

# Smoke Signals



MOYAONE  
ASSOCIATION  
NEWSLETTER

THE MOYAONE RESERVE • LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

VOLUME LXI

MAY 2021

NO. 5

## ***President's Note:***

### **May 15 Membership Meeting**

— Rose Kim ([MoyaonePresident@gmail.com](mailto:MoyaonePresident@gmail.com))

On Saturday, May 15, 2021, from 3:00 to 4:30 pm the Moyaone Association (MA) will hold its Annual Membership Meeting at the Moyaone Commons in the outdoor pavilion (2311 Bryan Point Road). The separate MA Budget Meeting is held annually, in December. I'm looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new neighbors at the meeting. A slightly revised agenda is included in this edition of *Smoke Signals* on page 2. I encourage you to print a copy to bring to the meeting, or keep handy on your device, as only a limited number of copies will be available. I'm excited that three local community leaders have agreed to discuss their partner organizations' relationships with the Moyaone Reserve community, as well as a representative from the Prince George's County Lynching Project (a piece is featured in this edition of *Smoke Signals* on page 2) who will speak about this important effort. Following their presentations, we will hear from Moyaone Committee Chairs about their projects, and vote on the 2022 MA Board.

As a reminder, per the MA's by-laws (see: [Moyaone.org](http://Moyaone.org)) only full MA Members in good standing may vote at this meeting, or by proxy, which can be presented, one per other current, present full MA member. A full member has paid their \$770 annual dues in full or committed to an ACH monthly debit. MA Associate Members (\$150/lots) are certainly welcomed, but do not have a vote. If you have not yet been able to pay your dues, you may do so at the meeting check-in desk.

As excited as we are all to be together, I remind everyone that COVID protocols are still in place -- everyone is expected to wear a mask and exercise social distancing. We want all in attendance to feel safe, respected, and comfortable. See you on May 15!

## **MOYAONE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP MEETING and election of officers**

**Saturday, May 15, 3:00–4:30 pm**

*Pavilion at the Moyaone Commons  
2311 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek*

Social hour to follow.  
See agenda on page 2.

## **Moyaone Association Board of Directors**

*President* — Rose Kim

[MoyaonePresident@gmail.com](mailto:MoyaonePresident@gmail.com)

*Vice President* — open

*Secretary* — Lona Powell

[MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com](mailto:MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com)

*Comptroller* — Paola Addiamiano-Carts

[MoyaoneComptroller@gmail.com](mailto:MoyaoneComptroller@gmail.com)

*Director-at-Large* — Michael Leventhal

[MoyaoneDirectorAtLarge@gmail.com](mailto:MoyaoneDirectorAtLarge@gmail.com)

# AGENDA

## for the Moyaone Association Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 15, 2021 – 3:00 to 4:30 pm  
Moyaone Community Commons, 2311 Bryan Point Road

- 3:00 pm Call to Order & Quorum Certification
- 3:05 pm President's Welcoming Remarks — Rose Kim  
New Member & Resident Introductions/Welcomes
- 3:10 pm Local Partner Organizations  
Accokeek Foundation—Laura Ford, President & CEO  
Alice Ferguson Foundation —Theresa Cullen, Executive Director  
GACA — Judy Allen-Leventhal, President  
Prince George's County Lynching Memorial Project — Leeann Irwin
- 3:30 pm Comptroller's Report — Paola Addamiano-Carts
- 3:35 pm Financial Trustees' Report — Stan Fetter, Paul Livingston; (*absent*) Bill Robertson
- 3:45 pm Standing Committee Reports  
Roads — Stan Fetter, Chair  
Public Affairs — Kent Hibben, Chair  
Welcome & Membership — Crystal Garcia, Chair  
Pool — Rhonda Hanson, Chair & Pool Manager  
Building & Grounds — John Hollyfield, Chair
- 4:05 pm Nominating committee — Rita Bergman and Karen Hoagberg
- The following slate of officers is proposed and nominations will be accepted from the floor:*
- President: Rose Kim (1-year term)  
Vice President: Lindsay Laws (1-year term)  
Comptroller: Karen Silhol (year 1 of 2-year term)  
Secretary: Lona Powell (year 2 of 2-year term)  
Director at Large: Michael Leventhal (1-year term)  
Financial Trustee: Rita Bergman (serving out last year of Stan Fetter's 3-year term)  
Financial Trustee: Bill Robertson (year 2 of 3-year term)  
Financial Trustee: Paul Livingston (year 1 of 3-year term)
- 4:15 pm Old Business  
New Business  
Announcements
- 4:30 pm Adjournment & Social

