

# Heritage REPORT

## Grand Opening of Lockhouse 25

On October 22, Heritage Montgomery joined with the National Park Service and the Canal Trust in celebrating the opening of Lockhouse 25 at Edward's Ferry. Canal Quarters offers an extraordinary interpretive opportunity for people of all ages. Visitors can stay overnight in a lockhouse and experience life as it may have been during a bygone era on the C&O Canal. Lockhouse 25, located along the canal in Poolesville, is the sixth to be rehabilitated between Cabin John and Clear Spring, Maryland. While some structures have plumbing and electricity, Lockhouse 25 and three others offer a simpler, "camping-with-a-roof" experience. All have been painstakingly rehabilitated and furnished to evoke different eras in the canal's history.



Built in 1830, Lockhouse 25 has been restored to reflect the site as it was during the Civil War. As many as 50,000 Union troops camped at Edward's Ferry to guard the crossing and Thaddeus Lowe floated gas-fired reconnaissance balloons above the treetops to monitor Confederate troops across the river.

The Canal Quarters program is run in partnership between the C&O Canal National Historical Park and the C&O Canal Trust. Heritage Montgomery was pleased to facilitate a \$22,200 Maryland Heritage Areas Authority grant to the C&O Canal NHP for historic rehabilitation of Lockhouse 25.

### Table of Contents

Letter from the Director .....	2
Be a Time Traveler.....	2
E-Newsletter Update .....	2
Heritage Days 2011 .....	3
Holiday Shopping .....	3
Civil War Products .....	4
ICC Signage.....	5
Fundraising .....	5
Heritage Spotlight.....	6



**HERITAGE  
MONTGOMERY**  
Hm! History where you least expect it!



## Letter from the *Director*

### My Night in the Lockhouse

On a cold October weekend I spent the night with some friends and HM board members in the newly renovated (but still primitive) Lockhouse 25 at Edward's Ferry in Poolesville. What a fabulous experience watching the Potomac River at sunset, huddling around the campfire, sleeping on a trundled rope bed, and waking to the serenity of the river enveloped in fog.

Part of the Canal Quarters program ([www.CanalQuarters.org](http://www.CanalQuarters.org)), a joint venture of the C&O Canal Trust and the C&O Canal National Historical Park, visitors can spend up to three nights in one of six lockhouses located along the canal. Lockhouse 25 is furnished with 1860's period furniture and captures what life was like during the Civil War, when Edward's Ferry was the site of much activity. Most memorably, twin pontoon bridges were built across the river in 1863 for approximately 75,000 Union troops to cross on their way to the Battle of Gettysburg.

We watched for ghosts, but to my dismay none appeared. But you cannot escape thinking about what life was like back in the 1860s—how you survived, how your children were educated, even the effect that weather had on your everyday existence.

I would like to encourage all of our supporters to take advantage of the unique Canal Quarters experience. In the busy world we all live in, a trip to a lockhouse really does make you a Time Traveler.

*Peggy Erickson*

## *Be a Time Traveler*

We are very excited about our new guide to local heritage sites: “Be a Time Traveler! Discover Montgomery County, Maryland.” The 25-page brochure features 29 locations, all with unique stories to tell about our area’s rich history.



In addition to beautiful photos, contact information, and descriptions of the sites, each listing in the brochure also includes a QR (Quick Response) code. By using a QR code reader app that can be downloaded free-of-charge onto a smartphone, users scan the codes in the brochure and are connected directly to the site’s webpage. In addition to the benefit of having more detailed information available at a traveler’s fingertips, the brochure and QR codes provide visitors with information on destinations that are unstaffed or not staffed full time.

The brochure can be viewed on our website and paper copies are available at heritage sites and visitor centers around the county and by contacting the Heritage Montgomery office.

## *E-Newsletter*

Please take a minute to visit [www.heritagemontgomery.org](http://www.heritagemontgomery.org), and join our email list. We have begun the transition to an electronic newsletter, but are still collecting email addresses for all of our supporters who we currently communicate with via “snail mail.” And we want to be sure that you’re on our list! Just click the “Join our Mailing List” button on every interior page of our website and submit your contact information.

In addition to being a more cost-effective means of communicating all of our news, an electronic newsletter is also much more environmentally friendly. We look forward to being able to directly notify you about events and activities in our heritage areas, but promise not to over do it! *And please be assured that we will not share your email address with any other group or individual.*



# Heritage Days 2011

We are happy to report that, once again, Heritage Days weekend was a great success. At 35 sites open all around the county, over 12,000 Heritage Days visitors enjoyed a weekend of lively music, fascinating demonstrations, beautiful historic and natural sites, and blue skies! All of the heritage sites offered especially strong programs this year – and we’ve already begun planning for the 15<sup>th</sup> Heritage Days celebration next year. Circle June 23 & 24 on your 2012 calendar!



