THE MOORINGS AT LEWES

THE FREE PRESS

The Moorings at Lewes Residents Association

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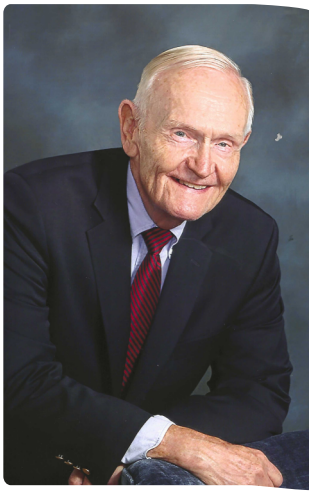

President's message

I began writing this after I came in from a car whose thermometer registered 98 degrees. I could almost forget what it was like in January and February when we had some really bad weather during which the staff did a tremendous job of taking care of us. Following is a quote from my column in the February Free Press. "The willingness of staff members to set aside their personal responsibilities to take care of us and our various needs is beyond remarkable. I hope that when the solicitation for contributions to the Employee Appreciation fund begins in late summer, we will have fresh memories of what they were willing to do for us and respond accordingly." By the time you read this Larry Myers and his committee will have begun the process of soliciting gifts for this year's campaign. May your memories encourage generous participation. I hope people who have joined us since February take time to talk to others about why they participate. Many committees and activities have been recessed during the summer but will be getting very active soon. If you have not yet become involved with one of the groups that sponsor the events and programs, please consider doing so. Association Bylaws place the responsibility for joining on the individual. Committee chairs are not responsible for recruiting. A list of committees and activities can be found on the TMALRA or Moorings websites. A year ago, I announced the formation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Expansion. During that year the committee has been active in communicating resident concerns and suggestions to Moorings management. In the spring, the committee published a report concerning 24 different items that it had discussed with management and the architect. Please contact Jim Keys, Carol Lader, Hugh Leahy, Sandy Spence, Don Smith or me with any ideas or concerns related to the expected expansion. During the last couple of months, we have had increased contacts from Linda Wilmot and Kash DeMora. Linda is attempting to bring to life the Live Well Program and would appreciate any feedback. Kash has helped a lot of people with communications problems. Don't hesitate to call him.

Thanks for reading.

Board of Directors

President	Ed Steiner
Vice President	Jim Keys
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East Wing	Mary Lou Poffenberger
	Paula Luddy
West Wing	Peg Partlow
	Linda Trzyzewski
Assisted Living	Gil Kaufman

Committee Chairs

Activities	Peg Partlow
By-Laws	Jane Lord
Communication	Jim McMullen
Dining	Jim Keys
Empl. Appreciation	Larry Myers
Finance Advisory	Jim McMullen
Gift Shop	Diane Bair
Library	Sandy Spence & Rebecca Rogers
Nominating	Don Smith
Program	Bill Martin
Wellness	Gail Bourassa
Wood Shop	Richard Thomas

TMALRA Free Press (Printed Quarterly)

Copy Editor	Rebecca Brenner
Proofreader	vacant
Layout	David Bleil
Distribution	Joanne Nichols

Board Mtgs	2nd Monday
General Mtgs	3rd Monday



Who's Who at The Moorings

— Elaine Showers

Elaine Machon Showers was born on Chicago's West Side. She later moved to the Rogers Park area, where she attended Kilmer Elementary School and Sullivan High Schools. Elaine earned her BA from the National College of Education, her MA from Arizona State University, and her principal certification from Northern Arizona University. She began her career in Des Plaines before moving to Phoenix, Arizona.

Elaine's husband Gary was born in Evansville, Indiana, and raised in Randolph, Ohio. He earned both his BA and MA from Arizona State University and worked as a vocational education teacher. He and Elaine met in Phoenix and made their home there.

