

Smoke Signal



MOYAONE
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME LIX

SEPTEMBER 2019

NO. 9

President's Note: **Relative Peace**

— *Michael Leventhal*
MoyaonePresident@gmail.com

The summer has slowly ended, and the past several months have been relatively quiet.

Yes, the main pump at the pool failed, causing a mad scramble to get a new pump and several companion pieces installed. It was disruptive to the swimmers and sunbathers for two days, but was quickly fixed, which allowed for the rest of the pool season to be calm.

Plans for the proposed new septic system for the Wagner Community Building and pool have met a variety of important and imposed criteria: a new state-of-the-art environmental septic system design; a successful bid process to identify and hire a qualified contractor to install the system; a building permit; a Memorandum of Agreement between the State, the County, and the Moyaone Association that the proposed design will be built and maintained; and a grant for part of the cost of this project awarded in principle. We are now awaiting word as to when the actual installation will begin. The timing is right, since the pool is now closed and the fall rainy season is not here.

It is not that anyone is waiting for problems to develop, but it is great to be able to report that, for the moment, all seems to be going well.

MOYAONE OKTOBERFEST

Grab your Bierstein and put on your Lederhosen or Dirndls for the Oct. 12 Moyaone Oktoberfest! Keep tradition alive and celebrate the coming of fall. Come for the German food, Oktoberfest beer, music, and gathering with neighbors and friends.



The event will be held on Sat., Oct. 12 from 1 to 6:30 pm at the Moyaone Commons, 2311 Bryan Point Rd., Accokeek. We are requesting volunteers for many different activities from parking cars to tending bar. The success of the event depends on help from you! To volunteer, email Mary Lee Phelps at mlgp42@msn.com.

Free admission; food and drink will be available for sale. The proceeds from this event will be used to make improvements to the Moyaone Community Center and grounds.

Moyaone Community Yard Sale

Sat., Sept. 28, 9 am–1 pm

Rain or Shine

at the Moyaone Community Center
2311 Bryan Point Road

No Fee. Set up begins at 8:30 am.

*Sellers are responsible for removing
all unsold items immediately after sale.*

Communities of Various Types

—Charles Gaumond

A few years ago, one of our neighbors in the Moyaone sold her house and went searching for an intentional community. Being of an age where I have memories of stories about communes, that sounded great to me. A possible reservation is based on the memory of a person who visited a commune and came away with a memory called crab lice. That was the era of Woodstock, which I couldn't attend. However, I have a friend who did; he remembers sleeping in mud and eating raw ears of corn because there wasn't enough food for sale. These less than stellar memories led me to read the book *Creating Cohousing* by McCamit and Durett, which I borrowed from Marina and picked up at our convenient Accokeek Library.

It turns out that a commune is an “intentional community” where people share a few common beliefs and lifestyles. To join an intentional community, you must subscribe to those beliefs and live that lifestyle. However, “cohousing” means people living together in a community and sharing the costs and duties of sustaining the community. There are no requirements of common beliefs, but there are requirements of common duties. Modern cohousing began in Denmark in the early 1970s, and spread later to North America in the 1990s. Some early communities survived and thrived, and some survived without thriving, and some failed. One reason that some didn't thrive was that there weren't enough people; there were so few people that they could argue about each insignificant decision to the extent that important decisions weren't discussed. With few households, the loss of one household that moved meant significantly more labor and expenses for the rest. Another reason for failure was that there were too many households, cliques developed, some felt left out, and some left and nobody in charge really noticed.

Another feature of cohousing is the existence of a common area where common meals are prepared by a few residents. Every household must participate in cooking and serving. The book describes this as being perceived by some new members initially as a “price” but later as a benefit, because each household has some meals that don't involve their cooking or cleaning up. There are other ways of serving the cohousing communities, such as tending the plants and trees, bookkeeping and management, physical repairs of common areas, babysitting, or tutoring.

Quoting from the book, “Managing a cohousing community can be both simple and entertaining.

Successfully managed cohousing communities contain four key components:

1. It's not cohousing if you don't have common dinner. You don't have a a basic timeless bond.
2. Expectations about community participation are clear.
3. The number of adult residents should not exceed 50. (*about 35 households*)
4. Equitable and fair (no one is taken advantage of) maintenance of the community is crucial.”

When I read that I thought those, or some of those, components could benefit the Moyaone Reserve. Why do a significant number of households not pay their dues? Several readers will think, “They're just cheap.” Perhaps we should blame it on a natural human response currently embedded in our culture.

