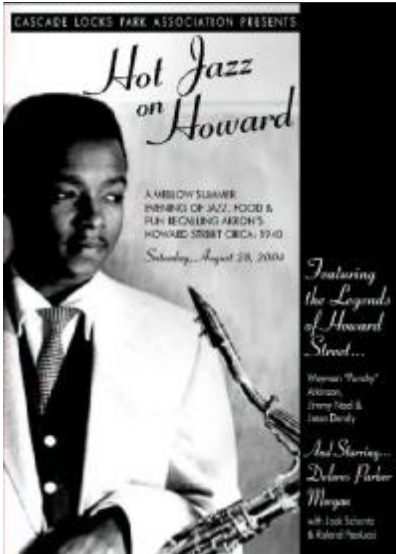


# ◊ Cascade Chronicle ◊

Volume 4, Issue 2

August, 2004



## *Hot Jazz on Howard is Coming!*

On August 28, 2004 – CLPA is hosting an evening to celebrate the rich history of Howard Street from 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 at 70 N. Howard Street -- the site of the old Ritz Theatre. The evening will feature music by The Legends of Howard Street...

Waymon "Punchy" Atkinson, Jimmy Noel, and Jesse Dandy – jazz musicians who played on Howard Street 60 years ago. Jack Schantz, director of Jazz Studies at the University of Akron; Roland Paolucci, former director of the program; and Akron's own Dolores Parker Morgan will delight guests with their own special jazz offerings. Dolores sang across the country with the Duke Ellington Band.

Near the entrance, guests can view the Jazz Diva Exhibit developed by the Dr. Shirla R. McClain Gallery of Akron's Black History & Culture. Janet Purnell (Chair) and the Gallery Board have graciously arranged for this wonderful enhancement to our event. Local artist Miller Horns will also display his work.



Chicken, ribs and all the trimmings will be prepared by Arnold's with an array of sweets generously donated by Main Street Gourmet. A Silent Auction will tempt guests with exciting items.

Co-chairs, GinaKaye Maddox and Tom Keith, and their committee, worked hard to present an evening that promises to capture the magic of another era in our city's rich past. Admission runs from \$65-\$250 and benefits the Cascade Locks Park Association. We encourage reservations. Please call 330-374-5625 for details.

## **Cascade Locks Area Development Plan, Close to Completion**

After untold numbers of meetings with our consultants from Behnke Associates, a draft of our anticipated master plan for the Cascade Mill site, connections along Howard Street and possibilities for future development has materialized. This draft, too, has been scrutinized by the members of both the Planning Committee and the Howard Street Corridor Committee. Having given our consultants final comments on the plan, they will complete the final product, which will represent a compilation of ideas, and concepts discussed at length at our planning meetings with the consultants and at our public meetings held in April. More so, it represents a vision for the park, which is agreed upon by our partners, most of whom were represented either on the planning committee or at the public meetings.

Next, we shall move through the City channels as stated in our agreement with the City to gain approval of the plan. Expect a press conference some time this fall to unveil this new, updated Master Plan for the Cascade Locks Park.

The board of Cascade Locks Park Association has set the agenda that we will then actively being to solicit funds for the design and development of the Cascade Mill site. We hope to feature the schematics for this site, as developed by our consultants, in the December Newsletter.

Virginia Wojno-Forney  
Chair, Planning Committee

To our members and supporters:  
We apologize if you did not receive an invitation to Hot Jazz on Howard in the mail. It has come to our attention that there may have been a problem with the mailing. We hope you can attend! Please call the CLPA office to make your reservation—330-374-5625.

## CLPA Wish List

Please let us know if you have any of the following items that you wish to donate to the organization:

- Digital camera
- Fireproof safe
- Fisherman's hip boots for canal clean up
- Heavy Duty Rubber Gloves
- Desktop computer running Windows XP, at least 1000MHz processor, at least 30G hard drive, 513 RAM, CD burner, Microsoft Office Professional Edition or better
- Laptop for portable presentations running at least Windows98, Microsoft Office including PowerPoint
- Compatible Projector for Laptop
- Rolling office desk extension with file cabinet and shelves or rolling 2 drawer file cabinet
- Desk lamp

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### Guided Hiking Tours of the Historic District

**Meet at the Mustill Store at noon on the following Sundays: August 22\*, September 5, September 19, October 10\*, October 24\***

Come learn about the Cascade Locks Historic District, soon to host the newest section of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. This important section will make the vital link to Downtown Akron!

