



Top Of The *Bald*

Wolf Laurel Property Owners' Association

Newsletter - Winter 2021 Edition

Brought to you by the WLPOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

and the WLPOA STAFF



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ENGEL & VÖLKERS South

Glorious Mayhem Cleaning & Handyman

Wolf Mountain Realty

Hill’s Plumbing Contractor

Precision Restoration Services

Wolf Ridge Ski Resort

Wolf Laurel Property Owners' Association (WLPOA)

WLPOA Board of Directors:

John Brackett - President

Carl Larrabee - Vice President

Lynn Cagney - Secretary

Steve Parker - Treasurer

Bill Gregg

Steve Wilcox

Lori Wyman Macaulay

Laura Conard

Jack Trousdale

Bob Hicks

Leigh Ann Roseberry

Jim Landry, Emeritus

Earlene Shofi, Immediate Past President



WLPOA Staff:

Ronnie Rice - WLPOA Office Manager

Carol Jones - Village Club Director



WLPOA:

91 Village Lane

Mars Hill, NC 28754

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WLPOA COMMITTEES

Village Club:

Bill Gregg (Chair)
 Co. Chair: Lori Wyman-Macaulay
 George & Becky Shennan
 Nancy & David Schmidt
 Steve Wilcox
 Earlene Shofi
 Leigh Ann Roseberry
 Geri Magg
 Joanne Wit
 Carol Jones: (VC Director)

VC Winter Events:

Chair: Bill Gregg
 Steve Wilcox
 Steve Parker
 Gene Woolf

Audit:

Steve Parker
 Leah Noel CPA (External)

Finance:

Chair: Steve Parker (Treasurer)
 John Brackett
 Fred Tygart
 Earlene Shofi (HR Personnel)
 David Smith

Planning:

John Brackett (Membership)
 Steve Parker (Finance)
 Carol Jones (VC Director)
 Lori Wyman-Macaulay (VC)
 Carl Larrabee (Facilities)

By-Laws and Legal:

Fred Tygart
 Bob Hicks

Membership:

Chair: John Brackett
 Lynn Cagney
 Lori Wyman-Macaulay
 Laura Conard
 Leigh Ann Roseberry
 Michaelene Sanders
 Ronnie Rice (POA Office Mgr.)

Library:

Yvonne Carignan (Director)
 Bob Hicks

Top of the Bald:

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

Monday Night Pot Luck & Friday Night Social

Multiple Chairs

Webmaster/IT:

Jim Landry

Facilities:

Carl Larrabee (Chair)
 Fred Tygart
 Steve Parker
 Leigh Ann Roseberry
 Bill Aimone
 Becky Shennan (Pickle Ball)

Village Beautification:

Laura Conard (Chair)
 Gail Ford
 Gwynne Beneke

Ad Hoc Committees:

Playground Planning & Funding:

Lynn Cagney
 Earlene Shofi
 Janis Larrabee

Nominating Committee:

Bill Aimone
 David Schmidt
 Becky Shennan

Mail Cabin / Motel:

John Brackett
 Carl Larrabee
 Earlene Shofi
 Laura Conard
 Steve Parker
 Steve Wilcox

POA President's Notes

We have experienced a snow-filled winter thus far in Wolf Laurel. There were several snow days where the community experienced several inches of snow and for several weeks snow was seen throughout the long-range mountain views. Nevertheless, your WLPOA Board and staff have been hard at work as we continue to plan for the upcoming summer activities. While last year we experienced unprecedented change due to the pandemic, this year we are hopeful we can return to normal operations as the vaccine is distributed. We will follow the State of North Carolina's guidance and will keep you updated as the year progresses.



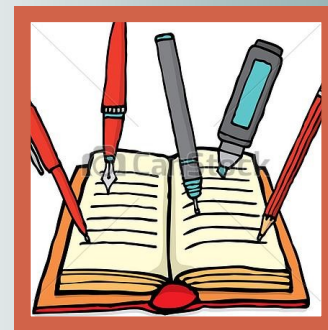
John Brackett

The WLPOA Board is also exploring how we add more value to our members, and as you may have heard, we are working with the WLRMS Board to consider a property exchange of the Package Cabin for the old "Motel" property. Please reference the article from WLRMS on this topic in this issue. Your WLPOA Board believes this opportunity will create value for each WLPOA member and allow for expanded use of the old motel building for the Village Club in future years. Your WLPOA Board will provide more information in the near future.

We look forward to seeing everyone this summer and for our full-time residents, please stop by the Village Center and check out the library so you have a good book available for the next snow day!

Editor's Notes

1. Thanks again to those who have made contributions to this and past TOB's. The TOB seeks to provide valuable information to residents, and seeks to provide interesting news about past and future events in our community - WL, Mars Hill, & Madison County.



2. Thanks to all who contribute to keeping the WL community such a pleasant place to live and to visit, by:

- Making safety a priority (e.g., masks, social distancing, safe driving, etc.)
- Turning off unnecessary lights
- Maintaining pet control (e.g., limiting noisy barking, leashing, and cleanup)
- Picking up / minimizing trash
- Practicing fire safety (e.g., no unattended fires or coals)

3. Thanks to the TOB Editorial Committee:

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

4. In addition to being available on the WLPOA website you can order the TOB (a few days after appearing on our website) on the Amazon.com website.

5. Next TOB edition is due out May 1st (contribution deadline April 15th)

6. If you send material for the TOB which contains text, it is best to send the original file in the format created by the text editor (e.g., .txt, .doc, .docx) instead of a .pdf, .jpg, .png, etc. (which are OK for graphics, photos, etc.). And please, insert only one space between sentences.

BE SAFE and BE CONSIDERATE

Larry Veatch, TOB Editor & Publisher

larryv8@gmail.com, 352-359-0071



The WLPOA and Village Club Membership Benefits

10

Everything on this list is available to WL Village Club members,
while only a few are for POA members only.

Representation of the members' interests on community matters

Package Cabin for parcels

Email notifications & alerts

Pool

Tennis courts

Pickleball courts

Basketball court

Four Square area

Playground

Horseshoe Pits

Pavilions - Main & Angelico Ridge

Community Center

POA & Club meetings

Personal gatherings

Wi-Fi (also at pavilion)

Art Wall

Library

Foosball

Postal pickup

Tai Chi sessions

Kids' Camp

Independence Day celebration

Social events - Friday and Monday nights, holidays

Book Club

Hiking Club

Yoga sessions

Fishing pond

Open grounds

Amphitheater

Nature Trail

Spring House

Newsletter - Top of the Bald

VC Facebook page

Website:

POA Board notices

Member Directory

Covenants

Bulletin Board

Trading Post, etc.

Landscaping

Dining Out With Friends

Classes

Fitness

Water aerobics

First aid

Painting

Gardening

Archery, etc.

Health & Longevity Coaching

Wolf Laurel

Property Owners

Association

November Board Meeting notes:

The Package Cabin and the Motel utilization are being reviewed.

STPAL / FBMCNP, e.g., are working with USGA on Warblers & a 16-acre preserve project scheduled for next year.

January Board Meeting notes:

Finance – “Ample” assets: “Total current assets increased and the organization has ample liquid resources to cover current liabilities.”

Insurance company to change

Village Club – Independence Day will be celebrated on July 3rd

Membership – WLPOA membership has increased to over 700 members: There has been an increase in membership as home sales in WL have increased. Of the 700, 135 are lot-only owners.

Facilities – Pickleball: Four permanent pickleball nets are scheduled to be installed in March.

The WLPOA has been unsuccessful in getting ZOOM board meetings available for residents, due to a capacity limit. Right now we are being allowed to hold our meetings on ZOOM through a member's generosity. Contact Ronnie Rice in the POA Office for information on Zoom meetings.

WLRMS Liaison - RMS issues: budget changes, landslides, new mail boxes, website changes (some access members only) 2020 - Raised fees to cover expenses, increase reserves for future needs, and to provide employee benefits.

“Back Gate” to be referred to as “Preserve Gate”

Bald Mountain Nature Preserve, Bill Jones – Wilderness & Rock Climbing area is being developed outside WL.



WL POA January Board Meeting notes (continued):

WLPOA Website – Member Directory updates continue to be made. Coming soon from WLRMS - an "Owners Only" section on their website.”

TOB – Winter edition to be available March 1st

Beautification Committee – suggestions needed for foliage, attractive but not appealing to the deer

Package Cabin Procedures: There are additional procedures under Mailroom (Package Cabin) Procedures During COVID-19:

* PLEASE WEAR MASK!! Package Cabin is open from 7 am-8 pm daily. The employees are sorting the cabin from 2:30 - 3:30 daily and we ask that residents do not pick up during this time. The space is limited, and we are asking for large items not to be delivered to the cabin.

* Please wait outside of the cabin while FED-X and UPS complete their deliveries and make telephone calls to recipients. Be courteous, there is limited space in the cabin and drivers are on a tight schedule due to increased volume. They must also follow government directives for social distancing.

* Reminder: during COVID-19 the Package Cabin is closed from 2:30-3:30 pm weekdays.

****See page 15****



WLPOA February Board Meeting notes:

WLRMS Liaison:

The “back gate” is now to be referred to as the “Preserve Gate”

Website updates have been made

Long-range planning is being addressed

Louise Wyatt is back subsequent to convalescence following an injury

Financial: Assets have increased somewhat and income is considered ample.

Village Club: Independence Day will be celebrated on July 3rd with COVID-19 modifications; fireworks are being ordered.

Membership: For membership information go to the WLPOA website, under **About**, see **Policies and Forms**. There you will find *Membership Options Chart*, *Membership Fees*, and a *Prospective Member Invitation*.

Facilities: Motel and Package Cabin utilization continues to be reviewed. The Nature Trail is to be included on a new WLRMS hiking trail map.

TOB: To include the new hiking map information

The suggestion was made to consider combining WLPOA & Village Club memberships. The Board will continue discussion of this idea.

Village Club membership was discussed. We encourage WLPOA members to become Village Club members. There are many activities, events and amenities available to Village Club members - as per page 10.

Reported at the WLRMS February board meeting: the WLPOA is pursuing the swap of the Package Cabin for WLRMS’s “Motel” property (4+ acres). WLPOA priorities would begin with the repair of the roof. Usage, in addition to a new package pick up location, might include a picnic area, and facilities for meetings, classes, etc.

WLRMS Board Meeting 2/19/21

* WLPOA and WLRMS are moving forward with arrangements to swap the Package Cabin for the Motel.

*



January - February we received 76 inches of snow and 10 inches of rain. Icing on gravel roads is being addressed; plans are being made to use larger gravel. More than usual problems have occurred, e.g. on Village Lane, and with mud on gravel roads, approximately 50 spots have been identified. There is to be an increased budget for sand and salt. Long-term plans are to rebuild some sections of some gravel roads.

* New IT committee to address resident portal and to assess the collection and access of personal data.

* New postal facilities being considered, personal locations may be reassigned.

