VOL. 5, ISSUE 1 MARCH 2004

HEADGATE

AUGUSTA CANAL NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Boat Tours are a Hit with Locals, Visitors

"The boat ride was awesome!"

Since its maiden voyage in late October, the Petersburg tour boat *Henry Cumming* has been generating plenty of excitement and interest. School groups, local citizens and out-of-town visitors have taken the narrated trip from Enterprise Mill to the Lake Olmstead bulkhead and back. Their guest-book comments tell the story. "Fascinating tour!" "All new to us."

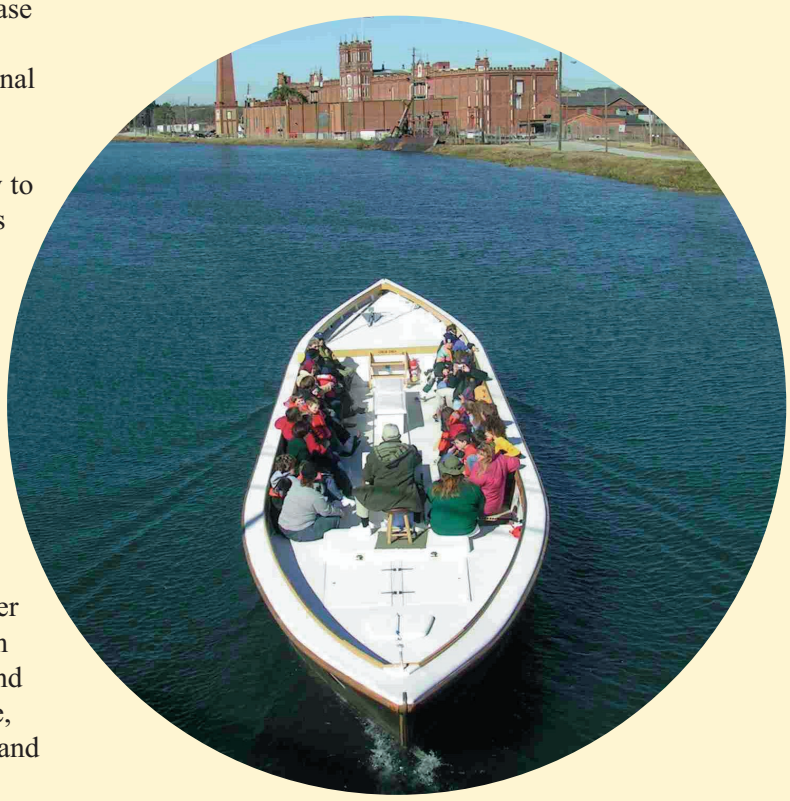
In April, the *Henry Cumming* will be joined by a second vessel, the *William Phillips,* named in honor of the Augusta Canal's first chief engineer. Tours will increase in both length and frequency. In addition to the fifty-minute basic tour, trips along the full length of the canal will be offered on weekends.

The Petersburg boat tours have become a unique way to present our city to new business prospects, journalists and VIPs. In March the Georgia Department of Industry Trade and Tourism brought ten national travel journalists aboard. The Augusta Showcase – the Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce's Masters week business recruitment event – hosts a boat excursion highlighting Augusta's economic development – past, present and future.

Interest from school groups is growing. For many students, their Petersburg boat trip is their first time on the water. Coupled with a Canal Interpretive Center visit, "there's nowhere else like it in Georgia or South Carolina for students to learn about the New South and the Industrial Revolution," according to Cathy Hodge, publisher of the student magazines *Georgia Voyager* and *South Carolina Voyager.*

Private groups, including family reunions, also are taking advantage of the boats, according to Kelly Boyd, Interpretive Center Manager. Several groups have excursions planned for this summer.

For more information on rates, schedules and private charters, see page 5 or call the Interpretive Center 706-823-0440 extension 4.



