

Top of the Bald

What are you doing this summer?



Summer 2024

*Brought to you by the WLPOA
Board of Directors and the WLPOA staff.*



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Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association (WLPOA)

Board of Directors:

Bob Hicks - President

Carl Larrabee - Vice President

Theodore Meyer - Secretary

Rick Zinter - Interim Treasurer

Natalie Morris

Doug Orman

Steve Wilcox

Lynn Cagney

Scott McCaleb

Cary Monroe

John Brackett - Immediate

Past President



Website: www.wolflaurelpoa.com

**BY-LAWS OF THE WOLF LAUREL
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC**

**Article II. # 4. "To promote and/or arrange social, recreational,
and educational activities for all members."**

WLPOA & Village Club Staff

WLPOA Director: Liz Benson - liz@wolflaurelpoa.com, 828-689-9229

Seasonal Village Club Manager: George Selman
george@wolflaurelpoa.com, 828-689-4089

Programs and Events Coordinator: Caitlin Bush
caitlin@wolflaurelpoa.com, 828-689-4089



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Paul Dickey
Carol Jones
Dan Kaufman
Theo Meyer
Walt Liebert

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91 Village Lane
Mars Hill, NC 28754
828-689-9229

TOB Editor/Publisher
and Webmaster:
Larry Veatch,
larryv8@gmail.com

Editorial Committee

Betsy Browne	Rich Ashley
Ron Metcalf	Bob Hicks
Lynn Cagney	Rick Zinter

[Have a great Season!](#)

The WLPOA office frequently receives questions about WLRMS;
Any WLRMS questions should be addressed to WLRMS at
828-680-9162, or <https://www.mygreencondo.net/wlrms/index>



WLPOA - Article IX By-Law Committees

Executive:

Chair: Bob Hicks, *President*
 Carl Larrabee, *Vice President*
 Theodore Meyer, *Secretary*
 Rick Zinter, *Interim Treasurer*
 Ex Officio: John Brackett

Finance:

Chair: Rick Zinter, (Interim Treasurer)
 Bob Hicks (President)
 Fred Tygart
 Earlene Shofi
 David Smith

Audit (Compilation):

Chair: vacant

Village Club (Amenities):

Chair: Mary Lovley
 Caitlin Bush (Programs & Events
 Coordinator)
 George Selman (Seasonal VC
 Manager)
 Kevin Flanagan
 Kay Loveland
 Jeri Magg
 Dan Morris
 Leigh Ann Roseberry
 Nancy Schmidt
 Becky Shennan
 Earlene Shofi
 Sandy Skypek
 Greg Smith
 Marnie Sullivan
 Steve Wilcox
 Joanne Wit
 Lori Wyman-Macaulay
 Rick Zinter

Membership:

Chair: Liz Benson (WLPOA Director)
 Lynn Cagney
 Rick Zinter

Facilities:

Chair: Theo Myer (Vice President)
 Becky Shennan (Pickle Ball)
 Fred Tygart
 Bill Aimone
 Gregg Smith

Facilities Subcommittee - Village

Beautification:

Chair: Arlene Watrobski
 Theo Myer (Secretary)
 Laura & Tom Conard
 Steve Wilcox
 Earlene Shofi
 Doug Orman
 Scott Weaver

By-Laws and Legal:

Chair: Bob Hicks (President)
 Theo Meyer (Secretary)
 Fred Tygart

Long Range Planning:

Chair: Doug Orman
 Liz Benson (Membership)
 Bob Hicks (By-Laws & Legal)
 Carl Larrabee (Vice President)
 Steve Wilcox

Election: (Verify ballots)

Chair: Liz Benson (WLPOA Director)
 Earlene Shofi



AD HOC COMMITTEES

Human Resources:

Chair: Earlene Shofi
 Bill Aimone
 Bob Hicks (President)
 John Brackett

Library:

Director: Yvonne Carignan
 Bob Hicks (President)

Nominating:

Chair: Leigh Ann Roseberry
 Natalie Morris
 Lori Wyman Macaulay
 Larry Carlson

Playground Planning and Funding:

Chair: Janis Larrabee
 Earlene Shofi
 Lynn Cagney
 Doug Orman
 Theo Meyer (Secretary)

Rental:

Chair: Doug Orman
 Theo Meyer (Secretary)
 Lynn Cagney
 Scott McCaleb
 Elliott Caldwell
 Rick Zinter (Interim Treasurer)

Top of the Bald:

Editor: Larry Veatch
 Editorial Board:
 Rich Ashley
 Betsy Browne
 Lynn Cagney
 Ron Metcalf
 Rick Zinter (Interim Treasurer)
 Bob Hicks (President)

Webmaster:

Chair: Larry Veatch

WLPOA Package Annex:

Chair: Steve Wilcox
 Carl Larrabee (Vice President)
 Theo Meyer (Secretary)
 Earlene Shofi
 George Selman (Seasonal VC
 Manager)
 Fred Tygart
 Jim Howes
 Walt Leibert

Wolf Laurel Country Club Collaboration:

Chair: John Brackett
 Steve Wilcox
 Theodore Meyer (Secretary)
 Bob Hicks (President)

President's Message

Dear Neighbors and Friends -

The season is fully upon us, and it has been glorious so far. If you're not on the mountain yet, I hope your arrival will be soon. The trails are calling, the streams are splashing, the birds are in full-throated chorus, and all that is missing is YOU!

I want to mention a milestone that Wolf Laurel recently reached. In June 1964, the last land purchase (involving nearly 7,000 acres) was completed. Known as the "Wolf Laurel Boundary", it was the forerunner of what we now know as Wolf Laurel. There was nice attendance at the 60-year celebration (and cake cutting) co-sponsored with our own Wolf Laurel Historical Society.



Patch provided by
Suzie Orebaugh

(continued)



Assisted by Brenda Whitt



With help from Brenda Whitt

In other POA news, the new playground has been completed, and is already seeing steady use - bring your kids (or grandkids) down for a closer look and some outdoor play.

And, our package cabin staff is happy that the early-season 'bulge' of stockpiled package deliveries seems finally over ("Thank you," Donna

Douglas!) . It's always easier if everyone manages their package deliveries/ pick-ups as promptly as possible - in a 'perfect' world, pick-up within 2 days of delivery is the goal.

I want to extend a special 'thank you' to Bob Lahr, our departing POA Treasurer, for his fine service on behalf of our organization. He will still be around, but has now resigned from the Board. And you may have noticed that Carol Jones has stepped away from her former position, and is not in evidence on the POA grounds. Carol is still part of our staff, but with less-visible duties. Her past contributions to the smooth running of the POA cannot be overestimated.

Please keep your media channels 'open' for news about upcoming elections, both for POA and RMS - they occur during the next several weeks. Community participation is always encouraged.

Finally, I hope you will take advantage of our helpful POA staff, who are seen in and around the facilities. Blue shirts identify them, and they are there to make your experience pleasant and convenient.

Regards to all,

Bob Hicks
bobhicks@cheerful.com



A grand Village Club upgrade!

Summary of WLPOA (Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association) Memberships

The WLPOA is a non-profit organization which provides members with social and educational opportunities within Wolf Laurel (WL). It is open to all property owners in Wolf Laurel, independent of your HOA (Homeowners Association) affiliation, if applicable. HOAs within Wolf Laurel are Road Maintenance and Security (RMS), Blue Mountain, The Ridges, The Preserve, Deer Run, and Mountainside.

