

Smoke Signal



MOYAONE
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

MOYAONE RESERVE @ PISCATAWAY PARK

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places

May 2025

President's Note

A Warm Welcome,

Thank you to everyone who attended our May Moyaone Association Meeting. Your participation and proxies, for those otherwise engaged, not only helps us obtain a quorum to proceed with official community business but also is appreciated for your engagement and support of the Board and Committee Chair efforts.

A big thank you to our outgoing Board – Paola Addamiano-Carts, Mike Nelson, Linda Witkin and Holly Wagner for your dedicated efforts to furthering the Moyaone community. Your steadfastness, commitment and openness has been felt this past year.

I'd like to thank my fellow Board members for volunteering to serve with me this year: John Mitchell, Joe Lapan, and Amity Glenn-Close. And to Karen Heys serving in her second year as Secretary, bringing a wealth of knowledge and helping with a smooth transition. I'd also like to thank Cedric Welsh for his time serving as a Financial trustee and welcome Judy Allen-Leventhal as her term starts. I feel fortunate to be serving with a wonderful and knowledgeable set of fellow Moyaoners.

A little about me – my husband Matt and I moved to the Moyaone in 2018. I couldn't believe there was this little piece of heaven so close to a major city. I immediately felt the stress of my day melt away as soon as I turned onto the gravel roads. You would never know you were so close to a city (barring traffic!) when all you hear is nature around you. We don't take it for granted. I previously served on the Board May 2021-2023 in the Comptroller role. To be honest, that was more my wheelhouse as I am a CFO in my real life. However, I felt connected to the community in serving, so when I got a call from the Nominating Committee, it was hard to say no (well, maybe a pause). Seriously though, I'm excited to serve the community again and I just ask for patience and kindness as we get the new Board up to speed and work through existing and new issues. Our goal is to be fair and make the community stronger. So, if you see me walking the gravel roads or down at Colonial Farm with my pretty girl Frida (she loves people) please feel free to stop and say hi.

On an administrative note – there will be no May Board meeting as the new Board gets access and transitions into our roles. Be on the lookout for a new day/time for the monthly meetings going forward.

Best,

Karen Bell

Moyaone Association President

Upcoming Events

Saturdays in May

Pool work parties, as needed (details below)

@2311 Bryan Point Road

Saturdays in May, 9am-2pm

AAA members Jan Parker, Frances Taylor and Jan Buelow will be sharing a booth to sell their art @ the La Plata Farmer's Market (the intersection of Washington Avenue and Talbot Street in La Plata)

May 10

Homegrown Coffeehouse Ruthie and the Wranglers (details below)

@600 Farmington Road

May 11

Accokeek Foundation Invasive Plant Management Session

@3400 Bryan Point Road

May 11

Alice Ferguson Foundation Outdoor Experience Moo-velous Milking Discoveries

@2001 Bryant Point Road

May 10 and June 7

Alice Ferguson Foundation Outdoor Experience Wander the Wet Meadow

May 17, 2pm on

Mayfest! Singing, Dancing, May Pole, plant sales, food and festivities (details below)

@2311 Bryan Point Road

May 24, 11am

Vegan Eating Group Bi-Monthly Potluck (details below)

May 24, 11:30am – 1pm

Accokeek Foundation Shoreline Clean Up

@3400 Bryan Point Road

May 25, 4pm (rain date May 26)

Memorial Day Potluck (flyer below)

@2311 Bryan Point Road

May 31, 5:00pm

Viola and Organ concert (details below)

@ the historic Christ Church in La Plata

June 1, 10 am - 1 pm

Community Education Day with the Accokeek Foundation, Alice Ferguson Foundation, and National Park Service (flyer below)

[REGISTRATION LINK](#)

Parking @ 2687 Bryan Point Road

June 21

Accokeek Artists Alliance shibori workshop

August

Accokeek Artists Alliance ink making workshop

From the Association



From the Editor

May marks the second (and last!) month of double Smoke Signals.

Remember, if you are receiving Smoke Signals as a pdf *only*, please reach out to me to troubleshoot your email or make sure you are on the website email distribution list!

As usual, feel free to email me with anything you'd like included in the newsletter, or any comments or questions you may have.

Julia

news@moyaone.org

Pulse of the Pool

The Pool Committee is working tirelessly to prepare for opening day. We finalized pool policies regarding facility rental, private events, guests, and camps/non-profit organizational patronage. Working with our web team we have updated this season's information and forms, and our web team added an online payment option – thanks to Rose Kim and Dan Fishman. We are also working on getting our permits, and the county inspection. Print materials to solicit seasonal memberships are ready for distribution in early May. We have selected a well-qualified pool manager and assistant manager from several candidates. We are still looking to hire a few more part-time lifeguards! In the next couple weeks we will finalize our roster of about ten lifeguards.

