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GREATER PATAPSCO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC

Issue # 431

GPCA Newsletter

November 2023



NEVER FORGET!

**Peace with freedom has victories, but it takes
brave men and women to win and keep them.**



GPCA General Meeting
Monday, November 13, 7:00 PM

@

Social Hall, Granite Presbyterian Church
10637 Old Court Road

Guest Speaker:
Lt. Col. Brenda Reed
Commander, Granite Cadet Squadron
Civil Air Patrol, U.S. Air Force Auxiliary

Civil Air Patrol's Granite Cadet Squadron is Maryland's newest squadron. Located in Granite, Md., the squadron meets weekly to help young people grow as leaders through CAP's cadet program while engaging in aerospace education and emergency services. At the November meeting, join Lt Col Brenda Reed, squadron commander, along with several cadets from the local Granite community as they speak about their squadron and Civil Air Patrol.

.....
IMPORTANT NOTE! See Night of Peace article below for donations you can bring!
.....

Upcoming Meetings:

December 11 - GPCA Holiday Celebration

January 8 – GPCA Officers Election
.....

From Last General Meeting

Officer Kristie Makowiecki

Baltimore Co. Police Second Precinct – Community Outreach

Officer Makowiecki discussed shooting complaints, traffic accidents, parking violations, and two burglaries on 9/11/23. Our residents voiced concerns about over-sized vehicles causing traffic issues. Remedies discussed were to make 911 and 311 calls into the Baltimore County Police Department (BCPD) about the vehicles to generate traffic data and to ensure the calls are recorded. It was suggested to use the 410.887.2222 non-emergency number first to create the record. A regular patrol car for our area was also discussed. For parking violations, especially around Dogwood Rd, Hollifield Rd, and Ridge Rd we can call Traffic Engineering to have the "No Parking" signs replaced in those areas. Officer Makowiecki also stated that she will have officers investigate speeding along Ridge Rd. She said that trespassing on someone's private property while hunting is illegal and that having a gun range on your residential property is also illegal. We discussed knowing the difference between legal and illegal fireworks as well. The Woodlawn Precinct is doing their annual Trunk or Treat on 10/26/23 from 6:30pm – 8:00pm @ the Randallstown Substation. We were informed that the new police chief lives in the Offutt Rd. community. Residents also aired concerns about the late-night gathering at the Diamond Ridge Family Park as

well as the traffic congestion at Dogwood Elementary during the morning school drop-offs. It was a very informative meeting.

~ Kathy Skullney



President's Note



November Greetings fellow Members, Friends and Neighbors,

Hopefully all have triumphed over the witches, goblins and monsters roaming our fields last week – an excellent prelude to our almost killer frosts! And now we have one less official hour of daylight bringing us lovely clear, cold night skies even sooner.

It bears repeating (as you may have noticed!) that we continue to focus and emphasize our place in Baltimore County by exploring all of the remarkable and unique features we have. As we noted in the April Newsletter, one of the most interesting and probably least known important local presence is the Civil Air Patrol, Maryland Wing Headquarters located with the historic Nike Missile site on Hernwood Road. There are 28 squadrons throughout the state, overseen from the Granite headquarters. There are more than 1,500 volunteer members performing search and rescue, disaster relief, emergency services, and security missions every year, and they have a youth squadron! We are honored to welcome the commander, Col. Reed and some of her young cadets to join us for the November meeting – not to be missed.

As always, we are committed to providing a good forum to address the larger community concerns of our members and neighbors; and we can never say it enough: our guiding belief is that we are all part of the same community and the more ways we can all get together, the more voices we have, the better! Staying informed and engaged is one of our greatest strengths.

Please join with us on November 13th!

~ Kathy Skullney, GPCA President

443-838-0861

ksskullney@verizon.net

GPCA Needs YOU



Important Reminder For January Meeting

GPCA By-Laws direct us to hold annual elections at our January general meeting. To be eligible to serve on the Executive Board candidates must be members of GPCA for a minimum of 6 months immediately preceding the election.

