



VOLUME 10

Newsletter Highlights

Board Notes, January 2023

Natural Gas Conversion Project

The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, Current and Upcoming Events

Moreland Courts Recital Programs

Listening Sessions

From Dewey Decimal to Digital Repository

"A Big Relief" Reception Photo

New Faces of MCCA

Snow Removal

Safety Reminder

M.C.C.A. NEWS

FEBRUARY 6, 2023

Board Notes, January 2023

by Kathleen Hickman, Board President

Happy New Year to all at Moreland Courts.

After a holiday hiatus in December, the Board had a full agenda at the January meeting. A nominating committee, chaired by John Beeker, was appointed. They will set to work to prepare for nominations of three directors in the Spring and also to fill the seat of Jim Collins. Jim informed the Board that health problems have prompted him to resign from his position on or about May 1, at the end of the term year. He has served as Treasurer, with diligent and meticulous attention to budget and financial matters, and he will not be easy to replace. Board members have thanked him for his work, and we invite you to do so, too.

Thanks are also due to Lin Emmons, who led the effort to produce the anniversary book, "Moreland Courts and Shaker Square: A Centennial History 1922-2022". That should be Thanks! With a capital T and an exclamation point. It is a beautiful book, and a good read as well. And thanks to the benefactors who contributed to the production. Additional copies are available on Amazon in electronic or paperback format. Thanks as well to Paul Stroud for arranging the concerts in the Gallery. The combination of youthful energy and enthusiasm with a high level of musicianship has made past concerts irresistibly enjoyable experiences. Do come and enjoy chamber music in our very own chamber.

The beginning of the year sees us closing the books on 2022 and starting of the audit process. Each year the financial records of MCCA are audited by an independent group and the results of the audit are reported to the Board, usually at the March meeting. At the January meeting the Board approved several amendments to the bylaws, to bring them into conformance with recently enacted state laws. The changes were minor – allowing the Board to use electronic messages in some cases, spelling out procedures for hearings, defining qualifications for serving on the Board, and placing a five-year limitation on records requests. All the public records of MCCA are available to any interested resident.

Coming soon are exciting developments concerning Wi-Fi service and improvements to the heating systems.

Board members look forward to hearing from you, in the listening sessions in February, via email, or informally on the way to the garage or the mailbox. There is also a short time at the beginning of each Board meeting for comments from residents. The crystal ball is cloudy: We cannot know what you are thinking unless you tell us.

Natural Gas Conversion Project

by Paul Stroud

The project to remove unit owners' personal household gas meters and corresponding Dominion Energy accounts has begun and is moving quickly from west to east throughout the Association property. As of the Board meeting on January 24, seven buildings had been converted with five remaining. There have been few if any glitches. Completion of all work should be by mid-February, if not sooner.

Once completed, all the individual gas service accounts for unit owners will end.

A small flat fee for those unit owners who had individual gas accounts and still use natural gas in appliances in their units will be applied through the Moreland Courts monthly invoice. There will be two levels of charges depending on whether or not your unit has a gas fireplace insert. Those without inserts will be billed \$5.00 per month and those with fireplace inserts will be billed \$8.00 per month. If you did not have a gas account prior to the conversion you will not be billed.

Though the billing strategy will involve an estimated monthly charge, we will evaluate the costs and be able to compare house meter utilization from prior to the conversion and determine if we are charging the right amount. If necessary, we will make adjustments. We estimate that this change will save the entire Moreland Courts community from between \$61,000 to \$67,000 a year in connection fees, which breaks down to between \$415 and \$456 per year per household with a former household gas account.

Before meter removal



After meter removal



The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, Current and Upcoming Events

By Jeanne Somers

Walkers, birders, and others know that the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes is one of our neighborhood's richest resources. In addition to maintaining its 22 acres of marsh, woodlands, and wildlife, the Nature Center mounts exhibits, educational programming, and special events. In the 19th century, City of Cleveland residents treasured the Shaker Parklands as an escape to the country. Moreland Courts residents might want to consider an escape to the following special events:

Art on View: Encaustic Painting

Enjoy the work of Cleveland artist Susan E. Squires, now on exhibit at the Nature Center. Ms. Squires received her B.F.A. from the Cleveland Institute of Art. She is affiliated with the Arte e Pensieri Gallery in Rome, Italy, and is represented in the United States by Cleveland's Bonfoey Gallery. The works in this exhibit employ the technique of encaustic painting in which dyes, beeswax, and heat are used to create layers of imagery and color. Ms. Squires incorporates tree slices, rocks, shells and other found objects to reflect her love of nature and reverence for the environment.

