



THE CANAL QUARTERLY

WWW.CANALTRUST.ORG

9,000 STUDENTS LEARN FROM THE CANAL *Canal Classrooms program teaches STEAM principles*

The C&O Canal National Historical Park is one of the region's leading recreational parks, hosting over 5 million visitors each year — many of them children. Although many kids visit the Park with their families for weekend hikes and bike rides, many more are visiting with their teachers and classmates via the Park's Canal Classrooms program.

The Park just wrapped up its second full year of the Canal Classrooms program, which is focused on developing a park-wide curriculum-based education program that relies on sustainable practices and strong partners. The C&O Canal Trust is a major supporter of Canal Classrooms, having raised \$50,000 in fiscal year 2014 to support the program.

Over 9,000 students from pre-kindergarten to high school visited the C&O Canal in fiscal year 2014, most as part of a full-day "outdoor" classroom experience. The program is managed by Education Specialist Hollie Lynch, who works for the National Park

Service. "Thanks to the wonderful support of partners like the C&O Canal Trust," Lynch said, "in 2014 the education program provided a meaningful experience for thousands of students and hundreds of teachers, many of whom have never been to the park before."

Students who participate in the Canal Classrooms program are exposed to a variety of lessons based in the STEAM curriculum (Science – Technology – Engineering – Arts – Math). During the students' Park visit, they engage with a variety of real world science and environmental challenges.

One program aimed at high school students, called "Citizen Scientist," has students participate in water quality testing.



PHOTO COURTESY C&O CANAL NHP

After observing three bodies of water—a stream, the river, and the canal—the students then record their data on an online platform that is used by scientists, educators, and other professionals in the field of water quality.

Lessons for younger children include mapping activities, measuring tree growth, and supplying a canal boat for its

voyage. Teachers whose students are participating in the Canal Classrooms program have access to a variety of age-appropriate curriculum activities that they can complete either before or after their Park visit.

(continued on page 4)



PHOTO COURTESY C&O CANAL NHP



PHOTO BY MICHAEL C. MITCHELL

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A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It's the time of year to give thanks, and the C&O Canal Trust has much for which it is grateful. We have celebrated multiple successes over the past year, including receiving the distinguished Chairman's Award from the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for the Canal Quarters program. We grew our Canal Pride service program to 43 events this year, and provided significant volunteer support for clean-up and maintenance activities in the Park. And we donated \$50,000 to the Park's Canal Classrooms program, to provide support to this education initiative.

Another major achievement for the Trust was the development of our new three-year strategic plan, which emphasizes preservation and stewardship—a theme we call Towpath Forever—and the ongoing support of our four partner programs. We encourage each of you to look at the plan, which is summarized on page 5 and is also available on our website. We look forward to hearing your feedback and ideas.

We are grateful for the leadership of MJ Veverka, who recently completed her term as our Board Chair. We also say thank you to Robert Mertz, an outgoing Board Member who was central to the development of the award-winning Canal Quarters program, and we express our appreciation to Mike Nardolilli for his tenure as Trust President and wish him success in the next phase of his career.

Most importantly, the Trust is so grateful to all of you who have given of your time, talents, and financial resources to help us carry out our mission of stewardship and care for the Park. I ask, therefore, that you make the decision to provide a year-end financial gift to the Trust.

Again, thank you, and on behalf of the Trust and the Park, best wishes to you and your families for the coming holiday season.

Michael C. Mitchell

Michael C. Mitchell, *Chairman of the Board*

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SOUNDS OF THE PAST PLAY AT CANAL QUARTERS

One of the comments we get most often about our Canal Quarters lockhouses is the opportunity to “get away from technology.” So why would we go and add technology to lockhouses 6 and 10? Because that technology is in the form of antique radios!

Guests at Lockhouse 10 can now enjoy a 1938 Silvertone radio, while guests of Lockhouse 6 will be treated to tunes from a 1953 Emerson radio. The radios were chosen for their dates in order to fit in with the time periods associated with each lockhouse. Lockhouse 10 portrays the 1930s New Deal program and the Civilian Conservation Corps, and Lockhouse 6 interprets the 1950s, when Justice William O. Douglas helped save the Canal from being paved into a highway.

