

Smoke Signal



MOYAONE
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME LVIII

March 2018

NO. 3

President's Note

—Ben Kirkup
moyaonepresident@gmail.com

In like a lion seemed an understatement that first March weekend, the winds whipping the pines and dropping power lines up and down the East Coast. Keeping roads clear was also a challenge; and the winds and trees threatened roofing. For those of us who had trusted the buried lines to prevent outages, a dose of reality came with the realization that there were still vulnerable electric lines leading into the Moyaone.

This spring is a time of welcoming new members to the community, not only through the traditional manner of persons buying new homes, but also through new births and new properties joining the Moyaone at its margins. These members, too, were victim to fallen trees and losses of electricity. At the same time, new residents and newborns were present at the clearing of trees from the roads, driveways, and sometimes roofs. They have entered the community indeed. In a spirit of rebirth, discussions at several locations centered on the idea of swales and hugels (a form of permaculture) focused on the fallen pines, which could serve as mother trees for new plantings.

Other utilities at the borders of the Moyaone now appear as vulnerable as electricity. While Dominion Energy has managed to clear-cut about 13 acres of their own land, it faced organized and visible resistance during the process. The resistance during the formal approval process also crystallized at the Charles County Board of Appeals on March 13, with a stunning 4:1 decision to deny a permit required to construct the station. The path to this denial has been very long, with the expectation that it would end in approval at each of the seven meetings along the way. In this context, the presumptuous act of cutting the trees appears reflexive and tragic rather than carefully considered and farsighted. During the process of ultimately dismissing the proposed station, which is not yet concluded, a number of unanticipated and ultimately significant benefits may materialize. For example, a recent viewshed

Moyaone Association Annual Meeting Saturday, May 5 at 4 pm

Wagner Community Center, 2311 Bryan Point Road

stakeholders' meeting included the new CEO of Mt. Vernon, as well as the CEOs of the Accokeek Foundation (AF), Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF), and myself and the Secretary from the Moyaone Association. The very meeting, the developing strength of association that is being renewed among the stakeholders, is a benefit of the process. In addition, during the meeting, new conservation easements and other strategies to expand and strengthen preservation of the rural landscape and woodlands were discussed. Some easements and preservation funds are potentially being extracted from Dominion Energy itself, applied to their properties adjoining the proposed station. This is an unlikely outcome indeed.

This creativity — growing new trees from the fallen and redeeming the present crises to extend and strengthen ties throughout and around the community — springs from the deep roots that have been developing over the years. Thank you all for your continued faithfulness and stewardship.

Moyaone Association Board

<i>President</i>	Ben Kirkup MoyaonePresident@gmail.com
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Talk to the National Park Service about Tree Removal

—Kent L. Hibben, Easement Holder
and Moyaone Association Roads Chair

A question recurrently posed is: Why should the National Park Service (NPS) be contacted (at Pisc_Easements@NPS.gov) to request a dialog regarding tree removal? There are many answers and they include:

- Each party in this unique Scenic Easement gains the most by engaging the others. The Piscataway Partnership often written of (for example in the prior *Smoke Signal*'s 50th Anniversary story, and in NPS Superintendent Christine Smith's August 2016 letter to all Scenic Easement holders (see page 3), succeeds, to mutual benefit, within a team construct.
- Each time a tree falls, or needs felling, timely looping NPS in provides data on the health of the woods. Inventorying the density of the trees, and noting which types are thriving or failing, is a critical step in reforestation plans, and in planning and planting of the next generation of greenery.
- In the hope that your neighbor writes the NPS to discuss tree removal on their lot, setting an example by doing so as well, is win-win.
- The continued success of our vanguard private/public historic viewshed conservation is best gained through everyone's participation with the easements that "run with the land." The NPS is keen to chat, not to dictate, about tree-care or tree-cutting choices
- And in the spirit of the German Lutheran pastor Niemöller: *First they came for the trees, and I did not speak out* As the NPS seeks our help as community members in this time-less task, each time we individually choose to speak for (and about) the trees, the whole of the forest thrives.

Thanks for connecting with Christine and her team.

