



PO Box 31, Granite, MD 21163

Issue #361 GPCA Newsletter December 2016

Next Meeting: Monday, December 12, 7:30 p.m.

GPCA General Meetings are held the second Monday of each month, except July & August, at the Granite Presbyterian Church. Everyone is invited to attend.

Check us out on the Web at www.gpca.net

January 9 Election of Officers and Directors

GPCA's annual election of officers and directors will be held, per our bylaws, at first general meeting of the new year, which falls on January 9, 2017. To date we offer the following slate:

President – Vacant

Vice President – George Jones

Treasurer – Maribeth Diemer

Secretary – Denise Maranto

Directors

Bruce Mezger- for 3-year term expiring in January 2020.

Current directors Barb Warnock and Marty Kelley are serving 3-year terms expiring in January 2018 and 2019 respectively. Nominations of candidates will also be accepted from the floor on the evening of the election. Obviously, we are looking for someone to serve as president of GPCA over the coming year. Our bylaws state "...the president shall exercise a general supervision over the affairs of the Association and be a member ex-officio of all committees, preside over meetings of the executive Board and general meetings; call special meetings when needed; appoint chairpersons of standing committees, and shall be empowered to appoint such committees as the needs of the Association require".

Candidates must be members of GPCA for a minimum of 6 months immediately preceding the election. Per our bylaws, officers are elected for a 1-year term and directors for 3-year terms. The President may serve for two consecutive 1-year terms and may again become eligible after a 1-year lapse. The lapse period applies to no other Executive Board members. Directors whose terms expire may be re-elected for 3-year terms.

If you are interested in serving or have any questions about the process, call Cathy Wolfson, Nominating Committee, 410-245-8708, oakknob@comcast.net

GPCA Social Time

A sign-up sheet for contributions of cakes, cookies, or snacks for our 2017 monthly meetings will be available at the December General Meeting. The Association provides hot and cold beverages, cups, plates, etc. Two volunteers each month would be ideal. When there are no volunteers, this task falls on the same people! Questions, or to volunteer, check-out the sign-up sheet at the next meeting, or call Marty Kelley at 410-461-5605. Your support is important.

What's Inside?

From the President.....2 Seasons for a Reason.....2-4 Salute to GPCA Members.....3-5
Our Community Advertisers.....5 through 9

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Holidays are fast approaching, and snow days will quickly follow. Oh, where did the summer go?! As a Master Electrician, I want to remind everyone about Safe Holiday Lighting. Connecting too many string lights together can be dangerous. Follow the manufacture's specifications for safety. Homeowners typically purchase extension cords that are flat in appearance. Known in the trade as "zip cords", they can only handle two or three light string at a time, regardless the number of sockets available to plug in additional lights. Many light strings have sockets on the end of the stringer, which can extend the light strand. Purchase the correct number of lights on a strand, for your project to help avoid "plug in overload". Always follow the manufacturers' labels for the number of light strings that can be safely connected. Most homeowners do not realize that these specifications are usually stated in "watts", not length or number of lights on a string. And, under NO CIRCUMSTANCES should you hide these, or any cords, underneath a rug. This has been proven a fire hazard. Practice safety this holiday, to help keep it Happy, Merry, and Bright!

At the November General Meeting, we hosted Rose Bianca, Senior Investigator with the Motor Vehicle Administration. Her focus was on identity theft. If you have been a victim of identity theft, take the following steps:

- File a police report.
- Place a fraud alert with all three major credit bureaus.
- Contact banks and all creditors.
- File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission.

I want to thank Rose for her time, and for speaking to the Community about this serious issue.

(Continued next column)

It is time again to Elect GPCA Officers and Board Members for 2017. If you want to get information about becoming involved in these positions, please contact Cathy Wolfson (Nominating Committee) at oaknob@comcast.net. We welcome new ideas, and people from our community, that will help fulfill our Mission Statement. I want to wish everyone a safe and healthy Thanksgiving. I hope to see you at December's Holiday party.

