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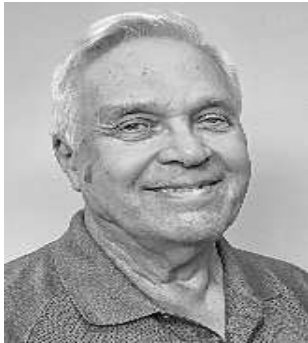
The Moorings at Lewes Residents Association

Vol. 14, No. 3

August 2021

TV Channel 970

www.tmalra.org



President's Message From Jim McMullen

Hooray! Our community spirit is being restored and it's stronger than ever. The governor's emergency order has finally been lifted.

Things are quickly getting back to normal. The auditorium is at full capacity. Bus trips have resumed. The Chart dining room is open. Monday night bridge is back. And most importantly, Happy Hour is back.

Some covid protocols remain in place for our more vulnerable members; but we now can visit after being isolated for so long. Let's hope we never have to experience this again.

It's good to be able to visit and chat with our new members who came in during the sequestration. It's wonderful to see them in person without the mask and to sit close enough to hear what they are saying. Everyone seems much happier, more animated, and dare I say, looks younger than you were just a few months ago.

As I understand it the Moorings has one of the best covid records among Life Plan Communities (formerly Continuing Care Retirement Communities). This noteworthy achievement is due in large part to the experienced, responsive, innovative management team we have here in Lewes. We owe them a big vote of thanks.

Stay Well and Enjoy the Summer

Jim McMullen

Library Lines

If the DVD's that you borrow from our Library are damaged in any way, please do NOT return these to the Library. Throw them out. Thanks.

History Book Festival

The History Book Festival is going to follow the same procedures in 2021 as it did during the height of the pandemic -- the authors of the selected books will all present their discussions online. This year two authors have received the keynote honors: the non-fiction award has been given to Julia Sweig, for her biography Lady Bird Johnson. A second honor has been given for historical fiction to Lisa Scottoline for her work entitled Eternal. Scottoline, well known for her mystery thrillers; has written a beautiful, heartbreaking story of three people growing up in Mussolini's Italy.

These two books and all others selected are available for purchase at Browseabout Books, 133 Rehoboth Avenue. You might become interested in the tale of Dr. Cream, a Victorian Era serial killer by Dean Jobb; or Blood and Treasure, the biography of Daniel Boone, by Bob Drury and Tom Glavin; or a Nascar story, Winning in Reverse, by Bill Lester and Jonathan Ingram.

Let us hope we can all return to in person presentations at our next History Book Festival.

These lectures have always been free of charge -- first come, first served.

Judy Burgess

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HAVE YOU MET ALEXANDER McCALL SMITH?

Some years ago when I was in Florida recouping and rehabbing from knee surgery I noted an announcement in the local newspaper of an upcoming lecture at a nearby college to be given by one Alexander McCall Smith. My niece was equally



intrigued, so away we went. The charming character pictured here stepped onto the stage in tartan kilt, knee socks, engaging grin and proceeded to discuss his literary works, past and in progress, for about an hour. There wasn't a single yawn of boredom in the entire hall, but rapt attention and appreciative chuckles. He was mobbed by admirers and autograph seekers at the end. A thoroughly delightful evening.

My sister introduced me to McCall Smith a few years earlier via a gift book that I read with pleasure and

followed up with a trip to the local library to seek out more of this compelling prose. I'm not even sure now which series was my introduction as I discovered that he has several series going simultaneously----to avoid boring himself, he said. To say that Alexander McCall Smith is a prolific writer is a major understatement of fact: he has written more than 80 books that have been translated into 46 languages. His daily output is staggering: he writes 2000-3000 words a day even when traveling; at home he averages 5000 words a day----regularly.

McCall Smith did not set out with idea of writing fiction as his chosen career. He was born in 1984 in what was then Southern Rhodesia to parents of Scottish nationality who were living in Africa because of his father's work. His early schooling was at the Christian Brothers College in Africa; at 17 he headed back to Edinburgh to enroll in the university where he would study law and eventually become a

We live in a society exquisitely dependent on science and technology, in which hardly anyone knows anything about science and technology --Carl Sagen

respected expert on medical law and bioethics, serving on related British and international committees. From 1984 until 2005 he was a professor of medical law at the University of Edinburgh, simultaneously exploring other interests, including writing and amateur enjoyment as a bassoonist. He founded The Really Terrible Orchestra and was closely involved in its development. In 1998 his ventures in writing resulted in the publication of The Number One Ladies' Detective Agency which sold more than 20 million copies of the series in English by 2008. In 2005 he gave up his professorship at the University of Edinburgh to concentrate on his writing.

