

# Smoke Signals



## MOYAONE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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

VOLUME LXIII

MAY 2023

NO. 5

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

#### **Greetings Friends and Neighbors,**

Our May Membership Meeting will be held this Saturday, May 6, at 3 pm in the Wagner Center (2311 Bryan Point Rd.). We are hoping for maximum participation from our Members and Associate Members. There are important items to present to the Association Membership. These include the approval of our slate of officers for 2023–2024. We have an excellent slate of candidates this year and I hope you will give your support. We will also present a motion, to modify our Association By-Laws, which have enshrined “Smoke Signals” as the title of our community newsletter. This motion does not change the current title but, if adopted, provides the opportunity for members of our Association to choose a new title for the Moyaone monthly newsletter. We intend to establish a special committee which will collect candidate titles to be put forth to the membership for a future vote.

Preparations for our pool opening on Memorial Day weekend are moving along, however there is still much to do. The cover is off and cleanup of pool deck, sides and replenishment of the water are progressing. There are a few minor construction projects to take care of and we can use all available help. Please keep an eye out for emails requesting volunteers and if you can set aside some time on a Saturday to help out, it is very, very much appreciated.

With the impending selection of our new Association Officers, I want to recognize the tremendous support received this past year from the members of our current Board of Directors. Our At-Large Director, Rose Kim, has served on the board for five consecutive years, two as Vice President, two as President, and last year as our At-Large Director. I believe this may be a record for longevity on the board. We are privileged that Rose has volunteered to continue to serve as the coordinator for our Moyaone website. Karen Bell departs the board after two years as Comptroller. The Association has greatly benefited from her financial expertise as well as “keeping the lights on.” Our Vice President, Logan Kistler, has been key to coordinating with our pool committee and providing seasoned advice in all our deliberations; we’re sorry to see him leave the board. Our Association Secretary, Jim Wickman, will be

remaining in his role for the coming year. Jim has been instrumental in pushing information to the Association and we are privileged for his continued service to the community. This organization could not operate without the dedicated efforts of many people who give freely of their spare time. This includes the efforts of our Standing Committees Chairs, Stan Fetter (Roads), John Hollyfield (Buildings & Grounds), Hsin-I Russell (acting Pool Chair), Crystal Garcia (Membership), Mary Lee Phelps (Fundraising), Kent Hibben (Public Affairs), all committee members, Ruth Gaumont (Newsletter Editor), Financial Trustees (Bill Robertson, Paul Livingston, and Cedric Welch), and Gary Penn and Paul Murray (Moyaone.org) (Gary is moving to Maine—thanks very much to Gary for maintaining our outstanding web presence), all continue to provide so much continuity as our board members transition on and off the board through the years. There are others who provide tremendous support from behind the scenes. Thanks to all for your service. For the oncoming board members, welcome aboard and thank you for agreeing to serve our community. I hope you will find this experience as rewarding as I have.

That’s all for this month. Thanks again to all for your tremendous continuing support for our community and your dedicated efforts to preserve the Reserve.

— John “JR” Rudzis

*President, Moyaone Association*  
*MoyaonePresident@gmail.com*

#### **Moyaone Association Board of Directors**

*President* — John “JR” Rudzis  
*MoyaonePresident@gmail.com*

*Vice President* — Logan Kistler  
*MoyaoneVicePresident@gmail.com*

*Secretary* — Jim Wickman  
*MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com*

*Comptroller* — Karen Bell  
*MoyaoneComptroller@gmail.com*

*Director-at-Large* — Rose Kim  
*MoyaoneDirectorAtLarge@gmail.com*

# Moyaone Association Annual Membership Meeting

Saturday, May 6, 3:00–4:30 pm

Wagner Center, Moyaone Commons, 2311 Bryan Point Rd.

**Registration opens at 2:45 pm. Please plan to arrive early so we can start on time — especially if you are a proxy!**

We will elect new Board Members; and a quorum is required. Please plan to either attend or arrange for a proxy vote.

All are welcome, however, only full Moyaone Association members who have paid their dues in full may vote. Voting is one vote per household regardless of how many properties are owned.

If you are a current Moyaone Association full member in good standing, and are unable to attend the meeting, please arrange to give your proxy vote to another current Association member who will be attending. The proxy form is found below.

Finally, at this meeting we will also discuss and vote on the following motion to amend Article 1, Section 2 of the Association Bylaws. That motion is listed below.

