

# Smoke Signal



MOYAONE  
ASSOCIATION  
NEWSLETTER

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

VOLUME LXII

AUGUST 2022

NO. 8

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

### **Summer Recap, and Looking toward Fall**

*Greetings, Friends and Neighbors, and welcome,*

Thank you all for your efforts in keeping our community such a wonderful place to wake up in every morning. As you know, our 2022 Summer season is rapidly waning. Our pool continues to offer pleasant relief from the recent hot days. However, if you haven't availed yourself to enjoy this "Crown Jewel" of our Moyaone Reserve, there are just a few short weeks remaining before most of the pool staff heads off to school. I want to add a shout-out to our Accokeek Gators Swim Team, which finished another excellent season on July 30th. Our sincere appreciation goes to the swimmers, coaches, parents, and volunteers who make the swim team such a worthwhile community effort.

I also want to thank all of our volunteers who give much of their precious time and resources towards sustaining the Reserve. These include the committee members, chairs and fellow board members, our quick-reaction volunteers who headed out during recent storms to clear fallen limbs and trees which had blocked our roads, and to our Fundraising Committee, ably led by Mary Lee Phelps, who all worked tirelessly to host "Starry Night", our August 6th Summer Pool Party. This was another outstanding event, which included delicious fare created by Maria Femia with serving assistance from Lisa, and exceptionally beautiful music by vocalist Mariah Bonner and pianist Marcus Dagan (see photo at right).

Although this event was well attended, I encourage more of our members and neighbors to support these events. Fundraising tickets are moderately priced and not only cover the costs of hosting great events, but also add to the resources needed to meet planned and unplanned annual expenses. There are always going to be unforeseen issues associated with maintaining our roads, pool, and facilities. For example, recent storms required additional grading to ensure that our roads are stable and prepared to handle the

next big "gully washer."

There are also the inflationary pressures which have increased the cost of everything. The cushion we can achieve through our fundraising helps us to avoid raising annual dues and fees while providing exceptional support for the community. Thank you for your attention and consideration here.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the next community event, our Labor Day Weekend Potluck on Sunday, September 4.

*Respectfully,  
John Rudzis*

*President, Moyaone Association  
MoyaonePresident@gmail.com*





## Lydia Kowalewski Kovacs 1952 – 2021

*Memorial to a Moyaone just as home in the water  
as in the woods here ...*

Lydia Kowalewski Kovacs passed on recently of cancer, surrounded by family. She was born Lydia Ann Kowalewski, December 5, 1952, in Ephrata, Pennsylvania. Lydia received her medical training at George Washington University and was a licensed Physician's Assistant. She cared for thousands of surgical, obstetrical and gynecological, rehabilitative, and long-term geriatric patients over a 45-year career in Southern Maryland.

As a youth she was a superb competitive swimmer. Lydia excelled in the 200m butterfly and 400m individual medley events, reaching the Olympic Trials in 1972, where she took 12th in both events. Her dedication to practice and training in the water carried over to her education; extremely respected in her medical community, in which she earned a well-deserved reputation for the excellence of her care for her patients. In keeping with that interest and dedication to medicine, her body was donated to the Uniformed Services University, Bethesda, Maryland, to support medical practice and research.

In 1976 she married Louis "Skip" Kovacs, an oceanographer at the Naval Research Laboratory. She is survived by her husband, sons Louis and Michael, four grandchildren, her brother Stephen, and by close to a hundred extended family members on her father's and mother's sides of the family.

Lydia loved the beaches, lighthouses, forests, swamps, waters, and the cultures of Southern Maryland. In honor of this, and of her lifelong focus on (helping others with) the joy of swimming, the family requests that donations in her name be made to the Alice Ferguson Foundation (<https://www.fergusonfoundation.org/ways-to-give/donate/>) or the USA Swimming Foundation (<https://www.usaswimming.org/foundation>).

