

Top Of The Bald

Summer 2021

**Brought to you by the
WLPOA BOARD OF
DIRECTORS
and the WLPOA STAFF**



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Advertisers

<p><u>Akut-Abuv Professional Painting</u></p> <p><u>ENGEL & VÖLKERS South</u></p> <p><u>Wolf Mountain Realty</u></p> <p><u>Glorious Mayhem Cleaning & Handyman</u></p> <p><u>Hill's Plumbing Contractor</u></p>	<p><u>Donovan Electric</u></p> <p><u>Organic Landscape Services</u></p> <p><u>Precision Restoration Services</u></p> <p><u>Ideal Indoor Air</u></p> <p><u>Black Bear Realty</u></p> <p><u>Prescription Pad</u></p>
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President's Notes



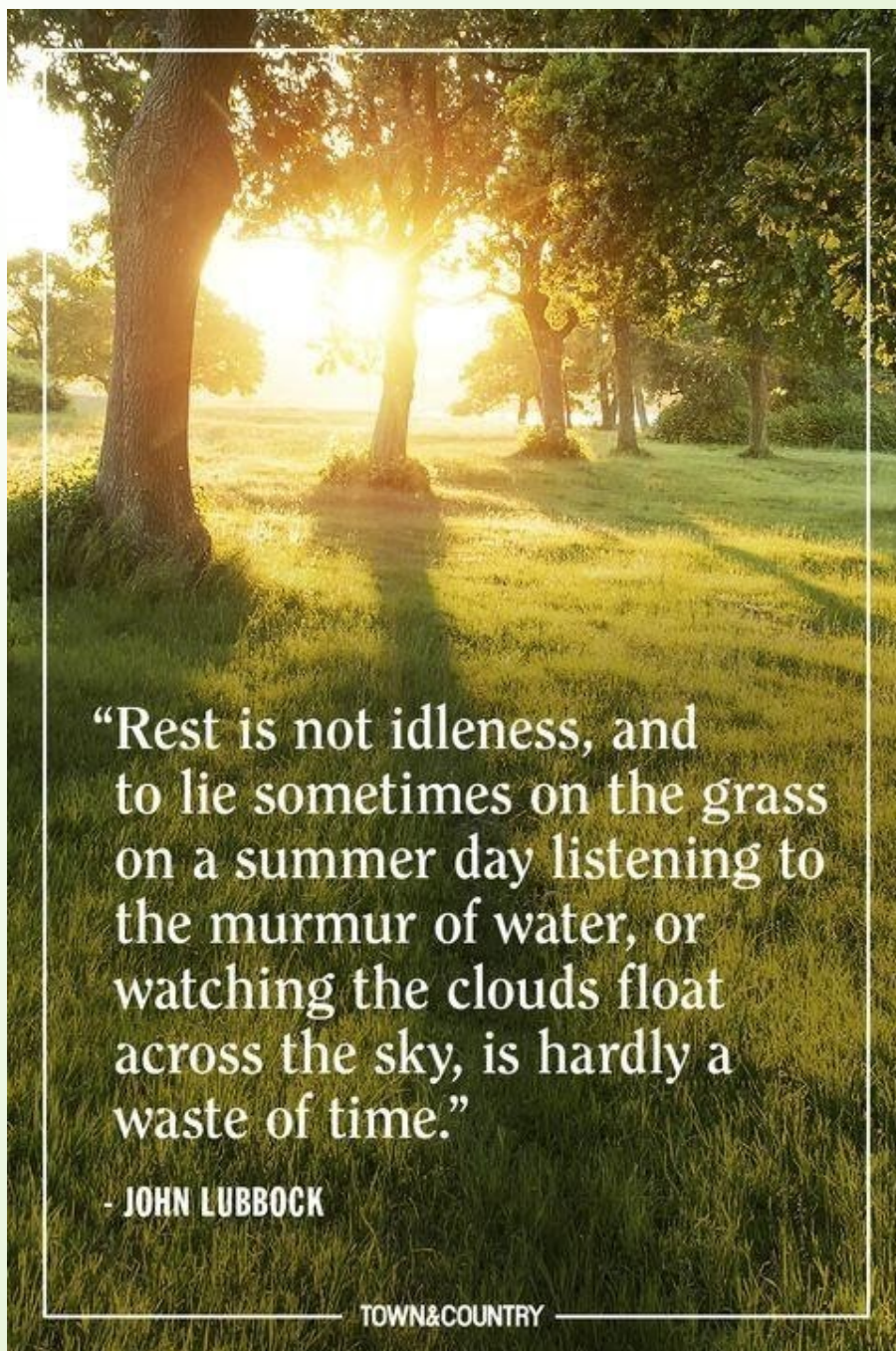
John Brackett

Additionally, the POA Board and staff are working to expand the services provided to you by remodeling the old motel and creating a new package room along with expanding Village Club activities. The village is vibrant and the summer is off to a great start.

I found the adjacent picture and quote and thought it was a perfect reminder to slow down and enjoy the summer. Rest is important and there is no better place to find time to enjoy a sunrise or sunset than Wolf Laurel.

Enjoy the summer and on behalf of the WLPOA, please enjoy the POA and Village Club activities planned throughout the year!

As I reread my TOB message from this time last year, it is night and day different. Last year we were cancelling events and limiting activities due to COVID-19, but this year we are excited to return to our customary schedule. We are all grateful that our community is returning to normal.



“Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass on a summer day listening to the murmur of water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is hardly a waste of time.”

- JOHN LUBBOCK

TOWN&COUNTRY

Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association (POA)

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



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

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

WLPOA Staff:

Ronnie Rice, Office Manager

Carol Jones, Village Club

Director

WLPOA:

91 Village Lane

Mars Hill, NC 28754

828-689-9229

Website:

www.wolflaurelpoa.com

Email:

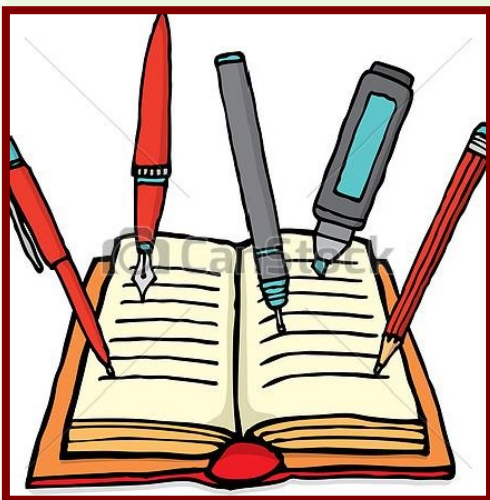
ronnie@wolflaurelpoa.com



TOB Editor and Publisher – Larry Veatch, larryv8@gmail.com

Editor's Notes

1. A digital version of this newsletter can be obtained via email to larryv8@gmail.com.
2. Contact the editor regarding printed copies of any TOB edition. Recent TOB print versions are available on Amazon.com.
3. Thanks to the TOB Editorial Committee:
 - Rick Zinter
 - Ron Metcalf
 - Rich Ashley
 - Betsy Browne
 - Lynn Cagney
 - Bob Hicks
4. Thanks to the WLPOA and the WLRMS boards for continuing the process of creating a better utilization of "the old motel."
5. The board appreciates the service of Lori Wyman-Macauley, Lynn Cagney, and Steve Parker who will be leaving the board this season.
6. Feedback regarding the TOB is welcomed.
7. Enjoy your summer!



Larry Veatch, TOB Editor / Publisher

[***larryv8@gmail.com***](mailto:larryv8@gmail.com),

352-359-0071

Donations to the Alzheimer's Association supported event *Wolf Walk to Remember* held on June 20th can still be made at https://act.alz.org/site/TR/LongestDay2021/TheLongestDay?px=17663248&pg=personal&fr_id=14244

Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association Board

June Meeting Minutes Highlights

RMS Liaison report, Cynthia Kessler via email: In May Wolf Laurel Roads, Maintenance & Security welcomed Greg Meier as a new board member. WLRMS approved an amendment to the fee schedule set out in the ARB Guidelines, discussed repeat violations by specific contractors, and continued to refine WLRMS' organization-wide privacy policy to protect owners. The RMS work session was dominated by a presentation from Rob Burgin about Carolina Water's plans to bring a new well online. The proposed well would be located on POA property. The link to a video recording of the presentation and question and answer session is available, contact WLRMS for information.



Committee reports:

Financial - Steve Parker: WLPOA appears to be sharing the benefits of the nation's "reopening" with a favorable year-to-date net income variance of 28% and an addition of \$11,021 to cash. These favorable measures continue to be driven by strong current membership and initiation fee income (12.3% favorable), expense control (YTD expenses 15% under budgeted amount) and accounts receivable collections...building materials will impact the new mailroom project. Nonetheless, we still expect to meet our 2021 budget/income plan.

Village Club - Lori Macaulay: July 3rd events are set. Volunteers are needed to hand out ice cream and popcorn and to help at the Bounce House, please contact Carol Jones. Kids' Camp is all set for the week of July 5-9. Bingo will be during Friday night socials on every 3rd Friday of the month. The first Friday of each month there will be a band: July - Super 60's, August - Tim Donovan, and October - Terry Deal Pearl Street Band. September Labor Day a BBQ is planned. Village Club is working on a food truck for Friday socials, more info coming. Movie night is being researched as well as Bocce Ball and getting a Ping Pong table. If you are not a Village Club member, consider joining to take advantage of these fun activities.

Membership - John Brackett: The POA continues to see new POA and Village Club members. We encourage everyone in the community to consider joining the Village Club to support the community and to take advantage of the many benefits available to members. Nominations for new board members is being addressed.

Facilities - Pickleball permanent nets have been installed. Tennis court crack repair to be done by contractor or in-house with assistance. The pool deck has been supported and stabilized, and the pool is up and running. Hot water for the pool shower and pavilion sink is being reviewed. The motel parking lot improvements have been completed by RMS.

(continued)

Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association Board June Meeting Minutes Highlights

(continued)

Beautification - Laura Conard: The new mulch looks great, flowers are coming back, and new ones will be planted.

Website - Jim Landry: Any changes needed to the Directory, please let Ronnie Rice in the Community Center office know.

TOB - Larry Veatch: The summer edition of the Top of the Bald will be published July 1st. Article submissions are due June 21st. If you are interested in a printed copy, contact Larry Veatch at larryv8@gmail.com so he will know how many to order. Copies are also available on Amazon.

Old Business - Motel/Mailroom - the invoice for the \$70 mailroom assessment has been sent out and has been well received. WLRMS has done some work on the parking area at the motel/mailroom. WLPOA will not begin work until the survey and other paperwork is completed. Steve Wilcox has been assigned to be project manager for the "old motel" renovation.

New Business - Cell tower - there was no final decision at the county meeting, but it looks like a new tower will be erected on the ski slope. 'Preserve' well request - The POA Board members were invited to attend an RMS meeting with a Carolina Water engineer to present information and maps of Wolf Laurel well locations. Carolina Water is requesting an easement to access and activate a well located on POA greenspace next to the basketball court. It would provide additional water for the Preserve. The WLPOA board has formed an ad hoc committee (Earlene Shofi, Lynn Cagney, Bob Hicks, Laura Conard, Steve Parker, and John Brackett) to meet with Carolina Water to review information and discuss the request for well easement on WLPOA property in the Village.



WLPOA and Village Club Information

The Wolf Laurel Village Club has 2 staff positions available:

1. Village Club Seasonal Staff thru October: Evening & morning shifts available. Five hours per shift, 15 hours a week - Hourly wage. Job Description: Blowing off courts with leaf blower, checking memberships and unlocking gates at courts for players as needed, cleaning and organizing the bathrooms and pool supply shed. Checking chemicals in pool, keeping area around pool clean and organized. Checking in rental guests, and checking around the trout pond.
2. Mail cabin position: Friday, Saturday and Monday afternoon shift from 2 until 4 (longer if needed). Sort USPS packages and FedEx ground packages. Check address and name on all packages and place items on shelves for pickup. Call residents for perishable items, large items and medical for pick up - Hourly wage.

If interested, please email: carol@wolflaurelpoa.com

WLPOA Community Center & Village Club hours of operation 2021

July through October 9 am – 7:30 pm

WLPOA and Village Club Informational Pages:

- Board of Directors and WLPOA / Village Club Office - Contact Information - 62
- WLPOA Committees - 63
- WLPOA and Village Club Benefits - 64
- Package Cabin Procedures - 65
- WLPOA / Village Club Websites - 66
- Village Club Facebook Page - 67
- WL Facebook Pages and Websites - 68
- Movies and Music at the Village Club - 69

It has been noted that the WLPOA office frequently receives questions about WLRMS. Any WLRMS questions should be addressed to WLRMS at 828-680-9162, wroads@wolflaurelrms.com, or wsecurity@wolflaurelrms.com.

