



GPCA

GREATER PATAPSCO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

PO Box 31, Granite, MD 21163

Issue #257

GPCA Newsletter

September 5, 2007

Check us out at our website - <http://www.gpca.net/>

First Fall Meeting: Sept. 10

GPCA General Meetings are held the second Monday of every month, except July and August, at 7:30PM at the Granite Presbyterian Church
10637 Old Court Road (Just north of Hernwood Road)
Non-members are encouraged to attend.

What's Inside

Membership News.....	2
GPCA News.....	2
Our Parks.....	2
Traffic Calming.....	3
Job Corps.....	3
Summer Experiences	3
Leaving Summer.....	4
Advertisements.....	4,5,6,7

Joy of Cooking and other Favorite Cookbooks, the Focus of September Meeting

As the seasons change and school begins, GPCA starts up again with community meetings. The September 10th meeting will focus on cookbooks in general, but Joy of Cooking in particular. Everybody coming to the meeting is asked to bring his/her copy of The Joy of Cooking or another favorite cookbook or both.

The Joy of Cooking was first published in 1931 and considered by some the encyclopedia of cooking. If you don't possess a copy of Joy of Cooking, bring along your favorite kitchen reference guide. We'll first talk about Joy, how it has evolved and then move to other favorites. We may possibly have time for

exchanging some favorite recipes or making requests.

We also plan to give out some "fun" certificates to those who (1) bring the oldest copy of The Joy of Cooking, (2) the one most used in appearance, (3) the newest copy, (4) the oldest (least used) copy, and so on.

In the August newsletter the rationale for September's meeting was discussed: everything from the anniversary of the cookbook to the current Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibition in Maryland through April 2008 on "America by Food." (see August 2007 Newsletter).

Call 410.461.9169 if you have any thoughts to further our community discussion on cookbooks, or email me (naylogue@aol.com).

Brenda Logue

October's Meeting Moved to Third Monday due to Holiday

Because Columbus Day falls on the usual GPCA meeting day, the October meeting will be held on October 15. President Anne Libis has invited Dave Green, our representative to the Baltimore Co.

Planning Office, to give the community "a heads up" as to any zoning issues or requested changes for our area.

Brenda Logue

Community Picnic time: October 6 @ Pahl's farm



GPCA will hold its annual picnic on Saturday, October 6, at the Pahl's Farm, 2730 Melrose Avenue in Granite. Times are from 3 p.m. until dusk.

If you live in the community, come to the picnic – see friends and meet new people. That is how community begins!

Folks are asked to bring their own hamburgers/hotdogs and rolls along with a dish to share. If you are so inclined, you can even bring a cake for the cake walk (but this isn't necessary). GPCA supplies the grill, condiments, paper and plastic goods along with hot and cold beverages.

Expect the fun activities of hay rides, bonfire, cake walk and moon bounce, along with "neighborly connecting."

Brenda Logue

Membership News

Membership Renewals received this past month: Craig & April Grayson. Membership renewal checks received after the 24th of August will be posted in the October newsletter.

Note: If you are moving and wish to continue receiving the newsletter, send us your new address and a check @ \$5.00 to cover postage: GPCA, P.O. Box 31, Woodstock, MD 21163.

Marty Kelley, Treasurer

More on GPCA Picnic; Help is Needed

Everyone in the community is invited, you need not be a member of GPCA! We are looking for assistance: We need donations of CAKE, for the cake walk, and HELP in SETTING-UP the morning of the picnic. Also, SIGNS need to be placed at strategic intersections, announcing the Picnic. Let Marty Kelley know if you are willing to assist (410-461-5605).

GPCA News –

BY-LAWS: The Board of Directors has worked for many months on revising and modernizing the Association's By-Laws. Copies will be provided at the September meeting. It was decided the members needed time to read the By-Laws, so approval of them will take place at October's meeting.