## Prince George's County Lynching Memorial Project

The Prince George's County Lynching Memorial Project educates the public on the truths of our nation's continuing legacy of slavery, memorializes victims of racial terror lynchings in our county, and advances the cause of racial justice and reconciliation through mutual support and collaboration. We are affiliated with a statewide group, the Maryland Lynching Memorial Project, which works to advance the cause of reconciliation in our state by documenting the history of racial terror lynchings, advocating for public acknowledgement of these murders, and working to honor and dignify the lives of the victims. Our work was inspired by the leadership of the Equal Justice Initiative. EJI is committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the U.S., challenging racial and economic injustice, and protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society.

Between 1865 and 1950 there are four documented racial terrorist lynchings that we are researching, documenting, and seeking public acknowledgement for those that were murdered. Following the EJI efforts we plan to have remembrance ceremonies, educational and community events, and install historic markers.

We are beginning specific efforts remembering Mr. Thomas Juricks who was lynched in Piscataway, MD on October 12, 1869. This summer we will have a second field trip to the known sites of Mr. Juricks, to meet and talk with local residents, invite others to join our work and continue fact finding.

*For more information, see:*

<https://pgclmp.org/>

<https://www.mdlynchingmemorial.org>

<https://eji.org/reports/lynching-in-america/>

### MOYAONE MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT OPTIONS

Questions? Contact Moyaone Comptroller, Paola Addamiano-Carts, at:  
[MoyaoneComptroller@gmail.com](mailto:MoyaoneComptroller@gmail.com)

#### Single Payments

(Residents and Undeveloped Lots)

- Check paid to: The Moyaone Association (P.O. Box 113, Accokeek, MD)
- Venmo payment: @moyaonecomptroller

#### Debit Payment Plan (Residents Only):

- Ten (10) ACH deductions of \$77 to be debited monthly from FEB–NOV *or* MAR–DEC

## Questions about the Moyaone? Here's Who to Contact ...

— Kent L. Hibben, Public Affairs Chair

The Moyaone Association (MA) Board, and by extension its Chairs, strive to volunteer fair, predictable stewardship of their various roles. This is to provide transparent, consistently applied policies to MA members. The MA's By-Laws and Moyaone.org together provide the framework for the Chairs and their committee colleagues to keep both the rule of law and use of civility, as part of what keeps this place a magnet for families with kids, and a safe haven for residents of ALL ages.

To that end, here are the current Chairs, from whom you can accurately ask for and receive guidance:

**Buildings & Grounds (B&G)** — ALL aspects of upkeep, facility use, rental, upgrades, and resource allocation regarding 2311 Bryan Point Road's physical plant and grounds: John Hollyfield, [Hollyfield1@comcast.net](mailto:Hollyfield1@comcast.net)

**Fundraising** — Coordinating and carrying out actions furthering the upkeep/upgrades to the Moyaone Commons or other goals as determined by the MA Board: Mary Lee Phelps, [MLGP42@msn.com](mailto:MLGP42@msn.com)

**Membership** — Coordinating and carrying out actions welcoming new landowners and residents into Moyaone Reserve: Crystal Garcia, [Moyaonemembership@gmail.com](mailto:Moyaonemembership@gmail.com) [note the importance of fitting in well, per Vivian's input shared in this *Smoke Signals* issue on p. 3]