Washington Revel



Glen Echo Park



Olney Theater

# Holiday Shopping Ideas

Looking for a special gift for that history lover on your holiday gift list? Check out the Gift Shop page of the Heritage Montgomery website for some unique ideas.

Our newest items focus on our county’s rich Civil War history: the *Life in a War Zone: Montgomery County during the Civil War* DVD, “Hard Times Come Again No More: American Music of the Civil War Era” CD, and an 18”x24” commemorative map of Montgomery County in the 1860s.

You’ll also find our beautiful Barns of Montgomery County poster and note cards plus the “Montgomery Rural Heritage Byways Tour” DVD – a fascinating tour through the natural beauty of the Agricultural Reserve that you can also load onto your iPod and use as a personal tour guide and navigational device.



# CIVIL WAR IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

## *Life In A War Zone*

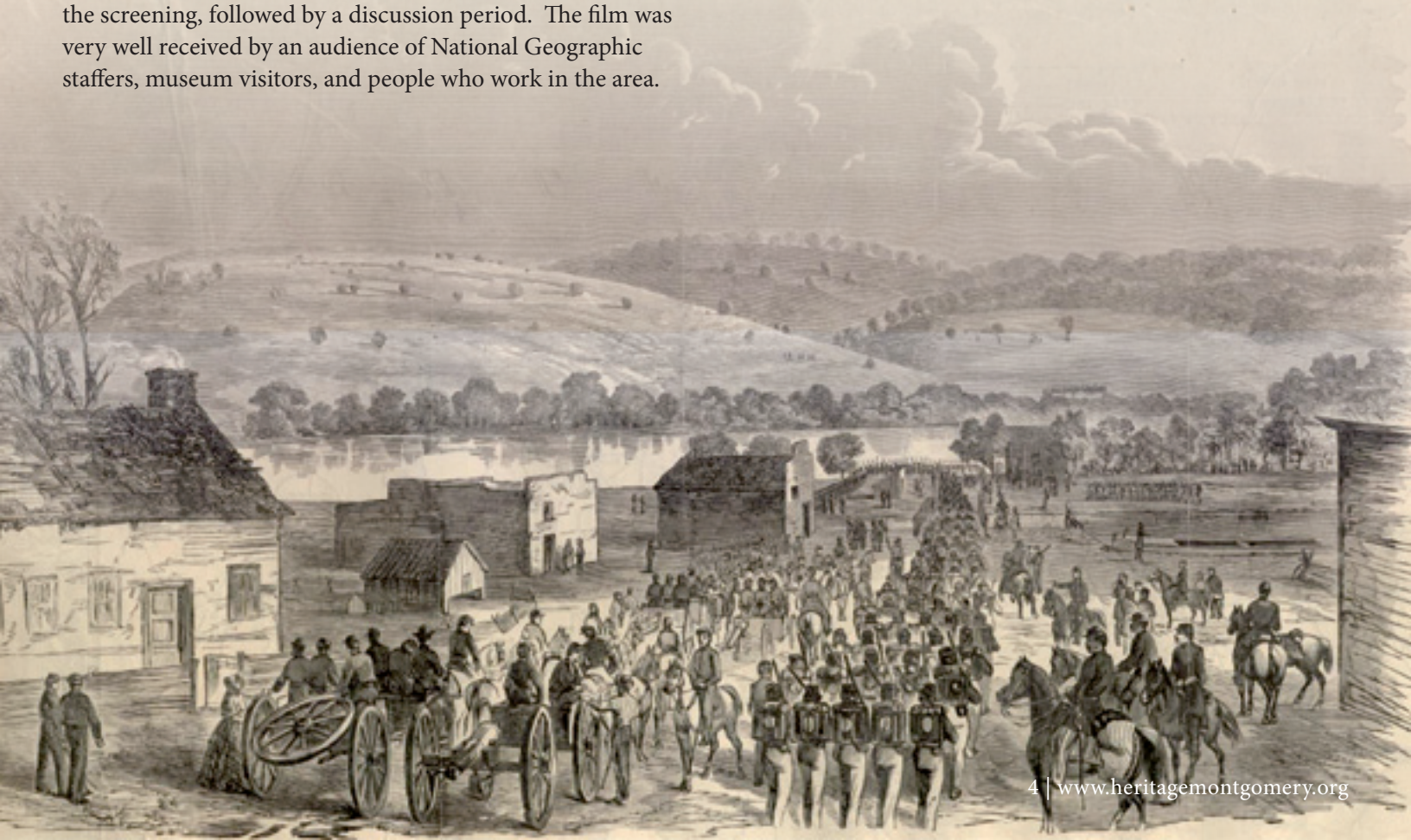


The remarkable success of *Life in a War Zone: Montgomery County during the Civil War* continued throughout the summer when the documentary was televised on Maryland Public Television (MPT) and WETA-TV, as well as on Montgomery County Cable.

