

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **November 11, 2015**

#### **ACTIVITIES/ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

##### Public Relations and Communications

Sent pictures and a write up on the Open House to Wendi Winters, which she used in her October 19, 2015 column.

Sent thank-you letters to Victoria Garbesi, Dean Cowherd, Elizabeth Harwood, and Dirk and Stephanie Schwenk for their support of the Open House.

##### Meeting with Dr. Arlotto

Met with AACPS Superintendent, George Arlotto, on November 6, 2015. Also attending were Roy Benner, Becky Benner, and Terry Brandon. Dr. Arlotto began the meeting by informing us that the Board of Education has agreed to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that will allow the Goshen Farm Preservation Society, Inc. to serve alcohol at functions held at Goshen Farm under the same terms and conditions as Maryland Hall for the Performing Arts. The MOA has been written by the AACPS attorney and is not with the BOE attorney, Tyson Bennett for review and presentation to the BOE for approval. Dr. Arlotto estimated that the agreement should be approved in the next 30 days.

After his opening comments, we provided an overview of the education-related activities we have undertaken since our last meeting. We provided him a copy of the *Capital* article by Wendi Winters recapping the Open House event and explaining the historic re-enactment developed under the PVA intern program. We also provided him a picture of Victoria Garbesi in her costume in front of the Goshen Farm House.

We then gave him a picture and description of the visit by the ESL class from Anne Arundel Community College and the Stream Restoration Grant volunteer students planting the Memorial Grove and Colonial Orchard.

He was particularly interested in Victoria's re-enactment. I mentioned to Dr. Arlotto that I was considering contacting Bob Mosier, Public Relations Director for AACPS about getting someone to videotape the re-enactment. I went on to say that the video would benefit both AACPS and Goshen Farm. It could air on AACPS-TV and we would post it on our web site. He said the PVA had many students interested in videography and the program should be able to provide someone to do the videotaping. I told him we had made that request to PVA three weeks ago and had no response. He said he would make a call and that he knew that a BOE member had a daughter in the PVA program and was interested in videography.

Sent Nylca VanDillen an email after the meeting just to give her a heads up.

Dr. Arlotto told us that Principals at each level – high school, middle school, and elementary school – have monthly development/coordination meetings. He will look into getting Goshen Farm on the agenda for these meetings sometime in the spring to make a presentation on the educational resources Goshen Farm can provide. We will need to start working on the presentation soon.

We broached the idea of having the BOE come to Goshen Farm. He liked the idea of having an Open House for the BOE but cautioned that anytime five BOE members are together, it constitutes a meeting with a quorum and the public must be notified. He said, “I never meet with more than three Board of Education members at a time because it could become a problem.” He went on to suggest that we make it a formal meeting at Goshen Farm and give the appropriate press notifications.

Finally we asked if we should pursue our request to re-negotiate our lease. He said that we have scored our first victory in that we would be allowed to serve alcohol at certain events. He went on to say that the BOE understands the importance of a long lease in fundraising. Maryland Hall is beginning a very extensive renovation and he suspects the BOE will add 25 to 30 years to their lease which is currently down to ten years. He suggested we wait until after we meet with the principals and the BOE Open House to pursue a lease extension. He said by then we should have a better story to tell.

## REQUIRED FOLLOW UP

### Public Relations & Communications

Start preparing a presentation for the principals meetings

Start planning for the BOE Open House

Continue to work on the “History of the Goshen Farm Preservation Society” photo albums

Continue to provide content for the web site to Color Fire

Follow up with WNAV and WYRE to see if we can get some interview air time.

Try to set up a meeting with the editor of the Capital.

# **BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

## **November 11, 2015**

### **ACTIVITIES/ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

1. I contacted the following recommended construction companies to ask them to help GFPS assess the remediation needed to stabilize the first floor of the Goshen Farm House.

