



PO Box 31, Granite, MD 21163

Issue #363

GPCA Newsletter

February 2017

Next Meeting: Monday, February 13, 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

Thanks for Tireless Efforts

Each community has some of “those people”. You know, the folks who seem to always step up when a chore is to be done or a project to complete. Our Greater Patapsco Community has been most fortunate to have had some of “those people” for many years. Marthetta Kelley, universally known as “Marty”, and Bruce Mezger have actively supported GPCA efforts to maintain and improve life in our community. This month marks the end of their tenures.

For 28 years, Marty Kelly served as GPCA treasurer, board member, and historian. Bruce Mezger began as GPCA director in 2003, and has since also served as vice-president and president over those 14 years. Both have made service to their community an integral part of their lives. We dedicate this issue to thanking Marty and Bruce and the rest of “those people” who regularly help our Greater Patapsco Community.

GPCA Election Results

Per our bylaws, we held our General Election at our first meeting of the year, January 9, 2017. We had the required quorum of at least 15 GPCA members present, and the results are:

Officers

- President : Vacant – George Jones, Acting President
- Vice President: George Jones
- Treasurer: Maribeth Diemer
- Secretary: Denise Maranto
- **Director** : Jackie Webster, 3-year term expires January 2020

Following the General Election, we held a Special Election to fill the Director position vacated by Marty Kelley’s retirement from the board: Butch Oakman will fill that 2-year term that expires January 2019

Each of our three Directors serves a 3-year term; Barb Warnock’s term as Director expires January 2018.

Thanks to Butch Oakman who has ably served as president for the past 2 years. We also welcome long-time member Jackie Webster who was elected as director. Vice-president George Jones is graciously serving as acting president, but welcomes a full time replacement. Please contact Cathy Wolfson, Nominating Committee Chairperson, [410-245-8708](tel:410-245-8708)/oakknob@comcast.net, if you are interested in serving. You will find it a very fulfilling and educational experience.

Thanks to fellow members Marty Kelley and Bob Teller for their work on the Nominating Committee.

What’s Inside?

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GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Another year has come and winter is here again. It has been a fairly quiet and peaceful year within the GPCA borders. Let's hope it remains that way. Plus, let's hope the weather remains calm this winter.

If you did not attend the first general meeting of GPCA this year, you missed an opportunity to meet my daughter, Mrs. Dayne' Freeman, Assistant Secretary for the Department of Unemployment Insurance. She gave a very informative speech about her duties. I thank her for a job well done.

Acting President – George Jones

Thanks for Your Service

This year's elections marked the end of long tenures on the board of two dedicated GPCA members. Marty Kelley started her 28 years of service to GPCA in 1989 as treasurer and in that time worked with 12 presidents, some more than once. In addition to her duties as treasurer Marty kept meticulous membership records, noting names, addresses, dues, and dates on a 3x5 index card, one per membership. She amassed hundreds of cards over 24 years, kept in alphabetical order in a shoe box type box. In 2013 Marty retired as treasurer and was elected GPCA director; I was elected Treasurer. Marty entrusted me with "the membership box" on the evening of our February general meeting. Within 24 hours, Carl and I experienced a devastating house fire; watching the flames leaping from the roof over my office, I realized that all Marty's records were destroyed and unrecoverable. That's when I found out Marty didn't care what happened to the cards (and the GPCA checkbook), as long as we were okay. She backed this up with offers to do laundry and cook meals. And, needless to say, she ordered checks, kept the GPCA books, and recorded memberships until we got back on our feet. That's who Marty is and it is a privilege to call her friend. She's worn many hats including our historian, providing us with a list of each year's board members and officers and significant events, like the Stump Dump fire in 1992, and when Bethel became more than a

biblical place in 1998! Thanks Marty for 27 years of shopping for the picnic, preparing for our general meetings, and continuing to serve GPCA by opening your and Wayne's home to host board meetings and collate and prepare the newsletter for mailing. You are the model of GPCA dedication!!

The election also marked the end of the long term of service of Bruce Mezger who has kept a keen eye on the Urban Rural Demarcation Line since he started his service to GPCA as director in 2003. Since then, he has also served as vice-president and president over those 14 years. Bruce initiated the action that resulted in improvements to the intersection of Old Court and Windsor Mill Roads that have significantly decreased the accident rate there. Living near the edge of the URDL, he keeps a keen eye on development and alerts us to proposals that may have a negative impact on GPCA's mission to preserve our rural character. Bruce always attends public hearings on our behalf to testify in support of that mission. His in depth knowledge of the zoning process has truly been an asset to our community. My favorite quote of Bruce's is "you can't poke a tiny hole in a balloon" which he cites to illustrate the flood of development we would experience if we aren't unified in our opposition to upzoning and maintaining the URDL.

Thanks Marty and Bruce for your combined 42 years of service to GPCA. Cathy Wolfson

It Has Been an Honor...

...To know Marty for a number of years. She has taught me about many plants and herbs. I am also the happy recipient of many plants from her bountiful supply of seeds and baby plants that spring up all over her flower beds.