**Roads** — All decisions on road maintenance, repair, rolling stock, and prioritization of work: Stan Fetter, [Stan@Fetter.net](mailto:Stan@Fetter.net)

**Pool** — All decisions on Pool and pool buildings' usage, resource allocation, user access, and upkeep: Rhonda Hanson, [Rhondaccps@gmail.com](mailto:Rhondaccps@gmail.com)

**Public Affairs** — Liaises on behalf of the Board with its partner organizations, and law enforcement\* (*see contact person below*), and broadcasts information serving the interests of Moyaone Reserve landowners and residents: Kent L. Hibben, [KentLHibben@gmail.com](mailto:KentLHibben@gmail.com), 301 283-2001.

**Moyaone Garden** — within the B&G orbit, yet actions inside the critter-fence are led by a committee, currently Ikuko Turner, [Ikukohime@gmail.com](mailto:Ikukohime@gmail.com), [Karen@KarenHeys.com](mailto:Karen@KarenHeys.com), and [Linda.Witkin@gmail.com](mailto:Linda.Witkin@gmail.com)

**Moyaone Habitat Restoration Team** — Within the B&G orbit, yet coordinated actions wherever invasive flora is found at 2311 Bryan Point Road (Moyaone Commons) are led by co-chairs [Antonia.Bookbinder@gmail.com](mailto:Antonia.Bookbinder@gmail.com) and [Alex@AlexNaar.com](mailto:Alex@AlexNaar.com)

\*Helping keep the peace is our Prince George's County Community Police Officer Cpl. Stephen Rannacher (911 for emergencies, and 301 352-1200 for non-emergency 24/7 dispatch), who continues to help timely resolve residents' safety concerns through (y)our requests for his engagement; to report/file incidents: [SDRannacher@co.pg.md.us](mailto:SDRannacher@co.pg.md.us).



## Artists' Group Plans Workshops, Critiques, and September Vendors Fair

The Accokeek Artists Alliance (AAA) and Alice Ferguson Foundation hosted a plein air painting and clay event on April 17 near Alice's historic log cabin studio. AAA members enjoyed painting in the morning with an insightful critique by Daniel Wise and an afternoon clay workshop led by Peggy Reichard and Jan Parker. By all counts, it was a grand success and the AAA is planning a fall follow-up plein air experience for members.



On May 23, members will be treated to John Massey's woodland tree trunk installations on his property and a critique of the ceramic art created at the plein air event.

In June, a membership meeting and the inaugural debut of AAA's "Coffee and Creativity" series, where members bring in their art projects for group critiques, will be held outdoors at the Wagner Center Pavilion.

Big plans are ongoing for a September 18 vendors fair on the soccer field at the Commons. This will be open to members and non-members alike. A booth fee of \$50 will be charged for tent/table space on the field. All items for sale must be handmade by the seller and can include art, craft, and consumables such as soap and candles.

Check out the Mattawoman Creek Art Center's (MCAC) 27th Annual Open Juried Show to see three AAA members' art: Lona Powell, Candace Bigelow, and Peggy Reichard. The exhibit is up until May 30 with an opening reception on the front lawn on Sunday, May 16 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. All art in the exhibit can be seen on the MCAC website: [mattawomanart.org/2021juriedshow](http://mattawomanart.org/2021juriedshow)

For more information about AAA, including how to join, see: [accokeekartistsalliance.com](http://accokeekartistsalliance.com)



# Keeping Moyaone Reserve Intact and Its Spirit Alive

*In March, Smoke Signals carried Vivian Mills' article on Moyaone Reserve's next fifty years. Sixteen years after those penned lines and beyond, the importance of a strong commitment on everyone's part to protect the conservation values that make the Moyaone Reserve what it is, remains. With the addition of several additional properties broadening our footprint, and the inclusive activities of the Moyaone Association's committees (see p. 3), nourishing both our roots and the branches reaching toward our tomorrows can (and must) succeed.*

[Vivian shares] ... This piece focuses on ways we can carry out that commitment as individuals and as a community. The effort to establish Piscataway Park and to place scenic easements on hundreds of acres of adjoining private land had a noble purpose — protecting the overview from historic Mount Vernon. Its achievement represents an incalculably valuable gift to the American public, including generations to come.

