



TOP OF *THE BALD*

Fall 2024

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



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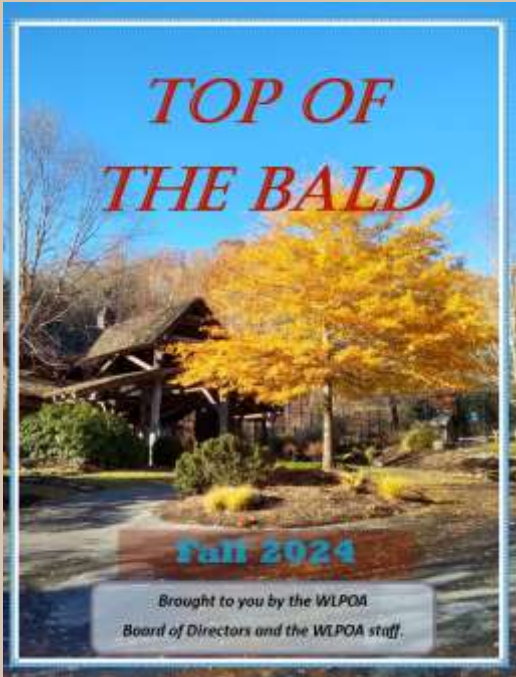
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Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association (WLPOA)

Board of Directors:

Bob Hicks - President

Steve Wilcox - Vice President

Lynn Cagney - Secretary

Rick Zinter - Treasurer

Theodore Meyer

Natalie Morris

Doug Orman

Scott McCaleb

Cary Monroe

Donna Garrison

Ashley Steadly

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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TOB Editor/Publisher
and Webmaster:

Larry Veatch,

larryv8@gmail.com

WLPOA:

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

Editorial Committee

Betsy Browne	Rich Ashley
Ron Metcalf	Bob Hicks
Lynn Cagney	

[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 Committee:

Chair: Bob Hicks, President
 Steve Wilcox, Vice President
 Lynn Cagney, Secretary
 Rick Zinter, Treasurer
 Ex Officio: John Brackett

Finance:

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

Audit (Compilation):

Chair: Vacant

Village Club (Amenities) Committee

Chair: Earlene Shofi (interim)
 Seasonal Village Club Manager:
 George Selman

Programs and Events

Coordinator: Caitlin Bush
 Becky Shennan
 Dan Morris
 Joanne Wit
 Kevin Flanagan
 Leigh Ann Roseberry
 Lori Wyman-Macaulay
 Nancy Schmidt
 Steve Wilcox

Village Club Sub Committee -

Independence Day

Chair: Natalie Morris

Village Club Sub Committee -

Kids' Camp

Chair: Sandy Skypek

Membership:

Chair: Liz Benson (WLPOA Director)
 Lynn Cagney (Secretary)

Facilities:

Chair: Theo Meyer
 Bill Aimone
 Fred Tygart
 Gregg Smith
 Becky Shennan (Pickleball)

Facilities Sub Committee - Village

Beautification:

Chair: open
 Laura & Tom Conard
 Theo Meyer
 Doug Orman
 Earlene Shofi
 Scott Weaver
 Steve Wilcox
 Arlene Watrobski

By-Laws and Legal:

Chair: Bob Hicks (President)
 Theo Meyer
 Fred Tygart

Long Range Planning:

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

Election Committee: (Verify ballots)

Chair: Liz Benson (WLPOA Director)
 Earlene Shofi

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Human Resources:

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

Library:

Director: Yvonne Carignan
 Bob Hicks (President)

Nominating Committee:

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

Playground Planning and Funding:

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

Rental Committee:

Chair: Doug Orman
 Elliott Caldwell
 Scott McCaleb
 Theo Meyer
 Lynn Cagney (Secretary)

Top of the Bald:

Editor: Larry Veatch
 Co-Editor: Linda Mullins

Editorial Board:

Rich Ashley
 Betsy Browne
 Ron Metcalf
 Lynn Cagney (Secretary)
 Bob Hicks (President)

Website Review/Update:

Chair: Lynn Cagney (Secretary)
 Bob Hicks (President)
 Natalie Morris
 Linda Mullins
 Rick Zinter (Treasurer)

WLPOA Package Annex Committee:

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

Wolf Laurel Country Club Collaboration Committee:

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



President's Message

On rare occasions, a series of unusual events can intensify one's sense of perspective. The 'double whammy' of Hurricanes Helene and Milton is such an occurrence. Everyone in Wolf Laurel has embraced (in their own way and in varying lengths of time) the glories of a remote mountain life style. And, for a substantial number of us, the more tropical advantages of Florida living still holds sway. But in just less than two weeks, our confidence in the safety and security of both geographies has been shattered.