KNOLOGY®

PRESENTS

AUGUSTA CANAL

17th Annual

Cruise & Cookout

May 1, 2004

Celebrate Springtime along the Augusta Canal

Paddle on the water or *Pedal* along the towpath and *Party* at the Augusta Canal at Enterprise Mill. Enjoy *barbeque* from Sconyers and *bluegrass* from Eryn Eubanks and the Family Fold. **Plus** hop aboard the Canal's Petersburg tour boats and take a trip through the Interpretive Center. It's all part of the 17th annual Augusta Canal Cruise and Cookout!

Fun Activities for All Ages:

- **New Petersburg tour boats -** Boats depart from the docks throughout the afternoon.
- **Free Admission to the Augusta Canal Interpretive Center -** for all Cruise and Cookout ticket holders. Check out the great interactive exhibits!
- **Canoeing -** $40 per person includes canoe, life jacket, security and bus transportation from the Mill to the Headgates and chance to win kayak from A.W.O.L. (Children must be 7 and older and accompanied by a parent.)
- **Bicycling -** $20 per person includes mid-ride refreshment station and chance to win a bike from Andy Jordan's. Ride begins and ends at the Enterprise Mill.
- **Kayaking -** $15 per person. Bring your kayak and follow the canoers to Enterpise Mill. Then join the party!
- **Picnic Only -** $15 per person. Includes Interpretive Center and Petersburg tour boat ride.

All tickets include refreshments, admission to the barbeque at the Mill, admission to the Augusta Canal Interpretive Center, and a Petersburg boat ride (as space is available). The first 150 people to register to canoe, kayak or cycle receive a free Canal Cruise t-shirt!

Registration Deadline: Thursday April 29th, noon.

Check-in begins at 1 p.m. at the Augusta Canal Headquarters at Enterprise Mill

Augusta Canal Cruise & Cookout

For more details call 706-823-0440
or visit www.AugustaCanal.com

Paddle, Pedal & Party!

AUGUSTA CANAL NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

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New Date, Features Spark 17th Annual Canal Cruise & Cookout

Now in its 17th year, the 2004 edition of the Augusta Canal Cruise and Cookout boasts new activities, features and fun for the whole family. The Saturday, May 1 event begins and ends at the Augusta Canal headquarters at Enterprise Mill and offers multiple ways to experience Augusta's one-of-a-kind waterway.

"My wife, two boys and I had a blast last year," said Dr. Nate Brandon. His family paddled canoes, toured the Canal Interpretive Center and enjoyed the barbeque.

This year the traditional armada of canoers and cyclists traveling the canal's 8-mile length will be joined by the new Petersburg tour boats. Several outings on these 65-foot vessels will add a new element of canal exploration for young and old.

It all wraps up with a delicious barbeque picnic dinner and open-air bluegrass concert on the grounds of Enterprise Mill. Plus, everyone who takes part will receive complimentary admission to the Augusta Canal Interpretive Center.

As added bonuses this year, the first 150 people to register to canoe, kayak or cycle will receive a free commemorative Canal Cruise t-shirt courtesy of WRDW News 12 and Communigraphics. The week prior, on Saturday, April 24 the canal staff will join with American Wilderness Outfitters to host a free "How to Canoe" workshop for beginners as part of A.W.O.L.'s annual "Paddle Days" at Lake Olmstead.

This year's event is presented by Knology. Generous media support has been provided by Metro Spirit, WRDW News12, WFXG Fox 45, Oldies 93.9 and WGAC New/Talk Radio.

Here are the basics:
All tickets include refreshments, admission to the picnic at the Mill, admission to the Augusta Canal Interpretive Center and a Petersburg boat ride (as space is available.)

Canoeing: $40 per person includes canoe, life jacket, security, and bus transportation from Enterprise Mill to the Headgates. There will also be launch and landing assistance and drawing for a recreational kayak from A.W.O.L. Children must be 7 and older and accompanied by a parent. All participants must be swimmers. Includes all activities except bicycling.