### ***Pulse of the Pool:***

## ***Labor Day Picnic on Sunday, Sept. 4***

We are less than FOUR weeks away from Labor Day weekend and the beginning of the end of the pool season. Each year we throw ourselves an end-of-summer Labor Day weekend social, but it can't be accomplished without helping hands. Volunteers are needed for the following phases on the day of the event:

1) *Set-up* (2 pm): 2–4 volunteers – landscaping help; clean, tidy, or decorate the Tiki Bar, Pavilion and Kitchen; set up flatware, serveware and buffet tables; arrange seating; prepare food, ice, and beverage stations.

2) *Grill Masters* (3 pm): 4–6 volunteers (2 shifts of two from 3–4:30 pm and 4:30–6 pm); 3 pm crew fires up the grill and begins grilling meats; 4:30 crew finishes grilling meats and puts out the fire.

3) *Clean-up* (starting 6 pm): 2–4 volunteers, consolidate food stuffs, put away linens, unused supplies and food items, clear off tables, make sure trash gets into receptacles, put furniture back.

Anyone who is interested in helping with September's Labor Day picnic and social and pool closing, please join us at our next meeting, which will be Tuesday, August 16 at 6:30 in the Pavilion at 2311 Bryan Point Road. If you aren't able to attend the meeting and still would like to help, send me an email ([russelhc@yahoo.com](mailto:russelhc@yahoo.com)) or text me (240 383-9708).

If we do not have sufficient volunteers for September 4, it will simply be a spontaneous gathering as it was with the July 4 holiday weekend.

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

*President* — John "JR" Rudzis  
[MoyaonePresident@gmail.com](mailto:MoyaonePresident@gmail.com)

*Vice President* — Logan Kistler  
[MoyaoneVicePresident@gmail.com](mailto:MoyaoneVicePresident@gmail.com)

*Secretary* — Jim Wickman  
[MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com](mailto:MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com)

*Comptroller* — Karen Bell  
[MoyaoneComptroller@gmail.com](mailto:MoyaoneComptroller@gmail.com)

*Director-at-Large* — Rose Kim  
[MoyaoneDirectorAtLarge@gmail.com](mailto:MoyaoneDirectorAtLarge@gmail.com)



## Ferguson Amphitheater Reopening a Grand Success!

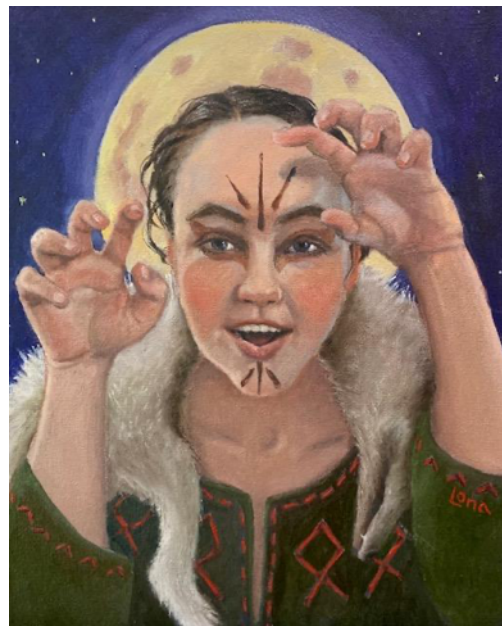
On Saturday, July 23, the Alice Ferguson Foundation's Amphitheater held a concert to celebrate reopening after being closed due to the pandemic. The last performance had been in Fall 2019.

A massive community, volunteer effort ensued prior to the concert date. Over 30 people from Accokeek and beyond came to help us open up this beautiful space, and more volunteered to set up and work the the concert (*see photo above*). Here are just a few of the contributions to the amphitheater maintenance over a week, including two Sunday morning workdays.

- Power-washed chairs, stage, paved area, and bathroom decking
- Moved six pickup truck loads of tree limbs, old lumber, and brush
- Cleaned bathrooms and refreshments stand
- Weeded the path and spread at least 50 wheelbarrow loads of mulch
- Weeded poison ivy from area and spruced up entrance
- Cleared parking spaces in the woods
- Repaired path lights and replaced bulbs, hung stage lights for musicians
- Painted new sandwich board signs

Despite the temperatures being in the high 90s that evening, more than 125 people came to enjoy the music of Mina Karimi, Good Gravy (the Aills family), Logan Kistler and Ralph Parkinson, and Lynn Hollyfield with Steve Wolf.