Dan Lane  
Worcester Eisenbrandt, Inc.  
2100 Gable Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21230  
410 644-6580

Jay Yerkes  
Yerkes Construction  
112-C South Cross Street  
Chestertown, MD 21620  
410 810-2580

Eamon Speidel  
Lundberg Builders  
314 Main Street  
Stevensville, MD 21666  
410 643-3334

Robert Greenwell, Jr.  
RF Greenwell Company  
4324 Owensbrooke Court  
West River, MD 20778  
410 279-3086

I called Robert Greenwell who said he was totally booked up for a year and a half out and could not take on any more projects at this time.

Jay Yerkes called the day after receiving my email. Jay and John Hutchinson visited Goshen Farm on November 3, 2015 and spoke with me, Roy Benner, Terry Brandon, and Michael Buchet. They are in the process of preparing a full proposal, including costs, for stabilizing the first floor of the Goshen Farm House. They did not provide a date for the completion of the proposal. After the meeting, Roy provided them with schematics – one providing the exterior measurements of the house and one providing the approximate dates of construction of the various sections. Lou provided them (and Roy and Terry and Michael) copies of both parts of the Architectural Assessment document in a .pdf format.

Eamon Speidel called and was scheduled to visit Goshen Farm on November 9, 2015.

Have not had a response from Worcester Eisenbrandt, Inc. Sent a follow up email on November 8, 2015.

2. Picked up the video surveillance signs to mount on the fence around the Goshen Farm House.

### **REQUIRED FOLLOW UP**

1. Need to price the conversion from phone to internet service to support the video surveillance system.



# COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

## November 11, 2015

### ACTIVITIES/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Continued to work with Color Fire on revamping the web site. Met with Shannon Beauchamp Lepthien on October 30, 2015. She said the work on reconstructing the web site should be finished late in the week of November 9, 2015.
2. Provided Color Fire with new structure of web site with specific Categories and Tags to help visitors navigate the site. Categories and Tags (sub-categories) are:
  - Events
    - Open Houses
    - Harvest Dinners
    - Wine Tastings
    - Java & Jazz
    - Halloween Ball
    - Other events in which Goshen Farm participates
  - Working with the Community (includes educational institutions)
    - Midshipmen Action Group
    - Broadneck High School
    - Cape St. Clair Elementary School
    - Other Anne Arundel County Schools
    - Anne Arundel Community College
    - Boy and Girl Scout Projects
  - Notable visitors to Goshen Farm
  - Other News
  - Clean up and Restoration Efforts
  - Sharing Garden
3. Over the last several months starting in June, I have provided Color Fire edited pictures and captions, and articles on the following events:
  - 2015 Fall Open House
  - Arrival of New Tractor
  - Stream Restoration Project planting of Memorial Grove and Colonial Garden
  - County Executive, Steve Schuh's visit to Goshen Farm
  - 2015 Spring Open House
  - 2014 Fall Open House
  - 2015 Wine Tasting
  - 2015 Strawberry Festival
  - Midshipman Action Group Community Partner recognition ceremony
  - 2015 Broadneck High School Teachers' Professional Development Day
  - AACPS Superintendent, George P. Arlotto's visit to Goshen Farm

- Henson-Hall Slave Garden Project
- Climate Change Forum at USNA

These all should be posted soon after the new web site is up.

4. Edited and had printed over 500 pictures and constructed an album of all 2015 Goshen Farm events except tanking down the Maple tree, the ESL visit from AACC, and the most recent Eagle Scout project.

#### REQUIRED FOLLOW UP

1. Working on putting the “Goshen Farm – Then and Now” photo album into a Power Point© format and will give both that and the original digital images to Board Members. Suggest that we make the presentation available for sale on a CD at future events.
2. Begin putting together the 2014 Goshen Farm events photo album.

## Events Reports November 2015

- I sent an Events Overview to the Board listing all previous events, notes and outcome.
- I reviewed the list of accomplishments for Lou and made a few slight adjustments.
- Roy picked up 3 boxes of supplies.
- I still have the money/cake wheel and betting board in my garage and a few of the older signs.