Bicycling: $20 per person includes mid-ride refreshment station. Ride begins and ends at the Enterprise Mill. Pedal a bike along the towpath between the headgates and the Mill. Participants furnish bike and helmet. Includes all activities except canoeing. All registered cyclists will be eligible to win a Giant bicycle from Andy Jordan's Bicycle Warehouse.

Kayaking: $15 per person. Provide your own kayak and follow the canoers to Enterprise Mill. Then join in the party.

Augusta Canal Interpretive Center. FREE admission to all participants. Walk through 10,000 square feet of interactive exhibits that show the progress, problems, and promise of the 160-year history of the Augusta Canal. Look through authentic mill equipment including working looms and vintage power generation turbines.

Petersburg Boat mini-tours At intervals throughout the afternoon the Petersburg tour boats Henry Cumming and William Phillips will depart from docks at the Mill. (Ideal for those who want to enjoy the canal, but don't want to pedal or paddle.)

Picnic-only tickets are $15 each and include Interpretive Center and Tour Boat admission .

Applications can be requested at (706) 823-0440 extension 2 and 4, or visit the Augusta Canal Interpretive Center at the Enterprise Mill, 1450 Greene Street, Suite 400. Information and downloadable application on the web at www.augustacanal.com.

Visa and MasterCard are accepted, along with cash and check. All participants must sign a release. Registration deadline is noon, Thursday, April 28. Check-in begins Saturday at 1 p.m.

KIDS' CORNER

Family Fun Days on Second Sundays

For the younger set and their grown-ups, the Augusta Canal Interpretive Center hosts a series of **Family Fun Days on Second Sundays**, from 2-4 p.m. A child receives free Interpretive Center admission with a paid adult and can take part in an interesting hands-on activities. As an added feature, the textile arts guild, The Tangled Threads, will hold their monthly meetings at the Center on Fundays, so kids can watch and ask questions of the weavers, spinners and knitters. The next Funday is May 8.

Birthday Bash on Board the Boat

Need an idea for your child's next birthday party? Try an Augusta Canal birthday party. Ten kids (ages 6-12) can ride the Petersburg boat, tour the Interpretive Center and enjoy birthday cake and party favors. The birthday boy or girl gets some special treats, including a Canal Turtles T-shirt and Mylar balloon. Cost is $175 (including two adult chaperones) or $150 for Augusta Canal Keepers Society members.

Playing the "Doffler Game" at Interpretive Center.

Dayton Sherrouse (standing) guides boat tour

Augusta Canal Hosts Heritage Workshop

The Augusta Canal National Heritage Area hosted a Heritage Development Institute workshop on February 19. Nearly fifty heritage professionals from throughout the Southeast and as far away as Louisiana, Pennsylvania, and Ohio gathered to learn about the basics of heritage development. The day-long event concluded with a session on board the Henry Cumming during which Augusta Canal Executive Director Dayton Sherrouse presented his program on conservation stewardship.

Gift Shop Gears Up for Spring

Dragonfly finger puppets. "Please Don't Spit" refrigerator magnets. Burning rocks.

The Canal Interpretive Center Gift Shop has added some fresh new merchandise over the past several months. Some can be found nowhere else in Augusta.

"I've tried to add items with a Canal or Augusta connection," explained manager Kelly Boyd. That explains the collection of wildlife hand puppets including otters, turtles, raccoons and assorted bugs – all animals found along the Canal's banks.

A visitor suggestion led to creation of the "Please Don't Spit or Throw Trash on This Floor" refrigerator magnet, based on one of the Enterprise Mill's vintage signs. Other new items include a magnet and key chain depicting Petersburg boatmen made with a wood burning technique.

Enterprise Mill sign inspired gift shop's new refrigerator magnet

Select local artisans and craftsmen have their work in the Gift Shop collection, including the intriguing burning rocks – stones adapted as oil lamps. Pottery, jewelry and vintage photos of Augusta in bygone days are among the items Kelly has added.

The gift shop is open seven days and week and does not require Interpretive Center admission. Members of the Augusta Canal Keepers Society receive a 10 percent discount.

