

## Organize This!

In the past few months, the MOC has definitely seen several members stepping in and helping organize or co-organize events for the benefit of other members. Without the help from these folks, it would be very difficult for just one or two people to run a club for 450 members. In the past, members have organized coffee/music house events, biking excursions, social gatherings including dinner and shooting pool, free BBQs, hikes out-of-town, and more.

The club is definitely growing, and because of that, we need any members willing to put something together to contact us with an event idea that they would like to plan. We have a ton of event ideas on our site: [www.marylandoutdoorclub.org/events/ideas.asp](http://www.marylandoutdoorclub.org/events/ideas.asp)

Some of the most requested events include: hiking, road biking, mountain biking, camping, backpacking, canoeing, kayaking, horseback riding, spelunking, orienteering, golf, and social gatherings of all types. Everyone is capable of organizing an event that is

something they are familiar with or have an interest in.

It isn't a requirement to organize an event to be a member, but it definitely will help you to give back to the club, what the club gives you. Should you be interested in putting together an event, the best way to get started is to come up with an idea you think that we'd have a couple of people interested in, and read through the Organizer Information page of the Member Area of the web site.

Some upcoming events that our members are leading, include:

Biking the Baltimore-Annapolis Trail on Saturday, May 31st

Hitting the Chesapeake Bay's "Western Shore" Beach - North Beach on Sunday, June 1st

Attending a Game of Baseball as the Bowie Baysox Take on the New Haven Ravens on Thursday, June 26

Kayaking in Gunpowder Falls State Park on Saturday, June 28

-Amy Pickwick

## News You Can Use

### Go to May's Sunday Cinema FREE

Out of all of the sign ups that we have for May's Sunday Cinemas event come 5 PM on May 13, one winner will be randomly selected out of a drawing at our May Social Hour to attend the movie for free. (They will receive a refund of their payment). The winner must be present at the Sunday Cinema event in May to claim their free ticket, but not the night of Social Hour.

Note that this event was our previous Tuesday Night Movies event, but it has changed dates and times - and will feature a meal beforehand so you can meet the other members prior to catching the flick.

### In Town on Memorial Day?

The MOC invites you to our Memorial Day Picnic at Great Falls National Park in Virginia (just over the Maryland border). Everyone showing up will be required to bring an item from our list for the potluck. There is also a National Park car entrance fee. Other than that, there is no MOC fee to attend.

### Events with Payment Required to Attend

Please note the MOC's new policy: If we do not receive your payment for the events you register (with a cost associated) within 5 business days, your name will be removed off the attendance list, with or without notice, for someone else to take. Our events are growing more popular, and we are unable to allow members to squat in spaces without payment.

### Raffle Tickets

MOC raffle tickets will begin appearing at events in mid-May. They'll be at all upcoming events until the supply runs out. Just approach an officer to find out where you can get yours. They are \$2 each, with profits going towards the club's ongoing administrative costs. The first prize is \$250, second is \$50, and third is an MOC T-shirt. Winners will be randomly selected at a future Social Hour drawing.

### Time to Vote on Your Favorite Dog Photo

The entries are in for our dog photo contest. Now, it's time for our members to cast their vote on their favorite digital dog photo. The results will be tallied on June 1st, and the photographer will win a brand new copy of "The Dog Lover's Companion to Washington D.C. & Baltimore: The Inside Scoop on Where to Take Your Dog" book. To vote, simply log into the member area and click the link for "Dog Photo Contest."



Saturday, April 5th, MOC bikers head towards old train tunnel on the Capital Crescent trail between Bethesda and Georgetown. Saturday, April 12th, MOC hikers take a break on a rock at Long Green Creek at Gunpowder Falls State Park.

## Upcoming Events

**Sat, May 3 @ 10 AM**

Difficult Loop Day Hike in Sperryville, VA (Old Rag Mountain)

**Sat, May 10 @ 10 AM**

Difficult Loop Day Hike in Potomac, MD (Billy Goat Trail/Great Falls)

**Sun, May 11 @ 11 AM**

Easy Hike on Mother's Day in Scotland, MD (Calvert Cliffs)

**Tue, May 13 @ 7:15 PM**

Social Hour  
Rocky Run Tap & Grill  
Columbia, MD



**Sat, May 17 @ 10 AM**

Easy Loop Walk in Washington, DC (Rock Creek Park)

