

Top of the Bald

Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association



Office: 828-689-9229

Spring 2017

What's Inside

President's Message	1
Community Priorities for 2017	3
Wolf Laurel Road Maintenance and Security Homeowners' Association	3
Blue Mountain Owners Association	4
Mountainside Townhomes	4
Welcome New Members!.....	5
2017 WLPOA	5
Bylaw Revision Results	
Meet our Village Staff	6
for the 2017 season!	
Village Club Membership..... The Why and The Way	7
WLPOA Board of Directors.....	7
Jewelry In June.....	8
New Membership Tags for Village Club Members - 2017!	9
NEW Village Club Programs	10
Village Club Programs	11
and Events 2017	
2017 Annual Spring Plant Sale.....	14
Meet Your Neighbors	15
Relaxation and	16
Meditation Classes	
Yoga With John Shoemaker	17
The Trailing Arbutus - A Poem	17
Spring Wild Flowers	18
Abound at Wolf Laurel	
WLPOA Independence Day	20
Celebration in The Village 2017!	
Kids' Camps 2017!.....	21
Madison County Arts Council	22
Safety First!	23
Where Am I?	25

Designed and published by



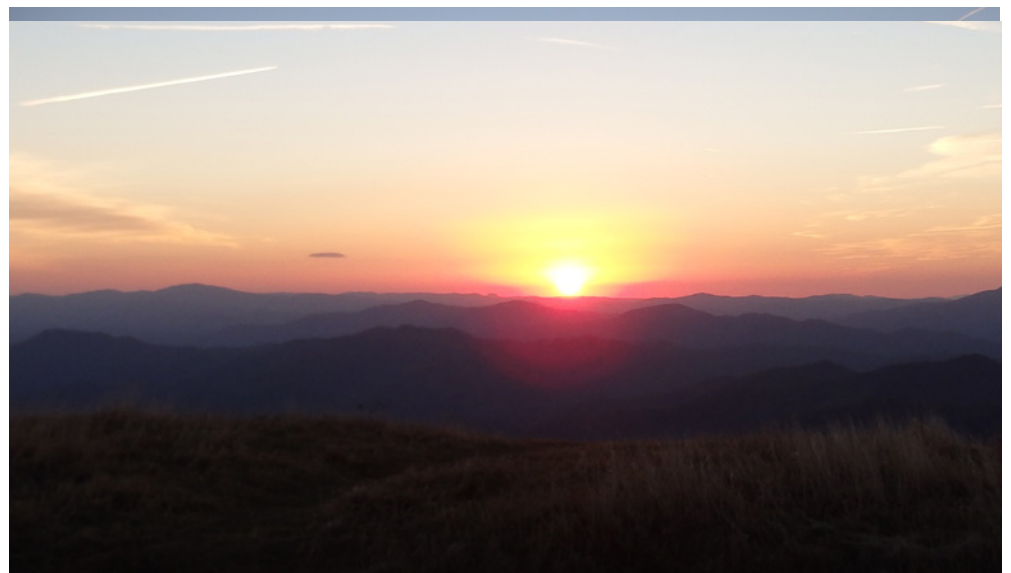
ATHENS PUBLISHING CO., INC.
Community Directories & Newsletters
(800) 747-9286

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Earlene Shofi

Spring has arrived in Wolf Laurel! Get your hiking, tennis, pickle ball, walking shoes on, or no shoes at all for the pool, the Village Club (VC) is just about ready to jump start another lively fun-filled season. There are so many activities offered, all will be difficult to keep up with on your personal calendar (See the schedule in this TOP OF THE BALD). Many VC events are planned just for socializing and allowing members to meet old friends, and greet and welcome newcomers to the mountain. Monday night pot luck dinners and Friday night socials, (Monday and Friday nighters as most of us like to call them), are included, as well as a new mixer, the Mystery Dinners. Detailed plans for the Mystery Dinners

will be sent out in May. All Wolf Laurel residents are invited to the "Welcome Back" party on Friday, June 2nd at 6:00 PM. Guaranteed are lots of hugs and smiles as we get reacquainted and welcome new folks to our wonderful community. We will have members, who lead the various VC activities available at the party to answer your questions and fill you in on details of offerings this season. Light hors-d'oeuvre's will be provided, compliments of Bobby Hicks Realty. Cindy Tucker, VC Director and Joanne Wit VC Chair, along with the VC Committee have done an outstanding job of putting together an agenda for a season filled with interesting and fun filled activities. We truly hope you will come on out, join in and enjoy!



'Cover The Mountain'

Akut-Abuv

PROFESSIONAL PAINT SERVICE



TREE SERVICE, LANDSCAPING
DRIVE THRU NURSERY:
HWY. 19 E, BURNSVILLE



DRIVEWAY: SEALING, PAVING,
PAVER & REPAIR SERVICE

828-208-5285

LEE PETERSON

akut_abuv@hotmail.com

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES FOR 2017

Presidents of several community organizations were asked for their input for the TOP OF THE BALD – specifically: 1) What is your organization’s top priority for 2017, and 2) What do you see as the top priority for the Wolf Laurel community-at-large for the coming year? Last edition we shared the priorities of the Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association, Wolf Laurel Country Club and The Preserve. This edition we will provide the priorities of the Wolf Laurel Road Maintenance and Security Homeowners’ Association, the Blue Mountain Owner’s Association and the Mountainside Townhomes Association.



A Message from WOLF LAUREL ROAD MAINTENANCE AND SECURITY HOMEOWNERS’ ASSOCIATION

John Beneke, President

As we approach the 2017 summer season, WLRMS has a full plate. As many of you may have noticed, the Road Crew is busy working on replacing a number of culverts on Wolf Laurel Road. This project is included in our 2017-2019 Road Work Schedule: the schedule calls for several to be completed each year.

WLRMS continues to focus on Emergency Preparedness in the community as a whole. The Roads and Security Staff are prepared to take the appropriate steps in an emergency with the county, state, and federal agencies taking the lead when they arrive on scene. We are particularly aware that additional sources of water on the mountain are an essential element to fighting fires. The staff has identified several options and is working closely with Wolf Laurel Country Club to secure additional locations.

The Nov. 5-29, 2016, Party Rock wildfire near Lake Lure consumed more than 7,000 acres, and required the services of 177 firefighters, police and support personnel at a cost of \$7.65 million. It provided

all mountain communities with yet another stern lesson of what could happen to any of us, and the importance of prevention and preparation.

As we have stated in the past, WLRMS urges you to enroll in the Madison County Wireless Emergency Notification System (WENS). This system enables the Madison County government to contact you immediately in the event of an emergency situation, such as a wildfire. Enrollment is quick and easy. Just go to MadisonCountyNC.org, and scroll down to the WENS box. I also encourage you to visit the National Fire Protection Association website at NFPA.org for tips on protecting your property from wildfire.

We are working with the Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association to come to a workable solution to the issue of the Waste Water Treatment Plant as it continues to be a significant drain on both our budgets. The board also continues to look for a viable solution as to what to do with the motel and we welcome your suggestions.

We continue to support the concept of cooperation and combination of activities when possible and are exploring areas where we can achieve efficiencies that will benefit all.

Many Wolf Laurel residents spend the winter elsewhere, yet Wolf Laurel is a big, high-altitude community that’s open year-round. I hope you’ll join me in thanking the WLRMS staff for their hard work every day, around the clock, year-round, to keep the community safe and accessible no matter what gets thrown at them. They’re the best!

As the community’s population expands for another great summer in the mountains, WLRMS urges you to observe speed limits and lane markers on our roads system. We’ve had a couple of close calls recently with hikers and cars, and encounters like this are so easy to avoid if we’d all be more careful.

Finally, I hope that you’ll consider getting involved with WLRMS. We are your organization, and we would like to hear your voice at our monthly open Board meetings. Perhaps you’ll also consider serving on a committee, running for a position on the board or informally providing us with the benefit of your expertise in areas where WLRMS and the community could benefit.

Here’s to another safe, secure and wonderful summer season at Wolf Laurel!

A Message from BLUE MOUNTAIN OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Barry S. Vaughn, President

2016 and 2017 have been very busy years for Blue Mountain Owners Association. Our primary focus and first priority over this period of time was to bring all roads within BMOA up to like new condition. Our first major project included a paving process (called chip and seal) that will extend the life of BMOA roads beyond 5 years or more. Our second major project was to widen and newly pave Lower Chestnut Road in partnership with The Preserve. Earlier last year The Preserve and BMOA officials agreed to jointly make the investment to renew and revitalize Lower Chestnut Road for two reasons: First, it was determined that Lucky Way Road was deteriorating in places and had become impassable during severe winter weather making it difficult for those from The Preserve transiting to other Wolf Laurel locations or for those exiting thru the back gate. The Preserve went further by creating a plan in 2017 for paving the balance of the road from the end of Lower Chestnut to the back gate. Which leads to the second initiative / purpose, which was to provide all Wolf Laurel area residents with newly paved roads from gate to gate. WLRMS, as we understand, is currently reviewing possible repair or paving solutions for Wolf Laurel Road from the front gate to Wolf Laurel Country Club. Once that project is completed Wolf Laurel Community can take pride in newly paved roads gate to gate for the benefit of all Wolf Laurel community property owners not to mention the benefit of showcasing Wolf Laurel to new prospective property buyers.