I appreciate everything that Marty has taught me about hummingbirds. I eagerly await her announcement of the sighting of the first hummer in the spring. Hummingbirds really like her yard so she sees a lot of them.

Most of all, I know I can count on Marty to be an excellent listener and friend with her "Hi, honey, how are you?" leading most every conversation that we have. I count her as one of my close friends and wish her a contented retirement.

Marie Cignatta

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

GPCA Annual Community CleanUp

Saturday April 8th, 2017, 8 am to 12 noon

Meet at St. Alphonsus Church parking lot

Be part of this positive Community Event

Join friends & neighbors in our annual cleanup!

GPCA provides the necessary safety vests and trash bags for each area team. The County provides Dumpsters. **Remember:**

- no hazardous stuff
- no flammable material, no paints or oil
- no electronics (computer equipment, TVs, VCRs, phones, stereos, phones etc.)
- metal items in designated container (no fridges or air conditioners)
- tires found on roadsides will be collected separately

Put together a team of friends from your HOA or neighborhood and give a couple hours to keeping our hills and valleys beautiful. Call or email me if you have any questions.

Thanks for your support, Carol Link, GPCA Clean Up coordinator (410)465-4369 or email linkgang87@gmail.com

Marty...

...You are a true role model of dedication to helping the community! And you have done it with graciousness and humor.

Congratulations on your 30 year stint with GPCA!
Laurie Donnelly

Special Thanks

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

Membership Report**Renewing Joint membership**

Mike and Laura Espey
Marty Kelley and Wayne Dell
Jeff and Linda Mathena
Dale and Jan Brice
John and Sue Brantley
Carl and Patricia Miceli
Samuel and Denise Jefferson
Steven Goodmuth and Karen Koelbel
Claude and Anne Libis
Keith Cotter
Charles and Mary Jo Mathena
Maribeth Diemer and Robert Teller
Bremen and Doris Mathena
Ewald and Shirley August
William and Joan daSilva Heit
Brian and Michele Daschbach
Scott and Margaret Osborne
Jamie and Kyle Condon

New Joint Memberships

Owen and Leslie Stewart
Sam and Lydia McCargo-Redd

Renewing Single Membership

Maureen Boskin
Alice Bender
Ted Geisler
Bonnie Kahler
Alice V Kurnas
James and Ruth Holmes
Charlotte Cotter
Charles Dressler
Cindy Federline
Vanessa Booth
Barbara McKnight
Betty J. Farley
Frank Warfield

Renewing single membership associate

Betty Neubauer

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.

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

At January's GPCA Meeting:

At our January meeting, we welcomed Dayne Freeman, Assistant Secretary of Unemployment Insurance, a part of Maryland's Division of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation. The unemployment insurance office is funded through a tax paid by employers. Applicants must be eligible to apply for benefits. They must have been employed long enough to have funds in the trust, and they must have been unemployed through no fault of their own. Claimants can apply over the phone or online at mdunemployment.com. The benefit is between \$50 to \$430 per week for 26 weeks. Recipients must register with unemployment services, and the weekly pay comes within 14 days of applying. Recipients must file weekly certificates saying they are still unemployed, have looked in three places for work, and have not earned any money. If there are earnings, the dollar amount must be disclosed on the certificate. If the request for unemployment insurance is denied, the applicant can appeal twice within the Department of Unemployment Insurance. A third appeal goes to a district court judge.

The mission of the unemployment office is re-employment. Its goal is to put people back to work as fast as possible. To meet this goal, job seekers receive help with resumes and interviews, job training, and a service that matches employees with employers. Employers looking for someone to fill a job can contact the office to find an employee to suit their needs.

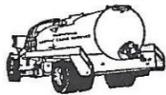
The unemployment rate is low right now. During the recession, the time for receiving benefits was increased to up to 99 weeks. The unemployment office also takes care of disaster relief, which is the case in Ellicott City after the flood. The president must declare an emergency for the businesses, and owners can skip certain taxes. Employees attached to businesses waiting to reopen may not need to seek employment.

Thanks to Ms. Freeman for generously giving her time. And, thank you for your service to Maryland.



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Refreshments Needed

The 2017 Refreshment sign-up sheet has been prepared. Ideally, 2 people sign up per month. This way the responsibility does not fall on the same people. If you have not signed up, please consider this request.

The Social Chairman arrives at 7:00, sets up the coffee, tea, and supplies. The volunteer needs only to bring a cake, cookies, or brownies.

Thanks to the Plowmans for February and (Gary & Nicole) and Bob Teller for March.

Thanks to Cathy Wolfson and Marty Kelley for the delicious cakes served at the January meeting.

From Lori Hensch at the Randallstown Library

The Randallstown branch library is slated to begin an extensive renovation. When we reopen, we anticipate an all new tech lab and maker space along with expanded study rooms, a quiet room, separate teen space, an enclosed children's area and increased public computer availability.

Please note that this library will be closed starting on Monday, January 30, 2017 and remain closed until sometime in the summer of 2017.