We just completed April work parties to remove the main pool cover, add algacide and shock, bring water levels up, uncover & power wash lane reels & deck furniture, cut grass, and drain, clean, acid wash & refill the baby pool. Huge thanks to all the good folks who lent a helping hand April 21st and 29th (hopefully, this list is complete but if not, let us know – we appreciate you!): Atticus Ackley; Chris Aills & Anthony James; Aiden Amelechkin; Thann, Jude & Parker Bennett; Penelope Breese; Roger Brul; Paola Carts; Robert Cook-Deegan; Dave Cremer; Marc Cruz; Jonathan Faull, Valerie Volcovici & Zev; Tom, Ben & Betsy Garcia; Jon Gillespie; Ashley Gruwell; Rhonda Hanson; Hans Haucke; John Hollyfield; Heyward Johnson & Krystle Liggins; Ben, Crisson & Elliot Kirkup; Judy Leventhal; Paul & Barbara Livingston; John Mitchell; Janet Parker; Fred Rischmiller; Bill Robertson; JR Rudzis; Hsini Russell; Johannes Shotwell; Holly Wagner; Nancy Weiman; Axel Naar; and Matt Schwaller & Sheryl Romeo with two of their grandsons, Will & York Warren, for a tadpole rescue mission.

Those of you who have helped by picking up the odd bit of litter and securing the trash bin lid, removing leftover party décor & fasteners, or walking a little farther to deliver your recyclables to the proper receptacle, we thank you for helping to maintain the Commons and keeping the pool tidy.

The Moyaone Association, a volunteer-funded homeowner group established circa 1952, owns and operates four communal spaces known collectively as the Moyaone Commons. The Commons include (from east to west): the Hollyfield Complex (Pavilion, Tiki Bar & Kitchen); the Moyaone Pool; the Wagner Community Center; and the Moyaone Play Fields and Court. The Commons are located less than a mile from the Potomac River and between protected woodlands, wetlands and historical agricultural land.

The pool's stakeholders, include, in no particular order, the Accokeek Swim Team (Go Gators!), the pool's management (Pool Committee) & lifeguards, the Association's members, and the 2025 seasonal pool members themselves. These groups make up our very own Pool Medley! We welcome one and all to enjoy this hidden gem located in the Moyaone Reserve and Piscataway Park.

We will hold work parties Saturdays in May until we are ready for the county inspection.

Before we can turn on the pool pump for a county inspection in mid-May, we need to focus on completing the following maintenance tasks:

Vacuum the algae of the bottom of the main pool
Moving dry chemicals to appropriate storage areas
Power washing decks
Arranging chairs on the deck
Cleaning bathrooms
Touching up paint where needed
Blowing out, cleaning guard's room and pump room
Sowing grass seed in front of pool and covering with straw in areas that were dug up to replace piping

Please lend a hand if you have an hour. Service hours are available to students, so if you need your form signed, ask Rhonda, Nancy or Hsini. If you want to apply for lifeguard, help on the operational side with pump room & equipment, or have any questions, comments or concerns, email pool@moyaone.org.

From your Neighbors

Mayfest

Come join the communitywide celebration of Spring!

Starting at 2 pm:

Singing and Dancing, featuring the Foggy Bottom Morris Men

Maypole

Sandwiches, Cakes and Tea

Plant Sale - home grown veggie starts and native pollinator promoters

Local Organizations tabling

Beer from the Moyaone Mashers

And the Pizza Oven on - bring your favorite pizza toppings

Event happens rain or shine - rain won't stop our shine!

An event like this takes a village - want to join the village? Email or call Karen Heys -
301-832-5550



Calling All Horse People

If there is an existing horse community in the Reserve, or you are a horse owner/rider or have a child interested in horses, let's get in touch. I own two horses who live on a small farm 10 minutes from here. Email Claire Riley 2751 Colonial Rd, clairemargaretriley@gmail.com



VEG Potluck Brunch Saturday 5/24

Don't forget to RSVP (MoyaoneVEG@gmail.com) for the upcoming plant-based potluck at the home of Jeanie and Doug Ciskowski on May 24, 11:00 am. New faces always welcome.

Need more information? Drop an email to the address above.



"Uprooted." Watercolor art by Moyaone artist Frances Taylor.