Our second priority in BMOA over the next year or two is to begin a renovation and upgrade of our ditches and drainage surrounding all BMOA roadways. That project is underway and proceeding within our budgetary limits. This past year BMOA also changed landscape companies and mowing service contractor to improve the landscaping and beauty of Wolf Laurel within the BMOA area. We have made tremendous progress and will continue work on improving our drainage and roadways and other enhancements. I have had many discussions with community members inside BMOA and within the greater Wolf Laurel Community regarding a common desire to create a single organization that can speak for the greater good for Wolf Laurel



Community. While this is certainly a noble cause, and many believe a priority, the effort would be herculean and extremely complex. The BMOA board and many members of BMOA share this desire alike. The primary issue in my mind is the complexity we face stemming from the disparate road systems within each association and differing assessment capabilities or limitations. One additional complexity stems from the vast number of property owners who have no intention or immediate plans to construct homes on their lots. The ratio of empty lot owners to home owners is too great to overcome their opposing objectives. As I have stated to many, BMOA stands ready to discuss any plan that would coalesce this great community for the betterment of all. I look forward to seeing everyone this summer in anticipation of another great season at Wolf Laurel!

A Message from MOUNTAINSIDE TOWNHOMES

Ivan Walker, President

I'm sure we are all excited about the coming spring as we are making our plans to head back to Wolf Laurel and all of its beauty. I know we got a surprise last snow a couple of weeks ago, but know that the blooming flowers are on the way.

All of us at Mountainside Townhomes are very thankful to our previous HOA President, Nancy Murray, for all her hard work in getting so many projects started and completed last year. With Nancy's leadership we were able to add new landscaping at our entrance and throughout the development. We were also able to have the townhomes patios and porch decks repaired and painted. Mountainside Townhomes will also be getting new roof shingles this summer so we

are looking forward to having our community looking even better. Nancy, thanks for all your work on getting these projects completed. Now if we can get the waterfall fixed, we will all be deliriously happy!!!

We all look forward to a great summer and fall at and hope to be involved in the many activities and projects going on at Wolf Laurel this season.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We are pleased to welcome the new members below that have joined WLPOA since publication of the Winter TOP OF THE BALD. Please seek them out and let them know of all the exciting opportunities WLPOA has to offer, and invite them to an upcoming event.

Village Club Member

John Jr. & Stephanie Adams
Joseph & Erica Chiovarou

Village Club Trial Member

Jay & Marie Overman
Len & Robin Zimmerman

WLPOA Member

Angela Kaiser
Richard & Kathryn Thomasson
Stephen Wilcox
Beech Woods, LLC

2017 WLPOA BYLAW REVISION RESULTS

1. **Village Club Name** - To permit various amenities memberships, described in our by laws, to be collectively referred to as "The Village Club at Wolf Laurel".
Passed 147 to 5 at 97%
2. **Board Terms** - To allow a former board member to run for the Board after an interim period of one year instead of the current two years.
Passed 274 to 71 at 79%
3. **Removal of Board Member** - To permit removal of a director for cause by a vote of seven (7) directors at a special meeting called for that purpose.
Passed 139 to 14 at 91%
4. **Annual Memberships** - To allow persons who are residing at Wolf Laurel pursuant to leases with terms of one year or longer and provide them access to the Village amenities and programs as enjoyed by an equity member.
Passed 331 to 14 at 96%



American made rustic, lodge, cabin & cottage furniture.
Free delivery to Mountain Air!



828-765-8261
279 Oak Avenue, Spruce Pine, NC
www.swtradingcompany.com

OPEN
Monday - Saturday
9 am - 5 pm



MEET OUR VILLAGE STAFF FOR THE 2017 SEASON!

Cindy Tucker

I feel so very fortunate to have such a wonderful group of people to work with me in The Village this season! When you come to The Village, please introduce yourself to the Staff Member on duty and they will verify your membership in The Village Club. This membership verification is an important part of their work! But, if you're like me, it takes at least several times to remember names and faces – so please feel free to introduce yourself frequently! With over 300 Village Club members, it's difficult for anyone to get names and faces together.

Our Village Staff members have a wide variety of responsibilities, but they will always do their best to welcome you while working to maintain our facilities and of course, keep up with all the paperwork involved. You may find the Staff person on duty in the WLPOA Community Center - especially in times of inclement weather – or working around the pool, the Pavilion, playground, tennis courts or at the trout pond. We have a large area to cover! And, usually, they will be sporting a Village Staff t-shirt or jacket. We are all here to assist you and are looking forward to our 2017 season!



Returning for his 4th season here in The Village, please welcome back **Jim Deloatch!** Jim is semi-retired and likes to keep busy. He not only works as our Staff Team Leader here in The Village, but he also continues to do law enforcement training in defensive tactics and other law enforcement training programs. Jim adds value to our Village Club Programs by providing classes in CPR/AED and Personal Safety. Jim is also a Wolf Laurel resident and really enjoys these beautiful mountains. I am very fortunate to have him continue his work here in The Village.



Joey Leonard is returning for his second season and we're very happy to have him again this year! Joey graduated from Young-Harris College in Georgia in 2016 and completed his internship here in Outdoor Leadership last season as he worked as a member of the Village Staff. Joey is a learned naturalist and takes great photos

of all the wildlife here in The Village. He's an avid fly fisherman and adds value to our Village Club Programs by offering fly fishing classes.



Rebecca Greenberg is returning to work here in the Village this season after working here as a Staff Member in 2015 - so you may remember her and her great sense of humor! We are so happy to have her back again this season! Rebecca has a busy life. She works full time at Ingles in Mars Hill as a scanning coordinator

so you may see her there as well. Rebecca is a hard worker and will be a great asset here in the Village again this season. So please welcome Rebecca back! We are very lucky to have her return.



I am happy to introduce you to our newest Village Club Staff member, **Leigh Ann Roseberry**. Leigh Ann and husband Brian have just closed on a home here in Wolf Laurel but are not new to Wolf Laurel. Her parents, Charlie and Bobbie Gardner, have been here for many years – 30 to be exact! Leigh Ann and Brian are the proud

Grandparents of FIVE granddaughters who live in the area and are excited to be residing here at Wolf Laurel. Leigh Ann is retired from a 30 year career with AT&T and will be a great addition to the Village Club Staff.

VILLAGE CLUB MEMBERSHIP THE WHY AND THE WAY

Jim Landry

In 2002, realizing it to be “in the best interests of the community”, the developer included mandatory POA membership in the Wolf Laurel covenants. This was at a time when the POA owned no property and had a net worth of about \$50,000. Eight years hence we have a healthy membership, substantial property and a net worth over \$900,000. Although POA memberships are valued and appreciated, they alone, cannot sustain Village operating and capital asset expenses. This is where Village Club membership is an essential factor in the continued success of the POA and Village.

No doubt you have heard the phrase “One size fits all.” That may be true in some “cookie cutter” developments; but not at Wolf Laurel. Just as there are a variety of lot locations, views and home designs, the Board has designed various ways for residents to become participants of the Wolf Laurel Village Club. Upon inception in 2010, the only path to join the Village Club was Equity Membership. Very shortly thereafter came the Non-Equity participant/user and since then

several additional options came into being. The list below provides a short definition of each avenue to Village Club membership. For complete details on each option, please visit the WLPOA website Policies & Forms page for the items marked Membership Fees and 2017 Bylaws. If there are questions needing clarification, our office staff is always available to assist.

THE WHY

The Village is the gateway to the mountain that sells property simply by being there and it is of immense value to the resale of all our properties. Ten or even twenty years of dues to the Village Club will be an insignificant figure compared to the resale value of your home; but only if the Village is still there! All Equity and Non-Equity members are urged to continue membership beyond the required minimum commitment, as it is essential to our personal and collective return on investment and enjoyment of life on the mountain.

WLPOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Earlene Shofi, President
Fred Tygart, Vice President
Lynn Cagney, Secretary
David Smith, Treasurer
Richard Ashley
Gregg Davis

Gail Watkins Ford
Bobby Hicks
Jim Landry, Emeritus
Lori Wyman-Macaulay
Terry Ranostaj
Joanne Wit

WLPOA STAFF

Ronnie Rice, Office Manager
Cindy Tucker, Village Club Director



Top of the Bald Newsletter

Editor
Rich Ashley
ashleyrc@hotmail.com

Designed and published by



ATHENS PUBLISHING CO., INC.
Community Directories & Newsletters
(800) 747-9286

The Top of the Bald is published four times each year by the Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association, 91 Village Lane, Mars Hill, NC 28754. Members are encouraged to email original articles and photographs of interest to the Wolf Laurel community to the editor. For deadlines, contact the editor. Articles will be published at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to edit all entries to fit the TOB. Please contact the WLPOA office to report any changes in your address, telephone number or email address at 828-689-9229 or to wlpoboard@wolflaurelpoa.com. © Copyright 2017 Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association.

