

Smoke Signal



MOYAONE
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

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NO. 1

President's Note

Thanks to everyone who attended the Dec. 2012 membership meeting. It was relatively short (60 minutes!) - the budget for 2013 was passed with minor clarifications. With the New Year, we will be sending out notices for membership dues very shortly. This year we are mailing them via the postal service as well as by email for your convenience.

What Do Your Membership Dues Cover? There are several Association expenses that membership dues cover including roads and culvert maintenance; property taxes on lots owned by the Moyaone; maintenance of the Community Center (which has been wonderfully renovated and is available for member use) and grounds; membership and support of other community organizations including the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, Alice Ferguson Foundation, Accokeek Foundation and other similar groups; as well as the pool operation among other line items.

Community Center Renovated. As mentioned above, the community center has been renovated to accommodate social functions. The ceiling has been enclosed with drywall, and looks great. Lights and ceiling have been re-hung, and there is a new thermostat to control heating and cooling. Courtesy of the Wagner Renovation Committee, cabinets have been replaced and a new granite counters installed (thanks to Bob Mulholland). As an aside, the costs for the cabinets and counters were funded by separate donations. Members are entitled to one free use per year and to reserve the Center for special events, please contact Kent Hibben, Chair of Buildings and Grounds.

Moyaone Members Receive Discount at Mount Vernon Concert Series. We have also received notice of a three-concert series offered by the Mount Vernon Ladies Association and the National Symphony which take place at the Robert H. and Clarice Smith Auditorium in the Mount Vernon Inn Complex. Concerts include works by Mozart, Ravel, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Beethoven, and Reger and are scheduled for Jan. 22, Feb. 26, and March 19 at 7 pm. For more information, call 703-799-8647 - be sure to mention you are a member of the Moyaone for a reduced ticket price.

Charles County Commissioners Discuss Tier Map Growth Plan. There was a meeting of the Charles County Commissioners on Jan. 8 to discuss the Tier Map growth plan. The Mattawoman Watershed Society and its supporters were in full attendance and presented their concerns about sprawl, such as impacts on waterways, natural resources, overall quality of life, and of course Mattawoman Creek. To view the Tier Map and an environmentally sensitive alternative based on "Scenario 1," go to

<http://www.maryland.sierraclub.org/tiers.pdf>

Scenario 1 was designed to protect our natural resources, and is the minimum starting point to save Mattawoman Creek from further degradation, according to a major interagency Task Force. For a summary of the report, see:

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/fhiep/index.asp>

Moyaone Nominating Committee Begins Work. The Nominating Committee for next year's Board members has been formed - Bill Robertson, Marion Mulholland, and chaired by Phil Jones. If you want to be considered, please contact one of them.

Best to everyone for a healthy and happy New Year.

Rita Bergman

moyaonepresident@gmail.com

The Center and Grounds (Moyaone Commons) are available for private functions, for current Moyaone Association members (membership benefits include a reduced rental rate beyond the first free use), and also can be considered for rental by others, based on availability. For rates and questions, please contact Buildings and Grounds Chair KentLHibben@Gmail.com



The Winter Farm Market at the Accokeek Foundation Education Center offers winter vegetables for sale, Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22. Photos: The Accokeek Foundation.

Winter Events at Accokeek Foundation

Unless noted, the events below will take place at the Accokeek Foundation, 3400 Bryan Point Road. For more information, call 301-283-2113 or visit accokeekfoundation.org.

Winter Farm Market. Come to this community-wide market and shop for late-season produce including root crops, beautiful salad mix, and sweet and flavorful winter greens, grown by the Ecosystem Farm. The Winter Farm Market is an indoor market held at the Accokeek Foundation Education Center from 3:30 to 6:30 pm on Fridays throughout January and February. Upcoming dates include: Jan. 18, 25 and Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22.

Winter Farm Lecture Series. Join the Accokeek Foundation's Center for Agriculture and Environmental Stewardship for a journey through winter farming with some of our area's most skilled farmers! 11 am–1 pm Farm Tour with focus on Winter Farming Techniques. Registration required. \$20 per lecture.