**Sun, May 18 @ 1:30 PM**

Lunch & Movie: The Matrix: Re-loaded in Hanover, MD

**Sun, May 25 @ 12 PM**

Easy Loop Day Hike in Kingsville, MD (Gunpowder Falls State Park)

**Mon, May 26 @ 11:30 AM**

Memorial Day Picnic at Great Falls National Park, Virginia



**Wed, May 28 @ 6:45 PM**

Free Clinic on Camping Supplies in College Park, MD

**Sat, May 31 @ 9 AM**

Bike the Baltimore-Annapolis Trail Between Glen Burnie and Annapolis

For more info on upcoming events, please visit the "Events" tab on our web site.

## Learn About a Park

Learn about a National State Park in Maryland:

This Month: **Assateague Island National Seashore**



Storm tossed seas, as well as gentle breezes shape Assateague Island. This barrier island is a tale of constant movement and change.

Bands of wild horses freely roam amongst plants and native animals that have adapted to a life of sand, salt and wind. Special thickened leaves and odd shapes reveal the plant world's successful struggle here. Ghost crabs buried in the cool beach sand and tree swallows plucking bayberries on their southward migration offer glimpses of the animal world's connection to Assateague.

Human struggles are intertwined with this island at the ocean's edge. Gallant surf rescues by the US Life-Saving Service and dashed dreams of a summer beach resort are but a few of the stories told here.

Marine and terrestrial life functioning in concert offer a closer look at a natural and cultural world shaped by forces larger than our own.

## Organize an Event

It's simple, fun to do, and gives you great leadership experience that you can use on your resume. If it sounds like something for you, please let us know.

[events@marylandoutdoorclub.org](mailto:events@marylandoutdoorclub.org)

## Events Spotlight

There are a ton of cool things to do with the MOC this summer. Don't forget to keep checking out our web site for new events that might strike your fancy. Book and pay early for events you definitely want to attend - this will guarantee your spot months in advance. If you aren't quite sure your availability or whether you really want to do something or not, allow the space on the attendance sheet to remain open for someone that would really like to go.

Here are a few events that you will want to book early for, if they peak your interest:

**Fri-Sun, June 6th-8th**

**Weekend Camp in Western, MD**

\$22.50/Member - 2 Nights Camping and Food Included

**Sat-Sun, July 12th-13th**

**Whitewater Raft & Camp in Western MD/PA**

\$80/Member - 1 Night Camping, Guided Whitewater Rafting Trip, and Food Included

**Sun, July 27th**

**Day Trip to King's Dominion**

\$40/Member - Includes Admission Into the Amusement & Water Parks

**Sun, Aug 17th**

**Whitewater Tube in Harper's Ferry, WV**

\$25/Member - PVC Tube Rental, Life Jacket Rental, and Transportation To/From Put-In/Take-Out Included

**Sat, Sep 27th**

**Medieval Times Dinner Theater in Hanover, MD**

\$50/Member - Includes Four-Course Meal and Live Horse/Knight Show

See a full list of upcoming MOC events at:

[www.marylandoutdoorclub.org/events](http://www.marylandoutdoorclub.org/events)

## May Birthdays!

Some of our members are turning another year older! The MOC wishes them all a happy and safe birthday!

5/3 - Ed Herzog  
5/4 - jim Rioux, Christy Woods  
5/5 - Nathan Childs, Lori Simpson  
5/8 - Brent Kirschner, Sebastien Frisson  
5/9 - Niki Van  
5/10 - Christy Gabbert  
5/13 - Bill Evans  
5/15 - Jeff Rex, Alain Henene  
5/16 - Lisa Prigal  
5/18 - Jen DiMascio, Ryan Meadows  
5/19 - Cindy Pena  
5/20 - Brent Hufnagel  
5/21 - Rachel Mocny, Angela Grillo  
5/22 - Todd Kerley  
5/26 - Vanessa Janney  
5/28 - Holly Knipp, Jason Boyle  
5/30 - Matt Williams  
5/31 - Kristen Larson

## Mother's Day is in May

Instead of getting your mother the same old stuff for Mother's Day this year, you should bring her along for a stroll to and on the beach at Calvert Cliffs State Park in Maryland, on May 11th. This easy 3.6 mile walk is perfect for just about anyone. Pair that with an incredible sight, the ability to hunt for fossils that are 12 to 24 million years old, and show off your new friends/club - and you've got a great low-cost gift for your mom on Mother's Day.

