



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 XXX

SUMMER ISSUE 1998

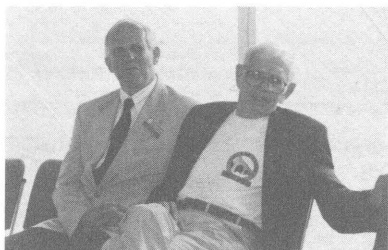
NUMBER 3

### NATIONAL TRUST PUTS MONOCACY AQUEDUCT ON MOST ENDANGERED LIST.

On the rain-threatened morning of June 15th we were favored with "sunshine" as we received word that the Monocacy Aqueduct is now on the list of the country's eleven "most endangered historic places!" The National Trust for Historic Preservation made the announcement of the list at the Monocacy Aqueduct using it as the centerpiece for this annual ceremony. National Trust President, Richard Moe, also introduced First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, who had come out to see the ailing structure and lend her support to efforts toward its restoration. She spoke about the White House Millennium Program as an encouragement for the public and private sectors to work together to preserve our national heritage as found in such structures as the Monocacy Aqueduct. Maryland Senators Barbara Mikulski and Paul Sarbanes, along with Congressman Roscoe Bartlett, also enthusiastically endorsed the efforts to save the Monocacy Aqueduct.



*National Trust President, Richard Moe, presents the Tom Kozar print of the Monocacy Aqueduct to First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.*



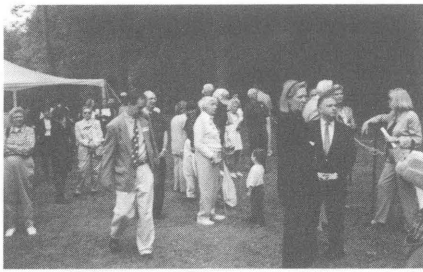
*Dr. Carl Linden And Gilbert Gude*

Doug Faris, Superintendent of the C & O Canal National Historical Park, pointed to the aqueduct's history of wear and tear from storm and flood which brings us to the present crisis and the need for engineering assessment and decisive action. In an interview he also expressed concern about another aqueduct in dire need of repair and stabilization, the Conococheague at Williamsport.

Our C & O Canal Association, and specifically the Association's Monocacy Committee, was represented on the speakers platform by Carl Linden and Gilbert Gude. Both men beamed proudly in the knowledge that their hard work together over the past three years had borne fruit in the National Trust announcement.

Gilbert Gude spoke of the importance of saving the Monocacy Aqueduct as an historic treasure that is part and parcel of the story of our country's westward movement.

We had all come out on this day to the grassy meadow and woods next to the Aqueduct and the scenic junction of the Monocacy and Potomac rivers. Several of the speakers lauded our Association's contribution and one of them referred to us as "the people in the yellow caps." Although all of our members who were present did not sport such colorful headgear, of course, the Association's presence was scattered throughout the audience as invited guests who had contributed time, energy, and money toward the day the steel girders will finally come off the seven arches of the Monocacy Aqueduct.



Senator Sarbanes pointed out the irony of rejoicing over something we love and treasure being placed on an "endangered" list. Putting the aqueduct



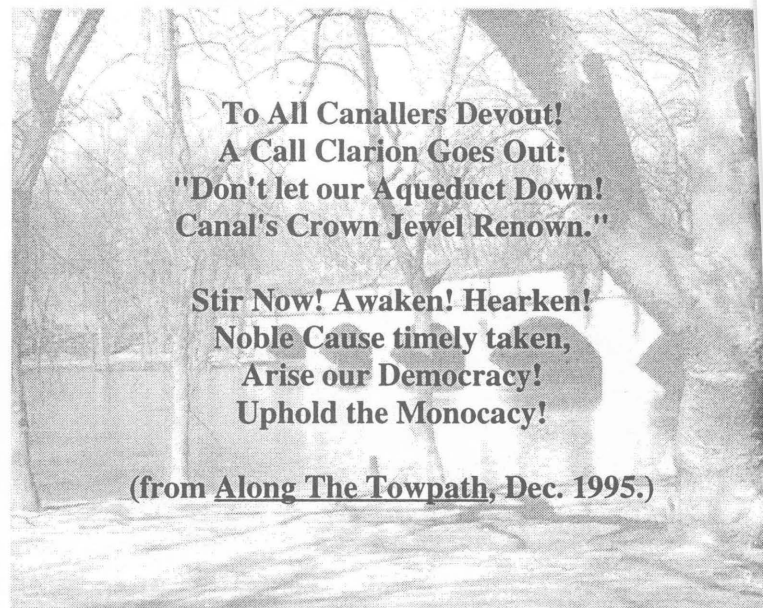
*Superintendent Doug Faris, Congressman Roscoe Bartlett, Richard Moe, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, Gilbert Gude, Sen. Sarbanes, Sen. Mikulski, and Secret Service Agent*

on the list, of course, does not create, but recognizes the danger. Hopefully, the national exposure is going to make it possible to raise the four to five million dollars of private and public funds which are reported as needed for the task at hand. The first lady encouraged us to anticipate the day when we shall return again to the same spot for a much bigger celebration at the time when the dream shall become a reality. In the meantime there is still a lot of work to be done!

We rejoice that the Monocacy Aqueduct has been put on "the list." Now let's continue to press forward so that we can happily remove it!

Thomas L. Perry

President



## *"TALKING IT OVER" by Hillary Rodham Clinton.*

I want you to take a trip with me -- 42 miles northwest of Washington and 170 years back in time. People, commerce and ideas were beginning to move westward, and a grand system of canals, envisioned by President George Washington, was under construction.

In the days before the railroads, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal was designed to bypass the rapids of the Potomac River and move goods cheaply and efficiently from the Chesapeake Bay to the Ohio River. According to one expert, the construction of the C&O Canal was "a typical American heroic enterprise." Great challenges faced engineers, including how to carry barges across the 11 major intersecting tributaries that drain into the Potomac River. The solution was a system of aqueducts. At Mile 42, workers constructed the

largest -- the Monocacy Aqueduct. Essentially a 516-foot bridge over the river, the aqueduct carried the canal in a flume-like trough supported by seven graceful arches. Mules dragging the barges walked along a towpath by the canal. The Monocacy Aqueduct is now considered to be one of the finest canal structures in the United States.

Hundreds of manual laborers, many of them Irish and Welsh immigrants, hauled heavy stone blocks from nearby Sugar Loaf Mountain to build the aqueduct, which took five years to complete. During the Civil War, Confederate troops tried to dynamite it to stop the movement of Northern soldiers, but they were unable to penetrate the dense stone.