When Elaine and Gary retired and began looking for a new place to live, they made the same choice as Gary's sister, Sharon Hoover, and

her husband, Dean: the new Quaker–inspired continuing care retirement community then known as Cadbury at Lewes, now The Moorings at Lewes. In their late 60s at the time, they were among the youngest residents. They were also among the first residents to move in, arriving in 2007. Elaine remembers that before the dining room opened, dinners were served at the nearby restaurant La Rosa Negra, located on Savannah Road. Elaine can hardly believe she has been here nearly 20 years. As early residents, Gary and Elaine were Charter Members of Cadbury, and Elaine is one of the few remaining members of that original group.

Gary brought his skills as a woodworker here and was one of the woodworking team that created our wood–shop. He built a number of the items still located around the facility. Elaine had never painted before coming here but became part of the early group that took art classes from a professional teacher. She is still involved in a number of our active committees and regularly encourages everyone to participate in the many offerings.

We are pleased that Elaine remains part of our community today.



Gil Kaufman

Errata: The volume number for 2026 is 19. The May edition read Vol. 20. This was an error.



A Moorings Mystery

No one seems to remember where the rowing dinghy above the Bistro door came from. It is clear from the construction details that it was built for a child. Notice particularly the size of the oars and row locks. The ribs and planking are the work of an experienced boat builder or a very skilled amateur. It may even have had a small sailing rig, judging from the mast hole in the front seat. If anyone knows who built it or where it came from I would like to know.

David Bleil

Never allow someone to be your priority while alloeing yourself to be their option.
--Mark Twain



The Community table returns.

IT'S BACK!!!

After being absemt from the Chart Room for too many months, the Community Table is ready for its welcoming presence and camaraderie to be restored. As you approach the Hostess Station at the Chart Room, you can't miss the elegantly set round table with seating for six. The signage "Community Table" identifies it. .

Some may ask, "What is the Community Table?" It is the spirit of The Moorings Chart Room offering a place for every resident to informally enjoy the pleasure of the company of other residents, for dinner with new neighbors or to pick up on an acquaintance that has languished. All residents are welcome to take impromptu advantage of this opportunity to meet and greet while enjoying a meal prepared for you by our Executive Chef Glenn Booton and served by our friendly dining services staff. The Community Table welcomes everyone: new single or coupled residents, all resident singles, couples or the neighbor down the hall. No reservation is necessary. Just walk in between 5:00 PM and 6:30 PM and ask to be seated at the Community Table. You may be the first guest to arrive or there may be others starting or finishing their meal. No matter. Sit down, introduce yourself, share comments on the menu offerings, the weather, your background or just plain old Moorings gossip. Don't be afraid to be the first or the last at the Community Table. It is there for you. If more than six diners opt to sit at the Community Table, our dining services staff will accommodate your needs.

Now all the Community Table needs is YOU! Please join us.

Thanks for support for the Community Table from Dining Services Director Ingrid Dellatorre, Dining Room Manager Oana Andronache and Resident Services Director TK Kelly.

Serving you is your TMALRA Dining Services Committee: Chair: Jim Keys, Members: Diane Bair, Carol Bishop, Gil Kaufman, Naomi Lowe, Vickie McCool, Jim McMullen, Joanne Nichols, Stephanie O'Hara, Peg Partlow, Bob Porta, Franz Portmann, Mary Shea, Elaine Showers and Don Smith

Next issue of the Free Press is put to bed November first. I alreafy have about three pages in that draft.

Book Report: The Klipnocky Farm by Sharon Lee Hoover

The Moorings resident author Sharon Hoover has written an interesting recollection of the years of her life with her husband Dean and their children, how they came to build their life by building a farm in up–state New York. It is not exactly a linear narrative but a collection of chapters on particular topics such as building their house, building a stone fireplace, stone room addition and experimenting with various crops. The black and white photographs could use captions identifying various people but gave a good visual accompaniment to the text.

Sharon describes in lyric prose the beauties of their environment and details the construction of the farm's various structures including measurements. Her memoir remind man places of another publication from that era –The Whole Earth Catalog. If you want to know the basics of growing Christmas trees, planting Blueberries or making maple sugar or raising bees, its all here. Sharon is not averse to detail.