A huge thank you goes out to all the volunteers, the wonderful audience, and the Alice Ferguson Foundation for allowing this gem, the Ferguson Amphitheater, to be open to support the arts in our community.



## Artists Alliance News

The Accokeek Artists Alliance (AAA) met at Carol Burbank's home July 24 for a "fierce feminine"—focused multimedia event. The lively and engaging Sunday afternoon included Carol's presentation of her research on the Jezebel tradition and recitation of her powerful poetry; art by members Lona Powell (*see the painting of her granddaughter above*), Cindi Rudzis, Patrick Holmes, and Erica Barry; and original songs performed by three talented musicians, including members Lynn Hollyfield and Mina Karimi.

Next up will be a September 24 meeting in a historic plantation farmhouse with a guest glass artist presenting. This will be followed by the annual Winter Market, December 2–4, at the Wagner Community Center, 2311 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek.

Join the AAA for the remainder of 2022. You can register via the website, [www.accokeekartistsalliance.com](http://www.accokeekartistsalliance.com), and take advantage of a 50% deduction in fees — \$7.50 for individual supporter and \$15.00 for individual artist. Now's the time to be a part of this friendly, arts-loving community.

*News alert:* Much-lauded AAA member Lona Powell will be giving a workshop on sketchbook journaling at Mattawoman Creek Art Center on Sept. 7 from 10 am to noon. If you've seen her journals you know this is not to be missed. Click the link for more information and to register:

[https://www.mattawomanart.org/\\_files/ugd/b16981\\_0ecac45e276249acafee8bd6017c728d.pdf](https://www.mattawomanart.org/_files/ugd/b16981_0ecac45e276249acafee8bd6017c728d.pdf)

And, as always, we welcome new members. If you are an art lover and/or art maker, join this inspiring group. You can fill out a membership form at [www.accokeekartistsalliance.com](http://www.accokeekartistsalliance.com).



**Photo:** Front (L–R): Tre' W., Kris F., Jerome F., DaVion B.;  
Back (L–R): Jeremiah S., Liya N., Noah R.



## Summer Interns Join the Team at Accokeek Foundation

Even though the “Hog Days” of summer are upon us, it is always cool at the Accokeek Foundation (AF)!

### SYEP Spotlight

Prince George's Summer Youth Enrichment Program (SYEP) is in full swing at AF. This year, the Foundation is hosting seven interns who are working on garden projects, livestock care, natural resource stewardship, and road works. The SYEP internship program lasts for 6 weeks, and SYEP recruits, hires, and pays the interns. It is an excellent partnership that gets important work done and helps Prince George's County youth "Discover Their Potential."

Working with staff, SYEP interns are sharing with the visiting public knowledge about the history of Piscataway Park and the region. As part of the AF team, they are collaborating with partners to learn and to share inclusive stories about history, agriculture, the environment, and natural and cultural resource stewardship. We celebrate and honor the contributions of this next generation of youth leaders and change-makers.

### Partnerships

AF welcomed a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute group as they learned about the histories of Black and Indigenous landscapes.

This month, AF also held a Tidewater Agricultural Network meeting comprised of living history museum professionals to discuss Cultural Foodways.

AF recently collaborated with a George Washington University Museum Studies graduate program on grant writing class to offer students real world experience. We thank them for their proposals and insights and congratulate them on completion of their studies.



## UPCOMING EVENTS at the Accokeek Foundation

Register online at <https://calendar.accokeekfoundation.org>

### Friday Farm Tours

Fridays, August 5 & August 19, 1–2 pm & 2:30–3:30 pm  
Explore the grounds of a working tobacco farm and meet its two- and four-legged residents. Suitable for all ages, registration required.

### Sensory Hike

Saturday, August 13, 10–11:30 am  
Awaken your senses by exploring the natural wonders of Piscataway Park through sight, smell, sound, and touch. Suitable for all ages, registration required.

### Fairy Trail

June 25–November 14

Thank you to everyone who celebrated with us at the Fairy Trails Kick Off event!