So much destruction; so much disruption; and as we share our own misery and pain, we grieve for others, some known to us; many never to be known. It's a time for reflection, for re-evaluation, for prayers and for aid - both given and received.

Those whose 'job' it is to provide aid have provided it in full measure, beyond the duties of the job itself. Those who have aided others when it was NOT their 'job' to do it are honored by all who were touched by their efforts. Please see the next page.

And yet, there are reasons to look forward: all roads will ultimately be cleared; tree debris will be removed, much of it usable as firewood, barriers, mulch or hugelkultur* [you can google it, or check out the link below] ; gatherings will once again occur with regularity and joy; there will be golf, pickleball, swimming, fireworks, even skiing (we dare to hope) and the parties that make the fall and winter seasons especially festive for families and friends.

We will shortly 'close' our 2024 season, but some VC/POA events and activities will continue. We hope you will refrain from feeding the deer - we have a healthy population, but do not want to stress the limits of the natural surroundings. And we are planning for a spring 2025 'Town Hall' meeting, hoping that ALL entities within the gates will participate. If this weather-related tragedy has taught us anything, it is that we are the strongest and most vibrant when we all work together to make Wolf Laurel a sustainable community.

Warm Holiday Wishes to all!

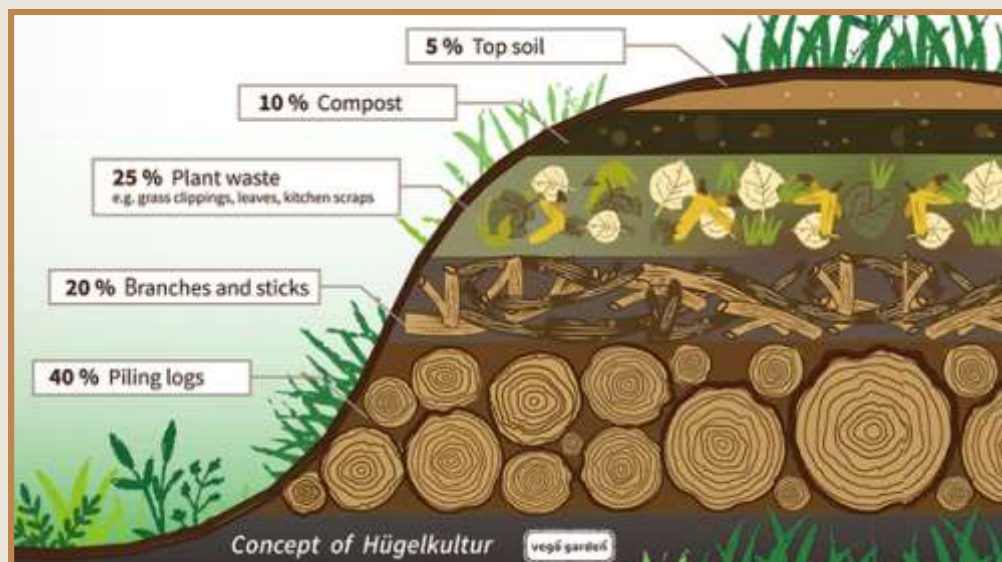
Regards,

Bob Hicks

bobhicks@cheerful.com

*<https://www.sciencemill.org/blog/2023/8/12/what-is-hugelkultur?>

Assisted by Bro



Bob Hicks

bobhicks@cheerful.com

AN INCOMPLETE LIST OF HELPERS

This 'honor roll' contains only those of whom we know; many others are unsung but still appreciated. On behalf of everyone who holds Wolf Laurel dear:
THANK YOU!