Piscataway Park Botanical Survey

The Vascular Flora of Piscataway and Fort Washington National Parks, Prince Georges and Charles Counties, Maryland.

Author(s): Brent W. Steury and Charles A. Davis. Castanea, Vol. 68, No. 4 (Dec., 2003), pp. 271–299. Published by: Southern Appalachian Botanical Society.

—Hans Haucke

I recently was told of a thorough botanical survey of the flora found in Piscataway and Ft. Washington parks. Randy Phoebus, a local naturalist, found "The Vascular Flora of Piscataway and Ft. Washington National Parks, Prince Georges and Charles Counties, Maryland" (online https://www.researchgate.net/publication/258498657_The_Vascular_Flora_of_Piscataway_and_Ft_Washington_National_Parks_Prince_Georges_and_Charles_Counties_MarylandSt - Steury and Davis survey). See the abstract below. This is a great resource for local gardeners interested in native plants and wildlife habitat. It lists nearly one thousand plants (including aquatic plants) found in Piscataway Park and Ft. Washington Park. The survey data is from 1995 to 2002. Perhaps there may be a few missing plants. Kay Powell told me that white trillium was in this area 30 years ago, but it's not included in the list.

For gardeners, this provides a long list of natives that can do well here, if we are attentive to soil, sun, and moisture. Because certain areas have shell deposits contributing alkalinity, some plants are listed that do poorly in acid soil. The most interesting thing for me is that all types of plants are listed, regardless of whether they are especially showy. Plants with wildlife value are listed that you won't readily find in garden guides. Grasses, sedges, and rushes are included and it is nice to have some guidance on these important but sometimes overlooked components of the native habitat. My lot can support only a fraction of these plants, and many would be hard to come by, but I'll be using this list to guide future planting.

Fire in the Moyaone Reserve

WJLA News reported that a massive house fire occurred Tuesday night, March 13, in Accokeek, Maryland. Fire officials said there were no injuries in the incident.

After firefighters evacuated residents from the home, the first floor collapsed into the basement, according to Prince George's County Fire officials. The blaze was reported in the 14600 block of Cactus Hill Road.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, installing your smoke alarms correctly—and making sure they are in working order—is an important step to making your home and family safer from fire. Homeowners should take proactive steps to make sure that their homes have a sufficient number of smoke alarms.



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Fort Washington and Oxon Hill Parks
13551 Fort Washington Road
Fort Washington, MD 20744



IN REPLY REFER TO

1A1 PISC

August 16, 2016

Dear Resident:

I recently passed my one year anniversary as Superintendent of Piscataway Park, and wanted to express my appreciation for the passion that those who live within Piscataway Park have for the park and its stewardship. Thank you!

You are part of the first private/public partnership in the country that created a park to preserve a historic viewshed and provide for land conservation. The effort to create Piscataway Park made history, pioneering the use of donated scenic easements on private property. For over 50 years, our partnership has resulted in Piscataway Park being the wooded and pastoral community that makes it the Southern Maryland gem we all take pride in. Our continued success will be through everyone's ongoing commitment to the adherence of these scenic easements, which "run with the land," and are binding on every subsequent owner of the property.

I am privileged to be here in 2016, during the Centennial Anniversary of the National Park Service. The Centennial is not just about celebrating the past, but also planning for the future. I have discovered, in talking to new residents and answering questions from realtors, that not everyone knows or understands the details of scenic easements. To ensure the preservation of Piscataway Park, property owners and stewards (new and old) need to have a full understanding of these easements. This will require long term ongoing communication, education and diligence; frankly, is a bigger job than I can accomplish alone.

Thankfully, Piscataway Park is fortunate to have committed community members and dedicated organizations who are devoted to this never ending mission, including the Accokeek Foundation, the Alice Ferguson Foundation, the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association and the Moyaone Association. We have been collaborating to develop tools and mechanisms for communication and education about the easements, which I am excited to share with you.

