

# Smoke Signals



MOYAONE  
ASSOCIATION  
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME LVI

December 2016

NO. 9

## President's Note

—Jon Rietmulder  
[moyaonepresident@gmail.com](mailto:moyaonepresident@gmail.com)

Please join us on Saturday, December 10, at 4 pm as we gather for our annual budget meeting at the Wagner Community Center (2311 Bryan Point Road). We'll be reviewing financials, voting on our budget for 2017, and voting to allow the board to enter into an updated lease of the cottage property that's adjacent to the community center. Financial statements and the proposed budget will be mailed out with the official meeting notice.

We'll also be introducing new members and hearing reports from each of our standing committees. In addition, we'll be hearing a report from the Southern Maryland Fair Skies Coalition, a group that is seeking solutions to decrease the aircraft noise in our area. Following the meeting we'll socialize and enjoy wine and cheese. Bring your favorite food or drink and catch up with your neighbors!

All members are encouraged to participate. We need at least one-third of our members present or voting by proxy in order to conduct business. If you aren't able to attend, please provide your vote by giving a signed proxy to another member. Proxy forms will be included with the meeting announcement.

### Moyaone Association Board

<i>President</i>	<b>Jon Rietmulder</b> <a href="mailto:Moyaonepresident@gmail.com">Moyaonepresident@gmail.com</a>
<i>Vice President</i>	<b>Greg Pinney</b> <a href="mailto:pinnip1@gmail.com">pinnip1@gmail.com</a>
<i>Comptroller</i>	<b>Jamie Kucab</b> <a href="mailto:Moyaonecomptroller@gmail.com">Moyaonecomptroller@gmail.com</a>
<i>Secretary</i>	<b>Karen Hoagberg</b> <a href="mailto:MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com">MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com</a>
<i>Member-at-Large</i>	<b>John Mitchell</b> <a href="mailto:john@interactionlaw.com">john@interactionlaw.com</a>



*Charlie Gaumond, a Moyaone road captain, puts away the road closure signs until next year.*

## Moyaone "Closing of the Roads" Concludes

—Kent Hibben

Thank you to all the Roads Captains who have helped Roads Chair Stan Fetter in the annual "closing of the roads" (to non-residents). The maintenance of the Moyaone Association as the legal, private, and sole owner and steward of the gravel road network is supported by this annual rotating placement of the signs: "Private Road/Road Closed." If you have any questions on this issue—or on Moyaone stickers for your car, Moyaone contractor/visitor car mirror tags, and Private Road/No Trespassing signs, please contact: **KentLHibben@Gmail.com**

### SEND NOTICES FOR SMOKE SIGNALS TO:

Ruth Gaumond, 301-292-1189; [moyaonenews@gmail.com](mailto:moyaonenews@gmail.com)  
**Next DEADLINE:** early January for January 2017 issue of *Smoke Signals*

# AMP Creeks Council Fights Environmental Encroachments

—Kelly Canavan

## Dominion Export Terminal Court Case Advances

Sean Canavan, Esq., will represent AMP Creeks Council (Accokeek, Mattawoman, Piscataway Creeks Communities Council) before Maryland's highest court in a case that could stop the Dominion Cove Point fracked gas export terminal, now under construction. Oral argument was scheduled for early November.

On May 30, 2014, the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) granted Dominion Cove Point (DCP) a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) pending DCP's acceptance of various conditions. That acceptance came on June 9, 2014.

The CPCN allows DCP to build a 130-megawatt power plant to liquefy the fracked gas that would come into the fracked gas export terminal that Dominion is building in Cove Point, Md. The power plant would be islanded—that is, would not connect to Maryland's electric grid under any circumstances. The plant would provide no energy to Maryland residents, would make possible the export of fracked gas to India and Japan so that a Virginia parent company (Dominion) could profit, and, according to the PSC, raise Maryland ratepayers' bills. It would also exhaust pollution into Calvert County.

AMP Creeks appealed the PSC's decision to grant Dominion Cove Point a CPCN to the Baltimore County Circuit Court and then to the Court of Special Appeals, which issued its decision affirming the PSC on March 30, 2016. Maryland's highest court, the Court of Appeals granted a certiorari (a writ or order by which a higher court reviews a decision of a lower court) on July 11, 2016. This means that the court will hear the case—significant since they only accept about 10% of cases. The court will also be considering all of the questions raised by AMP Creeks, which is unusual.