GPCA WEBSITE: Joey Stevens of St. Paul Avenue is working on the GPCA's website; please take time each week to check it out to see if there are any updated, local items: <http://www.gpca.net/>

Exploring & Helping Our Park

Right in our community are some of the most wonderful outdoor activities and opportunities for volunteering you can imagine. The Patapsco Valley State Park surrounds our area. And until recently I had no idea of the offerings that abound over the beautiful Fall season. . . Fun Hikes, Owl Prowls, Star-Gazing and more.

In addition, volunteers are always needed for tree planting, bike patrols, and trail maintenance, etc. The Park has a newsletter, "Patapsco Tributary" that can be found in the web page:

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/patapscovalley.html>

If you are interested in joining the volunteer efforts (information is also in its newsletter), please contact the volunteer coordinator, Larry Martin, at lmartin@dnr.state.md.us or by phone at (410)-465-3287.

Bonnie Kahler

*Editor's Note: September 29 is **National Public Lands Day** and Patapsco Valley State Park is looking for volunteers for that day, as well as October 20, to help the trail crew maintain the trails. This is a great opportunity to get involved. Registration with Larry Martin (at the above number) is required several days in advance of your assistance. Volunteers are to bring gloves, wear sturdy footwear, a hat, safety glasses, bring water, sunscreen and insect repellent. **REPORT YOUR EXPERIENCE IN THE GPCA NEWSLETTER!***

MORE INFO ON TRAFFIC CALMING

In recent articles we have discussed the problems facing our community involving traffic calming. There currently exists a Neighborhood Traffic Management Program in Baltimore County but we are excluded because we live on "rural" roads. Baltimore County is currently in the process of reevaluating the guidelines within this program. We want to be sure they consider expanding the guidelines to include rural roads in the program. If they did, we would then be considered for some traffic calming measures, such as speed humps.

We have an opportunity at this time to have input in the new guidelines. It is now time to contact County sub-committee members who are looking at these guidelines to explain the dangers that exist on our rural roads. We live on narrow roads with no sidewalks, there are poor sight lines from hills and turns, many of our roads are connector roads for through traffic and we deal with the excessive speed which many choose to drive on our community roads. We want to impress on these committee members that we too live on residential roads and value the lives of our community members and animals.

This note is to urge you to make your voice heard. You may email Barbara Weaver at bweaver@baltimorecountymd.gov. You may also write to Mr. Aaron Dock, c/o The Office of Planning, 401 Bosley Avenue, Suite 406, Towson, MD 21204.

Sandy Steeley

President's Note: The Police Traffic Division has been contacted about the traffic problems on Davis Avenue. An electric sign was requested to advise motorists of their speed on Davis. The police indicated that ticketing on that road would become a real possibility.

Woodstock Job Corps Featured in Local Periodical

A recent issue of Corridor, Inc. presented an informative and extremely glowing feature on the Job Corps facility in Granite.

The column tells the story of one youth who 10 months ago came to the Job Corps, with little knowledge of where he wanted to go in life, without goals and with an attitude characterized by defeat. Today, the youth has completed his GED, has learned to be a professional welder and has graduated with a position in his trade.

At Woodstock students receive training from 16 instructors in as many fields, including construction, engineering, landscape, culinary arts, health and retail sales. The Center has 500 students, primarily from the Washington-Baltimore area. Over 400 of them are housed in one of the six dormitories on the 33-acre campus.

"Over 90% of the graduates get jobs, go to college or join the military. On average, graduates earn \$10 per hour," states the Corridor columnist.

Representing the greater Granite community, GPCA is an integral part of the Job Corps program. Several of our members serve on the community relations council which meets monthly. In that capacity we receive regular updates on the work being done at the Job Corps and we are invited to offer comments, pro and con concerning their programs.

Claude Libis

A Member Recalls Two Summer Experiences

CHAUTAUQUA: Chautauqua 2007 came to the Community College of Baltimore County with the theme, "Food for Thought" on July 13 - 15. This is fourth year for such free cultural programs at CCBC.