I also thought of subgroups in the Moyaone — like the “garden people,” “book club people,” “pool people,” “art people,” and all the other groups that I don't even know about. These groups are an important asset for the flourishing of the Moyaone Reserve. These groups notice when a member moves away. These groups recruit new members. Can the formation of more groups help increase the number of contributing households? We shouldn't dismiss new groups because we haven't had them before or we personally don't want to join. More subgroups help create more sub-communities and hopefully create greater participation — including financial participation — in our community.



Native to North America, the pileated woodpecker (Dryocopus pileatus) is the second-largest woodpecker on the continent. “Pileated” refers to the bird's prominent red crest, from the Latin pileatus, meaning “capped.” Photo by Jim Hudgins, US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Dryocopus pileatus

— Paola Addamiano-Carts

Forest friend,

Your bobbing flight and flashing black and white wings

Catch my eye.

You alight on the dark side of the tree,

But I know you're there.

A blaze of red peeps out right, then left.

And then you're on your merry way again.

Tee-hee-hee-hee-hee-hee-hee.



National Historic Register Nomination September Update

— Rita Bergman

The next set of deliverables from Robinson and Associates is due Oct. 14, 2019: the *draft Statement of Historic and Architectural Significance and General Physical Description* of the study area and *draft Summary of Eligibility Statement* on the historic and architectural character of the potential historic district. Robinson has completed its research related to the Moyaone at Alice Ferguson Foundation, Accokeek Foundation, and Mount Vernon and will be focused next on the College of Southern Maryland where a new point of contact (the previous one resigned) has been identified for the archives. They have also been researching the history of the Wagner Center and thanks to Mary Lee Phelps and Rhonda Hanson, we have been able to provide dates on key accomplishments, including the date of the pool renovation, date of the start of the community garden, installation of the kitchen, replacement of the windows, and installation of insulation and drywall.

The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) has reviewed our project schedule for completion and submission of the application. We are planning an informational meeting with property owners to be held on the morning of Sat., Jan. 25, 2020. More details will follow as we get closer. The plan is to hold this in conjunction with a coffee gathering to make it more enjoyable.

Again, thanks to all those property owners who have met with Robinson representatives and shared floor plans, history, and stories. This information has been invaluable. Roughly another 20 to 24 properties still need to be visited.

Moyaone Association Board of Directors

- *President* — Michael Leventhal
MoyaonePresident@gmail.com
- *Vice President* — Rose Kim
MoyaoneVice President@gmail.com
- *Secretary* — Samantha Katz
MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com
- *Comptroller* — Paola Carts
MoyaoneComptroller@gmail.com
- *Director-at-Large* — Karen Hoagberg
MoyaoneDirectorAtLarge@gmail.com

Call for Artists

The Accokeek Artists' Alliance Call for Artists has now been scheduled for Sat., Sept. 28 from 4 to 7 pm at the Accokeek Foundation Education Building, 3400 Bryan Point Rd., Accokeek. Artists may enter a maximum of three works. Please contact Mary Lee Phelps at mlgp42@msn.com to receive an application and additional information. The exhibit will open on Sat., Nov. 9 and close on Sat., Nov. 23, 2019.



Conservancy of Broad Creek Lunch and Lecture on Forts, Sept. 14

On Sat., Sept. 14, the Conservancy of Broad Creek will be holding its Fall event—a cookout lunch and a lecture. This free event, to be held from 1 to 4 pm at the home of Nancy Vyas (8211 Waterside Court, Fort Washington), will feature Steve Phan, a National Park Service Ranger and Historian. His talk is entitled "The Capital can't be taken!: The Civil War Defenses of Washington."

For those who may not know, at the time of the Civil War, President Lincoln ordered the Corps of Army Engineers to build a series of forts protecting Washington, DC from all sides. By 1865, 68 forts and 93 batteries armed with over 800 cannons encircled the capital city. These forts were built in Virginia, in Maryland, as well as in Washington itself. The closest of these forts to Accokeek is Fort Foote in Fort Washington, MD.

This event is open to the Conservancy members, guests, and to those wishing to learn and be a member of the Conservancy of Board Creek at no charge. Should you wish to attend, contact Shirley Nicolai at shirleynicolai@verizon.net.