- **Interactive Easement Lookup:** www.mountvernon.org/easements
In order to help you understand your responsibilities, we have developed an interactive map, which allows you to look up the easement recorded on your particular property. We hope this will be a useful resource for you and plan to continue to expand the information available here.
- **Centralized email address :** PISC_Easements@nps.gov
The National Park Service has created a new general email address for you to use in asking questions about easements and requesting tree removals. (Note: You may continue to email park staff directly, but this email address will ensure a prompt response.)

I look forward to the next year, and enjoying the results our mutual efforts in preserving Piscataway Park. Thank you for your stewardship.

Sincerely,

Christine Smith
Superintendent

Charles County Board of Appeals Denies Special Exception to Dominion Energy

—Kelly Canavan, AMP Creeks

In what feels like a miraculous victory, the Charles County Board of Appeals (BOA) voted 4–1 to deny the zoning special exception that Dominion Energy needs to build Charles Station—the fracked gas compressor station it wants to put on New Marshall Hall/Barry’s Hill Rd. in Charles County, Maryland, on the Cove Point pipeline.

Board members, fully aware that this case will move into the circuit court when Dominion appeals their decision, took great pains to lay out the reasons that they voted as they did, citing legal documents, ordinances, and codes to support their positions. Two issues stood out as being matters of grave concern for all five Board members: the risk of explosion and Dominion’s repeated failure to provide information that the Board expressly asked for, which they found suspicious.

Several Board members specifically mentioned the compelling evidence received from the Opposition, represented through seven BOA hearings by J. Carroll Holzer, Esq.

The status of the scheduled March 28 MDE air quality permit hearing is now unclear. Regardless of whether or not it is still held, the Maryland Dept. of the Environment (MDE) is prevented from making a final ruling on the permit until the zoning is in place. Dominion has already received its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). There is some disagreement about whether or not the BOA’s decision can or will be preempted by FERC (thus the prospective court battle.) However, if MDE denies their air quality permit, that decision cannot be preempted, and the project will die.

Regretfully, Dominion is still allowed to cut down 13.3 acres of trees at the would-be project site. They were permitted for that separately, not by the BOA. The tree trunks will remain in the ground, and the trees will remain on site for the time being, as they do not have permits to disturb the earth or drag the trees out. Two community blockades have occurred in the last week to protest the tree clearing.

It is a great privilege for AMP Creeks to work with such a committed and passionate community. AMP Creeks is represented by counsel at each level of this fight, and must often hire experts to help analyze the technical details of the project. Any donation you can make to help us continue this effort would be greatly appreciated. For more information, please email Kelly Canavan (kelly@ampcreeks.org) or see the website (www.ampcreeks.org).

For information about aquifers, see the Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources, Maryland Geological Survey, website (http://www.mgs.md.gov/groundwater/md_groundwater.html). Also see the webpage for coastal plain aquifers (http://www.mgs.md.gov/groundwater/coastal_plain_aquifers_mobile.html)

Moyaone Public Affairs Committee Meets with Senator Van Hollen Staff

—Moyaone Public Affairs Committee

On March 5, members of the Moyaone Public Affairs Committee met with United States Senator Chris Van Hollen staff members to discuss the February 22 Request for Rehearing and Motion to Reopen the Record concerning the proposed Charles Compressor Station. The Public Affairs Committee members were joined by Theresa Lazar, a Charles County resident adjacent to the proposed compressor site and one of the intervenors in the case (AMP Creeks being the lead and including the Moyaone Association as well as several other individuals).

The group presented concerns to Van Hollen staffers Joan Kleinman and Meghan Conklin. A letter from Senator Van Hollen to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to request a rehearing was among possible next steps discussed during the productive meeting.