*Motion to Amend Current Bylaws of the Moyaone Association:*

WHEREAS: Article 1 – Name; Newsletter; Fiscal Year; Definitions / Section 2. Newsletter states the following:

## Section 2. Newsletter

“*Smoke Signals* shall be the official newsletter of the Association. The Board of Directors shall appoint the Editor, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board.”

It is moved that Section 2. Newsletter be amended to state:

“The official newsletter of the Association shall be named by a vote of the membership. The Board of Directors shall appoint the Editor, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board.”

*Please note that this proposed amendment does not change the name of the Association Newsletter. The amendment only makes it possible to discuss and vote on a change in*

*the name of the Newsletter. It puts the naming of the Newsletter into a vote of the membership rather than in the Bylaws.*

—Jim Wickman, Secretary (2022–24)

## MEETING AGENDA

2:30 pm	Doors open, Registration of Voting Members
3:00 pm	Welcome, Call to Order, Determinations of Due Notice and Quorum
3:10 pm	Correction and Approval of Dec. 10, 2022 Moyaone Association Meeting Minutes
3:15 pm	Minutes Financial Trustees Risk Assessment
3:25 pm	Reports of Officers, Committees, and Subsidiaries
3:55 pm	Moyaone Association Slate of Officers for 2023–24, Discussion and Vote for Approval
4:15 pm	Old Business / New Business
4:30 pm	Adjourn

Please stay after the meeting to enjoy a potluck and happy hour with neighbors and friends. Bring your favorite beverage or snack.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The 2023 Nominating Committee composed of Rose Kim, Nan Fremont and Michael Leventhal offer the following slate of candidates for the 2023–24 Moyaone Board of Directors and Financial Trustees. As per the Moyaone Association Bylaws, nominations are also accepted from the floor.

- President - 1-year term: John Rudzis
- Vice President - 1-year term: Chris Ailles
- Comptroller - 2-year term: Linda Witkin
- At-Large - 1-year term: Bobby Gheen
- Financial Trustee - 3-year term: Dave Koch

Those continuing their terms:

- Jim Wickman - Board Secretary (year 1 of a 2-year term)
- Paul Livingston - Financial Trustee (year 2 of a 3-year term)
- Cedrick Welch - Financial Trustee (year 1 of a 3-year term)

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## Moyaone Association Membership Voting Proxy Form

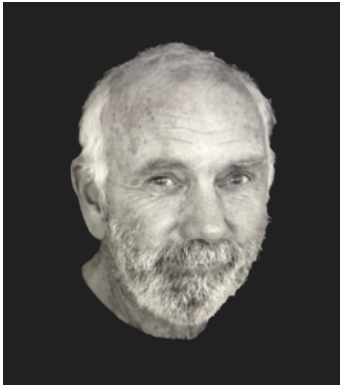
Homeowner name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

I give \_\_\_\_\_ authorization to vote on my behalf on all issues put to a vote by the Moyaone Association during the May 6 Annual Membership Meeting.

Homeowner(s) signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This form must be presented by the Proxy at the Moyaone Membership Meeting on May 6, 2023.



## William Wareham

William Wareham, local artist, former Accokeek lifeguard, and coach and brother of Bud Wareham, passed away April 17 at the age of 82. His works were recognized both nationally and internationally. He was best known for his sculpture works, which are on display at various locations throughout the country. Some of his sculptures as well as his early paintings are enjoyed by our neighbors. Bill had degrees from Philadelphia College Museum of Art and from University of California–Berkeley. He served in the Peace Corps in Peru.

Bill was always interested in saving the environment and that passion was expressed through his art. A number of years ago Bill was featured on *Good Morning America* where he went to a landfill to retrieve junk and turned it into art. Bill was always interested in Native Americans and as a young boy organized all the kids in the community in Oxon Hill to do reenactments of Custer's Last Stand. Of course Bill would always be Sitting Bull. In later years he would take food to the Native Americans when they occupied Alcatraz.

Bill was a long-time resident of San Francisco before purchasing a former dairy farm in Montague, California, where he not only enjoyed amazing views of Mount Shasta but also had space to create and build his sculptures. He remained active in the art community, creating and constructing his sculptures even at age 82. His contribution to speaking through art will be missed. He leaves behind his son, Vasili, and daughter, Aloysia, as well as his brother Bud and sister Nancy. We will miss you, brother.

