

# Land Marks

Protecting Land Forever

## Meet One of MET's Founding Fathers

**CHARLES ANDERSON, MET FOUNDING FATHER 1929-2018**

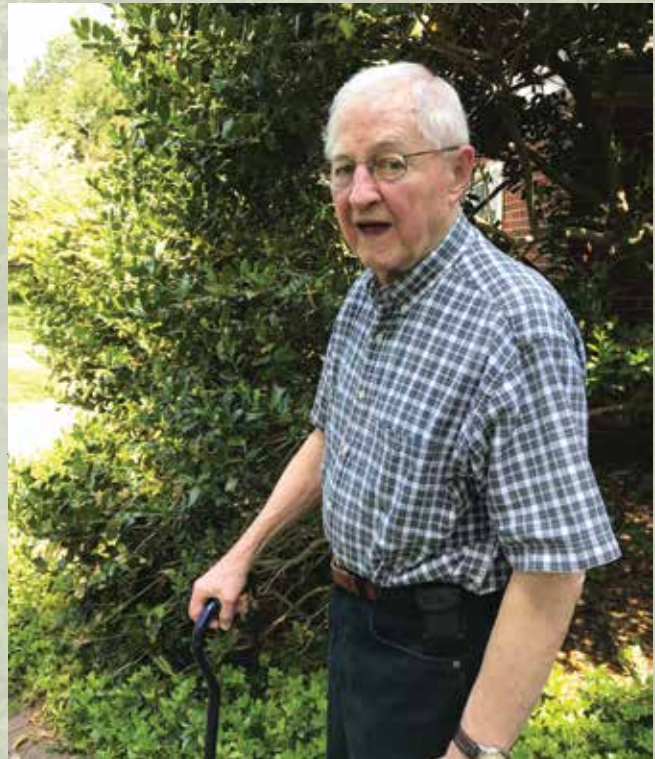
BY: WENDY STRINGFELLOW

This past May, I had the pleasure of interviewing one of Maryland Environmental Trust's founding fathers, Charles R. Anderson. He was 91 years young. Two months later I received a call from his daughter telling me Charles passed away on July 5, 2018. I was fortunate to have interviewed such an amazing man. We met at his home where the lush grounds were cooled by a variety of towering trees he planted over the past six decades.

Here is what Charles had to say:

### *Tell us about your role in creating MET?*

Senator William S. James and Judge John Clarke were the brains, I was the workhorse. It takes years to educate the public, plan, execute, and create a Trust. It's not something you create overnight. You need to get the legislature behind you. Governor Tawes created the Maryland Scenic Beauty Commission and made me the chairman. We had 50-70 people working on 10 committees — educating people on natural beauty, scenic roadways, sediment control, and drainage. These things and litter removal were big issues in the 1960s. After two years, Governor Tawes wanted this work to be permanent. The Trust's bill was finally executed on June 1, 1967 but it took seven years before we received our first conservation easement. Once we got the first easement, we had an example — people realized the value of a conservation easement program and then it multiplied. When the state acquires a permanent easement, the donator, his heirs, and future owners of the property, cannot develop the land, it becomes a protected natural resource — something that cannot be lost.



*Charles Anderson, 91 years young.*

### *What are your concerns about the environment today?*

- Overhead wires. The wires should be underground. The trees are butchered when they are "pruned." They look nothing like the natural environment anymore. BG&E spends money repeatedly to work above ground

*Continued on page 8*



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# Director's Note

## Honoring Legacy, Envisioning Opportunity



Dear Friend,

Have you given thought to the legacy you will leave — how your choices, passions and pursuits will lay the framework for the success or struggles of future generations? Each of us stands on the shoulders of someone that came before us, whether that be a parent, a teacher, an activist, or in the case of myself and my colleagues at Maryland Environmental Trust, a former state highway engineer and landscape designer.

Charles Anderson, one of the founding fathers of MET, was an unlikely pioneer of land conservation in Maryland. Charles was a visionary. At a time when most were focused on infrastructural and economic development, he recognized the inherent value of our state's diverse landscapes, and took action to protect Maryland's natural heritage for generations to come. He was so successful in his efforts that Governor Tawes appointed him chairman of the emergent Maryland Scenic Beauty Commission. The fruits of his work on the Commission bore Maryland Environmental Trust and the Keep Maryland Beautiful program to ensure the protection of Maryland's natural beauty would continue in perpetuity.

Examples of Charles' legacy can be found in this issue of *Land Marks*. We are activating the Maryland Conservation Corps as partners in stewardship, researching new strategies for land conservation with The School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland, and broadening our Keep Maryland Beautiful grants program to deliver more impact in communities across the state. These are just a few examples of ways we are exploring a strategic refresh, reimagining the role of MET in the statewide community, with an eye to the next generation of stewards of our special places.