Public Affairs Chair Sarah Kase will continue to update the Moyaone community on important developments via email. For more information, contact her at: MoyaonePublicAffairsChair@gmail.com

Submit Comments on Permit for Charles Station Construction Water Usage

—Judy Leventhal

Dominion Energy Cove Point LNG, LP has applied for a Permit to Appropriate and Use Waters of the State, CH2017G006/01. The applicant seeks to appropriate and use an annual average of 176,000 gallons of groundwater per day (gpd) and an average of 230,000 gpd during the month of maximum use for lowering the groundwater level to facilitate construction of the Charles Station compressor station. The water is to be withdrawn from sumps in the semi-confined Upper Patapsco aquifer. The project is located at 6855 Barrys Hill Road, approximately 0.5 mile east of the junction of Marshall Hall and Barrys Hill Roads, Bryans Road, Charles County, Maryland. The permit application, an engineering report in support of the requested quantities, and other documents required for the requested permit can be found at the website listed below:

Moyaone residents should be weighing in on this step in the process. Information on the project can be found at this link: http://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_supply/Pages/CH2017G006-DewateringCharlesStation.aspx

Please submit your comments or questions on the application by Dominion Energy Cove Point LNG, LP to appropriate waters of the State, to enable the construction of the Charles Station compressor station, to john.grace@maryland.gov or to: John Grace, Water Supply Program, Maryland Dept. of the Environment, 1800 Washington Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21230.

John Grace is the Chief of the Source Protection and Appropriations Division of the Water Supply Program, Water Management Administration (WMA). His major responsibilities are implementing the water appropriation and use permitting program, assuring that communities have adequate water supply capacity, and helping communities protect and improve the quality of their water.

SAVE THE DATE: 2018 Moyaone Homes Tour

Saturday, April 21

Don't miss the 7th Moyaone Homes Tour on Saturday, April 21. Gracious homeowners in the Moyaone Reserve will be opening their homes for visitors to enjoy some of the diverse architecture and style in the area. The homes tour will be followed by a silent auction. More details to come.



Chili Challenge prize winners (left to right): Amanda Truett, Karen Heys, Renee Cochran, and Dana Keys.

Chili Challenge Event Raises Funds for Moyaone Commons Improvements

More than 70 people attended the 2018 Moyaone Chili Challenge on Feb. 24, and were able to sample 20 different chili dishes, socialize with friends, and meet new neighbors. The event raised more than nine hundred dollars to bring electricity and water to the cook shack and pavilion.

Many people helped make this event a success:

- JJ Jackson for his wonderful contribution of all the beer
- Cindi Rudzis for her beautiful drawing commemorating the event
- Our Chili Cookoff judges—Ricki Berry, Sue Jones, Jane Norman, Greg Pinney, Frank Pipitone, and Jim Thompson
- The committee who worked hard to make it happen—Ruth Gaumond, Rhonda Hanson, Betty Mitchell, Mary Lee Phelps, and Amanda Truett
- And all of our chili chefs who contributed their food, time, and talent

Prizes were awarded in both meat and vegetarian categories. Congratulations to the winners for creating the best chili. Dana Kee and Amanda Truett won first prize. Renee Cochran and Karen Heys won second prize.

Stay tuned for the next Moyaone Association event.

Jane Krafzur Adams 1947–2018

—Holly Wagner

Jane Krafzur Adams died in January at George Washington University Hospital. She was the daughter of Dixie Otis, who was an active political and social resident of the Moyaone community for more than 40 years.

Jane became a reluctant resident of the Moyaone at the age of 13. She could no longer hop on a bus and meet her friends at a Bethesda mall. She was stuck with walking and none of us had one iota of the glamor of Jane or her previous friends. We were enamored. [I should point out that these are my memories beginning from the age of 10.] Having made close friends of many of us, nonetheless she escaped to Washington, DC and the freedom of public transportation and jobs at the first opportunity.

It was a shock when we heard that Jane had died suddenly of the flu on January 12, at the early age of 70, when her health was hardly worse than those of us her age. A long-time District resident, she had retired from the U.S. Post Office and was active in the local arts community. As reported in the *Washington Post*, for more than 40 years Jane's work in radio and performance arts venues fostered the work of local artists, musicians, and poets. She is survived by her husband, Gregory Adams, of 37 years; son, Ardie Adams; daughter, Ardellie Parker; grandson, Torian Adams; and three brothers, John, Richard and Elliot Krafzur; by extended family and many friends. A memorial is planned for late April.

She will be sorely missed for her warmth and humor.