* Hampton Gap area is still slated to receive new trees.

* Signage around the outside of WL is being evaluated.

The Wolf Laurel POA Package Cabin

- Large items such as furniture, appliances, grills, tires, etc. should not be delivered to the cabin. If you have ordered an oversize item, make prior arrangements to meet the carrier upon delivery. We will hold oversized or extremely heavy items for 24 hours; they will then be returned to FedEx or UPS facility for you to pick up at another location.
- Packages will be returned to sender after 7 days.
- Packages marked “perishable” will be disposed of after 3 days.

*We need more
space!!!.....
See page 24....
New “Package
Depot”???*



WOLF LAUREL VILLAGE CLUB 2021

Spring & Summer Programs

Activities start in June

*** *Activities may be pending of CoVid-19 Restrictions* ***

Fitness Class with Mary Lou Woodiwiss

Sessions take place on the basketball court blacktop or in the Village Pavilion — instructor's choice depending on the weather. Bring your exercise mat, water bottle, weights & stretch bands. Get ready for a great workout!

Tai Chi with Fred Buck

Sessions take place in the VC Community Center (down stairs) or an outside location (e.g., deck) in the beautiful sunshine. Bring your water bottle and an exercise mat.

Yoga with John Shoemaker

Each class will include restorative and yin yoga (long static poses) and active yoga (dynamic poses followed by short static poses). Standing, balancing, kneeling, sitting, and lying down poses will be practiced. Practitioners should bring their own mats and bolsters, although some blocks and blankets are available. This class will take place in the VC Community Center. John is a 200-hour certified yoga teacher and soon to become a 500-hour certified yoga teacher through Yoga Alliance. He completed his training at the Asheville Yoga Center. His winter schedule is Zoom Yoga, contact John via email for log-on information at johnhshoemaker@gmail.com.

Water Aerobics with LeighAnn Roseberry on Tuesday & Thursday @ 1 pm (water temperature at 85 degrees)

Book Club with Karen Gerry meets once a month in the pavilion: Updates to follow

Pickleball

Starting when the weather permits. To learn to play Pickleball contact the Village Club at 828-689-4089 to arrange for instructional sessions. To get on the email list - b.shennan@hotmail.com

Health & Longevity Coaching by Larry Veatch, Author of *Healthy Lifestyle Strategies*; larryv8@gmail.com, 352-359-0071

(continued)

The Village Club
KIDS' CAMP 2021

Village Club Wolf Cub Kids' Camp

July 5 - 10

9am - 3pm

Ages 5 - 10; \$250 per camper

Contact Carol Jones, Village Club Director for more information at

carol@wolflaurelpoa.com or

Office: 838-689-4089



WLPOA / Village Club Website

Everyone is encouraged to be familiar with the WL Village Club website at <https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/village-club>, general access being available to anyone. Some information is for WLPOA Village Club members only. At the website you can access much information; see tabs listed below.



Village Club

Programs
Membership
Fees
Rental homes

About

Board Members
Committee Members
Policies, Forms, and FAQ's

Bulletin Board

VC Offerings
Events and Activities
Area Farmers Markets
Walking Trails in Madison County
Area Restaurant Offerings
Pets
Theatres / Venues
Regional News / Websites / Links

Contacts

Membership
WLPOA
Local area entities inside and
outside WL
Advertisers

Under More one can find:

Photo Gallery
Trading Post
Top of the Bald - "TOB"
Garden Club

Additional information can be found regarding the WL Country Club (WLCC), the WL Historical Society, the Wolf Ridge Ski Lodge, and WL Road Maintenance & Security.

On the Trading Post page, you will find: **Place your "property for sale" ad here** (WL POA members only - rates apply), as well as **For Sale** (free to residents).

The WLPOA Online Member Directory

For our members with questions regarding how to access the online directory:

1. Go to www.wolflaurelpoa.com.
2. Move your cursor over (or click on) the **Contacts** tab.
3. Click **Membership** from the list.

A prompt will pop-up asking for the password, which can be obtained by calling the WLPOA office at 828-689-9229. The password is **not** to be shared with non-POA members.

If you have new information, please contact the WLPOA office:

WLPOA

91 Village Lane

Mars Hill, NC 28754

828-689-9229

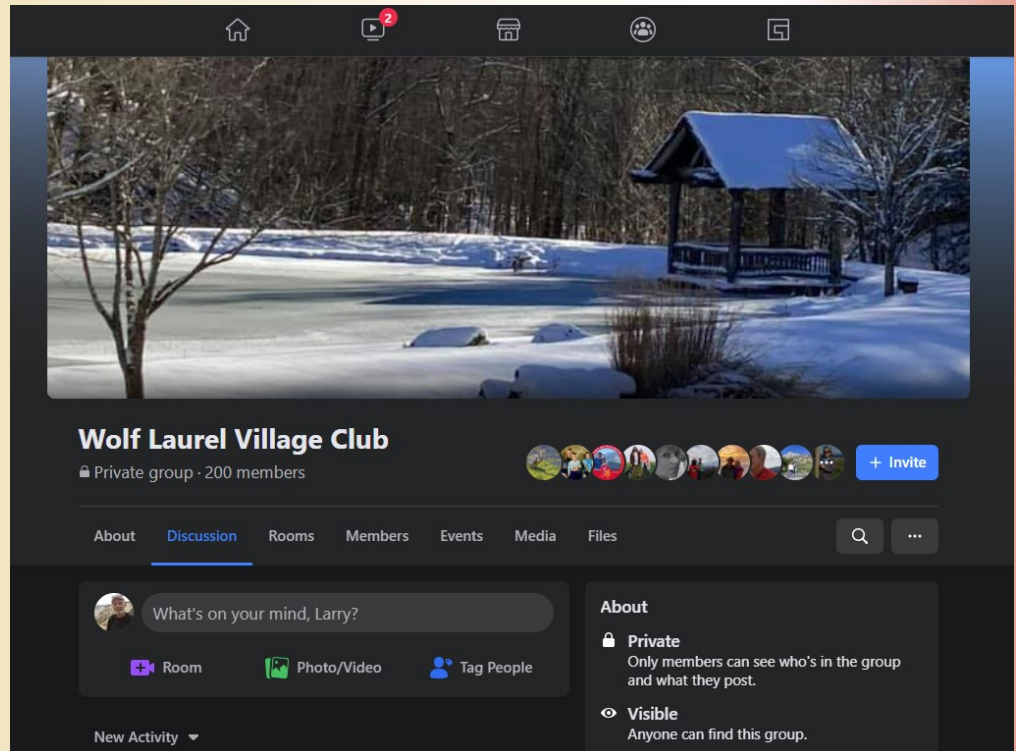
Website: www.wolflaurelpoa.com

Email: ronnie@wolflaurelpoa.com

The Village Club Facebook Page

Upcoming Village Club Season for 2021 is now in the works. We would like to invite all Village Club members to join the Wolf Laurel Village Club Facebook page. There you will see the latest communications, events, and photos of members enjoying themselves throughout the year.

Please note this page is not for personal advertising of any services or businesses. Administrators must approve any post to the page and requests to join.



To get started open Facebook and in the Facebook search bar type *Wolf Laurel Village Club*, and then request to join.

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

We look forward to having you on our Facebook Page!

WL Community Facebook and Website Pages

Access to information regarding the WLPOA, the Village Club, and the WL Community at large can be found via the following internet sources.

Facebook:

Several Facebook links can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/facebook>, with a search for “wolf laurel”. The direct link is https://www.facebook.com/groups/342942392454360/?tn-str=*F&fref=gs&dti=342942392454360&hc_location=group_dialog

Options there include -

1. Wolf Laurel Village Club; <https://www.facebook.com/groups/342942392454360/>
2. Wolf Laurel Country Club; <https://www.facebook.com/Wolf-Laurel-Country-Club-151790991581741/>
3. Wolf Laurel Community; <https://www.facebook.com/wolflaurelcommunity/>

WLPOA’s Village Club Facebook page is administered by the VC staff, and one must be a member of the WLPOA’s Village Club to join and to post on the page. Membership requests and postings must be approved by the VC staff. The page continues to gain increased traffic – **Check it out!**

Next is an independent site for the Wolf Laurel Community at <https://www.facebook.com/wolflaurelcommunity/>. This site provides information about the Wolf Laurel Community at large, and can be accessed via searching on Facebook for “wolf laurel community.” (This site is not part of WLPOA or The Village Club and is not monitored by either.)

Websites:

The WL Village Club website at <https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/village-club> provides access available to anyone.

The WL POA website provides anyone desirous of WLPOA information with access via the site at <https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/>. The site includes some “member only” information, e.g., WLPOA members can access the Membership Directory by obtaining a password from the VC staff. There is a tab on the home page for the Village Club, among other tabs, for more VC & POA information.

WL Road Maintenance & Security (

RMS) website: The WLRMS site has much information pertinent to WLRMS functions and living on the mountain in WL, including Forms, News, Policies, and Reports. The site address is <https://wolflaurelroadsandsecurity.com/>.

The Wolf Laurel Stables in The Preserve can be found at <https://www.horsebackridingnc.com/>.

Finally, the WLCC website is <http://www.wolflaurelcountryclub.com/>.

March 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 <u>Yoga*</u>	2	3	4	5 Yoga	6
7	8 Yoga	9	10 RMS Work Session	11	12 Yoga POA Bd	13
14	15 Yoga	16	17 St Pat.	18	19 Yoga RMS Bd	20
21	22 Yoga	23	24	25	26 Yoga	27
28	29 Yoga	30	31			

* Call the VC to get on the email list for Yoga (which will provide reminders and schedule changes). ** WLPOA & WLRMS meetings start at 10 AM.

April 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2 Yoga	3
4	5 Yoga Ferns*	6	7 RMS Work Session	8	9 Yoga POA Bd	10
11	12 Yoga	13	14	15	16 Yoga RMS Bd	17
18	19 Yoga	20	21	22	23 Yoga	24
25	26 Yoga	27	28	29	30 Yoga	5/1/21 Spring TOB

* Ferns - Hospice Preorders Begin (page 34) **Asheville Wisdom Exchange (page 61)

WLRMS “Motel Property” Highest and Best Use in a Community Context

In the summer of 2020 representatives of WLRMS and the Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association (POA) met to discuss the pandemic’s effects on changes to WLRMS’ gate procedures and the POA’s operation of the package cabin. When owners pick up a package at the Wolf Laurel gate complex it’s easy to overlook that the cabin is owned by the POA, and it is the POA who operates package receipt and distribution to those who use this service, staffing it with POA’s employees and volunteers. This valuable service has been provided by the POA to the community for many years. The POA acquired the log cabin adjoining the Wolf Laurel gate when the recreational facilities were purchased from the former developer of Wolf Laurel. While initially the cabin was divided into two suites, one rented by WLRMS, the cabin is very small and in recent years has been devoted entirely to processing residents’ packages.