In the rural environment back then, if you needed something, you made it; food, clothing, tools and shelter. There were always neighbors and family to lend a hand when a hand was needed. Both Sharon and Dean had teaching jobs and also were working on advanced degrees while they were doing the pioneering work of constructing a farm from raw land. Within the chapters are vignettes of her children growing up, learning and maturing. The book is an interesting read and provides welcome insight into two of the Moorings most remarkable residents. I enjoyed the book because it paralleled many experiences I had growing up on a farm, keeping bees and helping my parents build or renovate houses. There should be a copy in the Moorings Library on the resident author's shelf. It is available from Amazon and Walmart as well as other sites which will order on demand. If you search for it on line, search by author and title not by ISBN code.

David Bleil

Re-Cyclers ride leaders on tour.

Rebecca Brenner and David Bleil recently returned from a Senior Cycling company tour of five trails in North–West Michigan and a one day ride on Macinack Island. Senior Cycling is a bike touring company for riders over age 55. The rides are primarially on rail trails and bike ways. They dol not camp but stay in motels and lodges.



Historically Speaking – Cadbury Affiliation with Springpoint Senior Living

Hard as it is to believe, it has been nearly ten years since the continuous care retirement community (CCRC) known as Cadbury at Lewes became affiliated with Springpoint Senior Living. For those of us who have been around for a good while, it seems like only yesterday, but for many of the more recent residents Springpoint is all they have known.

Cadbury was a relatively small independent CCRC headquartered in New Jersey that had correctly foreseen the need for high quality senior care in the Delaware beach area, and in 2006 began building a retirement facility here. Cadbury at Lewes opened its doors in 2007, and over the next 18 months about 110 residents became its Charter members. Formed by a group of individuals many of whom had Quaker background, Cadbury at Lewes espoused Quaker lifestyles but did not limit its residents to those beliefs. Vic Amey was president and CEO of Cadbury at Lewes and Carol Holzman was Director of Resident Services and, later on, Vic Amey's successor as president.

Life at Cadbury at Lewes was of high quality for its resident population, which grew to about 200 over the next six years. Cadbury was unique in Delaware, being the only facility combining all stages of senior life's continuum: independent living, assisted living, dementia care, and skilled nursing comparable to hospital care. All stages were kept relatively high in census levels, though in the healthcare area (assisted living, dementia care, and skilled nursing) more than half of those living here have not been contract residents but rather those from the local area needing rehabilitation or respite care.

Unbeknownst to most residents of Cadbury at Lewes, management practices were leading to the potential of long–term financial instability, and Vic Amey wisely initiated discussions with Springpoint Senior Living, a highly respected New Jersey–based organization interested in expanding into Delaware. In October of 2017, an affiliation of the two organizations was formed. Springpoint became the operating entity for Cadbury at Lewes, and the latter was renamed The Moorings at Lewes to avoid confusion with a portion of the old organization in New Jersey still known as Cadbury.

This affiliation has been good for our residents, including those of us from the old Cadbury at Lewes organization. The long–term commitment of Springpoint to its contract residents remains high, and that is supported by the high quality of both our local management staff and our senior management staff in New Jersey. It is further supported by the deep pockets of the Springpoint Foundation. The Moorings has been recognized by U.S. News and World Report magazine as a "Best Nursing Home" in 2026 and our Healthcare

areas have been documented by the State of Delaware as deficiency free for two or more years in a row. We are fortunate to live here.

Gil Kaufman



Quilting Group

Our quilting group meets every Friday morning to create and laugh. We usually work on our own projects, but we did put together nine quilts which will be given to a homeless shelter. Here is a picture of some of the quilts we have made for shelter residents. The quilters include June Stein, Chris Vissering, Cilla Ricker, Mary Lou Poffenberger, Pat Vissering and Judy Burgess. Peggy Mauro also made a quilt.

Judy Burgess

In Memorium

John Goebel

Betty Carnahan

New & Relocated Residents

Neal & Beth Lane Apt. 235

Margaret Oliver Apt. 111

Hannelore Murr Apt. 220

A life spent making mistakes is not only more honorable, but also more useful than a life spent doing nothing.
-- George Bernard Shaw



Gil Kaufman presents Derryl Hudson, in colonial uniform.