Canal boats had to negotiate nearly 70 feet of elevation difference in less than a third of a mile within a section of the Ohio & Erie Canal now called the Cascade Locks. Akron was born along this section and industries thrived. Join a Cascade Locks Park Association volunteer for a free tour of the area.

For those days with a \*, consider combining the tour with a ride aboard the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad and experience history moving from canals to trains. Board at ROCKSIDE STATION in Independence at 10:15am and be transported from the train depot to the Mustill Store in time for the guided tour. You will depart Akron on the train at 3:30pm. To schedule your train ride call the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad at 1-800-468-4070. For questions about the walking tour, call the Cascade Locks Park Association.

### **Saturday, August 28, 2004 6:30pm-11pm, "Hot Jazz on Howard Street"**

Celebrate Akron's Heyday of Howard Street at an event held at the Old Ritz Theatre! You won't want to miss this history making evening honoring this important part of Akron and Cascade Lock Park's heritage. See the article on page 1 of this newsletter for more information.

**Thursday, September 2, 2004, 9:00-11:00am, Garden Club** See Volunteer News, page 7

### **Saturday, October 2, 2004, 8:30-10:30 am, Roadrunner Akron Marathon and Team Relays**

The Mustill Store is the perfect spot to watch the marathon and feel the Akron spirit...root on your friends, listen to the folk music of the Brickroad Ramblers, and enjoy the scenery. Rolls, cookies, coffee and tea will be available (thanks to Main Street Muffin) and sales will benefit the Cascade Locks Park Association.

**October 23, 8:30-12:30 pm, Canal Clean Up.** Meet at the Mustill Store. See Volunteer News, page 7

### **Sunday, December 12, 2004 2-5pm, Local Author Book signing at the Mustill Store**

- Jack Gieck A Photo Album of Ohio's Canal Era, 1825-1913
- David W. and Diane DeMali Francis Akron, Images of America
- Ruth Clinefelter, Chuck Ayers and Russ Musarra Celebrating Akron's History in Picture Postcards
- Eric Brothers When Giants Roamed the Skies

Great gifts and conversation!

## CLPA Board of Trustees Annual Review of Strategic Plan

Saturday, July 10 was the date of the Cascade Locks Park Association Board of Trustees Annual Retreat. Once again, it was held at the cottage owned by board members Christine and Bob Freitag. Time was spent reviewing the Strategic Plan and determining what goals we have accomplished in the past year and what items we need to focus upon in the coming year. We spent time trying to determine how we can most efficiently operate the store, use our wonderful corps of volunteers, and make the park as inviting as possible to our visitors. The officers elected for a three year term are:

President: **Phil January**  
 Executive Vice President: **Doug Hausknecht**  
 Vice President of Operations: **Tom Keith**  
 Treasurer: **Robert Freitag**  
 Secretary: **Susan Kinnamon**  
 Past President: **Virginia Wojno-Forney**

We felt that it was a very productive afternoon. Spouses joined us after the retreat for a delicious dinner prepared by Christine and Bob.

Susan Kinnamon, CLPA Board of Trustees

## A Message from your President

We all can appreciate the beauty and tranquility of the Mustill Store site. Ideally all of Akron will some day come and visit us and see firsthand what hours of hard work has provided us. We must have a plan in place to provide the Mustill Store and House with the necessary maintenance and upkeep that it deserves, so as to preserve it as the "Jewel" of the towpath.

Yet, our attention turns ever so southward to our new initiative, the Schumacher Cascade Mill Site and the Howard Street Corridor. As President of the Board and its members, we hope that our soon to be unveiled Master Plan works to the benefit of our members, partners and friends.

If you can make it, please come and join us for a night of Hot Jazz and delicious food August 28<sup>th</sup> at the Historic Ritz Theatre. I hope to see you there. Please say hello, I would love to meet you and talk about the bright future of our park!

Phil January, CLPA Board of Trustees



Instead of a gavel, we "Pass the Shovel". Virginia Wojno-Forney, former President and Chair of the Board, passes the shovel to new president Phil January.