THE WAY

1. **Equity Membership** - The initiation fee is refundable upon resale and requires a deed redemption agreement.
2. **Non-Equity Membership** - The initiation fee is not refundable and a minimum 6 year membership is required.
3. **Equity Advantage Membership** - This membership is available to the purchaser of a non-equity home. The new home owner may claim use of the previously paid initiation fee in return for committing the property to an Equity redemption agreement.
4. **Equity Limited Membership** - This membership offers past POA dues paid, as a credit towards the initiation fee in return for committing the property to an Equity redemption agreement.
5. **Sponsored Membership** - This membership applies to a Village Club homeowner using their house as a rental unit.
6. **Trial Membership** - This membership is a one time opportunity with a non-refundable nominal fee that can be applied towards the initiation fee for an equity or non-equity membership.
7. **Wolf Laurel Alumni** - This membership is for Village Club members after the sale of their Wolf Laurel home. Both equity and non-equity memberships are eligible.
8. **Annual Membership** - This membership offers an Equity membership to a long term rental or lease resident of a non-member property. The membership requires an initiation fee that is transferable to a permanent residence with a required deed redemption agreement.

JEWELRY IN JUNE

Lori Wyman Macaulay

Are you tired of the same old jewelry? Would you like to spice up your jewelry wardrobe? Well, we have the answer for you!

The Wolf Laurel Village Club has an exciting event planned! On Wednesday, June 28, 2017, at 7-9 PM, we are hosting a Jewelry



Swap. The first 20 ladies who sign up and are amenities members will be able to participate in this innovative Jewelry in June party.

This is how it works. Do you have jewelry you just don't wear anymore? Would you like to trade it in for something fresh and new for you? Find 3 new or gently used pieces of jewelry (more if you have) that just sit in your jewelry box and never get worn. Call or email Cindy Tucker at 828 689-4089 or cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com by June 14th (Flag Day) and let her know that you want to attend this fun event. Then bring your 3+ pieces of jewelry (with a box, if you have) over to our Community Center plus a \$10 entrance fee to secure your spot.

On Wednesday night, June 28th at 7 PM in our Wolf Laurel Community Center, you will be joined by other like-minded ladies for an evening of drinks, sweets, socialization, and jewelry swapping. Each lady will be able to leave that evening with 3 new pieces of jewelry and a smile on her face.

All jewelry that is not scooped up will be donated to "My Sister's Place!" It's a win-win evening for everyone.

So come out and join us! Don't be left out! Be one of the first 20 ladies to contact Cindy Tucker to secure your spot.

See you there!!!

NEW MEMBERSHIP TAGS FOR VILLAGE CLUB MEMBERS - 2017!

All Village Club members will be given new Village Club membership tags beginning May 1, 2017. These new tags can be picked up at the WLPOA Community Center during our hours of operation:



Community Center Hours of Operation:

May 2017: 7 days a week 8:30am-6:30pm

June 2017: 7 days a week 8:30am-7:30pm

July 2017: 7 days a week 8:30am-8:30pm

August 2017: 7 days a week 8:30am-8:30pm

September 2017: 7 days a week 8:30am-7:30pm

October 2017: 7 days a week 8:30am-6:30pm

Some important points – please read:

- Old tags should no longer be used. If you wish to drop them off at the Community Center, we may be able to recycle them! Our new tags are GREEN.
- Please do use your tags as often as possible. It is a visible sign of membership in the Village Club, but our Staff will need to verify that the tag numbers belong to you!
- These new membership tags are to be used **only** by our members and their family members staying in the home with a Village Club membership. Never loan your tags to someone else!
- If you have **non-paying guests** staying in your membership home, please contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com in advance. Your guests are welcome in the Village. They should come to the Community Center and check in with a Staff member who will issue them a Guest Card to use during their stay. They should not use the new membership tags that you use – so please let your guests know that in order to take advantage of all that The Village offers, they should first obtain their Guest Card.
- We will always do our very best to welcome members, guests and Sponsored (rental) members in the Village. *Please know that Village Staff have many varied duties and may not always be located in the Community Center. Village Staff will be looking out for our Village Club members, guests and Sponsored members but always remember they may be working at the pool, in the Village Pavilion, at the Trout Pond , etc.
- For Village Club members that rent their membership home: 1) If you or your family members stay in your own rental home, you should use our new membership tags; 2) if you have non-paying guests you should follow the same procedure as listed above – notify cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com in advance and your guests should come to the Community Center and obtain a Guest Card to use during their stay; 3) Village Club Staff should be notified in advance in order to welcome rental clients staying in a Village Club member's home and should also stop by the Community Center to pick up their Sponsored Membership cards to use during their stay. Email cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com in advance with name, WL address, start and end dates of the rental.
- Any guest or Sponsored member that does not want to access the Village facilities, programs and events does not need to have Guest or Sponsored member cards issued to them. This is only for use in the Village.
- We have used the old red membership tags since 2011. Many have been misplaced, lost, etc. So please find a consistent, safe place to keep your tags in your home for your own use. Only two tags will be given for each member home – and family groups can share these. Just help our Village Staff members identify who is with you in your group. Again, guests and Sponsored members should **not** use these new tags. Replacement tags if lost will cost \$5 each.

VILLAGE VIBES

Highlighting NEW Village Club Programs & Events for 2017!

Get In “The Loop”! - New this season! Every Friday beginning May 19th 2pm-4pm in the WLPOA Community Center. Calling all Village Club yarnies and thread aficionados to meet for a new fiber arts group. All experience levels are welcome! To share ideas, please contact Katie Demere Mahowald at katiedemere@gmail.com and to sign up to ‘Get in the Loop’, [contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com](mailto:cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com).

Relaxation & Meditation with Larry Veatch – Beginning Thursday, May 25th. Larry will be leading this Relaxation & Meditation class once monthly on the third Thursday at 11am. Relaxation and Meditation have been scientifically proven to increase immunity and well-being, decrease blood pressure and inflammation (arthritis) and much more! Please see Larry’s article in this edition on page 16 for a more comprehensive review of benefits.

Yoga with John Shoemaker – Beginning Monday, May 29th, we’ll have a 2pm Restorative / Yin class each week during our season. John will also hold a 9am class on Wednesdays for Active Yoga throughout the season. Please see John’s article in this edition on page 17 for a full description of the many health benefits of this class!

Mystery Dinners – A great way to meet new friends on the mountain! So, what’s a Mystery Dinner? It’s an evening to dine with 7-10 other Village Club Members and will be hosted at the homes of a number of different Village Club Members each month. The dinner theme for June 14th will be Americana; July 16th will feature a Mexicana theme; September 13 will celebrate with Viva Italia! We’ll announce the time to sign up for these as a reminder a few weeks before each dinner. When signing up, you can let us know your preference – to host a dinner or to provide the dish of your choice. Hosts will provide the main course and other attendees can opt to bring either an appetizer, salad/bread or dessert. BYOB. When we get all the sign-ups, you’ll get an e-mail to confirm your participation and the host for your dinner. The host will contact you with directions to their home and time of the dinner. We hope to have many homes and members participate on these dates and provide you an opportunity to get to know those in your group while enjoying a wonderful dinner! Contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com to sign up!

Jewelry in June – Wednesday, June 28th, 7-9pm. A very special event to not only find some special jewelry

items that you would enjoy, but also a way to make a contribution to a worthy local non-profit – My Sister’s Place in Marshall. Please see Lori Macaulay’s full description of the classy and fun event in this edition on page 8.

Let’s Paint Together! With Patricia Veatch - Plein Air Painting (painting outdoors) The most intimate, intense way to commune with nature is to paint it. Have you ever had the desire to capture the beauty you see before you on canvas? Even if you have never painted before, or never painted directly from nature, I can help you discover the joys of painting plein air (open air). I prefer oil myself but all mediums and experience levels are welcome. On lovely days, we will meet at the Community Center parking lot then carpool to our painting place. On inclement days, we will meet at the Activity Center (downstairs area of the Community Center) to work on color theory, composition, drawing skills or paint from photos. Every Thursday, 9 am to noon. Contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com to be added to our contact list for the classes and contact me at 352-870-9813, peach826@gmail.com with any questions about materials, etc. I do have one extra easel that I would be happy to loan if you would like to try this before buying the equipment.

WNC Discovery – The success of our WL Wandering Ladies events has led many of our members to think about other kinds of explorations for fun but with WNC Discovery – including our adventurous mountain MEN! Several dates and destinations will be scheduled for any Members (men & women) who would like to get out and explore the many wonderful destinations and outdoor recreational opportunities here in Western North Carolina. Under consideration: Ziplining! White water rafting! And more. Contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com to provide your input. Events will be announced soon.

