



GREATER PATAPSCO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

PO Box 31, Granite, MD 21163

Issue #393

GPCA Newsletter

October 2019

Next Meeting: Monday, Oct 14, 7:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Kathleen Skullney, GPCA Creation of Zone RC 6 and What it Means for Us Today

GPCA General Meetings are held the second Monday of each month, except July & August, at the Granite Presbyterian Church, 10637 Old Court Rd., Woodstock, MD 21163. Everyone is invited to attend.

View our Website at www.gpca.net

Membership Update: Thank You! Thank You!

I asked and in just 10 days 48 households answered by remitting their dues and becoming voting members. I was thrilled to see that folks who are long time neighbors but hadn't renewed in a while rejoin GPCA. New neighbors have been steadily joining GPCA throughout the year: 22 year to date compared to 6 in all of 2018. We are just 3 households behind the total number of voting memberships in October 2018.

The objectives of the GPCA are to preserve the tranquility and beauty of our rural environment and to encourage orderly and positive growth of the community within the framework of prescribed regulations and laws. There is a long history within the GPCA of focusing on issues related to protecting its residents, the environment and infrastructure. The list of "remember when the GPCA leadership jumped into action" goes something like this: John Jett, Stump Dump Fire; push to have Baltimore County start the mandated remediation process of Furman Landfill, a Superfund site; the proposal to develop the former Worthington Estate which would destroy African American burial sites, develop x homes and construct a mega church that would draw its congregants from outside Baltimore County.

GPCA urges non-voting residents to renew or start your membership. Joint memberships - \$30; Individual memberships - \$20. I have had several inquiries about the when the annual memberships dues are due. An annual membership letter and envelop is included in the February or March newsletter. GPCA follows a calendar year. Membership(s) is considered current the year in which dues are received. If you have remitted dues twice in a year, I will contact you and see if you are pre-paying for the next year or want to make a contribution. If you have any questions about membership please call, 410 461-4988 or email me (Maribeth-13@att.net).

QUAKER HILL SAFETY REMINDER:

There were at least 2 incidents last week. Remember to share traffic incidents you encounter on Quaker Hill and along Dogwood Road with Cathy Wolfson, especially those involving commercial trucks. If it is **safe** for you to do so, take a picture that Cathy can share with District 44B Delegate Charles Sydnor as well as the appropriate Baltimore County officials. You can email, text or call Cathy: oakknob@comcast.net (410) 245-8708. Share the incident on GPCA's Facebook page for more eyes to see. Together we can make the Quaker Hill and Dogwood roadways safe again for our community.

What's inside?

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From the Small Watershed Community Committee SWCC Milestones

Kudos to the SWCC for submitting their first grant to The Patapsco Heritage Greenway (PHG) in late September. If awarded, the grant funds will purchase additional supplies for the Salinity, Nitrates and Phosphate kits. Shout outs go to Dave Scheurer and Bob Teller for completing the grant application.

The Small Watershed Community Committee has continued to make good progress on their goal of testing local waterways!

The group has been making use of the Phosphate and Nitrate test kits purchased in June. The team has gathered twice near local streams and has run through the use of test kits as a group. Individual team members have also performed the tests in their homes to gain a good understanding of the procedures. The team is now busily documenting the procedures for collecting samples from a stream, performing the tests, cleaning the equipment after testing, and safely handling chemicals, including safe disposal of waste materials.

As noted last month, the tests being performed are:

- Air and water temperature
- pH
- Salinity
- Nitrates
- Phosphates

Other work underway is the surveying and finalizing a list of the sites to be monitored. Each site will include an upstream and a downstream sample collection area for each waterway monitored. The streams being considered for monitoring are Dogwood Run, Ben's Run, Brice Run, and Granite Branch, the four main tributaries that cross through our GPCA boundaries. Mardella Run will not be monitored at this time because of planned construction that will include redirecting

the stream flow. To start two streams will be monitored this year. Stream monitoring will be done by 2-person (minimum) teams every 4 weeks. Please contact the committee if you want to join in the effort or just find out more.