One topic of the meeting was the growing volume of packages overwhelming the capacity of the cabin and its adjoining parking area, and the traffic hazard created by its proximity to the gate. It was at this time that the POA first floated the idea of an exchange of the cabin for WLRMS’ property located at 125 Spring Valley, which the community refers to as the former motel property. As we explore this proposal, it

is important to understand how and why WLRMS owns the property, how the property’s plans have evolved, and what purpose it serves to present and future operations of roads and security.

(Continued)



WLRMS “Motel Property” **Highest and Best Use in a Community Context**

(continued)

In 2016 WLRMS acquired the 4-acre tract at the intersection of Spring Valley and Valley View Circle from a loan servicing company by exercising its right of first refusal contained in the Covenants. At the time the WLRMS board felt it was in the best interest of the community to acquire the property for multiple reasons. The past use of the property and the use of the property contemplated by the prospective purchaser were incongruent with the surrounding neighborhood. The property had changed hands through a series of distressed transfers and had declined in appearance affecting surrounding property values. At the time both the POA and WLRMS buildings in the Village were captive to a wastewater treatment plant linked to the property and both organizations wished to have the control to terminate the arrangement for a more affordable system. The board of WLRMS also felt that the building could be repurposed, possibly as a location for all or part of its maintenance facility. It was also important that the purchase did not detract from essential road work or security operations. Through an appeal to the community, WLRMS raised the funds to cover the cost of acquiring the property without having to utilize assessment revenue devoted to road work or security.

In the five years that followed much has been accomplished. The POA and WLRMS buildings in the Village were disconnected from the wastewater treatment plant and the plant was sold to cover the cost of the installation of a new septic system jointly owned by the two organizations. WLRMS was able to secure a permanent location for its road maintenance facility at a lower price than the cost of re-purposing the former motel property. But WLRMS' focus of financial resources on essential road and security needs have not afforded resources to revitalize the exterior or to use the property for other community uses.

WLRMS believes the highest and best use standard in a community context includes the factors that drove the property's acquisition: upkeep and appearance of the property, compatibility with surrounding areas, and putting the property to a community purpose. WLRMS brainstormed various future plans for the property's use for community purposes in planning sessions, but no clear plan came into focus which required the specific location or attributes of the property, served the community's needs, and fit within an immediate need or mid-range goal of WLRMS. It appeared that the property would remain on the “someday” list of low priorities.

(continued)

WLRMS “Motel Property” **Highest and Best Use in a Community Context**

(continued)

The POA proposed use for the Spring Valley property is very intriguing to WLRMS because it seems to address community needs well. The POA views the property as an extension of the adjoining Village area. It proposes to initially re-purpose a section of the building to manage packages, doubling the size of the existing package area in the cabin adjoining the Wolf Laurel gate. Not only would a larger space provide for better social distancing today, it provides room to grow in the future. The POA set out a description of planned staging of exterior renovations to revitalize the appearance of the property, proposed recreational uses for the wooded portion of the property consistent with the natural surroundings, and has a plan to ultimately utilize the entire building for community purposes. The POA’s concept of its potential use for the building appears to be consistent with WLRMS’ expectations for community use, betterment of the property, and a use complementary to surrounding properties and to present stability in ownership for the future.

The POA’s proposal to exchange the cabin to WLRMS is also very intriguing to WLRMS. The Wolf Laurel gate is a congested high traffic area and residents, often crossing lanes of traffic in their vehicles or as pedestrians is a major safety concern. WLRMS has limited land at the Wolf Laurel gate to create a parking area where employees or visitors waiting for an escort may park and gaining the cabin’s parking area would improve gate traffic safety. Owning land at the Wolf Laurel gate would allow flexibility to reconfigure the gate in the future to accommodate a future security need or technology. The size, structure, condition, and historic value of the cabin do limit its use, yet these limitations may not prevent use by WLRMS.

While preliminary, WLRMS believes the proposal is highly promising and worth exploring fully. It poses the prospect of the revitalization of a property which has been dormant for too long and a plan for community use which could enable the Spring Valley property to reach its full potential as an asset to the community. The relocation of the package area to a property with more parking and a larger usable space away from the congestion of the Wolf Laurel Gate enhances resident experience while addressing a safety issue. In the coming weeks, more details will be explored and shared with the community as both organizations contemplate the highest and best use for their properties in a community context.

Cynthia S. Kessler
WLRMS President 2020-2021
(423) 323-3518

WLRMS Road Plans for 2021 **From the President's Desk**

By this time in most years, snow would be behind us for the year and the community would be looking forward with curiosity about this year's road plans. This year is different. During the last three months, Wolf Laurel has received 76 inches of snow and 10 inches of rain. Although the snow has been heaven for skiers, it has resulted in our share of road problems. Winter road repairs and annual spring maintenance must come before road improvement projects, and once these are finished we can turn to our 2021 road projects.

Current work: The 10-day forecast includes snow, rain, overnight freezing temperatures, and day time temperatures above freezing. Our road crew will monitor the weather and road conditions, pre-treat paved roads if conditions permit, plow if needed, and apply salt to paved roads as needed to address icy conditions. Please be careful on paved roads early in the day and in the evening, as rain or snow melt may re-freeze to black ice.

The freeze-thaw cycle makes our unpaved roads susceptible to damage. The severe weather cycle of this winter simply compounds the effect. Many residents are contending with very muddy conditions. Reporting winter damage and muddy conditions to our office (828) 680-9162 or email wllroads@wolflaurelrms.com is very helpful to our crew. Responding to residents' reports, our road crew has identified 50 areas that will require winter repairs. In many areas we can immediately improve conditions by applying additional gravel, but other areas require more time and resources. When we encounter deep mud we must bolster the structure of the road by adding larger grade material or even installing additional subsurface material to facilitate drainage.

(continued)

WLRMS Road Plans for 2021 From the President's Desk

(continued)

After the thaw: When the freeze-thaw cycle ends and we have a period of 2 weeks dry conditions the crew turns its focus to annual spring maintenance of all the unpaved roads. Our crew will use the motor grader to pull gravel material that has been pushed to the sides of the road toward the center and re-crown or re-contour the roads. This material will not look like freshly-quarried gravel because it has been weathered, driven on, mixed with screenings and a bit of dirt, and so on. The grading must take place when the road is dry, and afterward the material must have time to settle and compact.

Next, our road crew will evaluate whether, how much, and what kind of additional material will be added to each road to address deficiencies as part of regular annual maintenance. The material we use in most cases is ABC-M conforming to the DOT standard, which is a mixture of stone of a particular size and crushed stone. In some cases other materials may be appropriate for the particular road's conditions.

Winter damages asphalt roads, too. When the plowing season is complete we will inspect our roads for winter damage and schedule paving repairs.

All winter repairs and regular annual spring maintenance of the roads, including some paving repairs, are addressed in the 2021 road budget. If this work remains reasonably within budget, then we will begin work planned for 2021.

In 2021: The cost of repaving a road can exceed our ability to fund the project in a single year by annual road assessments. Not only are we accumulating reserves to fund the next paving project in 2023, but also we are spreading the preparatory work over a series of years.

(continued)

WLRMS Road Plans for 2021 **From the President's Desk**

(continued)

The purpose of this phased approach is to enable the repaving year to simply require an overlay of asphalt without extensive repair work, thereby spreading the total cost of the project over multiple years' budgets. This year, like last year, we will be performing preparatory work on Big Bald Road. Some sections have areas that require subsurface repairs, and we are cutting, repairing and patching these sections within a set budgeted sum.

The major road project for 2021 will be reshaping Buck House and Buckeye roads to raise the shoulders on the lower slope side of the road so that runoff water will drain properly into the ditch lines. This is a major road project which will require a significant amount of staff time, materials and equipment. This project has priority in our 2021 budget after funding winter repairs and annual road maintenance.

Our plans also include revitalizing all of our unpaved roads over a 4-year schedule. We divided our unpaved roads into four sections with the plan to focus on one section each year. This work is beyond the winter repairs and regular annual maintenance each road receives and involves adding a substantial amount of material to the roads. If our 2021 road budget permits, the first group of unpaved roads to be revitalized includes: South Gate, Meadow Lane, Spring Valley, Glenaire, El Miner, Oak Ridge, Sarvis, Lucas, Finney, Upper Haw, Upper Lookout, and Lookout.

None of this work or planning could be accomplished without our road crew and roads committee. The road committee performs a delicate balancing act of meeting our road needs with our budget limitations as conditions evolve through the year, but the committee has a powerful resource: our crew. Our employees are not only knowledgeable about road maintenance, repair, and construction, about which materials to use in what situation, and about our equipment's capabilities and limits, but also our crew is expert in the unique challenges posed by our terrain, our weather, and our mountain. They know our residents and do their best to serve the community even during the harshest of conditions. We are fortunate to have the talent we do and extremely grateful for their dedication to the residents of our community.

I hope to see you on the mountain soon,

Cynthia S. Kessler, WLRMS President 2020-2021

WLRMS 2/11/21 Road Maintenance Email

We all know that we are in the midst of a challenging winter on the mountain. Every few days another several inches seem to fall. And the layered snowfall has in many cases now turned to ice on our roads. The last few warmer days have melted into mud and this weekend the freeze will return. The freeze/thaw cycle of early spring is not (we hope) far behind. This may be the time for a few simple reminders and explanations of our current procedures to manage the conditions.

First some reminders of winter weather tips that bear repeating lest they be forgotten:

1. Know your vehicle's capabilities; anticipate its limits. Four- or all-wheel drive are currently required, and are a necessity in our higher elevations. Snow tires will help on snow. Remember no tires can match ice; only chains will give you some assistance on ice and then it is limited. Please anticipate problems and if you cannot make it over the roads do not leave or immediately return home.
2. Braking is more difficult than traction on ice. Drive more slowly than you think you need to, use lower gear on your vehicle, and don't expect your brakes to work better than your tires permit.
3. Shuttle guests; Please don't ask guests to navigate roads they are not prepared for. Have them park in an appropriate lot and shuttle them to your home. Problems will make their visit memorable in ways you do not wish to have them remember you for. The guest must not only navigate our roads, but also your driveway. If they cannot, park in the lot and shuttle.
4. Walking and hiking in winter; For walkers and hikers, be careful when sharing the road with a vehicle. Loss of control of a vehicle can endanger you and those in the vehicle. In dangerous winter conditions, vehicles are challenged on our roads and walkers and hikers should move off them when a vehicle approaches. Better yet, wait for better roads or the next snow to walk or hike.
5. Propane Supply; This has been a harder than normal winter on propane tanks and suppliers have had difficulties anticipating usage with "normal usage" programs. And heavy propane trucks may not navigate slick or muddy roads when you need a refill. Although you may monitor your levels, we recommend requesting propane before you are in danger of running out so the suppliers can reach you when weather permits.