Alex & Jennifer Brown

Amy Beane

Andrew & Julia Lawless

Bee Tree

Bella Brown

Bill & Celia Aimone

Bill & Patty Abraira

Bobbie Holt

Caitlin Bush

Carolina Water

Carol Jones

Deborah Blanchard

Dan Morris

David Brown

David Jones

Dean & Linda Mullins

Debi Gilley

Donna & Paul Dickey

Doug Orman

Earlene Shofi

Ebbs Chapel Community Center

Ebbs Chapel Food Bank

Ebbs Chapel VFD

Elena Towle

Facebook Community Page

French Broad Electric

George Selman

Jay Williams

Jered Silver

Joe Capers

John Brackett

Keith McCaghren

Little Creek Cafe

Liz Benson

Mike Stapleton

Natalie Morris

Nathan Woody

POA staff

Rachel Krausman

Rick Zinter

Rob & Lynn Simmerman

RMS staff

Russ Woodiwiss

Steve & Ann Marie Brown

Steve & Cathy Boyle

Steve Wilcox

Susan Gallagher Jahna

Tim Carrigan

Theo Meyer

Tom Bush

Willy Romero

WLCC & staff

New POA Board Members

Ashley Steadly

Ashley Steadly is the co-founder of Steadly Group LLC who owns two large Short Term Rentals within Wolf Laurel. Born and raised in Charleston SC, Ashley always loved trips up the North Carolina mountains and loves the majestic mountain that Wolf Laurel resides on. Before beginning her real estate endeavor's, Ashley was an elementary school teacher for 15 years, teaching in Charleston, SC, Charlotte, NC and Las Vegas, NV. She has a masters in Biology. Currently, Ashley manages 6 houses in the Steadly Group portfolio, all along the Blue Ridge Mountains. She is happily married to her husband, Ryan, and they have two young children (Amelia and John) whom have enjoyed being apart of the Wolf Laurel community and mountain very much.

Donna Garrison

Dear Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association Members, My name is Donna Garrison, and I am looking forward to working respectfully with other board members and volunteers as well as the management team to continuously make the Wolf Laurel POA even a greater place to live in. For those of you who do not yet know me, I have lived in Wolf Laurel for 15 months, but having lived in Mars Hill previously I have been acquainted with Wolf Laurel for many years. My husband and I have been married for 13 years and have a tremendous love for the outdoors and nature, so of course we adore our mountain surroundings. Wolf Laurel board members must know how to plan and understand the budget, manage the association's finances, deal with conflicts, offer up and develop ideas, and listen to the membership. In my spare time, I enjoy gardening, listening to music, theatre, visiting with my neighbors and helping the community in which I live. I have a background in management of employees and clinical research projects for 24 years at several top clinical research organizations. I also am a registered nurse since 1987, and hope when I retire to use my nursing background to also serve in the community. I have also worked on other HOA boards, most recently the Wolf Ridge Townhome Association. We lived in a mountain community similar to Wolf Laurel in Wilkes County NC for many years where I was also very active in the association. Regards, Donna Garrison

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, fitness classes, water aerobics, tai chi, stocked trout pond, potluck and appetizer dinners, scheduled hikes, 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/>

Activities & Programs for WLPOA and Village Club Members

GROUP FITNESS

9:00 AM to 10:00 AM Mondays and Thursdays

Tone, Tighten, and Balance class focuses on enhancing daily functionality by improving strength, mobility, posture, and balance through targeted exercises for all major muscle groups. Sessions take place at the lower entrance to the Community Center (unless specified otherwise) and participants should bring an exercise mat, weights, and water. For more information, contact Mary Lou Woodiwiss, ACE certified Group Fitness Instructor, at vbwoody1@hotmail.com.

TAI CHI:

10:00 AM to 11:00 AM Tuesdays and Thursdays

Tai Chi is a gentle practice incorporating slow movements, physical postures, meditative awareness, and controlled breathing, aimed at enhancing pain relief, mobility, balance, and overall health. Classes take place at the lower entrance to the Community Center. Participants should wear loose-fitting clothing and bring an exercise mat and water. For more information, contact Fred Buck at (828) 231-2692.