History of the American Flag

On June 4, 2026, Mr. Darryl Hudson provided a historical review of the American Flag over the 250 years since the USA was established. He and grandsons Hank and Myron displayed twelve versions of flags that have flown over the USA over those years, including two when we were still under some British presence. Darryl provided pictorial history related to each version of our flag

Darryl is a true Delawarean, a resident of Georgetown, with roots in the Frankford & Roxana areas of Sussex County going back to around 1650. Further, he is a descendant of several Revolutionary War patriots. This qualifies him as a member of the Caesar Rodney Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, who he was representing here that evening. Darryl was a hign school teacher of biology and other sciences for over forty years.

He has been busy presenting the program about the history of our flag which he created since 2023.

His presentation was an impressive opening to our celebration of America's 250th Anniversary.

Gil Kaufman

Moble DVD Player in the Library

Thanks to Bob Porta's generous gift, we now have a DVD player and TV!

It's on a rolling cart to make moving it to your apartment easy.

There is a side compartment containing 2 remotes (one for the TV and the other for the DVD player), and a clipboard with a sign out sheet attached.

When borrowing the equipment, please use the sign out sheet, and leave the clipboard on the round table.

When you're finished enjoying a movie, please complete the sign out form and put it back in the side compartment.

We have an extensive collection of DVDs that now be enjoyed by any of us!

Rebecca Rogers

May your trails be crooked, lonesome, dangerous, leading to the most amazing view.
-- Edward Abbey



CADBURY CHORUS

It was a grand night for singing and the audience helped along at the recent Cadbury Chorus Spring Concert. We sang to a full house sporting our new Royal Blue Cadbury Shirts. The program was our most difficult to date but with the guidance of our Director Louise Foster we pulled it off in style.

One of the highlights of the night was two very difficult piano solos played by Jude Sydell, a student of our Director Louise. The audience joined in for the second half of the program, our salute to our Country's 250th anniversary, and we ended with a salute to our flag. The Cadbury Chorus welcomes anyone who can carry a tune. We will start rehearsals again in September; look for the date.

Carol Bishop

The Cadbury Horseshoe Crab Tagging Team



A recent Cape Gazette article about finding a tagged horseshoe crab on Lewes Beach reminded me of our own horseshoe crab tagging team, organized by Tom Lord and Dean Hoover a number of years ago.

Although nobody I've asked remembers the exact years they were involved in the Horseshoe Crab Survey, tagging–team member Pat Ward recalls that he and Mildred Wiedmann, George Sumereau, Floyd and Sarah Cook, Larry Knapp, and Gary Showers joined Tom and Dean on their evening forays to Tower Beach. There they would wade around in 1 or 2 feet of water to pick up the crabs, put them in plastic crates, and drag them up the beach. Dean would take measurements, drill a hole in the shell and plug in the tag, while Sarah or Gary recorded the information.

"Some nights when it was windy, we would only get about 10 or so," Pat remembers. "A couple of nights we picked up around 100. One night the crabs came into a couple of inches of water, and I think we picked up

around 150 that night."

According to the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays website, volunteers and researchers have tagged over 15,000 horseshoe crabs to monitor their local movements and mortality since 2002. Counts are performed at high tide for three nights around each new moon and full moon in May and June, tracking spawning populations in the Rehoboth, Indian River, and Little Assawoman bays.

Horseshoe crabs have made their journey to spawn on beaches along the bays for millions of years. Their eggs are a vital food source for migratory shorebirds, resident birds, and various fish. An extract from their blood, Limulus amebocyte lysate (LAL), is used to test for bacterial contamination in drugs, vaccines, and medical devices. They have also been used as bait in local fisheries for generations. Now that their pilgrimage is threatened by climate change, sea level rise, and development, protecting the spawning sites is crucial to restore populations in the Inland Bays.

If you spot a horseshoe crab with a white circular tag, you can contribute to the research by reporting it to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, https://www.fws.gov/crabtag. Be sure to note the six-digit tag number, the crab's location, and its condition.