Art Class with Gail Ford & Cassandra Bradham – new this season! Monday, August 7th, 9am in the Village Pavilion. You will love this cool craft – Pine Cone Zinnias! So, if you live along the coast of NC, SC, GA or FL and can bring your own long-leaf pine cones (at least 25-30 per person) that’s great! We will have some pine cones available but bring your own if you can and also bring gloves & a pair of wire clippers. \$30 per person. If you would like to make a wreath, bring a wire form.

VILLAGE CLUB PROGRAMS AND EVENTS 2017

2017 VILLAGE CLUB PROGRAMS & EVENTS – MAY THROUGH OCTOBER

The majority of these Programs and Events are planned for Village Club Members only. We have a great variety of many successful continuing programs and also some new programs for this season. It's exciting to see the 2017 Season shaping up with so much opportunity! Some details may change so keep an eye out for regular e-mail updates. For Mountain Residents who are not Village Club members, please see our Welcome Back to the Mountain on June 2nd, our Independence Day Celebration on July 3rd, and our Woofminster event on August 6th – all under "Special Events". These three events will be open to everyone on the Mountain.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:

Fitness Class – Tuesdays & Fridays 9am beginning May 23rd. Takes place on black top or in the Village Pavilion – instructor's choice depending on weather. Bring your exercise mat, water bottle, weights & stretch bands. We are very pleased to introduce a new instructor for this class! Tina Murphy – from Mars Hill, has been teaching a wide variety of fitness classes for over 30 years. She's very excited to be a part of the Village Club Programs and will be bringing a great workout to the mountain.

Tai Chi with Fred Buck – Monday & Thursday at 10am in Village Activity Center or in outside locations in the beautiful sunshine. Bring your water bottle and an exercise mat. This wonderful class is starting its 11th season! A BIG thank you to Fred for all the years of bringing this therapeutic, peaceful class to The Village!

Yoga with John Shoemaker – new this season! – Monday at 2pm, a Restorative / Yin class; Wednesday at 9am, an Active Class. First class is scheduled for Monday, May 29th. We will be selling a small number of new yoga mats & bolsters at cost for the class if you don't have these recommended props. Bring your water bottle, yoga mat & bolster (if you do have them). This class will take place in the Village Activity Center.

Water Fitness – Tuesdays & Thursdays at 1pm beginning Thursday, June 1st. Led by Barby McQueen with assistance from Lee Moeller and Larae Weaver.

All workout equipment provided. Bring your sunscreen and get ready to have a great time and a very beneficial workout!

Pickleball – Wednesdays and Fridays at 10am; Sundays at 3pm. If you haven't played this great sport before, contact George Shennan (gshennan@earthlink.net) and he will arrange a time before regularly scheduled play on Sunday to give you a chance to learn the game. The lower tennis court is reserved for pickleball only on the days/times specified above.

Walking Club – Wednesdays 9-10am we'll have gentle hikes on the mountain. Meet in the Village Pavilion. On Saturdays starting at 10am, 2-4 miles in 2-3 hours. Earlene Shofi will coordinate, and various leaders will select the destination and lead the hike. Contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com to get on the list for e-mails out every week for the longer Saturday hikes.

Tennis – Monday & Friday at 10am – upper courts only. Lower court can be used for practice with our ball machine as requested (see Pickleball play times above - Pickleball will take highest priority on the lower court). Please see Village Staff to have the courts opened for you. Bring your membership tags and introduce yourself to our Staff members.

Relaxation and Meditation Class with Larry Veatch – new this season! Meet in the Activity Center (lower area of the WLPOA Community Center) once a month on the last Thursday of each month at 11am (following Tai Chi). Bring a cushion (or mat if you prefer the lotus position instead of a chair). Relaxation and meditation provide many important health benefits! Dates on Thursdays are: May 25th, June 29th, July 27th, August 31st, September 28th and October 26th.

Book Club – led by Karen Gerry. The first meeting will be Thursday, June 1st at 2:15pm (following Water Fitness Class) in the Village Pavilion to determine the book selections for this season. Several meetings will be held throughout the season to review each book. Thanks to Karen, the Book Club has enjoyed some extraordinary books over the last several years and this season will again offer thought-provoking, important topics.

Get In "The Loop"! - new this season! – Every Friday beginning May 19th 2pm-4pm in the WLPOA Community Center. Calling all Village Club yarnies and thread aficionados to meet for a new fiber arts group. All experience levels are welcome! To share ideas, please contact Katie Demere Mahowald at katedemere@gmail.com and to sign up to 'Get in the Loop', contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com.

Friday Night Socials – every Friday at 6pm in the Village Pavilion unless otherwise announced. Free! BYOB & appetizer to share. If it's chilly, we'll have a cozy fire in the Pavilion. In extreme weather, this may be moved to the WLPOA Community Center. Bingo with Fred Tygart will take place on the last Friday of each month unless otherwise announced! The Village Club provides plates, etc., mixers, ice and a few snacks for Bingo time. Come enjoy this great social gathering!

Monday Night Potlucks – every Monday at 6pm except July 3rd (Independence Day celebration) in the Village Pavilion. Bring all picnic supplies and a dish or two to share. BYOB. We'll have a fire when it's chilly!

Dining Out With Friends – contact Gene Woolf to sign up (abooks@ccvn.com). Friends can meet to carpool at the WLPOA Community Center, or meet us at the restaurant at the time shown below.

June: Thursday, June 15th, 12:30 pm – **Sweet Monkey** in Marshall, 133 Main Street. If you have never been there, it's a chance to tour this great mountain town. Lots of art and good old-fashioned shops!

July: Saturday, July 29nd, 6:30 pm – **Farmer's Daughter** in Chuckey, TN. Carpool at 5 pm for a pleasant drive through the countryside and a chance to shop at the Mennonite store next door for deli/gourmet supplies. Head count needed for group reservation! Bring cash or check – no credit cards accepted at the restaurant. Lots of fresh veggies and two meats or fish. Endless refills!

August: Thursday, August 17th, 1 pm – **Luella's Bar-B-Que**, 501 Merrimon Avenue, Asheville. Southern style barbeque plus a wider menu.

September: Thursday, September 7th, 1 pm – **Tupelo Honey**, 12 College Street, Asheville. Known for its Southern cuisine.

Mystery Dinner – new this season! – a new monthly event to be introduced this summer! Three dates are planned: Wednesday, June 14th features 'Americana' as the theme; Wednesday, August 16th will feature 'Mexicana' as the theme; Wednesday, September 13th

will be 'Viva Italia' night! Signup in advance to host at your home (and provide the main dish), or to bring appetizer, salad/side & dessert. BYOB. We'll randomly put groups of 7-10 people together to complete the meal and you'll hopefully get to meet new friends in the process. The host at each home will contact those selected to attend dinner at their home to give you directions. This will be a really fun way to meet and eat! Be looking for the e-mail invitations for each of these dates.

Art Class with Patricia Veatch – new this season! Beginning June 1st, each Thursday 9 am – 12 noon. FREE! Let's paint together! Just bring your own supplies and meet at the WLPOA Community Center to carpool to a beautiful painting place. On inclement weather days, we will meet in the Activity Center (lower level of the Community Center) to work on composition, color theory, drawing skills or paint from photos. First time and experienced painters welcome. Contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com to sign up and get connected with Patricia.

Art Class with Gail Ford & Cassandra Bradham – new this season! Monday, August 7th, 9 am in the Village Pavilion. You will love this cool craft – Pine Cone Zinnias! So, if you live along the coast of NC, SC, GA or FL and can bring your own long-leaf pine cones (at least 25 per person) that's great! We will have some pine cones available here but bring your own if you can and also bring gloves & a pair of wire clippers. \$30 per person. If you would like to make a wreath, bring a wire form. Contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com to sign up.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

Community Art Wall 2017 – Stop by the WLPOA Community Center to see the art each month and to support our local mountain artists! Bring your checkbook or cash with you (all paid directly to the artists).

May: Chuck Kinsey's photography and cards!

June: Rebekah Shennan's photography!

July: Tedi McManus's pottery!

August: Carol Kinsey's paintings and cards!

September: Patricia Veatch's paintings!

October: OPEN! Contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com if you would like to display your own wonderful creations!

CPR/AED Class with Jim Deloatch – We will be scheduling at least one class this season. The knowledge gained could help you save someone's life – so do not miss the opportunity! Look for more info soon!

Personal Safety/Self Defense Tactics with Jim Deloatch – Be aware & protect yourself! This class will help you consider the most important things you need to know to help keep yourself safe. Look for more info soon!

Fly Fishing classes with Joey Leonard – Joey will teach you some interesting background/history of this great sport and will assist you at the Village Trout Pond to help you learn or improve your skills. Look for more info soon!