SEASONS FOR A REASON

After living on the old Wolfe Farm for 16 years and having been immersed in the outdoor life of animal care, a little gardening, and the two times a year we bring in hay, I am finally getting the pattern. A year has four seasons and each of them has a purpose in our life. Unfortunately, in the American commuter culture, you run a daily schedule that has nothing to do with the rising and setting of the sun or the cold or the hot day. Technology has removed us from the pattern of life...until Mother Nature decides to teach us a motherly lesson. Because we stopped paying attention. Hurricanes, snowstorms, even the every 20-year derecho. Power outages, trees down, and floods. And, then we are reminded for a moment.

Winter is a time of rest, even though we often have to work harder in a short day to get done. We have long nights created by early evenings and dark mornings. We could be out all day through the heat of summer and harvest of fall, getting stuff done and stored for these cold non-productive months (do not get me started on the idiots that think winter squash is grown in the winter). Winter allows the ground hogs to burrow down and hibernate. The other animals leave or grow long coats. The trees drop their leaves, sparing themselves from the breaking under snow and ice while the evergreens potentially suffer damage. Seeds and roots rest in the ground waiting for their moment to come with the lengthening day and warming soil of spring.

(Continued on Page 4)

Deadline for advertisements and articles is the 20th of the month prior to publication. Next deadline is Dec. 20th!

Thanks to our Members

A shout out to our GPCA renewing members and welcome to our new members. This newsletter would not be possible without your dues. Thank you all for your continuing support!

Adrien and Patricia Malick
 Andre' and Mary Berghmans
 Andrew and Rebecca Mccarriar
 Andy and Lynn Kochis
 Anna S hrad and Manuel Toscana
 At Last Farm
 Barbara Costello
 Barbara McKnight
 Betty Feidler
 Beverly D. Gary
 Bill and Carol Link
 Bill and Dawn Randall
 Bill and Kathy Skullney
 Bill Masemore
 Bob and Jennifer Weber
 Bob and Judi Pfeiffer
 Bob and Susie Reisdorf
 Bob and Theresa Wolfe
 Bob and Winona Hocutt
 Bobbie Stanfield
 Bonnie Kahler
 Brenda J. Logue and Alan Naylor
 Butch Oakman and Mary Jean Scheile
 Carl A. Yowell
 Carl and Patricia Miceli
 Carol Moorefield and Barbara Warnock
 Carolyn Strauss
 Cassandra Fallin
 Cathy and Carl Wolfson
 Cathy Zmijewski
 Charles and Jennette Young
 Charles and Mary Jo Mathena
 Charles and Paulette Chellis
 Charles and Rosanne Connelly

Chris and Wanda Morsberger
 Christa C. Decker
 Chuck and Diane Nemec
 Chuck and Joyce Klein
 Chuck and Sandy Beam
 Civil Air Patrol
 Claude and Anne Libis
 Claude and Cheryl Taylor
 Colleen Shea and Gregg Smith
 Dale and Jan Brice
 Dan and Gail Conaway
 Dave and Susan Jones
 David and Arlene Wilder
 David and Susan Hartman
 David Gorrie
 Debbie and John Haggerty
 Deborah Russell
 Deborah Thomas
 Denise Maranto
 Dennis Reitz
 Dick and Kimberly Carr
 Dona L Espy
 Dorothy Farmer
 Dorsey and Pat Hoggard
 Doug and Stacy Wolinski
 Dr Joseph Tatarewicz & Joyce Bedi
 Dr. Reynaldo Meneses
 Dwight and Doris Hartman
 Ed and Dee Dee Smoot
 Ewald and Shirley August
 Fernand and Odette Tersiguel
 Frank Warfield
 Fred and Karen French
 George and Rhoda Jones
 George Chenoweth
 Gloe Gnagey
 Griscavage - Robert
 Gwendolyn Miller
 Henry and Jannette Gregory
 Hilton and Margaret Friend
 Iris Robinson
 J. Kevin Bonds and Scott Mauk