## Stan Martin Joins CLPA Trustees

Stanley E. Martin, Architect and President of Martin Associates Architects, has been elected to membership on the Cascade Locks Park Association Board of Trustees for a three-year term. Stan was born in Akron, attended Buchtel High School and graduated from Revere High School when his parents moved to Bath. He later graduated from a 5-year program in the Kent State College of Architecture.

Stan met Phyllis Williams, who has been his wife for 44 years, on a blind date at the University of Akron's Homecoming. "My best qualification was probably that I had a new '55 T-Bird", quipped Stan, but it must have been more than that to last for 44 years! Stan and Phyllis have 2 grown children and 3 grandchildren.

Since founding Martin Associates Architects 18 years ago, Stan's clients have included individuals, corporations, lending institutions, government agencies and religious organizations. His work includes design for alteration, restoration and adaptive reuse of buildings. With primary focus on preservation, projects have ranged from private residences, clock towers, town halls and industrial/commercial structures. Recent projects include conversion of a simple cabin into the Russ Vernon family's Tippecanoe, Ohio lake house. Detailed evaluation of the O. C. Barber's Diamond Match North Machinery Building was the first step in its conversion into light manufacturing facilities for Barberton, Ohio's industrial community. Other work includes studies for development of guest accommodations at Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens and preservation design for privately owned significant residences.

Stan's relationship with CLPA has come full-circle. He was one of the early initiators of the effort led by Virginia Wojno to save the Mustill Store. He recalls meetings with the Ramnitz family, owners of the house and store. Stan is pleased to be part of CLPA and looks forward to implementing plans for the next phase of the park's development.

Ellen Otto, CLPA Board of Trustees



**Thank you for your support!**

The functions and programs provided by CLPA are made possible by the support of our donors.  
Our new and renewing donors since April 1, 2004 include:

**Grants**

Glenn R. and Alice V. Boggess Memorial Foundation    The Lehner Family Foundation

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**Special Donations**

Bryan and Susan Kinnamon on the occasion of Dick Forney's 90th Birthday  
Heidelberg Women's Club of Akron

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Bridget Garvin  
Executive Director

The Cascade Chronicle is published three times a year by the Cascade Locks Park Association.



## SPOTLIGHT ON... GinaKaye Maddox



GinaKaye Maddox, chair of the Cascade Locks 2004 summer event, "Hot Jazz on Howard", is a shining example of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century woman who manages to do it all. And... she does it all well too! She is a single mother, a successful professional, an accomplished musician, an active community leader, and a valued friend to many.

GinaKaye was born in Akron and graduated from St. Vincent High School. She later earned her undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice from Kent State University followed by a masters degree in Organizational Communications and Rhetoric.

GinaKaye is a Corporate Trainer, employed by FirstMerit, providing training and development for 3,700 bank employees. She was coordinator of FirstMerit Bank's Human Resources Department Bi-Annual Corporate Awards Program. GinaKaye utilized the same skills used in her job when she served as a facilitator for one of the groups creating a vision for the *Imagine Akron 2025* initiative. She belongs to Downtown Toastmasters, and serves on the Junior Achievement Youth Development Committee. She also served as Treasurer for the Hickory Street Neighborhood Preservation Coalition.

GinaKaye's community involvement is broad -- some days to her chagrin as she does an impressive juggling act to catch all the balls. In addition to her work as a Trustee for Cascade Locks Park Association, she was a member of the 2002 Leadership Akron Class and today maintains those relationships through the group's Alumni Association. She is a director of The Rotary Club of Akron, and also serves that organization as Membership Chair where she promised to kiss a pig if her membership goal for new members was met last year.

She is a board member of the Women's Endowment Fund for the Akron Community Foundation, and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She also amazingly finds time for her second job as Director of Music at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Cleveland. GinaKaye shares her lovely new West Akron home with her mother and son, Geoffrey Proctor, a student at St. Vincent/St. Mary's High School.

Do you think GinaKaye's clock is different from yours and mine? Could she possibly have more hours than the rest of us? Nevertheless, we're glad this busy woman has included CLPA on her "To Do List".