Both radios are retrofitted to play a modern day portable MP3 player, so guests can listen to today’s tunes through the radios if they wish. The C&O Canal Trust also plans to offer MP3 files of period radio shows on our website, as well. This way, guests can download an MP3 file, play it on the antique radio, and listen to the old sounds of Woody Guthrie, Huddie Ledbetter, and Count Basie – or Elvis Presley, Nat King Cole, or Johnny Cash, depending on your decade. These offerings should be available on the Trust’s website by January 2015.

The addition of the radios to the Canal Quarters lockhouses was made possible through a \$2,000 gift from the Potomac No. 10 and Captain John No. 517 chapters

of The Questers organization. This organization is dedicated to conserving and preserving historical objects and landmarks for future generations to enjoy.

Betty White, the president of the Maryland Questers, stated, “Captain John 517 chapter is excited to participate in bringing this past to life for the present and future generations. When first reading of the Trust and the plan for restoring the lockhouses, I knew it was a program that would be exciting for a Quester chapter.”

“The enthusiasm of all members was heightened when the chapter had their September meeting in Lockhouse 10 and received briefings from [the Trust’s Director of Programs and Partnerships] Becky Curtis. The Questers is dedicated to preservation and restoration of historic sites. With the restoration of the lockhouses being in an area that is near a number of Maryland chapters where visiting by members would be convenient, the Trust project was a very desirable project for Questers to support.”

Curtis worked with the Questers on their donation. She stated, “These radios bring a unique element to the Canal Quarters experience. The only sounds you hear at most lockhouses are the noises of nature and



PHOTO COURTESY C&O CANAL TRUST



PHOTO COURTESY C&O CANAL TRUST

Top: The 1938 Silvertone radio that is now available for guests of Lockhouse 10 to use.

Bottom: The 1953 Emerson radio now lives in Lockhouse 6.

the voices of your companions. Now, with the addition of the radios, you will also hear the sounds of the past in the background. I’m sure this will bring back memories for our older guests, and allow our younger guests to experience the media of radio as it used to be. The added ambiance will further the feeling of being transported back in time.”

White agreed, saying “The new radios will add tremendous dimension to the historic significance of the Canal Quarters. I can imagine reliving my youth, sitting in front of the radio in Lockhouse 10, listening to one of President Roosevelt’s Fireside Chats. And the music of that era will add immeasurably to the ambiance of a social gathering.”

The Canal Quarters program features six historic lockhouses that have been restored and decorated in a time period ranging from the 1830s to the 1950s. All are available for overnight stays. To book your stay, please visit www.CanalTrust.org/Quarters.

Volunteers show Canal Pride

Thank you to the corporations and organizations who volunteered on Canal Pride activities this fall, helping us clean up the towpath and make needed repairs to the C&O Canal National Historical Park’s structures!

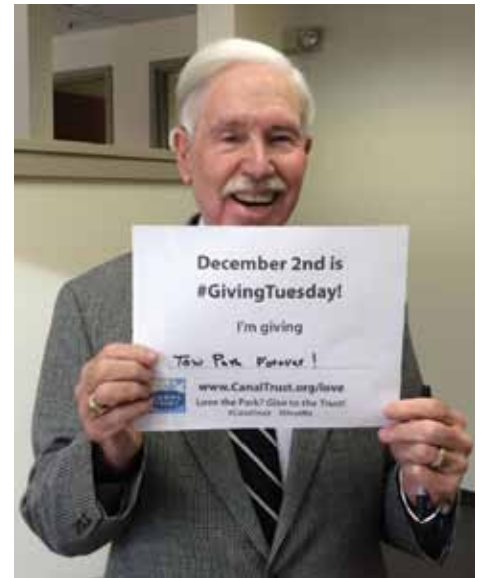
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NEW LEADERSHIP AT HELM OF TRUST BOARD

At the September 12 board meeting, Michael C. Mitchell was elected Board Chairman and Stephen E. Chaudet as Board Vice Chairman. Both began their term on October 1 and will serve in these positions for two years.

Mitchell rises to Chairman following nearly three years of service on the Trust board. He currently serves as the President of Michael C. Mitchell Consulting, LLC, the firm he formed in 2011 following his retirement as Vice President, Logistics and Sustainment, in the Washington Operations office of Lockheed Martin Corporation. He had served the firm for 20 years. Prior to that, he worked for Senator William V. Roth, Jr. (R-DE) on the staff of the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs. Mitchell serves as the Chairman of the Board of Kenwood Golf and Country Club in Bethesda. He has served as an adult Scout Leader in Pack 1427 and Troop 1427 in Potomac for 20 years, and has been active with the Bethesda United Methodist Church since 1990. He holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from The American University, and a Bachelor's degree in history from Trinity College in Hartford, CT. Mitchell replaces M.J. Veverka as Chair of the Board, whose two-year term ended September 30. She stepped down to join the Trust's Advisory Board.



