



9th Annual
Park After Dark

Saturday, September 14, 2019





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 Laurie & Paul Juola
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Visit Hagerstown/Washington County
 Convention and Visitors Bureau
 Sandy Vogelgesang & Geoffrey Wolfe

IN-KIND

7 Locks Brewing
 Firehook Bakery

Good Earth Garden Market
 Potomac Petals & Plants





FEATURING

Music:



Emcees: Bobby D. Ehlert and Erin Ward, Inspire Hearts Fundraising

Strolling Musicians: Ben Bender, Dave Goldman, Robert Meltz

YOUR HOSTS

Sandra Adams

June & Steve Chaudet

Lisa & Wm. Randall Cone

Nermine Elhaddad & Sherif Etefa

Carolyn & Francis Grant-Suttie

Holly Cannon & John Guttman

Liz & Don Harrison

Laurie & Paul Juola

Arleen & Ed Kessler

Stacy & Paul Krogh

Sue & Mike Mitchell

Karen & Bill Newman

Bobbi & John Schnebly

Janette & Dan Spedden

Deanna & Anthony Stacy

Amy & Bert Swain

Sandy Vogelgesang & Geoffrey Wolfe

Anne & Rick Wallace

ABOUT THE C&O CANAL TRUST

The C&O Canal Trust is the official nonprofit partner of the C&O Canal National Historical Park, which preserves a 184.5-mile long historic canal and towpath, as well as over 20,000 acres of plants, animals, historic structures, and miles of hiking, biking, boating, and fishing resources.

The C&O Canal Trust works to raise money and community support for a variety of preservation and visitor engagement projects that help to close the Park's budget and staffing gaps. Learn more at www.CanalTrust.org.





TONIGHT'S PADDLE RAISE

We invite you to contribute directly during this evening's Fund-a-Need paddle raise to help the Park sustainably restore sections of the towpath damaged by years of heavy traffic and the 2018 floods. Repairs include filling in washouts, removing tree roots and other hazards, grading the towpath for better drainage, and resurfacing it with crushed limestone, a material similar to that used on the Great Allegheny Passage (GAP) rail trail. Our goal this evening is to raise \$35,000 or more to support the project.

How the Paddle Raise Works

To help us meet our goal, just raise your paddle when Bobby D. and Erin call out a level at which you would like to give. If you pre-swiped a credit card at registration, we will automatically charge that amount to your card. You can also pay your pledge at the end of the evening at the checkout table next to the bar, or we can invoice you later. Please use the paddle with your name on it. Don't have a paddle? There's one waiting for you at the registration table in the tavern.

Thank you for participating! With your help, the Park can work towards providing a smooth, safe, and continuous towpath along all 184.5 miles from Georgetown to Cumberland.



Above: Two cyclists enjoy the new towpath surface.
Top right: The damage the towpath sustained at Harpers Ferry during the June 2018 storms.
Bottom right: The newly-resurfaced towpath in the same area of Harpers Ferry.





THE EVENING'S SCHEDULE

- 6:00 Welcome to Park After Dark!
Silent Auction Opens
Appetizers Served
- 6:30 Dinner Buffet Opens
- 7:30 Program Begins. (Buffet/bar will close so grab your dinner, get a drink, and find your seat.)
Towpath Paddle Raise
- 8:00 Program Ends. Buffet and Bar Re-Open.
Dessert Served
Campfire Opens
- 8:45 Silent Auction Closes
- 9:00 Night Hike to Great Falls Overlook Departs
Check-Out Opens
- 9:30 Bar Closes
- 10:00 Happy Trails — Please Drive Safely!

ABOUT INSPIRE HEARTS FUNDRAISING

Our emcees tonight are Bobby D. Ehlert and Erin Ward, both multi-generational Champion Fundraising Auctioneers and Consultants with Inspire Hearts Fundraising and the leading experts in the Special Appeal Paddle Raise. After years of experience, hundreds of events, and \$200+ millions raised, they have seen how events have evolved away from silent and live auctions, boring programs, and awkward raffles, to focus on the most effective, efficient, and inspiring fundraising element, the Special Appeal Paddle Raise. They love to help inspire donors to fund missions around the world.





THANK YOU AUCTION DONORS

Sandra Adams
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 Bretton Woods Recreation
 Center
 Brother Jimmy's BBQ
 C&O Canal Trust
 Holly Cannon &
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 Roy Sewall
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 Company
 Shepherdstown Battlefield
 Preservation Association
 Shepherdstown Pedal and
 Paddle
 Signature Theatre
 Smoketown Brewing Station
 Amy & Bert Swain
 Table 95
 The Bicycle Escape
 The Cheesecake Factory
 The Inn at Antietam
 The Irish Whisper
 The Maryland Theatre
 The National Theatre
 The Smokin' Toad
 The Town's Inn
 Total Wine & More
 Anne & Rick Wallace
 Washington Nationals
 Washington Redskins
 Whitetail Resort
 Winterthur Museum,
 Garden & Library
 Yoga Heights
 Robin & Mike Zanotti





HAPPY TRAILS, KEVIN!

Tonight, we say goodbye to Kevin Brandt, who is retiring from the National Park Service (NPS) at the conclusion of tonight's event. A 40-year NPS veteran, Kevin came to the C&O Canal National Historical Park in 1996 and took over as Superintendent in 2003.



Under his leadership, the Park completed numerous significant infrastructure and restoration projects, including the rehabilitation of the Monocacy, Catoctin, and Conococheague Aqueducts; the rebuilding of over two miles of towpath at Big Slackwater; and, in partnership with the C&O Canal Trust, the rehabilitation of seven lockhouses that provide visitors with a unique overnight interpretive experience. Most recently, he began the most comprehensive rehabilitation of the towpath to date and laid the groundwork for the construction of the Park's new headquarters in Williamsport.

These projects were the result of Kevin's talent for developing successful public and private partnerships across a range of sectors and interests. Recognizing the need for a philanthropic partner in the rapidly-changing funding landscape for national parks, Kevin was the driving force behind the creation of the C&O Canal Trust in 2007. With the first president of the Trust, Matt Logan, he worked to create and sustain a partnership that has seen the Trust grow to become the keystone organization in the bridge between the Park and private citizens.

The outcome of that partnership can be measured in the success of the Canal Quarters lockhouse program, which, to date, has seen more than 20,000 overnight guests; a robust Canal Pride volunteer force that annually delivers close to \$300,000 in maintenance and preservation assistance to the Park; over \$270,000 in funding support for the Park's nationally-recognized Canal Classrooms program; and critical advocacy support that has resulted so far in over \$4 million in funding from the State of Maryland for towpath resurfacing and canal watering.

While Kevin is leaving the National Park Service, he is not leaving the national park world. After Park After Dark tonight, he will hang up his NPS hat and head to Asheville, North Carolina, to lead project management for the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation.





The C&O Canal Trust
and the
C&O Canal National Historical Park
THANK YOU
for your support.



The C&O Canal Trust is the
official nonprofit partner of the
C&O Canal National Historical Park.
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