WL Wandering Ladies:

May 31st – Redline bus tour in Asheville with lunch along the way (a stop off/hop on point on the tour). This trip will be led by Lee Moeller. Sign up by e-mail to cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com and payment of \$26 for the tour. Asheville is a wonderful place to explore!

June 22nd – 10:00am – The Farmer's Hands in Mars Hill. Have a wonderful brunch prepared for you and enjoy a dessert demonstration (and then eating it!) and tour at Farmer's Hand with chef Sabastiaan Zijp. Up to 15 people, \$65 per person to be paid in advance. BYOB. This outing may include a stop in at East Fork Pottery, featuring Alex Matisse – an excellent, world class potter in Mars Hill. This trip will be led by JoAnn VanHyning. Meet in the upper Village Parking area no later than 10am. Contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com to sign up!

July – Flat Rock Theater with lunch in the area. The Theater will be featuring Annie through 7/2 and The Dixie Swim Club 7/7-7/22. More details to come!

August – Echoview Fiber Mill tour and shopping with lunch in Weaverville. More info to come!

Sept – Tryon Equestrian Center – huge complex with many opportunities to see horses, competition, have lunch, etc. 1.5 hour drive to and from. Barby McQueen will be leading this great trip. More info to come!

Sept – Literary Festival in Burnsville. Many local authors. Will have lunch at a local restaurant. Jeri Magg will lead this trip. More info to come!

October – Soak in a Hot Springs hot tub and have dinner in one of the downtown restaurants. This is a wonderful way to welcome the cooler mountain weather and enjoy the fall leaves on the way to Hot Springs. More info to come!

WNC Discovery – new this season! Several dates and destinations will be scheduled for all Members (men & women) who would like to get out and explore interesting places, enjoy outdoor recreation (zip lines, rafting, Zen Tubing) and other opportunities here in Western North Carolina. More to come on this new event!

Other programs in the works – let us know if you are interested!:

- Recycling in Madison and Yancey County
- Bird Talk with the Bird Banders on Big Bald
- Berry Picking on the Mountain!

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Welcome Back to the Mountain! Friday, June 2nd, 6 pm. All welcome! BYOB. We'll provide appetizers and you can bring your specialty too! We will have tables set up to talk with leaders of various Village Club Programs & Events, so don't miss this fun Friday Social in the Village Pavilion.

Independence Day Celebration, Monday, July 3, 7 pm until. All welcome! We'll have fun for everyone - a fire truck from Ebb's Chapel Volunteer Fire Department for kids to explore, concessions food for kids of all ages, inflatables for the kids, entertainment and the best fireworks show around! Tickets: \$15 for anyone over 6 years of age and \$10 for 6 and under. Sponsorships are also available in order to reserve a parking space in The Village. We also have a number of handicapped parking spots available upon request. Be looking for an announcement when ticket sales will begin.

Wolf Cubs Village Kids Camp! July 10-July 14, 9 am – 3 pm: Lots of good old fashioned kid fun right here in the Village. Science! Arts & Crafts! Sports! Swimming! Stream stomping! Wildlife education! And so much more. Contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com for more

Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association

information and a registration form. Do NOT wait to get your child or grandchild registered. This camp fills up every year. It's an awesome week (and, yes, we howl!).

Jewelry in June! – new this season! Wednesday, June 28th, 7-9 pm. What a great way to find a new home for jewelry that you no longer use AND to find new or slightly used pieces that suit you perfectly! So, go through those jewelry boxes now, select at least three pieces of jewelry and sign up for this cool event. E-mail cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com to sign up. Limited to the first 20 to sign up. \$10 per person with all proceeds to benefit My Sisters Place in Marshall – a non-profit providing assistance to victims of domestic violence. Desserts and wine will be served.

Dog Days of Summer – Friday, August 4th 6 pm. Ticketed event with food provided – brats, sides and desserts. BYOB. More info to come!

Woofminster – Sunday, August 6, 5 pm: BYOB, an appetizer to share and your pooch (or pooches) on a leash to compete in lots of fun doggie events! We will have awards and doggie treats. Last year, we had lots of pooches and proud owners attend and all had a great time. A wonderful event! Don't miss it!

Labor Day Weekend Oyster Roast – Sunday, September 3rd, 6 pm. \$25 per person, additional oysters (min 6) at \$1 each. BYOB. Tickets will go on sale in early August – so be looking for more details to come. This has been a sell-out each year so you'll want to get your ticket in advance. Look for future announcements!

WLPOA Community Center & Village Club Hours of Operation 2017 – 7 days a week:

	WLPOA Community Center	Pool – *Open date prior to Memorial Day
May:	8:30 am - 6:30 pm	10 am - 6 pm*
June:	8:30 am - 7:30 pm	10 am - 7 pm
July:	8:30 am - 8:30 pm	10 am - 8 pm
August:	8:30 am - 8:30 pm	10 am - 8 pm
September:	8:30 am - 7:30 pm	10 am - 7 pm
October:	8:30 am - 6:30 pm	closed



2017 Annual Spring Plant Sale

Patio Pots, Hanging Baskets, Perennials, Annuals,
Herbs, Vegetable Plants & More!

Saturday, May 27

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Location - Wolf Laurel Country Club

Contact: Barby McQueen - 680-9892

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS:

Jim Klumpp and Yvonne Carignan

In mid-2016 we realized our dream of retiring to the high mountains of North Carolina. Because we lived in Silver Spring, Maryland for the last 30 years, people often ask “why here?” or “how did you find Wolf Laurel?” We knew we loved mountains. For 20 years our escape from the traffic and urban sprawl of the DC Metro area had been a modest cabin on a ridge in remote Lost River, Hardy County, West Virginia. We thought of retiring there, but there were 3 problems. While 10 degrees cooler than the city, it still got uncomfortably hot at times during the summer. Secondly, Hardy County has a couple of charming towns and several nice crossroads, and 3 or 4 homey restaurants, but limited cultural offerings. Finally, our cabin was in a pleasant development consisting almost entirely of weekenders who drove out a couple of times a month from the city. The place was deserted during the week. We hoped to live in cooler mountains, in a real community, and near a city that offered some culture. We discovered Wolf Laurel when Yvonne saw an online ad for a house boasting its altitude of 5,000 feet in the “coveted” community of Wolf Laurel.

The summer we first arrived to see Wolf Laurel, we were returning from an automobile trip out west where the temperatures had hovered at 100 or higher the entire time. Everywhere west of Kentucky, we had seen crops burned to death from drought and heat. Entering the mountains of WNC from the south, we enjoyed seeing green again, but the temperatures were still pretty hot. We met Peggy Hobson who took us up to the house at 5,000 feet, and we stepped out of the car to a refreshing 70 degrees. The beauty, lushness, and



Jim Klumpp and Yvonne Carignan

cool escape of Wolf Laurel had won our hearts.

Our want-list for our new home was challenging. Because we would be year round residents, we wanted a garage, opportunities for our hobbies (a workshop for Jim’s woodworking and space for Yvonne’s gardening), guest rooms and a splendid view to entice relatives and friends to visit. 409 Upper Haw Drive fit the bill nicely, and we purchased it from the Shavers in the summer of 2016. Selling our house in Silver Spring in October 2016, we have only been here full time for a few months. Already we find that Wolf Laurel exceeds our fondest hopes for our retirement community. People here are wonderfully friendly and welcoming. We are enjoying the get-togethers, kind neighbors, exercise programs, hikes, and more. Our first snows have been so lovely (and gone quickly). And we have had the wonderful surprise of finding Asheville not just a source of enticing culture, but a national hotspot of music, art, restaurants, and who knows what else. So here we are, fortunate indeed.

Jim retired in spring 2015 and is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Communication at the University of Maryland. Yvonne retired in January 2016 as head of George

Mason University Libraries’ Special Collections Research Center in Fairfax, Virginia. Neither of us are quite retired however. Jim is still advising a PhD candidate until the completion of her degree, and remains active writing, presenting, and publishing in his discipline. He will present the keynote address at a major academic conference this summer. Yvonne also has had trouble leaving behind her career in libraries and archives. She enjoys volunteering in the Mars Hill branch of the Madison County Public Library, and gladly accepted an invitation from our friends Amelia and Gene Woolf to work in the well-stocked Wolf Laurel Community library in the Village. Starting out in his hometown of Coffeyville, Kansas, Jim earned his bachelor’s degree in Economics and Speech from the University of Kansas, and his PhD and Master’s degrees in Speech-Communication from the University of Minnesota. Yvonne grew up in Richmond, Virginia, earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Virginia Commonwealth University, a masters in library science from UNC (go Tarheels!), and a masters in history from George Mason University. Jim and Yvonne met in Lincoln, Nebraska, when Jim was a professor at the University of Nebraska (go Cornhuskers!) and Yvonne worked at Lincoln City Libraries.

We have no children nor domesticated pets, but we enjoy cataloging the animals, feeding the birds, gardening – and putting fences up to protect all the things the you-know-what eat. And life seems so rich with the opportunities to barbeque, eat at wonderful restaurants, walk daily, exercise regularly, and generally enjoy life in this beautiful place!