WOLF LAUREL VILLAGE CLUB

Summer Programs

***** Activities may be pending due to CoVid-19 Restrictions *****

Fitness Class with Mary Lou Woodiwiss: Mondays & Thursdays at 9 am. Sessions take place on basketball court or in the Village Pavilion — instructor's choice depending on weather. Bring your exercise mat, water bottle, weights & stretch bands. Get ready for a great workout! Mary Lou Woodiwiss is ACE certified group fitness instructor (please contact her for further information at 772-321-3288)



Tai Chi with Fred Buck: Classes will be on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10:15 am at the Community Center Deck in the beautiful sunshine. Bring water and exercise mat.

Water Fitness with Leigh Ann Roseberry: Tuesdays & Thursdays at 1 pm. Equipment is provided, bring your towel, water & sunscreen. Pool temperature will be at 85 degrees! Get ready for a great low impact workout. Please email Leigh Ann at eagles21@att.net if you have any questions.

ZOOM Yoga with John Shoemaker: Mondays & Fridays at 9 am, 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. John is a 500-hour certified yoga teacher through Yoga Alliance. He completed his training at Asheville Yoga Center. **Contact John via email for log on information at johnshoemaker@gmail.com**

Pickleball: Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 am, and Sundays at 2 pm. Ladies play on Mondays at 10:30 am. If interested in learning this great sport, contact Becky Shennan via email at b.shennan@hotmail.com or the Village Club at 828-689-4089 for more info.

Tennis: Monday & Thursday at 10 am. All level of players are welcome. Contact Michaelene Sanders at mros725@gmail.com for more information.

Book Club lead by Karen Gerry: Meetings are held monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 2:30 pm at Village Club Pavilion. Contact Karen at bkgerry@comcast.net.

Village Club Bridge & Samba: Fridays at 1 pm in the Village Club Community center. Contact Linda Mullins at mrsdepp826@gmail.com if interested in more info. (continued)

WOLF LAUREL VILLAGE CLUB 2021

Summer Programs

***** Activities may be pending due to CoVid-19 Restrictions *****

(continued)

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

Monday night potluck (Weekly): At 6 pm in Village Club Pavilion. Bring a dish to share and enjoy the company of your neighbors by a cozy fire. The Village Club will provide plates, utensils, napkins, and cups. (BYOB)

Friday night social (Weekly): At 6 pm in the Village Club Pavilion. Bring an appetizer to share with your neighbors. (BYOB) Every 3rd Friday night of the month we will have Bingo Night. The Village Club provides plates, utensils, napkins, and cups, and mixers.

Dinning out with Friends: Contact Linda Mullins at mrsdepp826@gmail.com.

Pool Hours:

July 10:00am – 8:00pm

Aug 10:00am – 8:00pm

Sep 10:00am – 8:00pm

Oct - Closed for season



Pickleball Play Players
with Spectators

WOLF LAUREL VILLAGE CLUB
INDEPENDENCE DAY



4th of July Festivities on the Mountain

Will be held on Saturday July 3RD

Starting at 7 pm

OPEN TO ALL RESIDENTS

The WLPOA will celebrate Independence Day in the Village at Wolf Laurel following the Wolf Laurel Country Club activities. Features include the Super 60's band, inflatables for kids, a fire truck from Ebbs Chapel for kids to explore, and the BEST FIREWORKS around! There will be a tent, tables & chairs set up on the basketball court for anyone who wants to bring a picnic. Water, soft drinks, popcorn and ice cream will be provided. Parking will be at the Ski Lodge.

Tickets / arm bands for the event can be obtained at the Community Center July 1st - 3rd, 9 am until 4 pm. **Kids ages 4 to 10 are \$10.00, Adults are \$15.00, check or cash only.**

Call the Village Club for information: 828-689-4089

WOLF LAUREL SUNRISE

RIGHT: A SUNRISE PHOTO TAKEN FROM A WL LOCATION BY A WL RESIDENT.

BELOW: A RENDERING OF THE SUNRISE PHOTO PAINTED BY ANOTHER WL RESIDENT.

NOW SHARED WITH OTHER WL RESIDENTS.

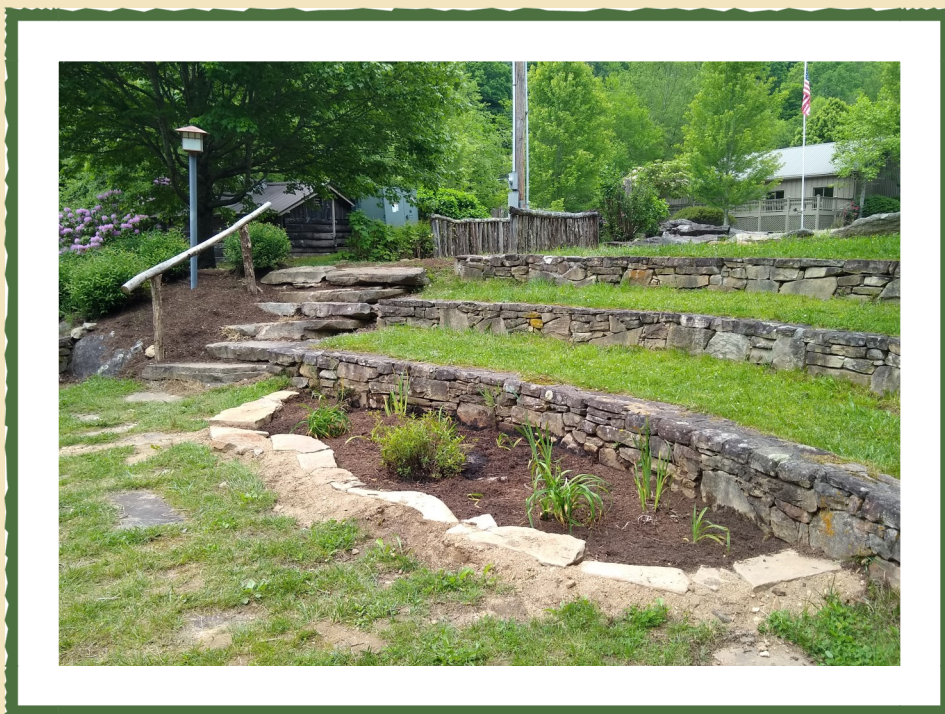


Village Club Upgrades

Things are regularly enhanced at the Village Club. Here's Carl posing at the new rail (he designed and installed) at the amphitheater.



The Amphitheatre gets a new planter, thanks to the Village Club staff.



Village Club Upgrades

(continued)

The pickleball league is much appreciative of the new permanent nets installed in early June.



Horseshoe pits upgrades: Fresh sand and a rake courtesy of the WLCC, and a new post for horseshoes, instructions, and rake.



WLRMS Report of the Short-Term Rental Task Force

Summary:

- 1.** In response to expressions of concern, Wolf Laurel Road Maintenance and Security and the Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association convened a joint task force to examine the role and practice of short-term rentals in the community. The task force included people who approached short-term rentals from various perspectives and attitudes. The purpose was neither to prohibit nor regulate short-term rentals, but to consider ways to enhance the short-term rental experience by maximizing the benefits and minimizing the problems from the practice consistent with the character and experiences of our community. The task force chose to do so by (1) asking what role rentals play in our community, and (2) identifying “Best Practices” through which property owners who host short-term rentals could design their rental opportunity and attract quality renters, and through which the community could best benefit from short-term rental neighbors.
- 2.** Short-term rentals have been a constant presence during Wolf Laurel’s 55 years. The longtime developer, Bald Mountain Development Corporation, rented properties through its real estate division and even operated an inn for many years. When the corporation left the mountain, its rental business was sold to others who remain. The practice continues into the era of internet rentals. One property manager has estimated that rentals in the community have increased 62% in 2020 compared to 2019. Not only are short-term rentals a long-term feature of Wolf Laurel, they are also expected to play a continued role in its future and its growth.
- 3.** There are good reasons for property owners at Wolf Laurel to welcome these rentals. By widening the exposure of those interested in spending time in the mountains, rentals are a critical source of marketing for the community. Many, perhaps nearly all, of the current property owners fell in love with the mountain during a visit as a guest or a renter. One property manager estimates that about 60 percent of their renters inquire about property purchases in the community, and nearly 50 percent of their renters actively look at listed property during or shortly after their visit. Thus, short-term rentals are one of the driving forces in supporting demand for property at Wolf Laurel, and thus provide upward influence on property values.
- 4.** The task force acknowledges that problems do occur with renters who may not be familiar with our customs nor rules. But those involved in rentals insist that such unfavorable experiences are rare rather than common, and seldom do problem renters return. In general, renters are people seeking the same recreational opportunities and serene natural experience that all property owners enjoy at Wolf Laurel. They are our temporary and potentially future neighbors who have invested in the opportunity to enjoy our community. Covenants explicitly assign property owners the responsibility for their renters’ observance of the community’s rules and repeated problems are addressed through normal covenant enforcement procedures.

WLRMS Report of the Short Term Rental Task Force

Best Practices for Wolf Laurel Rental Owners:

- ⇒ **Best Practices Before You List Your Rental Unit**
- ⇒ **Best Practices in Advertising Your Rental Unit**
- ⇒ **Best Practices for Information Forwarded to Renters Prior to their Arrival**
- ⇒ **Community Rules for Residents of Wolf Laurel and Their Visitors and Guests**
- ⇒ **Wolf Laurel Community Rules**

(Full five page report available at <https://wolflaurelroadsandsecurity.com/> under *What's New.*)

“Best Practices” were developed from the experiences of successful custodians of rental properties, filtered through recognition of the specifics of problem rentals. Members who manage the physical and recreational infrastructure of the community probed the rental market experience and added their advice. Experiences were shared and queried to refine the list. The goal of the product was to develop a body of renters who find their experience in our community positive and memorable and wish to return again and perhaps to join us on a permanent basis. The happy, satisfied renter is less likely to be a problem renter and more likely to enliven and enhance our community. Best Practices seek principles to achieve the happy renter, the happy rental property owner, and the happy Wolf Laurel neighbor. The Best Practices list is available at <https://wolflaurelroadsandsecurity.com/> under *What's New.*

The task force also queried “Best Practices” to enhance the community’s benefit from rentals, asking: How can the community best convert short term renters into visitors who enjoy our community as we do, perhaps joining us permanently? The answer was that those practices were actually inherent in the character of our community everyday. We are known for welcoming new neighbors and embracing their addition to our activities; for warm greetings to others enjoying the many things we have to offer; for eagerness to assist those with questions; for helping when a neighbor seeks directions or appears confused or lost; for readily acknowledging the variety of joys that we experience in Wolf Laurel including quiet and solitude. Everyday we share our good fortune with our neighbors, celebrating our experiences about the wonderful life we have made here. These “best practices” imprint our visitors with impressions that for over fifty years have continued to attract new residents to our community. The task force hastens to add that when visitors wittingly or unwittingly violate one of the rules or informal practices that make our days on the mountain enjoyable, it is proper to gently introduce them to our ways. And, when necessary to not hesitate to report dramatic or persistent problems to Wolf Laurel security.

Finally, the task force concluded that the community should anticipate increased rentals as the current interest in our community grows. Institutions within the community should continue to be sensitive to legitimate concerns of homeowners, to problems that may be emerging, and creatively seek solutions. Acknowledging problems and working with all involved to resolve issues will be to the benefit of all in the community.

The task force invites your response to our work. Whether you are an owner who rents your home or a homeowner with concerns about the impact of rentals, let us know your concerns and inform our understanding of the phenomenon that we are all experiencing.

WLRMS

RMS Website

Many owners have already discovered the *Owners Only* portal on the WLRMS website which is now serving all owners in our community. The *Owners Only* portal houses various resident services, including the ability to manage your profile information, notify the gate of expected guests, and access a variety of helpful information. Your access is password protected by a password you create to safeguard your information. If you have not already explored it we encourage you to do so. If you need help getting set up, please call the WLRMS office during office hours (828) 680-9162.

