PO Box 31, Granite, MD 21163

Issue #369 GPCA Newsletter August 2017 Next Meeting: Monday, September 11, 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.

September Meeting Speaker Baltimore County Police Officer Kristie Makowiecki

Visit us on the Web at www.GPCA.net

Getting the "Blues" at GPCA's June Meeting

Our June speaker was our neighbor, Ewald August, from Moody Blues Farm in Windsor Mill. He specializes in growing a brand of blueberries called Duke's, which he sells at farmers' markets and at Eddie's and Graul's Markets. Blueberries may also be purchased at Moody Blues Farm. On Old Court Road

After working as a produce buyer, a profession that took him around the country, Mr. August decided to grow blueberries in his retirement. He had become interested in blueberry farming when travelling to Texas, Florida, and New Jersey during his career. He bought the land for the 20-acre farm in 1984, and later called it *Moody Blues Farm*. In 1991 he bought his first blueberry plants. He retired from his corporate job in 1996.

Moody Blues Farm has grown to more than 1,000 blueberry bushes and produces some of the sweetest and juiciest blueberries in the area. Each of his bushes can yield 10 to 35 pints of blueberries. He has 2.5 acres of blueberry plants, standing 4 feet high, planted in rows. Blueberry plants need lots of water at the roots, and August designed and installed a special irrigation system. He uses mulch to retain moisture. Mr. August recommends Duke's blueberries for anyone wanting to grow a crop.

Blueberry season starts in April and lasts until June. Blueberries are number one in antioxidants; they taste great and also help fight cancer, aging, and heart disease. Blueberries can be eaten fresh or frozen all year round without losing antioxidants or flavor. The best way to freeze blueberries is to lay them on a baking sheet and leave them in the freezer for about eight hours so they don't clump together. After they are frozen, put them in a closed container until ready to eat. Don't wash the berries before freezing. It leaves condensation on them while frozen.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: THE ANNUAL GPCA COMMUNITY PICNIC, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

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Mark Your Calendar!

ANNUAL GPCA COMMUNITY PICNIC

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2017

2:00 - 6:00 P.M.

Join your friends and neighbors for an afternoon of food and fun.

Music. Moonbounce for the kids. Cake Walk.

GPCA will supply hamburgers, hot dogs, rolls, grill, condiments, beverages, paper products, and utensils. Grill on site

You bring a potluck dish or a dessert to share.

A cake to contribute to the Cake Walk. Bring your lawn chairs.

BYOB

Location:

McKeldin Area, Patapsco State Park Marriottsville Road Park admission: \$3.00 per person

More info: <u>oakknob@comcast.net</u> 410-245-8708

From the President:

The tomatoes are hanging on the vines and maybe this will be the year I finally learn to can! Hope you are enjoying a satisfying summer in Granite. If you've travelled Dogwood Road in the past few weeks, you can't miss the two equipment and material staging areas of Holloman Corporation. They've been sub-contracted by BGE to replace a section of aging gas pipeline under the electric transmission lines between the entrance to Columbia Gas and Dogwood Kennels. Work is expected to be completed sometime in the fall. Holloman superintendent Brian Garland tells me many of you have dropped by to ask what's going on. He shared that he welcomes you to the site but asks if you would like to see the actual construction area that you stop in the office for a hi-visibility vest and he will have an employee escort you. There is a great deal of heavy equipment in operation and his top priority is our safety.

We are mixing things up a bit this fall and testing the waters for a change of venue for our annual picnic. We've enjoyed the hospitality of the Pahl's for many years now and don't want to wear out our welcome. We've chosen a lovely shelter at Patapsco State Park for our picnic scheduled for October 1. The park offers a playground, hiking, Frisbee golf and you can even bring your bike to explore the park. The shelter has a great fireplace to ward off any autumn chill. And of course, we'll have the moonbounce. Wouldn't be a GPCA picnic without one!

Thanks to Bob Teller for chairing our Northern Patapsco Small Watershed Action Plan committee. The committee is meeting just after the deadline for this submission, but we'll provide an update in the September newsletter.

A committee of volunteers is reviewing our GPCA by-laws for possible revisions over the summer. Should our board elect to revise them, we hope to have the amended bylaws ready for presentation to the general membership and a vote at our September General Meeting. Join us for the September 11 meeting when we host Baltimore County Police Officer Kristie Makowiecki who will be discussing

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Volunteering at Patapsco

Our friends at Patapsco Valley State Park have alerted us to some upcoming volunteer opportunities. For more information, email the Park's Volunteer Coordinator: volunteerpatapsco.dnr@maryland.gov, or call 410-461-5005 for more information.

Upcoming Opportunities and Events:

Aug. 27: Patapsco Fun Series at the Pickall Area, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Meet at shelter 701 to help clean up the trails. Wear sturdy shoes, long pants/sleeves, bring work gloves and plenty of water. Lunch will be provided.