When we begin to conceptualize ourselves as stewards of the environment, as Charles did, we are inspired to action. Charles acknowledged a collective responsibility to care for our environment at a pivotal time in Maryland's history — we have him to thank for over 135,000 acres of land that MET has helped landowners protect and steward to date. Looking to the future, I can only hope to inspire the same sense of connectivity and reverence for our environment in Marylanders that was embodied within Charles Anderson. He helped to establish Maryland Environmental Trust as an organization that would “encourage and motivate the populace of the state and others” to “conserve, improve, stimulate, and perpetuate the aesthetic, natural, health and welfare, scenic, and cultural qualities of the environment.” May we all strive to leave a legacy as positive and eternal as his.

Kind Regards,

Bill Leahy



### CHARLES ANDERSON, MET FOUNDING FATHER 1929-2018

*Charles Anderson was a visionary. At a time when most were focused on infrastructural and economic development, he recognized the inherent value of our state's diverse landscapes, and took action to protect Maryland's natural heritage for generations to come.*

# Cultivating Community in Sykesville

**KEEP MARYLAND BEAUTIFUL GRANT RECIPIENT, DOWNTOWN SYKESVILLE CONNECTION, IS ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH GARDENING**

BY: KAT PARDOE, MET INTERN

In the tucked-away town of Sykesville, one nonprofit organization is working to build their community by providing beauty, education, and local produce to Main Street. Downtown Sykesville Connection is a mostly volunteer-based, multifaceted organization that is revitalizing Sykesville one project at a time. Last spring, Downtown Sykesville Connection was awarded a Clean Up & Green Up Maryland grant from the Keep Maryland Beautiful grants program to refurbish a dilapidated sign in front of the Eileen M. Merkle Community Garden. The garden provides flowers, produce and herbs to the local community during the growing season. There is only one rule: if you pick something, plant something.

*The garden provides flowers, produce and herbs to the local community during the growing season.*

Many groups within the Sykesville community, such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, visit the garden throughout the spring and summer to learn about native flora and farming. Local restaurants even use the herbs in their kitchens! However, Downtown Sykesville Connection saw an opportunity to attract more visitors to the garden, starting with an attractive new sign. Julie Della-Maria, a dedicated member of Downtown Sykesville Connection who has focused much of her work on the community garden, says that the newly renovated sign has undoubtedly brought more visitors to the site. The sign was completed with the help of eight volunteers. It showcases locally made, beautiful ironwork in its decorations, and provides space for local businesses to share pamphlets, newspapers, posters, and other informational material. The Merkle Community Garden has become such a success, in fact, that Della-Maria is now hoping to expand the garden



*Julie Della-Maria stands proudly in front of the newly refurbished sign, which provides passersby with information about the garden and other community news and events.*

to serve a community beyond Main Street with the help of another Clean Up & Green Up Maryland grant.

The Maryland Environmental Trust, Department of Housing and Community Development, and Maryland Department

of Transportation are proud to support organizations such as Downtown Sykesville Connection and the important work that they do to build communities while enhancing local environments through the Keep Maryland Beautiful grants program.



# MEET OUR VOLUNTEERS



ALAN CHRISTIAN



AMANDA ASMUS



ANDREW BRIGNOLE



ANITE KRAEMER



BERNIE LORENCE



BOB WASON



BRENDA DIMMICK



BUD POOLE (GABRIEL)



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SUSAN WASON



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MELISSA KITCHEN



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SCOTT DIMMICK



TOM TALLING



TAMMY SHAY



TED WINTER

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**INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?**

If you are interested in volunteering at MET, please email [met.info@maryland.gov](mailto:met.info@maryland.gov)

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# KEEP MARYLAND BEAUTIFUL

2 0 1 8

**\$307,500** grant money distributed



nonprofits, organizations, schools, land trusts, and municipalities received KMB grants **82**



**22** counties and Baltimore city were home to organizations that received KMB grants



**58** Clean Up & Green Up Maryland awards totaling \$250,000



**12** Janice Hollmann land trust grants totaling \$40,000



**6** Margaret Rosh Jones awards totaling \$8,000



**5** Bill James Environmental grants awarded \$4,500



**1** Aileen Hughes award totaling \$5,000

**3** partners sponsored KMB funding



# EASEMENT PROGRAM

**1,744** acres conserved



conservation easements donated **10**



**174** acres average size of a MET easement



**4** of 10 easements coheld with a nonprofit land trust



**2** amendments of existing MET easements strengthen protections on 218 acres



**6** counties

- Baltimore County
- Carroll County
- Cecil County
- Harford County
- Kent County
- Talbot County

For **50** years MET has been safeguarding Maryland's vital lands and water.