George Garner Memorial Set for April 14

—Paola Addamiano-Carts

A memorial gathering for George Garner will be held at the Wagner Center (2311 Bryan Point Rd.) on Sat., April 14. Gather for a potluck around 3 pm. Grilled lamb and Moose Manor poultry will be on offer around 4 pm. Formal remarks will begin around 5:30 pm. Musicians are encouraged to bring their instruments.

I'm putting together a "Life of George" photo display for the April 14 memorial. If you have photos to share, please send them to me (CartsFamily@alacarts.net). I have several good ones of George holding a baby lamb and one from his seminary days.

Share Some Moyaone Memories

—Kay Powell

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Piscataway Park, share some memories of living in the Moyaone Reserve. We're looking for short descriptions of 100 words or less. Topics could include:

- How did you find out about the Moyaone Reserve?
- What is your favorite activity here?
- What unusual animals or birds have you seen?
- What events at the Accokeek Foundation or the Alice Ferguson Foundation were especially memorable?
- What are some of your favorite childhood memories?
- Talk about friends and neighbors that you've met here.

Sharing our experiences of living here will help our neighbors and the organizations that are so embedded in our past to know us. Send your stories to kaypowell@verizon.net.



Garden volunteers can help in the Children's Garden on March 17. Photo: Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF).

Alice Ferguson Foundation Hosts Upcoming Community Events

Varya Zhigilei
Communications and Marketing Manager

March 17—Volunteer Day in the Garden

Our first Children's Garden Volunteer Day of the year is on Saturday, March 17. Everyone is welcome, no special skills required. We use the garden to help schoolchildren discover and explore fruits, veggies, and herbs and learn about where their everyday food comes from. Help our outdoor classroom grow! Free; please RSVP to let us know you're coming. Hard Bargain Farm is located at 2301 Bryan Point Rd., Accokeek.

March 24—Vermicomposting: Wild about Worms!

Spring is almost here. Stop by the farm on Saturday, March 24, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm for a workshop on indoor composting. Get your hands dirty learning about indoor composting and earthworms, take a wagon ride through our historic farm, and bring home a starter kit of healthy wrigglers. \$10 nonmembers; \$8 AFF members. The event takes place at the AFF Cafritz Environmental Center, 2201 Bryan Point Rd., Accokeek.

April 14—Potomac Cleanup at Hard Bargain Farm

Celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup with us on Saturday, April 14. Bring your friends and family and enjoy a beautiful afternoon on the river with us, all for a great cause as we remove trash from our waterways and shoreline.

Contact specialevents@fergusonfoundation.org for more information.

SEND NOTICES FOR *SMOKE SIGNALS* TO:

Ruth Gaumond, 301-292-1189; moyaonenews@gmail.com

Next DEADLINE: April 6 for April issue of *Smoke Signals*



Hard Bargain Amphitheater Springs into Action with April Events

Events take place at the Alice Ferguson Foundation's Hard Bargain Amphitheater, 2001 Bryan Point Rd., Accokeek

AMPHITHEATER CLEANUP

Saturday, April 14, 10 am–2 pm

The Hard Bargain Amphitheater needs some love! Alice Ferguson Foundation needs your help to prepare the Hard Bargain Amphitheater for an exciting 2018 season. No special skills required. Help mulch, remove leaves, clean decking and fencing, clear parking areas and set up the stage. Bring your reusable water bottle. Gloves, snacks, pizza and water will be available. Dress for the outdoors. For more information, contact Trey Thomas (240-776-8830; tthomas@fergusonfoundation.org).

OPEN MIC

Sunday, April 29, 7–9 pm

Come down to the Hard Bargain Amphitheater "Arts in the Woods" and participate in OPEN MIC in the Woods. \$5 online and \$7 at the door. This event is open to performers and spectators of all ages. Instrumentalists, singers, dancers, storytellers, poets, jugglers, magicians and others are all welcome.

Audience seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information on performing, contact Trey Thomas at 240-776-8830 or tthomas@fergusonfoundation.org

Purchase tickets online: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/open-mic-in-the-woods-open-mic-night-tickets-43846258339>

ARTS IN THE WOODS

Sunday, April 22, 3–6 pm

Join us at the Hard Bargain Amphitheater "Arts in the Woods" to unleash your inner artist in a fun and social environment. We provide everything, just sign up, show up, sip up and paint! Meet neighbors, make new friends, and create a piece of art under the guidance of artist Vicki Marckel.