(continued)

WLRMS 2/11/21 Road Maintenance Email

(continued)

Now some information on our staff's efforts and requests for your help to assist in keeping you safe through the winter:

1. Our crew applies salt to pavement to keep it from freezing over. Snow running across the road or a rain before a frozen event may wash salt from the road or diminish its effectiveness. And in extreme cold, the ice mixture we use begins to fail. Be thankful for salt, but remain vigilant when driving in conditions when its usefulness may be limited.
2. Our road crew reads the needs of roads from the top to the base. When snow reaches sufficient depths, we will plow unpaved roads. But if there is underlying ice we will leave some snow on the road because snow can give you more traction than ice. Please do not be disturbed by snow left in place on unpaved roads, it may be a protection against underlying conditions.
3. In an unrelenting winter, snow often turns to ice. The road crew cannot prevent this. Do not apply salt or melt to an unpaved road. Not only will it turn the road to ice quickly, it creates lasting damage to the surface of the road. The same for driveways that drain onto the roads. Do not use salt, melt, or other chemicals on parts of your driveways that will flow onto our unpaved roads. A good rule of thumb is that if you place salt, melt, or chemical on any of our roads you are making it more difficult for our crew and for all of your neighbors. We prefer you call and let us address the situation as best we can with our greater tool bag.
4. We can treat icy spots with a gravel dust mixture with limited success. But thaws and freezes and cars passing over this treatment will tend to grind the treatment into the ice. So the fix is temporary. Please call us if you find icy spots that we might treat, particularly on uphill and downhill. We will attempt to do a temporary fix, and we are working on other solutions.
5. Keep your driveway accessible for all the vehicles you need to park there. Blocking a road will make the work of our crew more difficult and make your vehicle susceptible to the misfortunes of others.
6. We have over sixty miles of roads at elevations that vary by nearly 2000 feet. Our gate staff cannot monitor conditions on all that mileage.; please understand their limitations. Instead simply expect the conditions that you are worrying about and plan accordingly.

Finally, we wish to express our special thanks to our road crew who has spent many mornings before the sun rises and in many cases their weekends and holidays preparing for storms and plowing to help our residents get off the mountain. And a special thanks to our security crew who has assisted many of you who have found yourself in dangerous conditions you did not anticipate. And a shout out to our office staff who fields your questions or requests and routes them to the people who may be able to address the situation. Keep them in your thoughts and understand they are fighting the weather as much as you and on a more constant basis.

This winter is providing some lovely scenes out the windows of our homes. Be safe, enjoy the wintry scenes and do not fail to anticipate the problems that winter can create in travel.

The WLRMS Board and Staff

Wolf Laurel POA Library Report, March 2020

How Big is Our Library?

Size of Collection: At the end of October 2020, your librarian once again counted everything in the WLPOA Library; you have a total of nearly 8,200 books, CDs, DVDs, games, and puzzles in your Library collection. Not surprisingly, at 5,800 - mainly books, but including talking books on CD - adult fiction is the largest portion of the collection. The children's collection is second largest with 1,050 items, again, mostly books, but also including movie DVDs, games, and puzzles. There are about 1,400 non-fiction titles in the adult collection, which lives both in the basement and near the office on the first floor of the barn. Among non-fiction, the biography section is the largest with 230 titles, travel books second largest with 189 books, and American history/presidents third largest with 170 volumes. With so many of your generous gifts coming in to refresh the collection, readers will always be able to find new as well as old favorite authors on the shelves.



Recent Acquisitions: Last year we finally received the first four volumes of Dianna Galbaldon's **Outlander** series. Cindy Tucker enthusiastically recommended these time-travel/historical romance/adventure books to me. I immediately became hooked, and I am not the only one. The **Outlander** series came in second in the PBS television contest "The Great American Read," behind the first choice, **To Kill a Mocking Bird**. In North Carolina, **Outlander** was first choice, in part, perhaps, because later volumes were set near Grandfather Mountain, or was it because many of us have ancestors from Scotland, the other setting for **Outlander**? **Outlander** is captivating, if not addictive.

Among the books currently occupying the New Arrivals/Readers' Recommendations shelves is a book I think is hilarious: **The Bear Went Over the Mountain** by William Kotzwick. One review describes *the bear* as follows:

Once upon a time in rural Maine, a big black bear found a briefcase under a tree. Hoping for food, he dragged it into the woods, only to find that all it held was the manuscript of a novel. He couldn't eat it, but he did read it, and decided it wasn't bad. Borrowing some clothes from a local store, and the name Hal Jam from the labels of his favorite foods he headed to New York to seek his fortune in the literary world. Then he took America by storm.

...By turns sidesplittingly funny, stingingly ironic, and unexpectedly tender, *The Bear Went Over the Mountain* ... [is] a delicious bedtime story for grown-ups. <https://www.amazon.com/Bear-Went-Over-Mountain-Novel>

(continued)

Wolf Laurel POA Library Report, March 2020

How Big is Our Library? (continued)

VC Book Club selections continue to be popular, although we do still have some of last year's choices – *Women in the Castle* by Jessica Shattuck and *Five Presidents* by Clint Hill for example -- and even a couple for 2021. For those who enjoyed *Five Presidents*, we now also have a copy of Clint Hill's *Mrs. Kennedy and Me*.

Among other new titles on the "New Arrivals" shelves are a couple of thrillers each by Stuart Woods and David Baldacci. [Come see what's in!](#)

In the children's room, a recent bonanza of free animal books from a local public library's weeding project has provided more books for nature loving young people to explore.

We will be delighted to see your donations of other recent and old favorite titles come into the library. Thank you again for your ongoing generosity.

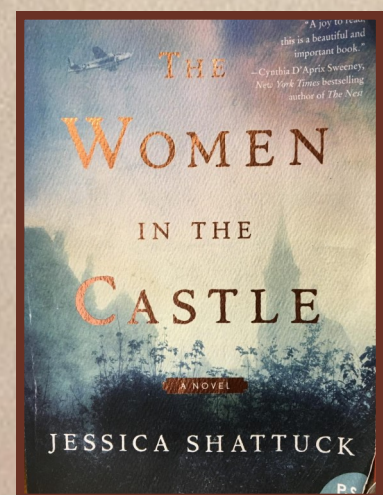
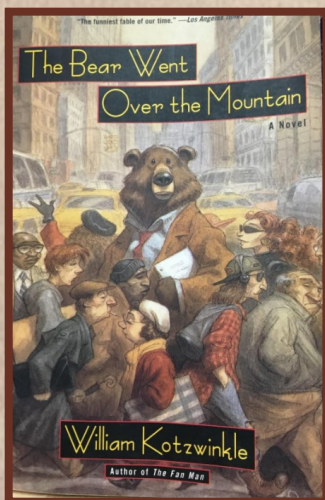
Please Read and Return...

Most important about having this library is that you use it. Otherwise it is not worth the space, time, and effort. BUT, it is a library, not a book store, so the books are meant to be returned. Our neighbors surely donated the books hoping that many readers will have a chance to enjoy them. If you have enjoyed finding a recent, popular title in the POA Library, then others will also

be glad to find it there after you have read it. Please make it your policy to bring books when you are done, and then pick up some more to read.

Hope to see you browsing!

Yvonne Carigan



Spring Is Coming!

Boston Fern Sale

**to Benefit Hospice
of Madison County**

Ferns available May 27th

Don't Miss Out!

Preorders Only

Preorders Begin April 5th

Look for more details in April, e.g.,

Spring TOB!



Wolf Laurel Historical Society

2021 Plans

The year 2020 was not kind to the Wolf Laurel Historical Society. The failure to find a satisfactory venue for our programs led us to cancel our scheduled calendar for the year. The success of our programs in 2019 suggested that necessary health restrictions on our available venues would keep us from accommodating our members.

We look forward to an end to the public health crisis permitting resumption of our programs, at least by the late summer of 2021. We are planning for the year, but will notify our members via email, and everyone with interest in our programs via our website (<https://wlhistory.org>) – when we have arranged venues for the programs. Please look forward to the announcements.

We were also saddened by the loss of one of our Board members late in 2020: Mimi Churchill. Mimi was a long time resident of Wolf Laurel, one of the founding members of the Wolf Laurel Historical Society and we will miss her. Always a pleasant, curious personality filling our meetings, she had agreed to extend her term on the Board when our annual meeting had to be cancelled last year and those of us on the Board will miss her wise counsel going forward.

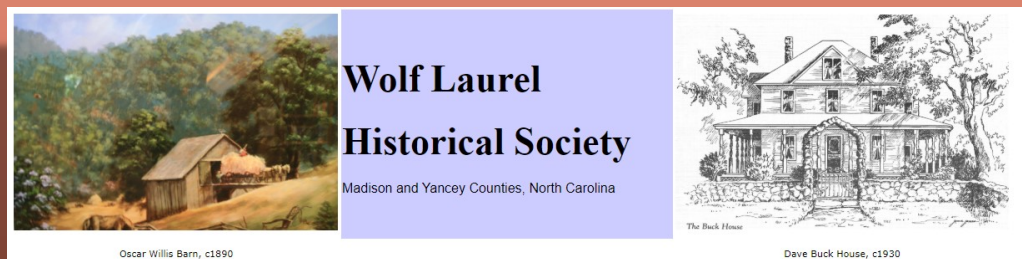
Among the good news is that Jim Klumpp and Warren Johnson are expecting to publish their history of Wolf Laurel late in 2021 or early in 2022. This comprehensive history of the development will inform at least one of the programs when we resume meetings. More information later on the book and its availability.

All of our 2020 members were automatically extended for 2021 membership. For anyone who was not able to join in 2020 but would like to do so in 2021, membership information is available on our website.

And everyone may visit the website for some interesting material on Wolf Laurel History in our Wolf Laurel History Blog and Wolf Laurel Stories.

We look forward to the passing of the pandemic crisis and the opportunity to see all our members and guests again.

Best wishes,
The Wolf Laurel
Historical Society
Board



Bald Mountain Creek Nature Preserve

By Sam Stebbins

Happy Trails!

Southeastern Trust for Parks and Land - <https://stpal.org/>

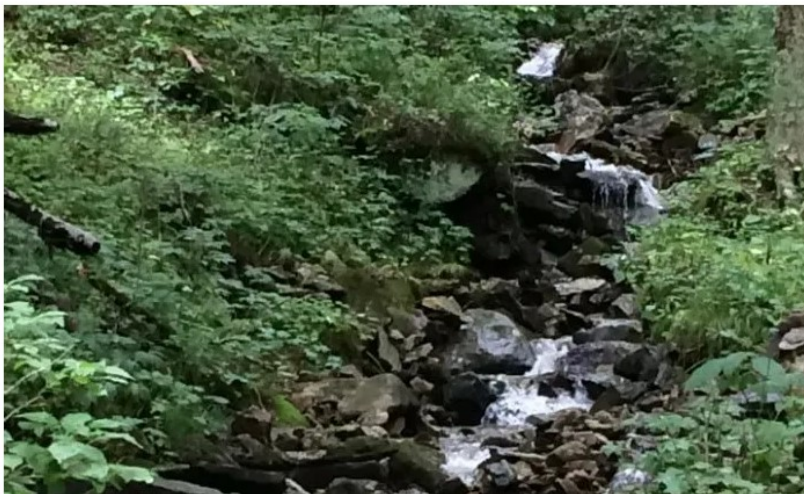


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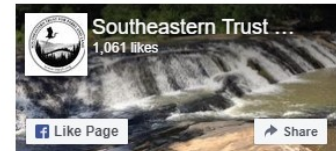
Friends of BMCNP / Bill Jones (email)- bill.jones@stpal.org

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[PROPERTIES](#) -
 [BLOG](#)
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BALD MOUNTAIN CREEK NATURE PRESERVE



STPAL Facebook




 Southeastern Trust for Parks and Land
 17 hours ago

Something good happened this week!