WLPOA Membership – annual dues as identified on the WLPOA website. Benefits include unlimited use of the package cabin (with PIN code access), Community Center and library (during their business hours), access to online membership directory, regular email updates, Facebook page, Nature Trail, representation of the member's interest in community matters and many more benefits as described on the WLPOA website.

Village Club (VC) Membership – WLPOA Membership dues + annual dues + a 1-time initiation fee as identified on the WLPOA website. Benefits include Kids Camp, pool, tennis, pickleball, yoga, fitness classes, water aerobics, tai chi, stocked trout pond, potluck and appetizer dinners, scheduled hikes, and Dining Out with Friends, pavilion's (main and Angelico Ridge), various classes and many more as described on the WLPOA website.

Village Club (VC) Rental Membership – WLPOA Membership + VC Membership dues + VC Rental Membership fee as identified on the WLPOA website. This includes pool, tennis, pickleball and basketball courts (per posted hours), stocked trout pond (limit of 4 per household per day) and playgrounds for all renters of your property.

Full information about the WLPOA can be found at <https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/>

Village Club Events

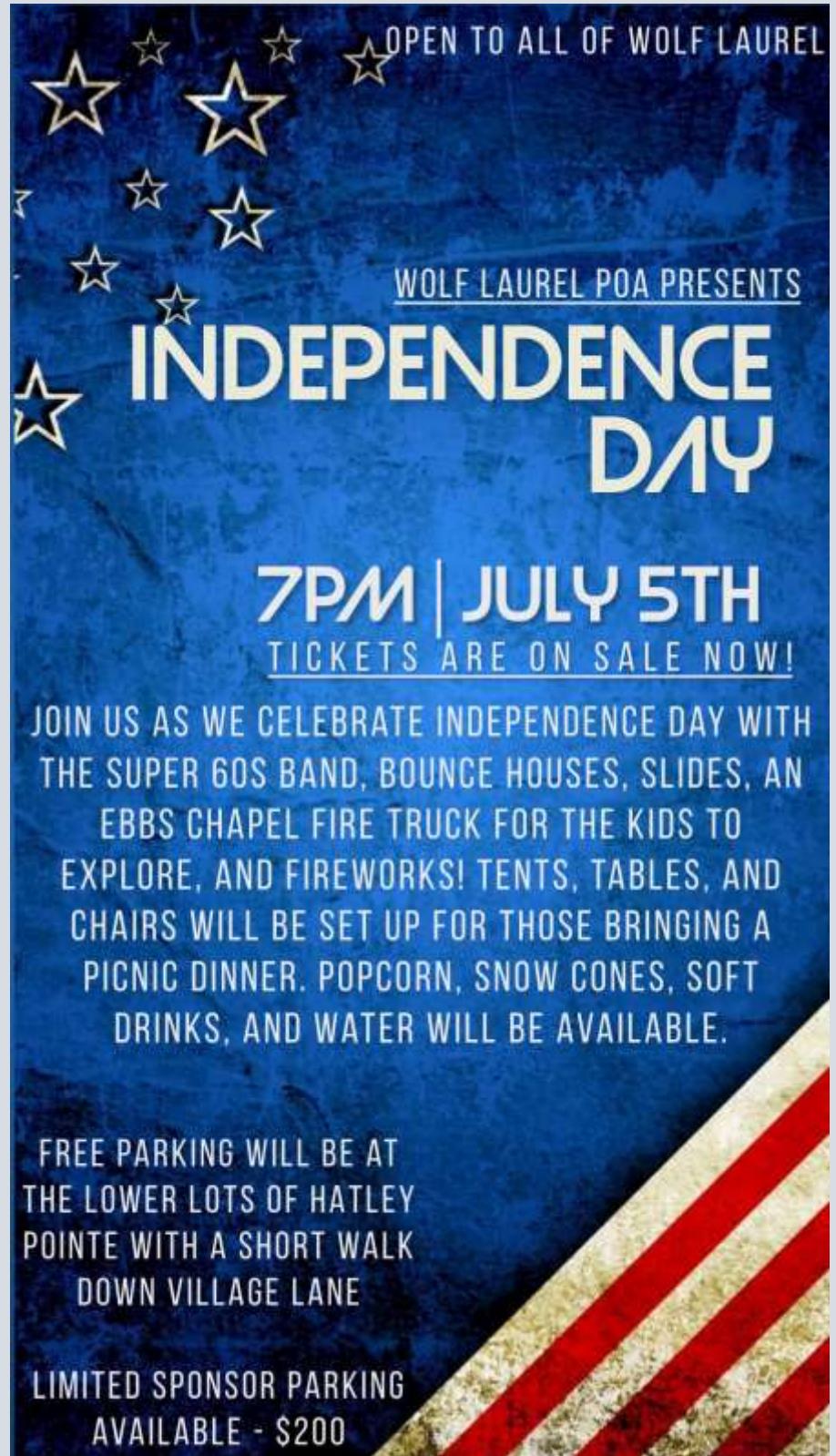
Independence Day Celebration! ***Open to All***

The WLPOA's annual Independence Day celebration will take place at the Village on Friday, July 5th, beginning at 7:00 PM.

Join us as we celebrate with the Super 60's Band, bounce houses and slides, an Ebbs Chapel fire truck for the kids to explore, and **FIREWORKS!** Tents, tables, and chairs will be set up for those bringing a picnic-style dinner. Popcorn, snow cones, soft drinks, and water will be available.

Tickets are on sale now in the Community Center. Adult tickets are \$15.00 and children's tickets (12 and under) are \$10.00 (cash or check only). Free parking will be available at the lower parking lots at Hatley Pointe with a short walk down Village Lane. Limited sponsor parking may be available at the Community Center for \$200.00 per space. For more information, contact Caitlin Bush at caitlin@wolflaurelpoa.com.

Plan ahead and see all of the programs, events, and activities scheduled for the Wolf Laurel Village Club this year with our shared Google calendar: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=Y2FpdGxpbkB3b2xmbGF1cmVscG9hLmNvbQ>



OPEN TO ALL OF WOLF LAUREL

WOLF LAUREL POA PRESENTS

INDEPENDENCE DAY

7PM | JULY 5TH

TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY WITH THE SUPER 60S BAND, BOUNCE HOUSES, SLIDES, AN EBBS CHAPEL FIRE TRUCK FOR THE KIDS TO EXPLORE, AND FIREWORKS! TENTS, TABLES, AND CHAIRS WILL BE SET UP FOR THOSE BRINGING A PICNIC DINNER. POPCORN, SNOW CONES, SOFT DRINKS, AND WATER WILL BE AVAILABLE.

