



WORD FROM THE WATERFRONT

PRESERVING HISTORY AND GROWING COMMUNITY

AUGUST 2024



From the Editor

No question—these are definitely the “dog days of summer”. Ever wonder where the phrase originated? It refers to the hottest and most humid time of year, usually July and August, and originated with the ancient Greeks and Romans who observed the sky to track the seasons. The phase was named after the Dog Star, Sirius, the brightest star in the sky, in the constellation of Canis Major, the Greater Dog. So, unfortunately, the dog days of summer were ***not*** named after a hot and tired little dog as I envisioned!

“The Ice Cream Scoop”!

While the summer temperatures have been hot, the demand at the Museum’s ice cream freezer has been at a peak! All ice cream continues to sell for \$1.00 per item. That’s right, a single dollar per item! (Donations are always appreciated.) Don’t hesitate to treat your friends and neighbors to a refreshing and tasty ice cream delight!

What’s Been Happening

Prior to a very special Opening Day, of course we needed a **Clean-Up Day**. This was held on Saturday April 27th @ 9AM and approximately 20 volunteers came out on a very cool and drizzly morning to help spruce up the Museum and grounds. Some of the efforts tackled include weeding

and power washing the memorial brick garden, cleaning the pavilion and power washing the pavilion floor, cleaning windows, cleaning the downstairs and upstairs porches, raking leaves and trimming trees. Everyone worked hard and the effort showed!

Opening Day and the MWM 20th Anniversary Celebration was held on Saturday May 4th at 11AM. This was another cool and rainy day but approximately 75 brave souls ventured out to share in the festivities. The Commemorative Ceremony began at 11AM with a heartfelt welcome provided by

Board President David Henley and followed by recognition of Debbie Saunders for 20 consecutive years as Museum treasurer. What an amazing accomplishment! David also recognized George Shelton and Steve Sykes for their generosity, talents and contributions to the Museum.

David noted the family portrait of the Museum's benefactors, the Conley family, along with a plaque that will be displayed in the Museum. David thanked board members, curators, volunteers and Museum members for their support and dedication over the years.

Board member Deborah Edgar provided a brief recap of Museum history and a mission statement overview. She then recognized charter members present and read names of deceased charter members.

Connie Conley provided an official dedication of Pat McGee's bicycle. Pat was the first Museum president and passed away on March 14, 2011. The bicycle has been onsite at the Museum for a number of years but now has its own special location.

The luncheon followed and music was provided by Bob Wilson. A number of artists and vendors displayed beautiful quilts, assorted projects and collections. Artist Deborah Howard was available to sign her exquisite MWM Anniversary print. Wouldn't you know it--Kay Shelton, one of the luckiest people in Morattico--won the beautiful gift basket!

Even with the drizzle, it was an absolutely wonderful day.



Our first “**First Friday**” but on Sunday was a “**Cinco de Mayo**” celebration held in the pavilion on Sunday, May 5th, from 2 to 5PM. The weather was slightly warmer but we had drizzle and rain. We postponed the Friday activity due to the planned Opening Day and 20th Anniversary celebration. As usual, it was lots of fun with lots of great food!

Additional “**First Friday**” news—on June 7 at 5:30 the theme was “in memory of **Jimmy Buffett’s Cheeseburger in Paradise**”



On July 5th with the theme “**Uncle Sam’s Birthday**” and on August 2nd with the theme “**The Olympics**”. Again, this year the First Friday events are hosted by none other than Morattico’s famous Rob McArdle. Yeah! Yeah! Way-to-go-ROB! Just bring an appetizer to share and BYOB, show up and chat, mingle, pause, refresh and keep eating! It is SO MUCH FUN!



The **Docent Training & Lunch** was held on Saturday, May 18th at 11AM with 22 people in attendance. Following the session each participant was given an MWM Docent Appreciation glass. A lunch of wonderful BBQ was provided. Tina, the instructor, shared lots of jokes during the training session.



The season's first **Community Coffee and Tea** was held on Saturday, May 25th from 8 to 10AM. Lots of lively conversation took place and we had a record 35 attendees! WOW!! That's a lot of coffee and tea!

On May 25th from 4 to 6PM the Museum held our first fundraiser of the season, a **Fish Fry**. Somewhat unexpectedly, 140 tickets were sold (some were last minute) and the profit was more than \$2,400! That deserves another WOW!

