



WORD FROM THE WATERFRONT

PRESERVING HISTORY AND GROWING COMMUNITY

MARCH 2025

From the Editor

The winter snows were pretty, at least briefly and we are certainly seeing signs of spring now! Early March is when Osprey begin returning to this area and I'm happy to say I've have seen a few. Hummingbirds should arrive beginning next month. Green grass and flowers will be welcome too. And, of course, the museum reopens on May 3rd for the season! Yeah!!!



"The Ice Cream Scoop"!

Unfortunately, the ice cream freezer is still CLOSED but will reopen on Opening Day, Saturday May 3rd. Mark your calendars! Hooray! I am personally excited to see the "ICE CREAM" sign shine brightly once again. Every day is a great day for ice cream . . . during the season!

What's Been Happening



With deep sadness, we must share that our treasured friend and neighbor Kay Shelton passed away on Saturday, March 8th. Please keep George Shelton and the family in your thoughts and prayers. Kay and George attended most every event at the museum and made

many wonderful contributions through the years.



The **Annual Membership Meeting** was held at the museum on a cool, pleasant Saturday, March 8th, with approximately 32 people in attendance. The Annual Meeting Packet was (and still is) available for review on the web site. Again this year, it was amazing to hear about all the efforts and activities that took place during 2024—not only the events but *EVERYTHING* that keeps the museum going. Fantastic job everyone! THANK YOU! *YOU* are incredible.



The **Nominating Committee** presented recommendations for new directors. Trish Pohanka and Oscar Farley were voted in and will assume the positions vacated by outgoing

directors Tim Davis and Steve Sorensen.

We want to give a big **SHOUT OUT!** to both Tim and Steve for their service and many contributions through the years. We look forward to visiting with you during museum events this year.

Also, please give Trish and Oscar a big **WELCOME!**

A full list of current Officers and Directors can be found below.

Following the meeting, a delicious lunch of Brunswick Stew was provided by Steve Sykes. I'm sure you already know but I want to mention that Steve is a very smart man--he had a huge slow cooker of Brunswick Stew cooking—and the aroma was absolutely heavenly—as people arrived for the meeting. Yes-yes-yes, I was drooling! Believe me, no one considered leaving before the stew was served! Thank you, Steve!!

Drum roll PLEASE! Join me in welcoming the **new Museum Administrator**, Marjorie McKinstry-Miller. All candidates were incredible and deserve a big **THANK YOU!** It was enthralling to hear about the talent, expertise and education available in this community. Tina Bustos, former

Curator/Administrator-extraordinaire, has graciously offered to assist Marjorie, however necessary, to ensure she has a running start.



The **New Year's Eve Party** was held on Tuesday, December 31, 2024 from 7 to 9PM. Approximately 30 people attended and everyone had a blast! Lots of good food and loud noisemakers were close at hand throughout the evening.



Behind the Scenes

Once again, it's time for the **2025 Annual Dues**. We rely on your continued commitment for each year's new successes and improvements. As always, thank you so much!

To mail your dues, the address is:

Morattico Waterfront Museum

PO Box 80

Morattico VA 22523

Docents – we need you! Check your calendar now and be sure to sign-up as a volunteer docent early. This is a rewarding, much needed and greatly appreciated service for the museum. (Training will be offered May 17th— watch Facebook, the web site and emails for additional information.) Docent sign-up is available online through "SignUpGenius". THANK YOU in advance!



[Click Here to Sign Up](#)

Front porch repair work at the museum continues to be researched and three bids for concrete work have been received. This is expensive and requires expertise—it's worth the wait!

We are all ready to “think spring” but if you use **propane** for heating, you may want to add a note to your winter check-list to verify the propane level during extreme temperatures and notify your provider if necessary. Auto-refill is a convenient option provided by some propane companies but it doesn’t necessarily account for extra propane usage during extreme cold like we had this winter. An empty propane tank can cause various issues for HVAC systems in addition to a cold house and the expense is all yours. Yikes!