Mother Nature, though, has posed a graver threat. In 1972, Hurricane Agnes tore away much of the coping stone and railing, necessitating a "temporary fix" -- an unsightly harness of steel beams and timbers that now encases and obscures the structure. Another serious

flood could wash it away completely. If the Monocacy Aqueduct falls, we will lose not only an important architectural and engineering landmark but also an important link to our past.

Thanks in large measure to the leadership of the late Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, the beauty of the C&O Canal was preserved for all Americans in 1971 when it became a National Historical Park. In much the same manner, private citizens led by former Maryland Rep. Gilbert Gude and the C&O Canal

Association are working today with the Park Service to raise the funds, both from private and public sources, necessary to preserve the aqueduct.

On Monday, I visited the Monocacy Aqueduct, where Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, announced the Trust's 1998 list of America's 11

Most Endangered Historic Places. Like the Monocacy Aqueduct, these are places that, if lost, would take a piece of our history with them. They include America's historically black colleges and universities, where many future civil rights leaders were educated, and the Great Bowdoin Mill in Topsham, Maine, a symbol of that state's once-flourishing paper industry.

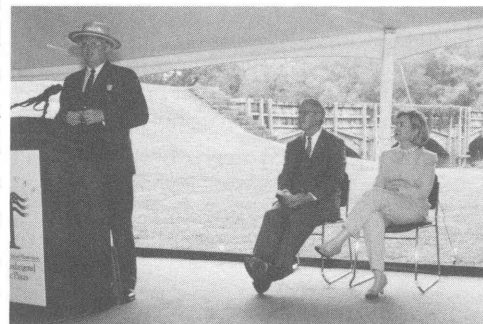
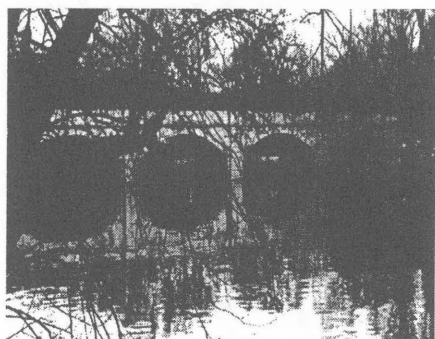
The Chancellorsville Battlefield in Virginia, where Stonewall Jackson was mistakenly shot by his own troops, also made the list, as did the historic lighthouses of Michigan and courthouses of Texas. In Colorado, the

Trust has the list named mining towns of Black Hawk and Central City and the Mesa Verde National Park, with its collection of pre-Columbian cliff dwellings. The

architecturally significant art-deco Mapes Hotel in Reno, Nev., is on the list, as is Cannery Row in Monterey, Calif., which



*Monocacy Aqueduct as it stands today*



*C&O Canal Superintendent Doug Faris, welcomes gathering seated, National Trust President Richard Moe & First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.*



was immortalized by John Steinbeck.

As Richard Moe said, "America's historic treasures are a non-renewable resource. Once they are gone, they are gone for good."

That's why the President has called on all Americans to participate in a nationwide effort to "Save Our Treasures" -- "so that generations of the 21st century can see for themselves the images and words that are the old and continuing glory of America."

As we begin our celebration of the new Millennium, I hope all Americans will look for the history in their own back yards. Picture the America we want to leave our children.

Is it an America they learn about only in history books? Or is it an America that cares enough about its proud heritage to preserve its great canals and battlefields?

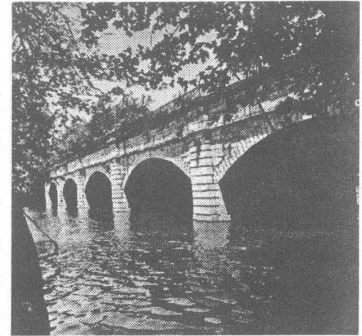


*Left to Right, Richard Moe, President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Dr. Carl A. Linden, former President of the C&O Canal Association.*

*If the Monocacy Aqueduct falls, we will lose not only an important architectural and engineering landmark, but also an important link to our past. -- Hillary Rodham Clinton*

Next month, I'll be visiting more American treasures -- from the Star-Spangled Banner here in Washington to Thomas Edison's Invention Factory in West Orange, N.J. The President has asked Congress for funding

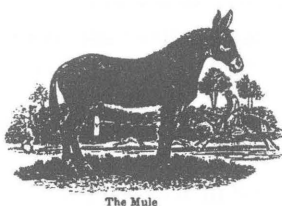
to help preserve these irreplaceable artifacts and landmarks. In addition, private citizens, corporations and foundations have already offered to contribute.



Safeguarding our heritage is not only about preserving our past. It's also about preserving our future by leaving the symbols of this great country -- symbols such as the Monocacy Aqueduct -- intact for our children and our grandchildren.



*Members of the American Society of Civil Engineers National Capital Section with C&O Canal Association members and NPS Superintendent of The C&O NHP Canal on June 15, 1998--from left to right, Denis McMullan-ASCE/NCS, Doug Faris-Superintendent, Ralph Seaffer-ASCE/NCS, Dr. Carl Linden- former president of the C&O Canal Association, Campbell Graueb-ASCE/NCS, Jay Padgett-ASCE District 5 Director, Bruce Mattheiss-ASCE/NCS, Bernie Dennis- ASCE/NCS*



The Mule

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## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Put this to the tune of a well-known song from the musical, *Oklahoma*: "Oh! The Hiker and The Biker Should Be Friends". Since I have a foot in each camp (one heavier than the other, I admit) I experience both sides of the problem and want to reflect upon them with you. I know what it is like to have your quiet walk in the woods endangered by bicyclists who come upon you suddenly without warning of bell or horn. But I have also experienced the frustration of the biker who sounds his bell when approaching three people walking abreast of the towpath only to have them resent the intrusion or jump excitedly in all directions at once, evidently because they really do not know where they belong. Last summer we had a dreadful encounter with a jogger as I was leading a group of young bikers from a church camp. There were about twenty of us and I kept harping about staying to the right side, especially in more heavily used areas of the towpath. The jogger stayed on his left side as he approached us. I could tell that he planned to stay put and, had I been alone, I would have easily switched to my left to accommodate him. But there was no time to move the whole group. By the time the jogger reached us the veins on his neck were popping out and he screamed at us about getting out of his way!