Talking Rock Nature Preserve
 Park · 1,800 Likes · 17h

Something good happened at Talking Rock Nature Preserve on Nitro Nix

Bald Mountain Creek Nature Preserve

Friends of BMCNP Zoom

Bill Jones of the Southeastern Trust for Parks and Land (STPAL - <https://stpal.org/>) on a Zoom conference 2/22/21, was joined by Mike Reardon of the Carolina Climbers Consortium (CCC) and others to discuss the progress toward developing hiking trails and “bouldering” (sport of climbing big boulders). In attendance were WL residents Joe Capers, Sam Stebbins, Jim Klumpp, Yvonne Carignan, Larry Veatch and well as others.

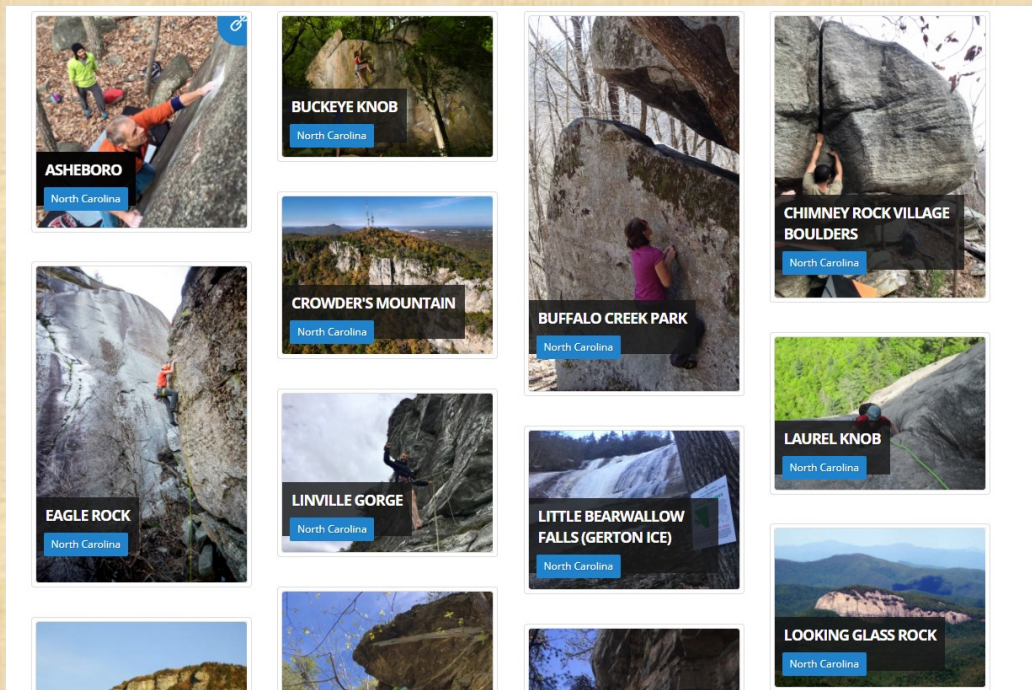
The area under development includes areas outside the “Preserve Gate” along McKinney Gap Drive, Laurel Valley Road, Ridgeway Road, and Bald Mt Road, such as the Sugar Fork Trail, Weaver Knob Trail and Lucky Valley Trail. The CCC works with other nature oriented organizations such as the Western NC Audubon Society.

Contact Mike Reardon at mreardon@carolinaclimbers.org

Carolina Climbers Coalition - <https://carolinaclimbers.org/> has 750 members and has hosted 20,000 climbers in NC.

Some of the
other NC
bouldering
locations

Other
locations
are in SC,
Tennessee,
and
Virginia.



WLRMS Hiking Maps

<https://residents.wolflaurelrms.com/hikes/?id=2&zoom=16>

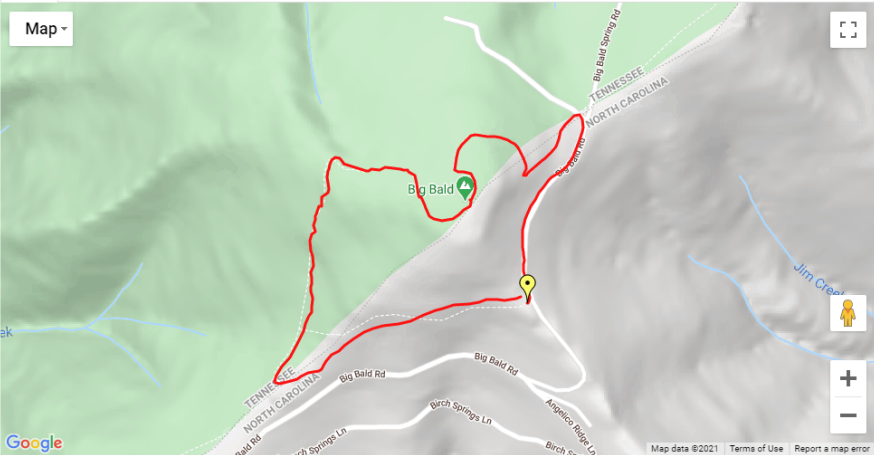
Wolf Laurel RMS
CONTACT

Name	Miles
1. Bald Mnt Shelter	1.20
2. Big Bald & Back	0.62
3. Big Bald Loop	1.55
4. Double Springs	2.05
5. Little Bald Mnt	1.84
6. Nature Trl to AT	1.23
7. Nature Trl to Street Gap	2.95
8. Nature Trl via JC Loop	1.80
9. Panther Knob Loop	2.31
10. Spivey Gap	6.89
11. Walnut Mnt Nature Trl	0.85
12. Waterfall Loop	1.36

Big Bald Loop

Loop, 1.55 Miles Get Directions >

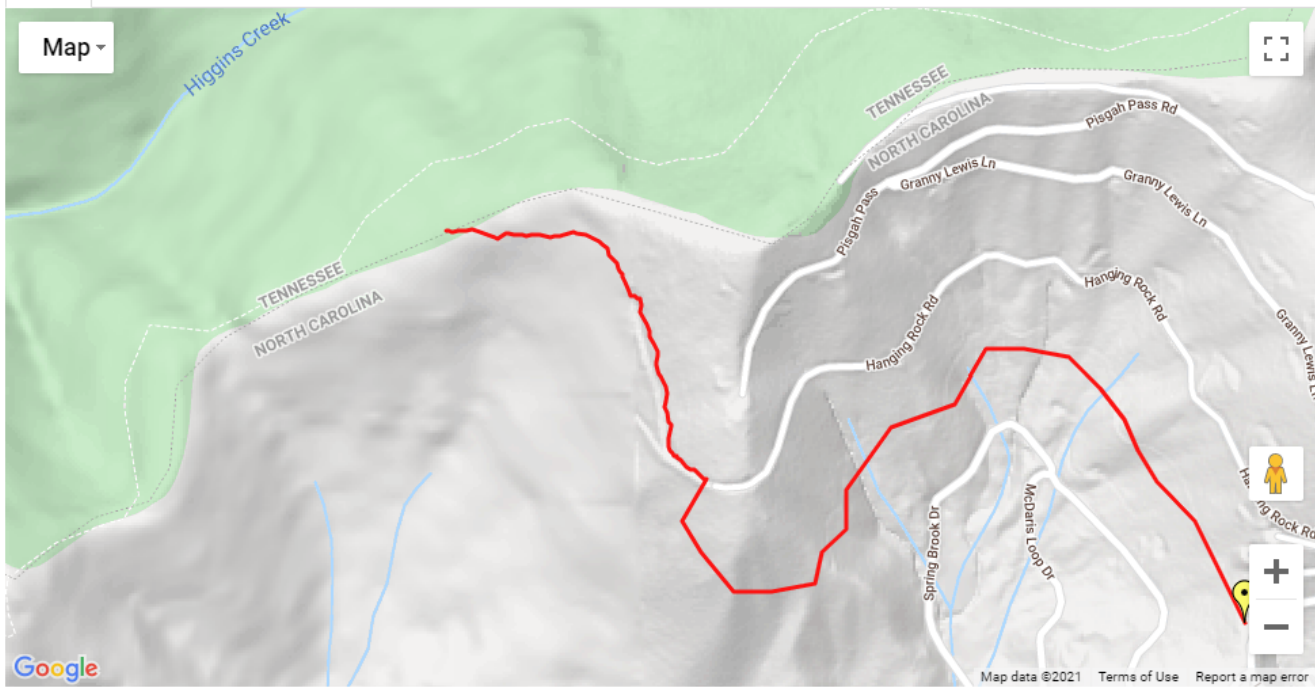
Map
Elevation Loss-Gain
Description



Nature Trl to AT

In and Out, 1.23 Miles Each Way, 2.46 Total Get Directions >

Map
Elevation Loss-Gain
Description



The Carolina Mountain Club

January 1 - CMC 2021 Quarterly Saturday Work Days

Just so you can mark your calendars for 2021, our CMC Quarterly Saturday Work Days will be April 3, June 5 (National Trails Day), August 14, and October 9. We will be working on the AT at Big Bald for the April 3 event (more info to come later).

If you are a CMC member go on the website and check off the Maintainer Agreement under Trail Maintenance for 2021, and you won't have to fill out the paperwork.

If you know you won't be attending these anymore and would be OK with me removing you from the list, please let me know. Gmail caps it at 500 and I'm at 497 now.

Thanks,

Les Love

January 2 - A few notes on the AT:

The Carolina Mountain Club (CMC), who logged nearly 600 hours in 2019 just on Big Bald alone, has 4 weekends in 2021 during which they intend to return to continue with various fixes and improvements. Any enhancements made to the AT is a bonus for everyone in Wolf Laurel who hikes in that area by themselves, with family or friends. Anyone in Wolf Laurel who'd like to participate on any of those dates is welcome to join us, get dirty, learn about trail work and add their names to the legacy. Those who do not want to commit but are interested in observing are welcome. With either, what I can guarantee is they'll have a chance to meet many dedicated club volunteers, some with knowledge and skills that are mind blowing. You can use my email as a contact. Pre-enrollment is not required but is preferred as the team leaders plan their activities based on numbers and tools required.