FREE PARKING WILL BE AT THE LOWER LOTS OF HATLEY POINTE WITH A SHORT WALK DOWN VILLAGE LANE

LIMITED SPONSOR PARKING AVAILABLE - \$200

Village Club

POA Office Hours:

January-March: Tues-Thurs 10am-3pm

April: Mon-Thurs 10am-3pm

May-Sept: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm

Oct-Dec: Tues-Thurs 10am-3pm

Village Club Amenities Hours:

July: 10am-8pm

August: 10am-8pm

Sept: 10am-7pm

Regularly Scheduled Events (Bolded - Village Club Only)

Group Fitness - 9:00 AM Mondays & Thursdays

Water Aerobics - 1:00 PM Mondays & Thursdays

Zoom Yoga - 9:00 AM Tuesdays & Fridays

Tai Chi - 10:00 AM Tuesdays & Thursdays

Pickleball - 10:00 AM Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays and 2:00 PM Sundays

Women's Tennis - 10:00 AM Mondays & Thursdays

Wolf Pack Hiking - 8:00 AM, first, second, fourth, & fifth Tuesdays

Walk in the Woods - 9:00 AM third Tuesday & fourth Saturday each month

Samba - 1:00 PM Fridays

Book Club - 2:30 PM Thursdays (every three weeks)

Paint & Sip - 3:00 PM fourth Tuesday each month

Smoke Signals / Pipe & Cigar Club - 4:00 PM Tuesdays

Sporting Clays - 9:00 AM Mondays

Dining Out with Friends - 6:00 PM second & fourth Wednesdays

Sip, Savor, and Socialize - 11:00 AM third Wednesday each month

Monday Night Potluck - 6:00 PM Mondays

Friday Night Appetizers - 6:00 PM Fridays

BINGO - 7:00 PM third Friday each month

Other POA/VC features include the Library, Nature Trail, Pavilions, **Trout Pond**, **Horseshoe Pits**, and **Playgrounds**.



WLPOA / Village Club

July Events:

Blood Drive - 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM on July 3rd

Independence Day Celebration - 7:00 PM on July 5th

Kids' Camp - 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM July 8th through July 12th

Wildlife Presentation - 1:00 PM on July 8th

Red Wolves Presentation - 2:30 PM on July 18th

French Broad River Tube Trip - 12:00 PM on July 20th

Camp Wolf Woof - 9:00 AM on July 21st

Foraged Food Presentation - 4:00 PM on July 25th

Woofminster - 4:00 PM on July 28th

Resin Jewelry Class - 3:00 PM on July 29th

Intro to Fly Fishing Course - 11:30 AM on July 30th

Ice Cream Social Drop-In - 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM on July 31st

Plan ahead and see all of the programs, events, and activities scheduled for the Wolf Laurel Village Club this year with our shared Google calendar: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=Y2FpdGxpbkB3b2xmbGF1cmVscG9hLmNvbQ>

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/342942392454360>

Disclaimer: Please note all activities, programs, and events are at your own risk.

Volunteers Needed for Kids' Camp - LAST CALL

Do you have teenagers or young adults at home or visiting this summer that are looking for a fun way to keep busy? Maybe they need a little job experience to spruce up their resume or volunteer hours to apply toward graduation. The Wolf Laurel Kids' Camp is seeking Junior and Senior Counselors to assist with running the camp from July 8th through July 12th in the Village. For more information, contact Caitlin Bush at caitlin@wolflaurelpoa.com.

VILLAGE CLUB PRESENTS

BLOOD DRIVE

Give the gift of life.



STARTS AT 10AM-3PM

RECEIVE A **FREE** UMBRELLA UPON DONATION

COMMUNITY CENTER
91 VILLAGE LANE
WOLF LAUREL

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3RD

The need for blood is constant and only volunteer donors can fulfill that need for patients in our community. Nationwide, someone needs a unit of blood every 2 to 3 seconds and most of us will need blood in our lifetime. Thank you for supporting the American Red Cross blood program!

Scan to schedule an appointment

Made with PosterMyWard | CAITLIN@WOLFCLAURELPOA.COM | **828-689-4089**

Ssslither
on over
and observe



MAY WILDLIFE REHAB CENTER
Wild Animal Presentation

Monday, July 8th 1:00 PM
Village Club Pavilion
91 Village Lane
Village Club Members only

Join us for a **French Broad Tube Trip**



Saturday, July 20th at 12:00 PM
Meet at FBO (704 Riverside Dr.)

\$21.80 self-guided tube/shuttle
RSVP (required) to caitlin@wolfluarelpoa.com
Participants must be 6 years of age and older

CAMP WOLF WOOF



SUNDAY, JULY 21
9:00 AM
RSVP REQUIRED

Camp Wolf Woof is a half-day camp for dogs and their owners to learn beginner agility, recall, and nose work, make barks and crafts, and hike up to Big Bald for a picnic

\$20 PER DOG

VILLAGE CLUB PAVILION

MORE INFORMATION/RSVP
DR. KAY LOVELAND AT
KAYLOVELAND@YAHOO.COM

ALL DOGS MUST BE FRIENDLY, NON-AGGRESSIVE, AND CURRENT ON ALL VACCINATIONS



JULY 25TH

FORAGING FOR "FIND DINING"

WWW.NOTASTELIKEHOME.ORG

Alan Muskat, CEO of Asheville-based "No Taste Like Home," will lead a talk with a focus on foraging in Wolf Laurel.

Thursday, July 25th, at 4:00 PM
Inside the Community Center

Resin Jewelry Class

VILLAGE PAVILION
Two hour class
\$55.00 per person
One pair of earrings
&
One necklace pendant
Choice of decorations
jewelry shape &
gold or silver.



MONDAY, JULY 29TH
3:00 PM TO 5:00 PM

DESIGN AND MAKE BEAUTIFUL JEWELRY WITH RESIN AND SEASONAL FLOWERS. THIS IS THE PERFECT CLASS FOR BEGINNERS OR CRAFT ENTHUSIASTS Alike. Everyone leaves with beautiful jewelry!! Choose from our ever-expanding collection of pressed botanicals and weekly findings. We provide EVERYTHING you need for this project.

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

RSVP (REQUIRED) TO CAITLIN@WOLFLAURELPOA.COM

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WOLF LAUREL VILLAGE CLUB

FLY FISHING INTRO COURSE



JULY 30TH
11:30 AM
TO
1:30 PM

AT VILLAGE PAVILION
91 VILLAGE LANE
RSVP IS REQUIRED BY
JULY 27TH.

PRESENTATION FOLLOWED
BY YARD CASTING

THIS IS A FULL
INTRODUCTION TO ALL
THINGS FLY FISHING.
EQUIPMENT
BAIT
FISH SPECIES
CASTING

RSVP VIA PHONE OR EMAIL (828) 689-4089
LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE
CAITLIN@WOLFLAURELPOA.COM

Made with PosterMyWall.com

COME & JOIN US FOR

ICECREAM DROP-IN



AT THE PAVILION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31ST
11.00AM TO 1.00PM

ENJOY A VARIETY OF TOPPINGS
SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM

91 Village Lane, Wolf Laurel

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Programs & Activities for POA and Village Club Members

WOLF PACKING HIKING

8:00 AM Tuesdays (first, second, fourth, and fifth of the month)

The Wolf Pack began before 2003 with the goals of fitness, friendship, adventures, and a love of nature. All hikes are dog-friendly and welcome to non-aggressive, well-behaved dogs. Each hike meets at the Village Club parking lot (unless otherwise noted). If carpooling, please provide cash for the driver. Bring appropriate hiking attire and equipment (i.e., hiking boots, back/fanny packs, rain gear, trekking poles, etc.), insect repellent, sunscreen, food, and water. For more information, contact Mary Lovley at crazy4bunnies@yahoo.com.

WALK IN THE WOODS

9:00 AM Tuesdays (the third of the month) and Saturdays (the fourth of the month)

Walk in the Woods is a program that was created in 2021 in an effort to introduce residents to the walking opportunities within the gates of Wolf Laurel. All walks are dog-friendly and welcome to non-aggressive, well-behaved dogs. Each walk meets at the Country Club's Fitness Center parking lot (unless otherwise noted). For more information, contact Yvonne Carignan at ycarigna@gmu.edu.