We all need to be considerate of each other, know the rules, and abide by them. Certainly a larger responsibility rests upon the biker because he is driving a vehicle. But foot traffic also, it seems to me, needs to know such things as staying to the right and responding appropriately when a cyclist rings a bell or sounds a horn. And maybe we have to gently teach children (and others?) we meet, whose behavior evidences a lack of instruction, that there are rules and conventions by which everyone is given safe passage because he or she knows what to do and what to expect from the other. When this fails I have worked out a technique which has never failed me but I decline to put it into print. Ask me about it!

An incident happened on our recent Douglas Hike which may, in this more vulgar age, force us to rethink the wording on the small banner we carry with us to identify who we are in this organization (this word chosen carefully). Somewhere above Swains an impudent young man called out from his canoe to inform us of the message he took from our abbreviated nomenclature! We had to laugh over this one!

Dave Johnson and I participated in a ceremony on May third honoring the winners of an essay contest on the history of the C & O Canal as it relates to Williamsport. Donna Swauger, Ranger at the Williamsport Visitors Center, had arranged the contest with the Williamsport High School and was on hand to present the winners: Diane Metger and Jill Wintermoyer, who were awarded savings bonds purchased by the Association. Chief Ranger Keith Whisenant spoke appreciatively of the contribution of our Association and participated in the awarding of the prizes. Later we hope to print excerpts from the essays.

Sonny DeForge and John Viner will be chairing our committee on the through hike in April, 1999. Already they are hard at work and convened a preliminary meeting for those who are interested in participating.

We need more volunteers to staff the lockhouse at Lock 75 on weekends this summer. We have agreed to take this on as our project this year but we have come up short of the number of people needed. All you have to do is be there as a friendly presence for the canal and our association. If you can take a Saturday or Sunday or both please call Ranger Rita Knox, 301 722 8226, or Tom Perry, 301 223 7010 and we will let you know what dates are still available. Lock 75 is about ten miles south of Cumberland, and you can camp out if you like in the vicinity of the lockhouse.

Needed! A van driver for the through hike. Sonny DeForge has provided this service in the past but would like to be a full-time walker this time. A willing volunteer would haul hikers' gear from one campsite to the next each day, using a U-Haul truck, and could hike or bike part of the trail as well. It would be a good way for someone to participate without having to walk all 185 miles. Think about it, and speak to Sonny DeForge if you are interested.

*Tom Perry*

### TOWPATH ANECDOTES

At the end of one of our reunion hikes, Justice Douglas had just come off the trail and was surrounded by greeters. One of our thoughtful members came up with one of those big old thick glass tumblers and a bottle, saying "Mr. Justice, wouldn't you like a drink?" Justice Douglas said "Yes, that would be nice!" and the offerer began to pour with "Say when."

Douglas was engaged in conversation, and glanced at the tumbler from time to time as the bottle continued its merry "glug, glug, glug." Just as the contents reached the top of the glass, the Justice swung his finger around and said, "When!"

--Ken Rollins

### ASCE DESIGNATES CANAL AS HISTORIC LANDMARK

At its annual meeting in Baltimore on May 13, the American Society of Civil Engineers Maryland Section recognized the C&O Canal NHP as a state historic civil engineering landmark.

Superintendent Faris attended the ceremony and provided a slide program on the canal, its history, flooding, and highlighted many of its most outstanding features and structures. This recognition of the canal is a good step in pursuit of recognition of the many resources of the canal as a national civil engineering landmark.

(The ASCE's National Capital Section is working closely with the park service and the association on the preservation of the Monocacy Aqueduct)

## TWO NATIONAL PARK SERVICE EMPLOYEES HONORED FOR THEIR WORK

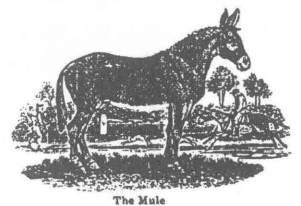
Two C&O Canal National Historical Park employees have been honored for their work in their respective fields. Park Ranger Tom Nash was named the National Capital Region's Harry Yount Award winner for 1998. The Harry Yount Award recognizes excellence in the art and science of "rangering" and is

named for the first park ranger. Ranger Nash is being recognized for his 14 years of dedicated service to the C&O Canal NHP. He has been instrumental in developing and managing a highly professional ranger staff. He demonstrates a high degree of professionalism and knowledge, and fosters a "can do" attitude with his staff.



Left to right: Doug Stover, Superintendent Faris, and Tom Nash.

Doug Stover, Chief of Cultural Resources, was named International Curator of the Year for 1998 by the International Preservation Council of Natural History Collections. Mr. Stover is recognized for developing a method to preserve and exhibit wet specimens such as water lilies for display year round. Mr. Stover has written several articles regarding his preservation techniques, and has assisted museums in the United States and abroad. He received his award on March 20, 1998, in Paris, France.



The Mule

## THE DOUGLAS REUNION HIKE 1998

The Justice Douglas Reunion Hike on April 25th was a four-star celebration of Spring. Two standing-room-only bus-loads of hikers came from Great Falls to Seneca's Lock 24, and others joined the hike independently. We were delighted to be joined by Paul "Bigfoot" Tourigny of through-hike fame who dropped by between his winter in Florida and his



Reunion of arch hiking rivals Don The Sly and Bigfoot (Don Juran and Paul Tourigny)

and C & O Canal Association flag bearer Mary Lurch. It was a hearty throng full of joy at the weather -- temperature in the 60's and sunshine to highlight the flowers and make the water sparkle along the way.

Alicia piped us as far as Violettes Lock, where Mike High continued his talk about the history of this section of the Canal, involving the Civil War, and explaining how the inlet lock supplied water to the Canal.

There were several dogs who also took the hike, among them Mike High's black labrador Zack, who Mike said was a canal foundling -- a gentle friendly and sleek animal. Hope, Steve DeLanoy's dog, accompanied the group even though he temporarily got lost.

The day was topped off by our happy hour and buffet dinner at the social hall of the Potomac Presbyterian Church. Superintendent Doug Faris gave us an update on canal affairs ending with a presentation of a framed and artful photographic study of the Monocacy Aqueduct to Carl Linden. It carried an inscription recognizing his contributions to canal recovery. Elie Pissarra, President of the Friends of the Historic Great Falls Tavern, gave a short history of the Friends organization and welcomed our past and future cooperation in support of the Canal.

summer in Maine.

Mike High, author of The C & O Companion presented a brief commentary on the historical and geographical aspects of the area. Bejay Myers opened Riley's lockhouse for those who wanted to see how canal families lived, guided by Girl Scouts in historic attire. Joan Paull, dressed in period costume, called attention to the marks on the lock walls where stone cutters had chiseled their insignia. Carl Linden reminded those present that the Monocacy Aqueduct is in need of repair and that the Monocacy Fund will gladly receive contributions to assist in its reconstruction.