Tim Carrigan, tim@newprism.com

Wolf Laurel History

From the book *"In The Shadow of Big Bald,"* by Pat Olderman, 1972



WOLF LAUREL SKETCH

Stories about Big Bald Mountain, either legendary or factual, excite interest. The past is pockmarked with both. The economic history has been cattle and timber. From the days when Hog Greer dug his big ditch across the mountain, cattle have roamed the grassy slopes of the top. A cabin once stood near Double Springs. It is said that cattle herders used it as headquarters and bunkhouse.

Wolf Laurel Boundary has had several owners. Many names dot the deed books. Among them are the English Family, the Dave Buck family and the Edwardses. The English family lived on Wolf Laurel many years. Elminer Fields, site of the Ski Slope, was owned by Elminer Briggs. His cabin was headquarters for the hunters that frequented Wolf Laurel. The wolf and fox hunts originated at Elminer's. After the hunt, eating and a nip from the jug around an outdoor campfire were the order of the day. Exciting tall stories of past hunts made their rounds.

The advent of the railroad into the area pushed the lumber business into a big operation. A lumber company contracted with Dave Buck to operate a band mill and log train to move the lumber. Buck also served as an inspector. Dave Buck had moved a tremendous amount of timber and lumber when the bottom dropped out of the market. The company owed the Bucks a large sum of money. They deeded them Big Bald Mountain in payment.

WL Village Book Club - 2021

The Village Book club continued in my absence in the summer of 2020 and I did appreciate getting all the book selections from them and the Wolf Laurel Country Club Book Club. Hopefully, we will get vaccinated and will resume our summer in Wolf Laurel. While I have been in Florida and have not set foot in Wolf Laurel, I feel the mountains calling me, cannot wait until the trees get new leaves and the flowers are blooming. Since not being in North Carolina, I have had a chance to read many books and will share titles with the groups. I know many Wolf Laurel residents have had time to read a lot too..... COVID-19. Looking forward to getting back on the mountain and enjoy the many days of hikes, swimming, yoga, exercise!!!!



The Village Book Club will resume in June and we will have lots of book titles to talk about to read and review.

Karen Gerry

Wolf Laurel Country Club

Greetings From The Country Club,

We hope everyone has had a nice winter. We look forward to opening the club up soon and have been working on putting together an exciting calendar of events for this upcoming year. Did you know the club offers many events throughout the year that are open to residents on the entire mountain, not just for members of the club? Some of the holiday events, and fundraisers are a few of the examples. The entire club calendar can be found on the website at wolflaurelcountryclub.com, so please check out the schedule of events and please contact us with any questions. We update the calendar frequently with new events, especially this time of year as we continue to plan for the upcoming season, so what is listed now will not contain all of the offerings for the season.



Wolf Laurel Country Club

If you see other events that may interest you from dining, golf, fitness center programs, or simply socializing with friends and neighbors, please contact us at 828-680-9771

or khdwlcc@gmail.com to discuss membership options. Initiation rates for the 2021 season are \$10,000 for a golf family membership and \$6,000 for a social family membership. We offer other membership categories such as single memberships, both golf and social, and associate memberships for those under the age of 50. Once again, please contact us to find out more about any of these membership offerings. We have seen a record number of new members over the past couple of years and we invite you to come and enjoy what we have to offer.



Bobby Anglin, General Manager, PGA Pro

WLCC - Fall 2020 Pix



WLCC

Leslie Donovan, Nextdoor, Wolf Laurel

My brother-in-law found this ad in a small booklet called "This week in the Land of the Sky" which listed... where to go, what to see, and what to do in Asheville and Western NC from June 29-July 5, 1976.

At Wolf Laurel, we have the golf course even your wife will love.



At Wolf Laurel, resting in the shadows of one of the highest privately owned mountains in the Carolinas, 5516 ft. Big Bald, your family can enjoy swimming, tennis, horseback riding, hiking, or just relaxing – while you play golf. Stay in the Wolf Laurel Inn or rustic log cabins and dine in our mountaintop restaurant and lounge. We're located 27 miles north of Asheville, N.C. on U.S. 23. For reservations and/or color brochure, call 704-689-4111 or write Wolf Laurel, Dept. TW, Rt. 3, Mars Hill, N.C. 28754.

Wolf Laurel "Breathtaking"

Asheville Citizens-Times - Sunday September 1st, 2002

NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE: WOLF LAUREL

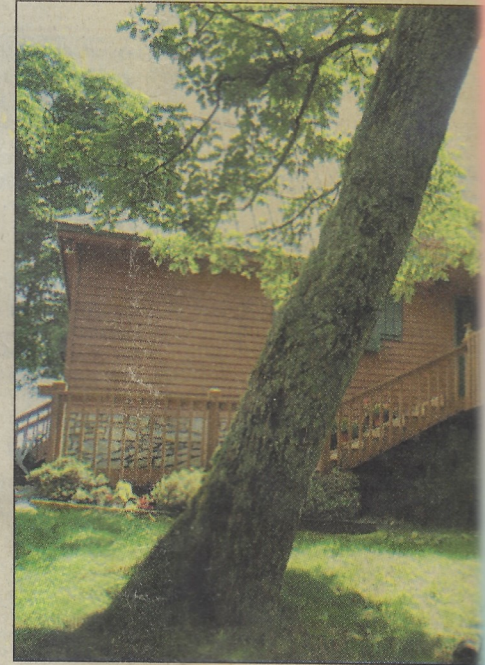
Breathtaking community graces Madison mountains

Wolf Laurel residents treasure natural surroundings, friendships

By Lynne Billings
STAFF WRITER

The Wolf Laurel Resort community is about 30 miles north of Asheville in a mountain forest setting noted for its natural beauty, cool climate and friendly people. To get to Wolf Laurel, take U.S. Highway 23 north from Asheville and follow the signs. (For location, see map.)

Wolf Laurel occupies about 5,000 mountaintop acres beginning in elevation at below 4,000 feet and extending to about 5,000 feet. The community is bordered in part by the Cherokee National Forest,



This house is on Angelica Ridge in the Wolf Laurel



Rebecca and Den Garman practice on the putting green in front of the Wolf Laurel

Members of the club, the chef, Rudi Wimmer, is Austrian born and European trained with 15 years of experience in club dining in Florida and the Bahamas. Wimmer opens the club virtually every night and is capable of handling as few as 10 or as many as 200 diners, Wimmer said.

The board of directors has opened the Wolf Laurel Country Club to members for events, including weddings and receptions, Wimmer is available for site service.

"We've had some beautiful weddings on the

2021



ASHEVILLE CITIZEN-TIMES

REAL ESTATE

F

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2002

CITIZEN-TIMES.com



Bought and sold

A record of Buncombe County property transfers

— F2-5

Open houses

Find a new home this afternoon

— F12-13

House plan

Country home is quite stylish

— F5

Apartments

Find the perfect apartment

— F12

NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE: WOLF LAUREL



John Fletcher photos/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

This house is on Angelica Ridge in the Wolf Laurel Resort community.

son

sure
ndships



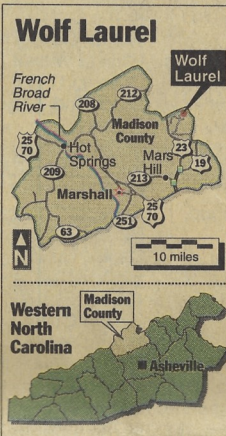
on the putting green in front of the Wolf Laurel and general manager of the country club and top manager.

Members of the club love the chef, Rudi Wimmer, who is Austrian born and European trained with years of experience in country club dining in Florida and the Bahamas. Wimmer presents virtually a new menu every night and is capable of handling as few as 10 or as many as 200 diners, Garman said.

The board of directors has opened the Wolf Laurel Country Club to private events, including weddings and receptions, and Wimmer is available for on-site service.

"We've had some beautiful weddings on the putting green," Ling said.

Joe Matheson has been associated with Wolf Laurel



T. LEWIS/CITIZEN-TIMES

Wolf Laurel

■ The Wolf Laurel Resort community is about 30 miles north of Asheville in a mountain forest setting; to get to Wolf Laurel, take U.S. Highway 23 north from Asheville and follow the signs.

■ For more information about Wolf Laurel, use an Internet search engine and type in Wolf Laurel. The sites listed offer a variety of data about Wolf Laurel.

■ For more information about real estate in the Asheville area, visit www.CITIZEN-TIMES.com.

prices start at \$100,000. The

“WOLF LAUREL IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST-ELEVATION RESIDENTIAL RESORTS IN THE UNITED STATES. IT IS KNOWN FONDLY AS THE ‘GREAT ESCAPE.’ ”

Wolf Laurel is one of the highest-elevation residential resorts in the United States and has the cool temperatures that go with the elevations. It is known fondly by longtime residents as the “great escape.”

Vistas are breathtakingly beautiful, and wild flora and fauna abound in the forest setting. Amenities include a community center area with swimming pool, tennis courts, pavilion, playground, pond for fishing, meeting rooms and convenience store; a golf course and clubhouse; ski lodge and trails; and an equestrian center, to name some.

When LaRae Weaver and her husband Lee first saw Wolf Laurel, “We knew it was exactly what we wanted. I wanted a house in the woods,” she said. The setting is natural, not manicured, and Wolf Laurel has maintained that natural set-

ting. Residents are spending their ninth summer at Wolf Laurel.

“We like the cool weather,” said Ronald Krusch, president of the Wolf Laurel Country Club. He and his wife Arlene have lived in Wolf Laurel part-time for 12 years and have been visiting for 22 years.

Most of the people who live in Wolf Laurel live there from three to six months of the year; about 50 or 60 of the more than 550 homes are occupied year-round.

“This particular community is a very low-key, laid-back community occupied by people who don’t care to put on any airs,” Krusch said. The people at Wolf Laurel are friendly and easy-going, he said.

“A lot of us like the remoteness, the lack of traffic, the quietness. It’s very appealing. It’s good to get here and relax. ... For most of us, it’s a nice change-of-pace

residence, and we really love this place,” said James M. Talley, called Jim by his friends. He is membership chairman of the Wolf Laurel Country Club, and he and his wife Carolyn have been coming to Wolf Laurel since their first winter vacation there in 1977.

“About four or five years ago we started to spend more time here. In doing so we discovered the real beauty of Wolf Laurel is the people. We’ve become good friends with a lot of people. It’s our home,” Talley said.

“This is the most loving, warm, friendly community I’ve ever known in my life,” said Sally Ling, who has lived and worked in Wolf Laurel since 1991. She is a private consultant acting as director of marketing for the Wolf Laurel Resort.

“We don’t start and stop when the gate starts and stops,” Ling said.

Some of the people of

Wolf Laurel are very much interested in the history of the area and doing what we can for the area,” she said.