WOLF PACK HIKING:

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

The Wolf Pack, established before 2003, focuses on fitness, friendship, adventures, and a love of nature. All hikes are dog-friendly for non-aggressive, well-behaved dogs, and typically meet at the Village Club parking lot (unless specified otherwise). If participating in carpooling, bring cash for the driver. Participants should wear appropriate hiking attire and pack necessary items like hiking boots, trekking poles, rain gear, insect repellent, sunscreen, food, and water. For more information, contact Mary Lovley at crazy4bunnies@yahoo.com.

WALK IN THE WOODS HIKING

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

Launched in 2021, the *Walk in the Woods* program aims to introduce residents to the walking and hiking trails within the Wolf Laurel community. All hikes are dog-friendly for non-aggressive, well-behaved dogs, and typically meet at the Country Club's Fitness Center parking lot (unless specified otherwise). Participants should wear appropriate hiking attire and pack necessary items like hiking boots, trekking poles, rain gear, insect repellent, sunscreen, food, and water. For more information, contact Yvonne Carignan at ycarigna@gmu.edu.

SAMBA**11:00 AM Tuesdays**

Samba is a rummy-style game similar to Canasta, designed for four players with up to 16 participants across four tables. RSVP is required on a first-response, first-served basis, and games take place at the Community Center. Bring a snack to share. For more information, or to RSVP (required - space is limited), contact Linda Mullins at mrsdepp826@gmail.com.

MAHJONG**11:00 AM Thursdays**

Mahjong is a tile-based game of skill, strategy, and luck that originated in China in the 19th century. The goal is to match all your tiles in the correct order to create sets and remove them from play. RSVP is required on a first-response, first-served basis, and games take place at the Community Center. For more information, or to RSVP (required - space is limited), contact Linda Mullins at mrsdepp826@gmail.com.

SMOKE SIGNALS - PIPE & CIGAR CLUB**4:00 PM Tuesdays**

The Smoke Signals Pipe & Cigar Club offers a friendly environment for both pipe tobacco and cigar lovers, whether seasoned enthusiasts and curious newcomers, in a relaxed, non-judgmental setting for individuals aged 21 and older. Meetings take place at the Village Club Pavilion, where attendees are advised to bring their own cigars and beverages. For more information, contact George Selman at george@wolflaurelpoa.com.

DINING OUT WITH FRIENDS:**5:00 PM Wednesdays (the second of the month)**

On the second Wednesday of each month, Village Club members gather for dinner at various local establishments. Attendance is limited and carpooling is available for interested participants. RSVP is required on a first-response, first-served basis. For more information, or to RSVP (required - space is limited), contact Caitlin Bush at caitlin@wolflaurelpoa.com.

SIP, SAVOR, AND SOCIALIZE:**11:00 AM Wednesdays (the third of the month)**

On the third Wednesday of each month, women from the Village Club gather for lunch at various local establishments. Attendance is limited and carpooling is available for interested participants. RSVP is required on a first-response, first-served basis. For more information, or to RSVP (required - space is limited), contact Linda Mullins at mrsdepp826@gmail.com.

WINTER WEDNESDAY POTLUCK

5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Wednesdays (the third of the month)

Join the Winter Wednesday Potlucks At the Community Center, where everyone is encouraged to bring a covered dish to share and enjoy a BYOB atmosphere. The Village Club will provide soda, water, paper products, and utensils for all attendees.

DROP-IN EVENTS:

11:30 AM to 1:30 PM Wednesdays (the first of the month)

Drop-in events, also known as come-and-go parties or stop-by events, are informal social gatherings for Village Club members, allowing them to come and go at their convenience. These events typically feature a theme or giveaway and are sponsored by the Village Club and held at the Community Center. For more information, contact Caitlin Bush at caitlin@wolflaurelpoa.com.

Stay organized and plan ahead by checking out our shared Google calendar, which features all the programs, events, and activities scheduled for the Wolf Laurel Village Club. Don't miss out on any exciting happenings!