Mitchell, left, and Chaudet, above, show their support for the Trust's Towpath Forever initiative during our Giving Tuesday campaign.

Chaudet has worked for the Lockheed Martin Corporation since 1968 in a number of key divisional and corporate positions in Communications and Public Affairs. In 1995, he was named corporate Vice President for State and Local Government Affairs and PAC. He now serves Lockheed Martin as a consultant. Chaudet has served on a number of community boards, including the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Boys and Girls Clubs, the Metropolitan USO

Board, the Bryce Harlow Foundation Board of Visitors, and the U.S. Capitol Historical Society. He holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Southern California and a Master's degree in Business Administration from Pepperdine University. He is also a graduate of the Stanford Executive Program at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. Chaudet replaces Mitchell as the Vice Chair on the Board of Directors.

Canal Classrooms *continued from page 1*

One of the hallmarks of the Canal Classrooms program is that it offers a flexible staffing model that pairs retired teachers with Park Rangers to deliver education programs in the Park as part of the Canal Classroom Corps (CCC). This year, the CCC grew from 9 to 35 teachers. Teachers from Washington, Allegany, and Montgomery County schools also worked with Park Rangers to modify old curriculum lessons and write entirely new lessons that work with the core curriculum for each grade level.

The Canal Classrooms program funded over \$20,000 in bus scholarships this

year, over 50 percent of which went to underserved audiences. The program also funded teacher training workshops, program supplies, summer teaching positions, education staff support, and stipends for the CCC teachers.

Both the Park and the Trust recognize that early interactions with students help to encourage a lifelong interest in education, recreation, and exploration of their environment. Lynch explains, "The immediate outcome of education programming is making a relevant connection to communities as students, teachers and parents come to learn and explore their local national park. The

long-term outcome is fostering the next generation of park stewards to care for these special places."

In the coming year, the Canal Classrooms program will continue to grow in Great Falls, Williamsport, and Cumberland. Other goals include creating a classroom space in Great Falls similar to the one already open in Cumberland, recruiting more volunteers into the CCC, and expanding the Citizen Scientist program.

We continue to raise money to support Canal Classrooms. You may visit our website at www.CanalTrust.org or contact Vice President of Development Megan Kula at kula@canaltrust.org to make a gift.

TRUST ADOPTS NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

Document sets forth priorities and goals for three years

A new, three-year strategic plan was adopted at the September 12 Board Meeting, the result of six months of work by the Trust Board, staff, National Park Service, and other affiliated constituents to determine what priorities should lead us into the future.

Excerpts of the Strategic Plan appear in blue, and the entire plan is available on our website, www.CanalTrust.org, in the “News” section.

Overview of the Trust

The C&O Canal Trust (Trust) was founded in 2007 and in December 2008 became the official non-profit partner of the C&O Canal National Historical Park (NHP or Park). Since its inception, the Trust has focused on three important pillars: 1) working collaboratively with the Park to identify areas needing external support along with ways the Trust can address those needs; 2) working with the Park to establish Partner Programs that enable the Trust to broaden its outreach in support of the Park and to enhance the visitor experience; and 3) building its organizational capacity to effectively fulfill its mission.

Why the Park Needs the Trust

The C&O Canal NHP is the ninth most visited national park, higher than many signature parks like Yellowstone, Yosemite and the Grand Canyon. Federal appropriations provide for the Park’s basic day-to-day operations. However, these funds do not adequately cover Park needs, which include addressing the deteriorating condition of the towpath and other valuable historic structures along its 184.5-mile length and expanding its highly successful Canal Classrooms program to bring more local school children into the Park. Years of inadequately funded maintenance and the increase in seasonal flooding exacerbate these needs, putting visitor safety at greater risk.

The Park and the Trust leadership jointly undertook a visioning exercise to help define the highest priority opportunities for external support. These early discussions

provided valuable input to the development of this Strategic Plan.

Towpath Forever

Towpath Forever is a stewardship program that engages the public in philanthropic, volunteer, and advocacy support to ensure the Park and its resources are here forever.