## LAND TRUST ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**\$40,000** in Hollmann grants awarded to 12 land trusts



attended our annual conference **120**



**38** local land trusts supported by MET



**5** roundtables and workshops were held for technical support for land trusts and conservation partners

For **50** years MET has been supporting citizen groups in forming and operating land trusts for the conservation and stewardship of open spaces, farmland, woodlands and other natural and historic areas.



## STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

**135,148** acres preserved



Conservation Easements **1,109**



**593** conservation easements coheld with partners

**53%** of easement portfolio coheld

**33** coholding partners

For **50** years MET has been supporting private landowner stewards who are safeguarding Maryland's vital lands and water.

# Charles Anderson

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



A few of Charles Anderson's awards and citations he received throughout his career.

(to restore power after limbs have fallen on the lines and to "butcher" the limbs to prevent future growth/falling trees). Move the wires underground.

- Wind turbines. I originally saw nice looking 100 foot wind turbines in Europe. In the U.S. we now have wind turbines over 600 feet tall with blades that need to be lit up at night so the planes don't hit them. They also have to clear the land and the trees to build these gigantic wind turbines. It has ruined the sight line and the natural environment. In southern Maryland I saw an 80 foot tall wind turbine with a 12 foot circular frame on top. It does not destroy the natural environment. We should be moving in that direction.



Charles Anderson and his daughter Karen Storms.

- Solar Energy. I'm now seeing numerous panels on farms. What they need to do is get the landscape architects and engineers to raise the solar panels 20-30 feet, so that farming can be done on the soil below or even plant nursery crops.

Charles R. Anderson is a former Vice Chair and Treasurer of MET and served on the Caves Valley Land Trust. To learn more about his career in the Navy, his work as a pioneer on landscape and roadway designs (originally working on the Garden State Parkway, which was considered the finest highway in the world at the time), and the emergence of the environmentalists – read his autobiography *Sailor to Environmentalist*, which will be published this year.

MET just celebrated its 50th anniversary and his acquired 1,109 conservation easements on 130,148 acres.



Charles' lush grounds are cooled by trees he planted over six decades.



# UMD Teaches Class on MET

This past spring, MET worked with graduate students at the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy as they researched and learned about various statewide agencies' efforts conserving ecologically valuable lands. The students presented their findings and identified areas of improvement, potential solutions and best practices for improved results. We thank the students for their dedication, and Professor Nelson for his time and guidance. It has been a pleasure participating in the learning process and analyzing viable policy theory and practice in real world situations. GO TERPS!



## 2018-2019 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SCHEDULE

The Board of Trustees meets the first Monday of each month with the exception of January, July and August.

The board meetings begin at 4:00 pm and are held at 100 Community Place, Third Floor, MHT Board Room 3.218, Crownsville, Maryland, unless notified otherwise. These are public meetings. Please contact MET if you plan to attend.

### The following dates have been reserved for MET Board meetings:

**2018: October 1, November 5, December 3**

**2019: February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, September 9, October 7, November 4, December 2**

Easements sometimes require advance notification and/or written approval for certain activities. Please see MET's website for information and application. If you are unsure whether notification or approval is required, contact MET's stewardship staff to help make that determination. Activities that might require approval or notification include:

- Constructing any new buildings or structures
- Renovating or enlarging existing structures
- Conveying property (provide contact information on new owner)
- Subdividing property
- Recording any other encumbrances on property (e.g. right-of-ways, ingress/egress, other easements)
- Entering wetlands mitigation or restoration programs
- Changing use of property (e.g. from forested lands to agricultural lands)
- Making a boundary line adjustment
- Harvesting timber

For complex matters, it may take a minimum of 30 days for MET to review and approve the proposed activities. Please contact Jon Chapman, Stewardship Program Manager, at 410-697-9519 to discuss your plans. All requests should be made in writing at least three weeks prior to the scheduled board meeting. Thank you!

# 2018 MARYLAND LAND CONSERVATION CONFERENCE

**M**ET hosted the 2018 Maryland Land Conservation Conference on May 17 at the Maritime Conference Center in Linthicum Heights, MD.

The annual conference was attended by more than 140 people from 83 organizations across the Chesapeake Bay region. The land conservation conference is the only statewide event of its kind in Maryland and provides an opportunity to unite land trusts, conservancies, governmental organizations, heritage organizations, members of the agricultural community and other partners for a comprehensive discussion about the present and future challenges and opportunities facing the land conservation movement in our region.

