

PO Box 31, Granite, MD 21163

Issue #380

GPCA Newsletter

August 2018

Next Meeting: Monday, September 10, 7:30 p.m.

Stream Watch Training with the Patapsco Heritage Greenway

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

View our Website at www.gpca.net

Stream Watch Training at GPCA's September Meeting

The Patapsco Heritage Greenway (PHG) will present their **Stream Watch Training** at GPCA's September 10 meeting. The training will enable the community to know what changes to look for in our local streams and rivers and where to report problems and positive changes. The stream watch program is a great community service project for students.

The September 10 meeting (held at 7:30 at the Granite Presbyterian Church) kicks-off a new twist to our 50/50 raffle. When folks donate their winnings back to GPCA, we add the money to the next month's raffle. September starts with a \$22 prize that will only increase as folks purchase tickets. Take a break from the back to school "daze" and relax with scrumptious snacks while catching up with friends or sitting back and taking it all in.

What would you like to hear about at our monthly meetings? Email your suggestions or concerns to: GPCA Communications: gpca21163@gmail.com or any board member. The email addresses for board members are on the last page of the newsletter under the GPCA postal address.

Driving Greater Patapsco's Tour de Detour

Howard County's project to replace two collapsing retaining walls on Woodstock Road began around July 9. During the project, Woodstock Road between Grooms Lane and The Woodstock Inn will be closed to all through traffic. Follow a clearly marked detour using Marriottsville Road, Granite Road and Old Court Road. The Woodstock Inn and its parking lots are open and fully accessible to vehicles and pedestrians approaching from the Granite side, but not from Howard County. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by early September, before the Howard County public school year resumes.

The bridge replacement project on Dogwood Road (Bridge B-0347), located about a half mile east of the intersection with Hollifield Road has closed Dogwood to through traffic west of Ridge Road. The county anticipates completing the bridge replacement project and reopening Dogwood Road to traffic in early 2019. Meanwhile, Johnnycake Road to Fairbrook Road to Security Boulevard and Rolling Road makes a workable detour.

What's inside?

From the President:

If our primary election taught us anything, it is every vote counts--all 87,222 of them! The county executive race is now between Democratic Johnny Olzewski and Republican candidate Al Redmer, Jr. Regardless the outcome, we can look forward to a change of the guards in Towson in December. The results also whittled down our district's school board candidates to Makeda Scott and Kathleen White. Look to hear more from those candidates in the coming months.

Mark your calendars for back-to-back GPCA events October 6 and 7. Our annual GPCA Picnic will be held that Saturday at Patapsco State Park, McKeldin Area, and all are welcome. The only charge is the park entry fee and a dish to share. The annual Oddfellows Crab Feast follows on Sunday and will benefit GPCA. Tickets are \$40 each. Please come out to support GPCA and meet the Oddfellows. What makes them odd? Their generosity!

Work is in full swing on the Dogwood Run Bridge. The folks living on Dogwood Road between Ridge and Hollifield Roads are enjoying an especially peaceful summer with NO traffic, except for dozens of drivers who refuse to believe the road is closed and have to backtrack. Between that work and the closure of Old Court Road south of the Patapsco, residents are dealing with lots of detours.

Hernwood Elementary School principal Nashae Bennet tells me the school is undergoing \$1.8 million in parking lot and playground improvements. The original parking lot is being resurfaced and the playground on the east side of the building was replaced and relocated to the rear of the building. A new parking lot under construction will include a loop to allow cars to drop off and pick up students without exposing them to traffic on Marriottsville Road. The front entryway and sidewalks are also being upgraded; the school will have a nice fresh look when students return in September.

I look forward to seeing you at our September 10 general meeting. As always, we welcome everyone, whether you're a member or not. Hope you've been enjoying this beautiful summer. Always so pleasant in Granite!

Warm regards, Cathy Wolfson, President GPCA

Membership Renewals

Please keep the renewals and new memberships coming. We need your voice and vote. Only paid members have the right to vote on issues brought to GPCA and the organization's response. Examples include priority of road repairs, reduction of speeding, zoning changes etc.

Also, GPCA is heading into its low cash flow season and we have 4 more months of expenses to fund. Find a membership application on the last page of the newsletter next to the GPCA Officers and Board of Directors. Many thanks to the renewing and new members for your support!

2018 Joint Renewals: Bozzuto, John and Evangeline; Cornish, Lee and Jackie; King, Tom and Peggy; Plaskowitz, Jim and Judy; Scroggins, Anthony and Beverly; Smith, Danyell P.; Wright, Ralph and Brenda

2018 Single Renewals: Adams, Sandy; Holt-Holder, Rhonda; Jones, Adrienne; Robinson, John

Special Thanks To:

Paul Dorsey for **printing** the Newsletter each month.

Collators: Maribeth Diemer, Evalyn Garvin and Bob Teller.