Other items:

Requiring Board Approval/Discussion:

- We need more member help.

## Goshen Farm Critical Path Phantom Ball Fundraiser

1. Secure volunteers to harvest names from REAL PROPERTY search  
<http://sdat.resiusa.org/RealProperty/Pages/default.aspx>
2. These members have agreed to help
  - a. Virginia & Ray Kolstad Burris vlburris48@me.com yes
  - b. Linda & Michael Buchet Beck [bnb1209@comcast.net](mailto:bnb1209@comcast.net) yes
  - c. Christiane & Stanley Carlson-Thies christiane@carlson-thies.net yes
  - d. Teresa Grysikiewicz [teresagriz@gmail.com](mailto:teresagriz@gmail.com) yes
  - e. Mary Blaha [mary.blaha@gmail.com](mailto:mary.blaha@gmail.com) yes
  - f. Mianna & Andrea Jopp miannaj410@comcast.net yes
  - g. Rose Mary Stocker rosestocker@yahoo.com yes
  - h. Debbie & Dave Toy debbie.toy@verizon.net yes
  - i. Amanda & Dave Heimbach daveheimbach@ymail.com yes, both
  - j. Smitty Biondi
3. Get invitation Printed- Quoted by Minute Man in Glen Burnie- I have breakdown of the cost of each piece.
  - a. Quote on 500- For all 4 pieces- Invite, RSVP card and envelopes for both= \$599.74 + postage=\$844.74=
  - b. Quote 1000- \$1271.56 with postage.
4. Get invitation to Printer by last week in October to have ready by Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>
5. Print all labels by Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>.
6. Give to volunteers to seal, label and postage. Put in mail by 11/27<sup>th</sup>.

The caveat to this is the cost of the of the printing. Possible alternatives:

- Seek other quotes- (might not be cheaper)
- Change format to 1 page invite- printed on 1 side
- Print them ourselves (not sure if this would be cheaper)
- Do a flyer instead of a “wedding-Like” invitation. And instead of a return envelope ask people to pay online w/ Paypal. – this is probably the most inexpensive way to go.





## Goshen Farm Sharing Garden Committee Report for November 2015

Submitted by Bob Nestruck, Garden Chairman/2015 to Lou Biondi President & GFPS Board

### **Accomplished:**

1. Cleanup in the garden continues to go well.
2. Plots 36 and 37 to Broadneck Special Ed dept.
3. Fall planting continues and common areas well maintained

### **Needs Accomplishing:**

1. Short Term:
  - a. Establish initial educational workshops for high tunnel usage.
  - b. Recruit community groups for classes and work projects
  - c. Increase numbers of volunteers working on gardens beyond the Sharing Garden.
  - d. Establish HugelKultur to use logs and branches piled around the farm in an environmentally friendly way.
  