## Proposed Compressor Station

The compressor station that Dominion is proposing for Marshall Hall/Berry Hill Rd. is alarming. Dominion already owns 50 acres at that site, currently uses 1.5 of them, and has many acres in conservation easement. They are proposing to clear-cut and use 14 acres for this buildout, which would include two 50-foot-tall exhaust stacks, a large building between them to house the compressor station itself (more than 40 feet tall), and huge wastewater treatment ponds. See the Dominion fact sheet and diagrams at <https://www.dom.com/library/domcom/pdfs/gas-transmission/eastern-market-access/charles-station-factsheet-final.pdf?la=en>.

The "Charles Station" compressor station is part of what Dominion is calling its Eastern Market Access project. It also involves expanding an existing compressor station in Loudon County that would pump natural gas to Charles Station. Public officials were caught off-guard, as reported in several news articles, by the proposal since they had been promised that this would absolutely not happen when the original compressor station was built. Dominion has done the same thing with its Myersville (located in Frederick County, Md.) compressor station, leading many people to distrust them. In fact, when Myersville's local government denied Dominion permits to build the compressor station, Dominion sued them, forcing the compressor station on them.



## Mattawoman Watershed Society Volunteers Receive Award

Bonnie Bick and Jim Long, co-founders of the Mattawoman Watershed, have been presented with the 2016 Melissa Laser award for protecting fish habitat. The award is conferred annually by Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Habitat Partnership. The award ceremony was held at the 75th anniversary meeting of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission in Bar Harbor, ME on October 23, 2016.

Pictured, from left: ACFHP Steering Committee member Dr. Wilson Laney, Award recipient Jim Long, Mrs. and Mr. Laser, Award recipient Bonnie Bick, and Maine ASMFC Commissioner Patrick Keliher.

The AMP Creeks Council is joined by other groups to fight this project, among them We Are Cove Point, 350 Loudon, SEED, Beyond Extreme Energy, and the FANG Collective. In order to build, Dominion must go through an extensive permitting process. While the most important part of that process is applying for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), there are also many county and state level permits required. Dominion has not formally submitted permit applications to any agencies yet, but they are in the pre-permitting process, which includes meeting with planners and representatives from the agencies they will be submitting applications to. Since Dominion is engaged in this process, AMP Creeks needs to be as well. The group is staying in contact with Charles County, the Maryland Department of the Environment, and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and monitoring FERC's online system so that it can take action against Dominion when applications are filed. The goal of AMP Creeks is to prevent this project from moving forward, not to mitigate it.

To learn more about AMP Creeks, become a member, or work with group members, see the website ([www.ampcreeks.org](http://www.ampcreeks.org)) or email Kelly Canavan ([kelly@ampcreeks.org](mailto:kelly@ampcreeks.org)).

# Support Community Groups during Holiday Season

## Looking for a gift for a friend or neighbor?

Giving a gift membership in one of our many local organizations is a splendid stocking stuffer. It fits all sizes, lasts all year long, and ensures that you have someone to carpool with when you attend any event that these groups sponsor.

*(The Moyaone Association retains membership and/or supports each of these organizations, offering a voice on behalf of Moyaone Association members:*

### **Accokeek Foundation (AF)**

accokeekfoundation.org; info@accokeek.org; (301) 283-2113

### **Accokeek, Mattawoman, Piscataway Creeks Communities Council, Inc. (AMP Creeks)**

ampcreeks.org; kelly@ampcreeks.com; PO Box 477, Accokeek MD 20607

### **Accokeek Volunteer Fire Department (AVFD)**

webmaster@accokeekvfd.com; 301-283-2730

### **Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF)**

fergusonfoundation.org; webmail@fergusonfoundation.org; (301) 292-5665

### **Conservancy for Charles County (CCC)**

conservecharles.org; info@conservecharles.org; (301) 932-5714

### **Friends of the Accokeek Library (FOTAL)**

friendsofaccokeeklibrary@gmail.com; PO Box 655, Accokeek, MD 20607

### **Greater Accokeek Civic Association (GACA)**

accokeekcivic.wixsite.com; PO Box 176, Accokeek MD 20607

### **Indian Head Highway Area Action Council (IHHAAC)**

http://ihhaac.org; ihhaac.board@gmail.com; PO Box 44013, Ft. Washington MD 20744

### **Mount Vernon (MVLA)**

mountvernon.org; (703) 780-2000

### **Mattawoman Watershed Society (MWS)**

mattawomanwatershedsociety.org; mattawomanwatershed@hotmail.com; (301) 751-9494

### **Moyaone Association (MA)**

moyaone.org; PO Box 113, Accokeek MD 20607

### **Prince George's County Civic Federation (PGCCF)**

pgcares.com

## Why join? Enriched quality of life.

AF: protecting the view from Mount Vernon, and offering ecofarm and Colonial era resources.