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=Y2FpdGxpbkB3b2xmbGF1cmVscG9hLmNvbQ>

Notice to WLPOA and Village Club Members: Please be informed that events posted on this community page, but which occur off premises, are not POA/VC-sponsored.



Village Club

The Playground



Dining Out With Friends



Blast From The Past—1988

Page 4



Last Hurrah Blows 'em Away

"I haven't heard my husband laugh that hard in the last 25 years."
 "My jaws ached I laughed so much."
 "Funniest show I've ever seen."
 These were some of the comments

voiced about the "Last Hurrah" our final get-together for 1987.

The show started with MC Ed Martin telling the packed house that the show was to be Wolf Laurel's version of the Gong Show. It even featured a star-studded panel of vocalist J.P. Morgan (Barbara Candler), Phyllis Diller (Gladys Earman), and Aristotle Onassis (Dee Red).

Sneakily, the show started with a rather refined dance routine by Cindy Green and Joe Matheson. But it was downhill after that.

The next act featured Mary Beth Inman breaking a chair across Buster Inman's back, all to the Spike Jones song "You Always Hurt The One You Love." Next, the lovely voiced Dianne Ward was bonged off the stage as soon as she began to sing.

Eve Nichols followed, playing a gorilla in love with a chicken (Harriet Spencer). Dianne Ward and a friend tried to sneak back on stage again but were gonged off as they would be all evening.

That was followed by the trio of Bob Goenner, Kyle Carter and Bill Ward, wearing garbage cans as hats and

their bare bellies painted as faces, all to the whistling tune of "Bridge On The River Kvie."

Dr. Bob, the veterinarian, and his nurse (played by Bob Williams and Carol Williams) then confronted the audience with the worse jokes of the century.

The selection of a beauty queen followed to serve as a representative of Wolf Laurel at all Walnut Mountain Ventures promotions. The selection, based on talent, poise, evening gown, and beauty and figure in swimsuit competition, came down to Joe Matheson, Bob Ware, and John Haynie. Matheson won the title but for unknown reasons Walnut Mountain has been reluctant to allow our queen to make appearances in public.

A two-headed woman (Angie Sutton and Mary Beth Inman) then sang, followed by Old Man Muse (Dick Griffith) entertaining the audience with a rendition of "Frankie and Johnnie."

Rip Dobbins next appeared on stage, playing his tambourine to the song "The Stripper." He received a chorus of boos until a real stripper (Cindy Green)



Continued Page 6

Last Hurrah 1987

Continued From Page 4

seductively began to strip behind him. At this point the show was raided by two sheriff's officers (Bob Goenner and Bill Ward) and the show appeared over for the evening. Dianne Ward was then allowed to sing and belted out "There's No Business Like Show Business," joined by the rest of the night's cast for the finale.

It was a great way to end a great 1987 season.

Wolf Laurel POA Season Wrap-up Library Report

November 2024

Yvonne Carignan

WLPOA and Library provide refuge during disaster

With sympathy for all who struggled through the disaster of Hurricane Helene, I am grateful for the WLPOA's role serving as a refuge for the community. By opening during the disaster and providing so many services, WLPOA also kept the library accessible. Library statistics suggest that people, lacking internet and electricity after the storm, turned to books, movie DVDs and puzzles for entertainment. When you come into the library, you can see for yourself that the shelves are not as full as usual!

Donations

Some special donations came in recently. Tiffani Buckley went to the great trouble of packing and shipping – FROM FLORIDA -- 5 boxes of nice hardback and trade paperback fiction and nonfiction. Thank you, Tiffani!

We were also excited to find 64 art books in a single donation, as of now anonymous, with two more boxes just arrived to process. By art books, I mean books about famous artists, art museum books, books on art techniques, art history; art handbooks; hazardous art and craft materials safety, and creativity issues. This art book collection should be useful to the many artists and crafts people – and well as to art enthusiasts -- in Wolf Laurel. Just a little rearranging in the lower level of the library will accommodate these books, which greatly improve our art book collection.