## A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### ***Naming our Newsletter***

by Paola Addamiano-Carts

The March 2023 issue of *Smoke Signals* (see president's message in that issue) suggested there would be a newsletter name change. The May 6 membership meeting sets the stage by including a vote on the proposed change to remove the designated name *Smoke Signals* from the by-laws. I include the following information to help the membership understand why the name *Smoke Signals* is a valid and descriptive name for a communication tool, particularly our Moyaone Association newsletter.

Smoke signals have been used as a means of communication from ancient to modern times, in diverse cultures, and across the globe. Please note that the history of signal fires (signum per ignem) is inextricably interwoven with smoke signals since fire is more visible at night, while smoke is more visible during the day. Here are **just a few** examples of smoke being used as a communication tool throughout history:

- The ancient Chinese are credited with the first use of smoke signals. They used smoke signals along the Great Wall of China to warn of invaders. (The smoke was generated by igniting wolf dung, saltpeter, and sulfur and could relay a message 300 miles away in just a few hours.)
- Moses and the Israelites followed a column of smoke by day (and fire by night) to escape captivity.
- Aeschylus's Agamemnon tells us that the fall of Troy was broadcast back to Sparta by smoke signals.
- Polybius (3rd century BC Greek historian) describes his alphabet smoke signal system.
- The ancient Romans used smoke signals to site roads.
- By royal decree in the 1300s, "beknes" (origin of the word beacon) or signal fire/smoke signal communication mounds/towers were to be maintained throughout England.
- Both Native Americans and Aboriginal Australians had sophisticated systems of smoke signal communication.
- In the age of sail, ships could communicate by the sound and smoke of cannons. Indeed, marine chronometers, so vital to ship navigation, were set off the Cape of Good Hope by this method.
- The announcement of papal elections in Vatican City is signaled by smoke.
- Numerous people stranded in the wilderness have been found by the smoke from signal fires.

Smoke signals have been used as communication device throughout time, place, and people. Thus, this name is appropriate for a modern-day communication tool, i.e., the Moyaone newsletter.



## Every Season is a Season for Art!



The Accokeek Artists Alliance's (AAA) presence at the Accokeek Foundation's "Lattes With Lambs" on April 15th was a great success. Many members contributed artworks to sheep Sir Nigel's impressive art gallery and we had successful sales and a "glue the wool on the lamb" activity that was

fun for all ages (see photo above).

Next up, the AAA will participate in the Alice Ferguson Foundation's Spring Fest event on Saturday, May 13 from 11 am to 4 pm at Hard Bargain Farm (2001 Bryan Point Road). Put it on your calendars! Looking ahead, we are now in the planning stages for a June meeting, and finalizing our plans for an art show at the Harmony Hall gallery in Fort Washington in August.

If you're new in the area or have been thinking about starting an artistic pursuit, joining the Accokeek Artists Alliance is a great way to stay abreast of art events around Southern Maryland and facilitate your creative journey. Joining is easy. Just visit our website: [accokeekartistsalliance.com](http://accokeekartistsalliance.com) and click "Join Us."



## Music in the Merry Month of May

Welcome to May Music — I'm so looking forward to these upcoming shows and collaborating with these talented artists. Hope to see you soon! — Lynn Hollyfield. For more information: [www.LynnHollyfield.com](http://www.LynnHollyfield.com)

**Saturday, May 6, Sevareid House Concert Series.** 1226 N. Pegram St, Alexandria VA. Marc Douglas Berardo with special guest, Lynn Hollyfield. Doors open 7 pm; Show 8 pm. Suggested donation \$30. Advance tickets available: <https://www.sevareidhouseconcerts.com/upcoming>

Singer-songwriter, performer, and keen observer, **Marc Douglas Berardo's** songs are sharply drawn and cast a net on unusual and beguiling characters and places that bring to mind James Taylor, Jimmy Buffett, Guy Clark, and Steely Dan with a touch of Mark Twain or Hunter S. Thompson. His songs have been recognized at many prestigious national festivals and events such as The South Florida Folk Festival, The Wildflower Art and Music Festival, and the legendary Kerrville Folk Festival.

**Saturday, May 13, 6 pm. The 2nd Saturday's Backyard Concert Series.** 1616 S. Pollard St, Arlington, VA. Lynn with Jillian Matundan and Marcy Cochran. Admission: Suggested Donation \$20.