Officers are elected for a one year term. The president may serve for 2 consecutive one year terms and may again become eligible after a one year lapse. Directors serve for 3 year terms and may again become eligible after a one year lapse. This election cycle Director Lisa Charzsyn's 3 year term expires creating a vacancy for that office. There are no term limits for other officers.

Current Officers and Directors:

President – **Kathy Skullney** – 1st year term expires January 2024

Vice President – **Butch Oakman**, term expires January 2024, no term limit

Secretary – **Pam Brock**, term expires January 2024, no term limit

Treasurer – **Cathy Wolfson**, term expires January 2024, no term limit

Director – **Lisa Charzsyn**, 3 year term expires January 2024

Director – **Zulma Santiago**, 3 year term expires January 2025

Director – **Ralph Wright**, 3 year term expires January 2026

What's the commitment? In addition to attending GPCA's General Meetings on the 2nds Monday September to June the Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm via Zoom. All Officers and Directors shall contribute impartially to decisions of the board and support the objectives of GPCA which per our By-Laws are:

“To preserve and enhance 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. The Association shall provide a forum for all residents to express their concerns and interests and shall attempt to provide informative and interesting programs that will keep members informed and better able to address any of their concerns or problems. The Association's objective is also to foster a spirit of community among the residents.”

Nominations of candidates are being taken at this time and will continue until the election when nominations will be taken from the floor (even the virtual floor). If you're interested in serving on the board, would like to nominate a candidate or have any questions about the process please contact me, Cathy Wolfson, Nominating Committee Chair at 410-245-8708 or oakknob@comcast.net. Not ready to make the commitment but want to be involved? Consider serving on the Nominating Committee, we need 2 volunteers!

*~ Cathy Wolfson
Chair, Nominating Committee
Treasurer*

GPCA Annual Picnic- A Great Success!!

Maryland Wing CAP Headquarters & Nike Missile Historic Site



Saturday, October 21 couldn't have been a better day for our annual Fall Picnic. It was sunny and comfortable, perfect for gathering and for a historic site tour. We had a wonderful turnout of 45-50 members, neighbors and friends, who all brought fabulous dishes and desserts to share.

A wonderful variety of sandwiches, side additions, and hot dogs were provided by the Saw Mill Cafe and Strohmer's Farm provided delicious pulled pork and cole slaw. The CAP accommodations offered a great space for eating and socializing, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. It also made it very easy to walk down the hall for the Historic Nike Site presentation. This was a great return to community gathering in the best possible way.

Many thanks to **CAP, Saw Mill Cafe, Strohmer's Farm** and all who gathered.

~ Kathy Skullney

Special SHOUT OUT to Sawmill Cafe



When GPCA picnic organizers faced a last-minute need of a food caterer, the Sawmill Cafe provided a lovely spread of sandwiches on very short notice. Don't miss this wonderful little treasure at Edrich Lumber: Sawmill Café – a Progress Unlimited, Inc. supported job business located at 9700 Old Court Road.

410-922-5959

M-F 7am-3pm

Sat 7am-11:45am

~ Kathy Skullney

GPCA Picnic Historic Nike Site Tour



Tom Reed, member of the Maryland Wing of the Civil Air Patrol and project lead for the Nike Site restoration effort, provided the all the attendees a briefing on the history of the site followed by a tour of the facility. The briefing included the history of the site, its importance during the Cold War, and the ongoing efforts to restore the site and open it up

to the general public. The follow-on tour included a look at the Warhead Assembly Building where the nuclear warhead was mated with the missile and two of the underground magazines where the armed missiles were stored and maintained. While exploring one of the magazines, GPCA members also got to see the section control room where the launch crew could launch missiles if directed by the Battery Commander. Tom mentioned that the plan was to open the site up for public tours starting in the Spring of 2024 and would be reaching out to the Association for possible support.

* Note: Tom is hoping to be able to get one of the few remaining control room equipment pieces as part of the restoration effort.