SPORTING CLAYS

9:00 AM Mondays

Sporting Clays is the closest thing to actual field shooting of all shotgun sports. Rather than having clay birds thrown from standardized distances and angles as with Skeet or Trap, sporting clay courses are designed to simulate the hunting of ducks, pheasants, other upland birds, and even rabbits. The Wolf Laurel Sporting Clay Club meets at the Country Club's Fitness Center parking lot. Bring your own shotgun, ammunition, and eye & ear protection. RSVP is required. To RSVP, or for more information, contact Greg Smith at gregsmith0566@gmail.com.

GROUP FITNESS (Village Club Only)

9:00 AM Mondays and Thursdays

Tone, Tighten, and Balance is a class designed to help improve functionality within one's daily life. You will hone in on developing your range of motion by working every major muscle group to improve strength, mobility, posture, balance, and maybe even your golf swing. Classes are held on the basketball court (unless otherwise noted). Please bring an exercise mat, weights, and water. For more information, contact Mary Lou Woodiwiss, an ACE certified Group Fitness Instructor, at vbwoody1@hotmail.com.

(continued)

Programs & Activities for Village Club Members

WATER AEROBICS

1:00 PM Mondays and Thursdays

Come on in, the water's fine! For those looking to challenge themselves without the stress on their joints, or just generally enjoys the water, come take advantage of our water exercise class. Our instructor leads a small group through water aerobics, core strengthening, and much more. Gain muscle conditioning and cardiovascular endurance from the aerobic choreography and the resistance of the water. Classes are held at the swimming pool. Please bring a bathing suit, towel, sunscreen, and water. For more information, contact Laura Fisher at bfisherhh@att.net.

TAI CHI

10:00 AM Tuesdays and Thursdays

Tai Chi is a practice that involves a series of slow gentle movements and physical postures, a meditative mind, and controlled breathing. Participants can experience improvements in pain, as well as stiffness, physical function (such as walking, standing, rising from bed, and getting in and out of vehicles), balance, and physiological and psychological health. Classes are held in "The Barn" (the lower entrance to the Community Center). Please wear loose fitting clothing, an exercise mat, and water. For more information, contact Fred Buck at (828) 231-2692.

PICKLEBALL

10:00 AM Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and 2:00 PM Sundays

Pickleball, often described as a combination of tennis, ping-pong, and badminton, has become the fastest growing sport in America. Games on Mondays are designed for females, new players, and those working on skill development, while Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays are open to everyone. Games are held on the pickleball courts. For more information, contact Julio Romero at jromerojr7781@gmail.com. New to the sport or looking for a refresher course? Beginner pickleball clinics will be held at the beginning of each season for those looking to get more involved.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

10:00 AM Mondays and Thursdays

Game, set, match! Grab your racket and let's hit the court to play! All levels of experience are welcome. Games are held on the tennis courts. For more information, contact Sharon Foster at chafoster@aol.com. New to the sport or looking for a refresher course? Beginner tennis clinics will be held at the beginning of each season for those looking to get more involved.

(continued)

Programs & Activities for Village Club Members

SAMBA

1:00 PM Fridays

Are you a Samba card player? This may be just what you've been looking for! Samba is a rummy-style game, quite similar to Canasta, with the objective to score points by melding cards.

It is a four-player card game with a maximum of 16 players spread out between four tables.

RSVP is required and based on a first-response-first-serve basis. Games are held in the Community Center. Please bring a snack to share. To RSVP, or for more information, contact Linda Mullins at mrsdepp826@gmail.com.

BOOK CLUB

2:30 PM Thursdays (every three weeks, beginning June 20th)

Selected by Village Club members, join us as we discuss each book from this summer's reading list. Meetings will be held at the Village Club Pavilion (unless otherwise noted). For more information, contact Karen Gerry at kgerry48@aol.com.

PAINT & SIP

3:00 PM Tuesdays (the fourth of the month)

Claire, a professional artist with *Monet and Chardonnay* comes to Wolf Laurel and delivers step-by-step instructions to help participants reproduce a pre-selected work of art and create their very own masterpiece. No experience is necessary and all of the required materials are included. Classes are held at the Village Club Pavilion. Please RSVP (required), bring \$40.00, and BYOB. To RSVP, or for more information, contact Caitlin Bush at caitlin@wolflaurelpoa.com.

SMOKE SIGNALS PIPE & CIGAR CLUB

4:00 PM Tuesdays

Pipe and cigar smokers, enthusiasts and novices, the Smoke Signals Pipe & Cigar Club makes it easy to sit back, relax, and have a cigar in a non-judgmental atmosphere. (Participants must be 21 years of age or older.) The club meets at the Angelico Ridge Pavilion on Birch Springs. Please bring your own cigars and BYOB. For more information, contact George Selman at george@wolflaurelpoa.com. (continued)

Programs & Activities for Village Club Members

DINING OUT WITH FRIENDS

6:00 PM Wednesdays (the second and fourth of the month)

The second and fourth Wednesday of each month, a group of Village Club members meet at a different local establishment for dinner. Availability is limited to 15 participants and carpooling is available to those interested. RSVP is required and based on a first-response-first-serve basis. To RSVP, or for more information, contact Linda Mullins at mrsdepp826@gmail.com or Caitlin Bush at caitlin@wolflaurelpoa.com.

SIP, SAVOR, AND SOCIALIZE

11:00 AM Wednesdays (the third of the month)

The third Wednesday of each month, a group of Village Club women meet at a different local establishment for lunch. Availability is limited and carpooling is available to those interested. RSVP is required and based on a first-response-first-serve basis. To RSVP, or for more information, contact Linda Mullins at mrsdepp826@gmail.com.

MONDAY NIGHT POTLUCK

6:00 PM Mondays

Monday Nighters will be held at the Village Club Pavilion. Please bring a covered dish to share and BYOB. The Village Club will provide paper products and utensils.

FRIDAY NIGHT APPETIZERS

6:00 PM Fridays

The first Friday night of each month will have live music, and the third Friday night of each month will feature BINGO beginning at 7:00 PM (\$5.00 per BINGO card). Friday Nighters will be held at the Village Club Pavilion. Please bring an appetizer to share, BYOB, and tips for the band (if applicable). The Village Club will provide paper products, utensils, and soft drinks/water.

THE POOL

10:00 AM to 7:00 PM Daily

During July and August, the pool will be open from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM daily.

Notice to WLPOA and Village Club Members: If a POA/VC event posted on this community page occurs off-premises, participants accept personal responsibility

Wolf Laurel POA Library Report Summer 2024

Wonderful Donations Make Library Better Than Ever

Yvonne Carignan

Donors of books have been generous!

Since last January, donations totaling 1004 items -- mostly books, but also movie DVDs, games, puzzles, and audio books -- have improved the Wolf Laurel POA Library. Examples of important donations in this report will feature collections of science fiction, general fiction, and children's books.

Recently, a large donation of fantasy and science fiction books doubled that collection in the adult fiction room. Stars Wars titles, by several different authors, make up part of this donation, but other popular sci-fi authors are also present. Related titles on dystopia and apocalypse also came in with these books. Those, such as by James Rollins who is said to write "techno-thrillers," are not shelved with science fiction but alphabetically by author's last name in the general fiction collection. We hope science fiction and fantasy book fans will explore these enriched collections in both adult and young people's rooms.