Jackie and Joyce Myster
 Jackie Webster
 James and Carol McNamara
 James Simmons
 Jayaseelan and Saramma Sigamoney
 Jeff and Heather Follweiler
 Jeffrey and Patty Bayer
 Jim and Jean Higgs
 Jim and Lisa DeRamus
 Jim and Ruth Farmer
 Joan M. Mathena
 Joe and Kathy Jenkins
 Joe and Patti Neuhof
 Joel and Andrea Garcia
 John and Alyson Pye- Hopkins
 John and Barbara Strong
 John and Carolyn Huff
 John and Donna Cookson
 John and Evangeline Bozzuto
 John and Gwen Murray
 John and Laurie Tuzynski
 John and Marie Cignatta
 John and Marjorie Warden
 John and Melissa Conaway
 John Robinson
 Judith Anne Patterson
 Julie Anbarchian and Sako Anbarchian
 Kate and Tony Nueslein
 Kathy Dorman
 Keith Cotter
 Ken and Marilyn Dahl
 Kenyon and Christina Lewis
 Kevin and Nicole Jones
 Kurt and Jan Lalomia
 Larry and Sarah Mathena, Sr.
 Leach, Jeffery and Jacqueline
 Lee and Jackie Cornish
 Lee and Patricia Haddaway
 Leggio Joseph Saggi/Gail Conoway
 (Continued next page)

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Seasons for a Reason, (continued from page 2)

As spring arrives, daylight has expanded, from midwinter on to that official first day. The chickens start laying more eggs and eventually decide to sit them. Weeds sprout and bloom ahead of our garden planting, and eventually the soil warms enough to put the vegetable seeds in the ground--although I am a big one for transplants these days. Rain instead of snow, ice may only be a smattering of frost until mid-May, and we are on our way from sprouting and starting to the productive active life of summer.

Summer days make it seem like night will never fall and the day will never end. This is a glimpse into immortality. But as humans, we do get worn out. Often in summer it seems as if we can move about unimpeded from work to play, from garden produce to evening supper, without that step of storage and waiting in between. I have to stop myself in the middle of the day and hide from the heat and take a break from the work. But when I was a child, I went from morning chores at Grandpa's barn to making jelly in the kitchen with Grandma, to taking a dunk in our backyard pool, to playing with the baby kittens under the lilac bush. And back down to the horses, and then picking stuff in the garden with Mom when she came home from work. After supper, it was reading paperbacks in bed until I fell asleep. Summer is eternal life.

But as fall comes, we have to stop and let go. Prepare for that period of rest, that dark of the year. The garden is worn out; it has given us its best effort this year. The day starts sliding to a stop. We pretend it is not happening by changing our clocks and turning on the lights. But it is coming, that dark of the year. So we have our holidays to gather and decorate and put the decorations out for the neighbors to see. Because even in the darkest day of winter, you know that spring will come.

Brenda Creighton

Special Thanks

To Paul Dorsey for printing the Newsletter and to all of the volunteers who helped to fold and prepare the November Newsletter. Their efforts are critical to Newsletter production. To volunteer to help, contact any Board member.

Membership (continued from Page 3)

Lenny's Automotive
 Leopoldo Mayoral
 Lewis, Jr. and Tanya C. Terry
 Marcia Brown
 Maribeth Diemer and Robert Teller
 Mark and Dawn Marszal
 Mark and Diana Smith
 Mark and Donna McDermott
 Marty Kelley
 Maureen Boskin
 Maurice and Evelyn Dixon
 Maurice Ensor
 Mcallister & Co insurance
 Melinda Hicks
 Michael and Cindy Kahn
 Michael Patton
 Michele Roche
 Mike and Brigitte Hisky
 Mike and Jean Berg
 Miki Hill (The Snowball Stand)
 Otho and Dorothy Brown, Jr.
 Pam Runk
 Pamela B. Pahl
 Patrick and Linda Allen
 Patrik M Bavoil and Ru-Ching HSIA
 Paul and Barbara Peles
 Paul and Nanette Stesch
 Paul Dorsey
 Peter and Elizabeth Lamping Malinovsky
 Peter and Jessica Ameljanczyk
 Phillip and Erin Guarino
 Reed and Wendy Hellman
 Reinhard and Carmelita Grzanna
 Richard and Gail Collins
 Richard and Susan Baldwin
 Richard Asen and Charlotte Kohler
 Robert and Carolyn Wade
 Robert E. Gamber
 Rodney and Melody Butler
 Ron and Betty Freeland
 Ron and Debbie Peters
 Rona and Irvin Desser
 Ronald and Cherylis Harris
 Russell and Margaret Reed
 Saeko Robinson
 Samuel and Denise Jefferson
 (continued on next page)

