

Smoke Signal



MOYAONE
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

The Moyaone Reserve - Listed in the National Register of Historic Places

Volume LXVI

February 2025

No. 2

President's Message

First, I want to extend my sympathy to all who were impacted by the tragic airline crash of January 30, 2025. It is my hope that in the midst of grief, the kindness and compassion of the community would be a soothing balm. If there's something this community does well, it is to help one another. So, as a community, and particularly now, let us look for ways to be good neighbors. Be kinder than necessary.

Some items of community business:

-Please be gentle to our dirt roads. Drive slowly; the speed limit is 15 mph. Don't salt the road; salt actually harms our dirt roads. Be mindful of your neighbors; not everyone appreciates motorized dirt bikes doing loop-de-loops nearby.

-Consolidated fees were raised by a Moyaone Association member proposal and membership vote at the December Budget Meeting. The fees were raised by the Bureau of Labor Statistics annual inflation rate published at the end of November 2025. The new rates are:

Improved lot: \$842

Unimproved lot: \$164

-Invoices are coming! The board will be emailing Consolidated Fee invoices this week. **You will help the Association save the cost of mailing (printing, envelopes, stamps) if you pay your fees now.** Paper invoices will come out shortly thereafter. Many folks have already paid their Consolidated Fees by visiting the moyaone.org website. Here are ways you can pay:

- Mail the Invoice Form and check to *Moyaone Association, PO Box 113, Accokeek, MD 20607*
- Visit moyaone.org and select one of the following payment types:
 - Credit Card (there is a surcharge for this option)
 - VENMO.
- ACH 10-installment payment plan. While the deadline for enrollment was February 1, if you email a scan of your completed ACH enrollment form to Comptroller Linda Witkin, she should be able to squeeze you in the plan.

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March Board meeting:

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Wagner Center

6:30PM for social time; 7PM business

President’s Message (continued from page 1)

-Do you have a concern about civic affairs in the community? Such questions or concerns should be directed to the Moyaone Association Public Affairs (MAPA) Committee. Also, I join MAPA in encouraging residents to join local organizations such as the Greater Accokeek Civic Association so they can stay alert to local concerns. GACA, for instance, sends out Cpl. Rannacher’s weekly crime report for Fort Washington, Division VII (our area).

-We have a Nominating Committee! Rose Kim, Rob Gruwell and Tina Shotwell are hard at work developing a slate of candidates for our May meeting. If you are interested in serving on the board—a great way to see first hand how this community operates—don’t be shy! Contact one of the Nominating Committee members to share your interest. I’d also like to thank the many Moyaone Association members who were willing to serve on this committee. It was tough to limit the committee size to the 3 required by by-laws.

-What’s the state of our pool-improvement grant? Special Projects Committee Chair Michael Leventhal reports that all paperwork has been submitted to the county in the prescribed fashion. At this point, we are waiting for the State to approve the start of work. Contractors have been identified and are waiting in the wings to begin work. We estimate the time to complete improvements to be 8 to 10 weeks. Depending on when we receive State approval, the project will begin ASAP so as to end before the start of “Pool Season”, OR the project will be delayed until September 2025.

-Want to contact a Board member or Committee Chair? Here is the complete contact list:

President, Paola Addamiano-Carts	President@moyaone.org
Vice-President, Mike Nelson	vicepresident@moyaone.org
Secretary, Karen Heys	secretary@moyaone.org
Comptroller, Linda Witkin	comptroller@moyaone.org
At-Large, Holly Wagner	atlarge@moyaone.org
Pool Committee, Hsin-i Russell	pool@moyaone.org
Roads Committee, Tom Garcia	roads@moyaone.org
Buildings & Grounds, John Hollyfield	Buildings@moyaone.org
Welcome & Membership, Crystal Garcia	welcome@moyaone.org
Public Affairs, Kent Hibben	publicaffairs@moyaone.org
Trustees, Cedric Welch, Soren Dayton, Valerie Volcovici	trustees@moyaone.org
Special Projects, Michael Leventhal	projects@moyaone.org
Nominating Committee, Rose Kim, Rob Gruwell & Tina Shotwell	nominating@moyaone.org
Smoke Signals, Julia Pajaanen	news@moyaone.org
Community Center Reservations, Kim Allen	calendar@moyaone.org

Letter from the Editor

Hello— in case you missed it, Ruth Gaumond has retired from her role as our editor, and this month marks my first issue trying to fill her shoes!