Folders: Eileen Ciechanowski, Sandy Fallin, Evalyn Garvin, Marty Kelley, Denise Maranto, Murf Moorefield, Bobbie Stanfield and Jackie Webster.

Propose Speakers for Future Meetings

What speakers or topics would you like to see addressed at the GPCA meetings? Which people or organizations can affect our lives in Greater Patapsco? Do you have questions that need answers? Propose possible speakers for future GPCA meetings.

Email your suggestions or concerns to: GPCA Communications: gpca21163@gmail.com or any board member. The email addresses for board members are on the last page of the newsletter under the postal address.

GPCA June Meeting

In response to multiple requests The Liberty Road Volunteer Fire Company (LRVFC or Company) scheduled quarterly, informational meetings for local community associations' leadership (the available space limits the number of attendees). At the June 9 kickoff meeting, Captain Bernard Habersham, NREMT-P, led the meeting and gave a presentation covering the LRVCF history, chain of command, apparatus and personnel, recruitment (they/we need you!), training, and common misconceptions about volunteer fire companies.

The LRVCF was established in 1947 and serves the areas west of Liberty and Chapman Roads, east of Liberty Road and the Carroll County line, north of the Howard County line, and South of Lakeside Boulevard. The Company is capable of fire suppression and emergency medical services (EMS) responses. More than 50 active volunteer members in the Company operate apparatus that date from a 1947 brush unit to a 2015 ALS-qualified ambulance. The road to qualify as a LRVFC member is one of endurance that includes an application process, 30day orientation, and an 11-month probationary Volunteers pay all costs associated with becoming a member and maintaining membership including an annual membership fee and uniforms. Additionally, members have time commitments to attend Company meetings, quarterly trainings, and community events, as well as having set hours for emergency coverage each month.

Common *misconceptions* about volunteer fire companies include:

- There are career calls and volunteer calls. The only types of calls **all** fire and rescue companies receive are emergency or non-emergency calls.
- Volunteers get paid or compensated for the training, hours or activities they complete. There is no form of compensation or reimbursement to members.
- If a volunteer station house doesn't respond, no one is coming. Volunteer and career fire stations have dual dispatch procedures, multi-tiered responses, and back up responders. Someone will

- respond promptly to your call based on the time 911 receives it
- Your community is at risk because a volunteer firefighter or EMT is not adequately trained.
 The training and skill sets required for a firefighter or EMT is the same for volunteer companies as it is for career companies.

Who are our LRVFC volunteers? Most of the Liberty Rd volunteers work two paying jobs and do not live in the area served by the Company. However, they are committed to keeping our homes and properties safe. For more information, email Captain Habersham (<u>Captain@LRVFC.org</u>) or Mirla Martin, President (<u>President@LRVFC.org</u>)

Small Watershed Community Committee (SWCC)

Cleanups and Water Quality

GPCA's SWCC met on July 18 and moved forward on a number of projects including scheduling and logistics for community cleanups and monitoring stream water quality. The committee also discussed a flooding problem along a section of Old Court Road that affects the roadway and Brices' Run Stream.

The SWCC's next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 22, at 7:30 PM. For more information about the SWCC, contact the GPCA Communications Chair at gpca21163@gmail.com.

Mason Bees: Our Native Pollinators

Known as *mason bees* because they section off tube-shaped egg chambers with mud, these small bees are also known as orchard bees because they are so effective at pollinating fruit trees. Our eastern subspecies is known as *Osmia lignaria lignaria*. Typically, female eggs are laid first, followed by male eggs, ensuring that if predators compromise the tube, the females will survive. Solitary bees, each one is her own queen and worker. She mates with a male, lays 15 to 20 eggs, and dies after about 10 weeks. Her pupae survive over the winter and emerge the following spring as the weather warms.

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Mason Bees (Continued from previous page)

Because of their rather erratic style of landing on a flower, they scatter pollen all over, making them excellent pollinators and boons to gardeners. This behavior results in a 95 percent pollination rate compared with the honey bee who efficiently gathers as much pollen as possible for honey production, resulting in a pollination rate as low as 5 percent. Mason bees nest about 300 ft. from their food source creating a concentration of pollination. This habit is an opportunity for you to determine where to set up your "hive" for the best result.

To encourage mason bees, create a mason bee nest box. I've used a variety of ways to create a nest box, including mounting a coffee can on a post and filling it with commercially available cardboard tubes with liners. This year, I made tubes cut from 6-inch lengths of bamboo. Both are full of eggs, but the advantage of the liners is they can be replaced and the tubes reused. Another alternative is to drill multiple 5/16-inch by 6-inch holes in a block of wood. Make sure your tubes are protected by a roof to keep out the rain. Covering the front of the bee box with chicken wire will keep out squirrels and birds, who plunder the tubes. Mason bee boxes should be mounted on the south side of a post, tree, or building, as the bees need the morning sun to warm them sufficiently to fly. It is critical to provide them with mud they need to create their egg chambers. I keep a 4-inch deep pan about 1/3 full of soil on a tilt in the garden and fill it with enough water to form a "beach" for the bees to land and collect the mud

In the fall, the cocoons may be gently removed from the tubes and stored in a cool dry place until spring. They can overwinter in the tubes, but by taking care of this in the fall your nest boxes will be clean and ready to receive new eggs in the spring.