The annual two-day Fun on the Mountain event at Wolf Laurel this summer included a golf tournament, sit-down dinner, Farmers Market, ducky race and bake sale and raised \$24,000 for Hospice of Madison County.

Den Garman is golf professional and general manager at the Wolf Laurel Country Club. He is a PGA professional. His wife, Rebecca, is the pro shop manager.

“We are a private club open to outside play and conference groups by invitation, and that’s generally a call to my office,” Garman said. (Call Garman or Ling at 680-9771.)

“It’s one of the most beautiful golf courses I’ve ever seen, and I’ve played golf all over the world,” Garman said. “The beauty of the course is that it is a mountain forest golf course, and you can actually be on the course and not be aware of anyone else. The greens are pristine and as fine as you’ll find at any golf course in the area.”

Extreme elevation changes on all the holes afford beautiful vistas.

“For a short golf course it should be recognized as extremely challenging for any level of golfer,” Garman said. Golf carts are required because distances between tees require too much time for walking. However, walking is all right when practicing or strolling.

Matheson and his wife Ginny have lived in Wolf Laurel full-time since 1981.

Because of his long association, Matheson has personal experience of the history of Wolf Laurel, and he passes along this knowledge to newer members of the community. He likes the climate of the area and especially enjoys big snowstorms and skiing.

Ginny Matheson is a member of the Board of Directors and the Membership Committee of Wolf Laurel Country Club. She is a real estate broker with Wolf’s Crossing Realty specializing in sales at Wolf Laurel Resort since 1981.

Both Mathesons like the people of Wolf Laurel.

“The people are just fantastic. It’s a very caring community,” she said.

Mountain Development Corp.

Wolf Laurel has about 550 single-family homes, Eagles Nest with 36 two-bedroom villas and The Lodge with 24 one-bedroom units. Single-family homes are situated in the forest setting in a way that gives a feeling of privacy even though neighbors may be nearby. Architectural styles vary from genuine antique log cabins in Settlers Village to modern and contemporary designs.

About 10 percent of existing homes are currently available for sale, beginning at about \$139,000 and going up to \$550,000 and sometimes more. Acreage and home sites are available.

Wolf Laurel Resort has opened a new section called The Ridges where lots are one-acre-plus in size and

minimum of five acres. Residents can have a barn on their property. Prices for the five-acre Deer Run start at \$37,500, or \$7,500 an acre.

The Buck House at Wolf Laurel Resort is a National Historic Landmark and is awaiting someone to buy and restore it.

The real estate office at the Wolf Laurel Resort is Bob Burns Realty, call 680-9771. Real estate companies at the resort include: Century Mountain Lifestyles, 689-2100 or (800) 727-2100; Mountain Laurel Realty, 689-4422; Wolf’s Crossing Realty, call 689-5050; Wolf’s Mountain Top Realty, 680-9777 or (800) 222-9777.

Contact Billings at 232-0011. LBillings@CITIZEN-TIMES.com



The community center area at Wolf Laurel Resort is one of the first scenes a visitor sees.



This house is on Wonderful Road in the Wolf Laurel Resort community.

WOLF LAUREL

The “Great Escape” Community

Wolf Laurel Critter Watch

Brown-Headed Cowbird (Fall 2020, Lucas Lane)



Blue-Breasted White Domesticated Flower Guardian (Fall 2020, Community Center)



More WL "Wildlife"

Rebecca Scott, Nextdoor, Wolf Laurel

I guess I will say the Bear poop is HUGE! One night my dog Chops was up on the muscle in late December going back and forth from one slider to the other and had a low growl- I never seen him like that. It had snowed quite a bit before my arrival and it was blustery out and I kept hearing my garage doors banging so didn't pay attention to it thought it was a storm.. next morning I took them out to go potty and there was a huge pile of poop right out my garage doors!! I went to see what the heck and there were huge paw prints going up to my deck and back to the garage then down the back side if my addition- I was thinking to myself- damn that is a BIG DOG- then it HIT ME!! That's a Bear! It was napping under my addition!! My neighbor said He moved in because I had a compost heap and I did!!! Well, Ken got rid of him! So the moral of this story is don't feed the Bears!!! Ha!!

Gregg Swentor, Nextdoor, Wolf Laurel

Dars a bar in da woods



Nextdoor, Wolf Laurel Wildlife 2

David & Vicki Causey

My sister had that visitor to her hummingbird feeder. We're not sure if it's the same bear or a friend of this one's but he left "evidence" in the driveway in front of the garage.



Barb Smith

Coyotes are native to North Carolina just like other wildlife.

<https://www.ncwildlife.org/Learning/Species/Mammals/Coyote>



William Gregg

Coyotes on the Mountain. A large pack of coyotes have taken at least two deer between Grouse Thicket and Tear Shirt Lane. A large deer carcass was scavenged to the bone by crow and Turkey vulture after the coyotes had their fill. Not pretty for those who like to see the deer upright. Be aware of your small pets off leash.

Karen Ramsey

Hi. My name is Karen Ramsey and I have lived in this community all my life except for six years in the Air Force. Anyway, other predators live here in the county besides coyotes. My nephew recently observed a mountain lion take down a deer one hill over from the WL ski resort on Laurel Valley Road. After the kill, it dragged the deer into the woods. We are certain that it must have kits. So it's good to be informed and please be aware of your surroundings.

Dogs - Barking, Mess, Threat

Andie Weathers • Nextdoor, Wolf Laurel

Dogs off leash in our yards. Dear Neighbors, property owners, and property managers,

It is very upsetting to repeatedly step in fresh dog excrement in my yard every time I am able to come to our beautiful community for a few days. I have witnessed the waste being deposited by the neighbor's dog(s) on two occasions. There's no excuse for an adult property owner / resident to let their dog out of their house off leash to use my yard for its bathroom. Today, the owner didn't bother to own up or clean up. We all know how slippery this waste can be. I don't want to slip and fall, not to mention my soiled boots. PLEASE take responsibility for your pets and respect private property. Thanks.

Gwynne Beneke • Nextdoor, Wolf Laurel

PLEASE notify WLRMS Security; Security has been getting lots of complaints about dogs-off-leash. They are aware that there has been a real problem through this past summer and they are notifying/fining offenders. The problem will continue unless complaints are filed.

Google • Community dogs on leashes

“Virtually every community has a leash law. The law requires that dogs be kept on a leash at all times when on public property. While on private property, dogs must be under control of their owners. The intent of the law is to protect the health and safety of the public and to protect your pet...As you know some people are afraid of dogs.”

Deer Not Dear?

Yvonne Carignan • Wolf Laurel, Nextdoor

Deer -- an invasive species. I know many (except for those trying to garden here) love deer. But there is another issue. With the elimination of predators, deer are badly over populated. Deer are not only making deer tick diseases a severe problem, but are devastating native plants. Google "deer as invasive species" and you will find statements such as "White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) is a native species that has become invasive in certain parts of the eastern United States. ... High densities of white-tailed deer over-browse native vegetation, preventing its regeneration." Our signature rhododendron are eaten as high as the deer can reach. Once those plants die of old age, how will new plants grow? They won't. With current populations of deer, rhododendron as well as other wild flowers and trees eventually and gradually will disappear. Meanwhile we need the coyotes to control our rampant populations of rodents.

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission - Deer:

Scientific Name: *Odocoileus virginianus*

Classification: Game Species

Abundance: Common throughout state

North Carolina's population of white-tailed deer is estimated at around 1 million animals...North Carolina's major efforts to restore our state's deer resource took place in the 1940s through the 1970s. Our state's restoration program was responsible for stocking approximately 4,000 deer throughout the state.



<https://www.ncwildlife.org/Learning/Species/Mammals/Whitetail-Deer>

How Homo sapiens Became the Ultimate Invasive Species? <https://www.phrenicea.com/ScientificAmericanMarean082015.pdf>

WLRMS – Dark Skies

November 17, 2020 - One of the many natural wonders of Wolf Laurel is the dark skies in our mountain forest. We are experiencing a substantial increase in calls from neighbors about lights on after 11:00 pm and ask your help in solving this problem. This is the time of year, as leaves disappear from the forest, when outdoor lights become more of a threat to our enjoyment of the wonders of our clear winter skies.

Please help your neighbors enjoy this natural wonder. Our community's Covenants contain regulations on the use of outdoor lighting. Specifically the use of street light type lighting, spotlights and other outdoor lights are prohibited after 11:00 PM.

We understand that many of you may need outdoor lighting after 11:00 for access reasons, and sometimes we forget to extinguish a needed light. A simple solution is available: motion sensors and timers. Please be considerate of neighbors and install sensors and timers to help us address this issue.

As the holidays approach, we should also note that this is a time of year when we have an abundance of visitors, renters, and other guests and they are not always aware of our regulations. If you are allowing others to use your home, please make sure they understand that outside lights need to be off after 11:00 pm. Posting signage within your home near light switches and spelling out the regulations on rental agreements could help us in this matter. Those winter star displays will only enhance their enjoyment of Wolf Laurel.

The Leonid Meteor Shower is visible tonight in dark skies in the ESE (in the constellation Leo). As you extinguish your lights enjoy the display, now estimated at 15 shooting stars per hour.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

The International Dark-Sky Association - <https://www.darksky.org/>
<https://www.space.com/23296-leonid-meteor-shower.html>

Gayle Barr's Bob the Scarecrow, "Mr. Fancy Pants"

Gayle's helpers include: Jessica Barr (Gayle's daughter), Marylynn McMillian, Cynthia Kessler, Michaelene Sanders, Debbie Wallace & Vicki Ison

Bob and his Mrs., "Hope," seem to enjoy the snow.

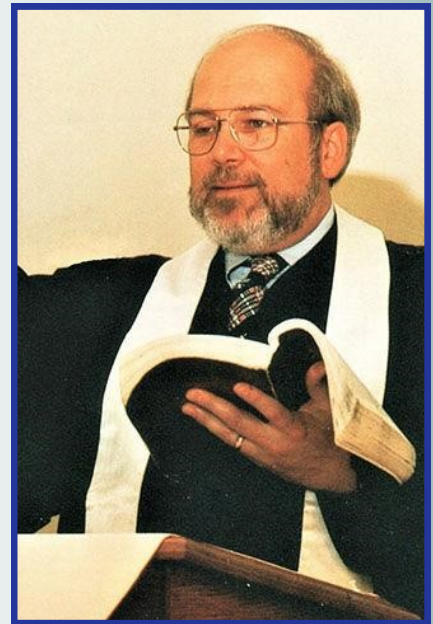


Recent Deaths Among Wolf Laurel Residents

Rev. Dr. Campbell Stuart “Stu” Maclean Dr. MacLean passed away [12/7/20]. Pat and I send condolences to Pat and all of Stuart's friends, who were many.