2. Long Term: TBD

**Accomplished:**

1. Had ½ of Goshen's grass cut when the directional cable caught on a high tree stump. Was able to re-thread the broken shaft and by adding a coupling nut, I was able to repair the lawn mower. This saved the cost of purchasing a new directional cable.
2. Watered the new fruit trees once before rains finally arrived.
3. Eagle Scout and other Community Service Projects coordinated under the Ground's Chair:
  - a. Lyle Wallace, completed his Eagle Scout beehives project of beehives. The project consists of four hives, a paling fence with gate around the hives, an informational bulletin board including bee and hive information. He will continue to manage the hives until the spring of 2016. He is working with Jenni Biondi who will take over management of the hives next spring.
  - b. Tony Tuckfield is planning on meeting with the Ground's Chair to finalize his project plans.
  - c. Leo Brown has not communicated his intentions concerning his Eagle Scout project.
  - d. Scout Marsh has completed his Eagle Scout Project, which consisted of widening the trail and two-water crossing constructed on the CSC Elementary to Walnut Ridge Trail.
  - e. Ian McGhee and his father were presented with a list of possible projects at Goshen Farm for his Eagle Scout Project.
  - f. Three Junior National Honor Society from Southern Middle School are reviewing possible projects and determining work dates at Goshen Farm.
4. With the help of the new tractor and brush hog, reduced a very large pile of vines and branches down to a very small pile of manageable wood mulch material.
5. Returned the borrowed security, trail camera to the CSC Improvement Association. The camera recorded pictures deer, squirrels, raccoons, dogs, dog walkers, joggers, and walkers. None of the humans attempted to break into the Caretaker's Cottage during some of September and all of October period. There were people on the Caretaker's porch.
6. The items previously stored in the Storage Container were relocated to either the Caretaker's Cottage or the Farm House, freeing up space for storage of the tractor and the Gravely mower.
7. "The Enclave Training Program" (Division of the Special Education Department at Broadneck High School will be utilizing Goshen Farm for the next five weeks on Thursdays. Terry Brandon will be the lead on this educational effort.
8. Meet with Jim McCrea and Terry Brandon concerning the Annapolis Rotary Club speaking request.
9. Meet with Jay Yerkes and John Hutchison of Yerkes Construction (Chestertown, Maryland) along with L. Biondi, T. Brandon, and M. Buchet concerning the status of the sagging foundation of the Farm House.
10. Terry Brandon and the Ground's Chair installed a new fan louver on the exhaust fan in the High Tunnel. This louver will help keep the greenhouse warmer during the winter.
11. Located an area to hopefully re-locate the Storage Container. It is in the lower field about where several pallets of bricks and landscaping pavers are currently stored. The farm tractor's accessory equipment will be stored in this area additionally after clearing this area.
12. Went with Lou, Becky and Terry on Friday (11/6) to meet with Dr. Arlotto on the status of the Goshen Farm Lease.

**Needs Accomplishing:**

1. Will meet with Eamon Speidel of Lundberg Builders, Inc., on Monday the 8th to seek recommendations on correcting the settled floor of the Farm House.

2. Terry Brandon and the Ground's Chair will meet with the Annapolis Rotary on February 2<sup>nd</sup> to present Goshen Farm.
3. Need to help Terry Brandon, Garden Chair, install a series of valves on the High Tunnel Drip Irrigation System. This will allow individual rows to be watered (as needed) separately, rather than watering all the plant rows at the same time.
4. Need to monitor the security lighting at the Farm House.
5. Contact Congressman Wayne Gilchrest, Sassafras Environmental Educational Center, located at Knocks Folly in Kennedyville, Maryland, regarding his educational lesson plans and experiences in Kent County.
6. Long Term:
  - a. Consider expanding our single lane driveway into a two-way drive or other option(s). This action would allow Goshen Farm to expand future activities at Goshen Farm, relieve traffic issues, and ensure driveway safety.
  - b. Develop a plan to attack to control rampant growth on trees (invasive vines that strangle our growing trees).
  - c. Continue descriptions of planned activities listed in the Grounds Master Use Plan and continue layout of the grounds.
  - d. Pursue purchasing new water well for Goshen Farm or try to tie into county water system near Goshen Farm and the Cape St. Claire Elementary School.
  - e. Pursue composting toilets, holding tank(s) with pump outs, regular toilets connected to a septic system, or connecting to the county sewer system. Jim Morrison pointed out that after their research into toilet facilities, Hancock's Resolution will be **using a large holding tank** for the bathroom effluent. He states this is a **MUCH cheaper** way to handle toilet facilities in today's world.

**Needs Approval:** N/A

**New Business:**

1. Need to choose tentative dates for 2016 Goshen Farm Events.
2. Reserve the CSCIA signboard for events.
3. Security camera(s) should become a high priority.
4. Girl Scout Rosner would like to present a proposal to the Board for her Silver Award using some kind of diorama(s) placed around the GFPS property.