AMP Creeks: supporting smart growth and appropriate land use

AFVD: Volunteers saving you and your home from flames, and rushing you to the hospital

AFF: Ensuring that today's kids of *all* ages learn, hands-on, about a sustainable world for today and tomorrow

CCC: Keeping our southern flank green

FOTAL: If you can read this, you *know* why

GACA: An official local link to Prince George's County actions

IHHAAC: Keeping our north/south conduit sane and safe

MVLA: Nurturing the civic and civil roots of our nation

MWS: Stewarding the metro area's last un-urbanized freshwater tributary

MA: A volunteer-steered community preserving a rural lifestyle

PGCCF: A united voice reminding all that SoMD issues matter.

## Are you or your friends already members of these groups? Try a local book; they nestle well in curious hands:

*The Moyaone Reserve: A History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, by G.L. Hanssen (formerly of West Ridge)—available from KentLHibben@Gmail.com, only 8 copies left

*The Possible Dream: Saving George Washington's View*, by Robert Ware Straus (formerly of Cactus Hill)—available from the Accokeek Foundation

*Accokeek (Images of America)*, by Kenneth Bryson (President of FOTAL)—available from the Accokeek Foundation

*Hard Bargain Adventures*, by Henry G. Ferguson—available from the Alice Ferguson Foundation

*Adventures in Southern Maryland*, by Alice L.L. Ferguson and Henry G. Ferguson—available from the Alice Ferguson Foundation

Questions? Contact **KentLHibben@Gmail.com**, Moyaone Public Affairs Chair





*Moyaone neighbors assemble at the Wagner Community Center for the 4th annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day just before they set out on the five-kilometer run/walk. Earlier the sky had threatened rain, but by 8:30 am it was fine and the sun even came out during the “trot.” For some it was a brisk walk and not a trot. Perhaps the person traveling the furthest for the event was Josephine Withers (front left, with Eli), who was visiting from California. Many thanks to Rita Bergman and Nan Fremont for planning what has become an enjoyable and anticipated annual community event.*

## Chair and Table Rental Available to Moyaone Association Members

As you host guests at your house during this season of celebration—and all year long—please keep in mind that the Moyaone Association’s Wagner Center chairs and tables can help you with your party or event. They are available to members on a first-come, first-served basis, at \$0.50 per chair, and \$1 per table, for each loan-out. The fees go into a replacement fund, to keep these items fresh and ready for use. For more information and availability, please contact Buildings and Grounds Chair John Hollyfield ([Hollyfield1@comcast.net](mailto:Hollyfield1@comcast.net)).

### And on a related note . . .

We are still looking forward to the return of one of our 8-foot tables, and also, please, the return of the Moyaone flag. No questions asked; propping the missing flag and table outside the Wagner Center would be an appropriate Christmas gift.

## Southern Maryland Fair Skies Coalition Plans Meeting

Please help hold the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) to account. The Southern Maryland Fair Skies Coalition is seeking to schedule a meeting in Accokeek, to enable representatives from the FAA and the MWAA to speak with residents from Greater Accokeek, Ft. Washington, and other surrounding neighborhoods. Planned discussion topics of concern include:

- Increased frequency of flights
- Decreased altitude of aircraft
- Length of time in the day that flights occur
- Concentration of flights in tighter areas

Meanwhile, there is a lot of work to do to make our case well, and we seek volunteers to assist in the effort. If you are interested in volunteering, or merely in staying informed, please navigate to <http://smdfairskies.com> and enter your details in one or both of the “Stay Informed” and “Get Involved” forms. Your tallies of the flights you witness, brought to the meeting are critical assists to help guide future policy of aircraft distribution overhead.

## Holiday Events

### 14th Annual Winter's Eve at the National Colonial Farm

**Saturday, December 10, 4–8 pm.** *Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park, 3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek*

A local community favorite, Winter's Eve has been a holiday tradition at the National Colonial Farm for 14 years. The event features seasonal 18th century interpretation and merriment including caroling by the fire, musical performances, wreath decorating using fresh-greenery, eco-friendly gift and craft-making for the family. Hot soup, cocoa, and popcorn will be available to keep you warm and toasty on this special evening as we deck the farm for the holidays!