- Jan. 26 – Even' Star Organic Farm, Lexington Park, MD
- Feb. 2 – ECO City Farms, Edmonston, MD
- Feb. 23 – Tree and Leaf Farm, Unionville, VA

Yoga in Nature. Accokeek Foundation Education Center, Tuesdays, 5 pm. \$15 per one-hour session. Presented by The Studio Cooperative and the Accokeek Foundation, come experience yoga in a whole new way. Enjoy a great stretch through an ALL-Level, fit for everyone, open Vinyasa Yoga class while being immersed and surrounded by nature's beauty and seclusion. Register online with The Studio by visiting www.thestudiocooperative.org, or drop-in (cash or check only). Follow the instructor, Yogi Sean Michael on Facebook.

Women's Clothing Swap. Hosted by Maria Femia. Accokeek Foundation Education Center. Sat., Feb. 9, 7–9 pm. Join in for this wonderful Girls ONLY event and spend the evening at the National Colonial Farm with food, beverages, and friendship; clean out your closets for a New Year AND get a whole new wardrobe all at the same time! For more information contact Maria at mariafemia@hotmail.com or call 301-266-5585.

Spring=Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup

Snow may be in this week's weather forecast, but the 25th Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup is already scheduled. Cleanup 2013 will be April 6. Help make the silver anniversary shine.

Participate in a workshop about waste reduction, monitor a trash hotspot, or share litter prevention materials with others. Contact potomaccleanup@fergusonfoundation.org or call 202-973-8203 for more information.

The Accokeek Foundation would love to hear your stories about and see your photos of Hard Bargain Farm, efforts to be trash-free and otherwise sustainable, adventures in nature, your eco-heroes, watershed ecology tidbits, and even recipes from southern Maryland's cooks! Share your voice with the community. Contact Alena Rosen (arosen@fergusonfoundation.org).

Bryans Road's Centro Ashé Offers Wellness Programs in 2013

Grassroots herbal and holistic wellness programs will be offered one weekend monthly from March to Nov. 2013 at Centro Ashé in Bryans Road. Programs will focus on herbal healing traditions, medicinal plants, nourishing herbs, herbal gardening and permaculture and herbal medicine making, rituals, and body care, announced Molly Meehan. In an interview in the *Maryland Independent* in 2012, Meehan said "she hopes that people will attend the herbal and holistic wellness programs to learn more about sustainable agriculture and be empowered by knowledge."

To read about how Centro Ashé was started, see the article at: <http://www.somdnews.com/article/20120530/NEWS/705259927/1043/here-on-earth&template=southernMaryland>

For more information on programs, including dates, instructors, and costs, visit: www.centroashe.org or email: info@centroashe.org

— Molly Meehan works at the Accokeek Foundation in community outreach and education.



Carts Independent after a project planning meeting.

Human-powered Submarine under Development

by Paola Addamiano-Carts

We're building a human-powered submarine! Here's how it all began. In April 2012 my son, Sam, and I attended a one-day marine forensics seminar at the Gaylord Convention Center. Marine forensics is the study of maritime accidents. Presentations at the seminar included an excellent overview of the sinking of the Titanic, a spellbinding first-person account of the Andrea Doria disaster, and a wonderful detailing of a marine archeologist's discovery of the "Lost Fleet of Kubla Khan." The last presentation of the day was about the International Submarine Races (ISR) held biennially at Carderock, MD. While all the presentations were top-notch, it was this last one that most inspired our family. The submarines are one- or two-person man-powered submersibles that use propellers or other propulsion systems, most driven by pedal power. They are "wet" submarines, which means the inner compartment is flooded with water and scuba gear is required. Sam had just earned his scuba certification when we went to the seminar, and he loves to bicycle. It seemed a perfect fit. We mulled it over for the summer and when school started in September, we decided to "take the plunge" and form a human-powered submarine team.

Our team is called Carts Independent. The core of our team is made up of four families who are public, private, and home schooled in Charles County, MD. The students range in age from 6 to 16, and they are all current or past Accokeek Gators Swim Team members. We parents are overseeing the project, and we have a lot of experts helping out where needed. We will be competing against a couple dozen university teams and a few high school and other independent teams. Our goal is to promote learning by designing, constructing, and testing our submarine, and to successfully cross the finish line, doing all these things with gratitude to all who help. To that end, we would like to thank our sponsor organization, The Learning Community International, an accredited private school that oversees the Carts Family home school.