*Procyon lotor, the wily and adaptable raccoon.
Art by Sheila Cox.*

Hot Time, Summer in the City

— Mikaila Milton

Biologist, Resource Management Division
National Capital Parks–East, National Park Service

Here's a blog post from Aug. 26 by Jona Elwell from Casey Trees, a non-profit dedicated to increasing the tree canopy of DC (<https://caseytrees.org/>).

https://caseytrees.org/2019/08/hot-time-summer-in-the-city/?utm_source=leaflet&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=su mmmergeguide

Well, ladies and gentlemen, it's official. D.C. hit a (fairly undesired) weather record recently — the 50th day this year to reach 90 degrees or higher, which is 14 days more than the annual average of 36 days. Many of our 90-degree days this summer were hot but not exceptionally hot, only hitting the lower end of the 90s. But the string of days topping 95 degrees this late in August has pushed the city's count of days hitting at least 95 degrees to 11. That is right around the current average of twelve 95-degree days per year.

So why does August seem hotter? Capital Weather Gang thinks it comes from weariness. By the time August rolls around, we've just lived through July: hot, humid, July. By mid-August, most people (and trees!) are tired of the heat.

Plant stress tends to increase as the summer progresses, and by August, many plants that haven't been well watered are showing the strain. Even though this year gave us one of the most extreme downpours the city has ever witnessed, unleashing 3.3 inches of rain in a single hour. Alas, that deluge is not enough for the District's trees — especially young ones that are particularly vulnerable to heat. Trees out in the open sun exposed to hot and windy conditions can become water-deprived in just a few days.

What's a concerned citizen to do? Grab a hose, bucket or jug and lend a hand where you can. Our [Weekly Watering Alerts](#) (which you can sign up for by completing our [25 to Stay Alive" Watering Pledge](#)) will let you know if you should water your young trees (in the ground for three years or less) that week.

Thankfully, the worst of D.C.'s summer heat is almost behind us. But as the Washington Post warns, "The combination of global warming caused by human activities and local warming caused by the increasing footprint of the urban heat island promise ever hotter and longer summers in the area over the coming years. Brace yourselves."

Charles County Youth Orchestra Names Moyaone Neighbor Osman Kivrak as the New Director

The Board of Directors of the Charles County Youth Orchestra, one of the largest youth organizations in Southern Maryland providing music education and performance opportunities for talented young musicians in and around Charles County, has appointed Dr. Osman Kivrak as the new director of the CCYO.

Serving about 100 students total each year, the organization consists of four ensembles: Prelude Strings, Encore Strings, Encore Band, and the CCYO. Rehearsals for all four ensembles take place at North Point High School in Waldorf on Tuesday evenings. The concerts this season will be on January 12 and May 17, 2020.

In addition to the weekly rehearsals and the two main concerts, CCYO takes part in the Kris Kringle Marketplace event, Arts Fest in La Plata, fundraiser performances at Chick Fil-A, and pre-concert performances at the Davies Concert Series. Other educational activities of the Prelude Strings, Encore Strings, Encore Band, and the CCYO include master classes, String Mentor Days, and sectional rehearsals. This program is sponsored in part by a grant from the Charles County Arts Alliance and the Maryland State Arts Council.

Auditions will be held on Sat., Sept. 21 from 9 am to 4 pm and on Tues., Sept. 24 from 6 to 7:30 pm. The first rehearsal on Sept. 17 is open to all students to come and experience the CCYO. Please visit CCYO.com for more information and to sign up.

Concerts

Sun., Jan. 12, 2020, 3 pm (snow date: Sun., Jan. 19)

Sun., May 17, 2020, 3 pm



Culinary Story of Mount Aventine, Oct. 13

Mount Aventine at Chapman State Park,
3452 Ferry Place, Indian Head

On Sun., Oct. 13, 2–4 pm, food historian Joyce White will demonstrate the preparation of Southern Maryland specialties. Joyce is the foodways consultant for the 1801 Riverdale House Museum in Riverdale Park, MD and was the consultant for the restoration of the 18th century kitchen at Annapolis's William Paca House.

Generous food and drink tastings. Register and purchase tickets at: friendsofchapmansp.org. \$20. Seating limited.

Funding for this program is provided in part by a grant from the County Commissioners of Charles County, MD.



Alice Ferguson Foundation Announces New Executive Director

— *Tori Avvenire*
Marketing & Communications Coordinator
Alice Ferguson Foundation

We are thrilled to welcome Theresa Cullen as the Alice Ferguson Foundation's new Executive Director. Theresa comes to AFF with more than 25 years of experience in education and management in the United States, and internationally. Most recently, she served as the Head of The American School in Switzerland where she directed the operational and instructional programs for 200 students, led a 45-member faculty, and managed the operating and fiscal budgets.

Born and raised in Prince George's County, Theresa often visited the Accokeek area to swim and canoe on the river with her family. She is a strong advocate for our mission and the community we serve. Environmental education and sustainability have been a focus of Theresa's work with students and teachers. "I believe that all individuals, particularly children, should be part of a beautiful environment for learning. Being outdoors is critical to their development and to the future, not only of our region and country, but of the world," said Cullen. "Getting children out of the classroom to really experience hands-on learning is essential for them to connect concepts taught in the classroom with their real world surroundings."