Free general admission; purchase required for crafts, food and beverages. All proceeds from this special event support the National Colonial Farm's education and interpretation programs.

Call 301-283-2113 or visit the Accokeek Foundation website for more information ([www.facebook.com/AccokeekFoundation/](http://www.facebook.com/AccokeekFoundation/); [www.accokeekfoundation.org/events/winters-eve/](http://www.accokeekfoundation.org/events/winters-eve/)).

### Holiday Art Party by the Accokeek Artist's Alliance

**Sunday, December 18, 4–8 pm.** *Wagner Community Center, 2311 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek*

Join your favorite Accokeek artists for a Holiday Art Party!

Enjoy live music, and savor wine, hot cider and hors d'oeuvres in a festive atmosphere. Browse and purchase gifts of music and art. Lynn Hollyfield, Lona Powell, Patrise Henkel, Peggy Reichard, Carol Burbank, and more!

Here's a link to the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/AccokeekArtistsAlliance/?fref=t>



### Christmas at Mt. Aventine

**December 10–11, 10 am–5 pm.** *Chapman State Park, 3452 Ferry Pl., Indian Head MD (take Rte. 210 to Chapman's Landing Road). Donation of \$5 per vehicle suggested.*

Traditional decorations, music, mansion tours, crafts, gift shop and bake sale, antiques, mini-Mt. Aventine dollhouse, refreshments.

**Sat., Dec. 10.** 1–2 pm, "Rosewood" recorder duo; 2:30–4:30 pm, John O'Loughlin & Friends (vocals, fiddle, banjo and more).

**Sun., Dec. 11.** 1–2:30 pm, Handbell Choir, Good Samaritan Church; 3–5 pm, John O'Loughlin & Friends.

For more information see the websites ([friendsofchapmansp.org](http://friendsofchapmansp.org); [charlescountyholidaytrail.com](http://charlescountyholidaytrail.com)). This program is supported in part by a grant from the Charles County Arts Alliance and the Maryland State Arts Council.



*A beautiful fall evening and bonfire were the perfect conclusion to the annual hayride at the Alice Ferguson Foundation's Hard Bargain Farm. Photo: Alice Ferguson Foundation.*

### Alice Ferguson Foundation: October Thanks and November Hayride

*Varya Zhigilei  
Communications and Marketing Manager  
Alice Ferguson Foundation*

Thank you to everyone who came out in October to celebrate Oktoberfest at the Alice Ferguson Foundation's (AFF) Hard Bargain Farm with us. Hurricane Matthew brought rain, but the community brought the fall spirit and cheer to the event. Then, before we knew it, it was November. On Nov. 12, AFF hosted a family-friendly, fun-filled evening of marshmallows, a crackling fire in a log cabin, and a hayride adventure to the Potomac River.

The Alice Ferguson Foundation's mission is to connect people to the natural world, sustainable agricultural practices and the cultural heritage of their local watershed through education, stewardship and advocacy. For more information see the website (<http://fergusonfoundation.org>).

### Homegrown Coffeehouse at the National Colonial Farm Kicks Off 2017 Season

*Celebrating Fine Local Food  
and Talent*

**Saturday, January 21, 2017.** Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park, Education Bldg., 3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek

Annette Wasilik, Nicole Belanus and Lynn Hollyfield/Kevin Dudley. Doors open 6 pm; opening act (TBA) 7:15 pm; main act 8–10 pm. Admission: \$12. Available for purchase: homemade soup and bread, 6–7:30 pm; desserts/coffee/tea all evening. Follow signs for the Visitor's Center; follow road to the right, parking on the left. For more information: 240-305-0876. The Homegrown Coffeehouse is a non-smoking venue. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.





# Winter's Eve

**Saturday, December 10 4 to 8 pm**



**Enjoy a special evening as we **deck the farm** for the holidays!**

**Free General Admission**

Crafts, food and beverages available for purchase

**Earth-Friendly** Craft Making **Caroling** Music  
Entertainment **Wreath Making** **Popcorn** **hot cocoa**  
**warm SOUP** **Holiday** family **FUN!**

**National Colonial Farm at Piscataway Park**

3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek MD 20607

p. 301-283-2113 e. [info@accokeek.org](mailto:info@accokeek.org)

[www.accokeekfoundation.org/events/winters-eve](http://www.accokeekfoundation.org/events/winters-eve)