Bring a lawn chair and make yourself cozy for this special return concert to the Sweet Backyard Concert Series (see photo above). I love playing music with Jillian and Marcy, two amazing artists. Expect great singing, picking and some interesting instrumentation ... did someone say, "Nyckelharpa?" Come on out!

**Sunday, May 28, 6 pm. The New Deal Cafe.** 113 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD. Lynn with Valeria Stewart

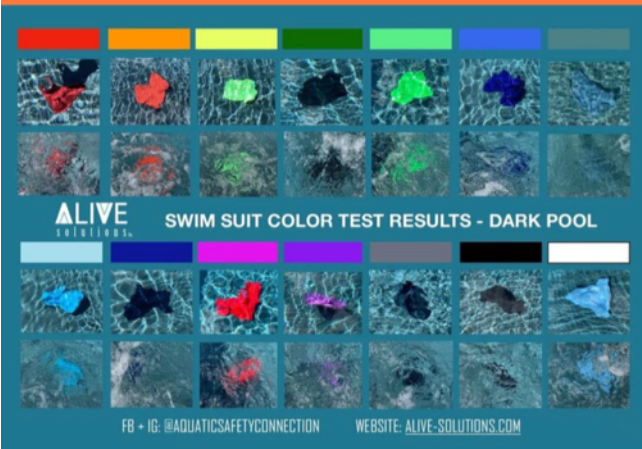
**Valeria Stewart** is an award-winning singer-songwriter and you can see her playing solo or with the trio, Crooked Sparrow. She joins me for this special show. We'll be taking turns, sharing songs and supporting each other — vocally and instrumentally. Spontaneity rules. Admission: Artist Suggested Donation: \$20.

**Saturday, May 13. Spring Fest, 1 pm.** Hard Bargain Farm, 2001 Bryan Point Road. The day's events take place from 11 am to 4 pm.



# WATER SAFETY: What You Wear Matters

While May is water safety month, and while we will be providing you with water safety content throughout the month of May, we know many of you are shopping for this season's bathing suits **NOW**. As supporters of water safety, we encourage you to look at the graphics below, and think about the color bathing suits you choose for both your children and yourself.



Think bright, think contrasting. In non contrasting colors such as blues and greens it is **HARD** for a lifeguard to see if something has gone wrong and you are on the bottom of the pool.



In a lake or open water, you can see that it is even more difficult for lifeguards, safety personnel, or boaters to see you. This is one of the reasons Crossing Currents Aquatics requires a bright visibility buoy during all of our open water events.

We know that young boy's bathing suits can be particularly difficult to find in neon or bright colors. We'd like to thank our friends at Alive-Solutions for putting together some of their favorite brights for all ages and genders: <https://alive-solutions.com/amazon>

— Candice Bigelow



# Gators Gear Up

The Gators are getting ready for another fun summer of swimming!

The Accokeek Swim Team is a not-for-profit competitive team in the Prince Mont Swim League for ages 4–18. The goal of our team is to provide every member with a chance to improve swimming skills and achieve success at his or her level of ability, from novice to seasoned competitor. The focus is on mastering the correct stroke technique, learning teamwork, good sportsmanship, and self-discipline.

We offer three practices according to skill and age: Mini-gators 4-up, Blue Gators 10-under, and Orange Gators 11–18. Our season runs Memorial Day through the end of July. Practices are M–F 6–8 pm (until school is out); then MWF 9–11 am and T/TH 6–8 pm, depending on the practice group.

Thursday evenings are reserved for our fantastically fun themed Spirit Nights! All are encouraged to participate!

Registration is now OPEN! Please use the link to access our team page: [https://www.teamunify.com/Home.jsp?tabid\\_=0&team=recpmag](https://www.teamunify.com/Home.jsp?tabid_=0&team=recpmag)

If you have any questions about the team, please contact parent volunteer Crystal Garcia: [crystallynnngarcia@me.com](mailto:crystallynnngarcia@me.com)

## Pulse of the Pool

The Pool Manager Search Committee welcomes Micah Dixon as our Pool Manager, now in his 20th year at this pool. Congratulations!

Micah and the Pool Committee would like to thank EVERY SINGLE community member who lent a hand with maintaining our pool during the off-season as well as for the myriad tasks and preparations for this year's inspection and opening day. There have been many challenges these past few years. Without you, this pool would simply not open.