Bagpiper Alicia Julianne, Ed Miller, and Ken Rollins.

Kudos are due to Sonny DeForge for the arrangements, challenging because of a late change of date necessitated by circumstances beyond our control. Sonny not only surmounted the problem, but rumors are that in the process he's found us an ideal host for future events in the Potomac area. Congratulations, and thanks again, Sonny.

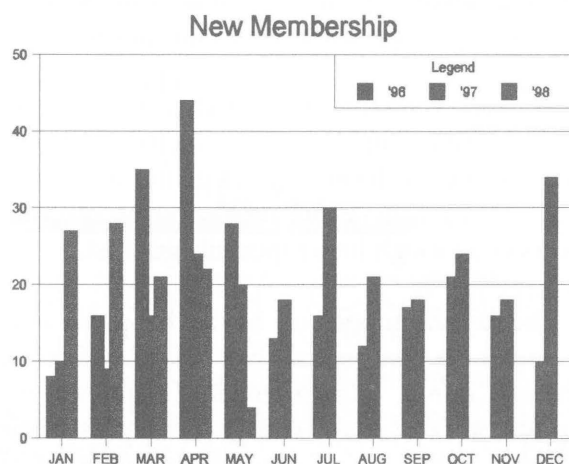
Ellen N. Holway

After the last bus had arrived from Great Falls around 11 AM the ceremonial ribbon was cut. The hikers, led by bagpiper Alicia Julianne, started down the towpath, followed by kilt-clad Ken Rollins and Ed Miller

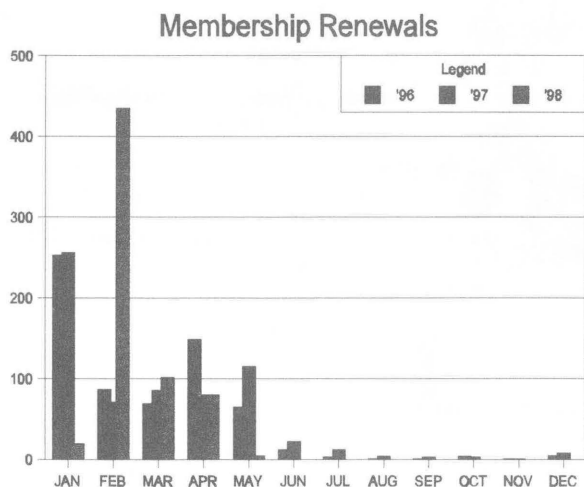


## MEMBERSHIP REPORTS

New membership in the association continues to hold strong (the data for May is incomplete). In 1996 we recruited 236 new members; in 1997, 242 new members joined; and 102 new members have joined so far in 1998. We need to keep recruiting our friends and families. Anytime we are along the towpath, we should have a supply of brochures to hand out. Wearing your name badge is a good conversation starter.



Membership renewals appear to have recovered from a late start. In 1996 we had 650 members renewed; in 1997, 662 members renewed; and 642 members have renewed thus far in 1998. On a cumulative basis, we are at approximately 97% of the average renewals for '96 and '97. Third reminders have been mailed to the 280 known '97 members who need a reminder. If you know any of these "late bloomers," please speak to them; they did not receive this newsletter.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS (SINCE 2/10/98)

Addicks, Jerry & Ruth  
 Anderson, Jim & Carlotta  
 Bakir, Fawz  
 Baum, Sue  
 Beals, Barry W.  
 Boyd, J. David  
 Brownstein, Elisabeth  
 Bunker, Gerry  
 Bury, Richard & Mary  
 Campbell, Brewster P.  
 Cannon, Helen W.  
 Donoghue, Kevin  
 Dosik, June  
 Drake, John & Donna  
 Eckels, Joseph B.  
 Ehudin, Gila & Mort  
 Ference, Diane  
 Fleek, James D  
 Floriani, Juan B.  
 Franklin, John  
 Friedland, Linda  
 Gage, Jean  
 Garrison, Shelby & Ron  
 Gienau, Melvin M  
 Grabowsky, Craig & Tami  
 Grace, Donald  
 Graham, Jonathan  
 Hamilton, Michael  
 Hankinson, Mike  
 Harman, Ralph C  
 Harvey, Philip D.  
 Hayes, Anne E.  
 Hearn, Carol  
 Heflin, Larry  
 Heller, Larry & Carol  
 Henningsen, Nancy  
 Herscowitz, Robert  
 Heyman, Arthur  
 Hill, Deborah L.  
 Hogan, Thomas & Martha  
 Hoshor, Alan S.  
 Hosmer, Stephen  
 Hottell, Lynne  
 Hurwitz, Edward  
 Hutchins, David  
 Jackson, Thomas B.

Abingdon MD  
 Glen Echo MD  
 Darnestown MD  
 Washington DC  
 Gaithersburg MD  
 Timonium MD  
 Washington DC  
 Baltimore MD  
 Hamilton VA  
 Bethesda MD  
 McLean VA  
 Vienna VA  
 Bethesda MD  
 Martinsburg WV  
 Altoona PA  
 Bethesda MD  
 Columbia MD  
 Baltimore MD  
 Potomac MD  
 Washington DC  
 Potomac MD  
 Bethesda MD  
 Gaithersburg MD  
 Germantown MD  
 Mount Airy MD  
 Silver Spring MD  
 Bethesda MD  
 Silver Spring MD  
 Potomac MD  
 Kingstowne VA  
 Cabin John MD  
 Kensington MD  
 Columbia MD  
 Cabin John MD  
 Chevy Chase MD  
 Bethesda MD  
 Cabin John MD  
 Garrett Park MD  
 Rockville MD  
 Chevy Chase MD  
 Washington DC  
 Bethesda MD  
 Silver Spring MD  
 Washington DC  
 Sharpsburg MD  
 Gettysburg PA

Jacobs, Barry  
 Janus, Michael  
 Kinsley, Bonnie  
 Kloman, Christopher R.  
 Knepp, Dawn  
 Knox, Karen  
 Lathrop, David & Pamela  
 Lewis, Heidi Brown  
 Malloch, Steven P.  
 Martinaitis, Robert  
 Mc Conahy, Douglas P.  
 Mc Laine, H. V.  
 Mc Millen, Patricia  
 Michelsen, Emily  
 Neff, Nancy E.  
 Nellis, Kathy & Dan  
 P.M.P.S.I.  
 Page, Nancy Eaton  
 Parvis, Daniel & Joan  
 Pinson, Jerre  
 Pogell, Burton M.  
 Rainey, Bill  
 Reimann, Barbara J.  
 Romanowski, David  
 Shea, Diane S.  
 Spivak, Michelle  
 Toleman, Jean & David  
 Wickowski, Sheila  
 Zell, Mary Lou