Ellen Otto, CLPA Board of Trustees

## Canal Society of Ohio Honors Virginia Wojno-Forney

On July 17th, the Canal Society of Ohio honored Virginia Wojno-Forney with the Society's 2004 Historic Preservation Award. During a luncheon sponsored by CSO, many who work with Virginia on Cascade Locks Park projects were able to speak straight from the heart in admiration of Virginia's tireless work and efforts on behalf of the Cascade Locks Park Association over more than 15 years. This recognition is well-deserved and Virginia continues to work as hard as ever to achieve our goals and realize our mission.

THANKS CANAL SOCIETY OF OHIO, AND THANKS VIRGINIA!

## Message from the Executive Director

### Our Role in the Canalway

You may already know that the official name of the Ohio & Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor has become the **Ohio & Erie National Heritage Canalway**. Additionally, as an effort to communicate the goals of the canalway more effectively, the Ohio & Erie Canal Association developed a communications plan. The plan includes an interpretive plan, an identity and signage plan and a marketing plan. The purpose of the plan is to help local groups (like ours) to develop our cultural, recreational and historic resource for the benefit of our community while linking ourselves to other sites and destinations within the canalway. This will promote a positive (and consistent) visitor experience for those who travel through the canalway and will help them to understand the significance of the region and the resources that it offers.

We are a key component of the regional Ohio & Erie Canalway and Cascade Locks Park Association serves as a partner to see that this plan is utilized and implemented. I am involved with the Canalway Interpretation Committee as well as a committee to look at the development of a visitor center at Lock 1 in downtown Akron. I see this as an important part of CLPA's role because it makes our park stronger to be linked to this larger regional effort. We are excited to be involved and engaged with making the canalway stronger and more unified because it only moves us closer to realizing the vision we all share.

For more information on the plan contact the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition at 330-434-5657.

Bridget Garvin



Attendees of our Howard Street "Reception to Remember" share some memories

## Howard Street Lives On

It was billed as "A Reception to Remember". The doors opened to the community room of the Lauer Apartment Tower, and in strolled the heroes and heroines of the Howard Street Jazz heyday. Many strode in on walkers and canes, but proud of spirit. The nearly seventy folk present experienced such a burst of joy and laughter, of tears and hugs and kisses as friends, co-workers, and colleagues, who had not seen each other in 50 or more years, rushed to greet one another. A tearful Ann Lane Gates, who conceived the event, looked upon the emotion-filled crowd with pleasure.

The occasion was a pre-event reception to promote the Cascade Locks Park Association's forthcoming August 28<sup>th</sup>, "Hot Jazz on Howard Street" benefit. The reception was co-chaired by Ann Gates and GinaKaye Maddox, a member of the CLPA Board of Directors. The invited guests were excited about the fact that the Hot Jazz on Howard Street benefit will take place in the former Ritz Theater at Howard and Perkins Streets. The historical reflection of the guests was captured on video, as they reminisced in small groups. Reggie Brooks shared anecdotes about his father, Booker Brooks, a leading entrepreneur during the Howard Street heyday. Peewee Carter, who still at age 90+ tantalizes audiences with "Satin Doll" on his saxophone, reflected on the good old days, when his trio included keyboard genius Helen Swindler, (deceased), whose life will be featured as a jazz diva, in an exhibit at Hot Jazz on Howard.

Juanita Hodoh Simpson, daughter of the owner of Janek's Restaurant in the heyday, was among the guests. Jack Ashby and Ethel Chambers had many fond memories to share. Cleola Person, who ran a beauty shop, and Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Miller remembered when Howard Street was a thriving business district for blacks. Thomas Sis-trunk, Dean of Black Barbers, Lonzo Neal, Ophelia Averitte, Leona Farris, Virginia Coleman and Katie Epps reflected on Howard Street as a street of opportunity. The fellowship adjourned in anticipation of the next evening to celebrate and reflect on the Howard Street Jazz heyday...

Saturday, August 28, 2004.

Janet Purnell, Chairman, The Dr. Shirla R. McClain Gallery of Akron's Black History & Culture

## Volunteer News and Activities

A heartfelt thanks to all who have given of their time and talent as a CLPA volunteer this year. We are a diverse group who enjoy supporting and helping this park to grow and achieve its mission. Here are a few of our current activities and needs:

### Mustill Store Greeters and Interpreters

The Mustill Store and Museum is completely staffed by volunteers who help us to serve as an educational resource to park visitors. We are open from early spring to nearly Christmas and have become a must-see destination for visitors from all over who are interested in historic preservation and the Ohio & Erie National Heritage Canalway Towpath Trail.