Mason bees are available commercially from a number of companies. Find more information at:

https://bloomington.in.gov/sites/default/files/2017-08/Creating%20habitat%20for%20mason%20bees.pdf https://www.keepingbackyardbees.com/5-amazing-facts-about-masonbees/

Cathy Wolfson, with resources from Paul Dorsey

At the Randallstown Library

Do you need one-on-one personal assistance from a librarian? Whether you need help downloading an eBook, an introduction to Microsoft Word, or an in-depth demonstration of how to use the library's databases, our librarians can help you accomplish your goals. Contact the branch at 410-887-0770 to make a free, 60-minute appointment with a Randallstown librarian.

Patrons interested in how books are made can join the Library's **Book Binding** program on August 7 at 2:00P.M. Make colorful book covers and create a beautiful, heirloom-quality blank book suitable for gift giving. Learn paste paper painting and simple bookbinding techniques from artist Val Lucas, of Bowerbox Press, Registration is required and patrons should plan to attend both session s of this 2-day program (August 7 and 14).

Writers Unite will also meet again on August 21 at 6:00 P.M.; patrons interested in sharing their stories should attend.

Families with members who have been or are incarcerated should attend our program "**Doing Time with Our Boys**" on August 11 at 2:00 P.M. . Featured speakers include: Bettye Blaize, Terrence G. White, David Miller and Dr. LaMarr Darnell Shields.

Adults can learn the basics of soldering at **Learn to Solder** on August 25 at 1:00 P.M. All materials will be provided and registration is required (10 patrons.)

Families will love **Visit the Cuddle Shuttle** on August 11 at 11:00 A.M. The County's mobile pet adoption center will visit the branch! Patrons can meet some cute dogs and cats and even adopt a pet!

Pokemon Club will return on August 18 at 2:00 P.M. for more collecting and trading fun. Please also attend the program, The Sounds & Colors of Science, on August 22 at 2:00 P.M. Experiment with light and sound with prisms and vibrational energy!

Be sure to also check out **Maker Mondays** every week in August at 2:00 P.M.

Helping Night of Peace

The GPCA has long supported Night of Peace, one of the few local shelters that offers assistance for families. This year, don't wait until the GPCA Holiday Party on December 10 to make a donation.

Night of Peace is located in the Salem Methodist Church (Rear Entrance), 7509 Windsor Mill Road, Windsor Mill, 21244. Please call Night of Peace at 410-922-4357 for the hours when they can accept donations of the following:

Paper plates and towels

Toilet paper

Cups, bowls,

Forks, spoons, knives

Large cans of vegetables or fruit

Hot chocolate

Snacks—graham crackers, popcorn, oatmeal cookies

Cereal and oatmeal packs

Milk

Sugar

Juice (100 percent)

Salad

Hand sanitizer, hand soap

Deodorant

Combs, brushes

Toothbrush and toothpaste

Bleach, Pinesol

Laundry detergent (powder)

Gloves (vinyl)

Pens

Charm Cards (similar to a bus token)

Diapers (especially size 4/5), baby wipes

Kids' pajamas (with feet)

Gift cards (Wal-Mart, Target, Science Center, movies, Aquarium)

Air mattresses (twin)

Comforters

Wash clothes

Plastic totes/tubs for guests to store their clothes

Warm Spirit Massage

Swedish

Deep Tissue



Pregnancy

Hot Stone

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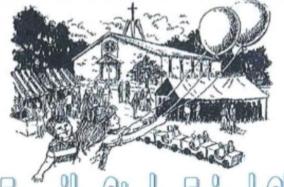
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follow us on facebook & see some of our work!

103rd Annual WOODSTOCK Festival



St. Alphonsus Rodriguez Catholic Church 10800 Old Court Road Woodstock, Maryland

5 miles from Liberty Road 2 miles from Route 99

Family Style Fried Chicken & Ham Dinner

Saturday Sunday August 11, 3-7 PM August 12, 1-5 PM Mass at 7 PM Mass at Noon

Fun for the entire family: games of chance for adults, games for children, a tremendous flea market with attic treasures, face painting, and free train rides for small children.



P.O. Box 31 Granite, MD 21163

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

New Moon – August 11 2018 (Eid) al Adha begins – August 21 Full Moon – August 26

GPCA Membership Application We Need Your Voice! Please Print:
Name
Address
Phone
Email
Yearly membership dues: Family - \$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

President: Cathy Wolfson 410-245-8708, oakknob@comcast.net

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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 <u>Treasurer and Editor</u> 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 must 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. 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 submission for a future newsletter.