Sept. 2: Trail Cleanup at Morgan Run, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Join the Carroll County Equestrian Council to clean up and perform maintenance on trails.

As always, wear long pants, long sleeves, work gloves, sturdy boots/shoes, water, sunscreen, bug spray, good work ethic.

Sept. 8: Bug-a-thon at the McKeldin Area, 3-5 p.m. (*Shine only*). Have you ever wondered what a raven eats? Where do hawks sleep? What kinds of sound do owls make? Join our naturalists to learn all about these birds of prey. Best for ages 4-10, but all are welcome.

From the President

(Continued from previous page)

how we should respond if asked by law enforcement to evacuate or shelter in place in a crisis.

Thanks for all you do to make Granite a great place to live. As always, if you have any questions relating to our community, please reach out to me or any board member and we'll do our best to address your concerns.

Stay cool! Cathy Wolfson, 410-245-8708 oakknob@comcast.net

GPCA Needs Your Help:

The newsletters are GPCA's largest expense and go out to more than 1,500 households. 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.

GPCA Membership News

Joint Membership Renewals

Allen, Patrick and Linda
Blecha, Kevin and Kristi Korwek
Bolton, Christopher and Christina
Fiorino, Victor and Elizabeth
Guarino, Phillip and Erin
Ivey, West and Anne
Jones, Dave and Susan
King, Tom and Peggy
Kochis, Andy and Lynn
Randall, Bill and Dawn
Shields, Terrence and Lois
Sigamoney, Jayaseelan and Saramma
Stengler, Steven and Mary Anne
Talley, Wilbert and Wanda
White, Sidney and Janie

Single Membership Renewals:

Gorrie, David Masemore, Bill Robinson, John

New Joint Memberships:

Mkandawire, Jwai M.

New Single Memberships:

Germain, Pamela A. Charyszyn, Lisa

News from the Randallstown Library

If you haven't come by yet to see the beautifully remodeled and updated Randallstown Public Library, you are missing out. Visit their *Colab* to have some innovative tech fun with remote control robots, a VR playstation, an augmented reality HoloLens and more. They also have a number of summer programs for children and adults. For more information, visit http://www.bcpl.info/events/datelines-randallstown, or call the library at 410.887.0770.

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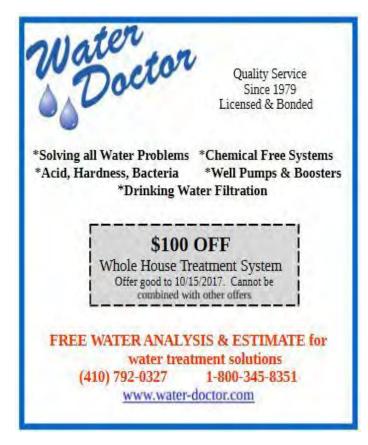
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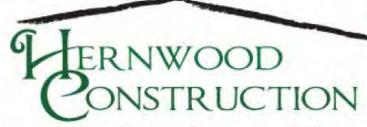
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YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

General Meeting – September 11, 2017

Please print GPCA Membership Application Name	
Address	_
Phone	_
Email	_
Yearly membership dues: Joint - \$30 Individual - \$20	_
I'm new in the community.	
Mail completed application and check to: GPCA, PO Box 31, Granite, MD 21163	

GPCA Officers and Board of Directors

President: Cathy Wolfson 410-245-8708, oakknob@comcast.net Vice President: George Jones 410-655-8307

tessier100@hotmail.com

Secretary: Denise Maranto 443-695-5409

denise.maranto@gmail.com

Treasurer: Maribeth Diemer 410-461-4988 maribeth-13@att.net

Directors.

Butch Oakman 443-314-6415 <u>oakelectric@comcast.net</u>
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Jackie Webster: 410-258-1985, daisyweb@msn.com

Editor: Reed Hellman editorgpcanewsletter@yahoo.com

GPCA ADVERTISING/ARTICLE/LETTER POLICY

GPCA reserves the right to accept or refuse advertising. **To place an ad**: Send the ad copy by email as a pdf attachment where possible to the Editor by the 20th of the month prior to publishing. Include information on the size desired.

Payments for ads: Make check payable to GPCA and send to GPCA, P.O. Box 31, Woodstock, MD 21163 prior to publication deadline. Checks should indicate ad size and months to be published. No payment received = no ad placement.

Rates and ad sizes: 1/8 page = \$15; ½ page = \$30; ½ page = \$50; full page = \$80. Personal ads up to one column inch: \$3 for GPCA members and \$5 for non-members. Ads should avoid excessive dark areas that do not copy well.

For articles and letters: These submissions to the newsletter become the property of GPCA unless otherwise agreed upon. Deadline for these is the 20th of the month previous to publication. GPCA reserves the right to accept, reject, edit, or hold for a subsequent newsletter any submission.