The first big change is, of course, the new email address that brings the newsletter communications under the moyaone.org domain and will make it easier in the future for others to step in as editor as needed. (Shoutout to Paola's plan for future-proofing the Moyaone Association!)

Looking forward:

If you're reading this, it means that I've achieved my first goal of just getting an issue out.

For the next couple months, I will be working on developing a template—either through our Association website or a third party—which will help with timely development, ironing out formatting issues you may be seeing, and ensuring that our partners' messaging and branding stays clear.

For the future, my goals are to establish a set submission and publishing schedule and look at how we can improve usability and readability.

I absolutely welcome any input on what you want to see in the newsletter, or how you want to see it— just drop me a line in the new email address!

Julia Paajanen

Thank you to those who have paid their FY2025 Consolidated Fees without even being invoiced!

Abernethy, Tom & Debbie

Bell, Matt & Karen

Byrd, Mark & Lataya

Carts, Marty & Paola Addamiano-Carts

Carran, MP/Frantom, CT

Cook-Deegan, Rob & Kathryn

DeLeon, Frank/Glenn-Chase, Amity

Evanson, Liz

Ferguson, Travis

Fishman, Daniel & Eleanor

Frazier, Eric & Atiyah Curmally

Gaumond, Charlie & Ruth

Gheen, Bobby & Kelly

Hansz, David & Tanya Surtees

Jones, Guy & Jennifer Mudge

Jones, Sue

Kistler, Logan & Anna Sewell

Livingston, Paul & Barbara

Luedtke, Edward & Rita Nagy

Lynotte, Michael & Mahshad Haeri

Paajanen, Bobby & Julia

Parker, Bill & Jan

Ramundo, Michael

Rudzis, John & Cindi

Strass, Pete & Erica

Straus, Eric

Williams, Fed & Anne

Monday Nights Red Beans and Rice Dinners

In March, April and May, I will be having very informal red beans and rice dinners at my house on Steamboat Landing on Monday evenings at 6:30pm (except 4/21). All Moyaoners are invited. I was inspired reading about the life of Pableaux Johnson in the New York Times. He brought folks together and this seemed like a lovely way to connect with neighbors. (More about him below). Reach out by phone or email ideally on the Sunday before so I know roughly how much food to make and dietary restrictions / preferences. noratobin@gmail.com or t: 617.291.7240. Bring a beverage to share, if inclined.

-Nora Nelson

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/28/dining/pableaux-johnson-dead.html?smid=nytcore-android-share>

Table Top Games Group First Meeting

The Table Top Games group will be having their first gathering to meet everyone, get to know them, and play something easy. The get together is at 1 PM, February 23rd. Send an email to dciskowski@yahoo.com if you would like to join us. All are welcome.

Fundraising Committee Updates

Keep your eyes open for a new date for the Chili Cookoff! In anticipation of the construction of the bathrooms in the swimming pool building, the chili cookoff was canceled from its March 8th date. With the contract and permits taking time, it looks like there may be a window to have the tasty event! So get those recipes and crockpots out!

We would love to have your help with planning, event day, or the committee! If interested, contact Nancy (nancyweiman@gmail.com).

And put on your calendar, Sat June 28th for the Pool Cocktail Party!

Pulse of the Pool

Greetings. Here is a missive that won't cause panic. The community pool is expected to open from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The community pool is available for use by all members of the greater community through a paid seasonal membership, or if a Moyaone resident, the Consolidated Fee. The Commons adjacent to the pool are also available for events with reservation & a nominal fee.

We are working on several pre-season projects. We are drafting and preparing updated pool policies regarding facility rental, events, guests, and camps/non-profit organizational patronage. We will be soliciting and advertising seasonal memberships for folks living outside of the Moyaone. We will be searching for and hiring a pool manager and a dozen seasonal lifeguards. We will also be updating the pool's webpages, forms, and signage. We will be applying for permits and organizing work parties starting in April to prepare the pool, pump room and grounds for a county inspection in mid-May.

Our pool's pre- and post-season are a volunteer and communal endeavor as this pool is maintained by our community for the community. If you enjoy access and use of the community pool and would see it working optimally, staffed fully and maintained beautifully, please consider: 1) joining the pool committee or one of its subcommittees (Pre-Season/Post-Season, Operations, Communications and Coordination); 2) signing up to lend a hand with a specific project listed above; and 3) paying your Consolidated Fee to the Moyaone Association who oversees the pool and roads maintenance.