There are two new or expanded features now active:

Guest Log. In addition to contacting the gate in the traditional fashion, owners may now notify Security via the *Owners Only* portal of an expected guest. The portal has the ability to log a guest on any future date. Select "*Guest Log*" from the left menu options, add the guest's name, arrival date, departure date (optional) and select "*Add Guest*". Make changes by selecting "*Modify*", or cancel the visit by selecting "*Remove*".

Always Allow List: Owners find that for family members or regular guests the "*Always Allow List*" is a very convenient way to ease access through the gate. Now, in addition to contacting the gate in the usual fashion, owners may manage the *Always Allow List* for their property through the *Owners Only* portal. Select "*Profile*" from the left menu options, and next to the heading "*Always Allow Through the Gate*", select "*Add to Allows*" where you may provide the required information for your guests. Once you add the name of your guest, you will automatically return to your profile page where you will now see the guest listed under *Always Allow Through the Gate*. You may easily modify or remove your guest's information. Upon arrival, guests should tell the gate staff who greets them that they are on the *Always Allow List*.

Please realize that once you vouch for a person to be added to the list, filtering of their admission to the community ceases. Your addition to the *Always Allow List* certifies them for entry to the community. Once someone whom you have added to the list is no longer in your employ or is no longer appropriate to be admitted through your authorization, you will need to remove their name from the *Always Allow List*. To remove a name from the *Always Allow List*, you may contact the gate... or simply make the change to your profile page by selecting "*Remove*" by the person's name.

Help with *Owners Only* portal. If you have questions or issues while using the *Owners Only* portal, select "*Send Feedback*" from the left menu, email tech support directly at consul@wolflaurelrms.com, or call the WLRMS office during office hours (828) 680-9162.

Wolf Laurel Village Book Club

Happy summer reading is on its way. The first Book Club meeting was held on June 17th in the Village Pavilion with 15 book lovers in attendance.

Four books were chosen for our summer reading, with 14 new titles to choose from for 2022.

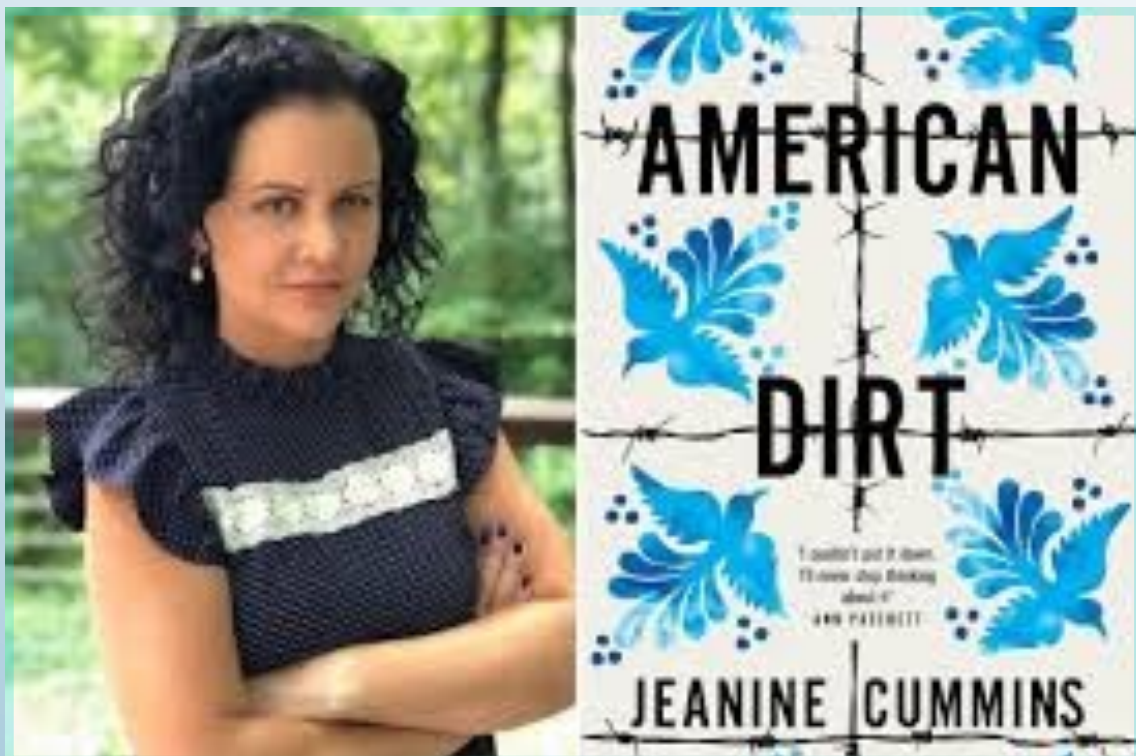
Visiting with friends was emotional because we were able to give hugs with no masks.

We meet every third Thursday at 2:30.

Our next meeting will be July 15th, reviewing “American Dirt” by Jeanine Cummins.

We invite anyone interested to come join us for this book review.

Karen Gerry, bkgerry@comcast.net



Wolf Laurel Country Club



Special Operations Warrior Foundation

The Special Operations Warrior Foundation (SOWF) golf tournament will be held on August 28, 2021.

As a reminder, the mission of SOWF is twofold:

First, to provide financial support for a college education or trade school to the children of warriors killed in action or training exercises.

Second, to provide emergency funds to warriors severely wounded in action.

The SOWF has earned its fifteenth consecutive 4- star rating from Charity Navigator, an organization that tracks and rates the efficiency of charitable organizations. 94% of the donations to SOWF go to the mission. Only 6% is used for administrative cost.

Direct donations can be made with a check to SOWF and mailed to Joe Capers at 191 Marna Lane, Mars Hill, NC 28754.

The Veterans Dinner will be held that night. All, veterans and non-veterans, are invited. Call the club for reservations, 828-680-9771.

Memorial Day Weekend Event - Bobby Hicks performs



Many
good ole
folk
tunes.



Thanks
Bobby!

Sharing the Beauty of Wolf Laurel

All residents are ambassadors of our beautiful community.

Regularly, we see breathtaking photos posted on Facebook of our pristine, natural surroundings. We have the opportunity to share these pictures with the world.

Privacy settings on Facebook can be set to the individual photo. So, if you post a landscape photo on Facebook, you have the ability to change the setting - on this one photo, so everyone can see the beauty of Wolf Laurel.

Please see an example below of how this can be done. Susan Palukaitis / WLCC

<https://www.facebook.com/wolfaurelcommunity>

Click here for options

Susan Palukaitis is at Wolf Laurel Community.
June 6 at 6:15 AM · Mars Hill · 🌐

Sunrises are equally beautiful! Good morning!

Click here

Then select PUBLIC

Edit Privacy

Who can see your post?
Your post will show up in News Feed, on your profile and in search results

- Public**
Anyone on or off Facebook
- Friends**
Your friends on Facebook
- Friends except...**
Don't show to some friends
- Specific friends**
Only show to some friends
- Only me**
Only me
- See All**

We Gave It Away ... The Gift That's Kept On Giving

Bill Jones

A Trip Down Memory Lane: A Story of Giving It Away, brought to you by Southeastern Trust for Parks and Land (STPAL)



Gum Branch Nature Preserve Disc Golf / Photo from [UDisc.com](https://www.udisc.com) @mannsauce2020

Looking back, and moving forward ...

Here at STPAL, we are always looking forward: to see where the next opportunity lies, the next park we can build, the next land we can conserve. Yet, sometimes there's great value on reflecting back: celebrating successes and seeing "Where Are They Now?"

Over four years ago, we donated ~330 acres of beautiful property to Camden County, Georgia.

We gave it to the Public Service Authority so they could transform it into a park. And they've done exactly that.

Was it without hurdles and headaches? No. Yet, ultimately, we did this with amazing partners, enthusiasm, humility and joy. That property, Gum Branch Nature Preserve, is perpetually conserved natural land within the King's Bay zone of southeast Georgia. It sits a few miles west of St. Mary's and Cumberland Island.

It is now being actively used as a park - hosting an 18-hole disc golf course, trails, and most importantly, PEOPLE who are now enjoying this unique property.

How did it happen?

The 11,000+ Cabin Bluff property in Camden County was seeking permanent protection through a variety of partnerships and grants. STPAL stepped forward and donated ~330 acres to leverage a \$1 million grant from North American Wetland Conservation Act. The Nature Conservancy, the local government, and some local cycling and outdoor enthusiasts all played a big role in bringing this dream to life.

(continued)

We Gave It Away ... The Gift That's Kept On Giving

(continued)



We caught up recently with a major partner on that effort, Anne Flinn, Director of Land Protection at The Nature Conservancy/Georgia. Anne says, "Parks and green spaces can provide numerous benefits to a community, including recreation opportunities, clean air and water, and habitat for species, and cascading benefits such as improved public health. STPAL is a great organization - very effective and easy to work with. We're so grateful for their support of the Cabin Bluff project."

STPAL's Executive Director, Bill Jones says, "Donating land to local governments with the willingness and budgets to create parks has been an extremely efficient way to fulfill our mission. This has been an excellent project, collaboration and a true mission success."

Local Camden County outdoor advocate, Jim Potter shares, "STPAL made a huge difference in our community and I'm excited to see what else Bill has going on around the state."

Future plans for the site include a hard surface bike and pedestrian trail, natural surface trails, and extended disc golf course.

STPAL is so proud to have played a part in the creation of this public park. If you find yourself down around the coast in the St. Mary's area, you should stop by some of their parks for a visit. Here's a guide for your convenience St. Mary's Public Parks

When we say, "Something good is happening," we mean it. Today, we thought we'd pause and remind ourselves of some good things that already happened (and continue to inspire our work today!)

Here's a photo of Bill and Camden County Commissioners back in 2014!

Bill Jones, bill.jones@stpal.org



July 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	* WLHS - WL Historical Society presentation	**Bd's meet at 10 AM		1 Summer TOB	2 VC Social	3 <u>VC Ind.</u> <u>Day:</u> Super 60's Band
4 US Ind Day	5 Kids' Camp, Ind Day observed, VC social	6 Kids' Camp	7 Kids' Camp	8 Kids' Camp	9 Kids' Camp / POA Bd** VC social	10
11	12 VC Social	13	14 Dining Out W/ Friends	15 VC Book Club 2:30	16 VC Social RMS Bd**	17 WLCC Hospice Tournament
18	19 VC Social	20	21 WLHS *	22	23 VC Social	24
25 The Book of Mamaw (see page 58)	26 VC Social	27	28	29	30 VC Social	31

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>VC social</i>	3	4 WLHS*	5	6 <i>VC social with Tim Donovan</i>	7 <i>Ebbs Chapel Hospice Hoedown 1-5 PM</i>
8	9 <i>VC social</i>	10	11	12	13 <i>POA Bd*** VC social</i>	14
15	16 <i>VC social</i>	17	18	19 VC Book Club 2:30	20 <i>RMS Bd*** VC social</i>	21
22	23 <i>VC social</i>	24	25	26	27 WLHS* <i>VC social</i>	28 SOWF** <i>Golf & Dinner</i>
29 Kruger Brothers , see pg 58	30 <i>VC social</i>	31		<i>***Bd's meet at 10 AM</i>	* WLHS - WL Historical Society presentation	**SOWF - Special Operations Warrior Foundation

September 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

* WLHS - WL Historical Society presentation	**Bd's meet at 10 AM		1 WLHS *	2	3 VC social	4
5	6 Labor Day VC social	7	8	9	10 POA Bd** VC social	11
12	13 VC social	14	15	16 VC Book Club 2:30	17 RMS Bd** VC social	18
19	20 VC social	21	22	23	24 VC social	25
26	27 VC social	28	29	30		

October 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		<i>*Bd's meet at 10 AM</i>			1 <i>VC social with Terry Deal Pearl Street Band</i>	2
3	4 <i>VC social</i>	5	6	7	8 <i>POA Bd*</i> <i>VC social</i>	9
10	11 <i>VC social</i>	12	13	14	15 <i>RMS Bd*</i> <i>VC social</i>	16
17	18 <i>VC social</i>	19	20	21 <i>VC Book Club 2:30</i>	22 <i>VC social</i>	23
24	25 <i>VC social</i>	26	27	28	29 <i>VC social</i>	30
31	<i>Winter TOB due out Nov. 1</i>					

Wolf Laurel Library Report, June 2021

Yvonne Carignan, Librarian

New Books Arriving Daily

Those of you returning to the mountain this summer – and full-timers-- have been very generous to the library! For example, you have donated 20 additional books in “large print,” which increased that collection by one third. Another donor provided a large number of 2020 and 2021 hardback fiction books by popular authors including Box, Baldacci, Sandford, Child, Connelly, Flynn, Patterson, and Grisham. Still another Florida couple are donating wonderful books and DVDs as they clean out their cabin to leave the mountain. You will see some of these new books on the “New Arrivals” shelf photographed below. Other gifts include additions to our games, puzzles, nonfiction books, and children’s collections. “Thank you,” our many generous donors! Come in soon to see our updated library.