From our Partners



The Accokeek Artists Alliance (AAA) had a very productive Cold Wax Workshop, led by Daniel Wise, on April 19th. 14 members had great fun learning this new painting technique, and producing amazing art. A group from AAA visited the Smithsonian Craft Show taking part in our first ever field trip for members. Members met at the show at the National Building Museum downtown, then had a lovely lunch at Zaytinya's restaurant.

The AAA steering committee has recently begun work to establish the organization as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

A general meeting for members was held at the historic Bellevue Plantation in Accokeek on May 4. We got tours of the grounds with the highlight being the fantastic Greek Temple that Patrick Heydt has decorated the interior of.

Next month, we will have a Shibori workshop on June 21, with Peggy Reichard. Registration for that is now closed, but there are slots remaining for the August ink making workshop with Candace Bigelow. Register via the AAA website or just join up and get in on the fun at <https://www.accokeekartistsalliance.com>

AAA members Jan Parker, Frances Taylor and Jan Buelow will be sharing a booth to sell their art at the La Plata Farmer's Market during the month of May. Visit them on Saturdays from 9 until 2 at the market, located at the intersection of Washington Avenue and Talbot Street in La Plata.



Summer Adventure Camp at Hard Bargain Farm

Still need summer plans? Join us at Summer Adventure Camp! Choose from five fun-filled weeks packed with outdoor exploration, hands-on activities, and new friends.

> Weekly Day and Overnight sessions from July 7 – August 8, 2025

> Nature-based themes for ages 4–13, and memories that will last a lifetime!

Let's make this summer an unforgettable one!

>>> [Sign up here!](#) <<<

AFF Members receive a camp discount.

Hiring CMT for Summer Camps

The Alice Ferguson Foundation is looking for an overnight Certified Medical Technician (CMT) for this year's Summer Adventure Camp. We're excited to welcome campers for overnight sessions this summer and are seeking a licensed CMT to stay onsite and administer evening and morning medications as needed.

Nights needed: July 16, July 17, July 30, and July 31

Compensation: \$200/night (\$800 total) plus meals provided

If you or someone you know has an active CMT license and would enjoy supporting youth in a fun, nature-based camp setting, please reach out to camp@fergusonfoundation.org for more details or to apply!

Join us for Outdoor Experiences this Spring

Discover the wonder of the great outdoors with upcoming experiences at the Alice Ferguson Foundation, where nature, adventure, and hands-on learning come together on our scenic 330-acre campus.

> Wander the Wet Meadow - May 10 (2 spots left!) & June 7

> Moo-velous Milking Discoveries - May 11

> Unfor-goat-able Adventures - June 14 & July 19

These hands-on experiences make wonderful gifts! Perfect for families, nature lovers, and anyone looking to explore all that nature has to offer.

>>> [Book your adventure here!](#) <<<



ACCOKEEK
FOUNDATION
at Piscataway Park



SPRING AT ACCOKEEK

5/11

Invasive Plant Management

5/24

Shoreline Clean Up

5/25

Invasive Plant Management

6/1

Community Invasive Education Day

6/21

Shoreline Clean Up

6/22

Shoreline Clean Up

WANT TO GET INVOLVED AT PISCATAWAY PARK?

Become an Accokeek steward! Submit the volunteer interest form to join the team. Any questions should be emailed to us at Nativeplantsquadd@accokeek.org

COMMUNITY EDUCATION DAY AT PISCATAWAY PARK

HOSTED BY:



A GREAT
WAY FOR
KIDS TO
EARN SSL
HOURS!



SUN, JUNE 1 | 10 AM - 1 PM

Join Accokeek Foundation, Alice Ferguson Foundation, and National Park Service for an engaging and educational hands-on workshop focused on invasive plant species identification, removal techniques, and the benefits of native plants. Volunteers will learn more about how they can take action against invasive plants and understand how invasive management is carried out in Piscataway Park.

Light snacks will be provided to enjoy mid-event.

2687 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek, MD 20607

Sign Up!



Questions? Email Michelle Hickerson at
mhickerson@fergusonfoundation.org or
Risharda Harley at
rharley@accokeek.org

The Accokeek Foundation is excited to share that we have livestock for sale:

- Heritage Breed Spanish Goats - Breeding Stock Available
 - 2 Bucks
 - 3 Does
- Heritage Breed Hog Island Sheep - Breeding Stock Available
 - 1 Ram

For additional information, please contact Risharda Harley at
rharley@accokeek.org or (301) 388-5727.