Jane Lord

THE MAN BEHIND OUR WHEELS

Rick Dewitt is a busy man. In fact, so busy this article almost didn't happen. We keep him so tied-up in his job as head of our Transportation Department that he couldn't find time to sit down and tell me about himself. That meant I had to learn much of what I wanted to know on our trips to my own appointments.

A native Delawarean, Rick was born in New Castle County, moved to Sussex with his family while in middle-school, and has been here ever since. He and his wife Stephanie have been married forty years. They have one daughter, Natalie, and one grandchild

When he's not at work Rick keeps busy at home: caring for his mother who has recently come to live with them, and taking care of his lawn and his large garden. The fruits and veggies he grows wind up on his table, frozen, or canned.

Some of his flowers appear in the abundant bouquets we enjoy each summer on the Concierge desk and the table in the foyer. Thank you for sharing them with us, Rick. They brighten our day!

Rick is also an avid sportsman. First on that list is fishing, here in our own waterways and in Mississippi, where he and his brother fish in the Chandelier Sound and the Gulf . In particular, their prize catch is a triple tail fish that hides beneath the underwater shadows

to avoid the heat of the Mississippi waters.

Another sport he enjoys is hunting. That interest takes him on trips each year to South Dakota, Kansas and Missouri, where he and his friends hunt waterfowl. Years ago, he made a deal with his buddy to do all the cooking on the outing if he didn't have to clean the birds. So far, so good.

After high school Rick went to work for Georgetown Aviation at the airport in Georgetown, helping to maintain corporate jet planes. The business was owned at that time by the very wealthy Helmsley family, known for their exclusive hotels. His job was to build furniture for their extremely upscale plane – cabinets, benches, elaborate trays for each seat and the like. With an unlimited budget he was expected to choose "the best" materials for his projects.

Rick's next job was with the United States Postal Service. Beginning at entry level, Rick worked in Millsboro, Selbyville and Rehoboth. He rose through the ranks to become Postmaster in Selbyville, then in Rehoboth. After a twenty–seven–year career he took an early retirement in 2014.

Not one to be idle, Rick took some part–time jobs after retirement. When his mother– in–law became a resident here in 2020, Rick learned of an open position in the Transportation Department, applied, and was immediately hired. He will soon celebrate his sixth anniversary with us.

Rick says that the thing he enjoys most about his work here is interacting with all of us, and he has some special memories of those interactions. Shortly after he began working here, he was taking a wheelchair– bound resident to an appointment in our old van when he had to brake abruptly. The wheelchair was strapped down, but the occupant came flying down the aisle toward him. He turned just in time to see what was happening, caught her in midair, and lowered her safely back in the chair. (Fortunately, the van we now ride in has better equipment to carry wheelchairs.)

In a couple of other instances he remembers being caught in the middle in a marital disagreement between one couple about the price of the Dairy Queen's peanut butter parfaits and between another couple as to whether or not they should buy anything from Dunkin' Donuts. In both cases, the couples had a few fiery moments, but with a little mediation from him all four involved wound up eating the disputed treats.

We are glad you enjoy our interactions, Rick, because we enjoy them, as well. Congratulations on your sixth anniversary and we wish you many more with us.

Kathleen Pedersen

Critter Page

Other residents of the Moorings who do not attend meetings.

But never-the-less provide eco-system services and the occasional surprise.



Heading for the pond



Heron In the pond



Squirrels need mature trees, which we have, not fresh saplings, to live.

Photo credits --
Turtle - David Bleil
Heron -- Rebecca Brenner
Garter snake -- Elaine Showers
Rabbit -- Sandy Spence
Deer -- David Bleil
Laundry rabbit - Cilla Ricker
Fox --Anand Panwalker



Snake where it doesn't belong. (indoors)





Bunny practicing vegetation management



Rabbit in laundry room hiding out.



Finishing a snack from the plantings.

Continued destruction of vegetated habitat next door to the Moorings is forcing wildlife into the Mooring's campus and occasionally into buildings. They are refugees here, like many of us.