Some of the exciting things we have done so far include: basic project planning; lots of research on submarines, hydrodynamics, and manufacturing methods; field trips to David Taylor Model Basin (where the races will be held), Old Saybrook High School (one

of the high schools entering the ISR ... located conveniently near our middle daughter's college) and Ferris Apiaries (which is also a sawmill/machine shop); test equipment design and construction; tow and buoyancy testing at North Point High School; experiments in steam bending wood (and learning a lot about wood selection and sawmills); physical and nutrition training; drafting; number crunching, including practical application of calculus; etc.

Some of the things we anticipate doing include: finalizing designs of our systems (hull, propulsion, steering, life support, emergency) by Jan. 31; constructing all components; building the sub; testing the sub; making improvements; transporting us and the sub to the races; racing.

When we first considered entering the races, we contacted another independent team from Frederick, MD, that has entered the ISR since its inception in 1989. Their comment: "Your credit card will be smokin'." And it's true! Just the entry fee for the race is \$1200. We hope to raise the better part of \$5000 to cover our anticipated expenses. That may seem like a lot of money, but it's cheap compared to the \$60,000 that one high school paid to have just its submarine hull built. If anyone in the Moyaone wants to rally round our efforts, we'd love your help. You can donate money, talent, or goods. Tax-deductible financial contributions can be made using our sponsor's website (tci.us). Just click the "donate" button and mad sure to mention "submarine" in the message block. We can also make use of your expertise. If you know how to machine metal, heat form plastics, use SolidWorks, steam bend wood, etc., we may be able to use your help. Also, keep your eye out for email requests for specific items such as plywood or ball bearings; material donations will be much appreciated. To contact the Carts Family, base for Carts Independent, call 301-283-0167 or email cartsfamily@alacarts.net.

For more information on the submarine races, visit the website isrsubrace.org or type "international submarine races" in YouTube. For specific information on our submarine, visit the website calamaro.weebly.com.

Greater Accokeek Civic Association to Meet Feb. 27. Wednesday, 7:30 pm, Accokeek Volunteer Fire Hall

The February GACA membership meeting will focus on information about the new District VII Prince George's County Police District VII. The guest speaker is the recently appointed Commander of the new Prince George's County Police District VII: Major Tammy Sparkman. Also at the meeting to provide additional Prince George's County Police information updates will be the new District IV Commander, Major Grant, as well as Accokeek's District IV Community Policing Unit Officer Mullendore. Visit GACA's "free table" and enjoy free refreshments! Everyone is welcome!

New Moyaone Residents. Welcome Greg Tudor and Emily Barnes, our newest neighbors, who purchased Margaret Schmid's house on Cactus Hill. They are both professional musicians with the Air Force.

Send Notices for Smoke Signals to: Ruth Gaumont (moyaonews@gmail.com).



Homegrown Coffeehouse Begins 13th Season Jan. 19, Sat. 8 pm

Celebrating Fine Local Food and Talent at the National Colonial Farm (Educational Building, 3400 Bryan Point Rd.)

ellen cherry. Emmy nominated singer/songwriter ellen cherry (lowercase letters intentional!) is a full-time touring and working performer based in Baltimore. In 2012, ellen released her newest and most intimate work yet, a piano-based album produced by Caleb Stine, entitled “Please Don’t Sell the Piano.” Throughout 2012, ellen was a Strathmore Artist-in-Residence and co-founded MOBTOWNmoon, a new collaborative project for Baltimore musicians. In 2010, she wrote, recorded and performed a song for an Emmy nominated TV campaign and also composed the score for a shadow puppet piece entitled “Alonzo’s Lullaby,” which has been awarded the prestigious UNIMA Citation of Excellence. ellen tours nationally and internationally, charming audiences from house concerts to festivals!

“... more relevant than many of the major-label bands you’ve heard this year a welcome reminder that indie-rock continues to be a spirit in an industry that often attempts to make it a genre.”