And the fun is not over — the Piscataway Park Fairy Trail is open now through November. Pick up your Fairy Guide booklet online or in the Visitor Center to explore the magic of healthy soil.

### Donor Appreciation

AF is grateful for support from the foundations, organizations, and donors that aids the Foundation in fulfilling its mission to cultivate passion for the natural and cultural heritage of Piscataway Park and commitment to stewardship and sustainability. Thank you for your dedication.

### Volunteers

Interested in volunteering with AF? There are incredible opportunities for all people interested in volunteering! Find more information at [Accokeek.org/volunteer](https://accokeek.org/volunteer).

### ACCOKEEK FOUNDATION AT NATIONAL HARBOR

We're bringing the magic of the Piscataway Park Fairy Trail to National Harbor. AF will be participating in National Harbor's Kids Days on August 18, from 10:30 to 11:15 am.

*The Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park  
3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek; [info@accokeek.org](mailto:info@accokeek.org)*



## Sign Up for Fall Events at the Alice Ferguson Foundation

Fall 2022 programs are here at the Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF)! Sign up your incoming class, homeschoolers, Girl/Boy Scouts, etc., for our environmental education programs and allow children to explore and learn about their local outdoor environment. AFF hosts programs for children ages pre-K through 12th grade, with the option for virtual field trips as well. Plan ahead and [schedule your program](#) today!



Looking for a relaxing volunteer opportunity? Join us in the Farmhouse on September 2 from noon to 4 pm for some casual conversation and hot tea while you help us stuff envelopes for our Back-to-School fundraising appeal. Learn about our volunteer opportunities and sign up on [our website](#), and be sure to check back as more ways to help will be posted as they come up. Open to ages 15+.

Join us at the farmhouse gardens on September 10 from 1 to 3 pm to celebrate YOU as we near the end of summer. We could not continue our mission of expanding environmental education outreach without our donors, members, and volunteers. We invite you and your families to join us and enjoy the beautiful view overlooking the Potomac, catch up with neighbors, enjoy an ice cream bar, and have fun with family-friendly activities hosted by our environmental education team! Please RSVP by September 5. Register the family in advance [here](#).

# SCUBA DAY AT THE MOYAONE POOL

Meet  
SCUBA  
divers

See  
SCUBA  
gear

Do  
SCUBA  
science



**FREE!**

**Saturday, August 27, 2022  
10 AM to Noon**

**Moyaone Pool, 2311 Bryan Point Rd,  
Accokeek, MD 20607**

sponsored by Kids Into Discovering Science



Join us for Saturday's Fun on the Farm this Fall! From Unfor-GOAT-able adventures to Chores & S'mores, reserve your spot in our monthly programs from September through December 2022! This is something you and your family won't want to miss! Tickets and more information can be [found here](#).

Do you love sharing nature with kids? Join our team of part-time educators and share your love of nature! Field trips are generally held from 10 to 2 on weekdays. Training will be held in late August and early September. Schedules are flexible. Rolling application process. Contact Sarah Kempfer at [skempfer@fergusonfoundation.org](mailto:skempfer@fergusonfoundation.org) with questions.

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

## CAR for Sale:

**2002 Nissan Pathfinder** for \$4,999 with details and pictures [here. https://www.cars.com/vehicledetail/237a1bcd-0d0b-4f47-b4bc-c0517fdf04f7/](https://www.cars.com/vehicledetail/237a1bcd-0d0b-4f47-b4bc-c0517fdf04f7/)