What a prescient decision that proved to be! In addition to the publication of numerous books in the No. One Ladies' Detective Agency series, a DVD series was filmed in Botswana (formerly S. Rhodesia). Although the DVD series was cancelled after one season, there has been talk of shooting a film for broader circulation. The Number One Ladies' Detective Agency is only one of the several series he has launched over the years. He juggles his writing so that books in the same series don't immediately follow one another. I am convinced that he writes with a twinkle in his eye, thoroughly immersing himself in the development of his characters and the situations he devises for them. I love his witty, tongue-in-cheek humor that evokes chuckles rather than guffaws.

Among the currently available McCall Smith series are:

The Number One Ladies' Detective Agency

44 Scotland Street series

The Sunday Philosophy Club series

Professor Dr. von Igelfelt Entertainment series

Detective Varg series

Irregular Portuguese Verbs series

Big-Top Mysteries

Paul Stewart series

Corduroy Mansions series

In addition to the books belonging to these series he has given us other novels, short stories, anthologies, children's novels, and a novel I am dying to read: The Second Worst Restaurant in France, plus academic texts and contributions to medical and legal journals.

McCall Smith's characters are developed in exquisite detail and presented so that we readers come to know and love them--- their foibles as well as their virtues, the dilemmas they face, the choices they make. For example, the lead character in the Detective Agency, Mma Precious Ramotswe is always described as being ..."traditionally built", never overweight or obese, a lady who respects the old ways of her beloved Botswana all the while participating in efforts to support its modernization and advancement. In each series familiar characters from previous books recur taking turns at being the focal point. Professor McCall Smith has a masterful knack for titling his books: frequently I find that just seeing the title convinces me I must read this book. Examples :At the Villa of Reduced Circumstances, A Time of Love and Tartan, the Minor Adjustment Beauty Salon, Blue Shoes and Happiness, Bertie's Guide to Life and Mothers. At the time I heard McCall Smith speak he confessed that his current favorite character was 6-year-old Bertie who resided with his parents in the apartment building at 44 Scotland Street. Bertie's adventures are many and thoroughly amusing. Another character in the Detective Agency, Grace, has shoes that talk to her and give her advice.

I hope that if you have survived reading this article you are encouraged to check out the availability of this author's books in our fine library. Remember to look in the "M" section for McCall, not Smith. When you find the area you'll see that we have almost a full shelf. Do check to see if these characters put you in a good mood. They work for me!

Elsie Gould

The Moorings Mask Brigade

About fifteen months ago, Rebecca Rogers started sewing masks for COVID 19 mask requirements.

By last April, about 1800 masks had been made!



At first, masks were for residents here at The Moorings. Then Rebecca reached out across the United States for organizations in need of cloth masks. Sixteen states have been recipients of these masks—sizes from child to adult. Organizations receiving masks included Cheyenne Tribes, Sioux Tribes, Pueblo Communities Cradles to Crayons, Covenant House, outreach programs and shelters.

As demand grew, helping hands assisted Rebecca. Many mornings would find a small group of busy workers cutting, ironing and sewing in the craft room.

A worthwhile and rewarding project started by one person has helped many!

In the upper East hallway, Ruth Morton made masks and hung them on the door of her apartment for people to take if they needed a mask. Joanne Nichols made masks on the West First Floor. Many different colors made it easy to select one

that matched one's outfit! Many residents appreciated them.

The Moorings Cares

"#Moorings*Cares" is the name given to residents' outreach to organizations in Sussex County that are in need of various supplies. They can be cleaning supplies, non-perishable food items and/or paper products. The focus of this project is to reach out to help others in ways that are easily supported by our residents as they search through cupboards or they order from "Moorings Market." Cash donations have also been accepted. Collections are approximately two or three times a year.

So far, we have donated to:

The CAPE HENLOPEN FOOD BASKET in Rehoboth/Lewes

THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER in Rehoboth

HOME OF THE BRAVE in Milford

"CODE PURPLE" STATE SERVICES in Georgetown

Our efforts have been overwhelmingly appreciated by the recipients.