Painting supplies included in ticket price; wine is extra. Tickets are \$35 online and \$40 at the door. To purchase tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/paint-in-the-woods-wine-design-tickets-43844223252>

View Vicki's gallery here: <http://vmarckel.com/gallery/>



Homegrown Coffeehouse Presents Tony Denikos and Matt Holsen March 24

The next Homegrown Coffeehouse is Saturday, March 24 with Tony Denikos and Matt Holsen. Doors open at 6 pm. Opening Act 7:15–7:45 pm, Matt Holsen. Main Act, 8–10 pm, Tony Denikos.

Admission: \$12. More info: 240-305-0876. The coffeehouse is at the National Colonial Farm at Piscataway Park, Education Building, 3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek. Light fare (homemade soups, bread and cheese) is served 6–7:30 pm; desserts, tea, and coffee, all evening.

Tony Denikos

After years of playing pubs and bars in various configurations Tony decided it was time to record a collection of songs he'd written and released, *Naked & Smiling* (1999). The *Washington Post* called Tony a "tunesmith in the best sense of the word," and folks started coming to listen to his originals. A tradition of recording songs about real life, mixed with humor, heartache, and wit, was born.

Time Tells Tales followed in 2003. He started to hone a more Folk/Americana sound, relying on earlier influences as well as artists such as John Prine, Chris Smither, John Fogerty, John Hiatt, Richard Thompson and Steve Earle. The Tony Denikos Band had taken its shape also, and started playing all across the mid-Atlantic region.

In 2005, *Already Gone* was released to great acclaim, followed by *Under the Church* in 2012. From South Carolina to Texas to upstate New York, you can find Tony performing in any number of configurations. Be it an intimate and conversational acoustic solo show to a full-on, five-piece band, Tony's performances are truly a must hear—must see show for anyone who values first-rate songwriting and performances.

"Tony Denikos' songwriting is filled with emotion and romanticism, moving from social commentary to small portraits of American life A good example of modern Americana and songwriting of noble birth."—Fabio Cerbone, Italy. "... Like a sponge Tony absorbs all the (Americana) influences and then wrings out something entirely his own."—Benny Metten, Belgium.

Matt Holsen

Matt Holsen (www.MattHolsen.com) grew up on music from three continents and five centuries (in Chicago, Portugal, Spain, Chile, and DC). His music career began with a bang at 18, when he accidentally walked into a chorus audition for the premiere of Leonard Bernstein's *Mass* and ended up singing on two recordings under Bernstein. He did more choral gigs, sang in dinner theaters, played bar gigs, wrote music for live theater and for choirs, wrote vocal, horn and string arrangements, recorded some albums of his own songs, sang in a jazz vocal quartet, toured with some giant dinosaur puppets (and wrote full symphonic arrangements for them), built a string of recording studios to record and produce CDs for others. These days he produces recordings, plays bass and sings with the Robyn Helzner Trio, and occasionally plays his own songs at venues like this one.

Coming Up at the Homegrown Coffeehouse
Saturday, April 28—Gina Desimone and Pat Quinn



*Spring is coming, and so is the annual "Lattes with Lambs" on April 7.
Photos: Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park.*

Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park Lattes with Lambs

Events take place at the Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park, 3400 Bryan Point Rd., Accokeek

Saturday, April 7, 10 am–2 pm

Our baby lambs are excited to meet you! Spend your Saturday with the newest additions to our barnyard while enjoying coffee and donuts. Bring the whole family to enjoy other activities on our farm including sheep shearing, wool crafting, face painting, and kids games. Plus – everyone's favorite lamb, Nigel, will have a special announcement!

\$10 for adults; \$5 for members & children 12 and under; children 2 and under are free. All activities are included in the price of ticket. Food and beverages are at an additional cost. For more information, see the website (<https://accokeekfoundation.org/events/lattes-with-lambs>).