RELAXATION AND MEDITATION CLASSES

Larry Veatch

Greetings Fellow Wolf Laurel Residents,

It is common for our lives to get busy, for tribulations to occur, and for us to feel stressed. Stress is natural but must be managed to prevent its detrimental effects. We can enjoy life more if we learn to manage stress.

I am Larry Veatch, and I have offered to provide classes on Relaxation and Meditation. Discussion and training will be provided regarding these two techniques. We will also discuss other general issues related to healthy aging.

Sessions will be provided monthly on the last Thursdays in May - October in the Activity Center (lower area of the WLPOA Community Center) at 11am (following Tai Chi). Dates are: May 25th, June 29th, July 27th, August 31st, September 28th and October 26th.

Each month the sessions will involve some open discussion on relaxation, meditation, and healthy living, and a 20- to 25-minute relaxation training technique. The relaxation technique will be conducted with participants seated in a chair, so participants are encouraged to bring a seat cushion. If you prefer a lotus position, bringing a mat is up to you. Comfortable attire is recommended and bringing an extra layer of clothing is recommended, it's difficult to get relaxed if you are chilled. Attendees will also be provided with written instructions and an audio recording of the technique for practicing on their own.

The relaxation technique evokes a relaxation response, and once learned can be used in any situation. The relaxation response can be achieved in a few minutes and to some degree even in a few seconds, and can be utilized for stress reduction and sleep enhancement.

The other primary topic will be Meditation and mindfulness methods. Methods include focus on visual imagery, on sensations, on passing thoughts, on perceptions, on breathing, on vocal manifestation, and on philosophical thought.

Information will be provided on healthy aging provided by the Healer Within Foundation, (<http://www.healerwithinfoundation.org>), from which I am scheduled to attend training in Florida to become a certified instructor.

Additionally, we will cover healthy eating, connectedness, stretching, movement, sleep, Positive Psychology principles, mental clarity and focus, goal setting, and age appropriate exercise. I can also provide some information in the areas of healthy eating and achieving a healthier microbiome.

Who am I? – I am a retired mental health professional. I provided direct care most of the 37 years of my career. I am still a licensed Counselor in Florida and NC; I am also a Certified Life Coach. I am Larry Veatch, MS, MBA, LMHC, LPC, NBCC, NCC (or just "Lucas Lane Larry").

Building Your Dreams...

CBA Crowder Banks & Associates, Inc.
GENERAL CONTRACTORS
828.682.0800
www.crowderbanks.com
randy@crowderbanks.com



CBA Services

- New Construction
- Outdoor Spaces
- Renovation & Remodeling
- Commercial



Edwin Crowder
828.778.2127



Randy Banks
828.284.0409

Hicks
REAL ESTATE GROUP

Bobby Hicks, M.E.
Broker/Realtor #275326
828-333-3505
direct line

- Full Time Resident of Wolf Laurel
- Holds a Masters Degree in Business
- Formerly a Commercial Banking Officer in Asheville
- Representing Buyers and Sellers on Residential, Land, and Commercial real estate transactions.

"High level negotiations, getting the best deal for you, whether you are buying or selling."

YOGA WITH JOHN SHOEMAKER

All Village Club members – both women and men - are invited to join John Shoemaker for Yoga twice a week in the WL Community Center from late May through October.

John completed his Yoga Teaching Certification (RYT-200) in Asheville in November. Since then he has taught a few classes per week in his home in Cary. He held practice teaching classes in The Village with some of our members last summer. John and Eunice bought a home on Buckeye in spring 2014; they would enjoy getting to know more of the Village Club members as we practice yoga together.

We practice yoga when we link breath to physical movement and concentration. We slow the breath, calm the nervous system and focus on being mindful in the present. Yoga is not a religion; people of all faiths practice yoga together often.

People of all ages and body types practice yoga. We use accommodations and props (blankets, blocks, straps) if we are increasing flexibility, building strength or practicing balance. As we age, yoga: increases flexibility and range of motion; moves and lubricates tight joints impacted by wear and arthritis; improves balance; improves posture; and improves concentration and memory.

Two sessions will be held each week. One will focus on restorative and yin yoga; the other will focus on active yoga with more movement. Participants are able to sit, kneel and lie on a yoga mat, move to hands and knees on a mat, and stand on a mat. We use props to make our practice more comfortable e.g. sitting on bolsters or blankets.

Restorative yoga and yin yoga provide an opportunity to relax and stretch joints more effectively than is possible in an active yoga class. The goal of restorative yoga is full relaxation as we stay in a pose for 5 minutes; all participants use props. Yin yoga poses last between 3-5 minutes. Few props are used. Yin poses stretch fascia, ligaments and tendons which allow us to achieve better flexibility.

The active yoga session will keep us moving from pose to pose. We will hold some poses for 5-10 breaths e.g. Downward Facing Dog, Cat Cow, Triangle, Tree. We will practice flowing sequences that move from one pose to another in one breath cycle. Sun Salutations are such energizing sequences.

This will be a safe and encouraging environment in which to practice. Our bodies all move differently. Men's bodies move quite differently from women's bodies. We can all practice yoga together and enjoy it!

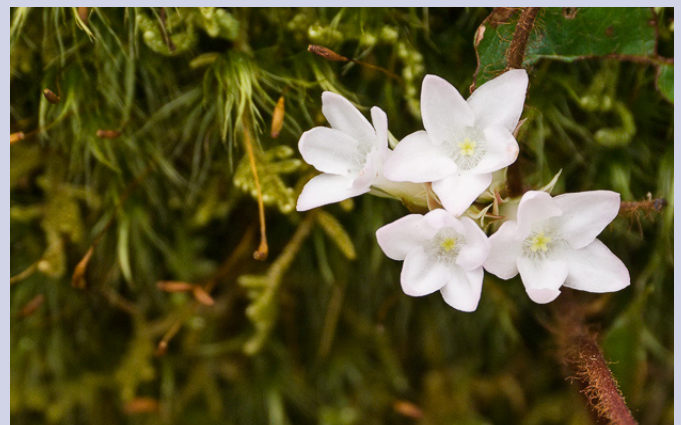
THE TRAILING ARBUTUS

*I wandered lonely where the pine-trees made
Against the bitter East their barricade,
And, guided by its sweet
Perfume, I found, within a narrow dell,
The trailing spring flower tinted like a shell
Amid dry leaves and mosses at my feet.*

*From under dead boughs, for whose loss the pines
Moaned ceaseless overhead, the blossoming vines
Lifted their glad surprise,
While yet the bluebird smoothed in leafless trees
His feathers ruffled by the chill sea-breeze,
And snow-drifts lingered under April skies.*

*As, pausing, o'er the lonely flower I bent,
I thought of lives thus lowly, clogged and pent,
Which yet find room,
Through care and cumber, coldness and decay,
To lend a sweetness to the ungenial day
And make the sad earth happier for their bloom.*

John Greenleaf Whittier



Discount Monument Center

"Leaving your legacy in stone"

(828) 639-4559

P.O. Box 430 • 7728 Highway 213 • Mars Hill, NC 28754
www.discountmonumentcenter.com • discountmonumentcenter@gmail.com

SPRING WILD FLOWERS AROUND AT WOLF LAUREL

Brenda Whitt

*“What a desolate place would be a world without a flower.
It would be a face without a smile a feast without a welcome.”*

A.J. Balfour

One of the gems of Wolf Laurel is its diversity of wild flowers. Spring is a great opportunity to “take time to smell the roses” and get out to renew ourselves and appreciate the abundance of flowers and plants on our mountain. During the blooming season my Michael and I have identified around fifty different wildflowers on our two acres.

A good place to begin is to get to know the plants on your property. You might then take a walk on the mile-long Nature Trail in late April or early May. With a small wildflower guidebook, you could easily find a carpet of spring beauties, a hillside dotted with white trillium, *spring larkspur*, false hellebore, wild geranium, mayapple, toothwort and star chickweed. Reviewing your guidebook (*Wildflowers of the Smokies* is my favorite) before you go on the



walk may assist in quick identification. I have seen the dainty *trailing arbutus* in guidebooks over the years, but had



never been aware that I had seen one. Then on a spring trek in the Smokies, there it was in all its glory. As I read in my wildflower book, I realized that it is actually an endangered species and that it had been named the mayflower in Massachusetts because it was the first flower the pilgrims saw after their first harsh winter. It, hepatica and bloodroot are the first flowers to shout that spring is on the way.