"Paddle with Friends of the Rappahannock" took place on Sunday, June 16th from 2 to 4PM. Eleven "paddlers" attended coming from as far as Chesterfield and enjoyed the wonderful opportunity to learn about aquaculture and many other aspects of our wonderful river from Jen Sagan with Friends of the Rappahannock. This event is always intriguing and informative.

Independence Day Parade and Celebration on Saturday July 6; parade at 11. WOW-WOW-WOW-so much FUN! The parade included approximately 20 golf carts, many decorated with America's flag and assorted festive décor, some bicyclers and several local emergency vehicles. Candy, beads and other items were

thrown to the crowds of spectators. Every hand was waving, people were making happy sounds and music was playing as the parade passed.



Morattico resident (since 1993!) Pat Clawson was the Grand Marshall of the parade and was accompanied by her two beautiful and smart granddaughters. The trio was chauffeured by Museum board member Deborah Edgar in a gorgeous shiny-white convertible with the top down, of course!



The hot dog lunch followed at noon in the pavilion. Local Chef Oscar Farley and his assistant, Steve Sorensen, were on hand cooking magnificent hot dogs on a hot grill to

the perfect temperature and char . . . on a hot day! 180 hot dogs were cooked and served! Oscar and Steve were very busy but had lots of helpers, thank goodness. Thank you, Oscar and Steve, along with all the additional volunteers.



The **“Full Moon Paddle with Friends of the Rappahannock”** took place on Sunday, July 21st with 8 participants. The moon was spectacular and rose at 9:06PM.

On Saturday July 27th from 9 to 11AM the first **“Sweet & Savory”** event took place. Over 50 tickets were sold and a delicious spread of breakfast favorites with both sweet and savory options were offered. Everything was fantastic! Friendly and knowledgeable bartenders were available to mix up Mimosas and Bloody Mary’s. An auction of a variety of items, many made by talented local crafters, also drew lots of attention. This fun event was a

perfect for a beautiful Saturday morning.



The Sweet & Savory Team! Thank You!



Leigh Hubbard and Deborah Edgar

The **“Paint & Sip at the Pavilion”** on August 10th went well with a number of artists participating.



Behind the Scenes


One of the areas within the Museum is called “**Doctor’s Corner**” where we have a variety of newspaper articles and older health care artifacts. It’s very interesting! Several of the newspaper articles are about Dr. C. T. Peirce, a practicing physician in the Nuttsville area for more than 50 years, well into the 1960’s.


While working as docents in the Museum earlier this summer, George and Kay Shelton had the wonderful opportunity of hosting Dr. Peirce’s great-granddaughter as a Museum visitor! She is pictured below standing, of course, in the “Doctor’s Corner”!




Upcoming 2024 Events

Listed below are the current planned events. Please be sure to check Facebook, the web site and email as dates get closer.

Sat, Aug 31st, 8-10 AM: Community Coffee 


Fri, Sep 6th, 5 PM: First Friday Happy Hour 

Sat, Sep 14th, 4-6 PM: 12th Annual Crab Feast 

Fri, Oct 4th, 5 PM: First Friday Happy Hour 

Sat, Oct 19th, 3 -5 PM: 16th Annual Oyster Roast 

****PLEASE** remember to get tickets as soon as possible after the Crab Feast (9/14) and Oyster Roast (10/19) are announced. You’ll be glad you did! These events sell out quickly!**

 And don’t forget the Community Coffee on Saturday, August 31st from 8-10AM. It’s always a lot of fun . . . and free coffee too! Bring your own cup or buy a new one!

And other items . . .

Looking for a place to host an outdoor event during the 2024 season? The pavilion is available for rent to **MEMBERS-ONLY**. **You MUST be a member for a minimum of 1-year prior to the rental date and in good standing.** Cost is \$150 per day (\$100 for rent plus \$50 for security/cleaning fee which is refunded following a positive inspection of the property after the event). Of course, any COVID restrictions or guidelines in effect at the time of rental must be followed. If interested, please email our rental coordinator, Marian Howell, at marian.howell@outlook.com.

Our Board Officers and Directors

President – David Henley
Vice President – John Henry Taylor
Treasurer – Debbie Saunders
Recording Secretary – Betty Barrack
Corresponding Secretary – Connie Conley

Directors – 2022 – ‘25

Tim Davis (replaced Gale Dickerson)

Directors – 2023 – ‘26

Marsell Bustos
Deborah Edgar
Steve Sorensen

Directors – 2024 – ‘27

Leigh Hubbard
Jack Pettigrew

Museum Hours: May through October, Saturday 12:00 noon to 4:00 PM Sunday 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

THANK YOU for your continued support. Stay safe!