In hoc signo vinces, Stu. Save us a place at the table,
Steve Parker

https://www.johnsoncitypress.com/obituary/rev-dr-campbell-stuart-maclean/article_d68999f8-38b5-11eb-b9d6-db4d177d8f52.html



“The Reverend Dr. Campbell Stuart MacLean, ‘Stu’ was called home by his Heavenly Father on Sunday, December 6, 2020.”

(1/23/41-12/6/20)

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/johnson-city-tn/campbell-maclean-9933429>

Virginia “Ginny” Pope Matheson

1936-2020

Ginny, who lived here at WL since the beginning and her husband who designed the roads here, has passed away. She was 85. She was a very sweet person and she sure loved WL for 50+ years.



<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/citizen-times/obituary.aspx?n=virginia-pope-matheson&pid=197319372&fhid=6469>

Carolyn and Marsha - Leaders of the Mountain Laurel 4-H Club

David Schmidt suggested we include the following, noting that Carolyn Ponder and Marsha Boyd mentioned in the article are sisters of Freddie Wallin.


An award was given this past Saturday (Feb. 6) by the NC 4-H Volunteer Leadership Association as State Recognition of 4-H Volunteers Leadership Teams. This award was presented to Carolyn Ponder and Marsha Boyd.

Both Carolyn and Marsha have served as leaders of the Mountain Laurel 4-H Club since its formation in 1985. Their leadership to and support of their club and the Madison County 4-H Program is unwavering. A conservative estimate indicates Carolyn and Marsha have supported the growth and development of nearly 600 youth at the club level and countless youth at the county, district, and state levels.

These outstanding volunteers have consistently demonstrated the four essential elements of positive youth development in the following ways:

- 1) By serving as positive role models and mentors for 4-H youth while creating an inclusive, safe environment during club meetings.
- 2) By creating engaging learning experiences conducive to building knowledge and skills.
- 3) By encouraging independence - both supporting and helping youth see themselves as contributing members of their club and their community.
- 4) By providing opportunities for youth to practice service to others.

Perhaps we never realized what an impact 4-H has on a society – but it is significant! And while we will want to congratulate them both, why not do more? Let's ask them if there are ways we could help? For example, plans are now being made for our church to begin a community garden. There will be opportunities for planting, nurturing, and harvesting fresh food for our weekly food pantry. What about our stepping forward to lend a pair of helping hands – like Carolyn and Marsha have for so many years. Just asking!



Jane Wallin obituary - <https://www.blueridge-funeral-service.com/memorials/jane-wallin/4343507/>

Community Center - Winterscapes



Where Was I?

#1



#2



#3



#4



Answers on the next page

Where Was I? Answers

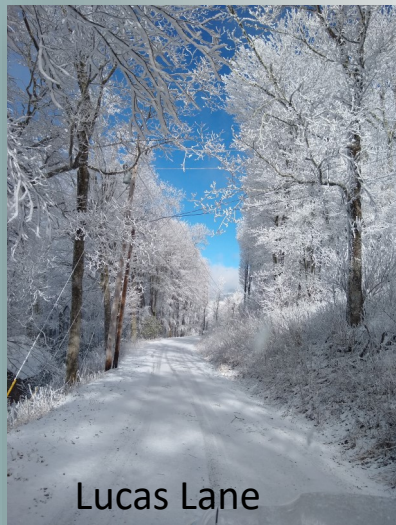
#1 - Big Bald Mountain

#2 - The AT

#3 - El Minor Dr.

#4 - Upper Haw Dr.

More WL Winter Pix



The Best Anti-inflammatory Diets

When it comes to fighting inflammation with diet, following a specific program is not a necessity. In fact, many of the so-called anti-inflammatory diets are more hype than real science.

That said, a couple of diets round up all the anti-inflammatory elements into one eating plan and have more evidence of benefit than other diets. If you aren't sure where to start, these diets are good choices.



Mediterranean diet

DASH diet

Dr. Andrew Weil's anti-inflammatory diet

From: **Harvard Medical School** <healthbeat@mail.health.harvard.edu>

Shared by Wolf Laurel's Dr. Stanley Wetschler

The Asheville Wisdom Exchange is a sacred space for the non-judgmental exchange of insight and wisdom in our quest to better express the divine inherent within us. Weekly Zoom sessions are free. Topics vary weekly utilizing a combination of experts and open discussion in a unique and respectful format based upon the premise that

we all can learn from each other. It is more about spirituality health and wellness than divinity. Learn more at

<https://www.ashevillewisdomexchange.org/>

<https://www.mehl-madrona.com/>

Shared by Wolf Laurel's Dr. Stanley Wetschler

Shuteye and Sleep Hygiene:

The Truth About Why You Keep Waking up at 3 AM

You eschew caffeine after lunch, have stopped drinking alcohol and eat healthily. But you're still staring at the ceiling in the small hours. Here's why:

"The night is also punctuated by brief awakenings," says Gregory. "Typically, people return to sleep without realizing that they had ever been awake." But

sometimes we might at least be more aware of it, or pulled entirely awake.

Reasons range from the fairly obvious (being too hot or cold, needing the

loo, having a nightmare, a crying baby) to the medical (disordered breathing such as sleep apnea, or nocturia: excessive night-time urination).

Waking up during the night does not necessarily mean you have insomnia, which, says Gregory, is diagnosed alongside other criteria such as the frequency of this occurrence and how long it has been happening. "If you find yourself waking regularly during the night, certainly flag this with your GP so they can consider any possible underlying causes."

Article at https://getpocket.com/explore/item/shuteye-and-sleep-hygiene-the-truth-about-why-you-keep-waking-up-at-3am?utm_source=emailsynd&utm_medium=social

Submitted by David Schmidt



Rime Art

I have shared pix of Rime in WL previously but what we received the 2nd week of February is unlike anything we have notice before.

We were experiencing some mildly freezing temperatures and some fog; here are pix of the rime icing which formed on our deck.



Rime Art
(continued)



Madison County Arts Council Hosts "Give Me Shelter"

Photographs and Stories from Sarah Jones Decker

Whether you have spent a night or six months on the Appalachian Trail (A.T), every hiker eventually experiences one of the trail's iconic lean-tos or huts. More than 250 such backcountry structures exist on the 2,200-mile route, and they have welcomed hikers since the trail's inception in 1937. The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) defines the term shelter, sometimes referred to as a lean-to, as a 'three-sided structure, with or without bunks or floors, intended as overnight housing for hikers.' The term *shelter* on the A.T. can also include enclosed structures, unlocked cabins and the hut system in the White Mountains. Built, maintained and preserved with thousands of hours by dedicated trail clubs and volunteers, shelters have always been and continue to be an integral part of the trail experience.



Madison County based photographer and writer, Sarah Jones Decker, documented and organized every single shelter on the A.T. for the first time in her book, *The Appalachian Trail: Backcountry Shelters, Lean-tos and Huts*, released in the spring of 2020 with Rizzoli Publications in New York. This informative and unique resource packed with trail and shelter photos, information, and detailed maps are a first-of-its-kind resource.

Sarah thru-hiked the A.T. in 2008 after graduate school and then re-hiked it again in 2018 and 2019 for this massive documentary project. Decker even carried her young daughter Josephine, beginning when she was just nine months old, with her on day hikes for over 350 miles in eight states for the project. She even took her first steps on the trail in Pennsylvania. Sarah worked with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy-and in collaboration with the trail community of hikers, historians, photographers, writers, and clubs. Decker's cataloguing style is inspired by two of her art heroes, German photographers Bernd and Hilla Becher, whose black and white photography work documented types of German buildings and organized them in grids to compare the subtle differences. (continued)

Madison County Arts Council **Hosts "Give Me Shelter"**

(continued)

Sarah Jones Decker is originally from Virginia and moved to Madison Co. in 2003. She has her MFA in Photography from Savannah College of Art & Design and a BA in Journalism and Creative Writing from Virginia Tech. She and her husband own Root Bottom Farm in Marshall, NC and she maintains a studio at Marshall High Studios. Her work can be found at sarahjonesdecker.com and rootbottomfarm.com.

To comply with Covid protocols, anyone entering the exhibit must wear a mask. This is a chance to spend some time in Marshall and see something truly unique. Decker will have prints, book, and other items for sale at the exhibit. The Arts Center hours are Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, and Saturday 10am-3pm. "Give Me Shelter" will be on display until Saturday, May 1, 2021. To learn more about this exhibit and the Arts Center, visit www.madisoncountyarts.com or call (828)649-1301.



The Arts Center

90 S. Main St. Marshall, NC

March 4 through May 1, 2021

M-F, 10 am–5 pm Saturdays, 10 am–3 pm

www.madisoncountyarts.com; (828)649-1301



Laura Boosinger
Executive Director
PO Box 32
Marshall, NC 28753
(828) 649-1301

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WOW!! WHAT A YEAR 2020 WAS!

Through all the adversity of the year, we were still blessed with an amazing year for real estate and rentals. We want to take a moment to thank everyone for your friendship and business throughout these strange times.

Just a review of what has happened in Wolf Laurel over the past year: 57 Homes, Villas and Condos were sold this past year. Our company has been part of the following transactions:

HOMES

Lodge 101	560 Spring Valley Drive
Lodge 112	920 McKinney Gap Rd
Lodge 109	807 McKinney Gap Rd
Lodge 102	925 English Ridge Drive
Eagles Nest Villa 503	637 Granny Lewis Lane
295 Puncheon Lane	14 Zebulon Lane
178 Cottage Lane	145 Granny Lewis Lane
527 El Miner Drive	157 Trillium Lane
660 Trillium Lane	377 El Miner Drive
199 Overlook Drive	126 Oakridge Lane
242 Hampton Gap Rd	610 Grouse Thicket
868 English Ridge Drive	2068 El Miner Drive
3179 El Miner Drive	489 Cherry Knob Drive, Ridges

**Reach us for rentals at
800/221-0409 or
wolfmountainrentals
@gmail.com**

We are looking forward to an exciting 2021. Please remember us for all your real estate and rental needs. Thank You, Dinah & Connie Carver, Ted Miller, Shannon Bryan, Oneal Shelton and Rentals-Gail Price.

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Find outdoor adventure and memories at The Wolf!

Ad Space

Available

Regarding Ad space, please contact the TOB editor.

Advertising Information For 2021

Notes:

- 1) Payments will no longer be remitted to WLPOA, but instead to the TOB editor.
- 2) Editions are scheduled to be published on the 1st of March, May, July, and November.
- 3) Placement of an Ad in the TOB results in the Ad also being posted on the WLPOA website.
- 4) 2021 Ad fees:

Half page:

1st Ad - \$60

2nd - \$55

3rd - \$50

4th... - \$45

Full page:

1st Ad - \$75

2nd - \$65

3rd - \$55

4th... - \$45

Remit to:

Larry Veatch

263 Lucas Ln

Mars Hill, NC 28754

or [PayPal.Me/larryv8](https://www.paypal.com/paytouser/larryv8)

Thank You for your contribution to the Wolf Laurel community