## Tip of the Month

Many MOC events usually happen in the Baltimore, Washington, DC, and central Maryland vicinity. When we have an event that happens at a distance from the general member geographic location, we typically put a carpool up on the web site for people to rideshare to the events. However, the carpool is usually set at a location that is between the Organizer's home and the event location - so that they can show up and hand out directions and make sure everything is squared away. Not always does this location benefit all of our event attendees, because everyone is coming in from so many different locations. An easy way to create an additional "informal" carpool from your home area, is to view a particular event's RSVP List in the Member Area of the site, to see who also might be going from your area. Then, contact those people about a carpool. Most of our members are pretty receptive to the idea and who knows, you might make a new friend in the process!

## Monthly Statistics

As of May 1st:

412 - Total Members To Date  
113 - April New Members  
61% - Female Members  
39% - Male Members  
31.6 - Average Member Age

## Ads & Classifieds

**Advertise in the Monthly Explorer**  
Does your business want to advertise in the Monthly Explorer? Reach hundreds of potential customers each month with a free ad - in exchange for bartered items/goods. Contact us for details.

explorer@marylandoutdoorclub.org

### Place a Monthly Explorer Classified

Classifieds can only be placed by MOC members. With classified space you can sell single item goods (depreciated merchandise) or place notices. Classifieds are \$5.00 per 25 words or less. The MOC has the right to refuse or edit any classified. Send your classified, and amount due to Maryland Outdoor Club, ATTN: Monthly Explorer Publication, P.O. Box 854, College Park, MD 20741.

Deadline: the 15th of each month for the following month's issue.

## Monthly Explorer

Submit reviews of events, articles, tips, etc. to the Newsletter Editor 30 days in advance of the next issue release (1st of each month). We'll review your work, and ad it to the newsletter if we feel it appropriate. You'll be given credit for the work although it becomes property of the club.

Write for the Monthly Explorer on an ongoing basis. Contact us for details.  
explorer@marylandoutdoorclub.org

## Get the Monthly Explorer Delivered

The MOC hands out a limited number of Monthly Explorer publications at our monthly Social Hour events, as well as posts an electronic copy to our web site. However, if you prefer to receive our publication by mail, please fill out the following form, cut it out, and return it to Maryland Outdoor Club, ATTN: Monthly Explorer Publication, P.O. Box 854, College Park, MD 20741 with \$6.00 (Payable to Maryland Outdoor Club) to cover S&H for a year.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please  
Place  
Postage  
Here



P.O. Box 854, College Park, MD 20741

## Officers

### **Amy Pickwick**

Founder & President

apickwick@marylandoutdoorclub.org

### **Mark Zawodny**

Treasurer & Co-Founder

mzawodny@marylandoutdoorclub.org

### **Positions Open:**

Vice President

Event Coordinator

Social Coordinator

Advertising & Promotions Coordinator

Safety & Equipment Rental Coordinator

Legal Coordinator

Preservation Coordinator

Newsletter Editor

Historian & Secretary

Interested in a position? Please contact Amy by e-mail or come to Social Hour and talk with Amy directly. The duties are defined and we can show you what responsibilities you'll take on by becoming an officer. It's fun and is great on your resume!

## Join the MOC

The Maryland Outdoor Club conducts all administrative tasks through our web site to cut down on processing time & costs. If you are interested in signing up for membership, you need to go to [marylandoutdoorclub.org](http://marylandoutdoorclub.org) and click on any of the "Join Now" buttons you'll find throughout the site. Signing up is a relatively short process and will save you time later on when you sign up for events and don't need to re-enter all of your information.

The MOC does not sell or share your personal information with any third-party.

**MEMBERSHIP IS FREE!!!**

## Save a Tree

If you are done with this issue, please consider throwing it in your paper recycle bin instead of into a trash can.

## Contact Newsletter Editor

We are looking for a Newsletter Editor! Do you have Adobe PageMaker experience/software, editorial and writing experience, organizational skills, meet deadlines, and are looking for something fun and creative to do in your spare time? Please contact Amy if interested!

Until the position is filled, I'll continue to try my best...

All comments, questions, and suggestions are welcome.

-Amy Pickwick  
[explorer@marylandoutdoorclub.org](mailto:explorer@marylandoutdoorclub.org)