The original Chautauqua Lake Sunday School Assembly, founded in 1874, was a vacation course of study for Sunday school teachers. Very soon it expanded both in course offerings and in geographic locations, including academic subjects, music, art and physical education.

At CCBC and at other colleges across the state, four reenactors portrayed people who had an influence on food in America. They were Upton Sinclair, George Washington Carver, Cesar Chavez, and Julia Child.

In the spirit of an original Chautauqua presentation, each program began with a musical performance, either on piano or guitar.

The first was An Evening with Upton Sinclair. His book, The Jungle, an exposé of life of meat packers, led to legislation such as the Pure Food and Drug Act and the Meat Inspection Act of 1906.

George Washington Carver worked energetically for the betterment of southern farmers. He promoted the use of crop rotation and less reliance on "King Cotton," a crop

which depletes the soil, unlike his beloved legumes, soybeans and peanuts which enrich it with nitrogen.

Cesar Chavez sowed seeds of change in the lives of migrant farm workers, organizing the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA), which later grew into the United Farm Workers (UFW). After his 300 mile protest march in 1965 and the grape workers strike, growers finally agreed to raise wages in 1970. His "Boycott Grapes" slogan was widely seen and heeded.

Finally, Julia Child used the medium of TV to expand the horizons of Americans with regard to types of food & preparation. She improved standards of cooking and eating. In addition to her own shows on French cooking, she did 2½ minute spots on morning TV and published two volumes of the acclaimed book, Mastering the Art of French Cooking.

This free program was in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institution's Traveling Exhibit, "Key Ingredients - America by Food". The exhibit explores how culture, ethnicity, class, landscape and traditions influence regional foods. Towns around Maryland will host this exhibit between June 2007 and April 2008. See the website www.mdhc.org for the schedule (or the August GPCA Newsletter).

TUESDAYS IN JUNE – ADULT SUMMER SCHOOL:

Another first for the Granite area was June's Adult Summer School called "Tuesdays in June." The free classes were held each Tuesday in June from 7-9 p.m. in three subjects, co-sponsored by St. Alphonsus Church and Granite Presbyterian Church. These were Bread Baking, Gardening, and Ballroom Dancing.

Bread Baking with Angus Meekins at Granite Presbyterian had 10 people in attendance. Yeast bread takes 3½ hours to make, including rising and baking time. The group only met once to make white bread, which was shaped variously into traditional loaves, flat ones or long French baguettes. The group hopes to meet again on a Saturday morning this fall to make sticky buns.

Gardening with the Masters featured Jo Ann Russo discussing herb and container gardens, bay-wise gardening (ecologically-friendly techniques) and using Maryland native plants. Participants got some hands-on experience making herb planters to take home.

Ballroom Dancing at the St. Alphonsus Parish Center was taught by Dance Instructor Tatia Zack. Each class had instruction on several line dances and partner dances. Each class began with the Hokey Pokey as a warm-up, followed by the Macarena and Electric Slide. Next were the Barn Dance or Cotton Eyed Joe, Slow Waltz, and if time permitted, Swing and Salsa. Approximately eight couples became proficient in adding turns and gained confidence on the dance floor, both in and out of class.

Joyce Ulmar

Leaving Summer



There should be another season, one called 'end of summer.' The time of year when it is not quite fall, but summer is over as we return to school schedules and shortening days. The tomatoes hang all ripe on vines and it is a rush to get the garden produce in and used before it rots. Crickets come out of nowhere and chew on vegetables left in the garden too long. Finally, the temperatures drop just a little and rain makes its way into the Maryland drought as we watch hurricane reports from the south on the Weather Channel. This isn't just a time of transition, it is a time of year. It has its own character, even though we pass through it more quickly than other seasons.