Comments or suggestions are always welcome. Contact person for this endeavor is Silvia Ritchie 302-604-9529

When your mother asks, "Do you want a piece of advice?" Its a mere formality. It doesn't matter if you answer yes or no. You're going to get it anyway. --Erma Bombeck.

Meet and Greet on the Green

I think 28 showed up.

Everyone introduced themselves, telling something about their careers, how long they had lived here and their cottage number. It was the brain child of Fran Tobin. We all brought our own chairs and enjoyed lunch delivered by The Moorings or a lunch they had prepared themselves.

Here are the attendees, their cottages and some pictures. Curt Christensen & Ellen Heald (12), Rebecca Brenner (13), Tess De Rubertis (15), Jeanne Larned (16), Judy Burgess (18), Pat Nye (19), Fran Tobin and Henry Hunt (21), Karen Gillam (22), Jim & Vickie Mc Cool (25), Mildred Wiedmann (27), Rich & Jean Woolley (31), Jane Hood (32). George & Barbara Sumereau & two guests (33), Gary & Elaine Showers (38), Bob & Faith Duncan (45), Bruce & Sherry Chappelle (46), and Ralph & Merry Ellen Alls (47.)

Curt Christensen



Nature column – Menhaden

Lewes was once known as the menhaden "capital." Menhaden, also called porgy or bunker, are fish in the herring family common along the East Coast. In 1883, the Luce Brothers and S.S. Brown & Co. built the first menhaden processing plant in Lewes. Many more appeared in and around Lewes. By 1938, about 50 years later, the Consolidated Fisheries Company of Lewes was the largest menhaden processing plant in the United States. Under the management of industry leader and long-time Mayor Otis Smith, Lewes became one of the largest landing ports in the country, serving as the home base for a fleet of 25 ships employing over 650 crew members.

Menhaden are fish in the Herring family. They graze on microscopic green algae which float near the surface of the water, drifting with water currents. Their modified mouth parts strain the algae from the water like a sieve. They form dense schools as they feed when food is plentiful, such as when algae blooms lie on warm shallow bays. The algae produce droplets of a light oil in their bodies that serve as a flotation device. The oil makes them a wonderfully rich food source.

People do not eat menhaden directly because the fish are extremely oily and unpalatable from their diet of algae. The oil, however, makes them sought as an industrial fish.

Too many fish feeding in an algae bloom use up the oxygen in the water and die of suffocation. After episodes of major fish kills, native peoples would gather them for fertilizer for their crops. They taught this to the early colonists. Menhaden do not eat larger food and will not take a baited hook. They must be caught with nets. Native peoples caught them in basket fish traps.

At a bay near Baltimore, large fish kills of menhaden were a regular occurrence. Farmers would come in wagons to load the dead fish for fertilizer. The bay was first known as the maggoty bay from the flies

feeding on the dead fish. It has now been renamed the Magothy Bay to the relief of the real estate market.

Fisheries for menhaden, found only on the Atlantic coast, were established in the 19th century in nearly every significant bay from Maine to Florida. The fish are found offshore as far as the Gulf Stream but primarily near the coast. Today, by volume, the menhaden fishery is the largest in Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico. Often boasting annual harvests of more than 550,000 tons, the menhaden fishery far outweighs the Gulf's famed commercial catches, including crab and shrimp.

In estuaries like the Chesapeake Bay, they are still food for striped bass and other fish, as well as for predatory birds, including osprey and eagles, as well as for blue crabs and lobster.

Menhaden fisheries are complex operations. The schools of fish used to be spotted from a tall "crow's nest" on a fishing boat. Now the schools of fish are spotted from the air by fishery pilots who radio the locations to a catch boat. The catch boat carries two very high-speed light boats with a long net between them, one end attached to each boat.

The speed boats quickly encircle the school of menhaden with a wall of netting known as a purse seine. When the wall is complete, one of the speed boats drops a heavy weight which draws the net together at the bottom thus "pursing" the net. In earlier days, large groups of men would haul the net up by hand. The men, often of African descent, would sing to coordinate their work as they hauled the net tighter around the struggling fish. Sometimes coastal residents would sail or row out to listen to the generally excellent singing.

A mural on the side of one of the buildings in Lewes shows men hand hauling up a net full of menhaden. Now this process of drawing the purse up tight is done by a hydraulic power block.

The fish used to be scooped out of the pursed seine with a smaller net bucket.



Reels for drying the seine nets were common sights around the fish processing stations, and there is one on display in Lewes at the Historical Society.