Sign points the way to Center

To help visitors find their way to the Canal Interpretive Center an attractive new sign has been installed at the West entrance to Enterprise Mill.

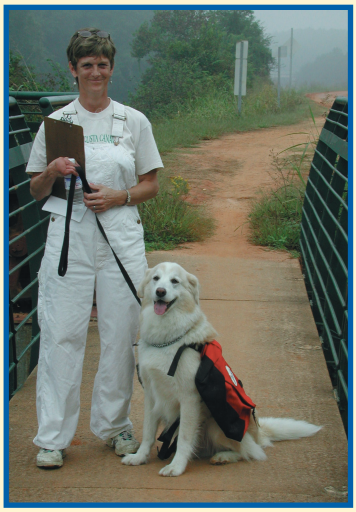
"New Bartram" Multi-Use Trail

Drivers on Riverwatch Parkway may notice more two-wheeled and two-footed transportation as they whiz along the highway. The bicycle riders and walkers are enjoying the newest piece of the "New Bartram Trail," a multiuse pathway that parallels the Parkway for several hundred yard before dipping back into the trees. The 10 miles of trails that wind along both the north and south sides of the canal were funded through a Georgia Department of Transportation grant and matching funds from Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST). The trail takes its name from noted 18th Century naturalist William Bartram, who traveled throughout this region before and during the Revolutionary War period.

Helping Dog-Walkers Do Their "Doody"

The towpath is a popular place with pet owners. In fact, a recent survey revealed more that ten percent of towpath users walk with their dog. To aid owners in responsibly disposing of their animal's waste, the Canal staff has installed two Dogi-pots®. These handy dispensers provide free "doody" bags and are located at the top of the path near the Headgate and at the water pumping station.

Policing up after pets makes the canal a more pleasant place for all users. "It's an important part of canine good citizenship that we teach in our classes," said Marlene Stachowiak, owner of Jae-Mar-S Academy of Dog Obedience. "I always take along a bag, plus an extra one for someone who may have 'forgotten.'"



Holley Madden, with her dog Big, surveyed tow path users. One in eight takes along a pet.

Canal Makes "Top Ten" List

The Augusta Canal has been chosen as one of Georgia's "Top 10" historic places and featured on a new web page at www.HistoryChannel.com by the Georgia Department of Industry Trade and Tourism. The website includes places such as the Chickamauga Battlefield, Atlanta's "Sweet Auburn" district and the King Center and the Savannah historic district. A photo of the Augusta Canal serves as the introductory visual for the web page. The full web address is http://www.historychannel.com/georgia. Site visitors can access descriptions, photos, links to more information and enter to win a Georgia getaway vacation.

Mark Your Calendars

Celebrate at the Headgate. August 12-14. Festivities include a dedication and ribbon cutting, barbeque and dance, and family fun day to celebrate the completion of the Columbia County / Headgate area improvements (see story page 6).

From Water to Wires. November 1-6. Learn about hydropower then-and-now in this week of special field trips offered in cooperation with Fort Discovery National Science Center and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers in honor of the 50th anniversary of the J. Strom Thurmond Dam at Clarks Hill.

BOAT TOUR BASICS

When

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
Saturdays: 11 a.m. and 1:30 & 3 p.m.
(weather and water conditions permitting)

Boarding begins 10 minutes prior to departure.

Prices

One-hour basic tour
Adults $6; Senior 55+ & Military $5; Youth (under 18) $4

Full-length tour schedule and prices to be announced.

Group discounts, combination tour/interpretive center tickets and private charters are available

Where

Departing from Enterprise Mill Docks. Purchase tickets at

Augusta Canal Interpretive Center
West entrance to Enterprise Mill
1450 Greene Street
Augusta, Georgia
706-823-7089
Reservations are suggested.

What to wear

The Petersburg boats are uncovered, so dress for the weather (hats, rain gear, sunglasses, etc.). Flat-soled deck or tennis shoes are strongly recommended, as you will be descending five narrow steps to reach the boat deck.