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MEMBERSHIP (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

.Sandy and Melanie Parker
 Scott and Margaret Osborne
 Scott Braglio
 Steve and Sue Meekins
 Steven and Mary Anne Stengler
 Steven Goodmuth and Karen Koelbel
 Steven J. Shade and Sydney Smith
 Sue E Geiman and Judy Downing
 Susan and Arthur (Woody) Merkle
 T.J. and Irvina Mallory
 Ted Geisler
 Tekeema (Dixon) and Milo Meed
 Terilynn Murray
 Terrence and Lois Shields
 The Rev. Joseph P. Lacey, S.J.
 Thomas and Denise France
 Todd and Stacy Ortel
 Todd S and Cynthia Burkhardt
 Tom and Maggie McGovern
 Tom and Peggy King
 Toney and Tammy Janoskie
 Troy and Kelly Regan
 Vanessa Booth
 Vincent and Victoria Maranto
 Wayne and Suzanne Deitz
 Wilbert and Wanda Talley
 Wilbur Kuo
 William and Betty Cox
 William and Cindy Cox, Jr.
 William and Susan Fowler
 William C. Masemore
 Zulma Santiago-Ortiz

GPCA NEEDS YOUR HELP

The newsletters are GPCA's largest expense and go out to more than 1,500 households. However, only 196 newsletter recipients have contributed their 2016 dues. We need everyone to share in the effort. Please take a moment to ensure that you have sent in your annual dues. Use the membership form on the address page of this newsletter.

Our sincere appreciation to **Mathena Septic Tank Service** Jeff & Linda again donated the portable toilet for the Annual GPCA Picnic.

Donations for Night of Peace Family Shelter

Thanks to all of you who brought items to November's general meeting to donate to Night of Peace, located at Salem Methodist Church on Windsor Mill Rd. Throughout the year, the shelter provides overnight housing including meals, showers, and a laundry facility for homeless families with children. GPCA is collecting the requested new items at our December 12 general meetings to donate to the shelter. Please contact Cathy Wolfson at 410-245-8708 or oakknob@comcast.net if you have any questions.

- Children's slippers, robes, night gowns, pajamas – Ages 2 to 10
- Socks and gloves for women and children
- Bathmats, bath towels, and wash cloths
- Feminine sanitary products
- Twin sized washable blankets and sheets
- Reusable plastic drinking cups, 12 ounce
- Cleaning supplies: Pine-Sol, bleach, Dawn dish detergent, dish towels, dish cloths, laundry pods
- Bus tokens
- Canned fruits and vegetables (low sodium)
- Large cans of tuna and/or chicken
- Stamps, business size envelopes, paper, heavy duty trash bags

In Memory

Ruth Naomi Trott Farmer

01/09/1938 - 10/27/2016

We extend our deepest sympathy to GPCA members: G. James & Kevin Farmer on the passing of Wife and Mother, Ruth. The Farmers reside on Hernwood Road and are long-time members of GPCA and the Granite Historical Society.



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12-5 pm**

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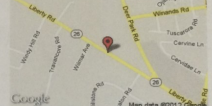
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 follow us on facebook & see some of our work!

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There's a chill in the air, the turkey's all gone; you've raked crunchy leaves from your porch and your lawn. So now is the time, to untangle the lights, bake Christmas cookies and snuggle down on cold nights. Put the kids

in the car and set out on your mission, of finding a tree....it's a family tradition!

Bring your own handsaw, or we've some to lend. Leashed dogs are welcome, we LOVE furry friends!

Know what size tree you need. Remember "Christmas Vacation"? And visit our website for more information. All weekends 'till Christmas, we're here 10 to 4, so come get your tree and a fresh wreath for your door! And once you leave us, tree on the roof rack, go see Bud and Brenda at STROHMER'S MEAT SHACK!

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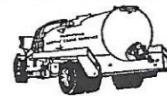
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Contact: Wayne Schaefer (410) 227-4733



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