The C&O Canal Towpath is the binding element of the Park. Every person who visits the Park experiences the Towpath. More importantly, the Towpath knits together the entire 184.5-mile long

Park and is one of the most heavily used recreational trails in the country. Accordingly, the Park and the Trust have developed a vision to build support to preserve and enhance the full length of the Park for the enjoyment of current users and future generations.

The Park will undertake, and the Trust will fundraise for, projects that fall into four Priority Areas:

- Preservation of Towpath and Related Structures – Restore and maintain the towpath, trails/access points, watered portions of canal, and supporting structures.
- Youth and Education – Be an education innovator, using traditional and emerging technologies to reach people of all ages to create lifelong stewards.
- Visitor Experience – Develop and deploy innovative programs to engage visitors to experience the Park and its neighboring communities; the Park’s primary historic buildings (e.g. lockhouses) will be rehabilitated and adaptively reused.
- Science and Natural Resources – Protect the diversity of natural resources, preserve wildlife habitat, fight invasive species, and respond to climate change.

The 50th Anniversary of the Park

While this Plan covers only the next three fiscal years, the Park and the Trust have focused their visioning on the upcoming 50th anniversary of the Park on January 8, 2021. Accordingly, this Strategic Plan identifies the foundational phase of a longer-term effort to expand Trust support for the Park.

Our Mission Statement

The C&O Canal Trust, as the official non-profit partner of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park, works in partnership with the National Park Service and local communities to raise funds to preserve the Park for future generations and to broaden support through programs that highlight the Park’s historical, natural, and cultural heritage and recreational opportunities.

In addition, the Park and the Trust will be participating in many upcoming activities associated with the 2016 Centennial of the National Park Service.

Core Strategies for C&O Canal Trust in Next Three Years

1. Increase C&O Canal Trust visibility
2. With direction from the Park Superintendent and the Board, raise funds to meet specific Park needs in the four Priority Areas underpinning the Towpath Forever vision
3. Align and grow the Partner Programs to advance support for the Park (Canal Quarters, Canal Pride, Canal Discoveries, Canal Towns Partnership)
4. Significantly increase funding and resources
5. Build strong leadership and organizational capacity

How the Strategic Plan Will Be Used

The Strategic Plan provides a framework to guide the organization and the Park leadership for the next three years. Staff will develop implementation plans for each successive year with concrete objectives, measurable goals, and financial budgets.

WILLIAMSPORT STRUCTURES GET A FACELIFT

The Conococheague Aqueduct is being restored as part of a larger project designed to improve its infrastructure and to enhance the educational and interpretive experience for visitors in Williamsport.

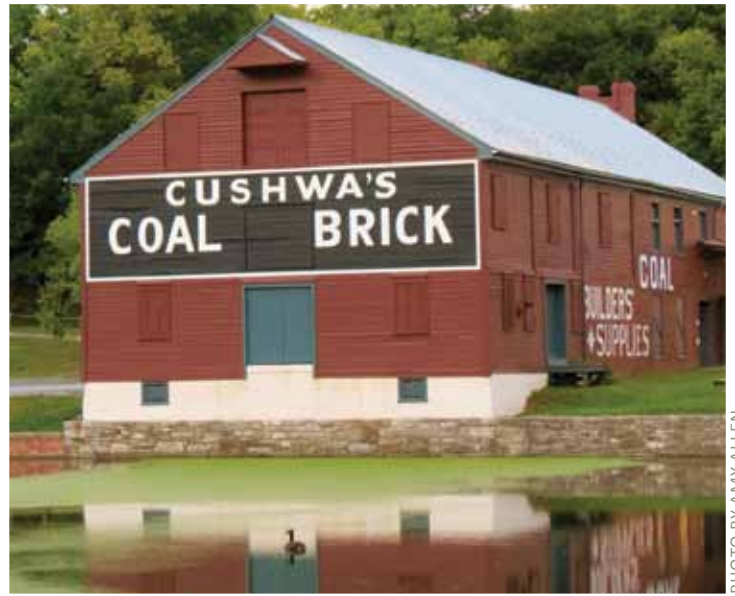
Located at the foot of West Potomac Street, the aqueduct is one of eleven that were constructed in order to carry the C&O Canal over streams and rivers. Located near the iconic Cushwa's Coal and Brick Warehouse and Cushwa Turning Basin, the area is popular with tourists wanting to experience a piece of history largely unchanged from the nineteenth century.