~ Tom Reed



Night of Peace

**Wish List Collection November 13
and December 11**

Night of Peace, family shelter located at Salem Methodist Church on Windsor Mill Rd. provides overnight housing including meals, showers and a laundry facility for families throughout the year to help them transition to permanent housing and self-sufficiency. GPCA will be collecting the requested items below for Night of Peace at our November 13 and December 11 general meetings. Please contact [Cathy Wolfson](mailto:Cathy.Wolfson@comcast.net) at 410-245-8708 or oakknob@comcast.net if you have any questions. If you would prefer to donate directly contact the shelter at 410-200-9351 info@nightofpeace.org For more information about Night of Peace, the services they offer and donation options visit <https://www.nightofpeace.org/>.

Night of Peace Wish List:

- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Laundry detergent
- Disinfectant wipes
- 45 and 55 gallon trash bags
- Lysol Spray
- Fabuloso Cleaner
- Hand Soap
- Hand sanitizer
- Plastic utensils (forks, spoons, knives)
- Paper plates, cups, bowls, napkins
- Non-dairy creamer, tea bags, sugar & sugar substitute packets
- Pancake Mix, Syrup, Oatmeal packets
- Bus tokens

~ Cathy Wolfson

Community Cleanup

Join in an end of year Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up **Tuesday December 12** and **Tuesday December 19** from 10-noon!

Contact Carol at (443) 554-0306 or email linkgang@gmail.com

What's happening in your HOA, along your roads or near you?

Let your community know!

Community Events

Community Updates

- Adopt-a-Highway Local Clean Up – GPCA needs two more clean ups for our annual requirements. The dates are Dec. 12 and Dec. 19 from 10am till noon.. Contact Carol Link at 443-554-0306 or email linkgang@gmail.com for more information. Hope you can help out.
- Maryland Red Line discussions are on-going, and a survey is available to gather feedback on critical key decisions for the Red Line Project such as project mode, alignment, and tunneling. The survey will be open from November 1 to December 1, 2023. See outreach@redlinemaryland.com
- Howard Co. Conservancy - Natural Holiday Sale and Carriage House Mural, Dec. 2
- NAACP of Randallstown - In-person meeting Nov 15, 6pm at the Woodlawn Library
- Woodlawn Precinct reported 6 tractor trailers stuck on Quaker Hill from 6/27/23 to 9/26/23 - this is a continuing problem

Reminder!! – Baltimore County Plastic Bag Ban Now in Effect

Reusable bags are still available from the County.

Become a Part of an Active and Results Driven Group



The GPCA's Small Watershed Conservation Committee (**SWCC**) is looking for additional members.

What does **SWCC** do besides have a monthly Zoom meeting?
I'm glad you asked.

In the month of October:

- Removed a stand of the invasive bamboo.
- A grant request was collaborated on and submitted to fund the committee through 2024.
- A report card and data graphics were finalized and edited, describing the general health and trends of the 4 watersheds we have monitored monthly for over 4 years. The report card will be published in an upcoming newsletter and presented at an early 2024 GPCA General Meeting.
- Fall benthic studies with state database submissions were completed.
- Our "routine monthly" watershed chemical and bacteria analysis was completed.



The SWCC currently has 12 members who participate at a level they are comfortable with and their life commitments allow... for some that is almost every event or action. For others it's 2-4 times a year. All are appreciated and contribute to the SWCC mission. If you are interested but not sure, come to a meeting or field survey and see if it is right for you. Then you can decide.

Contact **Bob Teller** – Chairman, rcteller@verizon.net or 410-320-3418. See https://www.gpca.net/small_watershed_conservation_committees/

~ Bob Teller

GPCA Small Watershed Conservation Committee



welcome to attend.

You might be surprised to learn that over the years, between the late 1840s and 1972, eight different stores were established within central Granite. John Brantley will give a presentation on the history of those stores at the next Granite Historical Society meeting on **Tuesday, November 21st at 7PM** in the social hall of the Granite Presbyterian Church. Everyone is

~John Brantley
Granite Historical Society



Enjoyable Day for the GHS Fall Hike

On October 22, 2023, on an absolutely picture perfect Fall Day, twenty six hikers walked along the Alberton Road Trail to Daniel's Dam, sponsored by the Granite Historical Society. Among our happy hikers were Park Ranger Jamie Petrucci, who arranged parking inside the normally locked gate at the bottom of Quaker hill and also provided access to the William Upton House at the commencement of the hike.