We were also very pleased to have the opportunity to participate in the National Geographic Live! program, "Tuesdays at Noon," which features films produced by National Geographic Television as well as by independent producers like Heritage Montgomery. Along with *Life in a War Zone* producer/director Barbara Grunbaum and narrator/host Greg Lewis, we visited the National Geographic Headquarters in the District on November 8 for the screening, followed by a discussion period. The film was very well received by an audience of National Geographic staffers, museum visitors, and people who work in the area.

## "Hard Times Come Again No More"

When you watch our video, *Life in a War Zone: Montgomery County during the Civil War*, you can't help but be struck by the beautiful and moving musical soundtrack. Developed by the Washington Revels, it truly complements and enhances the incredible stories told in the film. But a soundtrack by necessity can only offer a snippet of any full musical piece. You can enjoy the full versions of these and other selections on the companion CD, "Hard Times Come Again No More: American Music of the Civil War Era." Under the Revels' expert musical direction, performances by Washington Revels ensembles and a remarkable collection of guest artists evoke the struggles and passions of Montgomery County residents in the 1860s facing daily life in a war zone.





## ICC Signage

For the past two years, Heritage Montgomery has worked with representatives from the Maryland Transportation Authority and the Maryland State Highway Administration on a \$400,000 signage and wayfinding project. Approval for the Intercounty Connector (ICC) included funding for signs and other wayfinding devices to direct travellers to historic sites, heritage areas, and scenic/rustic roads.



With the help of the State District 14 delegation, Heritage Montgomery was able to negotiate a program that identifies eleven heritage sites in the Sandy Spring area for signage. This extensive wayfinding effort will help travelers discover the historic treasures of Sandy Spring.

Heritage Montgomery would like to especially thank Delegate Craig Zucker who worked tirelessly to facilitate the success of this important project.

## Fundraising

As we near the end of 2011, Heritage Montgomery is once again undertaking our annual fundraising drive. We had a banner year in 2011, highlighted by the premiere of *Life in a War Zone*, and look forward to an exciting 2012 as we work to grow our audience through innovative outreach and marketing.

This is our only fundraising appeal of the year. Heritage Montgomery is supported primarily through state and local grants that require organizations to provide matching funds. These grants are even more competitive in challenging economic times, making your contributions are even more important to Heritage Montgomery. Each dollar you donate brings us an additional dollar of state funding.

We will be reaching out via email and snail-mail appeals. Any donation has a huge impact in our organization. Thank you so much for considering Heritage Montgomery in your year-end giving.

## Heritage Montgomery Staff

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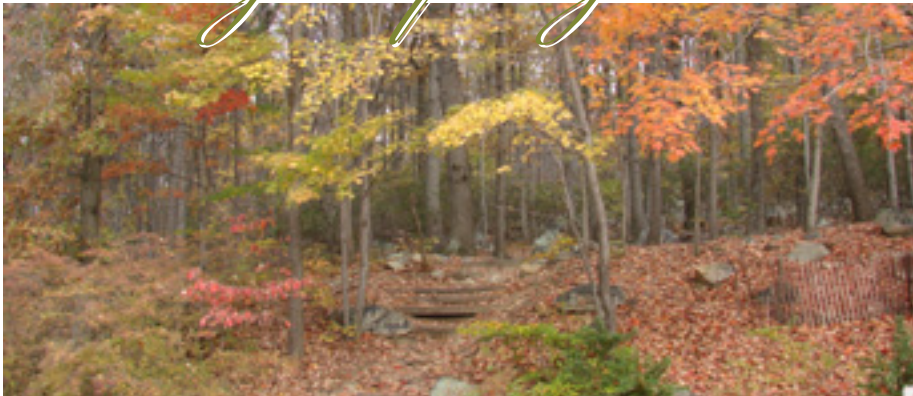
**Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County**  
12535 Milestone Manor Lane, Germantown, MD 20876  
301-515-0753 • [www.heritagemontgomery.org](http://www.heritagemontgomery.org)

**Please remember Heritage Montgomery  
in your charitable donations.**

Every donation has a significant impact and  
will be greatly appreciated!

*Heritage Montgomery is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization  
and your donation is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.*

*Heritage Spotlight*



**Sugarloaf Regional Trails**  
[www.SugarloafRegionalTrails.org](http://www.SugarloafRegionalTrails.org)

When planning your next trek in Montgomery County, be sure to visit the Sugarloaf Regional Trails (SRT) website. SRT has developed 15 Trail Guides for the Potomac Highlands/Sugarloaf Mountain region. You can explore these trails by car, bike, foot, or even canoe! In addition to being a navigational tool, these wonderfully detailed guides tell the history of the sites along the trails. Even if you find yourself housebound over the winter, the SRT guides make for a fascinating online read – and you can plan your springtime outing!

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