There is a certain ripeness to this time of year. I can relax and watch my surviving potted flowers bloom full force in the lessening light of an August afternoon. Shadows were long in the morning and now late afternoon actually feels like the end of day. We can turn horses out and shut up the chicken barn and come into the house for the night once again. The routine schedule has shifted with the daylight as the sunlight ripens gold at this time of year.

It is just different and it doesn't seem like we should call this summer. I think back through my life of these days right before the return to school. Of buying new clothes in fall colors while the weather was too warm to wear them. Of finding a newborn litter of kittens in the hayloft or behind boxes in the chicken coop and having only days to play with them before my days would be taken up with structure and notebook paper. It is a time of last days. The last day to do this, the last week before school, the trip to the lake. Just one more time, and then we are back to that other life, the rest of the year life.

These last days of garden produce before frost came in August in Illinois. I think my body clock has been set to be done before Maryland is. Days of hauling empty jars up from the basement to boil and fill with tomatoes or green beans and boil again into the evening, and hear the lids pop as they cool through the evening. The smell of pickling spices and sugar and vinegar boiling on the stove to pour over the many different sizes of cucumbers found on the vines in August. My mother was a school secretary and had to go back to work before I returned to school. So late afternoons were our time to hurry and get these things done. And August seems like the late afternoon of summer. A cooler golden sunset on a long hot day.

Brenda Creighton



Lighthouse Challenge - Weeks Away

Last year Betty Uebel reported on her adventures with her cousin Shirley on taking the Maryland Lighthouse Challenge (Newsletter, Nov. 2006). The 5th Anniversary Celebration of this challenge takes place September 15-16. The objective is to visit nine lighthouses and one lightship during this two-day period. There is even a kids' activity booklet to encourage children to enjoy the experience. For more information, go online at cheslights.org or call 410-437-0741.

National Arbor Day Foundation & Free Trees

Now is the time to consider joining the National Arbor Day Foundation. For a \$10 membership, you will receive 10 free trees (various species are available) for planting this Fall before the ground is frozen solid. The 6-12" trees are generally shipped in November for our planting zone. For more details, go online to www.arborday.org.

America by Food: The Maryland Tour

This tour is sponsored by the Smithsonian and the Maryland Humanities Council.

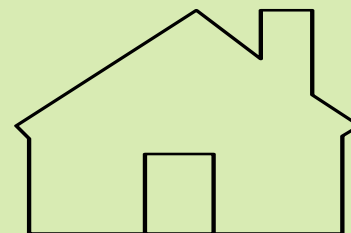
- August 10-September 22: Historical Society of Cecil Co., 135 E. Main Street, Elkton, 410-398-1790
- September 28-November 10: Compton Science Center at Frostburg State University, 301-687-3124

For more details see the August GPCA Newsletter or www.mdhc.org.

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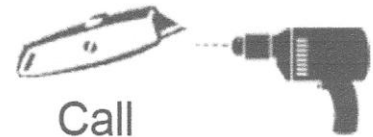
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Don't Clean: Dishes, Ovens & Refrigerators

GPCA Advertising/Article/Letter Policy

GPCA reserves the right to accept and refuse advertising. Ad copy must be submitted to the Editor by the 20th of the month prior to publishing. Payment for advertisements must be made to Treasurer Marty Kelley, 3138 Hernwood Road, Granite, MD 21163 prior to publication. The check should indicate the ad size and month(s) to be published.

Rates and Sizes for ads:

1/8 page -- \$10; 1/4 page -- \$20; 1/2 page -- \$35; full page -- \$55.

Personal ads (up to one column inch -- \$3 for GPCA members; \$5 for non-members; for each additional inch -- an additional \$3).

For articles and letters: These submissions to the Newsletter become the property of GPCA unless otherwise agreed upon. The deadline for these is the 20th of the month prior to publication. GPCA reserves the right to accept, reject, edit, or hold for a subsequent Newsletter any submission. Submissions intended for publication must be signed by the author.

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