In the 1950s, the process of fishing menhaden became streamlined. After the net surrounded the school, the net was electrified. The reverse polarity set up between the electrified net and a large hose dipped into the schooled fish caused the fish to all face the same direction. They were then pumped through the hose into the hold of the fishing boat. This process of aerial spotting and electro-fish scooping is so efficient that the fish populations were decimated.

By the mid-1960s, a decline in the numbers of fish resulted in the termination of local menhaden fishing operations and the end of an era for the Lewes community. After the fishery closed in 1966, the large docks remained. These plants caught and processed hundreds of thousands of other fish per year.

There is currently only one functioning menhaden processing plant on the Atlantic Coast, in Reedville, Virginia. Another had closed at Beaufort, North Carolina, just a few years ago. Reedville still renders the fish into oil used in a variety of products including rust resistant paints and cosmetics, and into dry fish meal used as a protein supplement for animal feed and occasionally human protein supplements. The processed dried fish meal has no taste or odor. The same is not true of the rendering process. It is still noted for its

disagreeable odor.

The persistent smell from the Lewes menhaden rendering plant was credited, or blamed, for restricting development in Lewes until the plant closed down. Lewes perhaps owes its small-town charm to the existence and subsequent demise of the menhaden processing plant.

David Bleil

***Mother is a verb. It's something you do .
Not just who you are.***

-Cheryl Lacey Donavan

Requiem for the fallen



Loyal sentinels bravely stood in the parking lot near the health care wing to prevent speeding cars from entering the area where lots of foot traffic is found.

However a few have been runover and splintered while courageously attempting to stem the onslaught. They should be honored for their terminal dedication to their duty.

***If a black cat crosses your path. It signifies
that the animal is going somewhere.***

-- Grocho Marx

Re-Cycling: What I've Learned!

Photo taken on a gentle jaunt June 25 to Lloyd's Market, this art installation in the park, a look around Shipcarpenters Square, and a quick stop at Sea Green Bikes.

Left to right: Tess, Mildred, Jeanne, Rebecca, Linda)



I've also learned about where the ospreys nest, what trail extensions are planned in the future, the availability of the bike shed out back, and how enjoyable riding with a group of friends is.

Our leader, David Bleil, a serious cyclist for decades, accommodates the group's diverse equipment (vintage 1 speeds, e-bikes, and everything in between) and riding speeds (no one is ever left behind!), and plans our varied rides with weather conditions and points of interest in mind. He does minor repairs, and encourages all of us to get on our bikes when it's at least 40 degrees out, and not wet or too windy.

Whether the group is 2 or 3, or a dozen, we enjoy a safe ride and invariably look forward to the next. Fridays we gather at the main entrance of the big house and leave at 10:30, returning before lunch. Do join us!

By Rebecca Brenner

New not only to the Moorings but to Delaware, and drawn here in part by the trail biking opportunities, I joined the Friday Recyclers. I have met some wonderful Moorings people, and learned trail routes to:

Old World Breads

Hopkins Dairy

The Station on Kings

The wind turbine at the UD College of Marine Sciences

Downtown Lewes

Lewes Beach

Cape Henlopen State Park trails and beaches, including the Fishing Pier

Grove Park in Rehoboth

The southern entrance to CHSP.

All reachable mostly on trails from our Gills Neck Rd location!

On the subject of bike trails.

A trail connector between the Junction & Breakwater trail between Lewes and Rehoboth Beach was opened in June. The connector features a bike only lane across the draw bridge on Rehoboth Avenue and spur into Grove Park. The ribbon cutting ceremony was presided over by Federal, State and local elected representatives as well as by DELDOT and members of the Sussex Cycling Club.



Rathskeller Ramblings

The Whiskey Barrel Stout is now on line and being enjoyed (responsibly) at Happy Hour and smaller gatherings. It is just as flavorful as last year's batch but the alcohol content (ABV – alcohol by volume) is almost a full percentage point lower. I have no clue as to why that is. There is enough on hand for a few more Happy Hours.

Last time I bored you with the problems and challenges encountered. After the runaway fermentation crisis there were no more issues. Aging on the whiskey barrel chips went well. It has been difficult in the past getting all the chips out of the aging vessel, but this time they washed out on the first try.

Bottling went well. Recall I have been having a problem with excessive foam. I replaced some equipment and tubing. I also tried new oxygen-based cleaning and sanitizing compounds. That worked OK on the previous batch but there was still more foam than necessary. The last thing to try is using less sugar when bottling.