Although less discussed at the time, protection of the natural environment was another goal, and it too has proven within reach. With these achievements in hand, the challenge turned to stewardship of the protected land. And stewardship will continue to occupy our entire community into the far future.

For us as individual landowners, stewardship means honoring the terms of our scenic easements and covenants. Actually, it isn't a matter of choice — it's a legal obligation. Scenic easements are legally enforceable. So are covenants. Both run with the deed to the land. The process of enforcing them differs, but the principle is the same, and in each case violations carry with them the possibility of penalties.

Self-enforcement is clearly the best approach. Landowners who unflinchingly observe the easement and covenant requirements are the one sure guarantee of Moyaone's continuing success as a protected community. In the Reserve, the definition of a good neighbor includes someone who is a faithful steward of the land. However, when self-enforcement fails to work, it is time for the National Park Service (NPS) to enter the picture. When the agency's Natural Resource Manager sees or hears of a likely easement violation, it is their duty to check it out. If it turns out there is a violation, the NPS is empowered to take steps to impose a remedy. The authority to enforce scenic easements is real and important. The community is entitled to count on the Park Service to carry out enforcement vigorously, fairly, and with a clear commitment to the perpetual conservation that the scenic easements intend.

Various factors hinder easement compliance. For the Park Service, one is presumably the large number of private properties in Moyaone — nearly 200 — and the difficulty of knowing what any given landowner might be doing at any given time. For the Moyaone resident, there can understandably be a reluctance to report a suspected easement violation on the part of a neighbor. (Nevertheless, people in good conscience do take that step.) For the Moyaone Board, it may be a matter of its uncertainty about its direct involvement in situations where a violation has

occurred. Still, all three legs of the stool must be there — individual property owner, NPS, and the Moyaone Association. At this juncture in our history, community-wide discussion of the obstacles to easement-compliance and of this three-way partnership would be healthy. As a preliminary, it would be instructive to have a picture of the actual easement compliance experience over the last decades. How many violations have there been, how serious were they, and how were they discovered and dealt with? What barriers tend to stand in the way of easement enforcement? What policies and procedures have worked the best? With this evaluation in hand, we will be better equipped to map out effective strategies for the future.

A word about the covenants attached to our fee-simple deeds: by and large they also primarily depend on self-enforcement. If formal intervention by an affected party in the face of a violation doesn't work, going to court may be the only recourse. The Park Service is not responsible for overseeing compliance of these deed restrictions.

The one scenic easement that probably gets the most attention year in and year out has to do with the fact that we live in a forested area. Trees sometimes need to come down. First, check your easement document. Dead or diseased trees usually do not require [NPS] permission for removal, but whenever possible, let dead ones stand; insects that inhabit these snags attract woodpeckers and cavities in them make good nesting sites.

The easements and covenants do not restrict landscaping practices; our wise use of such practices will help Moyaone Reserve keep its natural character. Some non-native species can spread out of control and rob native species of the chance to survive. Vines, for example, should not be allowed to climb trees, and plants like bamboo, as attractive as they are, elbow everything else out. Lawns fare poorly in heavily shaded woodlands — if you must have one, use fertilizers and pesticides sparingly, if at all.

In addition, keep in mind that forest floors are naturally covered with fallen leaves, twigs, nut cases and other botanical matter as part of the cycle of death and regeneration. This biomass provides habitat and food for helpful insects, ground-nesting birds, and small mammals, and it supports the many kinds of mycelia that help keep the cycle going. A forest floor from which all this has been removed may look neat, but it's not healthy.

Scenic easements and covenants apply to successor owners, so if you must sell your house, make Moyaone Reserve a fine farewell gift by making sure that the realtor does a good job of informing would-be buyers about them. That helps discourage those for whom the idea of permanent conservation holds no interest, and attracts those who embrace it.