I’m borrowing this quote but “**if you see something, say something**”. That’s exactly what a local museum neighbor did. He placed a call to Museum President David Henley to let him know something seemed amiss when water pooled near the museum on a non-rainy day. Yes, the museum experienced a **water line break!** David was able to turn off the water and contact a plumber. Repairs are in the queue and, unfortunately, no water for now. Yikes again!! However, we are tremendously grateful to the resident--it could have been so much worse. Thank you! So, if you ever see something that appears askew, please say something to any Museum Board member—it means a lot to us!

Upcoming 2025 Events

2025 plans can be found at the bottom of this newsletter. Please be sure to check Facebook, the web site and email as dates get closer. Fun, food and friends all in one beautiful place!



Museum **Clean-up Day** is quickly approaching! If you are available on April 26 at 9AM please join us at the museum and be prepared to work. Beautification isn’t easy!

Plans for **Opening Day**, May 3rd, are in progress! Make sure to mark your calendar. Opening Day is always SO MUCH FUN!!! (Compare it to children returning to school after summer vacation and seeing all their friends once again! And possibly learning a little something too. Smiles and giggles all around!)

Tickets for the **Fish Fry** on May 24th are currently being printed! WOW! Sales will start before you know it. I’m excited . . . and HUNGRY for the delicious fried fish!

It’s not too early to plan for golf cart or bicycle decorations for the **Village July 4th Parade** (held on July 5th this

year). Don't let that one sneak up on you!



And other items

Considering a venue to host an outdoor event during the 2025 season? How about the MWM pavilion? The pavilion will be available for rent to **MEMBERS-ONLY** during the open season. **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 rental plus \$50 for security/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.



Howaya! That's a quick, friendly Irish greeting and an excellent opening to let you know the good news . . . local resident Rob McArdle, the museum's host for "First Friday's" has agreed to host the event during 2025! Hooray! Hooray! The first

"First Friday" event for 2025 will be Friday, June 6 at 5PM. 'Can't wait!!

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 – 2023 – '26

Marsell Bustos

Deborah Edgar

Directors – 2024 – '27

Leigh Hubbard

Jack Pettigrew

Directors – 2025 – '28

Trish Pohanka

Oscar Farley

Museum Opening Day May 3rd Noon-4PM

Normal 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!

****FINALIZED****

**MORATTICO WATERFONT MUSEUM
2025 CALENDAR OF COMING
EVENTS**

SAT, APRIL 26, 9 AM	CLEAN-UP DAY
SAT, MAY 3, 11 AM	OPENING DAY
SAT, MAY 17, 10 AM	DOCENT TRAINING & BRUNCH
SAT, MAY 24, 8-10 AM	COMMUNITY COFFEE
SAT, MAY 24, 4-6 PM	FISH-FRY FUNDRAISER
FRI, JUNE 6, 5 PM	FIRST FRIDAY HAPPY HR
FRI, JULY 4, 5 PM	FIRST FRIDAY HAPPY HR-TBD
SAT, JULY 5, 11 AM	VILLAGE JULY 4TH PARADE
NOON	LUNCH @ PAVILION
FRI, AUG 1, 5 PM	FIRST FRIDAY HAPPY HR
SAT, AUG 9, 10-12 PM	STAIN GLASS ART PARTY
SAT, AUG 30, 8-10 AM	COMMUNITY COFFEE
FRI, SEPT 5, 5 PM	FIRST FRIDAY HAPPY HR
SAT, SEPT 13, 4-6 PM	12TH ANNUAL CRAB FEAST
FRI, OCT 3, 5 PM	FIRST FRIDAY HAPPY HR
SAT, OCT 18, 3-5 PM	16TH ANNUAL OYSTER ROAST
FRI, OCT 31, 7 PM	HALLOWEEN PARTY
WED, DEC 31, 7 PM	NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY