



THE CANAL QUARTERLY

WWW.CANALTRUST.ORG

C&O CANAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK IS 50 *Year-long anniversary celebration planned with COVID-19 precautions in place*

January 8, 2021 will mark the 50th anniversary of President Richard Nixon signing the enabling legislation that created the C&O Canal National Historical Park. This achievement marked the culmination of years of effort from people who loved the C&O Canal to preserve and protect it in perpetuity.

The C&O Canal community is commemorating the anniversary throughout 2021, although, thanks to the pandemic, the celebration now looks much different than it did when we began planning over a year ago. Recognizing the important role the Park plays as an economic driver in Maryland, the state's tourism offices will be implementing a marketing and media relations campaign throughout the anniversary year and beyond. The Canal will be featured on the covers of Maryland's travel guides and in regional publications, promoting the wealth of

activities there are to experience both along the C&O Canal and in the four counties, 10 Canal Towns, and three Heritage Areas the towpath touches.

With the onset of the pandemic in early 2020, visitation increased at the C&O Canal as people turned to outdoor recreation as a safe activity that allowed for social distancing. Road trips also became popular, and traffic on the C&O Canal Scenic Byway increased as families explored the canal by foot, bike, or car. You can learn more about itineraries we have created for your canal explorations on page 5.

Watch www.CanalTrust.org/50th for information on activities, events, and other



A Park Ranger chats with three guests, all unidentified, in this 1972 photo.

ways you can celebrate, and while you are there, be sure to contribute to our **Next 50 Years Campaign** to ensure future generations experience a beautiful and welcoming C&O Canal National Historical Park.

WAYSIDES DOCUMENT AFRICAN AMERICAN CCC

Research conducted in 2017 about the African American enrollees who served in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) along the C&O Canal from 1938-1942 is being shared with the public on three wayside signs at Carderock. The new signs

document the projects completed by enrollees to restore portions of the canal and towpath from flood damage, as well as the men's experiences in CCC camps.

The New Deal included African Americans in the recovery process, and all of the African American workers in Maryland were assigned to the camps along the canal. The camps were located in Cabin John near the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory and at Carderock near where the pavilion stands. The canal benefitted from CCC crews due

to good timing — the land had just been acquired by the Federal Government in 1938 after the 1936 flood had decimated the already-damaged canal and surrounding communities. The New Deal was swinging into action, and the canal had shovel-ready projects ready to go. The work included clearing silt from the canal and restoring the towpath from Georgetown to mile marker 22 at Seneca.

The waysides reference research by historian Josh Howard funded through a partnership between the C&O Canal Trust and the C&O Canal National Historical Park with a grant from the National Park Service's Civil War to Civil Rights initiative. The signs were funded by the C&O Canal Association and Heritage Montgomery and are located near Carderock's Picnic Pavilion.



Volunteers and NPS staff install one of the CCC wayside panels at Carderock.

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A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

2020 certainly presented its share of challenges, but as we have all learned over the past eight months, there are silver linings to be found in adversity. Here at the C&O Canal Trust, we feel fortunate to have weathered that adversity well, thanks to the overwhelming support we received from our friends, volunteers, Board of Directors, and colleagues. We made modifications to our core programs and fundraising strategies and finished our fiscal year with a balanced budget.

It is my great honor to share with you the list of individuals, foundations, and organizations that have made the C&O Canal Trust successful despite circumstances surrounding the global pandemic. If you are listed in our Honor Roll of Donors (on pages 6-11 or at www.CanalTrust.org/HonorRoll), you have partnered with us as we

- Redesigned our Canal Pride program to engage two hundred volunteers in pandemic clean-up operations using COVID-19 safety precautions.
- Reformulated our Canal Quarters hygiene practices to meet CDC guidelines so we could offer our guests socially distant overnight stays in our lockhouses.

- Exceeded the goal of our 184.5-Mile Challenge fundraising campaign as we sought to replace the revenue lost due to the cancelation of our annual Park After Dark gala.

Please take the time to read Patricia Barber's farewell letter on page 3. She will retire from the Trust after nearly five years of encouraging our communities to engage with us in preserving and protecting the Park. When you read her story, you will understand how her sincere love for the Park translated into the success experienced by the Trust during her tenure. Patricia will be missed!

Even as I reflect on our successes, I continue to experience some melancholy about the uncertain times before us. There is one thing of which I am certain – we can count on you. I hope the C&O Canal continues to provide you and yours solace and the promise of brighter days.

Wishing you the happiest of holidays,



Robin Zanotti, Trust President

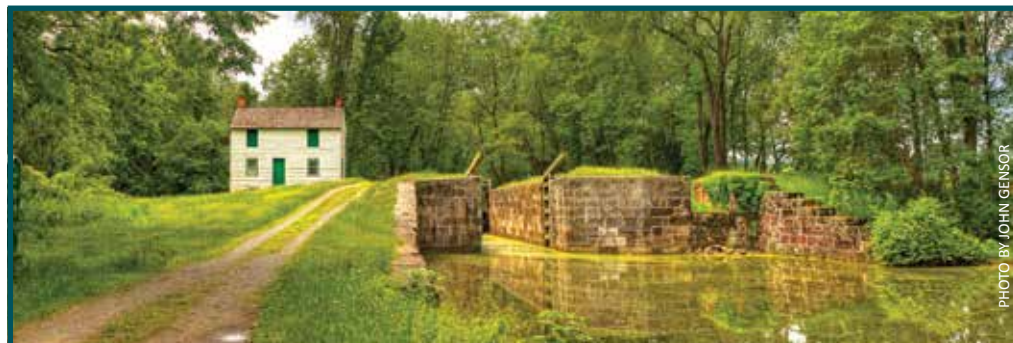


PHOTO BY JOHN GENSOR

Have you sought peace and solace along the C&O Canal during this difficult time?

Please show your gratitude today by investing in the preservation of the Park with a gift to the C&O Canal Trust. The Trust remains focused on our core mission of preserving and protecting the C&O Canal National Historical Park.

Under the new CARES Act, you can take the standard deduction on your 2020 tax return AND claim a brand new “above-the-line” deduction of up to \$300 for a donation to the C&O Canal Trust.

Give today online at www.CanalTrust.org/GIVE or donate by check by returning the enclosed envelope.

NEW LEADERSHIP ON BOARD

John S. Guttman became Chair of the C&O Canal Trust's Board of Directors in October, taking over from Stephen E. Chaudet, who wrapped up a two-year term. John is a Shareholder in Beveridge & Diamond, PC, a law firm that focuses on environmental issues. He also serves as General Counsel and a member of the Board of NAEM, the National Association for Environmental Management. Before assuming the chairmanship, John served the Trust as the chair of the development committee and as pro bono counsel. He and his wife

Holly Cannon are residents of the Palisades neighborhood in Washington, DC, which overlooks the canal. He often bikes and walks the towpath with his dog Winston.

Francis Grant-Suttie is now serving as Vice Chair of the Board, succeeding John in the role. Francis spent his career in conservation, most recently as Vice President, Atlantic Flyway, at National Audubon Society. He currently chairs the Trust's program committee. He enjoys hiking, jogging, tennis, cross-country skiing, and can be found most

days on the C&O Canal towpath or Billy Goat Trails, camera in hand, with his two white retrievers, Layla and Lakota. Francis lives in Potomac, Maryland, with his wife Carolyn.



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN S. GUTTMANN

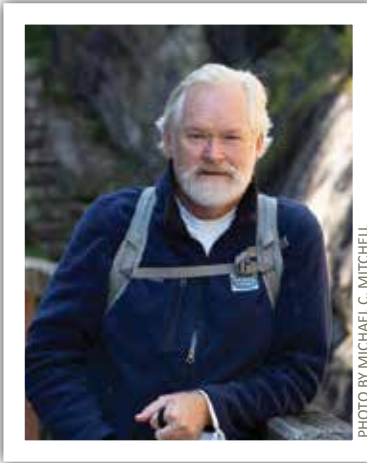


PHOTO BY MICHAEL C. MITCHELL

Left: John S. Guttman
Right: Francis Grant-Suttie

2020 CANAL PRIDE RESULTS

Despite a delayed start and social distancing restrictions to prevent the spread of coronavirus, our volunteers had a successful Canal Pride season in the Park!



DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR PATRICIA BARBER RETIRES

Dear Friends,
Forty years ago when I first visited the C&O Canal, I was 22 and the national park was just nine years old. After decades of flooding and neglect, much of the infrastructure we now take for granted was simply not there. Footbridges to the Great Falls Overlook had been taken out by Hurricane Agnes in 1972. There was no boardwalk at Widewater. Historic aqueducts were crumbling and much of the towpath was in very poor condition.

Newly-arrived in the U.S., I had grown up in what had been Rhodesia at a time when civil war made the countryside dangerous. But, here, in the C&O Canal National Historical Park (NHP), I could enjoy my first taste of the beauty of America's great outdoors, alone and in safety. I was enchanted.

Next January, I will turn 63 and the C&O Canal will mark 50 years as a national park. I have never lost the sense of wonder that I felt as I first encountered Virginia bluebells, spied my first great blue heron, shared the joy of the spring peepers at Pennyfield, and, at Edwards Ferry, learned the hard way that snapping turtles prefer not to be handled.

In 2016, the stars aligned and I became the Director of Development for the C&O Canal Trust. I quickly learned that the passion I felt for the Park was shared by many others. Unlike iconic parks like the Grand Canyon or Yellowstone which people might visit once or twice in a lifetime, the C&O Canal NHP is deeply embedded in the everyday lives of countless people who visit it regularly. Like them, the landmark experiences of my life are overlaid with memories of the Park.