What does this mean for you and your community? The last day we will be open to the public will be Sunday, January 29 from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. After that, library users will need to visit one of the other branch libraries, such as those located in Pikesville, Owings Mills, and Woodlawn. In addition, one of our full-service bookmobiles is scheduled to be in the library parking lot every Friday from 1:30 to 3:00 PM.

Even though our branch library will be closed, you can reach our Branch Manager, Sarah Smith, sjsmith@bcpl.net. She will be your point of contact during our renovation for questions you may have.

Please contact us if you have any questions, and feel free to share this information as you deem appropriate. Thank you for your continued support of our library and its programs.

Saturday, APRIL 1, 2017

St. Alphonsus Knights of Columbus presents the 14th

Mulch Madness!

BROWN or BLACK Shredded Hardwood Mulch

\$5.00 per bag **WITH**

**** FREE DELIVERY ****

****15 bag minimum and 10 mile radius****

Small order pick-up: Saturday, April 1, 2017, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

To Order: Fill out the form below and return with payment to:

St Alphonsus Knights of Columbus
10800 Old Court Road
Woodstock, MD 21163

Call: Ed Pelsinsky: 410.313.8808

or Call: Fred Eckert: 410.418.9834

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The New “Superfood”?

In its simplest form, sauerkraut is shredded cabbage, salt, and water, packed into a container, and allowed to ferment. Most sources credit the Northern Chinese with first pickling cabbage in rice wine, about 200 BCE. Workers on the Great Wall received the “proto-kraut” as rations because it kept so long without refrigeration.

When Genghis Khan’s Mongols breached the wall, they adopted sauerkraut, but replaced the rice wine with salt and water. Easy preparation and long “shelf life” made the cabbage a perfect choice for a highly mobile army. When the Mongols reached the gates of Eastern Europe, they brought along sauerkraut.

By the 16th century, people in present day Germany and Austria were fermenting shredded cabbage in its own juices, creating the “sour cabbage” we know today as sauerkraut. The 17th Century Dutch adopted it as a staple food on long sea voyages because it kept so well and the high vitamin C content helped sailors ward off scurvy.

Sauerkraut’s first mention in American English came in 1776, associated with German communities, particularly the Amish and Mennonites in Pennsylvania. Further waves of German immigrants landed in New York City, and in the 1860s some began selling sauerkraut with sausages wrapped in milk rolls—the first modern hot dogs—from pushcarts in New York City’s Bowery.

As with many other traditional foods and beverages, sauerkraut is undergoing renovation, partially a result of its reputation as the new “superfood”.

Making sauerkraut is a relatively easy home kitchen project. After mastering the basic cabbage recipe, try making kraut from other whole and shredded vegetables.

Small Batch Sauerkraut

- 1 medium head green cabbage (about 3 pounds), shredded
- 1 1/2 tablespoons kosher salt
- 1 tablespoon caraway seeds
- 1 teaspoon juniper berries
- 2-quart wide mouth canning or Mason jar

Smaller jelly jar that fits inside canning jar

Clean stones, marbles, or weights for jelly jar

Cloth, rubber band, or twine for covering canning jar

Thoroughly mix the cabbage with the salt, juniper berries, and caraway seeds. Let stand for 10 minutes. Tightly pack the cabbage mixture into the canning jar. Slip the smaller jelly jar into the mouth of the large jar and weigh it down with the stones or marbles to help keep the cabbage submerged in its liquid. Cover the mouth of the canning jar with the cloth and secure it with a rubber band or twine.

Place in cool area overnight (65 to 70 degrees F). In a day, the cabbage should give up enough liquid to be completely submerged. The smaller jelly jar weighs it down to keep it submerged.

Check the cabbage every other day for 2 weeks and skim any surface scum, if necessary. Let it stand for 4 weeks. Transfer to an airtight container and store in the refrigerator for up to 6 months.

Hearth Cooking at

Benjamin Banneker Historical Park

Join the historical interpreters at the Benjamin Banneker Historical Park & Museum, in Oella, MD, on February 25 for some culinary time travel as they demonstrate Federal Period, open hearth cooking, using the foods enjoyed by one of America’s premier 18th Century scientists, Benjamin Banneker, and his family and community.

Celebrate mid-winter with maple syrup making and traditional Maryland foodways. Costumed amateur “experiential archaeologists” cook an entire meal using authentic equipment and techniques. Lighting the hearth at Noon and cooking from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

Along with the authentic cabin, the park has a museum, gardens, natural and historic sites, and miles of trails connecting to the #9 Trolley Trail leading into historic Ellicott City. .300 Oella Avenue, Oella, MD 21228, 410-887-1081

www.benjaminbanneker.wordpress.com

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GPCA

P.O. Box 31
Granite, MD 21163

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:
General Meeting – February 13, 2017

SPECIAL DATES
Valentine’s Day, February 14
Presidents’ Day, February 20

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:
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
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Editor: Reed Hellman 410-265-7471
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; ¼ 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.