We plan a potluck and social on Sunday, May 28 at 4 pm. We look forward to clear, blue water and seeing some happy kiddie faces. We are also pumped for another excellent season with the Accokeek Swim Team! Morning practice starts June 18. We still have several important tasks to complete before this month's inspection as well as preparations for May 28. Please RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/3MnDwrXN8i65gzqG9>.

**MICAH DIXON:** I have been a part of the Moyaone Pool now for 20 years. I was competing in the swim team as a youth and then on the pool staff as life guard and as an assistant manager. I have been coaching the swim team now for at least 5 years. I also run my own swimming school business and landscaping business. I am a new father to my son Micah Jr., born this January. I'm very honored to be able to run the pool this year: it's my home, being there and being able to watch the kids grow up and see everyone enjoy themselves when they walk through those pool doors, brings me joy.

**Southern Maryland National Heritage Area Launch**

In December 2022, Congress enacted the Southern Maryland National Heritage Area Act in recognition of Southern Maryland’s unique significance to the nation’s history. National Heritage Areas are places where historic, cultural, and natural resources combine to form cohesive, nationally important landscapes.



**The Accokeek Foundation is honored that the Southern Maryland National Heritage Area will host its launch on Thursday, May 25, at 11 am in Piscataway Park. We'd like to cordially invite you to the park for this special event that will feature:**

- Maryland Governor Wes Moore as keynote speaker
- Cultural demonstrations and artistic performances
- A visit from the newly recreated 17th-century ship, the Maryland Dove
- Catered refreshments

This event is free and open to the public. Please register in advance to attend. The program will start promptly 12 pm.

Register at <https://bit.ly/SMNHA-Registration-AF>.

**Through the Eyes of Cate Sharper Farm Tour**

Seeing the world through someone else's eyes is a powerful way to gain perspective. The Through the Eyes of Cate Sharper farm tour provides a unique opportunity to see the National Colonial Farm through the eyes of Cate Sharper, portrayed by historical performer Shemika Berry. Cate Sharper was a real



woman enslaved in Prince George's County in the 1800s. Using her real name is essential in telling her story, not only to provide historical context for the site but also to honor the memory of the millions of enslaved African Americans whose names and stories are unknown.

May 5th, 1-2 pm and 3-4 pm. \$10/person

**Citizen Science with the Accokeek Foundation**

Coming soon to Piscataway Park are two monitoring stations to be installed at the Accokeek Foundation in Piscataway Park. Made possible by a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, these Chronolog

stations will allow the Accokeek Stewardship team to track environmental changes in our space. This is a great citizen science opportunity for our neighbors and visitors to help track changes in Piscataway Park!

Visitors are encouraged to be a part of this process by taking a

picture at a station and following the instructions to upload it to the Accokeek timelapse site. Learn more at <https://www.accokeek.org/post/citizen-science-with-accokeek>.



**Earth Day Cleanup**

Thank you to all who joined AF for our Earth Day Open House! The garden and shoreline looked wonderful, thanks to hardworking and dedicated volunteers. Keep an eye out for upcoming volunteer events, including our National Public Lands Day Open House!

*The Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park is located at 3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek; info@accokeek.org*



## Exciting News at the Alice Ferguson Foundation

The Foundation has been named a 2023 Maryland Green Center recipient through the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education. There are 46 Green Centers and 642 active Maryland Green Schools, representing 36% of all Maryland schools. Read more about what it takes to become a Green School & Center [here](#).

We are proud to be partnering with the Sierra Club–Maryland Chapter, Prince George's Group, and the Anacostia Watershed Society with the recent Prince George's County Better Bag Bill (CB-32-2023) legislative initiative. If passed, this bill would promote the use of reusable bags, prohibiting retailers from providing single-use plastic carryout bags and requiring them to charge at least 10 cents for other types of carryout bags. Read more about the Better Bag Bill [here](#).

### ✦ Join us at Spring Fest on May 13

Spring Fest is just a few days away! Spend your spring Saturday at Hard Bargain Farm learning about who we are and enjoying the beautiful outdoors at our environmental campus in Accokeek, MD. There will also be a native plant sale, live music by local musicians, and community vendors with local art and goodies for sale.