On January 31, 2021, I will be retiring from the C&O Canal Trust. It has been my joy and privilege to meet and work with so many people who care deeply for the Park and who have paid that devotion forward by giving their time, treasure, and talent to ensure that not only is the C&O Canal NHP safe and welcoming for today's visitors, but also for those who come after us.

Happily, leaving paid employment at the Trust does not mean leaving the C&O Canal. My husband and I now live within walking distance of Taylors Landing, and we look forward to tottering along the towpath into our twilight years, our grandchildren

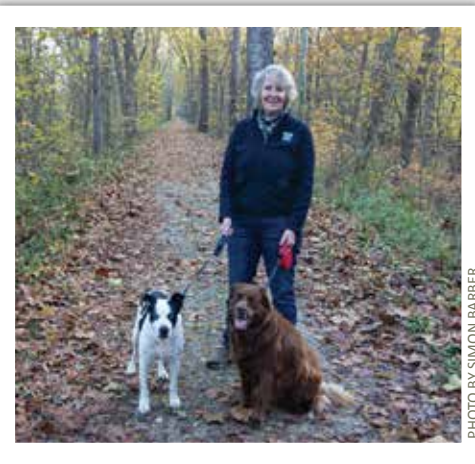


PHOTO BY SIMON BARBER

Patricia on the towpath with Sam and Chico.

impatiently waiting for us to catch up. I plan to continue to repay my debt of gratitude to the C&O Canal NHP beginning this year with a donation to the C&O Canal Trust's **Next 50 Years Campaign**. I invite you to join me in ensuring this legacy for future generations at www.CanalTrust.org/Next50.

See you along the canal!

Patricia

50-PLUS YEARS OF C&O CANAL PARK HISTORY

A brief look at C&O Canal National Historical Park milestones to celebrate its 50th year.

1938
Federal Government buys the C&O Canal from receivership.

1938-1942
African American Civilian Conservation Corps members rehabilitate the canal and towpath from Georgetown to Seneca.



1950
Congress passes legislation to convert C&O Canal into a parkway. Grassroots citizen opposition to parkway plan begins.



January 8, 1971
President Richard Nixon signs the enabling legislation to create the C&O Canal National Historical Park.

1961
President Dwight D. Eisenhower designates the C&O Canal as a National Monument under the Antiquities Act.

1954
Justice William O. Douglas hikes entire towpath and turns tide from parkway idea.



June 1972
Hurricane Agnes severely damages 66 miles of the canal.

1996
Catastrophic flooding washes out 2.7 miles of the towpath at Big Slackwater.

2005
Monocacy Aqueduct rehabilitated.



2008
Trust's Canal Pride volunteer program begins.

2008
Tropical Storm Hannah opens 125-foot towpath breach at Anglers.

2007
C&O Canal Trust created as Park's official nonprofit partner.



2009
Trust opens its first rehabilitated Canal Quarters lockhouses.

2011
Catocin Aqueduct rehabilitated.

2012
Breach at Anglers repaired with help of \$100,000 in funds raised from the community by the Trust.



2018
Work begins on multi-year resurfacing of 80 miles of the towpath, with support from the Trust.

2012
Big Slackwater breach repaired restoring continuity of towpath for first time in 16 years.

2012
Park launches Canal Classrooms program, with financial support from the C&O Canal Trust.



2019
Swains Lockhouse rehabilitation completed and opened to public as part of Trust's Canal Quarters program.



2019
Conococheague Aqueduct in Williamsport rehabilitated to create the only watered aqueduct in the Park.

January 8, 2021
C&O Canal National Historical Park celebrates its 50th anniversary.



TRAIL TO HISTORY BROCHURES EXPLORE PAST



The Canal Towns Partnership (CTP) has printed and released three “Trail to History” brochures that document the history of the 10 towns in the Partnership, all of which lie within a few miles of the C&O Canal towpath. Previously only available digitally, the print brochures will be available in the Canal Towns and in visitor centers locally.

With the addition of Poolesville, the Montgomery County town that joined the CTP in early 2020, the Partnership now represents a total of 10 towns. Each provides an opportunity for C&O Canal National Historical Park visitors to explore the unique histories of the

towns that developed during the canal’s heyday, while finding food, drink, a comfortable bed, and souvenirs at locally-owned merchants.

This is the first time all three brochures will be published, printed, and distributed throughout the canal towns. Abbie Ricketts, the chair of the CTP and a Brunswick business owner, hopes that “families and others use the brochures to tour and explore the towns’ rich history.”

The design and printing of the brochures were funded by a grant from the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, a part of the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.

The brochures can be viewed by visiting www.CanalTrust.org/canaltowns.