Theresa will partner with the Alice Ferguson Foundation Board of Directors on organizational planning. In her new role, Theresa will oversee finances, staff operations and strategic priorities of the organization.

AFF Fall Farm Day on October 26

Mark your calendar! Join us on Sat., Oct. 26 at Hard Bargain Farm for our first annual Fall Farm Day and learn what we're all about! You and your family can explore our beautiful 330-acre riverfront working farm and participate in our educational activities just like students who visit us. Activities include wetland exploration, hayrides, meeting our farm animals, strolling through the children's garden, arts and

Dear Members of the Moyaone Reserve and surrounding Community,

This month we welcomed Theresa Cullen as our new Executive Director. While we are excited to have Theresa with us, we want to take a special moment to express our deep and sincere appreciation for Amanda (Mandie) Foster. This past February Mandie stepped in as our Interim Executive Director and ably steered our organization's team while our search process was underway. Mandie along with the senior management team and rest of our staff are why we continue to be well positioned to deliver the Alice Ferguson Foundation mission. On behalf of the Board we look forward to welcoming you to the farm this fall and beyond, and seeing you out in the community.

Warmest regards,
Fred Walls
AFF Board President

crafts, butter-making and much more! Pack your own trash-free lunch and enjoy a picnic on the farm. Additional food and refreshment options will be available to purchase. \$5 for adults; \$3 for AFF members. Free admission for children (under 12). Register on Eventbrite: <https://fallfarmdayathbf.eventbrite.com>

Be sure to also check out our other fall events:

Sat., Sept. 28, 8–10 am. Bird Walk with Bill Townsend. \$5 Non-AFF members; free for AFF members.

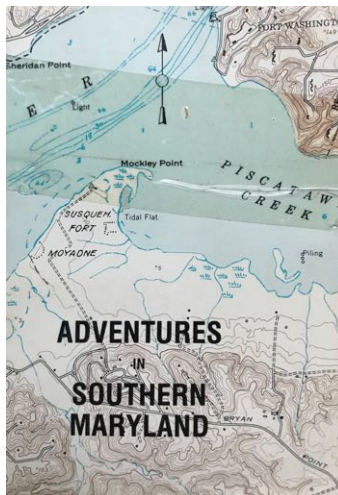
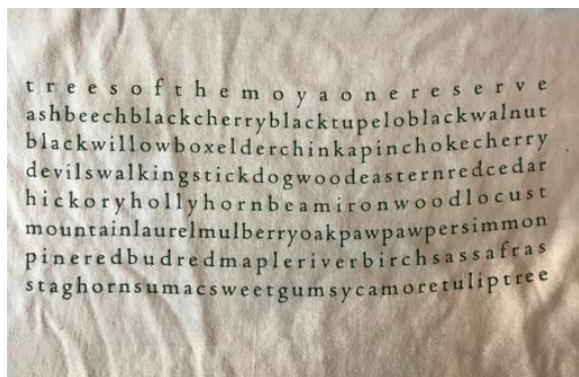
Fri., Oct. 11, 6:30–8:30 pm. Autumn Hayride with Brenda Wright. \$5 Non-AFF members; free for AFF members and children under 5.

Sat., Nov. 9, 5 pm. Nocturnal Hike with Will Orndorff. \$5 Non-AFF members; free for AFF members and children under 5.

Sat., Nov. 23, 8–10 am. Bird Walk with Bill Townsend. \$5 Non-AFF members; free for AFF members.

Sat., Dec. 14, 10 am–12 pm. DIY Gift Making with Samantha Battersby. \$10 Non-AFF members; \$5 AFF members.

You can register for these events by visiting Eventbrite. See you at the farm.

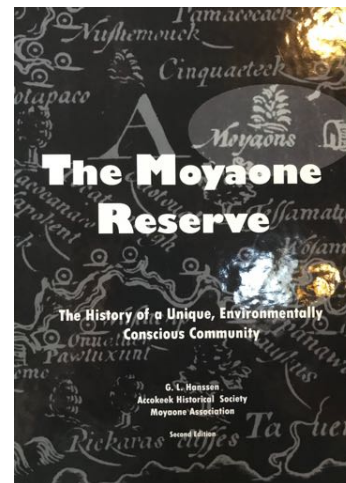
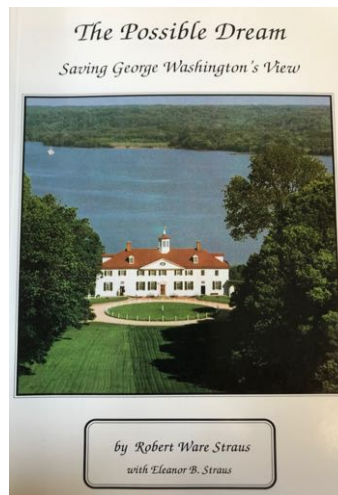