Attendees enjoyed education workshops, lightning talks series and peer-to-peer networking opportunities. The conference offered a variety of topics aimed at expanding the impact and relevance of land conservation, exploring themes related to land stewardship, using science and technology to further conservation goals, attracting the next generation of conservation and community stewards, and enhancing organizational development and sustainability.



*The audience in the Auditorium*

Moving forward, MET will seek to continue these conversations throughout the year and build on this year's conference, while exploring new opportunities to build a stronger, more resilient and durable conservation movement in Maryland.



*Audience interaction in the Bridge Room*



*MET Chair, Jim Constable provides Opening Remarks*



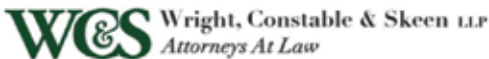
*John Griffin (former DNR Secretary)*



*Carol West (MALPF) and Emily Wilson (DNR)*

# THANK YOU SPONSORS

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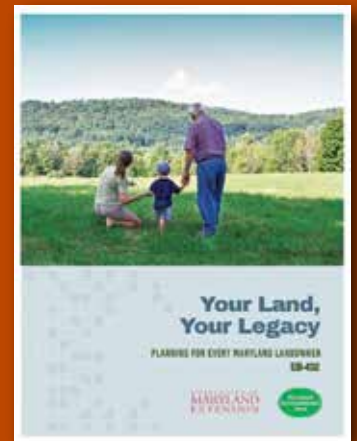
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## YOUR LAND, YOUR LEGACY

The University of Maryland Extension and Maryland Environmental Trust are pleased to make available the new publication *Your Land, Your Legacy: Planning for Every Maryland Landowners (EB-432)*.

This publication provides an easy-to-follow guide on estate planning that helps landowners understand basic concepts about their legacy. Using graphics, it highlights how to articulate your goals with or without family and the equal and equitable treatment of heirs. It explains estate-planning tools in an easy-to-understand manner and addresses key legacy questions about determining who will own your land and how to control the future use of your land.

*Your Land, Your Legacy: Planning for Every Maryland Landowner* also examines tax considerations and provides contacts for Maryland landowners so they can follow-up with professional assistance. The publication is available free of charge at: [http://extension.umd.edu/sites/extension.umd.edu/files/\\_docs/EB-432%20Your%20Land%20Your%20Legacy\\_MARYLAND.pdf](http://extension.umd.edu/sites/extension.umd.edu/files/_docs/EB-432%20Your%20Land%20Your%20Legacy_MARYLAND.pdf)



Audience in the Bridge Room

# New Faces at MET



**ERIN MCNALLY**

**E**rin McNally recently graduated from Salisbury University with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies and a minor in Biology. As an eager new member of the MET team, Erin looks forward to the combination of field work and communicating with landowners about environmental goals. She is excited to experience a job where a real impact with positive outcomes can be made, both for the communities MET is involved with, as well as the ecosystems these communities impact.

Erin has prior experience with environmental education at the Delmarva Discovery Center, as well as the National Aquarium in Baltimore. More recently, she also worked with the local government in the Town of Berlin, assisting their efforts to make the town "pollinator friendly" and become certified as a Bee City. Erin grew up in Baltimore, Maryland and enjoys camping all over the United States and Canada, scuba diving, and hiking with her Australian Cattle Dog, Blu.



**KELLY PRICE**

**P**lease welcome Kelly Price to Maryland Environmental Trust as our new Fiscal/Customer Relations and Administrative Director. Kelly transferred from Governor Hogan's Administration where she served as an Executive Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Staff.

Kelly brings substantial experience with departmental management, financial budgets, and management background. She will be the support for our Board, liaison with DNR administration for all financials/fiscal budget, and work directly with the Executive Director and staff.

Kelly enjoys being on the water, boating, watching her son play hockey and spending time with her family.



**NORA JACKSON**

**N**ora Jackson grew up in Williamsburg, VA between the York and James rivers, and enjoyed spending time in the western part of the state hiking in the Blue Ridge Mountains with her family. She has always had an affinity for the outdoors and an interest in the ability to conserve through both science and policy.

Nora attended The College of William and Mary, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Government and Environmental Science. Pursuing those two passions, she worked at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation in the restoration department and traveled all over the state, helping install riparian buffers on agricultural properties and on CBF's sustainable farm. Additionally, Nora has experience in environmental education.

As a new member of MET, Nora is excited to get back out in the field, explore more of Maryland, and work with both staff and landowners towards a common conservation mission. In her spare time she enjoys backpacking, gardening, and playing the mandolin.