To sign up for the 2025 Pool Committee, email pool@moyaone.org. To accommodate all interested parties, the Pool Committee will meet on the third Monday (new day of the week) monthly at 5:30 p.m. from February to October. Our next meeting is Monday, February 17th!

JAR JAM

Share jars you don't need; take ones you do

Save us from the landfill!



- Clean and save your empty glass jars
- Bring them down to the Jar Jam for others to use
- Take jars you can use

Saturday, 29 March 2025

9AM to NOON

Moyaone Community Center

2311 Bryan Point Rd

Accokeek, MD 20607

Hot beverages and nibbles will be on offer.

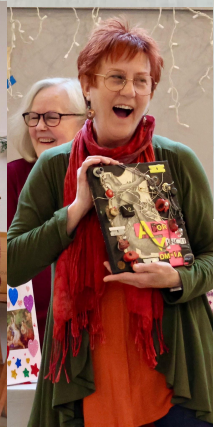
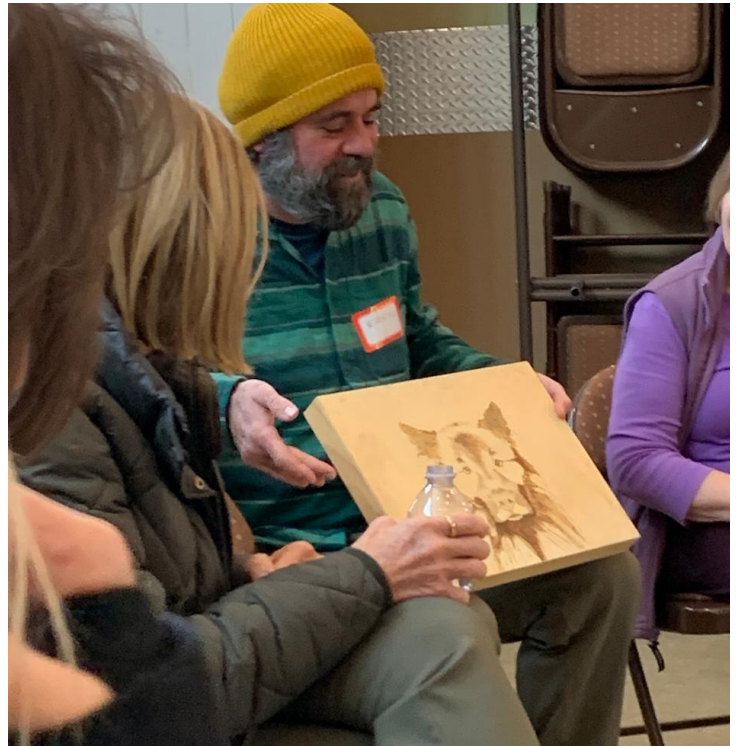


The Accokeek Artists Alliance had a successful “Sip ‘N Share” meeting in January where lots of inspiration was derived from hearing about each other’s projects. Topics from glass work, sewing and other fiber arts, painting, ceramics and natural sculptures, to a novel about to be published, among others! There is so much diversity in our group!

We also held our popular Valentine’s Day art exchange on February 8th, from 2 until 4 at the Wagner Center.

On April 19, we have a cold wax painting workshop with Daniel Wise, and further down the road we are planning a membership meeting at Accokeek’s lovely historic Bellevue mansion in May (perhaps another fun opportunity to share!) and a workshop in Shibori with Peggy Reichard in June (this one is already filled).

At our recent meeting, attendees were surveyed to determine possible popular topics for future workshops. To get in on the fun, just join up. We welcome new members, who can join via the website at accokeekartistsalliance.com.





Updates from the Accokeek Foundation:

A major construction project officially began this January, marking an important step toward improving park facilities while preserving the integrity of this sacred space. Potable water lines are being replaced with care and consideration, using advanced trenchless technology to minimize disruption to the park's landscape and historical assets. The construction team is utilizing a specialized directional-boring machine to replace the aging water lines underground. This portion of the project is scheduled for completion by the end of February.