Event: Art on View: Encaustic Painting
Location: Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, Upper Level
Day and Time: Now through March 27, 2023.
Free and open to the public
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday

Pancake Breakfast with the Birds

Coming up in February is the annual Pancake Breakfast with the Birds, featuring a Cleveland Metroparks naturalist who will introduce attendees to live owls and discuss what makes these nocturnal hunters an important part of the ecosystem. Guided nature walks and crafting opportunities will also be available. Mark your calendar for a morning of pancakes and discovery, co-hosted by the Nature Center and the Rotary Club of Shaker Heights.

Event: Pancake Breakfast with the Birds
Location: Nature Center at Shaker Lakes
Day and Time: Saturday February 25, 8:00 a.m. to noon
Tickets: Can be purchased online at <https://shakerlakes.org> in person at the Nature Center, or from any Rotarian
Cost: \$10 for adults; \$5 for children aged 4 and above.

The Nature Center is located at 2600 South Park Blvd. For more information call 216-321-5935 or check the Nature Center website at <https://shakerlakes.org>.

Moreland Courts Recital Programs

by Paul Stroud

In the autumn of 2016 former Moreland Courts residents Joan and Bill Houghton made a departing gift of a recently restored 1913 Baldwin model E grand piano to the Association. This beautiful instrument has been a fixture in the Gallery Drawing Room ever since. Within a month of Bill and Joan's moving to be near family in Ithaca, New York, the first of over 40 chamber recitals was given in the MCCA Drawing Room. It has been my pleasure to work with Moreland Courts resident Marcia Ferritto in coordinating these programs. This collaboration will continue, and programs are scheduled for this winter and early spring.

Most of the recitals have been provided through a relationship between Moreland Courts and the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM), but we have enjoyed student performances from students at Baldwin Wallace Conservatory, Carnegie Mellon and, some very special performances from Marcia's grandson, Sam Rosenthal, violist. Sam has performed for our audiences since he was a 16-year-old junior at Shaker Heights High School and a student in the Young Artist Prep Program at CIM. It has been enjoyable to see his growth and development at Julliard where he is currently enrolled in a postgraduate program.

Attendance for these programs has been steady, with up to 35 residents enjoying these programs. For the students, the outreach enables them the experience to perform in front of an audience. Many of the programs have been dry runs prior to a recital, and one CIM student performed the repertoire he had prepared for the Queen Elizabeth competition in Belgium, a prestigious by invitation-only, international competition. There have been many astounding performances across

a broad repertoire of chamber music in a setting that evokes the historic salon atmosphere that gave chamber music its name. Upcoming programs are scheduled for February 18, March 4 & 25, and April 4 & 15. All programs begin at 2:00 pm.

Listening Sessions

Kathleen Hickman

Dear Moreland Courts residents,

The MCCA Board would like to know what is on your minds. On Friday, February 10, there will be three listening sessions – at 10am, 3pm, and 7pm. Two Board members will be in the Drawing Room of the Gallery ready to hear compliments (we hope), concerns, and even complaints. What changes would you like to see at Moreland Courts, and what would you never, ever want to see changed? We will be there to listen, perhaps take notes, but not to solve problems immediately, or make any promises.

At the beginning of each Board meeting there is a short time set aside for resident comments, but if what you have to say takes more than a couple of minutes, or you would prefer talking to a person rather than to a screen, come to the Gallery on February 10.

From Dewey Decimal to Digital Repository

by Eric Schreiber

I paid a visit to the Shaker Heights Public Library the other day to explore equipment available to anyone with a library card. This particular equipment was designed to preserve memories. Public libraries have traditionally stored and preserved physical items such as books and periodicals. While there will always be a place for hard copy, an exponential explosion of information has necessitated digitalization. This is true both in the library and in our homes.

How many of us have boxes of books, magazines, photographs, slides, old movies, vinyl albums, cassette tapes, CDs, and DVDs that may very well never be looked at again? No matter how many boxes you have that fit that description, accurate facsimiles of the entire content of those boxes could be stored with remarkable fidelity on a device smaller than a deck of cards. How can you do that?

For the answer, we return to the library. The Shaker Heights Public Library has a remarkable assortment of equipment for a myriad of different methods of digitalization of multiple media sources. The residents of Moreland Courts pay a combination of Cleveland and Shaker Heights taxes, a portion of which go to free library services.



In the northwest corner of the main floor of the Shaker Heights library, these three binders greet you as an introduction and provide a detailed explanation of the services available just by showing your library card. Multiple Macs and PCs with a variety of graphic software are readily accessible along with considerable instructional material for their use. A studio with soundproof “live room”, multichannel MIDI and more is ready to go.



All the services available in this corner of the library are WAY too much to cover in this article. I will limit the discussion to the Memory Studio.