-Laurie Donnelly, Member GPCA SWCC

Other GPCA grant submissions: In October, Butch Oakman, acting president, will submit a grant on behalf of the GPCA to the Department of Natural Resources. Monies awarded will be used to purchase additional testing equipment to support the SWCC's work monitoring area waterways. Butch was successful 2 years ago with his grant submission to DNR. GPCA was awarded \$3,400 which was used to hire road flaggers for the annual clean up on Ridge Road.

In Our Neighborhood

We Miss You.....

It hasn't been a month since Cathy Wolfson stepped off the GPCA Board but already her absence is felt. Cathy spent hours upon hours calling, researching, nudging public officials to resolve community issues. She also answered the calls and questions from GPCA residents. She kept going while supposedly immobile with a broken femur. The Baltimore County residents and the Planning Board are lucky to have a dedicated member who cares about sustainable growth and development of economically healthy neighborhoods with nearby shopping and restaurants as well as excellent schools.

Thank you, Butch Oakman, for stepping into the Acting Presidents role. This is Butch's second time around in the President's seat.

I especially miss Reed Hellman, former editor because I know the amount of time and effort Reed has spent compiling the GPCA newsletter for more than 2 years. Reed has the patience of a saint dealing with a treasurer (me!) who wasn't always

timely with her report or, asking to insert articles and ads at the last minute. I have a feud with the Word program's miniature trolls that wreak havoc with the newsletter layout when I'm not looking. What goes around comes around and now that I'm editor I more than admire Reed's talents and resourcefulness to make the articles and ads puzzle pieces all fit together.

Thanks to Renewing and New Members:

Beam, Chuck and Sandy; Bennett, Cherryan and Paul; Berg, Mike and Jean; Boerschel, Sally and Paul; Bolton, Christopher and Christina; Bolton, Kim; Booker, Joe and Sharon; Chenoweth, George; Chillcoat, Lance and Linda; Cohen, Austin; Collins, Patricia; Conaway, JD and Melissa; Cox, Jr., Thomas; Donnelly, Laurie; Gallert, Christopher and Stephanie; Gries, Arnie and Debbie; Griscavage, Bob & Sharon Layne; Hargrove, Sharon; Imes, Ted and Joanne; King, Tom and Peggy; Kloetzli, John and Alice; Leach, Jeffery and Jacqueline; Malinovsky, Peter and Elizabeth Lamping; Mathena, Charles and Mary Jo; McCall, Margaret; Meekins, Angus and Betty; Mezger, Bruce and Kari Weidner; Miceli, Carl and Patricia; Miller, Stephen and Gwendolyn; Myster, Jackie and Joyce; Patrick, Pamela and Marisol; Peters, Ron and Debbie; Pfeiffer, Bob and Judi; Pitts, Jerolyn; Randolph, Junus and Gayle Jordon, MD; Reisdorf, Bob and Susie; Robbins, April; Sharp, Ron and Linda; Shields, Terrence and Lois; Simmons, James and Carol; Skullney, Bill and Kathy; Smith, Carl and Danyell P; Smith, Ronald and Della; Thomas, Deborah; Warden, Marjorie; Welsko, Mark and Karen; Witte, Scott and Candice

The 2019 membership goal is an ambitious one. The Association wants to have 40 percent of the 1,600 households within the GPCA boundaries as voting members. There is no membership swag (tote bags or umbrellas) to give away but we could probably part with some GPCA green T shirts if necessary! Your voice is needed. Represent! Sign up or renew your membership today. Thank you!

Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP) 2020 at September Meeting

Our two guest speakers at the September 9, 2019 meeting were Ms. Ngone Seye Diop and Mr. Wally Lippincott from the Baltimore County Department of Planning. Ms. Diop is our contact person for the 2020 zoning cycle which began on August 19th. Ms. Diop serves as a resource for our district for questions about the zoning process as well as how to access the information from the Baltimore County website. She can be reached at nseyediop@baltimorecountymd.gov or by: phone 410-887-3480, Fax: 410-887-5862, or mail: Department of Planning, Community Planning, Jefferson Building, 105 W. Chesapeake Ave., Suite 101, Towson, MD 21204. Ms. Diop and Mr. Lippincott walked through the 2020 CZMP timeline. Mr. Lippincott commented that GPCA is known to be an active participant in the zoning process which takes place every four years.

The open filing period for the public is from September 3rd to October 30th. The open filing period is when citizens and civic associations can request changes to the current zoning map. The fee for an individual or business to file for a zoning change is \$1,000 from Sept 3-30th and \$1,600 from Oct 1-15th. The fee for Civic associations is \$250 from Sept 3-30th and \$350 from Oct 1 to 15th. It is important that the public keep track of the requested changes and speak up with our opinions because, once in place, the zoning classification specifies the size and density of residential and commercial developments. Baltimore County agencies review the zoning requests and the Planning Board makes recommendations to the County council which changes should be made. The Planning Board holds public hearings in the month of March to hear citizen input about the zoning requests. The Planning Board then holds work sessions which are open to the public in April and May. Ms. Diop and Mr. Lippincott urged residents to attend the work sessions for zoning change issues of concern to us.

County Council Public Hearings will be held the entire month of June 2020. This is another chance

for residents' concerns to be heard regarding request zoning changes. Residents can also submit written statements to the Planning Board and County Council. From July 1 to September 15 in 2020 the County Council will review and vote on the requests for zoning changes based on Planning board recommendations and input from citizens and civic associations. Many thanks to Ms. Diop and Mr. Lippincott for their informative and helpful presentation.

-Denise Maranto, Secretary

Want more detailed information on the CZMP process?

Download "A Citizen's Guide to Zoning" from:

<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/planning/zoning/citizensguide.html>

CZMP Issue Logs by District can be found in pdf format on Baltimore Co website:

<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/planning/czmp/issuelog.html>

The issues logs are updated the first and fifteenth of the month.

Glossary of zoning terms and classifications can be found:

<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/planning/zoning/classifications.html#list>

Unsung Hero's

It has been awhile since we have sung our praises and thanks to the newsletter teams. **Thank you goes to:**

Paul Dorsey for printing the 1,584 newsletters on the GPCA duplicator. A duplicator does not automatically collate or print 2 sided pages. Paul has to manually insert each page, duplicate it 1,854 times and then turn the page over so the back side can have the next sequential page printed on it. The process is repeated for each of the 8 pages so they are condensed into a 4-page double sided issue.

Thank you to Marty Kelly & Her Rowdy Regulars: Gail Collins, Eileen Ciechanowski, Kathryn Dorman, Sandy Fallin, Evalyn Garvin, Denise Maranto, Murf Moorefield, Kathy Skullney and others who collate 4 pages into 1,854 newsletters that are then folded and sealed. Additional volunteers are always welcome and needed the first Tuesday of each month. Call Marty Kelley: 410 461-5605.

Finally, thanks go to **Bob Teller** for transporting 4 large postal trays and 2-3 small trays to the Ellicott City Post Office bulk mail office.

Our readers regularly suggest 2 things to lessen the task of publishing a newsletter. First, is the suggestion is to electronically distribute the issues either by email or posting to a website. GPCA does post each newsletter on its website www.gpca.net. The advantage of mail delivery is that the news is accessible to those who do not have reliable internet service. Secondly, is the suggestion that the equipment be updated. The GPCA Board has looked into purchasing or leasing a copier that creates 2-sided copies and collates them. The research found that a newer (used or brand new) machine was not as efficient as the current duplicator. Also, the monthly maintenance fee more than doubled as did the cost of supplies.

If you know of a business who would be interested in supporting our community by printing and collating the GPCA newsletter, please email the editor: editorgpcanewsletter@gmail.com

GPCA would happily help defray the cost by paying the business the equivalent of our monthly maintenance fee.