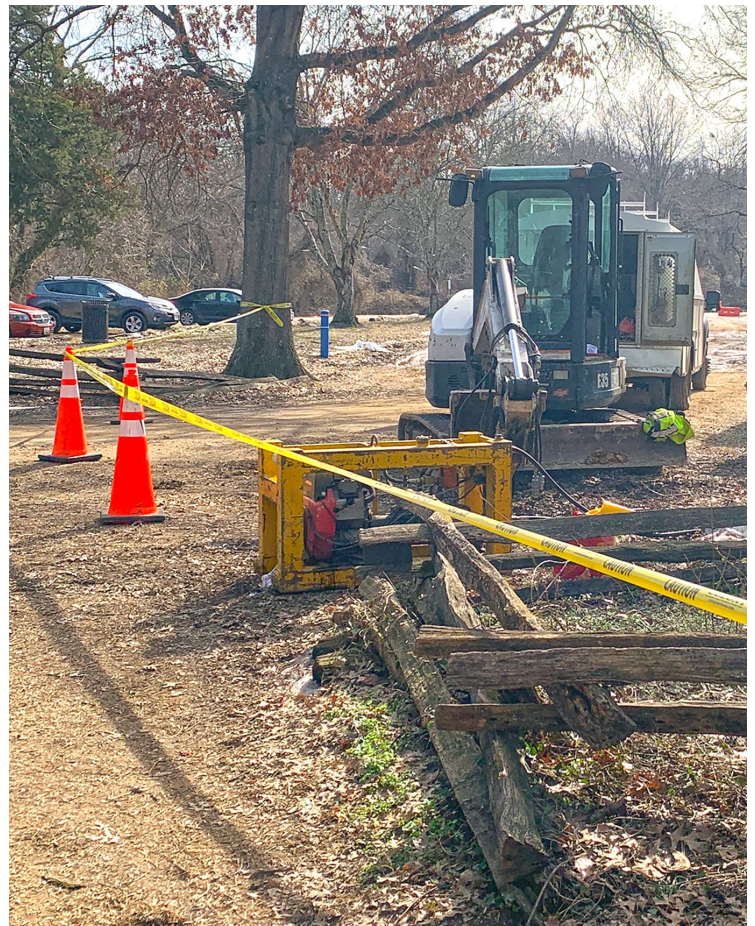
To ensure the protection of any potential historical artifacts, a National Park Service archeologist will be on-site throughout the project, carefully monitoring any findings of significance. We encourage visitors to exercise caution when visiting the park during construction. There will be two-way traffic in the parking area, and some areas will experience ground disturbances. Once the new potable water lines are in place and thoroughly tested, restrooms will be fully operational, including water restored for handwashing. The National Park Service anticipates the completion of this major construction phase by the end of March 2025.

In addition, smaller-scale construction work is underway. The Boat Dock, located past the Ethnobotanic Garden, will be closed until the first week of March as we rebuild the deck atop the stairs, enhancing access to the beautiful views of the Potomac River.

The Accokeek Foundation welcomes skilled volunteers to assist with these projects. If you're interested in contributing, please visit www.Accokeek.org/Volunteer for more information.











Throughout the spring and summer, we'll continue to revitalize the park with additional small-scale projects, all aimed at enhancing the visitor experience. The Foundation appreciates your understanding and support as we work to make Piscataway Park even more welcoming for all.

Park hours extended starting March 1, 2025. Currently, Piscataway Park gates are open from 7 am to 5 pm, daily. Starting on March 1, the gates will be open from 7 am to 7 pm. The Visitor Center and gift shop are currently closed, but will reopen for the season on March 19 (Wednesday-Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm).



Calling all volunteers! Spring is on the way and we are gearing up to start (most) of our volunteer programs and opportunities for the year.

We welcome volunteers to help us with:

-  invasive plant removal
-  bluebird monitoring
-  garden care
-  forest surveying
-  SAV monitoring (submerged aquatic veg)
-  shoreline clean ups
-  livestock care (year round)
-  park maintenance
-  visitor center desk
-  special events

Anyone interested is encouraged to complete the volunteer interest form in our bio or visit bit.ly/VolunteerWithAF or use the QR code.

3400 Bryan Point Rd, Accokeek MD 20607

VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!

SUPPORT
PISCATAWAY PARK BY
DONATING YOUR TIME

BECOME
A STEWARD!

REGISTER ONLINE

ADULT AND CHILDREN AGES
10+ WELCOME. PLEASE VISIT
[ACCOKEEK.ORG/VOLUNTEER](https://accookeek.org/volunteer)
TO READ THE POSITION
DESCRIPTIONS FOR ALL
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES.