Advice Sought from Sci-Fi Readers

Our adult science fiction section seems to me to be under used. If any of you WL Library readers could advise me about the science fiction collection, or contribute copies of important/recent sci-fi books, I would be most appreciative as I am not much read in that genre. I can tell you that we have a number of classic science fiction titles by such authors as Isaac Asimov, Arthur Clark, Robert Heinlein, Frank Herbert, and H. G. Wells. These books face you as you walk into the main level library fiction room. Thank you one and all for your support for the Wolf Laurel Library.

Come borrow some good reads soon!

Mark de Castrique Comes to Wolf Laurel

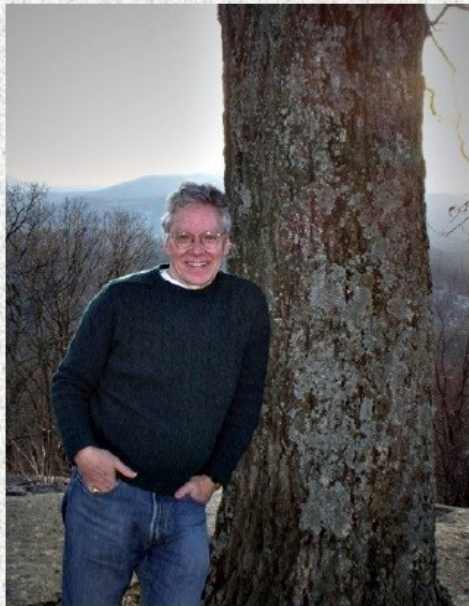
Fans of popular local author, Mark de Castrique, should plan to come to his lunchtime talk on August 27. This all-mountain event will be held at the WL Country Club (non-Club members are welcome). Watch for information such as in emails and on flyers that will be posted on mail boxes and at the Community Center soon. There will be a limit of 50 people.

Most of de Castrique's Sam Blackman series are on the shelves at your WL library. His most recent Sam Blackman murder mystery is *Fatal Scores*, which in fact, was on the "New Arrivals" shelf as photographed the day this report was submitted. By now, I personally am eager to move on to de Castrique's other series based on his childhood living above a funeral parlor in Hendersonville. These are called the *Barry Clayton* series and all seven in the series have "undertaking" in the title, such as *Foolish Undertaking* or *Dangerous Undertaking*.

Malaprops Bookstore in Asheville has graciously agreed to bring copies of de Castrique's books to his lunch talk for purchase and signing. This event has been in the planning since the last year of COVID 19, so we are grateful to Mark for agreeing – again – to visit us and discuss his writing on site.

Talk About
Mark de Castrique
and his Sam Blackman series, including the WLCC Book Club selection
The Sandburg Connection

Mark is an author, producer and director currently based in Charlotte, NC. He is the author of 19 mystery novels: seven set in the fictional mountain town of Gainesboro, seven set in Asheville, two in Washington, DC., and a thriller set in 2030.



WLCC Dining Room
August 27, 12:00-2:00
Cost: TBA
RSVP by August 24
828-680-9773
Limit: 50

de Castrique will be interviewed by Wolf Laurel's own Jim Klumpp followed by an opportunity for audience questions.

This event is open to everyone.

WLRMS Hiking Trails

15 hiking trails with maps at

<https://residents.wolflaurelrms.com/hikes/?id=15&zoom=15>

Wolf Laurel RMS CONTACT

Name	Miles
1. Walnut Mnt Nature Trl	0.85
2. Big Bald Loop	1.55
3. Bald Mnt Shelter	1.20
4. Spivey Gap	6.89
5. Little Bald Mnt	1.84
6. Big Bald & Back	0.62
7. Waterfall Loop	1.36
8. Panther Knob Loop	2.31
9. Double Springs	2.05
10. Nature Trl to AT	1.23
11. Nature Trl to Street Gap	2.95
12. Nature Trl via JC Loop	1.80
13. Sugar Fork	2.03
14. Sixth Symphony	3.25
15. Springs Symphony	4.25

Sixth Symphony

Loop, 3.25 Miles [Get Directions](#)

Map Elevation Loss-Gain Description



More Great Hiking Planned “in our own Backyard”

Many of you have heard of the STPAL conservancy located adjacent to The Preserve. You may or may not know there are actually two tracts, totaling 730 acres, each separated by Bald Mountain Rd. The larger 500 acre ‘northern tract’ access is located and accessible from within our gates. It is mostly signed and useable now. The smaller 230 acre ‘southern tract’ is located just outside our Back/Preserve gate and to the south. It has not been improved to be very accessible yet but hopefully it will be soon. It fronts on Bald Mountain Rd and runs from our Back/Preserve gate up BM Rd to McKinney Gap, along the east side.

A new gravel parking lot has recently been built for rock climber access at the tight switchback just below McKinney Gap pass.

The Southeastern Trust for Parks and Land, known as STPAL, is applying for a matching grant to fund further improvements to make this tract more accessible by the public for hiking, mountain biking and bird watching.

STPAL has requested local volunteers to team with other support groups to pitch in and help construct the trails to make this rugged wilderness area accessible to the public. The attached map depicts where the first phase of trails are currently planned to be located, utilizing old logging roads which will connect to Bald Mtn Rd at a few designated access points.

STPAL Exec Director Bill Jones has made a simple request of our various HOA/POA/Hiking groups, to write a brief letter on their behalf, in support of the project, to the state agency administrating the grants stating their support and enthusiasm for the project. If all goes well, our residents and visitors can add one more local outdoor adventure area next summer to the list of abundant natural resources we are blessed to enjoy, right here “in our own back yard”.

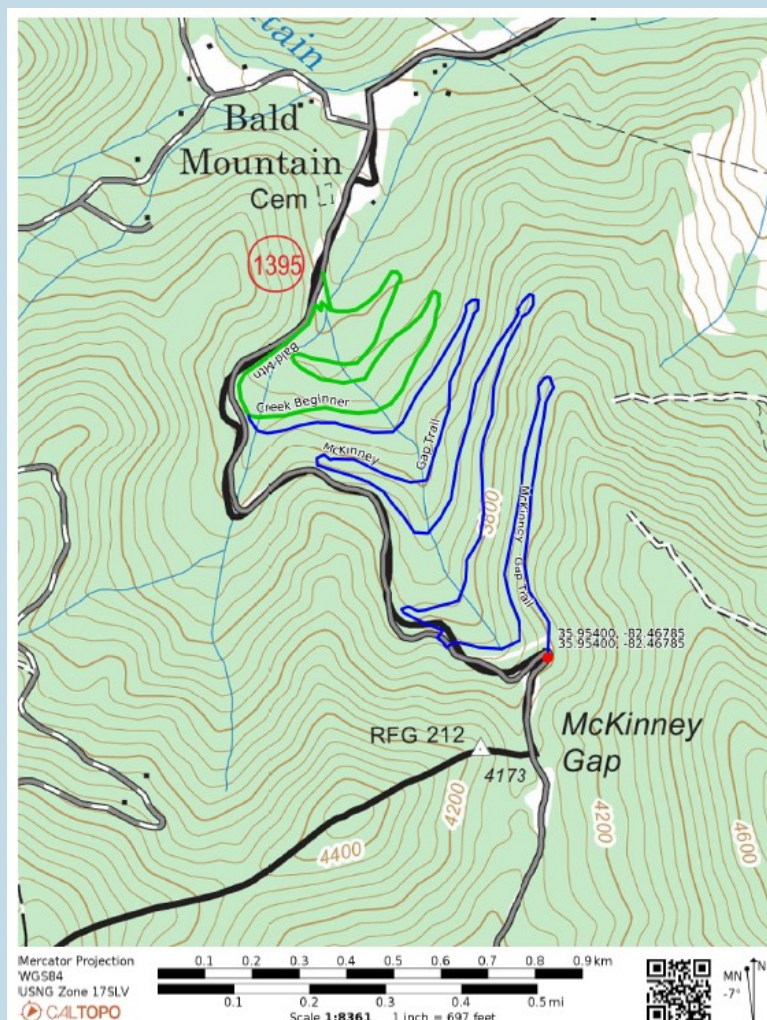
Happy Trails,

Sam Stebbins,

Organizer of our local ‘Friends of the Bald Mountain Nature Park’ group

**Bald Mtn Creek
Beginner Trail is 1.25
miles. (green trail)**

**McKinney Gap Trail is
2.65 miles (blue trail)**



Wolf Laurel Trails

Wolf Laurel is a mountain made for the lover of nature, the outdoor enthusiast! Big Bald Mt over which thru-hikers trek the 2,190 miles each year is the backdrop for WLCC dining. Wild flowers, birding, short walks or a more strenuous 6-12 miles on the AT—find what is right for you! “A walk in nature walks the soul back home.” —Mary Davis

***The Nature Trail - to the AT and back, 2.85 miles.**

The Nature Trail - to the picnic tables and back, 1.6 miles.

Nature Trail to AT south to Sam’s Gap and back, @11 miles

***The Nature Trail via the JC bypass to Hanging Rock over to Big Bald Road and back to the trailhead, 2.2 mile**

Big Bald Parking Lot

Big Bald and back, .62 miles

Blue Trail and then right up over Big Bald and back,

***AT Shelter, right over BigStamp, 2.4 miles**

***Big Stamp Loop, left on road bed, right at AT steps and back**

***Double Springs—left on old road bed, first left to Double Springs and back to parking, 4 miles**

High Rocks and back—North on AT and return, 8+miles

Sam’s Gap and back—South on AT and return, 12 miles

***AT intersection and left on service road, pass Double Springs left turn, pass AT left turn continue on gently graded, cleared trail and loop back for 4 miles RT**

Curtis Lane to Big Bald and back to Curtis Lane via the Big Bald bypass trail (blue blazed)

Painted Ridge over Big Bald and back. (Parking may be issue)

The following road loops may have value for on-mountain walks as legal parking is more available:

Granny Lewis/Pisgah Pass Loop if parking available 2 miles, great views!

Parking at WLCC Fitness Center:

Buck House Road and right on Zebulon, to Ridgeway and right to Club, @2miles

Buck House to Bee Tree, right to Ridgeway, to Club

Buck House to Flame Azalea, down Phacelia, Buck House to Club, 3-4 miles

There was a good turnout for the talk on the WLCC **Walk In The Woods** program.



Tentative Walk in the Woods Schedule

Schedule could change without notice if trail condition is unsuitable at the time.

Where: Meet at Fitness Center to shuttle to trailhead
When: 3rd Thursday, 1st Saturday
Inclement Weather: Plan to go in fog/drizzle and cancel in heavy rain
Ride share: Drivers willing to shuttle, lift trunk
Bring: Water, snack, walking stick-optional, bug spray, sun screen, Sunglasses and , perhaps, hat
Communication: Reminder email will be sent week of walk

May 20 Big Stamp Loop on roadbed toward shelter and back
 *June 5 Waterfall Trail, in/out
 June 17 Weaver Knob Pavilion via Blue Nose Lane, 2.8
 ☺ July 10 Double Springs Loop
 July 15 Sugar Fork Loop, 1.7 with slight incline
 July 20 Tentative Moon-Lite (Buck Moon)hike to Bald 9:00pm
 *August 7 Elk Wallow Knob, out and back
 August 19 Black Bear Run Pavilion, in/out, 3 miles
 ☺ *September 11 Double Springs Loop, 4 miles
 September 16 Waterfall Trail with car drop at Barn
 *October 2 Black Bear Run, upper trail in/out
 October 21 Scronce Creek

Substitutes: Wolf Ridge to Air Strip, Night hike on Nature Trail with Joe Capers AT Shelter and back, Curtis Lane to Bald and back

Contacts: Yvonne Carignan, Earlene Shofi, Brenda Whitt



**Double Springs
Loop Pix**



WLCC Hiking Club Guidelines

For the safety of all hikers, the following requirements and recommendations are listed below for all members of the Wolf Pack hiking group.

Hikers must be able to hike 2 miles per hour.

Hikers must be able to hike from the start of the Nature Trail to the Appalachian Trail up to the summit of Big Bald in 3 hours.