Sample Star Wars titles

We have many more in the Science Fiction Collection

Fiction Classics

Ongoing donations of classic literature led to the expansion of the Classic Fiction Collection, which now fills all the shelving just to the left as you enter the Fiction Room. There you will find favorites from Mark Twain to Edith Wharton, to John Steinbeck, Thomas Wolfe, and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Of course, the Bronte sisters are also amply represented. Come find some of your favorites for a rainy day re-read.



Three out of eight shelves of
Classic Fiction

(continued)

Wolf Laurel POA Library Report Summer 2024 (continued)

New Fiction

Enhancing the general fiction collection, a recent gift gives us a complete set of Jacqueline Winspear's literary award winning murder mystery series: Maisie Dobbs. Spanning the years leading up to World War I to the aftermath of World War II, these mysteries star a "nurse turned private investigator. As wise as Poirot, as intuitive as Miss Marple, as sharp as Vera Stanhope," according to a June 3, 2024, book review in the *Washington Post*.



Entire Maisie Dobbs series,
by Jacqueline Winspear

In addition to the Winspear books, we recently received many bags and boxes of adult fiction in particularly good condition. These newly donated books accomplished several things: added new titles we did not have before; replaced worn copies of the same title; and added backup copies for popular titles. So please do not hesitate to bring your unwanted books to the Wolf Laurel POA Library. Your donations benefit your library in so many ways. And do not worry if you see that the shelves appear to be full. Replacement of old, worn-out copies with new ones goes on continually. Thank you for your generous donations to the library!



Board Books for Little Ones

Children's Room

Donors also give us books for children of all ages. This month, a gift doubled our collection of "board books." These books are fun for reading to kids, or for little ones to page through themselves, being made of stiff boards with colorful, appealing subjects. Donations have added to our large and growing collection of picture books, "early" readers (say, Dr. Seuss), and to books appropriate for middle school and teenagers as well. Young people at all levels can find books, games, and puzzles in

their own library room. Just as with adult books, items in the children's room can be borrowed and taken home for enjoyment.

A Final Thank-You!

A final thank-you to all who donated to the Wolf Laurel POA Library. As you can see above, the quality of our library depends on the quality of your generous donations. Thank you for thinking of us!

Yvonne Carignan

Wolf Laurel Historical Society

How to celebrate a Diamond Jubilee?

Sixty years! And still building. So many stories generated in Wolf Laurel over those years by so many wonderful people. The Wolf Laurel Historical Society is dedicated to capturing that history. So, when a momentous milestone comes along, how can we construct a celebration true to our mission?

Of course, that process begins with our program structure as its framework. We get three chances each year to bring you an enjoyable historical glimpse. We have tried in the past to include three types of programs in our mix: (1) on the history of Wolf Laurel itself, (2) on our context in the Southern Appalachian mountains and Madison or Yancey Counties, (3) on broader interests in history writ large. In special years like this one we might put the emphasis on the first since it is Wolf Laurel we are celebrating. But we try to provide variety.

So, within that framework what might the WLHS Board schedule in a Diamond Jubilee year?

Well, we started by celebrating the milestone itself. On June 1, 1964, Bud Edwards completed his purchase of the Buck family's Bald Mountain Boundary, completing the nearly 7000 surveyed acres of Wolf Laurel, and establishing the date for our sixty year celebration. So, on June 5, 2024, the Society joined the Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association and invited the mountain to come celebrate Wolf Laurel's sixtieth birthday. There was cake, a welcome from WLHS President Warren Johnson, and a toast offered by WLPOA President Bob Hicks. Appropriately, over *sixty* people who also love Wolf Laurel joined us to celebrate the place we love and how it has developed in those sixty years. It was a great beginning of the year.



So, after the party where do we begin to tell the story of those sixty years?

We noted that Wolf Laurel is not just in this place by accident. Bud Edwards yearned for a wilderness paradise in the Southern Appalachian mountains where generations of Edwards raised their families and toiled in their life work. We also knew that Wolf Laurel was literally built log by log, bulldozer by bulldozer, board by board, and nail by nail by families raised for generations in these mountains. And it was members of the Wallin, Robinson, Briggs, English, Buck, Jenkins, Shook, Porché, and other families that served the residents and visitors coming to build their own lives in Wolf Laurel. We had honored those families early in the WLHS's history by adopting *Upper Laurel and Her People* that captured their families' stories, and we would be remiss to not celebrate their place in Wolf Laurel's history during our Jubilee. How could we capture and celebrate their world?

One of our Board members suggested a program on Appalachian music. A great way to celebrate our mountains and their people! After all, those summer Saturday nights with gatekeepers Shag Rice and Paul Hamlin and all their kin from Upper Laurel playing and singing for those gathered on their blankets and lawn chairs by the old Willis cabin by the gate was an iconic memory of those who made Wolf Laurel home.

(continued)

As the planning developed for the program one Board member recommended we ask William Ritter – a native of these mountains, a songkeeper, a musician, and a storyteller – to help us. Ritter was born and raised in the Southern Appalachians. He plays the fiddle and guitar, and sings the true traditional mountain music. While studying at Western Carolina University and Appalachian State University, he made the connection between old-time traditional music and saving heirloom seeds. “Keepers of both traditions,” he notes, “carry stories and memories,” their oral traditions. Today William raises heirloom plants on his farm in Mitchell County and performs throughout the Southern Appalachians with such Madison County traditional music performers as Sheila Kay Adams and Donna Ray Norton. He seemed a perfect fit for letting us celebrate Wolf Laurel’s place: the people and sounds of these mountains.

On Tuesday, July 9th at 7 PM, William Ritter will perform and weave a history of Appalachian music through his performance. It will be a wonderful example of history come alive: a premier traditional Appalachian musician taking us through the years before Wolf Laurel with his music and his stories. The program will be at Ebbs Chapel Performing Arts Center. We have invited the entire surrounding community to join us to celebrate Appalachian Music. In the old school where so many from that community spent their childhood, we will listen again to the music that surrounded them in that time.



What next?

Well, in the summer of 1964, when Wolf Laurel Boundary was brand new, it was a much different place than today. Near the Wolf Laurel Road gate was the farmstead of Roth Wilson, leased from Raleigh and Edna English. The Wilsons and English were old families who had been on this land for decades. Roth had been born on the farm. It consisted of a dwelling (now Cabin #1 in Settler’s Village); a livestock barn (now the Wolf Laurel Community Center); a spring house (now the meditation center across Village Lane from Cabin #1); a series of ponds coming down the mountain to the site of the old mill (with dams now blown and the water flowing through the old pond beds as Willis Branch); and a supply shed (now a cabin up Village Lane from this complex). But beyond this complex to the top of Big Bald and across into the Bald Mountain Creek valley rose wooded wilderness. Fish were in the streams, animals in the woods, and only tracks through which hikers, horses, jeeps, and running children traversed the woods (where now there are roads). Soon Bud Edwards disassembled log cabins in Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia, and Clay Jenkins reconstructed them on that farm. He called it “Settler’s Village.” There a group of families gathered for weekends of play in the mountain.



Bud and Mary Edwards working on the second floor of what is today the Community Center Barn.