Homegrown Coffeehouse

The Homegrown Coffeehouse
Saturday, May 10th
Ruthie and the Wranglers
The Cahoots

New Location
Christ Church Hall
600 Farmington Road
Accokeek, MD 20607

Suggested Donation
\$25
Lite Supper-homemade soups, bread,
desserts, tea & coffee 6:00-7:30PM
Music 7:15-9:30

26th Anniversary

The Homegrown Coffeehouse* returns for its' 26th YEAR of bringing quality music to Southern Maryland.

A special evening of music as Ruthie and the Wranglers return to the HG.
(*Please note our new location! (*Please note our new location! Christ Church, at 600 Farmington Road, Accokeek, MD, is our new Community partner. The Coffeehouse will be in the CHURCH HALL which is a separate building to the left and behind the church-parking is available; the building is accessible)

Admission/suggested donation: \$25.

Doors open: 6PM; lite supper (homemade soups, bread and desserts) available 6-7:30, desserts/tea and coffee

7:15-7:45 Opening Act: The Cahoots

8-9:30 PM Ruthie and The Wranglers

Ruthie and the Wranglers

Ruthie and the Wranglers are a five-piece based in the Washington, DC area. After 25 years of twang (including recording, touring and Americana/Roots radio airplay) the band remains a cornerstone of the DC roots music scene. From original Americana Country to a rousing Surf instrumental or whisky drenched ballad, their clever lyrics, high energy and heavenly harmonies, set them apart from the rest. Their Americana/Country roots and their unstoppable energy Ruthie describes as "Loretta Lynn meets the Ramones at Dick Dale party!" They've released 6 albums and most recently a compilation of some favorites from their legacy of recordings entitled All Wrangled Up. Their lyrics were called by Billboard "nothing short of brilliant" and The Washington Area Music Association (The WAMMIES) has declared them emeritus after more than 30 WAMMIE wins including, Album of the Year, Song of the Year and Country/Duo Group. www.RuthieandtheWranglers.com

The Cahoots

The Cahoots are the acoustic duo of versatile DC-area singer/guitarists David Kitchen (The Thrills, Swell) and Arch Alcantara (The HalfSmokes, The Porch Delights). Influenced by American roots rockers and their British counterparts, their music is a highly melodic and rhythmic mix of originals and cool covers that feature their strong vocal harmonies and crackerjack guitar playing.

More info: lynn@lynnhollyfield.com or call 240-305-0876

Christ Church in La Plata, MD

Announces

A World Premiere

On May 31, 2025, at 5:00 p.m., in the historic Christ Church in La Plata, a unique musical event will take place. A father and son duo, Osman Kivrak (viola) and Andrew Kivrak (organ, piano, and viola), will be featured in a captivating program of viola and organ music.

One of the highlights of the evening will be the world premiere of "Oliver's Journey for Viola and Organ," a new and innovative piece by American

composer Rob Vuono, Jr. This exceptional work was commissioned by CCYO director, Dr. Osman Kivrak, and promises to be a memorable addition to the concert repertoire.

In addition to the premiere, the program will include a selection of other remarkable pieces:

- A lush and beautiful neo-romantic work, "Poem for Viola and Organ" by Leo Sowerby
- "Sonata in G Minor for Viola and Piano" by the 18th Century English composer Henry Eccles
- "Duet for Two Violas in G Major" by Wilhelm Friedemann Bach, the most talented son of J.S. Bach
- "Toccata," a joyful, exultant, and ecstatic late 19th-century masterpiece for organ by Charles-Marie Widor

Reverend Dr. Kate Heicler remarked, "Christ Church in La Plata has what many organists consider to be the best organ in the region, as well as wonderful acoustics and beautiful stained-glass windows. It is a wonderful setting for live music."

Christ Church in La Plata has been a steadfast supporter of the Charles County Youth Orchestra's activities, which include concerto competitions, chamber music performances, and fundraising concerts. This viola and organ concert will serve as a fundraiser to support the church's various musical endeavors.

Composer of the new viola and organ work, Rob Vuono, Jr. commented, "It is truly a profound honor to have the world premiere of my new composition "Oliver's Journey" performed by Dr. Kivrak and his son Andrew, two world-class and highly respected musicians, at the magnificent and historic Christ Church." Mr. Vuono also added "My sincere and heartfelt thanks to Dr. Kivrak, and to all who have made this possible."

Don't miss this extraordinary event that celebrates both the rich musical heritage of Christ Church in La Plata and the innovative spirit of contemporary composers. Join us for an evening of exceptional music in a beautiful and historic setting.