Hiking poles are strongly recommended.

Please make sure you are outfitted properly with the boots/clothing/pack of your choice.

Be sure to bring snacks and plenty of water for each hike and be prepared to bring cash to pay your driver (usually \$3 to \$5)

All hikers will carry a cell phone and your number will be “on file” with the group so that all hike leaders will have every participant’s cell phone when leading a hike.

Hike leaders will, to the best of their ability, provide a detailed description of the hike indicating hike difficulty, elevation change/gain, rocky circumstances, etc.

Hikes will be scheduled with varying abilities in mind, but if you have any questions, contact your hike leader directly.

Hike leaders will identify a designated sweep for each hike and will ensure that hikers within the group are made aware of any turns/trail changes and other information needed to complete the hike. If any hiker becomes unsure of the trail, they should wait for the sweep before continuing with the hike.

If you invite a person into the group, you are responsible for “vetting” and sponsoring them and should be with them on their first hike with the group.

Any newer members who hike regularly with the group will be expected to take a turn leading a hike during their third year and going forward.

Happy Hiking!

Wolf Laurel Historical Society

2021 Programs

Wolf Laurel Historical Society's Full Season

The Wolf Laurel Historical Society is delighted to be able to offer a full range of programs for 2021 and to be able to do so at our normal venues. We hope you will join us for our programs in 2021.

The emphasis this year is on Wolf Laurel history. Jim Klumpp and Warren Johnson are anticipating publication of *A Treasure in the Appalachian Sky: A History of Wolf Laurel in Madison and Yancey Counties, North Carolina* by the end of the summer. So, such a focus seems appropriate. Our first program in June focused on "The Three Lives of the Willis Cabin." Three programs and our end of year picnic remain on the schedule.

Visions of Wolf Laurel: The Developers' Maps

3 PM, Wednesday, July 21st in the Dining Room of the Wolf Laurel Country Club. Presented by Warren Johnson and Jim Klumpp. This program tells the story of Wolf Laurel through the visions of the many who developed the community over the years. Maps used by those developers in the 1960s, 1980s, and 2000s are available to us and we will explore the evolution of the vision of Wolf Laurel as depicted in those maps. This program will be at the Wolf Laurel Country Club. It is a public program and all members whether club members or not are invited to the program at the club. Please note, however, we will start this program at 3 PM to accommodate another special event at the club that evening.

Annual Meeting and a Walking Tour of Settler's Village

4 PM, Wednesday, August 4th at the Pavilion at the Wolf Laurel Community Center. The Society's annual meeting and election of officers will be held on this day. The meeting will be followed by a special treat: a walking tour of Settler's Village. This additional program will feature longtime Village resident Bill Aimone strolling the village as he shares the significance of the structures and his memories of those who lived there and brought the village to life. Only members can vote at the annual meeting but memberships will be for sale at the door. Everyone is invited to the village tour.

The Barns of Upper Laurel

7 PM, Tuesday, August 24th at the Ebbs Chapel Performing Arts Center Auditorium. A slightly broader focus will be provided by our final program of the year. Taylor Barnhill, famous for his knowledge of the barns of Madison County, will provide us insight into the Barns of Upper Laurel. We have invited our neighbors beyond the gate to this program and it will be at the Ebbs Chapel Performing Arts Center just behind the Bright Hope Methodist Church at the intersection of Puncheon Fork Road and Laurel Valley Road. Please note that this program will be at 7 PM on a Tuesday. The program will be cosponsored by the Appalachian Barn Alliance and the Upper Laurel Community Association. This may be an opportunity for our members to invite friends who cannot attend our normal late afternoon programs.

Wolf Laurel Historical Society

2021 Programs

(continued)

Annual Picnic at the Buck House Inn at Bald Mountain Creek

4-6 PM, September 1st at the Buck House Inn at Bald Mountain Creek. All are welcome at our end of the year picnic. Sam and Debbie Stebbins will once again be our hosts. Debbie has agreed to provide us tours of the features of the Buck House itself and Fred Buck will take a walk into the past by leading us on a walk to the Buck Cemetery to meet Dave and Pearl Buck and the late members of the Buck family. The main course will be provided by the Society as will the cups, plates and utensils for the picnic. We are inviting everyone to bring a dish of their choice to share with the group, perhaps a salad, vegetable or desert. It will be pot luck. We will all celebrate the return to normal in 2021 after the historic troubles we all passed through in 2020. Members have the cost of the picnic covered with their 2021 dues. We suggest a \$20 per person donation for non-members.

Memberships available at the event. The [Buck House Inn at Bald Mountain Creek](#) is located at [5860 Bald Mountain Rd, Burnsville, NC](#). Wolf Laurel residents may access it by following Ridgeway Road down the mountain from the Wolf Laurel Country Club.

We are hoping that as our lives recover from the lost year that you will join us again for an exciting 2021 season.

You can visit the Wolf Laurel Historical Society website anytime at <https://wlhistory.org/>. While you are at our website, enjoy our two offerings there: Wolf Laurel History Blog and Wolf Laurel Stories.

Material to join the society can be found on the website as well; or you may join at any of our events.

Programs sponsored by the Wolf Laurel Historical Society are open to members and nonmembers alike, but we hope you will join the Society to help support our programming. Membership includes the right to vote in the annual meeting and provisions for the annual picnic.

The WLHS Board

The Wolf Laurel Historical Society, <https://wlhistory.org/>



Oscar Willis Barn, c1890

Wolf Laurel Historical Society

Madison and Yancey Counties, North Carolina



The Buck House

Dave Buck House, c1930

Wolf Laurel Geography Quiz

Jim Klumpp

Answers to Spring TOB Quiz #1

1. Elk Wallow Knob: This peak is the highest point on the south boundary of the Preserve at Wolf Laurel. It marks the point at which the Yancey/Madison county line turns due south from the south boundary of greater Wolf Laurel. Bud Edwards planned for a first class hotel on the site with views of Big Bald and Burnsville to the east. His tram that would have descended to Bucktown Village and then ascend to Big Bald would have departed from the hotel area. Today it provides greater Wolf Laurel's only view of the Burnsville area of Yancey County.

The mountains from the heights of Elk Wallow Knob. →



2. Little Bald: This peak rises to the right of Big Bald and Big Stamp. Sometimes misidentified as the sloping meadow just to the northeast of Big Bald, it is not that meadow. It lies along the Appalachian Trail further northeast beyond the Big Bald trail shelter. Little Bald is in fact not bald today but heavily wooded.

← Little Bald is the darker peak behind the ridge to the right of Big Bald on the left and Big Stamp to its right. Taken from along Upper Haw Drive

3. Double Springs: A long time meadow and picnic area below Big Bald on the Tennessee side. As early as the turn of the 20th century this was a picnic ground for tourists visiting Big Bald. Bald Mountain Development Corporation developed a picnic ground here that was a favorite for large gatherings, often hosted by the corporation. Continued access to it was negotiated as the Big Bald area, including Double Springs, was sold to the USFS. Today it is neglected and overgrown but, thanks to Tim Carignan and others, can be a hiking destination in Cherokee National Forest. You may access a trail map on the WLRMS website at: <https://residents.wolflaurelms.com/hikes/>

Photo caption: Decayed picnic table on the old Double Springs



Wolf Laurel Geography Quiz

4. Ginseng Trail: A short road off Ridgeway Road between the Wolf Laurel Country Club and Overlook Village. Right: Mouth of Ginseng Lane on Ridgeway Road nearest the Wolf Laurel Country Club.



5. Angelico Pavilion: Reached via Birch Springs Lane from where it turns just below Angelico Ridge and Big Bald Road. This picnic pavilion was built in the early 21st century by Bald Mountain Development Corporation as a part of the Amenities program it was initiating. It was called "The Overlook" at the time. It was intended as an overnight camping area and picnic area equipped with a propane grill. The pavilion is still available for gatherings for members of the Village Club.



Above: Angelico Pavilion taken from the parking lot.

Below: View of Mt Pisgah from Angelico Pavilion. Ski slope is to the right of the notch in Haw Ridge; 3rd fairway of the golf course to the left. Not only is Mt. Pisgah visible on a clear day from the pavilion, so is Clingman's Dome and the Great Smokies.



Wolf Laurel Geography Quiz #2

Know your neighborhood? Test your knowledge of places in Wolf Laurel. Places below are either in greater Wolf Laurel and vicinity, can be seen from it, or are within hiking distance. The quiz may include mountains, streams, streets or roads, or other geographic features.

Where are they?

1. Little Haw Knob
2. McKinney Gap (not the road, the gap)
3. El Minor (or Elminer) Ridge
4. Willis Branch
5. Indian Trail

Answers will be published in the next *Top of the Bald*.

[Some other WL area scenes below.](#)



Wolf Laurel Ambassador Program

Would you like to share your love of Wolf Laurel with visitors? Then the Wolf Laurel Visitor Ambassador Program is for YOU!

As you know, visitors arrive at our gates inquisitive about our community. Some are just out for a drive, others know a little about us and don't realize we are a gated community. Others have a sincere interest in learning more about us and what we have to offer. This is the group that we want to capture.

As an Ambassador of the Wolf Laurel Visitor Ambassador Program, we will provide you with an hour of training and guidelines to ensure consistency in our tour offering. Our security gates will screen visitors prior to requesting an Ambassador. We assign TWO AMBASSADORS per week, one acting as the primary, and one as secondary. This scheduling is to provide flexibility and not place any undue burden on anyone.

We have openings for the remaining weeks of the summer, and sincerely hope that you will consider this opportunity to join this most valuable program.

If interested in participating, please reach out to Susan Palukaitis at palukaitis@me.com or call 813-781-0548 .

Thank You!!!

Susan



Wolf Laurel History

Mitchell County Historical Society submitted by David Schmidt

November Rain: Remembering the Flood of 1977

On November 6, 1977, the mountains of North Carolina saw one of the worst natural disasters to hit the area in nearly sixty-one years. On Friday, the 4th, heavy rain began to fall and continued throughout the weekend. A flash flood watch went into effect on Saturday. By Sunday the rainfall amounted to five to seven, and in some areas eleven inches of rain. According to the Asheville Citizen and Times, by the time the water subsided, "11 people were dead, hundreds were left homeless and damage to property ran into millions of dollars."



The Tri-County News reported that the main damage throughout Mitchell County occurred where Cane Creek meets the Toe River. The flooding resulted in severe damage to several homes and other buildings. "The Department of Transportation's report for Mitchell listed the following: six bridges washed out; N.C. 261 near Glen Ayre and in the Loafer's Glory area suffered several heavy slides; state roads and bridges washed out or partially blocked are 1211, 1160, 1223, 1106, 1143, 1139, 1137, 1343, 1338, 1309, and 1306." Joe Young recollected the impact the flood had on the Buchanan and Young car dealership. According to Mr. Young over three feet of water landed inside the dealership, damaging over thirty cars. One brand new car washed away, down below the old mill near the Bakersville Fire Department. The following day, lots of people stopped by after church, grabbing mops and brooms to help clean and push the mud out.

In the fall of 1999, Angela Bailey Burleson compiled an oral history regarding the 1977 flood. In her collection of interviews, Stokes Bailey recalled his memories of the flood: "I was working with the sheriff's department during the '77 flood. I was an investigator with the sheriff's department. The night the floods came I was on the second shift. I left Bakersville. It had started raining sometime in the afternoon and rained on up until Midnight. When I left to come home about midnight, the creek in Bakersville was up to just about flood stage at that time. About an hour later I got a call from the department and had to go back out and most of the town of Bakersville was under water. I spent all night, all the next day, and into the next night trying to get to different areas of the county to assist people."

(Continued)

Wolf Laurel History

Flood of 1977 (continued)



Marcella Tabor reflected on where she was on that November night: “I had gone to visit my sister over in Mars Hill that night and my husband woke me up, woke us all up, the next morning telling us that Bakersville was under water. I said, “You’re kidding” because we just don’t have floods like that up here. He said that no he wasn’t kidding. Most of the streets and most of the town was under water. There were houses completely filled with water.”

