls, MD, call the Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center at (301) 767-3714. For information on rides in Georgetown, call the Georgetown Visitor Center at (202)653-5190.



PENNYFIELD HOUSE

The cultural resource staff of the C&O Canal NHP and staff members of the National Capital Region have been trying to lease the historic Pennyfield house for the past thirteen years, and have had no success. The house had not been occupied since the National Park Service purchased the property in 1976.

The park made extensive efforts to lease the property in 1996 and 1997. Through the end of August, no proposals were received. In September, following a final decision to demolish the structure, based on concerns that building has become a safety hazard to the public and frequent vandalism, a formal response to the request for proposal was received from Historic Medley District, Inc. After a review of the proposal, Historic Medley District was notified by letter, on October 1, 1997, that their proposal was rejected, based primarily on public safety issues, major deteriorated conditions of the house, and the proposed use of the property.

Officials of the Montgomery County Government and the County Council have expressed deep concerns that Pennyfield house is scheduled for demolition and have requested that the park reconsider its decision. They feel that the park reconsider its decision. They feel that the house is a significant historical structure in Montgomery County.

Superintendent Faris met with representatives of Historic Medley District, the Montgomery County Historical Society, and the County Council to discuss the probable removal of the house. The need for partnership assistance with the preservation agreed to undertake a final analysis of the potential for preservation of the structure with representatives from Historic Medley and local contractors experienced with the type of structural rehabilitation. The cost of rehabilitating the Pennyfield house is estimated to approximately \$230,000, to be funded by the Historic Medley District, Inc.

In 1984, the Chief of Historic Resources and Chief of the Safety Division, NCR, recommended that the house be demolished because of an advanced state of deterioration and to guard against potential liabilities. A structural survey in 1985 found severe water problems around the foundation and rotten floor and roof joists. In 1995 another structural survey was made to evaluate the house's condition. A cost of approximately \$30,000 was estimated to provide a temporary roof fix, vandal proof the doors and windows

and cut a swale in the rear to divert water away from the building.

WETLANDS IN THE C&O CANAL NHP

The following is a general summary to define what wetlands in the C&O Canal National historical Park. Estimates and percentages in this report are NOT based on scientific data but on field knowledge from park staff. The standard wetland classification manual provides a simple definition of a wetland as: "...lands where saturation with water is the dominant factor determining the nature of soil development and the types of plant and animal communities living in the soil development and the types of plant and animal communications living in the soil and on its surface."

Three common types of wetlands found in the park include forested wetlands, emergent wetlands, and open water wetlands. It is the observation of park staff that most of the canal prism is wetland, predominantly forested wetland. Where open water wetlands exist in the canal it often occurs together with emergent and forested wetlands. Open water blends into emergent wetland fringe. Wetlands occur on the floodplain in the park as well, not just in the canal prism. About 85% of the park lies in the floodplain. At this time, we do not have estimates of the number of acres of wetlands in the park. In the general, inland emergent wetlands are often located along streams and rivers and may be dominated by plants such as cattails, wool grass, sedges, and smart weeds. Forested wetlands may be dominated by trees such as silver maple, river birch, and black willow.

Environmental functions associated with wetlands include hydrology, water quality, nutrient cycling, habitat, and socioeconomic. The value of wetland hydrology and its water quality function is that wetlands serve as natural flood control by slowing and filtering flood waters. Wetlands support high volume plant production that continuously decomposes adding nutrients back into the soil. This in turn provides habitat for certain wildlife species that depend on open water all the time (fish, turtles) and during certain times of the year (frogs, insects). Socio-economic values of wetlands important to people today include recreation, for example, bird watching, fishing; and aesthetic and historical values that enhance the quality of life. Approximately 55 miles (30%) of the canal prism is watered either maintained or naturally. Maintained watered sections are those the park maintains for recreation. Natural watered sections are those that naturally hold water year-round (permanent) and those that hold water most of the year, but might dry up in the summer (ephemeral). Over the entire 184.5 mile length of the canal, about 20% is managed as permanently watered, and 10% is naturally watered, (4% permanent, 6% ephemeral). The remaining 70% of the canal prism is probably primarily forested wetland. These estimates have not even verified with actual data but are probably good ball-park estimates.

GUIDED ACTIVITIES AT GREAT FALLS

Join a Park Ranger or volunteer on Saturdays and Sundays at the Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center for a guided walk of illustrated talk to learn more about the resources of the C&O Canal National Historical Park. Topics include the building and operation of the canal, the natural history and geology of the Great Falls of the Potomac, and the many features of the Six Locks section of the canal. Program topics will depend on available staff and last from one to 1 ½ hours. Call (301) 767-3714 on the day of the program for more information. For outdoor programs, wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. All programs begin at 2:00 pm.

SIGHTS & SOUND OF THE SEASON

Join volunteer naturalists Helen Johnston, Betty Henson, and Betty Bushell (all members of the C&O Canal Association) and explore the season at Great Falls, MD. There is a brief slide presentation, followed by a two-hour nature walk through the park. Meet at the Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center at 10am on the first and last Wednesday and the first and last Saturday of each month. Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather.

VOLUNTEER REPORT

Volunteer momentum continued from the floods of 1996. During FY1997 (Oct 1, 1996-30 Sep 1997), a total of 103 projects were performed, utilizing 2,210 volunteers giving 8,511 hours. Saturday work projects included the rebuilding of the Olmsted bridges at Great Falls, removing a carpet of debris from Fletchers picnic area, emptying 4,000 + sand bags, cleaning out culverts to allow for better water flow, towpath resurfacing, painting picnic tables, milepost markers, trash cans, and fences, pruning vegetation from the towpath, and removing tons of trash from the park.

Volunteers also worked in the visitor centers, conducted interpretive programs for the park, assisted in the field of resource management, served as campground hosts, and supported the volunteer office with administrative duties.