Remember to FALL BACK an hour November 3rd at 2 AM. Your day will start with more light, but twilight will arrive earlier.

Patapsco Valley State Park News: Excerpts from Oct Newsletter

<https://news.maryland.gov/dnr/>

High Risk of Wildfires

The [Maryland Department of Natural Resources](#) warns residents and visitors that the potential for [wildfires](#) has steadily increased in the past several weeks due to a lack of rain and unseasonably high temperatures.

While open-air burning is legal in parts of Maryland, the department strongly encourages homeowners to refrain from outdoor burning until the state receives significant steady rainfall of one inch or more. Open-air burning is the leading cause of wildfires in Maryland.

Hunting Season

Reminder hunting season has begun. Don't trespass on private property. When hiking, neon colored clothing is recommended as Park property is adjacent to land where hunting is permitted. Put away those white fanny packs until next summer!

Oct. 27: Mining History Hike

2-4:30 p.m. at [Soldiers Delight Visitor Center](#)

Join Volunteer Ranger and mining historian Johnny Johnsson on a two-mile Mining History Hike to the historic Choate Chromium Mine. The history of mining in Soldiers Delight will be supplemented by demonstration of mining artifacts. Participants will have the opportunity to pan and buddle chrome sands (similar to panning for gold). Recommended for ages 10 and up. Events are held rain or shine and free for all ages. Donations are always welcome. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather/activity, wear sunscreen and insect repellent, bring plenty of water and snacks. Call 410-461-5005 for registration or find out additional information.

Randallstown Library's Oct. Programs: (The Library will be closed Oct 14th)

Express Yourself

October 18th Friday, 11:00 AM

A program using music and crafts to enrich the lives of developmentally challenged adults. Caregivers welcome.

Smart Choice Basics – Affordable Healthcare October 17th Thursday 2:30 PM

Learn about changes to the Affordable Care Act Plans and how to select what's best for you and your family. Presented by the University of Maryland Extension. Registration required; class size limited to 15 participants.

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**YOUR COMMUNITY
NEWSLETTER**

UPCOMING MEETINGS SPEAKER TOPICS:

- Oct 14th 7:30** – GPCA Creation of RC 6 K. Skullney
- Nov 11th 7:30** – co-author of Patapsco State Parks
Ed Johnson (books will be available for sale)
- Dec 9th 7:30** - Holiday Party!
- Jan 13th 7:30** – 2020 Census (to be confirmed)
- Feb 10th 7:30** - TBD

**GPCA Membership Application
We Need Your Voice!**

Please Print:

Name

Address

Phone

Email

Yearly membership dues:
Joint - \$30 Individual - \$20

I'm new in the community or Renewal

**Mail completed application and check to:
GPCA, PO Box 31, Granite, MD 21163**

GPCA Officers and Board of Directors

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Secretary: Denise Maranto 410-790-7131
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Directors:
Maurice Dixon, 410-393-4025, mauricedixon714@gmail.com
George Jones 410-655-8307
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Editor: Maribeth Diemer editorgpcanewsletter@gmail.com

GPCA ADVERTISING/ARTICLE/LETTER POLICY

GPCA reserves the right to accept, edit, or refuse advertising.
To place an ad: Send the ad copy by email as a **pdf attachment to the Treasurer and Editor by the 20th of the month prior to publishing.**
Payments for ads: Make check payable to GPCA and mail to GPCA, P.O. Box 31, Woodstock, MD 21163 **prior to publication deadline.** Checks must indicate ad size and months to be published. **No payment received = no ad placement.**
Rates and ad sizes: 1/8 page = \$15; 1/4 page = \$30; 1/2 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. Hard copy ads appear in black and white.
For articles and letters: 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. The submission of any ad or article to the GPCA means you agree GPCA reserves the rights to accept, reject, edit, or hold for publishing in a future newsletter.