Word From the Waterfront

Preserving history and growing community

March 2026

March 14th Noon

<u>Annual Membership Meeting & Lunch</u>

Join the museum community for the annual meeting, open to all members. The business meeting will include the election of MWM officers and directors, a financial report, a review of the past year's progress, and a summary of project initiatives. Let your voice be heard if you have any new suggestions to expand our exhibits and membership reach. As a bonus, you will get a sneak peek at the new pavilion (Grand Opening Ceremony on Opening Day), and you may pay your membership dues (in case you forgot). Steve Sykes will provide a customary lunch of Brunswick Stew and ham biscuits. Brunswick Stew, a southern tradition, warms both the body and soul.

April 18th 11:00 AM

Docent Training & a Southern Style Picnic Appreciation Lunch

We rely on our volunteer docents to greet, provide information, and guide our guests through the history of Morattico and life on the river. The training by Tina and Marsell Bustos provides a wealth of information with a few riddles mixed in for added entertainment. Meet our 2025 Docent of the Year, Debi Bass, and learn valuable tips on how you can strive for this coveted acknowledgment in 2026.

Check the MWM website for the docent handbook information (under "Membership") and email mwmva03@gmail.com with questions or to sign up.

April 25 9:00 AM

Clean Up Day

There is no better therapy than cleaning, so let us help you to de-stress and clear your mind! Under the direction of Jack Pettigrew and Oscar Farley (don't let that scare you away), come on over to the museum for clean-up day. We need helpers inside and out, so don't you worry, we will find a job to match your skill set! Together, we will make the museum sparkle so she'll be ready for Opening Day on May 2nd.

"Whistle while you work
Put on that grin and start right in,
To whistle loud and long."

Holiday Photography

Our local Christmas elves, Leah and Ronnie Walker brought holiday cheer and warm memories of yesteryear. On November 29th, with the aroma of wassail wafting through the museum, our local photographer, Andre Gariepy, volunteered his expertise and took photos of our members on the front porch and in the museum. Ideal for Christmas cards, we hope to carry this on as an annual tradition.

New Year's Eve at the Museum

Thirty members started their New Year's Eve celebration at the museum, an annual tradition kicking off a night of celebration well before the midnight hour.

Morattico Survived the Winter

Mother Nature certainly showed the Northern Neck who was in charge over the past several months. From monsoon rains flooding the region in October

The ice storm in February turned our village into an ice rink.

But we survived, and the Ospreys have started to return, signaling that spring is here

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May 1 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

First Friday 2026

Shake off those winter blues, put on your dancing shoes, and head on over to the MWM pavilion for an early celebration of Cinco de Mayo. Bring an appetizer to share and your libation of choice. Mingle with your friends who have been hibernating all winter!

Speaking of the New Pavilion

The rental of the pavilion is the best deal in the village! Bask in the calm nature surrounding the museum, enjoy the magic of a Northern Neck sunset, and let a soft river breeze cool you off after an evening of dancing and celebrating. The pavilion will be available for rent to ***MEMBERS-ONLY*** during the open season. **You *MUST* be a member in good-standing for a minimum of 1-year prior to the rental date.** The cost is $150 per day ($100 for rental plus $50 for the security and cleaning fee, which is refunded following a positive inspection of the property after the event). If interested, please email our rental coordinator, Marian Howell, at marian.howell@outlook.com.

MAY 2nd Noon – 4:00 PM

Annual Meeting ☑
Clean Up Day ☑
Docent Training ☑

On Saturday, May 2nd, the Morattico Waterfront Museum will open for its 22nd season and remain open Saturdays from noon to 4:00 PM, and Sundays from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, through October.

New events this year include:
*The Pavilion Dedication, in appreciation of the gift from Lisa and Tim Benusa.
*The Morattico Historic Walk, which includes a brochure of all the historical houses in Morattico. The brochure will be available for guests throughout the year. If you have

stories about any of the historical houses, please contact Trish Pohanka, tpohanka60@gmail.com or 773-497-5116.