The Williamsport stretch of the C&O Canal features many historic structures, including the turning basin, the aqueduct, and a Bollman Iron Truss Bridge. The Park's overall plan is to once again offer canal boat rides on the watered part of the Canal in Williamsport. Visitors would be able to ride down the watered canal from the Cushwa Basin, float underneath the raised railroad

lift bridge, and travel through an operational Lock 44.

Additionally, this project includes watering the top of the aqueduct, so boats can once again float across the aqueduct as they did during the heyday of the Canal. "We have pictures of canal boats crossing aqueducts, but this type of crossing doesn't exist today. We will be providing a one of a kind experience with the completion of this project," said Superintendent Kevin Brandt.

The addition of canal boat rides will make a field trip to the Williamsport area even more exciting for students in the Park's Canal Classrooms program. Already open is a classroom in the Trolley Barn near Cushwa's Basin, funded by the C&O Canal Trust, where students participate in a number of educational activities. But the addition of the Canal boat rides will allow students to experience history and science in a new way.



The Cushwa Coal and Brick Warehouse and Turning Basin in Williamsport is one of the iconic historic images of the C&O Canal.

PHOTO BY AMY ALLEN

The project is government-funded and, according to Brandt, aims to make Williamsport a tourism center for American and industrial history. These types of projects fall under the Park's Towpath Forever initiative, which keeps the towpath and the Park's historical structures in good condition, and works to create lifelong stewards through educational programming, all to ensure the Park and its resources are here for future generations to enjoy.

The Trust continues to fundraise for Towpath Forever projects. If you wish to make a gift, please visit our website at www.CanalTrust.org or contact Vice President of Development Megan Kula at kula@canaltrust.org



PHOTO COURTESY C&O CANAL NHP

National Park Rangers observe construction on the Conococheague Aqueduct, as crews remove debris by boat.

MAKE A YEAR-END GIFT TO SUPPORT THE C&O CANAL TRUST

The work of the Trust would not be possible without your generous support.

Online Giving: Donating to the Trust online is fast, convenient, and—above all—safe and secure. Just visit www.CanalTrust.org and click "Give Now" at the top of the page. Make a one-time gift or establish a monthly recurring gift!

Workplace Giving: Support the Trust through your workplace giving campaign. The Trust is currently participating in the Combined Federal Campaign, the federal government's workplace giving option.

Visit www.CanalTrust.org for information and to make your gift!

2013-2014 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

The Board of Directors and the staff of the C&O Canal Trust wish to thank all of our donors who have generously supported our work during the last fiscal year.

The following Honor Roll of Donors reflects giving between October 1, 2013 and September 30, 2014. Every attempt has been made to ensure this list is complete.

If we have excluded you in error, please contact Megan Kula, Vice President of Development, at 443-536-3573 or kula@canaltrust.org.

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PHOTO BY AMY ALLEN (AUGUST WINNER)

PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

The beautiful photography included among our Honor Roll of Donors are winning photographs from our monthly Photo Contest. Each winner's name appears in the photo credit to the right of their image.

Each month, canal lovers are invited to submit their photos of the C&O Canal National Historical Park for voting in our monthly contest. All entries are posted to our Facebook page, and the photo that receives the most "likes" is the winner! Visit <http://bit.ly/1paZVqj> for more details.

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PHOTOS BY SARAH VOISIN

4th Annual Park After Dark: A Success!

The C&O Canal Trust's Fourth Annual Park After Dark fundraiser met with success and rounds of compliments from the folks who joined us at the Historic Great Falls Tavern Saturday, September 20. We welcomed approximately 250 people to the outdoor event, which featured the band Trouble Brewin', a visit from our Canal Mules, food and libations under the stars, a silent auction table, and a roaring bonfire to cap off the evening.

This year, we were pleased to award our William O. Douglas Stewardship Award to Richard E. Marriott, the Chairman of The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation, to acknowledge his generous support of the Trust.

Join us for the Fifth Annual Park After Dark celebration, which is scheduled for **Saturday, September 19, 2015!**



C&O Canal National Historical Park Superintendent Kevin Brandt (left) and C&O Canal Trust Chair MJ Veverka (right) present the William O. Douglas Stewardship Award to Richard E. Marriott (center) at the Fourth Annual Park After Dark fundraiser September 20.



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 Richard and Kathleen Hage
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