McLean VA  
 Gaithersburg MD  
 Beltsville MD  
 McLean VA  
 Upper Marlboro MD  
 Tabernacle NJ  
 Gaithersburg MD  
 Cabin John MD  
 Bethesda MD  
 Columbia MD  
 Camp Hill PA  
 Fairfax VA  
 Potomac MD  
 Davidsonville MD  
 Sterling VA  
 Midland VA  
 Germantown MD  
 Washington DC  
 Severna Park MD  
 McLean VA  
 Gaithersburg MD  
 Nashville TN  
 Bethesda MD  
 Bethesda MD  
 Chevy Chase MD  
 Bethesda MD  
 Knoxville MD  
 Washington DC  
 Selbyville DE

## 1998 WORLD CANALS CONFERENCE AND ACS ANNUAL MEETING

The eleventh annual World Canals Conference will be held at the Illinois and Michigan Canal, September 15 - 19. The 1998 conference will consist of planning charettes, tours, mobile workshops, seminars, hiking, biking, canoeing, planned social occasions and plenty of time to interact with fellow conferees from around the world.

The conference is being hosted by the Illinois & Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. This year is the sesquicentennial of the completion of the I & M Canal.

The conference headquarters will be the Joliet Holiday Inn Express, 411 S. Larkin, Joliet, Illinois.

The 1998 annual meeting of the American Canal Society will take place on Thursday, September 17, in conjunction with the World Canals Conference. The general membership meeting will be at 10:30 a.m.; the directors meeting (at which all members are welcome) will be at 7:00 p.m. Both meetings will be at the Holiday Inn.

The conference registration fee, which includes all meals and all bus transportation during the conference, is \$250. It does not include hotel accommodations or airport transportation. The room rate at the Holiday Inn is \$63 per night, double occupancy. The hotel reservations number is 815-729-2000.

For additional information and registration material, contact the conference chairman, Kent Haag, at the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, 160 N. LaSalle, Suite 916 South, Chicago IL 60601, or call him at 312-814-1409.

*We welcome you all and hope you will take an active part in the affairs of the Association. Those having an interest in the Level Walker Program or the Volunteers In The Park program, should take the initiative and contact the respective leader. (Level walker chairman Keith Kridenoff, 410 661 6130; volunteer coordinator John Lindt, 301 469 6381.) Current members are encouraged to meet these new members and help them get involved.*

## VOLUNTEERS IN PARKS PROGRAMS

A new association-sponsored volunteer program, CANAL DAYS will supplement the NPS Volunteers in Parks work-days. CANAL DAYS, are organized by Association members and NPS interpretive staff at participating Visitor Centers. CANAL DAYS activities will be related to identifiable canal improvements or maintenance which will have lasting public value when completed. CANAL-DAYS will be scheduled for the second Saturday of September and October. Details of the location, time and work are listed in *Along The Towpath*, or call John Lindt (301-469-6381), or contact a visitors center.

The NPS VOLUNTEER PROJECT work days will continue to be selected Saturdays of spring and fall months at the places determined by NPS. To participate in the next public VIP NPS work days call the volunteer office(301-767-3706) or see the Georgetown Towpath listing for details. Association members are welcome at NPS work days as well as the new CANAL-DAYS.

### VISITOR CENTERS

Georgetown	202-653-5844	Kathy Kupper
Great Falls	301-299-3613	Faye Walmsley
Williamsport	301-852-0813	Donna Swauger
Hancock	301-678-5463	Paul Apple
Cumberland	301-722-8226	Rita Knox

### CANAL DAYS

Sat	9/11/98	9:00am details later
Sat	10/10/98	9:00am details later

John Lindt 301-469-6381

## ADAM FOSTER'S SEVENTY-FIFTH CELEBRATED AT GREAT FALLS TAVERN

We in the association all know Rockwood H. Foster as "Adam." Margot and Adam Foster have been with us as active members of the association and dear friends for many years. We have always relied on Adam for wise counsel on the affairs of the canal and the

Potomac. Indeed a statesman of the canal and the Potomac, he is ever an eloquent and effective defender of the canal park and the Potomac River Basin. He has been a leading member of the Citizens Advisory Commission for the canal park over the years. He has also taken part in the deliberations of the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin as one of its members. Beyond such posts which reflect his special interest, Adam leads a full and varied public life. While all this is true and important, it is Adam's gift for friendship that we value most.

The birthday celebration Margot skillfully put together with the help of the Canal staff on May 7th was superb. For many of the guests the tavern, the canal, and the Great Falls were a happy discovery. For others a re-discovery after many years. Here the canal boat ride came as a special treat.

The passengers greatly enjoyed the masterful re-creation of canal days. Our park rangers magically became a canal boat crew garbed in canaller fashion. They regaled their passengers with canal stories told in dialect and song.



The downpour that struck that evening did nothing to dampen the high spirits of the gathering. It only added to togetherness as everyone found their common oasis under the large pavilion tent erected for such contingency. The dinner was sumptuous and delectable. Moments of recollection enlivened the conversation. "Old World Troubadour" John DuRan entertained us all singing ballads of yore and playing upon the ancient *Deutsche Laute*. Canal songs there were also. The admiration and love Adam kindles among his family members and his many long-time friends was unmistakable in the tributes that were showered upon him. It was indeed an enchanting and unforgettable evening!