The Volunteer program has been reevaluated for FY1998. A volunteer coordination team will be established to assist with the operation of the program. Representatives from the maintenance, visitor protections, and interpretive divisions will work with the volunteer coordinator to schedule projects in conduction with the needs of the park. Saturday work projects will be scheduled March - May and September - November. All other volunteer requests will be referred to the field staff.

A pro-active internship program is in the process of being developed to enhance park operations. It will focus on interpretation, research, cultural resource management, and natural resource management. This will be packaged to the local universities and colleges.

1998 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>
April 4		Spring Flower Hike, meet at Ferry Hill, 2:00 pm.
April 5	Sun	Board Meeting Glenn Echo Town Hall, 1:00 pm.
April 11	Sat	A <i>NEW</i> Event, see article on Volunteer Programs, for details. Or call John Lindt (301) 469 6381
April 18	Sat	44th Anniveresary Justice William O. Douglas Hike. Seneca to Great Falls.
May 3	Sun	Continuing Hike Series: 10:30 am. Spring Flower Hike. 10:30 am, Meet at Bill's in Little Orleans.
May 9	Sat	Canal Day 9:00 am to noon. Details in Towpath, Volunteers Programs, or call local Canal Visitor center or John Lindt.
May 21	Thurs	Book Fair at Barnes & Noble to support the C&O Canal Restoration Fund. 7:00-9:00 pm. 3651 Jefferson Davis Highway. For More information contact Kate Mulligam at 202 484 3590
June 6	Sat	VIP WORK DAY. Contact John Lindt and/or Ranger Nancy Brown. Continuing Hike Series: 10:30 am Spring Gap.
June 7	Sun	Board Meeting, Williamsport Library, 1:00 pm.
June 13	Sat	Canal Commision Meeting.
June 13-14	Sat/Sun	Cumberland's 31st annual Heritage Days. Allegany Arts Council.
June 20	Sat	Canoe from Violettes Lock to Great Falls. Ideal introduction to canoeing-great for old timers. Contact Carl Linden 202 944 6348 or Ken Rollins 804 448 2934
July 12	Sun	Potluck dinner with friend of the Tavern and the C&O Canal Association, 5:30 pm.
July 25	Sat	Canoe the Potomac River from Brunswick tjo Monocacy landing. Contact Carl Linden 202 944 6348 or Ken Rollins 804 448 2934
Aug 1	Sat	Continuing Hike Series: 10:30 am Fletcher's Boathouse to Georgetown.
Aug 2	Sun	Board Meeting, Glen Echo Town Hall, 1:00 pm.
Aug 15-22	Sat/Sun	Montgomwry County Fair- the Montgomery County Historical Society, the C&O Canal Ass. and other preservation groups share a booth. Contact COCA Coordinator- Nancy Long, 301 320 2330.
Aug 22-23	Sat/Sun	Williamsport C&O Canal Days. Contact: Tom Perry 301 223 7010
Sept 6	Sun	Continuing Hike Series 10:30 am--Back to PawPaw/Green Ridge State Forest area. Happy B.Day Montgomery County, co-hosted by the Montgomery County Historical Society. Contact Ellen Holway 301 738 7894.
Sept 12	Sat	Canal Commision Meeting. Canal Day 9:00 am to noom. Details to come Fredrick County Fair. Contact Jack Smith 301 663 9073.
Sept 13	Sun	Poolesville Days.
Sept 12-13	Sat	Hancock Canal Apple Days. Contact: John Popenoe 301 678 6379
Sept 19	Sat	Fredrick County Fair. Contact: Jack Smith 301 663 9073
Sept 19-20	Sat/Sun	Annual overnight PawPaw bends canoe trip. Contact: Carl Linded 301 229 2398 or Ken Rollins 804 448 2934.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ASSOCIATION FUNDS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

C&O MON DAVIES

MONCRIEFF SPEAR		M	
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS		M	
HELEN JOHNSTON		M	
THOMAS KIRK		M	M
BEJAY MYERS		M	
WILLIAM RAVENSCROFT		M	
DONALD JURAN		M	
WIN M. PROUDMAN	C	M	D
DAVID JOHNSON	C	M	
CHARLES DELMAR FOUNDTION		M	
WILLIAM & RITA BAUMAN		M	
IRA WAGNER	C	M	
HAROLD LARSON		M	
CHARLES WEIR		M	
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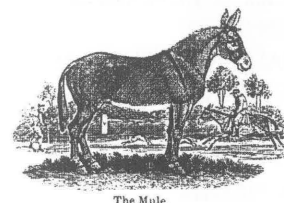
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Along the Towpath is published in March, June, September, and December by the :
C & O Canal Association
P.O. Box 366
Glen Echo, MD 20812-0366

Articles for publication should be received by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Please mail articles to:

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

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

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(elected at annual meeting- March 7, 1998)

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

District Ranger: Tom Nash
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GEORGETOWN VISITORS CENTER

1055 Thomas Jefferson Street, Washington, D.C. 202-653-5910
Park Ranger - Subdistrict Interpretation Kathy Kupper

GREAT FALLS TAVERN VISITORS CENTER

Great Falls Tavern Information 301-299-3613
Park Ranger Faye Walmsley

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

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301-739-4200 x237
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Western Subdistrict: Rick Erisman
Matt Stoffolano
Central Subdistrict: John Bailey
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301-678-5463
Park Ranger: Rozanna Phieffer

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Western Maryland Station, Cumberland, Maryland 21502
301-722-8226
Park Ranger: Rita Knox

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

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Abner Cloud House 202-472-2679
Fletcher's Boat House (Concessionaire) 202-244-0461
Canal Clipper, Great Falls Tavern 301-299-2026
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