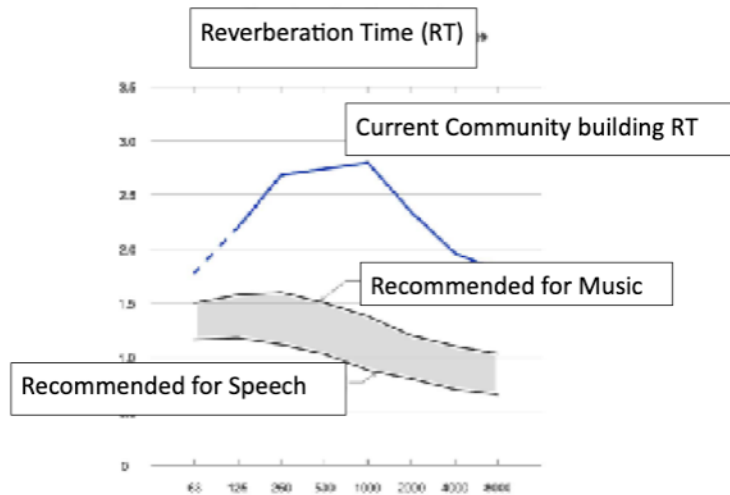


# Eh?

**Wouldn't it be nice to be able to hear  
Lynn Hollyfield live  
when it is pouring rain? Or freezing cold?**

## **WAGNER CENTER ACOUSTICS RENOVATION PROJECT**

### **Current situation**



## **We have raised 25% of our needed \$18,000**

Thanks to our community volunteer talented craftsmen who will be installing the materials!

### **Contribute now or pledge your support**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: this information will be held confidential)

In support of the acoustic renovation of the Wagner Community Center.

Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: Holly Wagner, 301-292-5767, 1910 Bryan Point Rd,  
[hbwagner1215@gmail.com](mailto:hbwagner1215@gmail.com) for more information or to volunteer!

Developing GoFundMe soonest

# MOYAONE CHALLENGE 2022

Accept the Moyaone Challenge and demonstrate your athletic abilities in your area of expertise. Sign up for the super-sprint triathlon, swim challenge, bike challenge, or a run. Race day is **Saturday, September 10** and all races originate at the Moyaone Commons, 2311 Bryan Point Road.

Each race will have 3 categories: *Youth* – ages 10 to 18; *Adult* – ages 18 to 59; *Senior* – ages 60 and over.

## TRIATHLON

• The race will include a 250m (10 lengths of the pool) swim, 8km (5 miles) bike ride through Moyaone roads (bike helmet **STRICTLY REQUIRED**), and a 2km (1.2 miles) run.

• Participants may enter as individuals or as a relay team with each team member racing in one or more elements of the triathlon. Transition time from one element of the race to the next is included in the total race time.

• Race begins at 8 am at the Moyaone Pool.

• Entry fee: \$25

## SWIM CHALLENGE

• 250m (10 lengths of the pool). All strokes are accepted including walking.

• Race begins after Triathlon Challenge has completed.

• Swim-only entry fee: \$15

## BIKING CHALLENGE

• 8km (5 miles) over Moyaone roads. Bike helmet **STRICTLY REQUIRED** for participation.

• Race begins at approximately 8:45 am at Wagner Center.

• Bike-only entry fee: \$15

## RUN CHALLENGE

• 2km foot race on Moyaone roads. (Again, walking is permitted too.)

• Race begins at approximately 8:50 am at Wagner Center.

• Run-only entry fee: \$15

## SPONSORSHIP

We encourage participants to get sponsors to help fund the entry cost. All sponsors will be recognized in *Smoke Signals*.

## CHILDREN'S EVENTS – \$5 per event

**Intergenerational Relay** – Held in soccer field and will involve handing off “baton” to 2–3 other participants. Distance will include 3 laps.

**Soccer Ball Kick** – Participants will kick a soccer ball and the person who kicks it the furthest after it lands and rolls to a stop wins.

**Intergenerational Basketball Free Throw** – Family members participate in the best of 10 free throws per entry.

## REGISTRATION

To enter, complete the registration form below, sign the Participant Waiver on page 8, and submit it with your entry fee at the Moyaone Pool, or sign up via EventBrite:

**<https://tinyurl.com/MC92022>**. All registration forms must be received by **September 6, 2022**.

The funds raised from this event will be used to make improvements to the Moyaone Commons.