## **History Committee Report November 6, 2015**

I have a draft of the property ownership timeline completed. I may add more information in the near future. I want to integrate this with a full timeline including historical events, etc.

I sent Risa information on Henry and Margaret Tydings, plus a piece on Blockade running for her next article.

Sara Stinchcomb, who attended the open house, contacted me about joining. I gave her the application, plus shared some genealogical info on her family that she wasn't aware of.

No urgent needs at this time.

Scott Powers

# MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

November 11, 2015

Submitted by Becky Benner on November 7, 2015

## MEMBER TOTALS for 2015

- Members who either joined or renewed since September 20, 2014, and whose memberships thus expire December 31, 2015.

### Residents

Resident Individuals = 22

Resident Households = 67

Corporate = 9

Total = 98 resident members

### Non-Residents

Non-resident Individuals = 23

Non-resident Households = 28

Corporate = 9

Total = 60 non-resident members

**2015 Total = 158 overall memberships**

## MEMBER TOTALS for 2016

- Members who either joined or renewed since September 19, 2015, and whose memberships thus expire December 31, 2016.

### Residents

Resident Individuals = 3

Resident Households = 7

Corporate = 9 \*

Includes

0 new Individual member

1 renewal Individual member

0 new Household member

2 renewal Household members

0 new Corporate member

0 renewal Corporate member

Total = 19 resident members

### Non-Residents

Non-resident Individuals = 2

Non-resident Households = 8

Corporate = 7 \*

Includes

0 new Individual member

0 renewal Individual member

4 new Household members

1 renewal Household members

0 new Corporate member

0 renewal Corporate member

Total = 17 non-resident members

**2016 Total = 36 overall memberships**

\* Corporate Sponsors' information incorporated into database

## **ACCOMPLISHED**

- Met and walked Goshen Farm with Grounds' Chair and Junior National Honor Society students who must complete ten hours each of community service. Recorded potential projects and work dates to be done before March 2016.
- Representatives of Board of Directors (L. Biondi, T. Brandon, R. Benner, and me) met with Dr. Arlotto, Superintendent of Anne Arundel County Public Schools at his invitation, regarding aspects of current lease.
- Attended the Second Annual Maryland State Archives Family History Festival, *Tracing your Maryland Roots*, for ideas and activities that could be used at future Goshen Farm events.

## **TO DO ITEMS**

- Complete, print, and mail cover letters, renewal forms, and Goshen Farm Sharing Garden inserts to current and expired memberships. Packets should be mailed by November 14h.
- Complete edits for GFPS bi-fold brochure.
- Incorporate suggestions for the Service Project Guidelines / Application / Consultation and Review documents for GFPS to present to any Eagle Scout, Gold Award, or Community Service applicant wishing to partner with GFPS.
- Revisit the Customs and Courtesies Policy.
- Utilize the Anne Arundel County Public Library Foundation Directory Online to search for grantors related to agriculture, agri-tainment, community gardens, community crops, environment, etc.
- Resume oral history interviews

## **NOTE**

- November 2014 (for 2015) = 16 overall memberships; November 2015 (for 2016) = 36 overall memberships
- October 2014 (for 2015) = 10 overall memberships; October 2015 (for 2016) = 12 overall memberships
- September 2014 = 157 overall memberships; September 2015 = 158 overall memberships

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Discussions regarding Annual Meeting to be held January 20<sup>th</sup> and openings on Board of Directors
- Determine tentative dates for 2016 Goshen Farm events
- Determine signboard reservations (three/\$25 vs. seven/\$50 days) for advertising events

## **REMINDER**

- Dean Cowherd, Assistant State Soil Scientist, Natural Resources Conservation Service/USDA, will appear on Maryland Public Television's *Maryland Farm & Harvest* premier episode on Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. The episode will re-air on Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.