Two children that came from Kingsport to play are going to join us to provide a glimpse of being young in those days. Boots Duke and Barney Pendleton were friends of Bud Edwards who brought their families to the rugged land. Suzanne Orbaugh was the daughter of Boots Duke; David Pendleton the son of Barney. But, there is more. Once Bud Edwards decided to open Wolf Laurel to the world, to develop Wolf Laurel Boundary as a mountain resort, the job of growing the community began. The woman who prepared the deeds and conducted so much of the business of Wolf Laurel Boundary was Mary Edwards. Mary is going to join us as well. Interviewed by Jim Klumpp, these three will help our imaginations flash back to those rugged days when the sixty year old Wolf Laurel was young. Suspend time for a moment as you listen to them. Let your imagination drift to the freedom of childhood in an exciting mountain wilderness. And think about how the struggle to tame that wilderness into what we have today would begin in the triumphs and setbacks of Bud and Mary Edwards.

(continued)

Wolf Laurel Historical Society

On Wednesday, August 7th at 4 PM in the Wolf Laurel Community Center Pavilion, we will have the opportunity to meet these three pioneers of Wolf Laurel and let them tell us with their own voices about the joys and challenges of a primitive Wolf Laurel.

Those two programs, however, would just get us to Wolf Laurel's early years. How could we develop a third program to move us through the feel of all those years from then to now?

We needed a vehicle through which we could all celebrate the maturation of Wolf Laurel. How about going narrow to do that? Focus our story on a symbol of change that could capture the journey? In this Diamond Jubilee year, when we all anticipate the opening of Hatley Pointe as the newest instantiation of skiing at Wolf Laurel, why not use that activity as our vehicle for moving through the years?

On September 4th at 4 PM, we will gather in a third venue, this one brand new again: the Hatley Pointe Lodge. In one of the first programs hosted at that refurbished facility we will hear about the journey of skiing at Wolf Laurel from its earliest days with skiers pulled up the mountain by tractor to come down again, to the magic of a modern Appalachian ski operation.

Our panel will feature three perspectives on skiing at Wolf Laurel. Brenda Whitt has lived at Wolf Laurel since the mid-1970s. She came here with her children to teach them skiing. Brenda will capture family fun on the slopes only minutes from her log cabin at Wolf Laurel in those early years. But we also have on our panel one of the people who has been most influential in evolving skiing over those years, Johnny Goin. Johnny came to the mountain early in the employ of Fondren Mitchell who operated Wolf Laurel resort for many years. He was here through the time when Sep Gemunder, a Swiss ski slope operator, acquired the ski operation from Bald Mountain Development Corporation and began to renovate and expand the operation in 1988. After Gemunder's investment suffered winters without snow, Orville English purchased the operation out of bankruptcy in 1992. Johnny remained a constant in the operation through the three decades of English's ownership. And our final guest, Deborah Hatley, represents so wonderfully the hope and future as we celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Wolf Laurel. Her extensive upgrading of skiing at Wolf Laurel offers the final excitement as we arrive at the present at look toward the future.



Deborah Hatley and former owner Orville English shortly after the Hatleys purchased the Wolf Laurel Ski operation.

Be sure and bring ***your stories*** of the years of skiing at Wolf Laurel and join us at the new Hatley Pointe Lodge.

So that is it. The program to celebrate sixty years of Wolf Laurel. We hope you will join us for all three of the remaining programs on our schedule. All are free of charge – as are all Wolf Laurel programs – with expenses paid by our members. Hope to see you there. And let us know how we did as we constructed the Diamond Jubilee Celebration!

The Wolf Laurel Historical Society Board

<https://wlhistory.org/>

Appalachian Barn Alliance

The ninth annual **Madison County Barn Day** on Saturday, September 14 begins with a tour (starting at 1:30 pm) and continues with a BBQ meal at Mars Landing Galleries in Mars Hill, finishing up around 7 pm. It's a full event beginning with a guided tour of some of the local barns followed by food and background music by award-winning fiddler Roger Howell. You will also have a chance to bid on some unique items in our small silent auction.



The tour will take you to a few unique barns in the Mars Hill area and bring you back for the meal and music. One farmstead on the tour is the historic Anderson farm with 3 different styles of barns. Wear comfortable shoes for the tour when architect and history buff Taylor Barnhill will take his guests up to and then inside a few of the barns to point out many of the hidden clues that reveal the age and historical significance of the structure. Each stop on the tour will include time for a question-and-answer session.

Advance purchase of tickets is required and the price is \$45 per person. Only 36 people will be scheduled for the guided tour. Appalachian Barn Alliance members will have a special price of \$40 per person. Since space on the tour is limited, make your reservations before they are sold out. If you just want to join us for the after-party, call for a special price for that part of the day. For information and reservations call 828 380-9146 or email info@appalachianbarns.org. Full details are at <https://appalachianbarns.org/barn-day/>.



Blast from the Past - circa 1964



The Madison County Arts Council presents a Summer 2023 series of 'sunday set-ins' at the Ebbs Chapel Performing Arts Center.



NICK GARRISON QUINTET

Sunday July 28 - 4:00pm \$20adv

Music of New Orleans, from traditional Black American music of Louis Armstrong to the street sounds of brass band jams.



CARLEY ARROWOOD

SUNDAY AUG. 25 - 4:00pm \$15 adv.

Carley is one of the brightest lights in a new generation of bluegrass-leaning musicians —an accomplished player, a compelling singer, & a refreshingly original songwriter.

Ebbs Chapel Performing Arts Center

271 Laurel Valley Road , Mars Hill 28754

Tickets at (828)649-1301 or madisoncountyarts.com

This project was supported by the N.C. Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources



North Carolina
Arts Council
Fifty years of leadership



Ebbs Chapel Summer Entertainment

This summer offers many opportunities for entertainment events at the Community Center. The Center is the closest venue to Wolf Laurel for great musical events.



Tuesday, July 9, 7 PM. A History of Appalachian Music with William Ritter, Appalachian musician and "songkeeper," sponsored by the Wolf Laurel Historical Society, Ebbs Chapel Performing Arts Center. Information. Free Event open to all.

This program looks back even before Wolf Laurel to when these mountains rang with the sounds of ancient music. Passed down through voices in the fields, in the kitchens, on the porch, with and without fiddle, guitar, or banjo, the Southern Appalachians were the home to a musical tradition that stretched back across the ocean to Ireland and Scotland and even old England. Our program focuses on that music.

Sunday July 28, 4 PM. Nick Garrison Quintet, Jazz at Ebbs Chapel, sponsored by the Madison County Arts Council, Ebbs Chapel Performing Arts Center. Information and Tickets. UNCA professor and trombonist Nick Garrison hosts an afternoon Music of New Orleans, from traditional Black American music of Louis Armstrong to the street sounds of brass band jams.



Sunday, August 25, 4 PM. Carley Arrowood, sponsored by the Madison County Arts Council, Ebbs Chapel Performing Arts Center. Carley brings her powerful band to perform. She is one of the brightest lights in a new generation of bluegrass-leaning musicians —an accomplished player, a compelling singer, & a refreshingly original songwriter.

In addition, Bluegrass in the Laurel, a series of concerts featuring various bluegrass performers will continue into the summer at the Performing Arts Center. Be sure and check the Ebbs Chapel website events calendar or the Facebook page for updates on our schedule.

These concerts feature general admission seating in a uniquely lovely mountain setting. Tickets for these shows can be purchased by calling (828)649-1301 or by visiting www.madisoncountyarts.com

The mission of the Madison County Arts Council is to strengthen community through the arts. Part of that mission is to host cultural events throughout our community, and one of the most anticipated is the Ebbs Chapel summer series. These concerts take place in the beautifully renovated auditorium of an old school at the foot of Wolf Laurel Mountain. "We are always delighted to have shows at Ebbs Chapel, a lot of our folks say it is a favorite venue for them," says Erich Hubner, Program Director at the MCAC.

(continued)

Ebbs Chapel Blackberry Festival—July 20

One of the highlights of the Wolf Laurel summer is the Blackberry Festival at Ebbs Chapel Community Center. Roam the courtyard enjoying the art, the crafts, the books, and the homespun skills of Upper Laurel neighbors. Buy a souvenir or a keepsake that will grace your Wolf Laurel home for many years. It's summer, so enjoy the fruits of local gardens. Find a bargain you cannot resist in the rummage sale from among a variety of gently used furniture, decorations, kitchen and household items, and clothing. Of course, one sure highlight of this festival is the blackberry treats -- jam, syrup, pies, and cobbler -- locally made the old-time country way. Take them home and enjoy till next year.



It would not be a mountain festival without music. Whether in person or via recording, the air is filled with the many sounds that enliven mountain living.

Then there is the eating. A full mountain breakfast is served beginning at 8 AM, and of course your homemade biscuits or your grits are topped with blackberry gravy made in the kitchen. If you sleep in, lunch begins at 11:30 AM and offers a similar menu of mountain cooking.

This year's [Blackberry Festival](#) is Saturday, July 20, from 8 AM to 2 PM. Put it on your calendar and plan to attend.

Other Ways to Support the Ebbs Chapel Community Center Activities

Other forms of donation help to support the non-profit Community Center and its programs. Clothing in good condition can be donated to our [Clothes Closet](#) any Saturday 9-11 while the Food Pantry is open. Please do not leave bags at the door to the Center. Food Pantry staff will assist with your donations. And your donations to the [Food Pantry](#) can be dropped in the box inside the front door to the Wolf Laurel Community Center, 91 Village Lane. Or you can take them with your clothing donations. Or you can volunteer to help with any of the activities at the Ebbs Chapel Community Center: helping with the Blackberry Festival, with the [Winter Wood Assistance for Seniors](#) program, donating books to the [Bijou Box Library](#), or other things that interest you. Or help pick up trash along Puncheon Fork Road with other Wolf Laurel residents in the [Adopt-a-Highway](#) program. To see a full list of the Center's activities check our website – [EbbsChapelCommunityCenter.org](#). And to volunteer click on the [volunteer](#) link.

Cash (or check) donations of any denomination are also welcomed to support the Center or its programs. Click the [donate](#) link on the website.

If you need a venue for a meeting, a large family get-together, or a party, contact the center about renting the [Events Center](#). Rental proceeds support the Center and rental is discounted for Upper Laurel residents.

Come join us this summer at the Ebbs Chapel Community Center for any of our activities and learn about the wide range of activities the Center offers. Website: [EbbsChapelCommunityCenter.org](#)

The Carolina Mountains Literary Festival

The Carolina Mountains Literary Festival has been awarded a \$4500 Presentation Grant from [South Arts](#), an organization that works "to advance Southern vitality through the arts." The grant will be used to sponsor the appearance of the performance group [Cornbread & Tortillas](#) on the opening night of the festival, Thursday, September 5. The group will also perform in Avery and Mitchell County high schools on September 4 and 5. The grant requires matching funds which are provided by grants from [Toe River Arts](#) and the [Avery County Public Library](#).

Cornbread and Tortillas is a nine-member ensemble made up of members who grew up either in Eastern Kentucky or Central America. They use song, dance, and storytelling to illustrate the characteristics shared by Appalachian and Latino cultures as well as those unique things that make them distinctive. The group's evening performance at the Literary Festival will be free, open to the public, and will include cornbread, tortillas and soup beans/frijoles.

The full line-up for this year's festival, Sept 5-7, plus additional information on the Carolina Mountains Literary Festival can be found at cmlitfest.net. More information on Cornbread and Tortillas can be found here:

<https://cornbreadandtortillas.com/home>

Kelly Denton,
Public Relations Coordinator

Carolina Mountains Literary Festival
Burnsville, North Carolina
September 5-7, 2024
www.cmlitfest.net





Something Good is Happening!

CONSERVATION

Director of Conservation Report

Ever get asked what do you do for a living? How do you respond? For some folks it's easy; for others, it's not. That's the position I often find myself in, and it's not that easy - my elevator speech is that I care for the environment on almost 10,000 acres of conservation land across the southeast, which comes with a few "ahhs" and polite nods, but I recently took two interns under my wings, and they asked me the dreaded question, "What do you do?" I sat silent for a moment, then started to chuckle, and all I could come up with is "You'll see."

When the interns walked into the office on their second day, they saw a map of the Level IV ecoregions in the southeast and they stood there, reading the maps and explanations of ecosystems, plants, animals, and geology that make up our unique region. The questions were thoughtful, grew to a great depth, and then the realization set in: SE Trust has properties in almost every single unique ecoregion.... and I'm responsible for them all. Their first week with SE Trust was a deep dive into the vast diversity that is SE Trust properties.

We visited Fightingtown Creek Nature Park near Blue Ridge, GA with our local forester from the Georgia Forestry Commission. They got to see up close the impact of the hemlock woody adelgid on our majestic eastern hemlocks, along with the American chestnuts and the impact of the blight, and the impact of water on biodiversity since that property sits along the southern edge of a temperate rainforest. At Talking Rock Nature Park, they learned about the management of a timber stand and how we are planning to keep our forest healthy, and how we also have textbook examples of Southern Appalachian dry oak and shortleaf pine ridges, and our plans to reintroduce fire and maintain our bustling recreation scene. At Pine Hills Nature Preserve in Fulton County, GA, they learned what it takes to introduce a pocket park to a community and how we are slowly working to eradicate invasives and restore stream health, and how neighbors are starting to use the space. In Johns Creek, GA, we got to see the product of community organization and its benefits at Preservation Oaks, and how we develop plans to care for giant oaks in the prime of their lives. At Big Creek Greenway, we learned how we get out of nature's way, and let it do what it does: let the wetlands absorb water and harbor life... even if the mosquitoes try to eat you alive! In Bald Mountain Creek Nature Preserve in NC, they got to see the impacts of habitat alteration to help Golden Winged Warblers and what it takes to undertake a successful bird survey in steep mountain terrain. They have seemed blown away by the vast expanses of biodiversity we protect, and the many ways we work to do so. The number of friends and partners that help us accomplish so much is humbling, and there this an overwhelming sense that we have so much more to do.

I can't wait to show them what else we do to help our environment and our communities, and hopefully they will take home with them a greater sense of the interconnectedness of our world, and how much we need places to just let nature be itself. It would be good for us all.

Keith Ray, SE Trust Director of Conservation

(Continued)



Spring 2024 Recreation Highlights!

- Added a new mountain bike optimized trail section to Campbellton Creek Nature Park in Coweta County, GA sponsored by Bike Coweta and MTB Atlanta
- Hosted "Pedal Palooza" youth cycling engagement event at Aerotropolis Nature Park in South Fulton, GA. This event was produced by Georgia Cycling Association.
- Hosted the first race of Coyote Ugly Summer Series at Talking Rock Nature Park in Pickens County, GA with 3 additional events scheduled at Talking Rock Nature Park and Fightingtown Creek Nature Park (Fannin County, GA)



Bill Jones, SE Trust Executive Director, presented at Georgia Cycling Association's annual Coaches Training Summit.