Along the way to Daniel's Dam, hikers were able to view gorgeous views of the Patapsco River, foundation ruins of mill worker's homes, the ruins of the Pentecostal Holiness Church, stone abutments of previous railroad crossings of the River, and the Daniel's Dam. On the way back, many trekked up a slight incline to view the ruins of St. Stanislaus Church, one of the "Mission" churches established by Jesuits at Woodstock College. Further uphill from the Church, a cemetery was clearly visible. However, one of the headstones had been recently uprooted from its base. One of the hikers stated that he had visited the site just the day before and the stone was intact. Well, another potential cemetery project for the Society.



Many thanks to John Brantley, GHS treasurer, for arranging the hike and providing, as usual, excellent historical background information on the areas visited. Also thanks to Lisa Jensen, of the Patapsco Heritage Greenway, who joined the hike and provided a binder of historical photographs of the area.



~Roy Danz

President

Granite Historical Society



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<http://www.kofc13294.org/fundraiser.html>

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Ed Pelsinsky: (410) 313 8808 or epelsinsky1@verizon.net

Chris Timberlake: (443) 473-4816 or jctimbersnake9@gmail.com



MENU

From the Pit

Top Round of Beef
Turkey Breast
Pit-Ham

Raw Bar

Oysters

Buffet

Hand-breaded Fried Oysters
Maryland Crab Soup
Pulled-Pork BBQ
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
Fresh Green Beans
Coleslaw, Garden Salad
Macaroni with Shrimp Salad
Potato Salad

Dessert

Sheet Cake

Beverages

Ice Cold Draft Beer
(Light and Regular):
Non-Alcoholic Beer:
Wine; Assorted Soda:
Coffee Regular and Decaf

Festival of Lessons and Carols

**7:00 p.m., Friday, December 1, 2023, at
St. Alphonsus Rodriguez Catholic Church,
10800 Old Court Rd, Woodstock, MD.**

An Advent-Christmas Concert with Reflections. The Musicians of St. Alphonsus Rodriguez Catholic Church and Granite Presbyterian Church (Adult Choir, Children's Choir, Handbell Choir, Brass, Instrumental & Vocal Soloists) will perform Advent songs and Christmas carols. Special musical guests: The Embassy String Quartet. The audience will be invited to join in with Christmas carols at various times in the concert. Reflective readings concerning the Advent and Christmas seasons add to a joyful consideration of the real reason for the season. A free-will offering will be taken. Light refreshments will follow the concert. For more information: Lyle@stalchurch.org or 443-973-5477.

Festival of Lessons and Carols



An Advent & Christmas Concert with Reflections and Caroling

Presented by the Vocal and Instrumental Musicians of

St. Alphonsus Rodriguez Catholic Church and

Granite Presbyterian Church

With special guests:

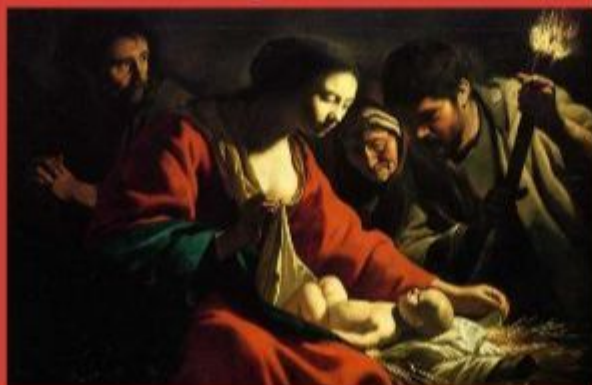
The Embassy String Quartet

7 pm, Friday, Dec 1, 2023

St. Alphonsus Rodriguez Catholic Church

10800 Old Court Rd, Woodstock, MD 21163

A free-will offering will be taken to offset the costs of this and future concerts.



**Light refreshments
will follow the concert.**

**For more information
call 443-973-5477
or email Lyle@staldhurch.org**



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