— Kent Lamparter Hibben for Vivian Mills

\*PP.120–22. *The Moyaone Reserve*, 2007, George Hanssen, Excerpt from "The First 50 Years" originally printed in *Smoke Signals*, January 2005.

You're encouraged to read more of the Moyaone Reserve's history, and ask those who helped shape its initial growth, to promote your actions in turn which best sustain the success of this neighborhood.

Two ready sources that detail the Moyaone Reserve's roots are: *The Possible Dream*, by Ur-Moyaoner Robert Ware Straus, available through [LFord@accokeekfoundation.org](mailto:LFord@accokeekfoundation.org), and West Ridge's George Hanssen's book, *The Moyaone Reserve*, offered by [KentLHibben@gmail.com](mailto:KentLHibben@gmail.com).



## Alice Ferguson Foundation's Pinot on the Potomac, June 5

*Nature Nuts Play Pods; Visit the Farm!*

### Pinot on the Potomac

Join us on Saturday, June 5, for our annual Pinot on the Potomac, a safe, socially distanced wine tasting and picnic event.

We're excited to offer local wines from Janemark Winery & Vineyard, craft beer from Mully's Brewery, and delicious cuisine prepared by Gwyn Novak of No Thyme to Cook. The evening will also feature live music entertainment, a silent auction, and of course, incredible views of the Potomac River with our Nation's Capital and historic Mount Vernon in the distance. Snag your [tickets](#) today!

Contact [volunteer@fergusonfoundation.org](mailto:volunteer@fergusonfoundation.org) if you would like to volunteer at the event.



### Nature Nuts Outdoor Play Pods

The second spring session of Nature Nuts is under way, but there is still room to join us for our upcoming session beginning May 26. Your child can enjoy five weeks of fun with farm animals, hands-on activities, and exploration adventures in the great outdoors. Wednesday morning or afternoon sessions are available. For ages four and up. Save your spot [here](#).

Nature Nuts is also making a return this summer! Join us on Tuesdays and Thursdays for three weeks of adventures at this morning play pod. Learn more and register [here](#).

### Fun on the Farm

At Hard Bargain Farm, there's fun for the whole family. Schedule your private visit to the farm and take advantage of the beautiful spring weather by spending time outdoors. Enjoy a nature hike to the river, see what the buzz is about in the Children's Garden, or say hello to barnyard friends. Plan your visit [here](#). Can't wait to see you at the Farm!

*For more information: Alice Ferguson Foundation, 2201 Bryan Point Rd., Accokeek; [fergusonfoundation.org](http://fergusonfoundation.org)*



*Bluebird. Photo: Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park.*

## Bluebird Monitoring at the National Colonial Farm

Over the years, a great deal of natural land has been cleared for development. In the process, old trees that once provided habitat to cavity-nesting birds—including the Eastern bluebird—have been cut down. With the addition of fierce competition from human-introduced species like the house sparrow and European starling, Eastern bluebird populations plummeted. To support the native bird populations, the Foundation works with volunteers to provide them with suitable nesting sites. Each year, a group of volunteers monitors 20 nest boxes and report population data to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.\* To volunteer, email: [volunteers@accokeek.org](mailto:volunteers@accokeek.org)

— from the website of the Accokeek Foundation  
at Piscataway Park  
[accokeekfoundation.org/preservation](http://accokeekfoundation.org/preservation)

\*The website eBird is managed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. The goal is to gather information from birdwatchers to document bird distribution, abundance, habitat use, and trends through checklist data collected within a simple, scientific framework. Birders enter when, where, and how they went birding, and then fill out a checklist of all the birds seen and heard during the outing.

eBird is among the world's largest biodiversity-related science projects, with more than 100 million bird sightings contributed annually by hundreds of thousands of eBirders around the world and an average participation growth rate of approximately 20% year over year.

For more information:

<https://ebird.org/about/resources/sharing-your-sightings-on-ebird>