Community

Spring 2024 Community Highlights!

- Hosted the 3rd annual 24-hour Bio-Blitz at Talking Rock Nature Park in Pickens County, GA in partnership with Reinhardt University. Participants came from Reinhardt University, Piedmont University, Kennesaw State University, Dalton State College, and Clemson University.
- Supported and funded 6 nature-based community events including volunteer workdays at SE Trust sites: Aerotropolis Nature Park and Campbellton Creek Nature Park in South Fulton, GA and Snapfinger Nature Preserve in DeKalb County, GA.
- Received funding from DNR Wildlife Resources Division's Wildlife Viewing Program grant program to build 5 wildlife viewing stations at Talking Rock Nature Park in Pickens County, GA.

Yes, I'll Invest! - Donate now!

Your investment supports our mission to conserve land, build parks and create community.



Bill Jones

bill.jones@stpal.org

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<https://stpal.org/>

Invasion of the Killer Plants

Donna Cottingham, Virginia Master Naturalist

Wouldn't you think kudzu might have taught us a lesson years ago? Today we have numerous invasive species that make kudzu look like a wimp. I'm not implicating non-natives like hellebores or Japanese maples. Not all non-natives are invasive. I am referring to the thug plants that form gangs and take over a territory. They displace the desirable local plant species, destroy habitats and degrade land.

Like kudzu, many invasive plants are obvious, such as Japanese honeysuckle, Japanese wisteria and Chinese wisteria. Even though they are invasive, they are still available for purchase at garden centers. Some have become such a common sight you might not even recognize them as invasive.

Tree-of-heaven, *Ailanthus altissima*, was introduced in the 1700s as an ornamental from China. A single female tree can release up to 300,000 seeds into the wind every year. The tree also spreads by suckers, making it easy to densely overtake an entire area. But wait, there's more. If you cut down a tree it will sprout multiple new trees, each capable of producing seeds within two years. And, it also contains a chemical that prevents competition from other nearby plants or trees.

Callery pear trees, *Pyrus calleryana*, and the cultivar Bradford pear, are from China and have come to dominate roadsides and fields throughout North Carolina. They have spread rapidly since being introduced in the 1900s. These trees degrade habitat quality for native species and are considered ecologically harmful to the environment.

Burning bush, *Euonymus alatus*, introduced in the 1800s, produces seeds that birds eat and widely disperse. Each plant is capable of producing many seeds. They can be found in residential landscapes in Wolf Laurel as well as in fields and woodlands where they have spread. Because of its brilliant red color in the fall, it has been used extensively in landscaping.

Several other shrubs have escaped cultivation and can be found growing wild. Chinese Privet, *Ligustrum sinense*, Autumn Olive, *Elaeagnus umbellata* and Thorny olive, *Elaeagnus pungens*, and Japanese Barberry, *Berberis thunbergii* can be found in most all of our area parks, woodlands, along roadsides and in many other areas far from residential landscapes. In some places there are entire fields packed with these shrubs. Each of these plants produce seeds that birds eat and disperse, thus spreading new growth in new areas. Many invasives have a germination rate as high as 90 percent. Barberry is associated with ticks because of its low, compact and thorny growth habit.

English ivy, *Hedera helix*, is another invasive that thrives in abundance in our woods and natural areas. Chinese silvergrass, *Miscanthus sinensis*, is a common ornamental that goes by many names: maidengrass, Japanese silvergrass, *Eulalia*. It produces an abundance of seeds that are spread by wind. Clumps of the grass produce dense mats of roots in the soil, choking out our native wildflowers. Many different cultivars of this grass are available for purchase in garden centers. Just look as you drive along I-26 toward Asheville, where this invasive grass covers many miles of roadside land. Not only does it displace native plants, it is extremely flammable and poses a serious fire risk. A recent CNN report about wildfire destruction explained that, "most of those homes were burned not by forest fires, but by fires racing through grass and shrubs."

(Continued)

Invasion of the Killer Plants

Invasive plants are almost impossible to eradicate once they become established. In many cases the plants have no natural threats such as insect infestation or mammal grazing because they did not evolve here. Unchallenged, they expand and disperse readily to new areas and displace desirable native plants. When landscaping, please be mindful to select native plants instead of destructive, invasive thugs. The decisions you make today will impact the land around us for years to come.



Chinese silvergrass growing along a road in Wolf Laurel. (photo by Donna Cottingham)

Barberry growing roadside in Wolf Laurel. (photo by Donna Cottingham)



Birds such as this mockingbird eat and spread invasive seeds. (photo by Bob Schammerhorn)

From WL Nextdoor

Northern lights

The old *Ski The Wolf* sign is retired



SL Jarvis



Walt Liebert



Timm Davis



Timm Davis



Timm Davis



Kats T

From WL Nextdoor

Sunset by Melani Hoyt



What ever happened to Tippy?

Tippy the skittish pretty little black and white dog captured the hearts of many wolf laurel residents and visitors last summer. She appeared and was spotted in March last year. She became a well fed and quite the celebrity of sorts for those on the mountain. Over the months of summer she very cautiously and gradually became more trusting and eventually let a local Wolf Laurel resident rescue her. Tippy was taken to a Humane Society in GA with whom the Wolf Laurel resident has close ties. There she was checked over by a vet, chipped, vaccinated and spayed. Tippy lacked needed socialization and was immediately placed with an experienced foster rescuer who renamed her appropriately Gypsy and taught her to wear a collar, walk on a leash, become social and play with other dogs as well as being house trained. She was soon seen on the Humane Society's website by a family in Decatur GA. She now lives with a loving family with two teenage boys, a dog pal and a huge fenced in yard to live happily ever after.

This facility is only a few years old and any donations would be greatly appreciated,

<https://www.cedartownpolkcountyhumanesociety.com/>



WLPOA and Village Club Links

The WLPOA website - <https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/>.

It provides information including the following:

- ◆ WLPOA Committees - https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/files/ugd/1610a3_4f3f0d4ffafa4ca592a6906d576f5a15.pdf
- ◆ WLPOA / Village Club Office Contact Information - https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/files/ugd/1610a3_29a20333463f4178815950ef6baofdd4.pdf
- ◆ Where to go for Assistance - https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/files/ugd/1610a3_4doa8883e8ca4f03a3c692bea8d72567.pdf
- ◆ Welcome to Wolf Laurel - https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/files/ugd/1610a3_9a2387acc7594523b92091ac8af219c8.pdf
- ◆ WLPOA and Village Club Benefits - https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/files/ugd/1610a3_2d9d49d267ca4558bf15844890c186ba.pdf
- ◆ Wolf Laurel on the Internet - https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/files/ugd/1610a3_9b1b79531b5847d8833c88b069186e62.pdf



Editor's Notes

Cover photos - from WLPOA events in years past

Page 25 Blast from the Past photo related to
President's Message / 1966



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<https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com>.

Printed copies of the Top of the Bald are available on Amazon.

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- 1) The final TOB edition for 2024 will be published on the first of November.
- 2) Payment for an Ad in the TOB results in the Ad also being posted on the WLPOA website.
- 3) Ad fees:

Half page: \$75 / edition

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