— Will Doig, *Metro Weekly, Washington, DC*

Crys Matthews – opening. Although she is constantly referred to as “the next Tracy Chapman,” Crys Matthews describes herself and her music as: “Imagine Jill Scott and Otis Redding had a daughter and Tracy Chapman was (my) godmother ...” The music is an infusion of Americana/Blues/Bluegrass/Folk/Funk/Jazz, which, as eclectic as it sounds, is reaching people all around the world and causing them to stop and take notice.

“Crys Matthews is referred to most often as a blues performer but also fuses jazz, funk, folk and Americana sounds to form her own eclectic blend of soul music.” — Anna Oakes, *The High Country Press*

Doors open at 6 pm. Dinner: light supper of soup/cheese/bread 6–7:30; desserts, coffee, tea available all evening. Music: 7:15 (opening act)—Crys Matthews, www.reverbnation.com/crys-matthews; 8 pm (main act)—ellencherry, www.ellencherry.com. Admission: \$10, artist donations encouraged for the opening act. Upcoming Shows: **Feb. 23**—Bob Sima, Mike Kelly: opening; **Mar. 2**—Jennifer Cutting and Ocean, Loralyn Coles: opening; **Apr. 6**—Carey Creed, Mary Gordon Hall: opening. For more information: 240-305-0876.

Moyaone Association Board

<i>President</i>	Rita Bergman Moyaonepresident@gmail.com
<i>Vice President</i>	Charles Gaumond charliemoyaone@gmail.com
<i>Comptroller</i>	Bonnie Bacon-Aills Moyaonecomptroller@gmail.com
<i>Secretary</i>	Bonnie Ackley Bonnie.Ackley@gmail.com
<i>Member-at-Large</i>	Bo Saylor Saylor.wgsa@gmail.com

Birders Brave Elements for Bird Count



Blue-winged Teal found in Piscataway Creek during the Audubon Christmas Bird Count, Dec. 30 (photo courtesy of George Jett).

Several Moyaone residents participated in the 113th National Audubon Christmas Bird Count on Dec. 30. They were part of the Maryland sector of the Ft. Belvoir 25-mile count circle that swings across the Potomac onto our shores. It was a cold, windy day with 20–50 mile winds, affecting birds found as they sought protective relief. We had 24 birders in 8 parties afield within the sector, and 2 feeder counters. Total birds found were 81 species (down from our average of 85 in good weather) and 13,209 individuals. Hard Bargain naturalist Chris Ordiway led the Hard Bargain/Piscataway Creek party; George Jett and Gwen Brewer surveyed National Colonial Farm and lower Piscataway Creek. Twenty-four species of waterfowl were found (including Mattawoman Creek numbers). Most unexpected birds were the late migrating male Blue-winged Teal found by Dr. Brewer in Piscataway Creek near Calvert Manor, and the astonishing out-of-range Swallow-tailed Kite seen by Lynne Wheeler and Carol Ghebelian at Mattawoman Creek, Indian Head.

Raptors shied from the winds but we reported 39 Bald Eagles, to be further screened by Kurt Gaskill, the Virginia circle compiler. Owls were quiet in the morning winds. Bob Lukinic found the Screech Owl in his yard box, again for nearly 20 years now. Mike Callahan donned his marsh boots to check the wood duck boxes in Chapman State Park’s marsh and found a sleeping Screech Owl amidst Blue Jay feathers. Bob also spotted a Great Horned Owl near the park at close of day. Red-headed Woodpeckers were found by Chris Ordiway at Hard Bargain Farm, and by the Indian Head Rail Trail team. Cedar Waxwings (44) were found by only 2 parties; a casualty of the paltry berry crop this season no doubt. But be on the lookout for northern winter finches this winter, due to the scarcity of food crops in the north. The Chapman team found Pine Siskins eating gumball seeds; one of two Red-breasted Nuthatches now freeloading at the Ghebelian feeders was seen on count day. Redpolls and crossbills are appearing and by the time this goes to press we may have Evening Grosbeaks! Among count misses were Eastern Phoebe, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Rusty Blackbird, and alas Northern Bobwhite last seen by us in 2004.

Art Krueger and Vivian and Dick Mills counted birds at their feeders, toasty warm at home. Why not help us count next year!

— Carol Ghebelian, MD Sector Leader, Ft. Belvoir 2012 CBC