“When I got the news I decided I would try to come home. We came from Mars Hill to Burnsville and just the other side of Burnsville the main bridge was completely gone. They had had some major flooding in Burnsville, maybe worse than here in Bakersville. They had to go to a lot of people’s houses by boat and take food to them. I couldn’t get through over in Burnsville, so I had to turn around, go back to Mars Hill, back to Asheville, down to Marion and come up 221 from Marion. When I got to Marion, there were mobile homes that you could just see the tops of. The water was that high just this side of Marion coming up 221. Then when I went on around Asheville and to Marion, I think what stuck out was the great lake there which used to be land. And the mobile homes, some of them were turned over, some were sideways, some were almost completely covered with water. I came back to Bakersville and it was hard to believe what Bakersville looked like. It was just a mud hole. What really happened was that the dam or somewhat of a dam burst there just below Helen’s Drive In. When it burst then the water went on out of Bakersville more. The street was completely covered from this end of town to the other.”

The Asheville Citizen and Times detailed that “Gov. Jim Hunt and President Jimmy Carter took an immediate personal interest in the disaster and the plight of the victims.” In total, sixteen counties were designated by President Carter as disaster areas. These counties included Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancey. Eventually Yancey was declared the number one disaster area of all sixteen counties. Mitchell County was more fortunate than its neighboring counties. The Tri-County News outlined that all of the main roads remained open. “Several rural roads are closed, but all points in the county are accessible by various routes according to Chief Deputy Larry Cox.”

When the clouds finally lifted, the damage was clear. For many residents in the region, their lives had been turned completely upside down. In her interview, Mrs. Tabor described that the experience bothered her aunt so much that she refused to stay at home alone whenever it would rain. There is no doubt that rebuilding was a slow process for Mitchell County and the rest of western North Carolina. One night of turbulent rain left its impact on both the people and land in the region for years to come.



Wolf Laurel History

The Three Lives of the Willis Cabin

Jim Klumpp

What makes a structure historic? The answer is not just its age. Only people can make a history. But structures are more permanent than people. They outlast activities, even lives. And so they become reservoirs holding our memories of those people, their activities, and their lives. They keep history alive for us. They help us remember. Even when we were not there ourselves, we can celebrate what made those people and their times special, contributing to our lives today. That is history. And that process is what makes a structure historic.

It may well be that the cabin that sits beside Wolf Laurel Road at our gate is the oldest structure on the 6000 acres of Wolf Laurel. More on that later. But its key location where our access road enters the beauty of our community has made it a place of transitions. Over the many years that a cabin has sat at that spot, about 140 years of our history has played out. I want to tell that history as seen through the eyes of that cabin. I call it “The Three Lives of the Willis Cabin.”

Oscar and Mary Jane Willis

A cabin on the site was constructed in the early 1880s by Oscar Willis. Oscar’s place in our story is to remind us of the energetic character of those who developed this valley in the days before Wolf Laurel. Oscar Willis was born, probably in 1848, in Rutherford County, North Carolina, the son of a millwright of the same name. His father had been itinerant, taking his family west as far as Missouri as he plied his trade. Oscar was close to his brother William, who was eight years his senior, and the two became sellers of patent medicine. Local historian Delia Tipton Brittain claimed they began selling the concoction in California, but by 1880 they were doing so in Kokomo, Indiana.

Two years earlier, as Oscar turned 30, he must have decided that his future was as a farmer. We are not certain why he decided that his farm should be in Madison County or Upper Laurel. In November 1878, the Willis brothers purchased 199 acres of land from Haw Ridge down to and including the laurel thicket along Wolf Laurel Branch from a wealthy landowner named Pinkney Anderson. Oscar probably did not move to the area from Indiana at that time but continued to invest in his North Carolina farm with the earnings from the brothers’ medicine business. In November 1879 he purchased another 165 acres from Anderson on the west side of Wolf Laurel Branch, this time in his own name rather than with his brother. In the spring of 1880, still a resident of Indiana, he contracted with a neighbor – John J. English – to clear some land on the farm with the work to be completed by the summer of 1881. Most likely that summer was when Oscar returned east from Indiana to farm the land. According to those who informed Delia Brittain, he built a one room cabin on the west bank of the creek upon his arrival.

Delia Brittain explained what happened next: “The common concerns of the first residents created close and lasting friendships. ‘Sober’ John English became such a friend to Oscar Willis.” With wood on the site Willis built a two-story log dwelling near the original cabin which he rented to Sober John. Soon, Oscar had fallen in love with Sober John’s sixteen-year-old daughter Mary Jane. Despite the twenty-year difference in their ages, they were married in 1885. Soon thereafter their daughter Gertrude was born in the small cabin by the creek; four years later they welcomed her younger sister Estell. Five more children followed, born in their third cabin, the two-story log structure where David Vega lives today in Settler’s Village.

(continued)

The Three Lives of the Willis Cabin

(continued)

Oscar was an energetic entrepreneur and his empire was to expand. He, of course, farmed at first. But living on a creek with a substantial drop in elevation, his father's livelihood told him that a mill could be built. He did so on Willis Branch, building holding ponds and sluices to deliver the wild waters consistently onto his wheel. His highest holding pond remains today at the top of Settler's Village and the relocated and reconstructed mill wheel graces the plaza beside the village's fishing pond. Soon he was milling his own grain and that of his farmer neighbors. He bought a bell and mounted it on a simple tower. In the custom of the time, farmers from the neighborhood would clang the bell to bring Willis in from his fields when he had mill customers or, on days when he was operating the mill, he could peal loudly to let them know this was a day to bring their grain. He later added a saw blade assembly and began milling lumber for his use and for others in the neighborhood.

He also built a large barn and the larger cabin for his growing family nearby. Today that barn is the Wolf Laurel Community Center, and the larger cabin sitting right behind still a residence in Settler's village. He also built a spring house that survives but with evident modernization later in the twentieth century. While his family lived in the cabin behind the barn, Willis rented or provided his one room cabin to employees who helped with the farm and mill work. He was now an employer providing work in a growing farm and mill enterprise.

Of course, as in all lives, sadness would be mixed into the everyday life of a family making a success of a farm in this valley. Oscar and Jane also believed in education for their children, but opportunities for education in the valley were limited. They sent Gertrude away to finish her schooling. In the spring of 1902, they took the wagon on a long trip to bring Gertrude from school. On the trip home, the Toe River in Yancey County was high, and as they crossed, those in the wagon were soaked in the cold water. Gertrude developed pneumonia and died within a short time. The episode made the Willises anxious for the education of their other children and in May of 1906 they sold their farm to Elminor Briggs and moved into nearby Mars Hill. The sales price was five times the price Oscar had paid for his interest in the farm twenty-eight years before. That difference represented the value that the entrepreneurial farmer had added to the raw land.

Shortly thereafter Oscar and Jane moved to Louisiana where Oscar died in 1914 at age 65. Oscar was in his wagon pulled by a team of mules, returning from a mill with a load of lumber. The animals bolted and threw him from the seat and onto the road. He was run over by the wagon and died the next day from his injuries. Jane, twenty years younger, returned to North Carolina to live with her children and died forty years later, in 1953 in Asheville.

That first family who started out in that cabin, raised a growing family, and built a successful life here represent the families who lived up and down Puncheon Fork and the Big Laurel Creek on the other side of Haw Ridge and Wolf Pit Mountain. The cabin reminds us of humble beginnings and what dedicated, hardworking families can make of a beautiful piece of land, even in a remote mountain valley.

(Continued)

The Three Lives of the Willis Cabin

(continued)

A Rugged Mountain Paradise at Last

Our story will move ahead a half century. We know that others lived in that cabin during that interval. United States Geological Survey Topographical maps tell us that a lived-in cabin sat at that spot beside the road in this valley as late as the early 1940s. We cannot document with legal records the continuity of the cabin. Old timers living in the area tell two different stories. One is that the front portion of the cabin where today we receive our packages is the cabin that Oscar Willis constructed about 1881. Others have different memories: that Raliegh English who owned this land before Bud Edwards reconstructed the current cabin from a location on US 23. In researching our book, *A Treasure in the Appalachian Sky: A History of Wolf Laurel in Madison and Yancey Counties, North Carolina*, we have been unable to locate anyone who can testify that they helped English remove the old cabin or reconstruct another on the spot. But whichever story is true, by the time Bud Edwards purchased the land in 1964 a cabin sat beside the road waiting to leave its mark as the well-remembered gateway to what Edwards called “Wolf Laurel Boundary.”

In this second life we will talk about today, it was that function as the signature of arrival at Edwards’ retreat in the mountains that gives the cabin historical power. In those days Edwards and his friends made a nearly three-hour drive from Kingsport, Tennessee, to Wolf Laurel Boundary. It was not today’s short hour and a quarter drive down a smooth interstate highway, but a drive along busy two lane roads from Kingsport through downtown Johnson City, then on through downtown Unicoi and Erwin, before beginning its ascent up the mountain through Temple Hill, Ernestville, and Flag Pond, across Sam’s Gap, often behind eighteen wheelers traversing the mountains to Asheville, then down to Smith Creek Road. From there the trip was on a rutted, dirt and gravel road across Ramsey Ridge and down to the hamlet of English and across a couple fords in Wolf Laurel Branch. After that arduous journey, when the eyes saw the chimney on that warm cabin, the weary traveler knew that they had arrived at that mountain paradise for hunting, fishing, camping, picnicking, or just a wonderful weekend with their family.

Those early “Friends of Bud” told us that even upon arriving at Wolf Laurel, driving to their first cabins built by Clay Jenkins was no sure thing. Mountain snows in winter often required carrying supplies up the mountain by foot from this gate (if their cars made it as far as the gate). For many, the first night of warmth was spent in that cabin. Michael Whitt told us of his arrival at Wolf Laurel when he was building his cabin in the 1970s. That cabin beside the road was his place to spend the nights as he toiled during the day to complete the reconstructed cabin that he and Brenda call home today.

Many told us of the meaning of the Wolf Laurel gate in those days. It was not a security wall regulating who was admitted to Wolf Laurel Boundary. Rather it was a place of welcome where you first met the warm reception of friends with whom you were sharing a wonderful weekend of adventure. “There was always a smile at that gate and relief in arriving at a place apart,” was how one of them described it. The sheer joy of what Edwards had made from wilderness was represented by that cabin beside the road.

(continued)

The Three Lives of the Willis Cabin

(continued)

The Music of Friends on a Saturday Night

As Wolf Laurel grew and people began to build cabins in the 6000 acres, new friendships emerged. In those days, Wolf Laurel resort had a large staff of workers in a restaurant, a hotel, a golf course, a ski slope, a stable, a roads department, a water provider, and a large real estate concern involved with sales and rental. Most of the workforce for this resort came from Madison and Yancey Counties. Those workers welcomed the new residents and the new residents fondly remembered their hospitality and friendship. Wolf Laurel in the 1970s and 1980s was the largest employer in Madison County.

It is important to imagine that gate as a bridge, not a wall. People moved freely through it and a sense of the difference between those in Wolf Laurel and those “beyond the gate” was not an element of their lives. And, the third life of the Willis Cabin was that connection of the people of the Upper Laurel community with the people who now made Wolf Laurel home. One of the hallmarks of the Southern Appalachians was – and is – the vibrant music that fills the lives of its people.

One of the great memories of those we interviewed from that era at Wolf Laurel was bringing their blankets or their chairs to the front porch of the cabin beside the gate. Shag Rice and Paul Hamlin were two employees of Wolf Laurel charged with greeting visitors at the gate (and coincidentally making sure supplies and equipment from all the new construction did not pass out of the gate when it should not). But Shag was an accomplished banjo player and Paul was a master of the guitar. They would invite their friends from Upper Laurel and their friends from Wolf Laurel to bring their instruments to the cabin on a Saturday night. As they enjoyed each other’s talent long into the night, spread out around them were the people from Wolf Laurel beside the people from Upper Laurel come to enjoy the music.

Saturday nights at the cabin represented for these people the joy of a Southern Appalachian culture filled with music and friendliness. It made Wolf Laurel more than an enchanted wilderness, it made it a human place where people from so many places enjoyed each other’s company and shared one of the memorable characteristics of life in the mountains.

(continued)

The Three Lives of the Willis Cabin

(continued)

Our Historic Cabin

Those are the three lives of the Willis Cabin. All endow it as an historic structure. As you pass it daily in the future, remember how much it meant for this nearly a century and a half to so many different people. It has been a place where a family started and succeeded in the life that was characteristic of this place in its time. It has been a place where after a dramatic reinvention as a wilderness retreat, those who came to treasure their time here could experience a sigh of relief and celebrate that their transition to the new life they sought for a weekend or longer was complete. And it was a place where a people who had been here for over a century and people who had come to make a new life in these mountains learned to celebrate their time together and bond around mountain music.