Activity Description: Work with another volunteer or alone (if experienced and preferred) to greet and interpret the Mustill Store Museum for park visitors. Includes light selling of Canal related books, maps, postcards, bottled water, etc. Must be interested in local history and enjoy meeting and talking with people about Cascade Locks Park and Akron's Canal History. Must be 18 or older. Training and educational materials provided. Time commitment per shift: 3-4 hours. Hours of Store: Summer-Fridays 12-4, Sat-Sun 12-6; Fall-Beginning Nov. 6: Sat-Sun 12-5.

### Garden Club Starting September 2<sup>nd</sup>

If you are interested in gardening and learning about historic and native plants, trees and wildflowers we are going to start meeting monthly to work within the fence of the Mustill complex. We will be maintaining the wildflower and perennial gardens and other gardens are planned for the future. The Club will be led by CLPA Board Members, Christine Freitag and Susan Kinnamon. First Thursday of the Month, weather and season permitting from 9-11am. Bring hand tools and buckets.

### Education Program Volunteers Needed

We are in need of additional volunteers who can serve as Guides and Interpreters for the Cascade Locks Area, early Akron History, the Mustill Family and Store and the work of the Association to visiting school groups and other audiences. Training provided by the Education Committee. Flexible hours and scheduling. Weekdays and occasional Saturdays.

### Fall Canal Cleanup

Join us on Saturday, October 23 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm as we do our semi-annual Canal Cleanup with Enviro-science Inc. of Stow OH. Youth volunteers (under 18) welcome with parental permission.

If you are interested in any of these activities please call 330 374 5625; send an email to [clpaoffice@ameritech.net](mailto:clpaoffice@ameritech.net); or check us online at [www.cascadelocks.org](http://www.cascadelocks.org). Looking forward to hearing from you!

## Thank You to our Members

Member Appreciation Day was held at 5:30 on Monday, June 21 at the Mustill Store. Hor's doeuvres and beverages were served and the members mingled inside and outside. The draft Cascade Locks Master Plan and the schematic for the Cascade Mill Site were on display for a special viewing. Bridget Garvin, Executive Director, gave a short talk about the year's accomplishments and the future goals of the Association. She encouraged everyone to attend the August 28<sup>th</sup> fundraiser, "Hot Jazz on Howard". It was a beautiful evening and members were encouraged to bring lawn chairs and to sit outside and listen to the music of The Goodyear Community Concert Band. This was a pleasant way to say thank you to our wonderful members.

Susan Kinnamon, CLPA Board of Trustees

## Road Runner Akron Marathon & Team Relays

Last year, many enjoyed the first annual Akron Marathon with prime seats at the Mustill Store. This year, we hope that even more of you catch on to our perfect mid-point seats along the route. The Brickroad Ramblers will root on the runners with their infectious toe tappin' folk music and we will have coffee, tea, water, cookies, and rolls for sale. A special thanks to Main Street Muffin for donating the cookies and rolls and to the Marks/Ewing Charitable Foundation for sponsoring the music. This is truly a day when Akron is at its best and you can feel the excitement and spirit of the community. Please come and join us where Akron has its roots in Cascade Locks Park. Parking will be available at the trailhead and across the street in the gravel lot. It will be best to access the park from W. North Street via Maple or weaving along W. Market Street. Festivities will go from 8:30am – 10:30am.



Cascade Locks Park Association  
248 Ferndale Street  
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**Join the Cascade Locks Park Association Today!**

Membership Benefits include:

- A subscription to the Cascade Chronicle
- Notice of public meetings and events
- Easy access to educational programs
- Invitations to "Members Only" events

.....And the knowledge you are supporting the goals of the  
Cascade Locks Park Association

Just fill out the form and mail it with your check, made out to  
the "CLPA", to: CLPA, 248 Ferndale Street, Akron, Ohio 44304

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I would like to serve on a CLPA committee \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer to work at the Mustill Store \_\_\_\_\_