Priming sugar – a small amount – is added to the ale just before bottling. This provides the yeast with a “snack” so the critters can produce carbonation. (Commercial breweries use carbon dioxide to get the same effect but they have better control). This time I used only an ounce rather than the 4-6 ounces called for in the recipe. It worked well; just the right amount of foam.

Next up is Scottish Ale. I first brewed this in July 2010 and June 2017. The recipe has changed and I think it will be for the better. On the grains, black barley replaces commodity barley and Cara Munich dark barley replaces caramel 60L barley. The hops also have changed. Fuggle and Cluster hops replace Brewers Gold and UK Golding. Both moves bode well for a more flavorful brew with a slightly stronger hops note. In the June 2017 batch some of you noted a hint of coffee flavor. I don't recall how that batch tasted. It'll be fun to see how this one turns

out. Brewing in August, bottling in September, enjoying by October.

Jim McMullen
07/31/2021

Father Brown, an Easy TV Evening Interlude

One of my favorite TV shows is Father Brown, a series about a murder solving priest in 1950s Britain. I was surprised to find that it is presented in the afternoon in England but that might explain the gentle and humorous feel of the dramas it presents.

The stories are loosely based on the short stories of G.K. Chesterton, a well-known Christian writer. They feature Father Brown and a small group of other characters, all of whom have distinct personalities and are fun to watch.

The aristocratic Lady Felicia and her sly chauffeur are two of those characters. Sid brings a lighthearted approach to the solving of the crime, often with the somewhat shady help of his friends. Sid reminds me of a character from Dickens. The Artful Dodger, perhaps.

Interested in any passing man in the area, Bunty, Felicia's niece, wears tighter than necessary clothes. She is living in the area because she is avoiding the cloud she was under in London after a scandal with a married man. Nuff said.

Mrs. McCormack, the parish secretary, is a salt of the earth type, down to earth and practical. Both she and Lady Felicia wear hats at all times, even in the house. Mrs. McCormack's hat which sits on the top of her head is bedecked with artificial flowers.

Sometimes when Father Brown is working on a case, the three women get involved, offering assistance to the priest in his detective work. The local police inspector is not happy with their help even though he often needs it. Inspector Mallory jumps to conclusions about the guilt of his suspect

and is frequently embarrassed when Father Brown solves the case. Mallory calls Father Brown "Padre" somewhat sarcastically as he tries to keep him out of an investigation.

Typical of his shortsighted handling of cases, in one instance when a local business woman is killed when her brake line is cut, the inspector immediately has his suspect in custody when Father Brown suggests another. The inspector arrests the priest for breach of peace to get him to stop his interfering in the case. While in prison, Father gets more information so, working with Mrs. McCarthy and Sid, he escapes and gets the guilty party to confess.

In another case, while visiting a seminary full of seminarians Father Brown attempts to get the truth about a student's suicide and that of another a year before. Both were members of a secret society and they're not talking, so the priest gets Sid to go undercover as a seminarian. Sid is a slick, fast talker and is able to pull such a thing off, and together he and Father Brown solve the crime.

The show is consistently fun and easy to watch (it's only 45 minutes long) so we find it a peaceful interlude in the evening in spite of the murders.

Father Brown can be found on PBS and on Netflix. The 9th season will air in 2022.

by Kitty Eichenlaib

"There comes a time when autumn asks, 'What have you been doing all summer?'" -- anonymous

**"I saw old Autumn in the misty morn
Stand, shadowless like Silence, listening To
Silence. -- Thomas Hood**

**"Just before the death of flowers, And before
they are buried in snow,
There comes a festival season when nature
is all aglow. --- Author Unknown**

Welcome new residents.

Karen Rizzo - cottage 29

Larry & Julia Myers - Cottage 36

**Frederich & Elsbeth Wahl - Apartment
215**

Joe & Dotti Ellis - Apartment 233

Sol & Jeanne Upbin - Cottage 23

Ed & Pam Prunckun - Cottage 44

Don and Marie Evick - Cottage 17

In Memorium

Mrs. Jane McCurry

Mrs. Roberta Horst

Mrs. Marilyn Goebel

Ms. Viola Cribb

Mr. William Kennedy

Mrs. Cheryl Snyder

Mrs. Joan Madeksza

Mr. Melvin Gillam

Mrs. Mary Lu Pearson