One of the old traditions of Wolf Laurel was a variety show performed as one of the last events of the season in October each year called "The Last Hurrah." In 1992, one of the talented people of Wolf Laurel, Ona Renninger, sang a song she had composed in 1990. Ona was described to us as a signer songwriter with the voice of an angel. It was a time of change at Wolf Laurel. Many in the community were feeling a loss of what they thought Wolf Laurel was. The poet Ona Renninger sought to capture what those people felt was to be lost. Her vehicle was that song: "Down by the Old Gatehouse." The ballad did what good poetry does: it collected memories around something that would outlast a world so treasured, a world that would be lost. That is the collection of memories that makes a structure historic.

That cabin had other lives that we could have told too, of course. I really wish we had access to so much more of that history of a century and a half that the cabin by the road has seen. But for now, these three lives will stand in for the rest. That cabin by the gate will do its work as historic: it will trigger these memories of times past, even those that we did not experience but that helped to shape our enjoyment of our mountain home today.

Jim Klumpp

RMS Guidelines regarding Fire Safety

Fireworks

Fireworks are prohibited within Wolf Laurel unless under the supervision of a licensed operator and approved by local authorities and WLRMS.

Fireworks are prohibited on all National Forest lands by USFS restrictions.

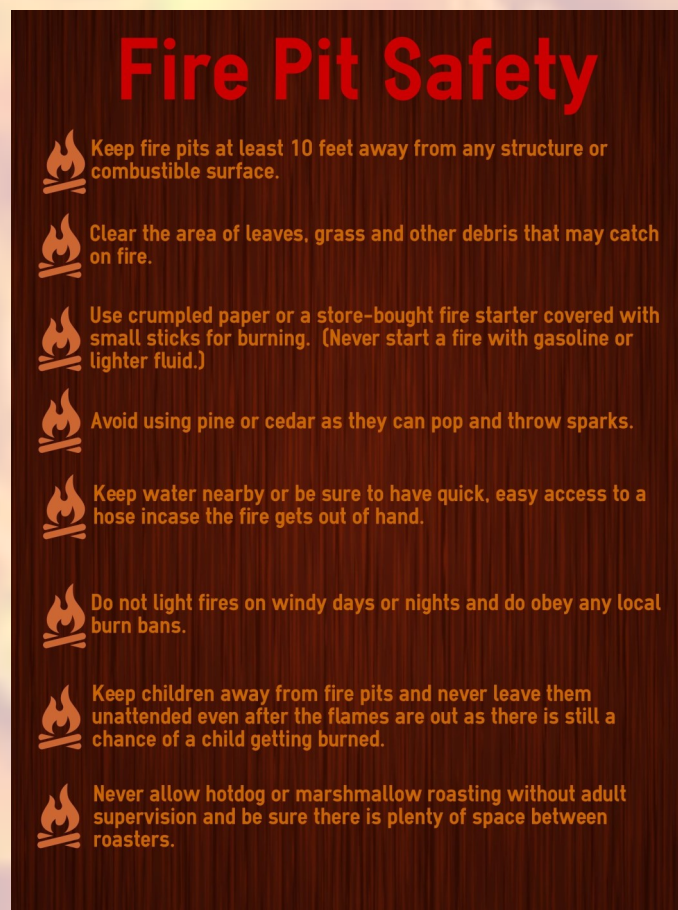
Campfires, Fire Pits, Grills, & Fireplaces

Fires in outdoor fireplaces and approved fire pits do not require a permit.

Stay with your fire until it is completely out. Smoldering ash is still an active fire and can rekindle.

Burn all wood and charcoal to ash and use plenty of water to ensure the fire is out and cold to the touch.

Never dump hot ashes or coals into a wooded area or trash can.



Wolf Laurel Critter Watch

Charline Snook on
Nextdoor website

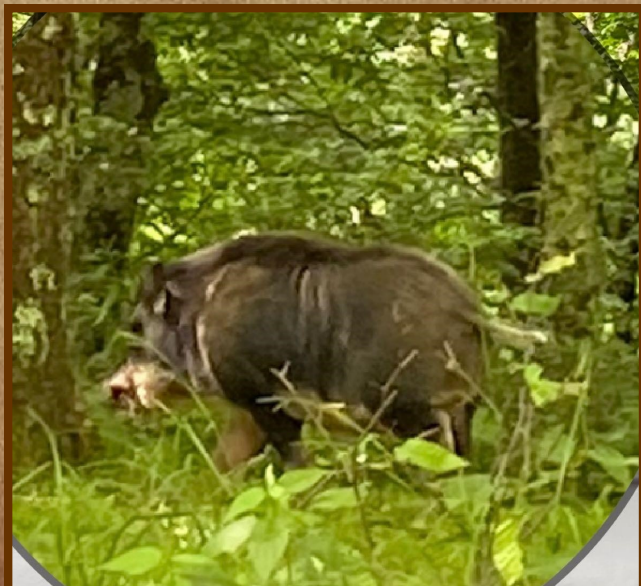
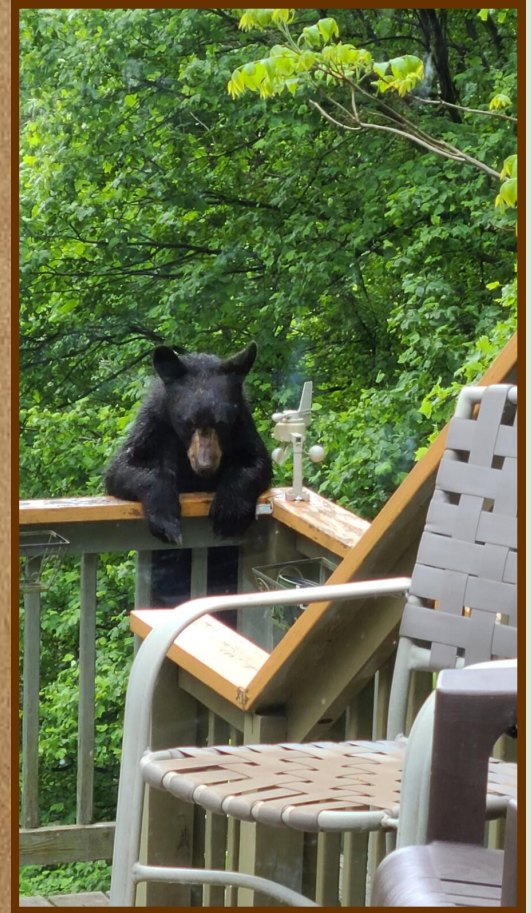
Twin fawns next door... My husband was driving up to our house when a mother deer ran in front of him with her newborn fawn in tow. Mama raced away and her tiny newborn collapsed right in the street. We went to each end of the street on foot and stayed out of sight to see if the tiny fawn would get up (hoping it wasn't injured) and to ensure that no other cars would come and run over it. On wobbly legs, it did finally hobble into the grass on the side of the road and curled up there. Upon looking further down, there was a twin fawn also hunkered down in the grass right near the first. Hoping mama returns soon. I have read that this is the norm and mamas go off to eat alone and they leave the babies in a safe place. (Although I doubt the middle of the road is the safest place, mama!) Aren't they sweet!?



Susan Shepard on Nextdoor - a wild pig spotted near the top of Big Bald Road.
And a snake on Lucas Ln (Species - ?).



Stephen
Andrew's
bear cub
reported on
Nextdoor.



More WL “Wildlife”

NC Wildlife and see deer guidelines pic

Leave Wildlife in the Wild - “Rescuing” baby wildlife usually does more harm than good. Deer use a “hider” strategy for the first two or three weeks of their life. At the doe’s signal, fawns instinctively find a quiet place to lay down and stay put. There they will usually stay stationary for several hours while the doe ventures away to feed. Fawns have a dappled coat and no scent, so they hide easily in the underbrush, making it difficult for predators such as coyotes and bobcats to find them.

If you find a fawn that is calm and appears uninjured, leave it be and check on it the next day. If it is still there and bleating loudly, appears thin, injured or has visible diarrhea, contact a licensed fawn rehabilitator for advice.

I WAS BORN TO BE *Wild*. LEAVE ME BE!

“I have not been abandoned or orphaned. I am a ‘hider’ species, which means I hide from predators in vegetation during the first two or three weeks of my life.”

“When I’m about 5 days old, I can outrun you. When I’m between 6 and 10 weeks old, I can outrun most predators.”

“Leave me alone and I have an excellent chance of surviving; however, take me out of the wild, and I will probably die.”



“It is **ILLEGAL** to take me out of the wild. Only N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission-licensed fawn rehabilitators can possess fawns.”

Learn more about white-tailed deer in North Carolina:

ncwildlife.org/deer



Carolina Mountains Literary Festival

Kathy Weisfeld

Many from your area attend the Carolina Mountains Literary Festival (Burnsville, North Carolina).

Volunteers Wanted - Several festival planners are retiring this year. To ensure that the Festival continues, we need your help. Our first priority is the Program Committee which selects themes and authors and does other tasks to make the Festival possible. We have fun! For more information, email cmlitfest@gmail.com

The 2021 Festival has been canceled; We hope to see you in 2022.



**Madison County Arts Council
Hosts a Midsummer Market
at The Arts Center,
90 S. Main St. Marshall, NC
July 12 through July 31, 2021
M-F, 10 am–5 pm Saturdays, 10
am–3 pm
www.madisoncountyarts.com
(828)649-1301**

“Since the Bluff Mountain Festival was held online in June, the Madison County Arts Council wanted to provide member artists with a safe way to sell their goods over the summer. We decided holding an indoor artist market for most of the month of July would be a great idea,” says MCAC board member and potter Katherine Graham. “Holding the market indoors takes away the summer rain factor, and gives folks more time to shop.”

The Holiday Sale features MCAC member artists. Ceramics, Jewelry, Fiber Arts, Painting, Metal, Wood Work, and Photography are among the media represented in this show. This is a chance to shop in Marshall and find something truly unique. The sale hours are Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, and Saturday 10am-3pm. To learn more about the MCAC Midsummer Market visit www.madisoncountyarts.com or call (828)649-1301.

<http://www.madisoncountyarts.com/events/mid-summer-market/>



a



Emily Bell art

The Madison County Arts Council awarded a grant from the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

Laura Boosinger
Executive Director
PO Box 32
Marshall, NC 28753
(828) 649-1301
madcoed@gmail.com
www.madisoncountyarts.com
www.wARTFM.org

The nonprofit arts and culture industry generates \$2.12 billion in direct economic activity in North Carolina, supporting almost 72,000 full-time equivalent jobs and generating \$201.5 million in revenue for local governments and the State of North Carolina. For more information click <https://www.ncarts.org/afta>



The Madison County Arts Council awarded a grant from the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

The Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Partnership (BRNHA) has awarded 15 grants totaling \$185,000 to fund projects across the North Carolina mountains and foothills. The grants support craft, music, natural heritage, Cherokee culture, and agricultural traditions. These five facets of the region's heritage earned the 25 counties of Western North Carolina a Congressional designation as the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area in 2003.



“Our non-profit organization is eager to support community projects across Western North Carolina,” said Angie Chandler, Executive Director of BRNHA. “By highlighting our cultural traditions and natural treasures, we help sustain these resources, bolster pride in Western North Carolina, and advance the regional economy.”

The Madison County Arts Council was awarded \$16,000 for renovations and repairs to its music classroom and gallery space at the Madison County Arts Center (MCAC) in downtown Marshall. “We are so grateful to have received this grant from the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area. We have so much work to do in this building and these funds will help us improve our teaching space. We look forward to the day when ceiling tiles don't fall to the floor!!” Remarked Laura Boosinger, Executive Director of MCAC.

Since its inception in 2003, the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Partnership has awarded 188 grants totaling \$2.5 million and leveraging another \$5.9 million in matching contributions from local governments and the private sector. These grants have funded projects in all 25 counties of Western North Carolina in the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area's footprint.


The Blue Ridge National Heritage Area, designated by Congress in November 2003, works to protect, preserve, interpret, and develop the unique natural, historical, and cultural resources of Western North Carolina for the benefit of present and future generations, and in so doing to stimulate improved economic opportunity in the region. National Heritage Areas are locally-governed institutions that encourage residents, non-profit groups, government agencies, and private partners to work together in planning and implementing programs that preserve and celebrate America's defining landscapes. For more information, visit BlueRidgeHeritage.com

2021 Ebbs Chapel Summer Series - Music and Stories in a Beautiful Setting

“THE BOOK OF MAMAW”
SUNDAY, JULY 25 - \$20

A very beautiful, touching, real, laugh-out-loud celebration of life. Barter Theatre Acting Company member Eugene Wolf's stunning one-man show.