C. L.



## PROPOSED MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ESTIMATED START AND END DATES

### *Palisades District*

	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
1. Lock 7	October 1997	May 31, 1998
2. Culvert 10 (Mile 8.7)	July 1998	October 1998
3. Silt Removal/Towpath Repairs	January 1998	July 31, 1998
4. Anglers Inn Breaches	August 31, 1998	July 31, 1998
5. Cabin John Bridge	May 13, 1998	July 15, 1998
6. Great Falls - Phase I	June 1, 1998	September 1, 1998
7. Anglers Bridge	August 1, 1998	November 1, 1998
8. Fletcher's Bridge	August 17, 1998	November 17, 1998
9. Georgetown Retaining Wall	September 8, 1998	December 8, 1998
10. Great Falls - Phase II	November 1, 1998	March 5, 1998

### *Western Maryland District*

11. Long Wall Rehabilitation	April 20, 1998	June 20, 1998
12. Culvert 142 (Mile 110.1)	April 1, 1998	August 1, 1998
13. Dam 5 Rehabilitation	July 15, 1998	November 1, 1998
14. Oldtown Flood Mitigation	July 22, 1998	January 5, 1999
15. Candoc Flood Mitigation	August 15, 1998	September 15, 1998
16. Culvert 179 (Mile 123.9)	July 1, 1998	October 1, 1998
17. Conococheague Aqueduct	August 1, 1998	November 1, 1998
18. Culvert 182 (Mile 124.4)	October 1, 1998	April 1, 1999
19. Paw Paw Tunnel	Fall 1998	Fall 1998
20. Harpers Ferry Rehabilitation	Fall 1998	Fall 1998

### *MISCELLANEOUS NOTES ON THE MONOCACY AQUEDUCT*

The following notes were made by Robert Kapsch, the National Park Service technical representative for the Monocacy Aqueduct study, on April 2, 1998:

Yesterday I visited the Aqueduct to review the work being done as part of the engineering assessment and particularly the two test borings. NPS Maintenance (with special thanks to Bob Hartman and his people) dug two square holes in the two sections closest to the parking lot. These holes were dug in two sections, first

down 30 inches to the membrane placed there by the Federal Highway Administration in the immediate aftermath of Agnes (part of the reason for digging was to ascertain if this membrane had been placed in the prism) and then another 15 to 18 inches to the top of the masonry structure.

#### Findings of interest:

a. The plastic membrane and perforated drainage pipe were in place, as shown by the Federal Highway plans and specs developed in the early 1970s. Abba Lichtenstein, one of our consulting engineers, pointed out that even

though they were in place, they weren't doing much good because as of March 31, after seven dry days, the aqueduct was leaking a good deal of water down through the masonry -- an example of an ineffective design solution. We are concerned about water because of (1) leaching action, and (2) freeze/thaw action, etc.

b. Below the membrane was a clay liner, perhaps 12 to 18 inches in depth, and below that, rubble -- dirt and granite with no evidence of grout. There were a substantial number of voids in the rubble fill. This is substantially different from the Conococheague Aqueduct,

which had a "floor" of brick.

c. Below the rubble were the arch stones. Drilling into these stones (the holes will be filled with concrete) revealed a very white stone powder that looked much more like limestone than granite. Cores taken out of these stones will be comprehensively tested to establish compressive strength.

Bernie Dennis (head of the American Society of Civil Engineers History and Heritage Committee) was present and showed Abba Lichtenstein and myself several of the long term monitoring efforts that have already been put in place by ASCE:

a. Dimension monitoring. Using existing benchmarks and other means, ASCE has established a rigid "frame" over the entire aqueduct. They will be able to detect minute dimensional changes of the aqueduct, such as movement of the walls with respect to the surrounding land; movement of the walls of the aqueduct with respect to themselves; etc. If you visit the aqueduct, you will probably see the small white "x's" placed above the arches.

b. Thermal measurement. Before the test holes will be filled back in, Bob Hartman's people will insert some temperature recording devices for Bernie. The purpose of these devices is to record temperature variations within the aqueduct. As explained by Bernie, at some point in the future, we may want to use pressure grouting techniques to repair this structure. Such techniques may transform a structure of numerous individual elements and countless "expansion

joints" to a monolithic structure where we will have to worry about incorporating expansion joints and therefore will have to know how temperatures vary within the structure. In fact, this is exactly what we are doing with Conococheague Aqueduct, but the Conococheague is much shorter than the Monocacy.

#### Observations:

An advantage of visiting the Monocacy with knowledgeable structural engineers is that they frequently see aspects of the aqueduct that I had previously not noticed. Some examples:

a. On the upstream face, north side, we have a very noticeable bulge in the aqueduct wall. This can easily be seen by walking out on the curved masonry wall and looking at the first steel member put in place after Agnes. The variable blocking clearly shows the problem we have here, and this portion of the aqueduct will probably have to be torn down and reconstructed. The curved wall probably helps as it provides support in the lateral dimension.

b. On the south side, I had never noticed the rope cuts made into the iron fencing on top of the aqueduct -- very impressive.

#### Lessons for the Conococheague Aqueduct:

Rich Huber was also at the Monocacy. As you may know, Rich was the engineer in charge of the reconstruction of the C & O Canal in the aftermath of Agnes. Reportedly, he had some 90 engineers working for him on that task!

One of the stories that Rich told about the Monocacy stabilization immediately after Agnes concerned pressure grouting. It was their intention to pressure grout the Monocacy and had budgeted some 300 bags of lime to do so. When they actually started pumping the grout, the first section took every bit of grout they had for the entire aqueduct. The aqueduct leaked like a sieve and grout dumped into the structure squirted out of the structure just as fast. They had to rethink their approach. For the Conococheague Aqueduct, this underlines the importance of the test phase of the stabilization project. During test phase, we want to experiment with fast setting grouts that can be first pumped into the structure, allowed to set, and therefore function as a barrier for grout that follows. The amount of time before set takes place is crucial because if the grout sets too fast, we won't get adequate penetration; if it sets too slowly, we won't be able to develop adequate barriers.

We were also interested to hear from Rich how the contractor gained access to the aqueduct, as it affects our plans for the Conococheague stabilization project. At the Monocacy, the contractor used a single large barge. I think it is likely we would want to use this approach at the Conococheague Aqueduct for the large contract. For the small test phase, we are currently thinking about cantilevering several structural members over the upstream face and suspending a work platform from those structural members. This approach would avoid mounting scaffolding in the stream bed (and thus

possibly disturbing the brook floater mussels). It would also be a less expensive alternative to scaffolding.

### *C & O CANAL NHP HISTORIC LEASING PROGRAM*

#### **Pennyfield Property:**

The park was to make a determination to lease the property for rehab or to demolish the house by the end of January 1998. That determination has not, to our knowledge, been finalized due to the great interest in restoring the house and other buildings on the same property.

The Pennyfield House still stands! The house still stands because of new, and expanded interest. A joint effort, to date, of Historic Medley District, Inc, a non-profit preservation organization; Stephen C. Eastman, an attorney and private entrepreneur; Brendan O'Neil, a builder and restorer of historic structures; Friends of Historic Great Falls Tavern; and Dean Brenneman, AIA, who will serve as a project advisor, are committed to saving and restoring the buildings on the Pennyfield property. Their vision and long term purpose is to bring the Pennyfield House, the lockhouse, the adjacent daughter's house and two sheds into functioning use as a vital community resource.