About the Composer

Composer, Arranger, and Orchestrator Rob Vuono, Jr. received his formal training at both the Manhattan School of Music and Mannes College of Music, studying classical composition and orchestration with Dr. Leo Edwards, Giampaolo Bracali, and David Loeb. Additionally, Rob studied commercial and Jazz arranging with Johnny Carisi and Jo Boyer, and Trumpet with John Bracco, David Naylor, and Peter Crino. Rob Freelanced as a composer/arranger and performer in the New York area and was active as a Jazz Studies instructor for the International Art of Jazz program and director of the Stony Brook Jazz Ensemble at SUNY, Stony Brook, New York.

Rob recently completed a 24-year career as composer/arranger and trumpet instrumentalist for the U.S. Navy Band, where he performed throughout Europe for a two- and a half year period before returning to the United States, securing positions as composer/arranger for the U.S. Naval Academy Band and for the

United States Navy Band in Washington, D.C., providing scores for the Symphonic Band, Sea Chanters, Commodores, and Cruisers. Comfortable in all styles and genres of music, Rob composes, arranges, and orchestrates music for a diverse group of performers, including works for the National Shakespeare Theater, the Bluebonnet Brass, Phish, The Diamonds, and the Gramercy Brass Orchestra. Rob composed the score for the indie film “Red Onion”, as well as the 90-minute score for the symphonic chamber suite “Winter Solstice”. Rob occasionally leads his own orchestra and has released a recording of that group. A member of ASCAP, Rob’s compositions and arrangements are published by FJH Music and CL Barnhouse Music.

About the Performers

Osman Kivrak, violist, was a winner of the National Scholarship Competition in Turkey, the Baltimore Chamber Music Awards, the Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Awards, the Culver (California) Chamber Music Competition and of three Maryland National Parks and Planning Commission Awards. He performs with the Sunrise Quartet and the National Gallery of Art String Quartet. Recently, the Quartet performed to great acclaim at the Musica Sacra festival in Ecuador. The Quartet has performed with noted pianists Menahem Pressler and Miceal O’Rourke, and with guitarist Roland Dyens. The Quartet has recorded for the Living Music, Arizona University Recordings, Amcam and AmeriMusic labels. A collection of Christmas music, which they edited, has been published under the imprint of G. Schirmer, Inc. West Virginia Public Television and Chinese National Television have also featured the Sunrise Quartet in a one-hour TV show “A Musical Bridge to China” broadcast. Performances by the Quartet have been broadcast for National Public Radio’s “Performance Today”, “What Makes it Great” and “Front Row Washington”.

He received a Master of Music and Doctor of Music degree from the Catholic University of America. Before coming to the United States, he received his Bachelor of Music from Gazi University in Turkey and studied at the Guildhall School of Music in London.

He has also performed at the Spoleto Festival in the USA and Italy, and he has toured Europe a number of times as a chamber music player with other groups. His works have been performed in Washington DC at the Kennedy Center, the Corcoran Gallery of Art and the Library of Congress and throughout the United States and in Turkey as well as on National Public Radio. Formerly a professor at the Izmir State Conservatory in Turkey, Dr. Kivrak currently teaches viola and chamber music at American University where he is Musician in Residence.

Andrew Kivrak is currently one of the organists at Christ Church in La Plata and Christ Church in Wayside, Maryland. His journey in music began at a young age, growing up in Charles County, where his talents in music were recognized and nurtured.

Andrew's musical career started with his involvement in the Charles County Youth Orchestra (CCYO). He was the principal violist of CCYO and performed as soloist the Grand Sonata for Viola and Orchestra by Niccolo Paganini with CCYO.

Andrew had the honor of studying piano under the mentorship of Brian Ganz at St. Mary's College of Maryland. Brian Ganz's guidance was instrumental in honing Andrew's piano skills, providing him with a strong foundation in both technique and musical interpretation. In addition to his piano studies, Andrew pursued organ studies with Paul Hardy at St. Mathews Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

Andrew's professional career encompasses a diverse array of performances. He has recently performed as a violist and pianist at the Virginia Chamber Orchestra's "Music in the Gardens" chamber music concerts. He has recorded at Cue studios in Falls Church and has accompanied singers and instrumentalists for concerts and competitions.

Andrew is an active member of the DC Federation of Musicians, an organization that supports and advocates for professional musicians in the Washington, DC area. This affiliation provides Andrew with a network of fellow musicians and opportunities for professional growth and development.