As the name implies, the Memory Studio provides a way to convert audio and visual memories into bits and bytes that accurately reflect the original material. If properly organized, this digitized material is far more accessible than the originals. Not only does this allow you to access what you wish, it also eases the burden of the next generation trying to decide what to do with all those boxes. Here are some of the capabilities at the Shaker Heights Library:

AUDIO:

- Convert vinyl recordings to quality digital files that can be played back on a computer or high-fidelity system.

- Convert audio cassette tapes to digital files. I did not see a reel-to-reel tape machine.



PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEO:

- Front and center is an Epson flatbed scanner which can accurately convert B&W and color photographs into digital images. Frequently, those images can be dramatically improved and cleaned up using the software available at the library to manipulate the images. Lots of guidance is available for doing the conversions.



- A dedicated 35mm slide scanner is available to scan both slides and negatives, and digitize those images for storage and display.



- If you still have your or your parents' old 8mm home movies, these can be digitized for your computer, or "burned" on DVDs.

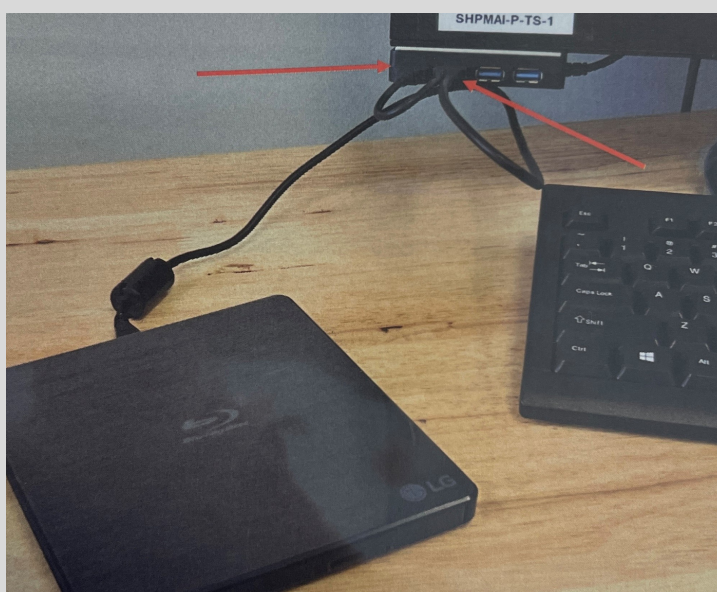
Your film has a 8 mm (small) mounting hole, mount the reel directly to the left shaft. Otherwise use the **red color reel adapter**. (see pp.8 of guide for more information)



•VHS video tapes can be converted into digital files. There is also an adaptor to convert VHS-C cassettes into digital files. Sorry, there is nothing currently for Betamax. There are no players for the “newer” but old Sony style 8mm magnetic and DV video cassettes. If you still have your old video camera that recorded and played these cassettes, it is likely the Roxio devices at the library could be used to convert them.



•CDs, DVDs, SD cards, and Blu-ray disks can also be read and converted, or created from other media.



So, here's the catch. It takes time, and there is indeed a learning curve. That said, there is ample literature and lots of staff help available to make it happen.

**“A Big Relief” reception from January 26,2023
Moreland Courts Gallery**

Sponsored by the Print Club of Cleveland
and the Baldwin Wallace School of the Humanities



Congratulations!

“Carolyn and Noel Nilson recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on January 25. They were married in Jeffersonville, Pennsylvania in 1958. Congratulations!”

New Faces of MCCA



Andre Martin is the newest member of our valet team.



Derek Mormon is the newest member of our maintenance team.

THE MORELAND COURTS NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Eric Schreiber	Editor
Kathleen Hickman	Board Liaison
David Beach	Committee member
Fran Golden	Committee member
Pam Hamilton	Committee member
Rosalie Litt	Committee member
Jeanne Somers	Committee member
Tiara Smith	Operations Manager
Tae'Lour Block	Administrative Assistant

The Newsletter Committee takes responsibility for the content of the newsletter.

Questions and comments can be addressed to editor@morelandcourts.com

SNOW REMOVAL

Winter weather is here, unfortunately. Here are just a few reminders:

1. If we have snow or ice, the snow team starts at 5:30am Monday-Friday and 6:30 am on weekends.
2. Please do not attempt to pass the jeep while it is plowing snow.
3. Please watch out for snow team while they are clearing snow. We do not want injuries.
4. If you discover a slippery spot, please report it to Security so it can be addressed.
5. For sub-zero days, please open cabinets located on outside walls, and let both the hot and cold-water drip to prevent frozen pipes.

SAFETY REMINDER

BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS!

Do not allow STRANGERS into the building as you are coming in or out.

SAFETY REMINDER

Please be aware of residents crossing the BACKLINE!