The National Park Service, the Maryland State Historic Preservation Office, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation agree that the Pennyfield House should be demolished.

Officials of the Montgomery

County Government and Council have expressed a deep concern that the Pennyfield house is scheduled for demolition and have requested that the park reconsider its decision. The county and council members and the joint- effort team mentioned above, feel the Pennyfield house is a significant historical structure in Montgomery County. The joint-effort team feels that rehabilitation of the structures mentioned above will provide an authentic representation of the interrelationship between the work and family lives of a nineteenth-century lock-keeper in a kinship community settlement.

Superintendent Faris and park staff met with representatives from Historic Medley and others to discuss the probable removal of the Pennyfield House because of its extremely deteriorated condition. The need for partnership assistance with the preservation of the park's resources was again discussed. The park will undertake a final analysis of the potential for preservation of the structures with representatives from Historic Medley and local contractors experienced with this type of structural rehabilitation.

The estimated total cost of rehabilitating the Pennyfield House, the lockhouse, the daughter's house, two sheds, site development and program implementation is approximately \$680,000. The funds will be provided by the Historic Medley District, Inc. and their supporters.

#### **Other Historic Properties:**

The park has identified approximately thirty-nine other properties that will be part of the historic leasing program of the

C&O Canal over the next three years. Eleven of these properties will be leased or available for lease this year.

The park is preparing leases for the Little House near Hancock, and the West House adjacent to Riley's Lockhouse at Seneca.

Five other historic properties were advertised on March 15 under Requests for Proposal. The properties are Pennyfield Lockhouse, Myers Property, Burnside Property, Weber Property, and the Donegan/Anthony Property.

#### **Primary contact:**

Douglas D. Faris, Superintendent, or Sonny Sanders, Historical Architect, C&O Canal NHP, PO Box 4, Sharpsburg MD 21783.



## **C&O CANAL NHP SEEKS VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST WITH CANAL BOAT OPERATIONS**

C&O Canal National Historical Park is looking for volunteers to assist with the operation of the mule-drawn canal boat rides. Volunteers will assist with all aspects of the program, including handling the mules and boat lines, operating the boat and canal lock, and presenting programs to the public. Volunteers must be willing to work with the public, perform sometimes strenuous work, commit sixteen hours of time a month and wear period clothing. In-depth training will be provided and required. For more information or to receive an application, call Faye Walmsley, 301-299-3613.

### **SUMMER CANALBOAT SCHEDULES**

The National Park Service offers living history boat rides at two locations on the C&O Canal. Come and compare the past with the present while enjoying a one-hour trip aboard a reproduction canal boat. Park rangers in historical clothing transport passengers back in time to the 1870s. Experience locking through a historic lift lock, and being pulled by mules as rangers describe the history of the canal and the families that worked on it.

Through Labor Day, the GEORGETOWN and the CANAL CLIPPER will depart on Wednesday through Sunday at 11 a.m., 1:00 and 2:30 p.m. In addition, there will be a 4 p.m. trip on weekends. (There are no trips on Mondays or Tuesdays, except Labor Day.)

From September 10 through November 1, the GEORGETOWN will operate at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Wednesday - Friday; the CLIPPER will go at 2:30 p.m. only on those days. Both boats will continue to offer four trips on Saturdays and Sundays during the fall. (However, the 4 p.m. trip will be discontinued when daylight savings time ends.)

The GEORGETOWN leaves from 1057 Thomas Jefferson Street NW (south of M Street). The CANAL CLIPPER operates from Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center.

### *Nature Notes*

#### Spring Along the Towpath

In mid-April a Carolina wren paused in a bush beside the towpath near Lock 7, nesting material held firmly in his small bill. Apparently he was completely

unaware of the pair of cowbirds watching him from a higher perch. The early spring race was on, with lazy cowbirds seeking out the nests carefully crafted by other birds. The inevitable result-- the cowbird nestlings crowd out the nestlings of the rightful nest owners.

As April turns to May, the white-throated sparrow sings his melodious farewell and soon departs for a nesting site, possibly in New England. Meanwhile, the towhee announces his return from the South, and an influx of warblers confuses birdwatchers with flashing color and varied song.

No one can miss the strutting pairs of Canada geese. Many of the mallards we watched all winter along the canal or the river have left for hidden nesting sites.

An adult bald eagle soars into the sky from the nest on Conn Island where two young birds have been reported. According to expert bird-watchers, only one eaglet of a pair is likely to survive. Even so, the eagle population nationally has been increasing in contrast to a dozen years ago when the widespread use of pesticides threatened eagles as well as other bird population. For many song birds, the use of pesticides on suburban lawns as well as on farms continues to be a serious threat.

Missing at Great Falls tavern for the last several years are the barn swallows that used to build solid mud nests on tavern porches. Also missing is the pair of phoebes that once chose the under-side of the bridge below the canal boat landing as a nesting site. The repetitious "phoebe! phoebe!" Song no longer resounds near the Tavern each spring. The crowds that invade the area especially on weekends are a likely deterrent to birds such as the phoebe.

In spite of notable losses, just three years ago a group of bird watchers identified 40 different species of nesting birds on an early morning expedition between the tavern and Swain's Lock. Most of the members of the same birdwatching team were out again at 5:30 am on a late May morning this year to count breeding birds in the same area.

The distractions of spring birds cannot keep watchful eyes from noticing other attractions of early spring. Spring beauties carpeted the land along the towpath in many places again this year. Toothwort, violets, rue anemones, star chickweed, blood-root and mayapple again crowded the woodlands in some places between the towpath and the river. Virginia bluebells also made a field of blue along some upstream sections of the towpath with the blue turning to pink as the flowers faded. No one can fail to notice redbud and dogwood. Less conspicuous are the flowers of maples, ironwood,

oaks, persimmon and pawpaw. In late April the fringe tree starts to bloom along with honeysuckles and occasionally a wild azalea. Near the Tavern, wisteria blossoms drape several trees. Fern fiddle heads uncurl in the woods, and the showy orchis blooms in hidden places. Streams on the Gold Mine Tract sing a spring song as they hurry down hillsides. No matter how many springs a person remembers, every spring is new and full of surprises. The parkland along the spring river-- full of bird song and plant life remains a constant source of wonder. "Sights and Sound of the Seasons" observers are out four times monthly to track seasonal changes. Three Canal Association members lead walks scheduled to start at the Tavern at 10:00 am, on the first and last Wednesday and Saturday each month of the year.