A sampling of books
about artists



(continued)

Wolf Laurel POA Library Report Summer 2024

Here are some titles related to art:



Sampling of Books on Art Techniques:



Statistics for the Season, November 2023-October 2024)

2024 was a particularly good year for donations with nearly 1,500 incoming, up 27% from last year. Regarding your use of our collection, because I track borrowed items by counting them when they return, those counts are inaccurate for several reasons. People may not return a book in the same year they borrowed it, for one thing. Also, people may also select books out of the return bin to take home before I have a chance to count them. Perhaps some people never get around to returning the books they borrow at all. Finally, I see evidence that people are still reshelving books that they return so I never have a chance to count those either. Therefore the 700+ count of books people borrow is probably considerably less than the actual number of books borrowed each year. Nonetheless, we are delighted when the books and library are used!

(continued)

Wolf Laurel POA Library Report Summer 2024

Besides our increase in donated items, most of the other counts are comparable to previous years, except for puzzles. We had almost twice as many puzzles borrowed AND donated this year. In fact, so many puzzles were donated, we added a bookshelf in the puzzle room to accommodate the influx. Although we appreciate all the people who donated puzzles, special thanks go to Laura Fisher for not only donating a great many puzzles, but organizing them as well.

All these numbers mean that I have counted and applied the WLPOA property stamp to all donated items, shelved the new pieces, and reshelved the returned books and media. During the last year, it has taken me 75 visits to the library (often twice a week as needed) to shelve returned books and process donated books, as well as returned and donated puzzles, games, audio books, and movies. Many of these materials serve children of all ages, as well as adults, and the children's room has been more heavily used this year than ever -- a very satisfying turn of events for the librarian!



New shelving for puzzle overflow:

For the Record, Statistics from November 2023 through October 2024

Books borrowed: 702 Books donated: 1494 Puzzles borrowed: 52
 Puzzles donated: 111 Games borrowed: 15 Games donated: 36
 Audio books on CDs borrowed: 17 Audio books donated: 3
 Movies on DVD borrowed: 35 Movies donated: 67

Collection Size

Because so many books and other items were borrowed during our recent disaster, now is not a good time to get an accurate collection count. Here is the collection size based on last year's count: 7900 books + 761 puzzles, games, DVDs, Audio books on CDs
 Total collection size = 8,661 items

Thank you, everyone, for all your generous donations that build our library, and to all of you who come explore and borrow our collections!

Wolf Laurel Historical Society

From the Wolf Laurel Historical Society

September 27th, 2024, is a date that will be remembered in any future history of Wolf Laurel. The historical society has those whose health or homes were impacted by Hurricane Helene in our thoughts and hope that recovery will be swift and without trouble. Our condolences to the family of our neighbor who lost his life in the aftermath of the storm. All of us live now with the impact on Asheville, Madison and Yancey Counties, all of Western North Carolina, and Northeast Tennessee, all the places that have contributed so much to the quality of our life at Wolf Laurel.

As this is written, it remains a time for our energies being devoted to addressing our own needs and helping our neighbors recover from their loss. But we just wanted to tell you that when the time comes, the historical society will be creating an archive for future generations to understand this event in the context of our time. It will not only include our memories of the impact of the storm on our lives, but also the extraordinary story of everyone rising up to meet the moment with little and great acts of kindness that say Wolf Laurel is a community.

Planning is in progress and details will follow at an appropriate time for the archival project. For the moment, we urge you, at a reflective moment, to record your thoughts and experiences as you have experienced Helene in any medium that feels appropriate to you. We will provide the opportunity to contribute those thoughts to the archive. And keep your photos, we will be archiving copies of them as well.

For now, stay safe as we rebuild, support your neighbors in need, and look forward to the better times when the work of today builds the rejuvenated Wolf Laurel, once again memorable to us all as a treasure in the Appalachian Sky. And stay tuned for details of our effort to capture images and memories.

Wolf Laurel Historical Society

The Wolf Laurel Historical Society Board

<https://wlhistory.org/>

Welcome to Terry Deal to the Top of the Bald contributors, who is the new Wolf Laurel Historical Society Secretary.