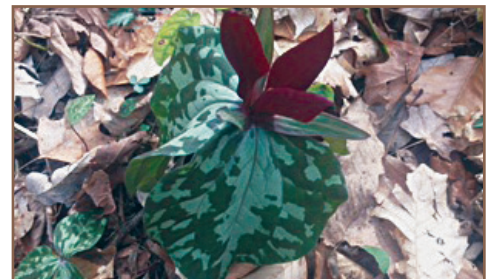
Another day you might consider following the Nature Trail a mile to the



intersection of the AT (Appalachian Trail). If you are there in late March, you just might see the stately *bloodroot*. From mid-April to mid-May the hillsides north to the Bald will change every few days as the flowers rotate through acres carpeted with

spring beauties, trout lilies, mayapple, solomon’s seal, false solomon’s seal and fringed phacelia. Various white trillium, often interspersed with red ones, will also dot the landscape.

Should you head south (left) at the intersection of the AT, you might spot a yellow trillium (spotted



leaves) or a *toad shade trillium* (burgundy with spotted leaves).

If you park at the gate to the Bald and turn north following the white blazes to go toward the AT shelter sometime in mid-May, you just might see the *fringed phacelia* at peak; it is particularly spectacular in this area. Of course, you may have your own yard display! As you head to the shelter and look carefully, there are a few rose twisted stalk along the path; the leaves will remind you of false solomon seal but the plant is bushy and has tiny pink flowers hanging down.



Friends and I recently discussed how plants, like people, can look so similar yet be uniquely different once you get to know them! False solomon's seal/solomon's seal and *dutchman's breeches*/squirrel corn are two examples. You can spot these plants most anywhere on the mountain; just see the difference. Actually, many of the white spring flowers such as spring beauty, chickweed, wood anemone and rue anemone will appear very similar (the flower is white!) as you first become acquainted with them.

Some of you might even have interest in edible plants. Ramps, an onion-like plant, abound in many places on the



mountain in early spring. You could add a cup of diced ramps to a breakfast casserole or stir 3 tablespoons butter, 1.5 cups of chopped ramps and 3 diced potatoes and when they are tender, stir in 3 eggs for a quick breakfast.

After reading the Firefox books, our son Alan decided to try fried dandelions. He picked only the large

flowers, leaving the stems behind; the flavor, supposedly, is similar to wild mushrooms. My husband fried up some wild morels he found on our property; I told him I would eat them after he survived the first batch! Alan has also made Stinging Nettle Tea which is reported to be a cure-all for many ailments – joint pain, UTIs, osteoarthritis and allergies to name a few. I'm sure Sharon Marable and Melissa Drake McDaniel could give you good advice on plants/herbs to eat.

We, Wolf Laurelians, are certainly blessed to have so much in our backyards! Let's learn, enjoy and protect it all!

(Disclaimer: Brenda is very much a novice with wild flower knowledge)

Photos courtesy of Brenda Whitt and Cathy Johnson.



YOU CAN'T BE HOME ALL THE TIME.
OUR SECURITY SYSTEMS WILL GIVE YOU
PEACE OF MIND WHILE YOU'RE AWAY!

SYSTEMS FOR:

- Burglary • Fire • Carbon Monoxide • Video Surveillance
- Keyless Entry • 24 Hr Monitoring (Cellular/Internet)



Honeywell
Authorized Security Dealer

ASHEVILLE · HENDERSONVILLE · FRANKLIN
828.253.1235 · 828.693.7136 · 828.524.2268

EMAIL: INFO@SOUTHERNALARM.COM

FOR A COMPLETE ARRAY OF SERVICES VISIT:
www.southernalarm.com



Who's watching your home?

"For over 65 years, we have trusted Southern Alarm for our home and business safety. They do a wonderful job and treat us like family!"

—LUCIA GREENE,
WICK AND GREENE JEWELERS

WLPOA INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION IN THE VILLAGE 2017! Fun, Great Music, Fireworks and More!

Our WLPOA 2017 Independence Day Celebration in The Village this year will begin at 7pm Monday July 3rd and promises to be a great evening of fun for all ages! We'll have kids' activities including face tattoos, inflatables to test their climbing, sliding and bouncing skills, the Ebbs Chapel fire truck to explore, and good ol' fashioned concessions: cotton candy, snow cones & popcorn (for 'kids' of all ages!). This year, we welcome a great new band – The Super 60's! – a 60's Tribute Band with tons of energy, a light show and some of the best music for dancing. Last, but certainly not least, what we all wait for – the excellent FIREWORKS show - brought to us by the Marshall Volunteer Fire Department!! Bright, beautiful, loud and awesome, this year's pyrotechnics display promises to be the best ever.

Participants are encouraged to bring a picnic basket, your favorite beverage, flashlights, chairs and blankets. There will be a drop off available for all your supplies at the entrance to The Village. We will provide a parking space in the Village for Community Sponsors once again for Sponsorships of \$200 (or more!). FREE Handicapped parking is available upon request. Please reserve your space for either by contacting cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com or call the Village Club office at (828) 689- 4089. All other parking will be at the lower

Ski Lodge lots with a pedestrian path right down Village Lane. Tickets will be on sale at the WLPOA Community Center, in June Monday through Friday each

week – so be looking for those announcements. All on the mountain are welcome with the purchase of a ticket. Wristbands tickets will be issued at the time of purchase. Please display your wristband ticket to gain entrance to the event in the Village and keep it visible throughout the event. All activities and concessions are included with the purchase price of your ticket. This, our 241st Independence Day, will be a wonderful mountain celebration!

Sponsors for the WLPOA Celebration are welcome, both from businesses, families and individuals. All contributions are greatly appreciated and go directly towards enhancing the Celebration experience in The Village. We appreciate all Sponsors and Donations to our Celebration that have contributed in past years and thank you again for your generosity!

Our Village Celebration on July 3rd will follow the many activities offered earlier in the day by the Wolf Laurel Country Club. For more information about the events earlier in the day at The Country Club – doggie parade, cart parade, a cookout and more, contact the Country Club at 828-680-9771.



Fireworks Photo by Rebekah Duncan



KIDS CAMPS 2017!

I have often heard mature residents who come to Wolf Laurel for the summer season say that it's like coming to a summer camp for adults because there are so many wonderful things to do. It's great to see so many people enjoy the beauty of Wolf Laurel and the variety of opportunities that are available - hiking, picnics, community socials, fitness classes and so many other possibilities.

We want our younger summer residents to have some great opportunities for fun and learning as well. There are three wonderful camps for kids that they can take advantage of right here on the mountain. These three awesome Kids Camps provide an array of great experiences for your kids and grandkids! Check it out!

WOLF LAUREL STABLES HORSE CAMP

Wolf Laurel Stables Horse Camp: June 26th - June 30th, 10am - 2:30pm Ages 5-18; Cost \$285 per Camper; Register by June 9th, 2017 – no refunds after June 1 Contact David Payne at 828-678-9370/828-380-9222

This is a wonderful opportunity for young people to learn many basic horsemanship skills including horse and barn safety, grooming, basic care and understanding the horse's body language. There is a huge emphasis on safety while at the Stables and around the horses. The camp will include time with nature to help the kids learn to get familiar with their surroundings, a farrier demonstration, and instruction on using Western saddle and tack. The kids will have more time on horseback, learning basic riding skills (walking, trotting) and also skills that make the rider feel more comfortable and confident. A cookout for campers will be held at the end of the week.



BIG BALD VACATION BIRD SCHOOL

Big Bald Vacation Bird School: July 10th - July 13th, 8:30am - 4pm (no Friday camp) Rising 5th - 7th Grade Students; Cost \$200 per Student (cost reduced from \$250) Contact Mark Hopey at 828-736-1217 or <https://bigbaldbanding.org/vbs/>

SARR or Southern Appalachian Raptor Research offers Vacation Bird School (VBS), a four-day bird study experience for rising 5th-7th grade students during their summer vacation July 10-14, 2017, high in the cool mountains of western North Carolina. Students from Madison, Yancey and Buncombe counties in NC and visiting students from other states will take part in daily expeditions into the Big Bald habitat via the Appalachian Trail to explore the natural history and habitat of bird communities. Activities include literature readings, creative writing, applied arts, nest searching, bird banding and data collection techniques to help see, identify and understand the ecology and birds in the Southern Appalachian Mountains.



THE VILLAGE WOLF CUB KIDS CAMP

The Village Wolf Cub Kid's Camp: July 10th - July 14th, 9am - 3pm Ages 5-10; Cost \$250 per Camper; Register by June 9th, 2017 Contact Cindy Tucker at 828-689-4089 or cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com

This good ol' fashioned camp is great fun for kids who enjoy howling, swimming, crafts of all sorts, kickball, basketball, 4-square, science, tie dyeing, acting like pirates, stream-stomping, learning about local wildlife and lots more. Each year, we bring in educators, crafters and helpers that are safety conscious, experienced in working with young kids, and are determined to help each child maximize their social, creative and activity interests. We give the kids opportunities to choose from some of the activities each day so that their most intense interests will be reflected in how they spend their time. We also have many group activities planned for each day. On the final day of camp, we have s'mores right after lunch, then invite the Wolf Laurel Community down for a Wildlife Education Program that is entertaining and of interest to all ages.