Dear Neighbors: Nine pictures, less than 1,000 words:

Welcoming questions or requests regarding any of these:

Books

The Moyaone Reserve book is a mere \$25 for a vast collection of history and photos of what we were and are. What we *will be* is up to us; meanwhile, reach out to KentLHibben@gmail.com for your very own copies. Proceeds go to the Moyaone Association. *The Possible Dream* book, by Robert Ware Straus, is being readied for a new reprint (the Accokeek Foundation and I are taking orders to determine quantity). Between this book and *The Moyaone Reserve* book, plus other enriching books by the Alice Ferguson Foundation such as *Hard Bargain Adventures* by Henry Ferguson, and *Adventures in Southern Maryland* by Alice Ferguson (available from 301 292-5665), your bookshelves and brains will be well served with local lore.



Bumper Stickers

The Moyaone Association has had three versions of bumper stickers. The current one is green, and available, gratis, from MoyaoneMembershipChair@gmail.com, or KentLHibben@gmail.com for landowners in the Moyaone Reserve. I am readying an order for the very first one (the M) which we'd put on our cars in the 60s. Good for keeping the neighborhood's oldest cars chronologically accurate!

Signs

"The Private Drive No Trespassing" signs are on sturdy aluminum and are available for sale. Please contact KentLHibben@gmail.com for your requests. Proceeds go to the Moyaone Association. The "No Soliciting" signs are being displayed along with the new and replacement

Moyaone gravel road neighborhood section (Poplar, Colonial/Rockwood...) signs. New 15 mph signs will also be ordered and installed for the Moyaone gravel road entrances.

T-Shirts

The Moyaone Reserve T-shirts, in the pictured fabric and ink colors, are a timeless fashion choice and a great way to supplement your wardrobe. Email your size and quantity to: KentLHibben@gmail.com. A bulk order is currently being compiled so order soon. Proceeds go to the Moyaone Association to cover silkscreening costs.

At your service 24/7: KentLHibben@gmail.com; 202 316 8432 (text), Kent (Roads Chair, and Public Affairs Committee Member)




A CELEBRATION OF LIFE
 In Loving Memory Of
SUSAN MARIE STRAUS
 November 9, 1953 - August 12, 2019

 Hard Bargain Farm
 Sunday, September 29, at 1 PM
 2201 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek, MD
 Come share your memories with us!




Photo: Accokeek Foundation.

September Events at the Accokeek Foundation

Casey Lowe Harlow

Marketing Manager, Accokeek Foundation

Guided Nature Hikes

Sept. 14, 15, 28, & 29

Explore the natural wonders of Piscataway Park with a guided trail walk led by an educator. Identify plants and animal life, learn about wild edible plants, or explore the changes in the Potomac River landscape over time. This month's themes include a journey into the healing practice of "forest bathing" and an introduction to smartphone nature photography (with a special focus on using a macro lens to see nature from a new perspective!).

Fall Wild Edibles Walk

Sept. 21, 9 am–12 pm

This seasonal walk is designed to support land-based connections, strengthen community ties, and increase our knowledge of native wild edibles. The 3-hour workshop includes a delicious hot breakfast, a guided hike, and a wild food tasting.

Hands-on History Demonstrations

Sept. 14, 15, 28, & 29

See the skills and trades of 1770 in action during this fall's hands-on history demonstrations. Themes this month include: "Ye Olde Closet," a behind-the-seams look at who wore what in colonial Maryland; and "Beef & Leather: A Whole Cow Know-How," featuring historic beef recipes and leather-working.

And don't forget to check out these other adventures available in the park this fall:

- Open Barn, every Sunday 3–4 pm
- Farm Tours, every Friday at 1 & 2 pm
- Fairy Trail, open Tuesday–Sunday, 10 am–4 pm
- Nature Photo Hunt, available at the Visitor Center
- National Colonial Farm Scavenger Hunt, available at the Visitor Center
- Bird Adventure Pack, available at the Visitor Center

Learn more by visiting the calendar of events:
accokeekfoundation.org/events/
 Accokeek Foundation, 3400 Bryan Point Rd.