Fall Pix





08/15/2024

Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association
91 Village Ln
Mars Hill, NC 28754

Dear Property Owners,

Our hearts are so full after receiving your kind donation of \$1100.00 on 08/13/2024, along with in kind donations of toys, treats, and food valued at \$300.00. We so appreciate you holding a fundraiser for us. Know that your generosity and thoughtfulness directly impact the animals we serve and makes a difference in their daily lives.

Your contribution has a direct impact on dogs like Nala. This very sweet 5-year-old Carolina mix lived her entire life on a chain. A concerned neighbor offered to buy her and brought her to us. Nala is a happy, wiggly girl who loves everyone. Sadly, she has heart worms and will have to undergo treatment. We are trying to find a foster home for her while she is being treated. In the meantime, she is safe and being lovingly cared for by our caring staff and volunteers.

Your generosity is also helping so many cats and kittens in our community. It's been a busy kitten season, and we currently have 132 felines in our care! One of these kittens is sweet Hope. This kitten came in at only 3 weeks old. She was dehydrated, underweight, flea infested and had a swollen leg. We immediately began providing medical care to her. It has been two weeks, and she has made good progress. One of our caring staff members took her home to foster and this sweet girl is thriving! She is fat and spunky and almost ready to be adopted into her forever home.

You might have heard that we have a goal of building our very own low cost spay neuter clinic in our community. Not only is your donation helping dogs like Nala and cats like Hope, but your support is also helping us get one step closer to reaching our goal, and positively impacting the lives of the cats and dogs in our community. Your support means the world to us, and we appreciate each and every one of you who contributed to this fundraiser.

Gratefully,


Steve Reif, President
Yancey Humane Society

*The Yancey County Humane Society has provided no goods or services in consideration of this contribution.
The Yancey County Humane Society is a 501C(3) organization.*

Yancey County Humane Society
211 Kind Hearts Way, PO Box 1016
Burnsville, NC 28714
828-682-9510

www.yanceyhumanesociety.org

Like us on Facebook!

Ebbs Chapel Community Center

We are so grateful for our neighbors helping neighbors for as many who come for help, many are also coming to give. As the temperatures fall, we are in need of warm coats for children and adults, hats, gloves, etc and blankets. We in the Upper Laurel area survived the hurricane better than Hot Springs and Marshall and so are cooperating with all community centers and supply areas to quickly respond to needs throughout our county.

Barbara Merrill, Secretary,

Upper Laurel Community Organization/Ebbs Chapel Community Center

Wolf Laurel Community

A HUGE thank you to everyone in the Wolf Laurel community for the incredible donations coming in for our surrounding counties! We will be delivering these items to drop-off locations tomorrow morning.

For those in Wolf Laurel who are preparing to leave soon: if you have food you can't take with you, we would gladly accept it for donation. We're planning to cook and deliver meals to those in the hardest-hit areas in need.

Jennifer Brown, Wolf Laurel



DO NOT FEED THE DEER, PLEASE!

Is it ok to feed the deer? No it is not, for a number of different reasons.

First - the deer can be destructive, both to your own garden and neighbors' gardens. You might love to have deer around, tell this to your neighbors when the deer have destroyed their vegetable or flower gardens.

Second - deer can be dangerous, especially to children, who view them as 'cute and cuddly' - there have been cases of conditioned deer killing children who have approached them or not fed them on demand. Conditioned deer are ones that have been fed and associate humans with food, not danger as most deer do.

Third - increased traffic danger. Deer often do not have much road sense and simply dash out in front of vehicles. Causing people to have road accidents by swerving to avoid the deer, damage to various vehicles, etc.

Fourth - Increased exposure to a number of diseases carried by deer, the ticks living upon the deer or from their feces.

Fifth - Although you may like the deer around, once they become conditioned and associate humans with food they will approach humans expecting to be fed - - including hunters.

It is best, if you are visited by deer, to observe them from a suitable distance and interact as little as possible. Keeping them wild.