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

SHORELINE CLEAN UP

VISITOR CENTER

LIVESTOCK CARE

PARK MAINTANENCE

GARDEN CARE

INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

BLUEBIRD MONITORING

FOREST SURVEYING

*MANY POSITIONS ARE SEASONAL

→ bit.ly/VolunteerWithAF



ACCOKEEK
FOUNDATION





Now Launching: Outdoor Experience Package

We're thrilled to launch our 2025 Outdoor Experiences at the Alice Ferguson Foundation! Get ready to connect with nature in the most fun way possible at Hard Bargain Farm.

Moo-velous Milking Discoveries - May 4, May 11, September 7 & September 21

Wander the Wet Meadow - May 10 & June 7

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

Twilight Treats & Trails - November 15 & 16

Perfect for families, nature lovers, and anyone looking to explore the beauty of the outdoors.

[Book your adventure today!](#)

2025 OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES



MAY 4, MAY 11, SEPT. 7 & SEPT. 21

Moo-velous Milking Discoveries

BEGINS AT 5 PM, UP TO 4 PEOPLE/SESSION



MAY 10 & JUNE 7

Wander the Wet Meadow

BEGINS AT 8 PM, UP TO 10 PEOPLE/SESSION



JUNE 14 & JULY 19

Unfor-goat-able Adventures

BEGINS AT 10 AM, UP TO 10 PEOPLE/SESSION



NOV. 15 & NOV. 16

Twilight Treats & Trails

BEGINS AT 5:30 PM, UP TO 10 PEOPLE/SESSION



The Stovall Outdoor Scholarship Fund

Our new initiative, the Stovall Outdoor Scholarship Fund, honors the life and legacy of Mikey Stovall, a devoted husband, father, and passionate outdoorsman. Born and raised in our local neighborhood of Accokeek, Mikey grew up exploring the woods, waterways, and open spaces that make our region so special. Whether fishing, surfing, or snowboarding with his family, he found joy in nature and shared that joy with those he loved.

Mikey tragically lost his life in the American Airlines Flight 5342 accident, leaving behind his wife Ashleigh, an educator here at the Alice Ferguson Foundation, and their son, Jake. In memory of Mikey and his passion for the

outdoors, we are establishing this fund to underwrite outdoor experiences for other young Southern Marylanders who wouldn't otherwise be able to participate.

Ashleigh joined us as an outdoor educator in 2019 after experiencing a spring festival at Hard Bargain Farm with Jake. Since then she has been an inspiration to the lives of the children she touches. Jake has been a repeat camper at our summer adventure camps and joined our preschool-based Nature Nuts program as a youngster.

If you would like to contribute to the Stovall Outdoor Scholarship Fund, please follow this [link](#). All gifts will be used exclusively to provide ongoing access to outdoor experiences for local youth.



Volunteer at the 37th Annual Potomac Cleanup & Open House

You're invited to join us at our 37th Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup & Open House! Our flagship cleanup will be **Saturday, April 5, 2025, 9am-1 pm** along the shoreline of Piscataway National Park - and you are also welcome to visit our Open House nearby, where we'll have snacks, family-friendly educational activities, and a fun hayride down to the Potomac!

This is your opportunity to meet hundreds of your like-minded neighbors who want a beautiful, clean Accokeek environment - we'd love to see you there! >>> [RSVP at this link here.](#) <<<



Adventure Camps at Hard Bargain Farm

Spring Adventure Camp

There's no need to wait until summer to get your campers outside at Hard Bargain Farm! For the first time ever, we are hosting a week of Spring Adventure Camp, **April 14-18, 2025**.

Our Spring Adventure Camp features a week of nature exploration, hands-on science, and outdoor fun. From hiking and wildlife spotting to barnyard visits and creative play, campers will connect with nature in unforgettable ways.

Camp Details

- Monday, April 14 - Friday, April 18
- 9:00am - 3:00pm (optional extended care until 5:00pm)
- Pack 1: Ages 4-6, Pack 2: Ages 7-9, Pack 3: Ages 10-12
- \$325/camper

Campers must turn the minimum age of the camp week by April 1, 2025.

Space is limited! >>> [Save your campers spot here!](#) <<<



Summer Adventure Camp

Our Summer Adventure Camp is back for 2025, and it's better than ever! From exploring the great outdoors and hands-on activities to s'mores by the fire and meeting barnyard friends, it's a summer of joy, learning, and adventure.

- > Weekly Day and Overnight sessions from July 7 – August 8, 2025
- > Nature-based themes, ages 4–13, and memories that will last a lifetime!

Spots are filling fast, so don't wait—let's make this summer an unforgettable one!

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