TRIP IDEAS FOR WINTER SOCIAL DISTANCING

We are heading into a long winter, and the pandemic continues to restrict our options for entertainment and gathering with friends. One of the safest activities is outdoor recreation, and the C&O Canal will be there for you throughout the upcoming snowy months. To aid in your trip-planning, the C&O Canal Trust has recently posted several itineraries that will point you towards new places to explore. Find the following trips at www.CanalTrust.org/plan/trip-ideas:

- Highlights of the Park: East, Central, West
- Places for History Buffs Not to Miss
- Day Trip Jumping Off Points
- Must-See Locales Within 5 Miles of the Canal



PHOTO BY ROY SEWALL

TRUST STORE HAS HOLIDAY GIFTS

For the C&O Canal lover in your life, the C&O Canal Trust store has you covered with unique gift items and Canal Quarters gift certificates: www.CanalTrust.org/shop.



Canal Quarters Gift Certificates
\$110-\$180



C&O Canal 2021 Annual Calendar
\$12.95



C&O Canal Trip-Planning Books
\$6-\$24



C&O Canal Magnets and Stickers
\$7-\$8

2019-2020 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 over the last fiscal year.

The following Honor Roll of Donors reflects donations of \$100 or more given between October 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020. Our full Honor Roll can be found on our website at www.CanalTrust.org/HonorRoll.

Every attempt has been made to ensure this list is complete. If we have excluded you in error, please contact Patricia Barber, Director of Development, at barber@canaltrust.org or 301-745-8880.

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* denotes William O. Douglas Society, our leadership donor society named for the late Justice William O. Douglas.

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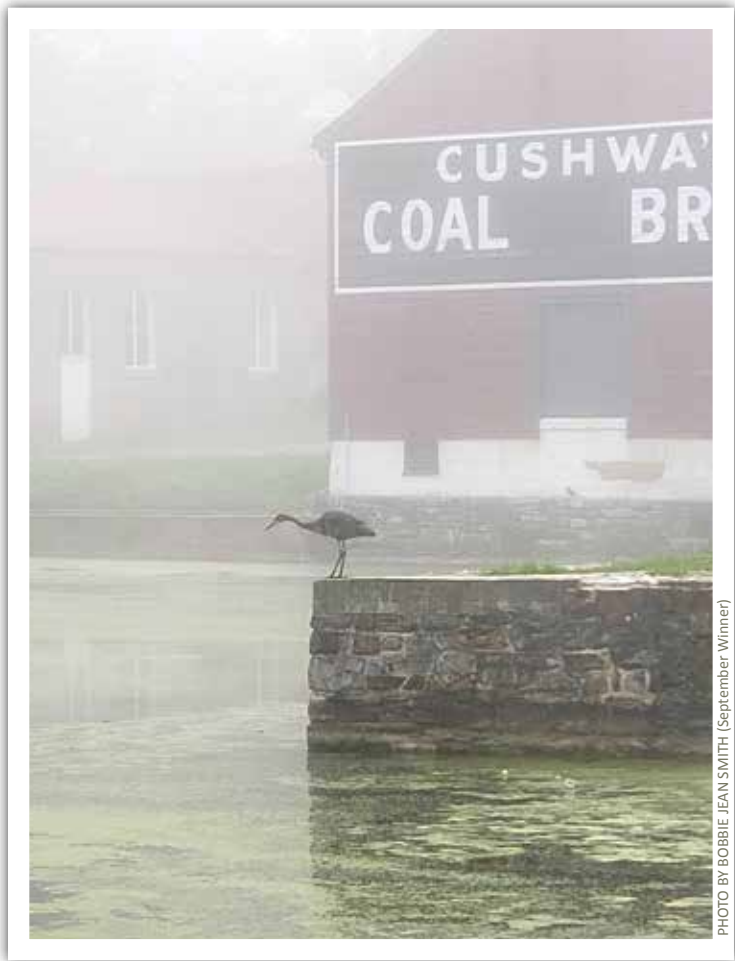


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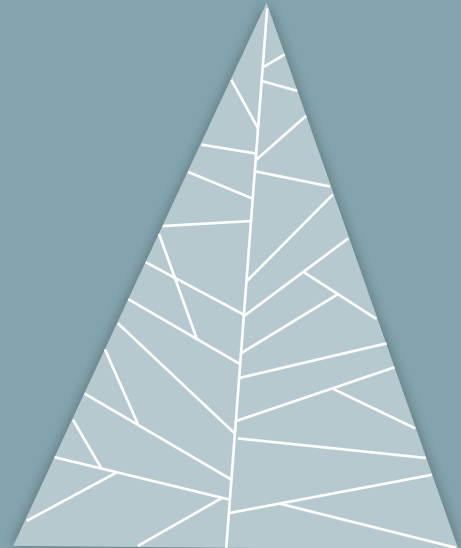
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