Chairman's Report

BY ROBERT S. WOODHURST III

Because I'm a native Augustan, the Canal has been a part of my life about as far back as I can remember. My earliest canal memory has to do with the Butt Memorial Bridge that spans the waterway at 15th Street. As a child, I learned that if a car (in this case, a 1950 Buick) drove over the bridge at certain speed, it produced an amazing tickle deep down in your belly. So any trip in that general vicinity meant begging for a ride over the "tickle bridge."

My teenage years saw me exploring the full length of the canal as we fished, hiked, picnicked and did a little courtin' (thus, I discovered there's more than one way to get a tickle along the canal!) But by the time I'd been off to college and back, our canal was falling on hard times and suffering from general neglect.

Around 1985 my work with the American Institute of Architects took me to San Antonio, Texas where their urban canal (which, for some reason, they insist on calling a river) had become the catalyst for downtown redevelopment and a burgeoning tourism industry. I began to think about how our canal might serve the same purpose. Once back in Augusta I shared this idea with some friends and colleagues. At first we determined that "they" ought to do something to save the canal. But as we talked further, the "they" became "we" and "we" started a Canal Committee and began meeting informally at the Chamber of Commerce building.

Eventually, that group of concerned citizens evolved into a formal committee of the Chamber, then of the Ports Authority, and in 1989, was replaced with the creation of the Augusta Canal Authority. While I wasn't one of the original Authority appointees, I did join this body early on and have been privileged to serve as a member since the early 1990s. I was particularly pleased to take part in the master planning process in 1993 that created the vision that has guided Canal revitalization into the 21st Century.

During my term as Authority Chairman I'm looking forward to seeing even more of the projects and initiatives suggested in that plan become realities. This year the Headgates area will be a focus, as the historic structures are once again made usable and recreational amenities such as the new canoe and kayak docks and pedestrian bridge are put in operation.

As we look ahead, we are planning for improvements and seeking out projects and funding sources so our canal will continue to be a vital part of our community and create special memories for generations to come.

Columbia County Projects Near Completion

Lock-keeper's cottage at early stage of renovation

Several long-awaited projects at the Headgates and Savannah Rapids park are nearing completion.

Lock-keepers cottage: This five- room dwelling will house a new Columbia County Welcome Center. The county historical society is furnishing two of the rooms in an early 20th century style which will reflect the period when the cottage was occupied.

Dance Pavilion: This vintage wooden structure will once again be available for al fresco events, accommodating up to 80 for seated meals and 100+ for dances and stand-up gatherings. Public restrooms will be available in the lower level.

Barbeque Pit and Picnic Shed: These canal-side structures will once again be functional.

Officials expect to open these facilities to the public by June 15, with a full grand-opening weekend of special events slated for August when some additional improvements will be completed. These include:

Pedestrian Bridge: Providing new and easier access to the Canal towpath for walkers and cyclists, the bridge will become the main pedestrian access to the north end of the towpath.

Headgate and lock renovation: Structures from the 1870's will be restored and refurbished and the lock made operational.

Canoe / kayak launches on both the canal and Savannah River.

Road extension, leading to the recently installed four-slip canoe and kayak dock.

For information on reserving the dance pavilion, picnic shed and barbeque pit, call Vickie Mogilesky at Savannah Rapids Pavilion 706-868-3349.

Picnic Shed sports a new roof, screens

CANAL KEEPERS SOCIETY NEWS

New Members

The Augusta Canal Authority is pleased to welcome new members to the Augusta Canal Keepers Society.
(List current December 3 through March 11.)

