
RAAC Newsletter May 2015



Hello friends,

In the future I'll associate flowering dogwoods and redbuds with film festivals. I don't remember when I've experienced such a buzz in town as I did during RAAC's first annual, weekend-long Film Festival. Entertaining, energizing, and enlivening! Thanks again to all who created and produced the event.

Speaking of films, our First Friday at the Movies is showing a good one on May 1 - "The Trip to Italy." And the following week, our Second Friday Library talk features Chris Miller, president of the Piedmont Environmental Council, who will be discussing efforts to preserve our beautiful space and point out some potential threats on the near horizon. On a brighter note, I recommend reserving tickets for the May 1, 2 and 3 production of "You Can't Take It With You." Seats, while still available, are disappearing quickly.

Several early spring initiatives are coming to fruition. In May we'll announce the winners of the RAAC-Castleton Art Competition - adults and high school students. Finalists will be exhibited at Middle Street Gallery later this spring. RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund will also be awarding this year's grants in May - to individuals and organizations. And a second edition of RAAC's coloring book for children (and adults) will be released in a few weeks.

Please mark your calendar for May 5 for the second running of Give Local Piedmont. This event is a great opportunity to donate to your local nonprofits, including RAAC.

Matthew Black, President, RAAC



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Click on the photo above to view the movie trailer.



First Friday at the Movies "The Trip to Italy"

**Fri, May 1, 8pm, \$6
The Theatre At Washington
291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747**

**Starring Steve Coogan, Rob Brydon,
Rosie Fellner**

**Director/writer: Michael Winterbottom
Comedy/drama; 108 minutes
Not rated**

Years after their successful restaurant review tour of Northern Britain, Steve Coogan and Rob Brydon are commissioned for a new tour in Italy. Once again, the two comedy buddies/rivals take in the landscape as well as the cuisine of that country in a trip filled with witty repartee and personal insecurities. Along the way, their own professional and personal lives come in as these slightly older men's friendship comes through.

-Written by Kenneth Chisholm as quoted in imdb.com

Please note that we will have **open captioning**.

First Friday at the Movies will resume in the fall.

[Click to visit RAAC's First Friday at the Movies webpage.](#)

RAAC Community Theatre
"You Can't Take It With You"

Fri, May 1 & Sat, May 2 at 8pm
Sun, May 3 at 3pm
310 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747
Tickets \$15

Don't miss RAAC Theatre's production of "You Can't Take It With You." Written by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, the play looks in on the Sycamores and their houseful of fellow eccentrics.

Set in the Upper West Side of New York City, this three-act comedy reflects some of the flux in society during the Depression and between the two world wars. The play endures because its themes about individuality, class, global interconnectedness, and the role of government still ring true today.

The play premiered on Broadway in 1936 and won the 1937 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. The screen adaptation won Academy Awards for Best Picture and Best Director.

The RAAC Theatre production features a large cast and is directed by Peter Hornbostel.

Tickets for all three performances are available. For reservations and seating information, [click here](#). If you don't have Internet access, call 1-800-695-6075.

[Click to visit RAAC's Community Theatre webpage.](#)



**GIVE LOCAL
Piedmont**

**MAY
2015 5 TUESDAY**

**Make a gift to RAAC through
Give Local Piedmont**

Tuesday, May 5, 12am though 11:59pm

Help build community through the arts by donating to RAAC through *Give Local Piedmont*.

On May 5, the Northern Piedmont Community Foundation is joining more than 100 communities throughout the United States for a national day of local giving called Give Local America. NPCF has launched the Give Local Piedmont program as a way to make it fun and easy for individuals to support the many worthy local nonprofits that serve Rappahannock County and the region.

The Fauquier Health Foundation has generously provided \$100,000 for cash prizes to be awarded during this event. Your contribution to RAAC of \$10 or more made online on May 5 through Give Local Piedmont may become eligible for *matching funds and prizes!* [Click here](#) for details.

Please consider donating to RAAC on May 5! With the help of your generous donations, we will continue to provide dynamic arts programs and grants in Rappahannock County. To make a donation through Give Local Piedmont, just [click on this link](#) any time between 12am and 11:59pm on Tuesday, May 5.

[Click to visit RAAC's website.](#)

**Second Friday at the Library
Chris Miller**

Fri, May 8, 8pm, at the Rappahannock County Library

Chris Miller is president of the **Piedmont Environmental Council** and a veteran of many battles over land use and conservation. In 1993 he spearheaded the fight against Disney's America, a 3,000-acre park that would have been based near Haymarket, VA.

Miller will talk about new threats to land conservation in Rappahannock and the surrounding area. He is a lawyer whose specialties are environmental and transportation policy.

The talk is free. All are welcome.

[Click to visit RAAC's Second Friday at the Library webpage.](#)





Meet Karen Crow RAAC Board member

Four years ago, if you'd asked Karen Crow what the acronym 'RAAC' stood for, you would have received a puzzled look in response. If you next asked her if she expected to be organizing a film festival for RAAC she might have responded "anything's possible, I guess," before slowly edging away.

How Karen got from suburban Arlington to Rappahannock County and a film festival involved a rather circuitous route. As the daughter of a naval officer, her early childhood was spent moving between various naval stations up and down the East Coast, including a two year stint overseas. As was the case with so many military families, hers ended up settling near the Pentagon in Arlington. College and family came next, raising three children, along with the pursuit of various interests including real estate, gardening, travel, and volunteer work.

While a city girl at heart, Karen and her husband Raym enjoyed day trips to the countryside. At one point they renovated an old farmhouse in West Virginia as a weekend retreat. It was fun, but it wasn't really what they had in mind for the long term. Raym had always loved Rappahannock, but Karen thought it was too far from the city. Raym, a California transplant, even suggested they investigate the West Coast.

After several cross-country trips, Karen came to her senses and realized that being sixty-five miles from Arlington wasn't far after all. In 2010, after putting down permanent stakes in Rappahannock County, Karen soon deciphered the acronym and embraced RAAC along with the Garden Club, where she can draw on her Master Gardener training.

Active on RAAC's Membership and Movie Committees, Karen helps plan and organize the annual membership picnic each September, as well as the Art Tour Reception in November, and also helps put on the monthly movies at the Theatre. This past year, as co-chair of the Movie Committee, Karen helped plan and organize the first annual Film Festival at Little Washington.

[Click to visit RAAC's website.](#)

Mark Your Calendar!

**For all the details, additions, and
schedule changes, visit [RAAC's calendar](#).
New events are added frequently, so please check often.**

www.raac.org

The Rappahannock Association for the Arts and the Community
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RAAC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization staffed solely by volunteers.

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