## MOYAONE CHALLENGE REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Event you are participating in (check one):

Triathlon       Triathlon Team Relay  
 Swim Race Only       Bike Race Only       Run Only

Age Category:

Young Adult (10–18)       Adult (18–59)       Senior (60 and up)

Childrens' Events:     Relay     Soccer Ball Kick     Basketball Free Throw

Name (or names for triathlon relay):

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Moyaone Association or Moyaone Pool Member:     Yes     No

# Participant Waiver for Moyaone Challenge 2022

## **WAIVER/RELEASE, REQUIRED: I HEREBY ASSUME THE RISKS OF PARTICIPATING IN THE MOYAONE CHALLENGE.**

1. I hereby represent that (i) I am in good health and in proper physical condition to participate in the Event; and (ii) I am not under the influence of alcohol or any illicit or prescription drugs which would in any way impair my ability to safely participate in the Event. I agree that it is my sole responsibility to determine whether I am sufficiently fit and healthy enough to participate in the Event.

2. I understand and acknowledge the physical and mental rigors associated with triathlons, and realize that running, bicycling, swimming and other portions of such Events are inherently dangerous and represent an extreme test of a person's physical and mental limits. I understand that participation involves risks and dangers which include, without limitation, the potential for serious bodily injury, sickness and disease, permanent disability, paralysis and loss of life; loss of or damage to equipment/property; exposure to extreme conditions and circumstances; accidents, contact or collision with other participants, spectators, vehicles or other natural or manmade objects; dangers arising from adverse weather conditions; imperfect course conditions; water, road and surface hazards; equipment failure; inadequate safety measures; participants of varying skill levels; situations beyond the immediate control of the Event Organizers; and other undefined risks and dangers which may not be readily foreseeable or are presently unknown ("Risks"). I understand that these Risks may be caused in whole or in part by my own actions or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the Event, or the acts, inaction or negligence of the Released Parties defined below, and I hereby expressly assume all such Risks and responsibility for any damages, liabilities, losses or expenses which I incur as a result of my participation in the Event.

3. I agree to be familiar with and to abide by the Rules and Regulations established for the Event. I also accept sole responsibility for my own conduct and actions while participating in the Event, and the condition and adequacy of my equipment.

4. I hereby Release, Waive and Covenant Not to Sue, and further agree to Indemnify, Defend and Hold Harmless the following parties: the Event Organizers, Race Directors, Local Organizing Committees, and Property Owners upon which the Event takes place, (Individually and Collectively, the "Released Parties" or "Event Organizers"), with respect to any liability, claim(s), demand(s), cause(s) of action, damage(s), loss or expense (including court costs and

reasonable attorneys fees) of any kind or nature ("Liability") which may arise out of, result from, or relate to my participation in the Event, including claims for Liability caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the Released Parties. I further agree that if, despite this Agreement, I, or anyone on my behalf, makes a claim for Liability against any of the Released Parties, I will indemnify, defend and hold harmless each of the Released Parties from any such Liability which any may be incurred as the result of such claim. I hereby warrant that I have read this Agreement carefully, understand its terms and conditions, acknowledge that I will be giving up substantial legal rights by signing it (including the rights of the minor, my spouse, children, parents, guardians, heirs and next of kin, and any legal and personal representatives, executors, administrators, successors and assigns), acknowledge that I have signed this Agreement freely and voluntarily, without any inducement, assurance or guarantee, and intend for my signature to serve as confirmation of my complete and unconditional acceptance of the terms, conditions and provisions of this Agreement. This Agreement represents the complete understanding between the parties regarding these issues and no oral representations, statements or inducements have been made apart from this Agreement. If any provision of this Agreement is held to be unlawful, void, or for any reason unenforceable, then that provision shall be deemed severable from this Agreement and shall not affect the validity and enforceability of any remaining provisions.

### **Parental Consent**

#### **(required if the participant is less than 18 years of age)**

As the Parent and/or Legal Guardian to the minor identified above, I hereby accept and agree to all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement on behalf of the minor in connection with the minor's participation in the Event(s). If, despite this Agreement, I, or anyone on the minor's behalf, makes a claim for Liability against any of the Released Parties, I will indemnify, defend and hold harmless each of the Released Parties from any such Liabilities which any may be incurred.

#### **Participant Name (or names for relay, please print**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Participant(s) or Parent signature(s) if under 18**

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_