[BUY TICKETS HERE](#)

### Upcoming Events at Hard Bargain Farm

Connect to nature with us! Whether you want to learn about what it takes to have your own backyard beehive, take in the scenic views of the protected Mount Vernon viewshed, or need to make plans for the kiddos for summer break, there's something for everyone to enjoy at our upcoming events.

- May 20 at 11 am: Bees for Beginners with Stefano Briguglio of Azure B Apiaries
- June 10 at 9 am: Piscataway Kayaking Adventure with Atlantic Kayak Company
- June 10 at 4 pm: "Egg"-citement!
- July 2023: Summer Adventure Camp (For ages 4–13)
- September 9: Save the date for the 9th Annual Pinot on the Potomac (Details coming soon!)

[SAVE YOUR SPOT](#)



### Register Today for Summer Adventure Camp

Act now! Spots for our Summer Adventure Camp are filling fast! Choose from four one-week sessions this July, for kids aged 4–13. There's no better way to spend summer break than at Hard Bargain Farm.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Alice Ferguson Foundation, 2001 Bryan Point Road  
[fergusonfoundation.org](http://fergusonfoundation.org)

Female Siberian husky puppies. Born Jan 26, 2023. First shots, dewormed, and Vet checked. Mother and father are full-bred. Raised with small children and other dogs. They have very sweet personalities and are well taken care of.

Price negotiable. Please text Karina for more info @ 571-275-9336



## Can You Hear Me?

### *Acoustics at the Wagner Community Center*

Just as an appropriate focus is being placed on road maintenance equipment upgrades, a complementary upgrade of the Moyaone Association's community center acoustics is also both timely and within financial reach. Summaries from two recent open meetings are below in advance of the May 6 Moyaone Association Membership Meeting, to assist voters in identifying and weighing the merits of including acoustic budget outlays alongside other quality-of-life outlays:

A major consideration in choosing mitigation is that this is a multipurpose building, and usage changes the sound. Loud is not better; more than one person speaking greatly reduces hearing clarity. Noise also impedes hearing clarity. The dehumidifier, the AC, the heating, planes passing overhead, two or more groups working separately are all deleterious to hearing clearly.

Diagnosis is easy, the solution is not. Almost anything absorbent will help. Lowest frequencies are primarily controlled by the shape of the room. The Community Center problem is primarily at the level of speech and higher frequencies.

If we apply a fix only to the ceiling, we'll continue to have problems with reverberation (sound persistently bouncing off all surfaces, reducing clarity. Lower frequencies). If we apply a fix only to the walls, we'll have problems with flutter (sound bouncing off parallel surfaces with sufficient delay that it sounds distinct from the original. Higher frequencies). The windows are not a significant source of the problem because of their height in the building.

If we apply corrective measures to both the walls and the ceiling, the sound will be vastly improved. There is a sweet spot between where the sound-absorbing materials are insufficient to our needs and where they are more than necessary—deadening the sound. Our consultant, Prof. Hoffman (Acoustic

Architect, Johns Hopkins University, Peabody Institute), suggests we install 512 square feet of baffles hanging at the ceiling (2 feet x 4 feet x 2 inches thick) and a screened baffle covering the wall closest to the swimming pool. This particular wall was selected for remediation because meetings, music, and events are usually focused on the opposite wall, towards the gardens.

Baffles: Both hanging battens *and* the wall-mounted panels:

- Made with a variety of materials, including fiberglass, cotton, etc.
- Thickness: A 2-inch thickness is the industry default. A 4-inch thickness is more expensive.
  - Slatted/slotted faced: better protection of the baffles, but not as great with sound. Really helps with low-end baffles.
- System longevity: 20 to 25 years
- Cost: Estimated between \$10,000 and \$20,000

#### *Recommended actions include:*

The Moyaone Association membership votes to approve an initial budgetary outlay to fund the hanging battens. This action, once funded and under way, can then catalyze a second budgetary outlay and/or in-kind donations for the wall-mounted panels.

Moving forward with some manner of expert-recommended sound-improvement is fiscally within the MA budget, will pay immediate dividends in the improved acoustics — leading to higher community enjoyment and utilization of the commonly-owned facility, and can encourage, and, hopefully, then sufficiently catalyze the additional funds for completing the second of the two acoustic improvement actions.

A motion to the effect of the above recommended action is planned at the May 6, 2023 membership meeting. Questions are welcome; please send to [HBWagner1215@gmail.com](mailto:HBWagner1215@gmail.com).