Ebbs Chapel Performing Arts Center 2017 Summer Series



**MARK KUYKENDALL, BOBBY HICKS
& ASHEVILLE BLUEGRASS** JUNE 25th

BIL LEPP JULY 30th

THE KRUGER BROTHERS AUG. 27th

Beautiful Music in a Beautiful Setting!
Season Passes Available

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



**Commercial - Residential
Repair
Class 1 License**



828-689-5092

**John Hill, Owner
828-689-5092**

jhillplumbing@aol.com

*"Professional Service with Quality Results"
Serving Western North Carolina for over 30 Years*

SAFETY FIRST!

A check-list for fire-proofing a second home

Gwynne Beneke

Although our mountain home is our primary residence, we travel in our RV for months at a time. We were preparing to leave for the winter last October when the devastating fires in the Smokies not only caused extensive economic damage, but also resulted in the tragic loss of life. We felt great sorrow for that loss, but we also felt increased vulnerability, leaving our home. Questions – practical and personal – arose. What are we prepared to walk away from? Have we done everything possible to protect our home while we're away? Are we really as aware of fire potential as we THINK we are, when we are home?

That event also galvanized many residents in Wolf Laurel to begin to seriously question how prepared our

community would be if we were faced with a similar threat. Cooperating with the Forest Service, plans are underway to improve community wide awareness and augment physical assets to support available fire-fighting tools. Identifying and developing additional internal assets is being very seriously considered.

Fires in homes in Wolf Laurel have been caused by some sources beyond our control: lightning strikes can not be prepared for; electrical malfunctions may not be recognized if the home is vacant. But other internal dangers can be identified and reduced. One frequently ignored potential danger is the home dryer with its external hose, dispersing damp air and lint – products of the drying process. I admit to being guilty

as I take my washer and dryer for granted! Ten years of almost daily use of my dryer had consequences: the 10 foot hose, running to an outside vent, became dangerously clogged. Luckily, the additional heat in the dryer itself triggered a fail-safe shut-off feature. But when the service person (we have service contracts on our appliances) showed me the stuff that had accumulated in the dryer itself, as well as the external exhaust hose, I was shocked! Thick, flammable fiber, several inches thick, coated the inside of the hose. We had dodged a serious fire danger bullet. I regularly remove (after each use) the lint from the dryer's screen collector, thinking that that was enough to protect against fire, but that is NOT enough! Constant use is exacerbated

Insured • Certified • 24 Hour Emergency Service



PRECISION RESTORATION SERVICES

WATER, MOLD, FIRE, SMOKE & STORM DAMAGE SPECIALIST

Proudly serving the Wolf Laurel community over the past 18 years.



676 Old Mars Hill Highway • Weaverville, NC 28787
Restore your tomorrow today, call 828.645.4546

Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association

by a sticky substance, a by-product of dryer sheets that increases the fiber build up. An annual inspection of the dryer and hose is now a part of our maintenance check list.

I love a real fire in a real fireplace. In cool summer evenings we can smell that our neighbors are enjoying the warm ambiance that we so enjoy. Fireplace flues, however, also need maintenance. It would be easy to assume that a second home fireplace does not get enough use to warrant a regular cleaning. A dangerous assumption! Fireplace screens should be truly spark deterrent, not just attractive. (I know this from experience; a less-than-effective-but-decorative-screen? An ugly burn scar on a hardwood floor. LUCKY!) More dangerous still are outdoor/patio/deck fireplaces and fire pits. Did you know that one spark can travel more than a mile through the air? Dousing any outdoor fire well before retiring is just common sense; campers know to do this. But covering/enclosing a dwindling fire with a mesh or screen cover is also a necessary precaution to an unattended fire pit or outdoor fireplace.

Outdoor grilling is extremely popular everywhere these days, but particularly so here in Wolf Laurel. A propane grill on a deck is a given. Real aficionado grillers also swear by their charcoalers. The least carelessness -- leaving

a lighted grill unattended, failing to extinguish a grill properly -- can result in a surprise midnight event. Wooden decks are flammable! A small fire extinguisher placed next to or beneath your grill is a cheap accident deterrent.

Research has shown that most household fires begin in the kitchen. I cherish my gas cooktop; I would strongly resist giving it up. But I am VERY aware of how easily a dish towel too close to a flame can catch fire; how an overheated skillet can erupt in an oily fire; how de-glazing with a bit of brandy can WHOOSH into an amazing conflagration! A small fire extinguisher resides beneath our kitchen sink, as cooks know not to attempt to douse an oily fire with water. Who hasn't forgotten a kettle put to boil or a pot of something left too long over a lighted burner?

Best practice: Cooking in the kitchen? Stay in the kitchen! That's why I have four (yes,4!) electric slow cookers with variable settings for hours-long projects.

These are just a few easy precautions you may want to consider to make your season more fire-worry free. By the way, check those extinguishers annually to make certain they are still operable and that they're not located so close to a potential fire source that you cannot get to them when needed!



Specializing in Custom Designs & Installations of Landscapes & Plants

**Boulder Retaining Walls • Driveway Regrading
New Plantings**

Michael Ryan 828.380.2730



7 South Main Suite, 2A • PO Box 305
Burnsville, NC 28714

828-682-0300 • Cell: 828-284-0700

Armin L. Wessel Architect, Inc. armin@wesselarchitect.com
web: arminlwesselarchitect.com wesselarchitect@gmail.com



Blue Ridge Funeral Service
(828) 680-9963 • Fax (828) 680-9965

P.O. Box 27 • 7626 Highway 213
Mars Hill, NC 28754

brfh@blueridgefuneralhomeservice.org
www.blueridgefuneralservice.org



**The Salvation Army
DONATIONS NEEDED!**

Call (843) 381-8080 for donation pick up.
Thank you!

Cline Coates Construction Co.



For home and property, maintenance needs, painting, remodel projects, decks (new & existing), work from the ground up. Free estimates.

Owner: Cline Coates
Cell (828) 206-3181 • Work (828) 689-3181
clinerc@frontier.com

WHERE AM I?

Here's a feature to test your scenic knowledge of Wolf Laurel and environs. See how many locations or items you can identify in these photos. Answers at the bottom of the page How'd you do? *Photos courtesy of Jim Landry.*



WHERE AM I? ANSWERS: 1-AT shelter beyond Big Stamp. 2-Big Bald Summit Road. 3 - View SW from Angelico Ridge. See Eagles Nest and Club? 4 - Smith Creek Road Past Curiosity (gone now). 5 - AT Outhouse. 6 - Water Wheel Spokes in the Village.



ATHENS PUBLISHING Co., INC.

Community Directories & Newsletters



*For information or Advertising in this Newsletter
and for other publications, call*

1-800-747-9286

www.athenspub.com



2017

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



LUXURY HOMES
INTERNATIONAL

KELLER WILLIAMS® REALTY



36 Goldenleaf Rd. Mars Hill - 3 bed / 4.5 bath

Luxury mountain retreat in gated resort community, private security, paved roads, country club with private 18 hole golf course/fitness center. avail., Village Club (pool, tennis, etc) included! 1.68 acre lot, small pond/mountain views (can open up more, if desired). Soaring post/beam ceilings on entire main level with custom kitchen, main level master, oversized 1 car main level garage with level driveway, and plenty of guest/entertaining spaces. 2 stone fireplaces, custom wet bar, 45 mins from Asheville, apx.4300' altitude.

MLS#3198864 \$450,000

161 Mountainside Trail, Mars Hill - 5 bed / 5 bath

Virtually staged, custom new construction, less than \$150/sf! Year-round long range views to South/Southeast. Optimal 2nd home in gated community with amenities (pvt.18 hole golf, pool, tennis, fitness center, trails, etc); seasonal temps at 4600' above sea level. Pay mortgage with vacation rental income! Multiple master suites, wine cellar, oversized main level attached garage, level driveway, hardwood/tile flooring throughout, tankless hot water heater, propane gas, huge decks, hardwoods & more!

MLS:3168913 \$625,000



WOLF LAUREL

Overlook Drive - Lot 47
NCMMLS#:3186409
2.5 acres; \$175,000

Overlook Drive - Lot 39
NCMMLS#: 3186391
0.71 acres; \$55,000

Mountainside Trail - Tract A
NCMMLS#: 3186363
0.71 acres; \$89,900

Mountainside Trail - Lot 16
NCMMLS#: 3188311
0.18 acres; \$50,000

Mountainside Trail - Lot 15
0.18 acres; \$50,000

Mountainside Trail - Lot 14
NCMMLS#: 3188300
0.18 acres; \$50,000

Mountainside Trail - Lot 12
NCMMLS#: 3188292
0.18 acres; \$50,000

Mountainside Trail - Lot 11
NCMMLS#: 3186299
0.20 acres; \$50,000

Mountainside Trail - Package Offering
NCMMLS#: 3219099
2.94 acres; \$449,000



Troy Flack

828-515-1853

troyflack@kw.com • www.troyflackgroup.com

"Proven results. Exceeding expectations."