--Helen L. Johnston

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO ASSOCIATION FUNDS SINCE LAST ISSUE:

We sincerely thank the following members and friends who have made contributions to the association's funds since the last issue of *ALONG THE TOWPATH*. These donations are greatly appreciated. (100% of all contributions to these funds go to the purposes indicated; none is retained in the association's treasury for administrative purposes.)

C - C & O Canal Fund, to support projects and interpretive programs in the park which cannot be budgeted with appropriated funds.

M - Monocacy Aqueduct Fund, for the preservation and restoration of the aqueduct, one of the most important structures on the canal.

D - Davies Legal Defense Fund, a reserve to cover legal expenses incurred against threats to the integrity of the park.

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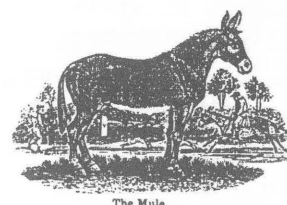
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## GREAT FALLS IN MARCH

The river gods must be angry  
the water, brown, is driven  
by a power that seems fierce.  
When it hits the rocks we hear thunder  
there is menace in the air  
all the people seem to feel it  
the rangers are keeping watch...  
Never before have I seen the falls thus  
O river gods, why this ire?

*Cornelia Ernst*



The Mule

*Along the Towpath*



# NOTES FROM THE (EX) PRESIDENT - JUNE 1998

## Farewell, but not Goodbye!

*Though not without a rough spot or two, this has been a very enjoyable and rewarding two years. I came on less than two months after the January 1996 flood only to have one of my own in September. Through it all there have been two constants; the Park staff and the Association. When things needed to be done, they got done. Twice in one year the towpath was reopened. Recovery work still goes on along with all of the routine day-to-day work that staff must perform. We too pitched in to assist in the recovery efforts while carrying on all of our usual activities.*

*Membership continues at a high level, and on the subject of levels, we have Level Walkers covering the entire towpath. Our finances remain strong. Our fund raising has been impressive. Both the C & O Canal Fund and the Monocacy Aqueduct Fund are growing and are being put to use. The availability of these monies has allowed the Park to go forward on grant applications for a summer intern program and for start-up for the Canal Fest in Cumberland.*

*Progress continues in our efforts to preserve the Monocacy River Aqueduct. Fund raising efforts are being expanded. An honorary advisory board is being formed with a very impressive list of people who have already agreed to serve. The Park has completed a study on the condition of the pier footings, and with the excellent cooperation of the Capital Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers, devices are being installed to monitor movement that may occur in the aqueduct itself. Our nomination of the aqueduct for placement on The National Trust for Historic Preservation's 1998 List of America's Most Endangered Historic Places was approved. The aqueduct became the centerpiece in the National Trust's announcement of the List and was the backdrop for the First Lady's speech supporting the cause of historic preservation including restoration of the aqueduct.*

*Our hike, bike, and canoe trips have been well organized and well attended. Planning has begun for next year's through hike. Our volunteer program is being revised to provide even more service to the Park. The video documentaries on the canal and aqueduct are proceeding nicely, with hopes of release around Thanksgiving time. Materials continue to come in to the archives at George Washington University, though much volunteer work needs to be done on cataloging.*

*In short, many people have done many things and have done them well. From my unique vantage point, some three hundred plus miles from the scene of the action, I am constantly amazed at the strength and dedication of all those involved. My thanks go out to all of you who do so much to make our Association and our Park all that they are. I look forward to seeing you along the towpath. It's magic!*

Gary M. Petrichick

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Delilah Hawa  
Editor, *Along the Towpath*  
18508 Locust Point Court,  
Montgomery Village, MD 20886  
email: Deli500@aol.com

Membership in the C & O Canal Association is open to all persons with an interest in the C & O Canal, the C & O Canal National 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 or <http://www.omcdesigns.com/canal>. The COCA Webmaster is Olivia Casasnovas. COCA also maintains a telephone for information and inquiries. Please direct calls to (301) 983-0825.

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Environmental Ralph Donnelly/Fred Mopsik

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VIPs John Lindt

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Superintendent: Doug Faris

Assistant Superintendent: Kevin Brandt

Chief Ranger: Keith Whisenant

Admin. Officer: Ken Brodie

Asst. Ch. Ranger & Chief, Visitor Protection Branch:  
Kevin Fitzgerald

Chief of Interpretive Branch: Debbie Ayers

Chief, Natural Resource Mgmt Branch: Patrick Toops

Chief, Cultural Resource Mgmt Branch: Doug Stover

Chief of Maintenance: Bob Hartman

Volunteer Coordinator: Nancy Brown

Flood Recovery Team: Bob Conway

#### **Palisades District**

11710 MacArthur Blvd, Potomac, MD 20854

301 413 0024

**District Ranger** Tom Nash

Supv Ranger- Fee Collection Terry Barbot

#### **Georgetown Visitors Center**

1055 Thomas Jefferson Street, Washington, DC 20007

202 653 5190

Park Ranger Kathy Kupper

Great Falls Tavern Visitors Center

Great Falls Tavern Information 301 229 3613

Park Ranger Faye Walmsley

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

#### **Western Maryland District**

301 739 4200 x 237

District Ranger Mark Spier

District Interpreter Martin Gallery

#### **Williamsport Visitors Center**

205 West Potomac Street, Williamsport, MD 21795 301

582 0813

Park Ranger Donna Swauger

#### **Hancock Visitors Center**

326 West Potomac Street Hancock,

Maryland 21795 301 678 5463

Park Ranger Paul Apple

#### **Cumberland Visitors Center**

Western Maryland Station, Cumberland, Maryland

21502 301 722 8226

Park Ranger Rita Knox

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

#### **Other Useful Telephone Numbers:**

Georgetown Boat Operation 202 653 5190

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

# SCENES OF THE GRAND EVENT HELD ON THE MONOCACY GROUNDS ON JUNE 15, 1998.



Left to right: Bob Perry, Carl A. Linden,  
Bob's Granddaughter, Brittany, Alicia  
Julienne, Ken Rollins



Left to right: C&O Canal NHP Staff,  
Kevin Fitzgerald, Debbie Ayers,  
Keith Whisenant and Kevin Brandt.



Ken Rollins

*Special thanks to Cassie  
Arnold, Ken Rollins and  
Hal Larsen for  
various photographs.*



Left to right: Laila Linden, Ken  
Rollins, Adele Donnelly



Left to right: Association President, Tom Perry, Bob Perry, Bill Schmidt,  
Don Juran, Dave Johnson



C&O Canal Association  
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