THE KRUGER BROTHERS
SUNDAY, AUG. 29 - \$35

A refreshing honesty and engaging sound that will entertain and mesmerize listeners.

Ebbs Chapel Performing Arts Center- All shows 4pm
271 Laurel Valley Road , Mars Hill 28754
tickets at (828)649-1301 or madisoncountyarts.com

Tickets for both shows can be purchased by calling (828) 649-1301 or by visiting www.madisoncountyarts.com



Ebbs Chapel Summer Series
The Book of Mamaw July 25, 2021 \$20
Kruger Brothers August 29, 2021 \$35
www.madisoncountyarts.com
(828)649-1301

“The Book of Mamaw” a one-man musical comedy that tells the story of Wolf and his Mamaw, a Church of Christ grandmother who raised him and noticed his love of music and performing from an early age. Through story, song and sketches, the play is an autobiographical musical journey through self discovery and revelation.



August 29 welcomes the return of perennial favorites, The **Kruger Brothers**. “This show is sure to be a sell-out,” remarked Laura Boosinger.

The Kruger Brothers originally from Switzerland now make their home in Wilkes County, NC. Their music spans from traditional favorites from the late Doc Watson to composed music for symphony with a bluegrass band. “The Kruger Brother’s consistently delight with their musicality, humor and humanity. A good time will be had by all!”

WL Pix



Where Was I?

#1



#2



Continued & Answers on the page 61

Where Was I? (continued)

#3



#4



Answers on the page 61

Where Was I answers

1. Sign on Puncheon Fork Rd just before you get to Wolf Laurel Rd.
2. Upper Haw Drive
3. Double Creek Loop
4. Big Bald

View from Big Bald



**WLPOA Board of Directors
and WLPOA/VC Office
Contact Information**

John Brackett, **President** - brackettjk@yahoo.com (704)517-7084

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Lynn Cagney, **Secretary** - lkac228@aol.com C (813)842-5077

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9229

Larry Veatch, TOB Editor - larryv8@gmail.com (352)359-0071

WLPOA COMMITTEES

Village Club:

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

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 Steve Wilcox
 Steve Parker
 Gene Woolf

Audit:

Steve Parker
 Leah Noel CPA (External)

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 John Brackett (WLPOA Pres.)
 Fred Tygart
 Earlene Shofi – HR Personnel
 David Smith

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

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 Bob Hicks

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 Lori Wyman-Macaulay
 Laura Conard
 Leigh Ann Roseberry
 Michaelene Sanders
 Ronnie Rice (Office Mgr.)

Library:

Director: Yvonne Carignan
 Bob Hicks

Top of the Bald:

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

Monday Night Pot Luck “Monday Nighters” Friday Night Social “Fri. Nighters”

Multiple Chairs

Webmaster/IT:

Jim Landry

Facilities:

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

Village Beautification:

Chair: Laura Conard
 Gail Ford
 Gwynne Beneke

Ad Hoc Committees:

Playground Planning and 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

The Wolf Laurel POA and Village Club Membership Benefits

WLPOA Benefits:

Representation of the members' interests on community matters

Package Cabin for parcels

Email notifications & alerts

Nature Trail

Community Center

POA & Club meetings

Personal gatherings

Wi-Fi (also at pavilion)

Art Wall

Library

Foosball

Postal pickup

Tai Chi

Kids Camp

Independence Day celebration

Newsletter - Top of the Bald

Facebook page

Landscaping

Website:

Member Directory

Covenants

Bulletin Board

Trading Post, etc.

Village Club Only

Membership Benefits:

Pool

Tennis courts

Pickleball courts

Basketball court

Four Square area

Playground

Horseshoe Pit

Pavilions - Main & Angelico Ridge

Water aerobics

Yoga

Fishing pond

Open grounds

Amphitheater

Spring House

Social events - Friday and Monday nights, Holidays

Book Club

Hiking Club

Fitness classes

Dining Out With Friends

Classes

First aid

Painting

Gardening


Archery, etc.

Health & Longevity Coaching

Package Cabin Procedures

There are additional 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 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.

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.

Reminder: Mail Cabin:

Looks like another busy season in the mail cabin as residents return to the mountain for the summer. The Mail Cabin is open from 7am - 8pm daily. (No key required) Each day from 2:30 - 3:30 the staff is sorting packages and we ask for you to wait to retrieve your packages during that time. If you have a problem with packages, please call the office at 828-689-4089 for assistance.

WL POA / 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 POA Village Club members only. There you can access information about...Access 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
- POA
- Local area entities inside and outside WL
- Advertisers
- Lastly, 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, 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 (WLPOA members only - rates apply), as well as Items for Sale and Wanted (free to residents).

The Village Club

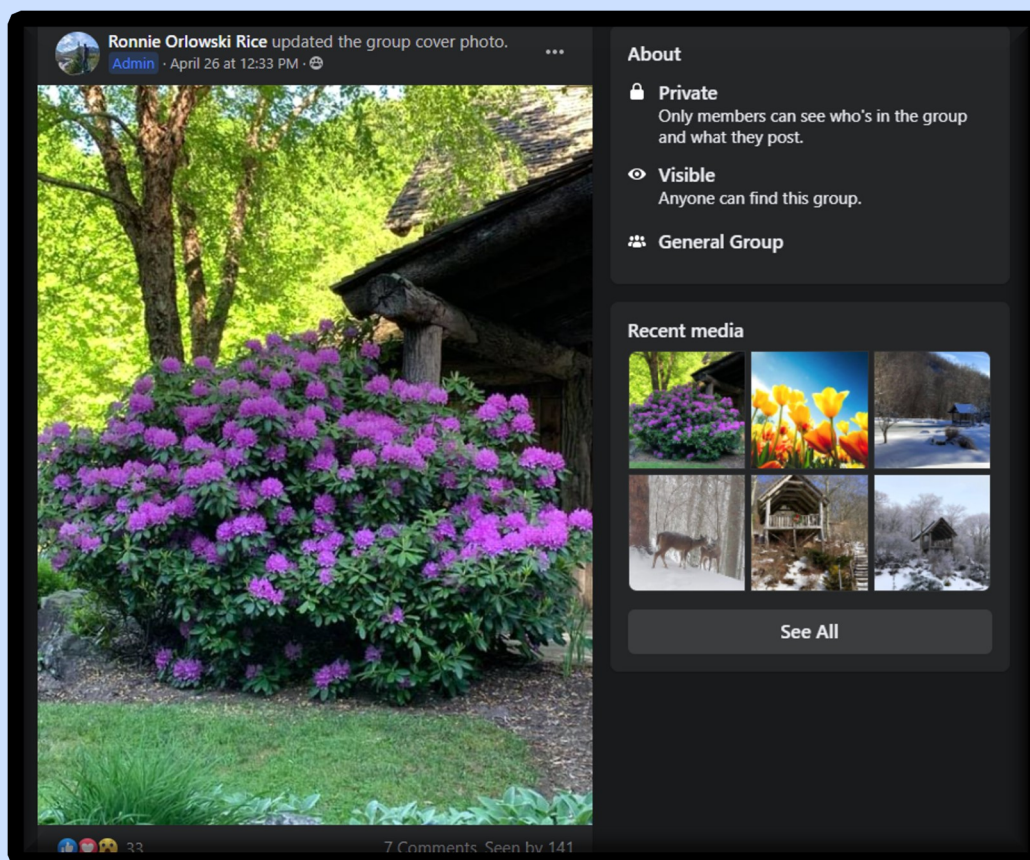
Wolf Laurel Village Club Facebook Page

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 all the photos of the 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 request to join.

To get started, open Facebook and in the Facebook search bar type *Wolf Laurel Village Club* and then request to join; or click on link below.

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

We look forward to having you on our Facebook Page!



WL Facebook and Websites

Access to information regarding the POA, 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/> 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 has recently received some additional promotion and is gaining an increase in 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.

WLPOA website Next, anyone desirous of WL POA information can access the site at <https://www.wolflaurelpoa.com/>. The site includes some “member only” information, e.g., you can access the WLPOA 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 website The RMS site has much information pertinent to RMS 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 is at <https://www.horsebackridingnc.com/>.

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

Movies and Music at The Community Center

The WLPOA library has lots of books and many videos (~250) for residents. Now the Community Center also has music; approximately 300 classical music CD's have been donated. They are organized, mostly by composer. There are also many CD's by a variety of musicians. Residents are free to borrow as many as they can enjoy.

Composers include:

Albinoni - 1 CD

Bach - 6 CD's

Beethoven - 25 CD's

Berlioz - 5 CD's

Brahms - 8 CD's

Chopin - 15 CD's

Debussy - 1 CD

Dvorak - 1 CD

Greig - 2 CD's

Handel - 15 CD's

Haydn - 4 CD's

Holst - 1 CD

Liszt - 3 CD's

Mahler- 3 CD's

Mendelssohn - 8 CD's

Mozart - 38 CD's

Pachelbel - 1 CD

Prokofiev - 1 CD

Puccini - 4 CD's

Rachmaninoff - 6 CD's

Rimsky-Korsakov - 2 CD's

Rossini - 1 CD

Saint-Saens - 3 CD's

Schumann - 4 CD's

Strauss - 2 CD's

Tchaikovsky - 9 CD's

Telemann - 1 CD

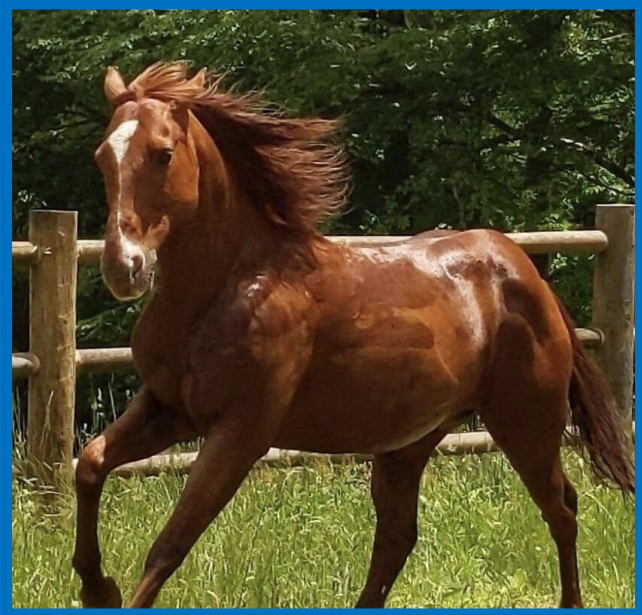
Verdi - 2 CD's

Vivaldi - 11 CD's

Residents may donate additional music CD's and movie DVD's, and of course please keep the book donations coming!

Heather McIntosh

Hey, everyone. 🤝 I'm Heather. I am the owner of Bucktown Stables located inside the Wolf Laurel community! Come by and meet us and our horse family! <https://bucktownstables.com/directions/>



TOB Advertisers

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Thank You! to our Advertisers

Have a great Summer!

The background of the advertisement is a scenic landscape featuring a stone bridge over a waterfall. A large black bear is sitting on a rock to the right of the bridge, holding a log. In the foreground, a red cartoon car with a face and a trailer is driving on a paved path. The scene is decorated with colorful paint splatters in red, yellow, green, and blue. The text is overlaid on this background.

'Cover The Mountain'

Akut-Abuv

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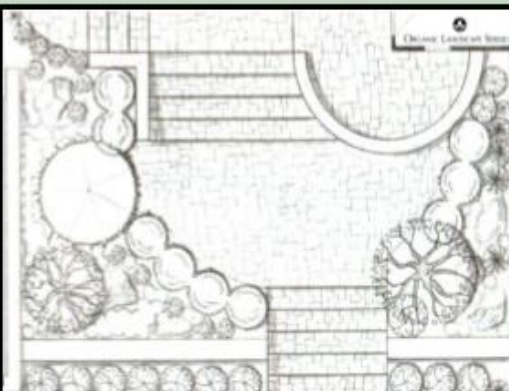
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Short Videos Online

[ActivePure Technology](#) 2.5 Minutes

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Alesha Soehl, PharmD, Heather Shelton, CPhT, Manager,
Jane Maney, RPh, PIC, and Ashley Dotson, CPhT

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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

For Ad space and information contact
Larry Veatch at larryv8@gmail.com
or 352-359-0071

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/paytoMe?username=larryv8)

Thank You for your service to the Wolf Laurel community