**MET STAFF** Kelly Price, Anna Lucente-Hoffmann, Wendy Hershey, Nora Jackson, Megan Benjamin, John Turgeon, Ann Gutierrez Carlson, Jon Chapman, Michelle Funches, Michelle Grafton, Director William Leahy, Wendy Stringfellow, Erin McNally (Missing: Kat Pardoe, Mona Rudnicki)

# Volunteer Update

Last March, MET trained 25 volunteers at the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center to assist with monitoring the land using new and innovative tools. MET staff thank our volunteers for their interest, energy and enthusiasm in being a part of land conservation in Maryland.



Become a  
MET Volunteer

*If you are interested in volunteering at MET, call  
410-697-9515 or email us at [met.info@maryland.gov](mailto:met.info@maryland.gov)*

## Office Volunteer

**CHRIS HONCHARIK**

Maryland Environmental Trust is pleased to introduce our Office Volunteer, Chris Honcharik. Chris resides in Howard County and has been volunteering with MET since Fall 2017. He has a post baccalaureate certificate in Geographic Information Systems along with a Bachelor's degree in Biology, with a concentration in ecology.

Chris has a full time job and volunteers with MET one day a week. He is also a member of H.A.R.P. (Howard County Association for Responsible Planning), an organization whose mission is to reduce and prevent unnecessary development in Howard County, primarily within Ellicott City.

Chris's interest in GIS brought him to MET. His love of the outdoors combined with his interest in GIS make him a valuable member of our team, protecting treasured landscapes and natural resources for future generations. Chris has been an enormous help with creating aerial maps in ArcGIS for monitoring visits by MET staff and volunteers. He also helps with our Stewardship and Conservation Easement Program by maintaining our conservation easement records.



*If you are interested in volunteering, please call us at 410-697-9515  
or email us at [met.info@maryland.gov](mailto:met.info@maryland.gov).*

# Andrew White

## RECIPIENT OF THE HUTSON SUMMER STEWARDSHIP INTERNSHIP

I am humbled to be the first person to reap the benefits of this program as a Hutson Summer Intern. I never met John Hutson, yet his legacy has enabled me to spend the summer honing my skills in a field that relates to what I want to do after I graduate from the University of South Carolina in 2019. I feel privileged to have had this opportunity because they are few and far between.

My internship with MET represents my first step on a path towards professional conservation work and environmental management. Working alongside Jon Chapman, MET's Stewardship Program Manager, and the rest of the MET staff, I gained experience reaching out to new owners of conserved land, preparing materials for

field visits, and monitoring conserved land by analyzing aerial images. Stepping out into the field to learn and work beyond the confines of a textbook has boosted my confidence and zeal for environmental work as I look to start my career.

I appreciate everyone who donated to the Fund, and I know that other youth interested in conservation work will have equally meaningful experiences at MET.

*The Hutson Memorial Fund was announced in a previous edition of LandMarks. Named in honor of John Hutson, a longtime employee of Maryland Environmental Trust, the primary objective of the Fund is to "introduce and encourage college aged youth participation in land trust and land conservation activities."*



Andrew White was the first-ever recipient of the Hutson Summer Stewardship Internship.

### WHAT'S THAT PLANT?

## There's An App for That!

Did you know there's an easy way to identify plants? Garden Answers has developed a Gardening App that provides information about plants and their biological needs, and saves past searches for your reference. The app is available for Apple and Android users. For more information, visit [www.gardenanswers.com](http://www.gardenanswers.com).



## MET Partners



# Thanks to MET's Outgoing Executive Committee

MET shares our deepest thanks to our outgoing Board Chair James Constable, Vice Chair the Honorable S. Jay Plager and Treasurer Doris Blazek-White for their dedication and many years of service. We appreciate all your time and effort over the years working with landowners, land trusts and local communities to protect Maryland's most treasured landscapes and natural resources.



Mary Burke, the Honorable S. Jay Plager, Toby Lloyd, Doris Blazek-White, Bill Leahy, Jim Constable





Protecting Land Forever

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# Thank You to Our Recent Contributors

(February 1, 2018 - June 30, 2018)

Whether you make an unrestricted contribution, donate to our stewardship fund, or support a special project or program, your gift to MET is appreciated and essential to our future.

Please consider a tax-deductible contribution to MET this year. With your support, we can continue to protect Maryland's diverse natural, scenic, and historic resources. Thank you for your support!

## Conservation Champion \$10,000+

The estate of Alverta and Louisa Dillon  
The estate of Sarah Griggs

## Open Space Guardian \$1,000-\$4,999

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*Ajax Eastman*  
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*Miss Anne Robinette*

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