Ms. Linda Weatherred	Third Level
Ms. Jacquelyn M. Blanchard	Second Level
Mr. Hugh Connolly	Second Level
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Elliott, Jr.	Second Level
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Griffin	Second Level
Mr. Herbert Kado	Second Level
Mrs. Kathy Scott	Second Level
(In memory of Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondolet)	
Mr. and Mrs. L.H. Simkins	Second Level
Mr. and Mrs. Turner Simkins	Second Level
Mrs. Jeanie Allen	First Level
Mr. and Mrs. Bill and Bea Baab	First Level
Ms. Peggy Bees	First Level
Ms. Mary Lou Bussey	First Level
Dr. Bruce Goeckeritz	First Level
Mr. Michael Hawkins	First Level
Ms. Patricia Mangum	First Level
Dr. and Mrs. R. Glen Owen, Sr.	First Level
(In memory of Mrs. Nancy Connelly)	
Ms. Lucy Shuler	First Level

Augusta Canal Keepers receive free admission to the Augusta Canal Interpretive Center, discounts on gift shop merchandise and can participate in special "Canal Keepers" events throughout the year. Membership as a Second or Third Level Canal Keeper allows generosity beyond the basic membership, with added benefits.

Canal Keepers support enables the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area to further its mission of preserving and protecting the Canal as a unique and special place in our country's history and environment.

Augusta Canal Keepers

First Level (basic) — **Dues/year**

Student/Teacher $20
Individual member benefits (see below) for full-time students & teachers

Individual $35
One "Augusta Canal Keeper" member card
Complimentary Interpretive Center admission for one person (show your card)
10% discount at Gift Shop
Headgates Newsletter
Priority reservations for special events (Annual Canal Cruise and similar events as scheduled)

Dual/ Couple $50
Two "Keeper" member cards
Present your cards for basic benefits as listed above for two members of same household

Family $75
Two "Keeper" member cards
Basic member benefits for two adults and free Interpretive Center admission for accompanying members of immediate family. (children/parents/grandparents)

Second Level
(Supporter) . . . . . $100-$499
Two member cards
Basic member benefits for two adults and accompanying members of immediate family.
Petersburg Boat tour ticket for each member card holder (when available)
Copy of "Brightest Arm of the Savannah" –award-winning history book on Augusta Canal by Dr. Ed Cashin or $25 gift shop certificate
Gift Acknowledgement in Headgates Newsletter

Third Level
(Donor) . . . . . $500-$999
Four member cards
First Level benefits for four as listed above plus
Gift Certificate for $50 worth of gift shop merchandise

Lock Master Level
(Patron) . . . . . $1000+
Four member cards
Second Level benefits for four as listed above plus
Additional $50 gift certificate

Individuals and organizations may also donate in special given levels including the Enterprise Associate for gifts of $2,500-$9,999 or the The Henry H. Cumming Society for gifts of $10,000 or more.

Memorials

Tax-deductible gifts to the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area, Inc. (a 501-c-3 organization) may also be made in a person's honor or memory. Acknowledgement will be sent to both the donor and the honoree as appropriate. Contact the Augusta Canal offices at 706-823-0440 for details.

See back page for membership application.

YES. I want to join the Augusta Canal Keepers Society

AUGUSTA CANAL NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

First Level (Basic)

☐ Individual $35 ☐ Student $20
☐ Dual/Couple $50 ☐ Family $75

☐ **Second Level** $100-$499 ☐ **Third Level** $500 - $999

☐ **Lock Master** $1,000+

Special Donors

☐ Enterprise Associate $2,500-$9,999
☐ Henry H. Cumming Society $10,000+

Name _____ E-mail _____

Mailing Address _____

_____

Daytime Phone _____ Fax _____

If this membership or gift is in honor or memory of another person, please check appropriate designation, list honoree's name and to whom you wish an acknowledgment sent:

In ☐ honor ☐ memory of: _____
Send acknowledgment to:

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Payment method

☐ Check ☐ Credit card
Credit card type: ☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard
Expiration date: _____
Credit Card #: _____
Signature: _____

Please return with payment to:
Augusta Canal National Heritage Area, Inc.
P.O. Box 2367, Augusta, GA 30903
or Fax to 706-823-1045

THE AUGUSTA CANAL AUTHORITY 2003

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