Lynn Cagney

Chronic Wasting Disease

<https://www.ncwildlife.org/connect/have-wildlife-problem/preventing-wildlife-conflicts/common-wildlife-diseases/deer-diseases/chronic-wasting-disease>



Better Fishing with 2 Bald Biologists Podcast

In the latest episode of Better Fishing with 2 Bald Biologists podcast, Corey and Ben chat with Doug Besler, Mountain Region Supervisor, about trout fishing in North Carolina. Discover expert insights on trout management and the best fishing spots across the state. Listen at: <https://bit.ly/3TB0MoQ>

Avid anglers Corey Oakley and Ben Ricks are N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission biologists. Listen in as they help anglers understand more about the fish and fisheries in North Carolina while promoting conservation of valuable natural resources. These monthly podcasts will link the research and surveys conducted by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission to fishing in North Carolina. Our hope is to help anglers learn more about fish so they can catch more fish. Our expert guests will include biologists, anglers, and fishing industry professionals to talk fish and fishing in North Carolina. And yes, we are bald and we are biologists, let's talk fishing! Thank you for listening and please submit questions and feedback to twobaldbiologists@ncwildlife.org. Site: <https://www.ncwildlife.org/connect/two-bald-biologists-podcast>.

New: Fishing tips, fishing reports, podcast drops, and much more delivered right to your inbox. It's all about fishing! Sign up for [N.C. Wildlife Fishing Updates today!](#)



Corey Oakley



Ben Ricks

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Local Agency, Communications Team

Biologists with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission are asking for the public's assistance in helping them track fox squirrels in North Carolina. New county observations have recently been documented and biologists want to confirm fox squirrel occurrence in those counties. The new county observations are from Lincoln, Granville, Currituck and Madison counties.

The fox squirrel is the largest tree squirrel in North Carolina, nearly twice the size of the more common gray squirrel. It lives primarily in mature longleaf pine and open pine-oak forests in the Sandhills and southern Coastal Plain. However, we have verified observations from the Piedmont and Mountain regions, associated with open hardwood forests surrounded by pastureland or other open habitats.

Fox squirrels occur in a variety of color phases. In the Sandhills and Coastal Plain of North Carolina, they are grayish with various patches of black on the head and feet and white patches on the nose, paws and ear tips. Some animals are almost totally black with dark gray patches, and others are reddish or rust colored. Squirrels in the northwestern population typically have a tawny- brown or grizzled-gray color above, with a rusty or pale orange-brown color on the underside, ears, and legs. The top of the head is usually black, and they often have a white nose as well.

If you observe a fox squirrel, please take a photo, note the location (GPS coordinates preferred) and contact the Wildlife Commission's NC Wildlife Helpline via email at HWI@ncwildlife.org.



North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Communications Team

We have been receiving photos of people killing rattlesnakes and it's pretty clear that some folks need some education. Not only is it dangerous to attempt to kill a snake, in some cases it's illegal. Ten out of our 38 native snakes in NC are listed species. This includes all three of our rattlesnakes: Carolina Pygmy Rattlesnake, Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake and the Timber Rattlesnake. These snakes are protected by the state and cannot be harmed, harassed, or relocated without an Endangered Species Permit obtained from the Wildlife Commission. So do yourself a favor. If you see a rattlesnake, admire it from a safe distance and let it go on its merry way. That way, you'll be safe from the bitey parts and also safe from a visit from a wildlife officer.



From WL
Nextdoor

Melani Hoyt



Timm Davis

From WL
Nextdoor

Melani Hoyt



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_ccob41f6d9164boba4b263949d624121.pdf.

- ◆ WLPOA / Village Club Office Contact Information - <https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/files/ugd/1610a329a20333463f4178815950ef6baofdd4.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_8ofad65505e04e0ebo4d42a39da166a4.pdf.

◆



Editor's Notes

Digital versions of the TOB are available at [https://
www.wolflaurelpoa.com](https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com).

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

Advertising featured in the TOB does not imply endorsement.

For advertising in TOB email larryv8@gmail.com

TOB feedback, comments, and suggestions are welcome -

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WLPOA Website comments / suggestions / questions -

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Welcome to Linda Mullins to the WLPOA website editorial team.



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- 1) The TOB edition for 2025 will be published on the first of March, May, July, 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,
\$270 for four**

**Full page: \$85 / edition
\$300 for four**

Ad designing starts at \$35

- 4) Remit to:

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For Ad space and information contact
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